Hot topics

Mandatory ADU bill back for round two
AWC seeks feedback on an accessory dwelling unit (ADU) preemption bill that may be concerning for some cities.

Governor’s homeless sheltering proposal has first hearing
Share your thoughts on a Governor-request bill aimed at increasing shelter capacity.

Bill expands use of city traffic safety cameras
A bill being heard this week expands the types of violations that can be detected by city traffic safety cameras.

Things you can do

View updated fact sheets
Visit our City Legislative Priorities webpage to learn more about AWC’s seven 2020 legislative priorities, which includes links to accompanying facts sheets on each priority. The fact sheets are newly updated and include graphics, data, bill numbers, and talking points to equip you with the latest info and help you talk about the issues with your legislators.

Register for Mayors Exchange
February 13 | Olympia
Taking place at AWC in Olympia during the busy legislative session, this Mayors Exchange offers the unique opportunity to connect with other city leaders and share local budget or policy issues, news, strategies, and legislative priorities. Conversation highlights include the supplemental budget proposals, the state revenue forecast, transportation, housing, and other hot topics for cities. Register now!

View from the Hill

Strong city voices—the focus of City Action Days this week
City Action Days kicks off Tuesday and we are so excited to have nearly 400 city officials coming to Olympia. If you are not able to join us in Olympia this week, that’s okay! You can still make your voice heard. Now is the time to remind your legislators about the value of cities and the difference cities make for the state. Find some tools and resources to help with that conversation, including our weekly bill Hot Sheet.

Media time

Listen to our podcast about the State of the Cities
At the start of the year we released our 2020 State of the Cities report, which found that cities are the economic drivers of our state and play an important role in the health of Washington. But cities are struggling to meet the basic needs of their communities and are facing new challenges. We sat down with Sheila, Candice, and Maggie to go over these and other report findings. Listen to the 20-minute conversation on our website or wherever you get your podcasts.

Download the AWC Advocacy 2020 app!
Whether you’re coming to City Action Days or not, our app will put advocacy tools at your fingertips. If you’ve attended one of our events in the last year, it’s likely you still have the app on your phone. If not, go to your phone’s app store and search for "AWC Events." Open the app and download the "AWC Advocacy 2020" event to get started. Be sure to enable notifications to get the latest news and information all session long. Visit our website to find step-by-step instructions or view the app on a desktop.

continued
What you need to know

**Affordable housing**: Changes proposed to make it easier for nonprofits providing affordable housing.

Proposal to create a home-sharing grant program.

**Budget & finance**: JLARC’s lodging tax reporting system is officially open. Make sure to file your reports before May 15, 2020.

Bill threatens to preempt cities’ utility lien authority.

**HB 2508** allows city-owned utilities to donate low-value surplus property.

**Cannabis**: Several cannabis bills receive hearings.

**Energy**: **SB 6496** authorizes electric utilities and PUDs to encourage customer electrification.

**Environment & natural resources**: Converting state environmental policies from “no net loss” to “net ecological gain”.

Phasing out single-use plastic food service products.

Clean air, green streets, carbon sinks… oh my! This bill aims to do just that through urban trees.

**General government**: Measure adjusting local ballot committee membership headed to executive session.

House bill outlines new protections and procedures at Washington court facilities.

House and Senate consider differing facial recognition bills.

Bill to limit elections in odd-numbered years receives a hearing.

New requirements for fire and smoke control systems testing.

Bill encourages pet adoptions over retail pet sales.

**Homelessness & human services**: Greater access to opioid medication the focus of bills.

Proposed state pilot program provides intervention and treatment funding to counties.

**HR & labor relations**: House considers granting L&I Director ability to waive or modify penalties.

New bill modifies marijuana testing protocols during hiring process.

Several bills adjust workers’ compensation in Washington.

Bill modifies criteria for officer performance evaluations.

New bills clarify municipal authority to set minimum labor standards at airports.

**Land use & planning**: House companion bill on comprehensive approach to incorporating climate change into GMA will receive a hearing.

Bill delays implementation of state energy code for two years.

Hoping to make an anonymous land use violation tip? Not so fast.

Three bills affect how impact fees are set.

Bill to reduce unnecessary SEPA reviews.

**Public safety & criminal justice**: Three bills look to address sexual crimes against children and youth.

Multiple bills impacting law enforcement will be heard on the Hill.

Bill sets forth new reporting requirements for elected city attorneys.

Multiple gun regulation bills considered in the House.

Bill increases seizure and forfeiture reporting requirements.

Bill expands access to jail records for medical purposes.

Senate looks to alleviate burden on indigent defense.

**Public works**: LOCAL Program webinar recording now available.

**SB 6519** requires additional protection of archaeological and cultural sites.

**Transportation**: **SB 6586** proposes to institute a per-mile charge on electric and hybrid vehicles.

**SB 6466** authorizes use of bicycle traffic control signals.

**HB 2641** authorizes cities to provide passenger-only ferry service.

continued
Strong city voices—the focus of City Action Days this week

Contact: Candice Bock

It’s finally here—City Action Days kicks off Tuesday and we are so excited to have nearly 400 city officials coming to Olympia.

AWC’s mission is to advocate for cities. To that end, having city officials pack the Capitol creates a huge impact on the process. This is your time to raise your voice and make it heard in the legislative process as a strong city advocate. Together we speak with one powerful city voice.

