



AB 6220: Legislative Update

February 7, 2023

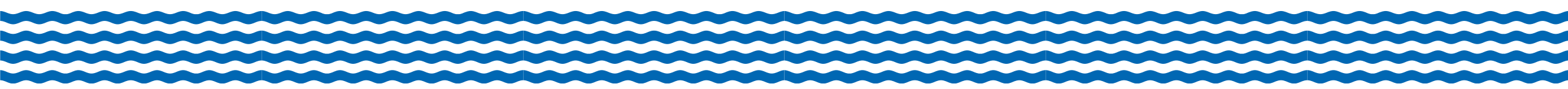


Agenda

- Legislative Session overview
- Mercer Island's Legislative Priorities
- Overview of bills we're tracking

2023 Legislative Session Timeline

- January 9th: First day of session
- February 17: Last day to pass out of committee, except finance/budget bills
- March 8: Last day to pass house of origin
- April 4: Last day to pass out of committee of opposite chamber
- April 12: Last day to pass out of opposite chamber, except budget
- April 23: Last day for regular session



2023 Legislative Priorities

- Adopted in November 2022.
- Lobbyist team hired to support the City's efforts.
- Each priority relates to a category of bills we are tracking.
- Staff requesting amendment to legislative priorities to include the word "operations" in the funding category. Allows for advocacy for bills that will provide resources or grants to support City operations.

2023 Legislative Priorities Summary

- Funding for Operations, Basic Infrastructure, and Capital Projects
- Support for Mental & Behavioral Health Services
- Policing for a Safe Mercer Island
- Support for Housing Availability
- Preserving & Protecting the Environment



Capital Budget Requests

- The City has grants ranked in several categories:
 - Aquatic Lands Enhancement Act
 - \$500,000
 - WA Wildlife & Recreation Program
 - \$1.5 million
 - Heritage Capital Grant Program
 - \$500,000
- Passage of the Governor's Budget will fully fund these requests.
- Budget consideration expected in March.

Police Bills

- Pursuit bills
 - **HB 1636**. Reintroduces ‘reasonable suspicion standard.’
- Blake “fix” bills
 - **HB 1612/SB 5467**. Makes drug possession a gross misdemeanor with a focus on directing offenders to treatment.
 - **SB 5536**. Makes drug possession a gross misdemeanor with an emphasis on pretrial diversion. Makes treatment facilities essential public facilities for siting and permitting processes.
- Tracking; no action at this time.



Marine Patrol

- Request through Rep. Senn to help fund replacement of Marine Patrol vessels as they age and fail.
- City has received letters of support from Medina, Renton, Hunts Point and Yarrow Point.
- City continues to strongly advocate with partners; consideration of request will occur at the end of February.

Property Tax Cap for Local Governments

- **HB 1670** proposes to revise the property tax cap for local governments to account for inflation and population growth up to three percent.
- Timeline for committee hearing not known.
- Tracking; no action at this time.

Public Works Assistance Account

- **SB 5303** proposes to create a revolving account for funding low interest infrastructure loans.
- Passage would require a constitutional amendment before the voters in November 2024, as measure creates new state financial account.
- The City is supporting this bill and will continue to advocate for it in Olympia.

Housing Bills (Permitting)

- There are many bills that will change how we process permits.
- Examples of bills we are tracking:
 - **HB 1026**: Eliminating design review boards for residential development
 - **HB 1296/SB 5290**: Consolidating and streamlining local permit review process
 - **HB 1293**: Streamlining development regulations through creating certain exemptions to SEPA
- Many of these bills are poised to pass.
- We are advocating to improve technical accuracy, change implementation timelines, and make sure bills do not contradict each other.

Housing Bills (Zoning, Land Use)

- Numerous bills to track related to:
 - Transit-oriented development (**SB 5466**)
 - Change to single-family zones (**HB 1110**)
 - ADUs (**HB 1337**)
 - Lot Splitting (**HB 1245**)
- Significant issues identified in these bills related to restrictions on ability to require parking. City is aligned with AWC on removing or modifying these provisions.
- City Council to consider letter opposing HB 1110 this evening.

HB 1110 Overview

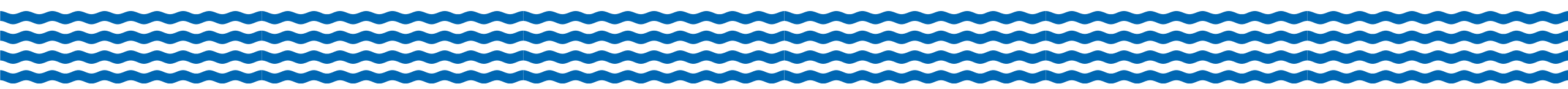
- If approved as currently amended:
 - Mercer Island is in the highest tier for potential development.
 - Authorizes four units on all residential lots on Mercer Island, or up to six units if two are affordable
 - Authorizes the development of up to six units within one half-mile of a major transit stop or community amenity (schools or public parks)
 - Prohibits city from requiring off-street parking for units built within one half-mile of a transit stop
- HB 1110 does not:
 - Provide funding for needed infrastructure to support additional housing.
 - Tie back to HB 1220 (2021), mandating that cities plan for and accommodate affordable housing across a range of income bands.

