



Snoqualmie City Council

2025 Legislative Priorities

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community Center Expansion: Requesting ~\$5M in county/state funding to help expand Snoqualmie's community center and add a swimming pool. This will address over-capacity issues at our community center, provide an opportunity for all children in our city the chance to learn to swim, so they will be safe when recreating in our rivers, and provide health and wellness, senior, youth, and aquatics programs.

Affordable housing: Expand financing options for affordable housing. Greater flexibility to cities with less than 25,000 in population for affordable housing policies. Dedicate current funding and explore new funding options, such as the real estate excise tax to address needs across the housing continuum including home ownership, senior, workforce, affordable and permanent supportive housing.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Recruitment and Retention: Provide funding tools to assist small municipalities recruit and retain first responders including behavioral health specialists.

Juvenile Access Law: Revise existing legislation to allow police to speak with minors, upon consent by their parent or legal guardian, unless the minor or the parent/legal guardian request an attorney. Parental authority may be withdrawn at any time, but this allows the police to (1) investigate threats quickly and (2) ascertain whether there are mitigating factors such that the arrest of the minor is not necessary or warranted. This is a modification to ESHB 1140.

Community Behavioral Health: Seek increased investment in community behavioral health treatment funding. Both capital start-up and operational expenses, including crisis stabilization, outpatient, forensic behavioral health, and student mental health support. New facilities must take into consideration first and secondary public safety service impacts, offsetting mutual aid costs as appropriate.

PUBLIC WORKS and TRANSPORTATION

I-90 and Highway 18 interchange: Ensure preservation of prior legislative appropriations funding for the Snoqualmie Parkway and SR 18.

Continue to engage the local jurisdictional input through the established advisory committee.

Snoqualmie Parkway jurisdiction transfer: Ensure alignment of utilization of infrastructure with taxing jurisdiction. The parkway is a transportation system connector between Highway 18 and State Route 202. The majority of its utilization is through regional commercial trucks. In order to align usage with revenue source, the parkway should be transferred to state control and maintenance.

FINANCE and ADMINISTRATION

Tax Appropriations: Cities are where most of the state's tax revenue is generated. In fact, cities are where most businesses operate, and where 94% of gross state product is generated. It's a wise investment for the state to continue sharing revenues with cities. Cities need the state to continue this commitment and explore ways to strengthen revenue sharing in ways that benefit both cities and the state, including but not limited to liquor profit sharing and liquor excise tax sharing, municipal criminal justice assistance account, fire insurance premium tax sharing, real estate excise tax (REET), sales tax and property tax.