

2021 City Legislative Priorities



State-shared revenues

Maintain revenue sharing with cities. Cities support increased shared revenue distributions to cities (if the state sees increased shared revenues) and ask the state to look for other opportunities to expand revenue sharing.



Transportation revenue package

Adopt a new transportation revenue package that emphasizes maintenance/preservation funding and provides an equitable level of local funding as well as additional local revenue options for cities.



Fiscal flexibility

Provide cities greater flexibility to use funds from existing revenue sources to help cities manage the impacts of the current economic downturn. This will allow cities to direct scarce resources where they are most needed when responding to pressing community conditions.



Housing instability assistance

Work in a coalition to develop additional resources to address housing instability created by the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, including rent assistance and foreclosure/eviction prevention assistance.

AWC's advocacy is guided by the following core principles from our Statement of Policy:

- Local decision-making authority
- Fiscal flexibility and sustainability
- Equal standing for cities
- Diversity, equity, and inclusion
- Strong Washington state partnerships
- Nonpartisan analysis and decision-making



Statewide policing reforms

Support local control over city law enforcement policy decisions to meet the needs of each community and appropriately contain costs. Cities understand our obligation to address racial equity in policing – both state requirements and local policies.

Cities support the following statewide reforms:

- 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.
- 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.

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