Draft Letter on HB 1110

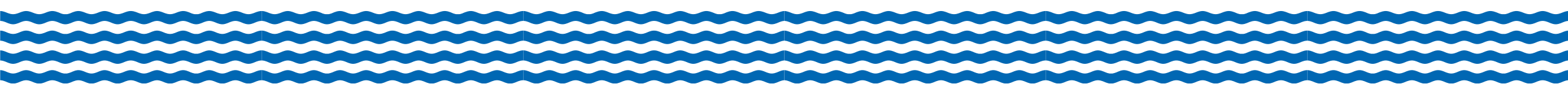
- City staff in consultation with City Council leadership and lobbyists drafted letter opposing HB 1110.
- An amended HB 1110 was dropped yesterday afternoon. City staff revised the draft letter to align with the proposed amendment and updated the letter in your packet.
- Seeking City Council approval tonight authorizing the Mayor to sign the letter to Representative Senn and Representative Thai, opposing HB 1110.
- Upon approval, staff will finalize and share the letter with City's lobbyists, state legislators, AWC, and others.

Recommended Motions

1. Approve letter of opposition to HB1110, regarding increasing middle housing in areas traditionally dedicated to single-family detached housing, substantially in the form attached as Exhibit 2.
2. Adopt the revised 2023 State Legislative Priorities as presented in Exhibit 3.



Appendix



King County Maintained Road

- Gravel or Stone
- Chip Seal
- Asphalt
- Concrete
- Brick
- Hot Mix Asphalt
- Bonded Road
- 67890 Roadlog (Route) Number
- Roadlog (Route) Update
- Roadlog (Route) Half Street
- Other Road
- Railroad
- King County Boundary
- WSDOT Urban Rural Line
- ★ Bridge
- Legislative District
- 5 Legislative District Number
- Section Line
- Section Number
- Incorporated Area
- New Annexation
- Park
- WSDOT Urban Area
- King County Urban Growth Area
- Urban Area
- Rural Area



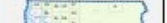
North American Datum (NAD83/81)
 State Plane Coordinate System
 Washington North Zone (SPS 4601)
 United States Survey Feet

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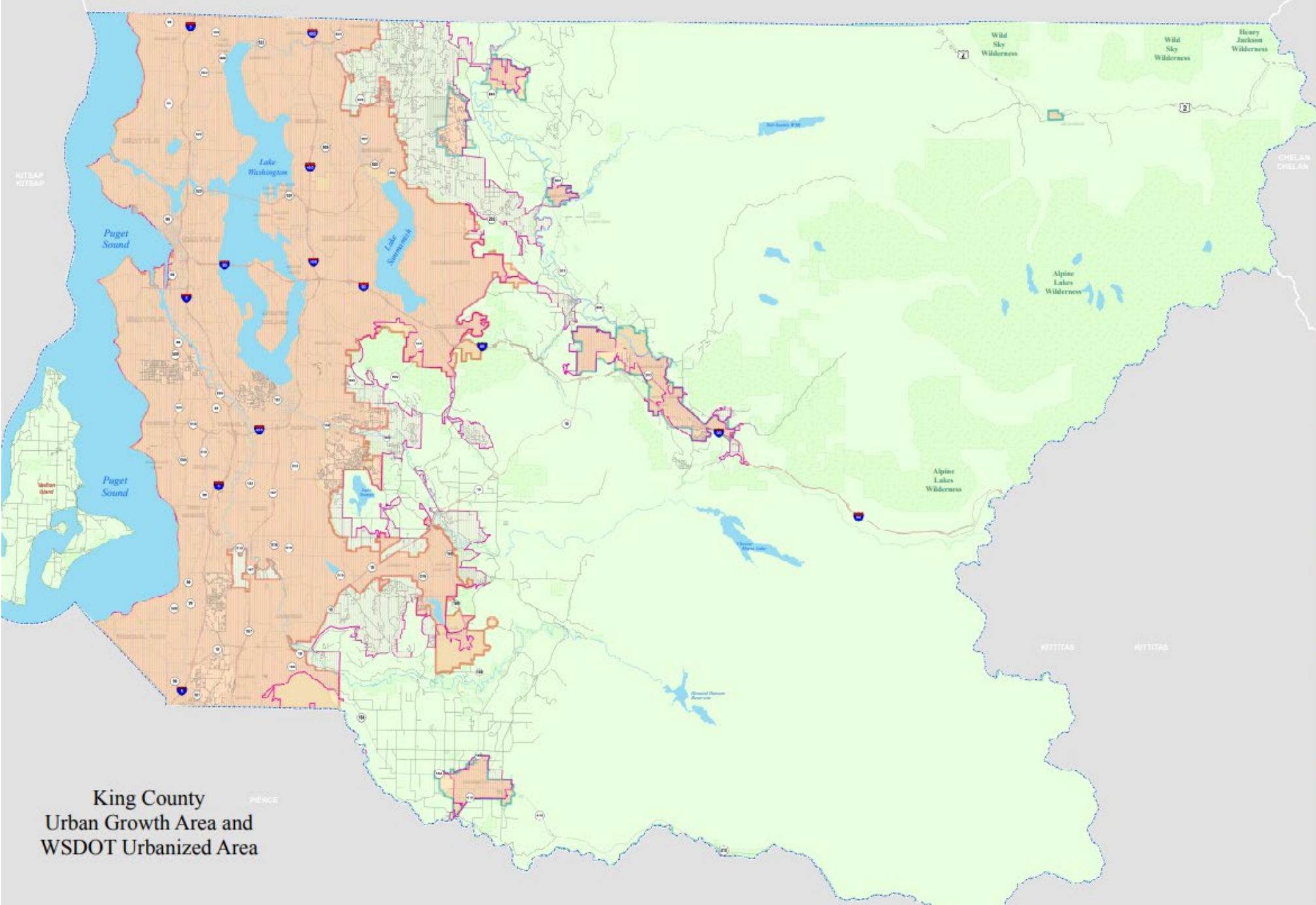
Washington State Vicinity Map



King County Index Map



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King County
Urban Growth Area and
WSDOT Urbanized Area