



INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

**TO: Community Services and Safety Committee
Finance Committee**

FROM: Rachel Bianchi, Deputy City Administrator

CC: Mayor Ekberg

DATE: October 15, 2020

SUBJECT: 2021 Legislative Agenda

ISSUE

The City of Tukwila develops an annual legislative agenda for use in Olympia during the legislative session.

BACKGROUND

The City's Legislative Agenda provides direction to staff and consensus among the elected officials as to what policy positions are taken on behalf of the City of Tukwila during the legislative session.

RECOMMENDATION

The Community Services and Safety and Finance Committees are being asked to provide comment and feedback, which will be incorporated into the agenda for discussion and Council consideration at the November 16 2020 Regular meeting. The City's lobbyist, David Foster, will provide a legislative update at the November 16 meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

Resolution in draft form
Attachment A – Legislative Agenda

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TUKWILA,
WASHINGTON, ADOPTING A LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR USE
DURING THE 2021 WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION.**

WHEREAS, the City Council has agreed to pursue certain legislative issues for 2021; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes this agenda is not all encompassing, in that certain additional items may arise during the legislative session that require support or opposition; and

WHEREAS, a legislative agenda outlines the priority issues that elected officials may discuss when speaking to members of the Washington State Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the City Council agreed to these priorities at the City Council Meeting on November 16, 2020;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TUKWILA, WASHINGTON, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

The Tukwila City Council has identified priorities for the 2021 Washington State Legislative Session that provide a framework for advocacy on behalf of the community. The City of Tukwila 2021 Legislative Agenda is hereby incorporated by reference as Attachment A.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TUKWILA, WASHINGTON, at a Regular Meeting thereof this _____ day of _____, 2020.

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:

Christy O'Flaherty, MMC, City Clerk

De'Sean Quinn, Council President

APPROVED AS TO FORM BY:

Filed with the City Clerk: _____
Passed by the City Council: _____
Resolution Number: _____

Office of the City Attorney

Attachment A: City of Tukwila 2021 Legislative Agenda

ATTACHMENT A

DRAFT

City of Tukwila 2021 Legislative Agenda

Transportation & Infrastructure

- Provide funding for critical local infrastructure, including the **Allentown Bridge**, which is **Structurally Deficient and Functionally Obsolete**.
- Create **stable, reliable infrastructure assistance funding** for cities to assist in repairing roads, bridges and other public infrastructure that support economic development.

Housing & Human Services

- Address the housing stability crisis by providing additional tools for rental assistance, foreclosure/eviction prevention and capital construction of affordable housing.
- We strongly encourage the state to **adequately fund human services** programs for the health of the safety net.

Shared Revenue

- Include local governments in any new statewide revenues to ensure the long-term health of municipalities.
- The State must continue its role as a **partner with cities**, including reinstating funding for the Public Works Assistance Account and Community Economic Revitalization Board.
- Ensure funding for **Streamlined Sales Tax Mitigation** payments brought back in the 2019 session remain funded and identify a longer-term funding strategy beyond the 2020/2021 biennium.

Revenue Reform

- Allow cities the **authority and flexibility** to address the fact that growth in the cost of services continue to outstrip revenues.
- The state should **amend the law** that limits annual property tax growth to 1 percent and work with cities to authorize additional funding flexibility and opportunities at the local level.

Education

- Implement **needs-based funding** for allocation of social emotional student support resources and **expand funding for learning opportunities** for summer school students.
- Increase **funding for homeless students** and secondary ELL students.
- Incorporate early learning for low income students as a part of **Basic Education**.

Preserve Lodging Tax Flexibility

- Ensure the definition of “tourist” in Washington State **remains flexible** to allow jurisdictions and Lodging Tax Advisory Committees to distribute lodging tax dollars in a manner that **best serves each individual community**.

Preparing for Our Future

- Enact policies to prepare to **combat climate change**, including adequately budgeting for its effects and providing tools to cities to prepare and address the ramifications of flooding, pollution and other key factors.
- Continue to invest in **workforce education and job training** to ensure Washingtonians have access to high-quality career and technical education opportunities.

Advancing Equity

- Develop and implement a **racial equity toolkit** for legislation, policies and programs to advance racial equity in Washington.
- **Ensure affordable, high-quality broadband internet access is available to all households and businesses to provide educational, entrepreneurial, business and accessibility equity for all Washingtonians to access the internet.**

Police Reform

- **Enact police reforms** identified by the Association of Washington Cities:
 - Develop a statewide standard for use of force that preserves the right of local jurisdictions to enact more restrictive standards based on community input.
 - Create a database to track officers who have been fired for misconduct and make it accessible to departments in their recruitment and hiring processes.
 - Expand grounds for decertification to include use of force violations.
 - Require that officer misconduct investigations be completed, regardless of an officer's resignation.
 - Establish a duty for all law enforcement officers to immediately intervene and report misconduct or illegal activity by a fellow police officer.
 - Require that all officers receive regular support for vicarious trauma and mental well-being, including peer support, mental health counseling, and appropriate mental health screenings. Officers involved in any fatal use of force must undergo a mental health screening prior to returning to duty.