

League of Oregon Cities 2025 – 2026 Legislative Priorities

1) Community Infrastructure and Housing Development Funding

[HB 3031](#) – Infrastructure funding framework for future state-funded infrastructure. Worked with partners and Governor Kotek's staff to improve the framework for the distribution of grant funds for housing projects. Legislation is in the Full Ways & Means Committee awaiting a funding level. The LOC is supporting the governor's recommended budget level of \$100 million. For more details, see this [white paper](#).

[HB 5011](#) – Oregon Housing and Community Service's budget, which includes more than \$880 million for housing development, had its public hearing in the Transportation and Economic development Subcommittee on March 27. The LOC submitted a letter supporting the budget and highlighting the need for development funding, preservation funding and shelter.

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2) 2025 Transportation Package

We are expecting a framework for package which will likely outline the scope of the investment, what projects will be funded, the scale of the tax increase, and the sources of revenue. For more details on the LOC's advocacy, see this [white paper](#).

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3) Recreational Immunity

[SB 179](#) - Legislation establishing a permanent restoration of recreational immunity has passed the Senate unanimously and is now headed to the House for additional consideration. For additional information on recreational immunity see this [white paper](#).

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4) Behavioral Health Enhancements

[HB 3051](#) - An intensive workgroup that includes LOC Lobbyist Scott Winkels and other partners has been working all session to craft reforms to Oregon's civil commitment statute. A work session has been scheduled for HB 3051 on March 31 to consider an amendment that will allow people needing assistance to be vectored towards care.

Determinations on funding and capacity will be made during the budget process. Additional information on LOC's work on behavioral health can be found in this [white paper](#).

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5) Lodging Tax Flexibility

[HB 3556](#) - The LOC aims to increase the flexibility to use locally administered and collected lodging tax revenue currently preempted to support tourism-impacted services. These services include public safety and community infrastructure. HB 3556 had a lively public hearing on March 20 and is awaiting a work session. For more details, see this [white paper](#).

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6) Shelter Funding and Homeless Response

[HB 3644](#) - The LOC has been advocating for a comprehensive homeless response funding framework to support the needs of homeless shelters and response efforts statewide. The framework includes baseline operational support for existing state funded shelter beds, strengthening coordinated regional homeless response, and expanding eligibility for state dollars to safe park and tiny home sites that have previously not been eligible. HB 3644 is currently in the Ways and Means Committee awaiting a funding level.

[HB 5011](#) - Additionally, the LOC is supporting the governor's associated funding ask for a minimum of \$217M.

For additional information on LOC's homeless advocacy see this [white paper](#).

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7) Address Energy Affordability Challenges from Rising Utility Costs

The LOC and partners are advancing several pieces of legislation to help address rising energy costs. See the *LOC Bulletin* article from [March 21](#), which goes into greater detail related to current legislative proposals. For additional information on LOC's advocacy, see this [white paper](#).

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8) Operator-In-Training Apprenticeships

[HB 3634](#) - This legislation would provide \$3.5 million to increase and diversify the supply of skilled professionals for water and wastewater utilities. We are expecting a committee vote on April 3. Once through this policy committee, the legislation will move

to the full Ways & Means Committee for budget consideration. For additional information on our advocacy, see this [white paper](#).

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9) Clarifying Time, Place and Manner for Public Camping

SB 593 - The LOC worked with city partners and other interests to craft legislation that would introduce additional clarity and provide cities with options for safe harbor when addressing their homeless population. Despite best efforts and significant grassroots advocacy, we could not convince legislative leadership and key committee chairs to schedule a hearing. The bill is effectively dead for this session. Post-session, we will evaluate options for future legislative work. For additional details on LOC's advocacy, see this [white paper](#).

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