

RESOLUTION R-5702

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND APPROVING
THE CITY'S LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR THE 2026 SESSION OF THE
WASHINGTON STATE LEGISLATURE.

1 WHEREAS, actions of the Washington State Legislature with respect to local
2 government issues, services, and funding have a profound impact upon the ability of local
3 governments to provide local services; and
4

5 WHEREAS, the City Council supports legislation that promotes the City Council's
6 goals, plans, policies, and initiatives that enable Kirkland to provide basic municipal services
7 and meet the needs of current and future community members; and
8

9 WHEREAS, the Council seeks to protect shared State revenue sources available to
10 the City and provide new revenue options and flexibility of existing revenues; and
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12 WHEREAS, the Council supports the partnership between cities and the State to
13 ensure that critical mandates are funded and that vital services are provided to all community
14 members, including community-based behavioral health and other critical human services; and
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16 WHEREAS, the Council seeks to advance initiatives identified in the City's Work
17 Program; Council Goals; Budget; Comprehensive Plan; Sustainability Strategic Plan;
18 Transportation Strategic Plan; Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging 5-year Roadmap;
19 Housing Strategy Plan; and related documents; and
20

21 WHEREAS, the Council supports state legislation that protects our residents and
22 businesses from loss of critical assistance programs or civil liberties due to federal actions;
23 and
24

25 WHEREAS, the Council supports legislation that provides funding and policy tools to
26 increase housing, access to a greater diversity of housing types, and concurrent investments
27 in the infrastructure needed to support new homes, such as parks, open space, transportation,
28 services, and school capacity; and
29

30 WHEREAS, the Council supports legislation that preserves and expands policy and
31 funding tools to support a safe and reliable transportation system for all users, including
32 continuing revenue sharing with local governments, and updating state law to create safer
33 operations of motorized bicycles; and
34

35 WHEREAS, the Council supports legislation that authorizes cities to implement, in a
36 fair and equitable manner, street noise enforcement programs based on the pilot of new
37 technology already underway in Kirkland and designed to identify and reduce street racing and
38 other unlawfully loud vehicle uses; and
39

40 WHEREAS, the Council supports legislation that provides local jurisdictions operating
41 jails the ability to exercise discretion in selecting the gender of the officer performing body
42 searches; and
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44 WHEREAS, the Council supports legislative actions identified from the King County
45 Regional Utility Rate Summit that receive Council support; and
46

47 WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that other organizations, including, but not
48 limited to, educational institutions, other local governments, and non-profits, that are likely to

49 champion legislation in alignment with the City's goals, values, and policy initiatives, and
50 Council desires to monitor legislation proposed by such organizations in order to identify
51 opportunities for collaboration; and
52

53 WHEREAS, the Council believes it appropriate to set forth its position as to issues
54 affecting local government operations coming before the Washington State Legislature during
55 the 2026 session, including issues that the Council requests the Legislature to consider.
56

57 NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Kirkland as
58 follows:
59


60 Section 1. The "General Principles", "Legislative Priorities", and "2026 Budget
61 Requests" set forth in the "City of Kirkland 2026 Legislative Agenda," attached as Exhibit A
62 and by this reference incorporated, are adopted as the City's recommendations to the
63 Washington State Legislature during its 2026 session.
64

65 Section 2. The City administration is directed to transmit the 2026 Legislative Agenda,
66 including any subsequent changes or updates, to members of the State Legislature,
67 representing the legislative districts in which Kirkland is located, together with other members
68 of the State Legislature, and to the Association of Washington Cities, the Sound Cities
69 Association, and other organizations as identified by Council.
70

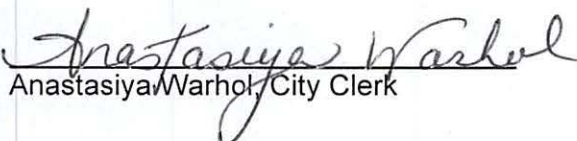
71 Section 3. The list included in the section on "Further Monitoring of Other Policy
72 Organizations" set forth in Exhibit A is adopted as the general policies and organizations that
73 the City Manager, in partnership with the City Council's Legislative Workgroup, is directed to
74 monitor. If such monitoring results in the identification of legislation with great interest or impact
75 to the City, the Legislative Workgroup must seek Council approval prior to directing advocacy
76 engagement efforts to support or oppose such legislation. This list may be amended from time
77 to time by the Council without further resolutions.
78

79 Passed by majority vote of the Kirkland City Council in open meeting this 18th day of
80 November, 2025.
81

82 Signed in authentication thereof this 18th day of November, 2025.


Kelli Curtis, Mayor

Attest:


Anastasiya Warhol, City Clerk

CITY OF KIRKLAND

2026 Legislative Agenda



General Principles

Kirkland supports legislation that promotes the City Council's goals, plans, policies, and initiatives that enable Kirkland to provide basic municipal services and meet the needs of current and future community members.

- Protect shared State revenue sources available to the City and provide new revenue options and flexibility of existing revenues.
- Support the partnership between Cities and the State to ensure that critical mandates are funded, and vital services are provided to all community members, including community-based behavioral health and other critical human services.
- Advance initiatives identified in the City's Work Program; Council Goals; Budget; Comprehensive Plan; Sustainability Strategic Plan; Transportation Strategic Plan; Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging 5-year Roadmap; Housing Strategy Plan; and related documents.
- Support State legislation that protects our residents and businesses from loss of critical assistance programs or civil liberties due to federal actions.

2026 Legislative Priorities

Funding and policy tools to increase housing, access to a greater diversity of housing types, and concurrent investments in the infrastructure needed to support new homes, such as parks, open space, transportation, services, and school capacity.

Preserve and expand policy and funding tools to support a safe and reliable transportation system for all users, including continuing revenue sharing with local governments, and updating State law to create safer operations of motorized bicycles.

Legislation that authorizes Cities to implement, fairly and equitably, street noise enforcement programs based on the pilot of new technology already underway in Kirkland and designed to identify and reduce street racing and other unlawfully loud vehicle uses.

Legislation that creates flexibility for local jurisdictions operating jails when it comes to selecting the gender of the officer performing body searches.

Legislative actions identified from the King County Regional Utility Rate Summit that receive Council support.

2026 Budget Requests

Kirkland requests capital budget funding for:

- Addition of a synthetic turf infield to promote increased playability during winter months for baseball and softball players in the 1st LD.
- Additional trail construction in the Kingsgate neighborhood near Juanita-Woodinville Way NE and NE 140th Street to create safe pedestrian paths to schools in the 45th LD.
- Improvements to Lee Johnson field for the Junior League Softball World Series in the 48th LD.
- Improvements to the City of Kirkland Public Works Maintenance Center in the 48th LD.

CITY OF KIRKLAND

2026 Legislative Agenda



Further Monitoring of Other Policy Organizations¹

Kirkland monitors legislation proposed by the following organizations for alignment with the City's General Principles and Legislative Priorities.

Transportation

- Eastside Transportation Partnership
- Transportation Choices
- Eastrail Partners

Housing

- Washington Low Income Housing Alliance
- Housing Development Consortium

Human Services

- Eastside Human Services Forum
- King County Behavioral Health
- Faith Action Network

Environment

- King County-Cities Climate Collaboration
- People for Climate Action Kirkland
- Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed (WRIA8) Partners

Water

- Cascade Water Alliance

First Response

- Washington Association of Sheriffs & Police Chiefs
- Washington Fire Chiefs Association
- Washington Co-Responder Outreach Alliance

Parks

- Washington Recreation & Parks Association

Open Government & Transparency

- Washington Coalition for Open Government

Education

- Lake Washington School District
- Lake Washington Institute of Technology
- Cascadia College

Regional & Statewide

- Association of Washington Cities
- King County
- Puget Sound Regional Council

Other Issue Areas

- Pro-Choice Washington
- Planned Parenthood
- Alliance for Gun Responsibility
- Kirkland Chamber of Commerce

¹This is a list of organizations in which the City is involved or that, historically, have supported policies that align with previous or current Council goals, including policies that may advance initiatives identified in the City-adopted plans listed above in the General Principles. Inclusion on this list does not imply automatic support of an organization's legislative agenda. The primary purpose of this list is to aid Kirkland's Legislative Work Group in monitoring legislation and to signal where the City, with subsequent discussion by the Council, may choose to invest additional effort on advocacy. Intentionally keeping this list narrow allows the Legislative Work Group to focus on high-priority policies and bills, while remaining open to dedicating additional time and effort to particular legislation, if and when priorities align.