Now is the time to remind your legislators about the value of cities and the difference cities make for the state. AWC has some great tools to help you with these conversations:

• Check out the 2020 State of the Cities report (https://wacities.org/data-resources/articles/2020/01/13/2020-state-of-the-cities) for some great data about what cities do for our state and how cities are a good investment.
• Review AWC’s 2020 City Legislative Priorities (https://wacities.org/advocacy/City-Legislative-Priorities) and accompanying fact sheets.
• Read our weekly bill Hot Sheet (https://wacities.org/docs/default-source/Legislative/hotsheet.pdf?sfvrsn=56) that highlights bills of interest to cities.

Be sure to ask your legislators what they are doing to help cities—you have to keep them accountable to your community.

We know that as a city official, you have your hands full leading your city. The legislative process can seem like something that you don't have time for or that is too confusing and challenging for you to have an impact. But your voice does matter. Legislators like to hear from home. As a city official, you are an opinion leader in your community—and that matters to your legislators.

If you are not able to join us in Olympia this week, that's okay! You can still make your voice heard. This week, make it a point to reach out to your legislators with an email or a phone call and remind them of your city's legislative priorities. Then ask them what they are doing to advance those priorities.

As we have been saying, “advocacy is a year-round job,” so keep up the good work of making your voice heard all session long. We are already about a third of the way through, but there’s a lot of work left. We are still a week away from the first bill cutoff deadlines and are still awaiting the supplemental budget proposals. It is important to reach out to legislators on a regular basis and share what is important to your city and what's important to all cities.

Thank you for all you do as strong city advocates and for making your voice heard in the legislative process.

We are here to help, if you have any questions or need any more information about legislation impacting cities, please reach out to your AWC Government Relations team.
Affordable housing
Changes proposed to make it easier for nonprofits providing affordable housing
Contact: Carl Schroeder, Shannon McClelland

HB 6232 proposes changes to the nonprofit housing property tax exemption and is an example of a technical bill that intends to make the job of providing affordable housing a bit easier.

The bill, sponsored by Sen. Patty Kuderer (D-Clyde Hill), does the following:
• For purposes of property tax exemption for nonprofits providing affordable housing, the definition of a very low-income household at or below 50% of Area Median Income (AMI) is changed to a "qualifying" household with income at or below 60% AMI.
• A restriction is removed allowing all nonprofit housing providers to qualify.
• The reporting requirement is changing from annually to every third year.

The bill is on the move and has already been voted out of its policy committee. It will now go before the Senate's fiscal committee.

Dates to remember
HB 6232 is scheduled for public hearing on Wednesday, January 29 at 3:30 pm in the Senate Ways & Means Committee.

Proposal to create a home-sharing grant program
Contact: Carl Schroeder, Shannon McClelland

Some cities have been interested in home-sharing programs to match up community members who have empty bedrooms in their homes with people in need—and a bill sponsored by Rep. Michelle Caldier (R–Port Orchard) does just that.

HB 2639 directs the Department of Commerce to create and manage a grant program to provide financial support to nonprofit organizations that operate home-sharing programs. These organizations would help people who are homeless, or at risk of becoming homeless, to locate host homes. Services could include screening for compatibility, background checks, case management, and conflict resolution. The bill authorizes the state document recording fees to invest in this program.

Dates to remember
HB 2639 is scheduled for public hearing in the House Housing, Community Development & Veterans Committee at 10 am on Tuesday, January 28. The bill is also scheduled for a committee vote at 10 am on Friday, January 31.
Budget & finance

Bill allows city-owned utilities to donate low-value surplus property
Contact: Candice Bock, Maggie Carol

A new proposal makes it easier for city utilities to donate surplus equipment.

HB 2508, sponsored by Rep. Sharon Wylie (D–Vancouver) and its companion bill SB 6481, sponsored by Sen. Annette Cleveland (D–Vancouver), authorizes city-owned utilities to donate low-value surplus property (less than $50,000) without public hearing. Other city-owned surplus property less than $50,000 can already be donated without a public hearing. Currently, city-owned property greater than $50,000 and any city owned utility surplus property can only be donated with legislative authority and after a public hearing.

Dates to remember
HB 2508 is scheduled for public hearing in the House Local Government Committee on Tuesday, January 28 at 10 am.

SB 6481 was heard in the Senate Local Government Committee on January 23 at 8 am.

Bill threatens to preempt cities’ utility lien authority
Contact: Candice Bock, Maggie Carol

HB 2069 repeals statutes that provide cities and towns with the authority to attach liens to properties for a tenant's unpaid utility bills. Additionally, the bill prohibits municipal utility providers from being able to collect on unpaid or delinquent accounts from a property owner when the account is in a tenant’s name.

HB 2069 was heard during the 2019 regular session, but did not pass partly due to concerns raised by cities. It was again heard in the House Civil Rights & Judiciary Committee on January 24; however, due to a crowded hearing schedule, city representatives only had the opportunity to speak for one minute on the bill.

The result of this bill would be fewer options for cities in collecting on delinquent accounts. That could result in more unpaid bills driving up costs for all other ratepayers. Cities maintain that it is appropriate for landlords to be responsible when a tenant has a delinquent bill because they have tools, like withholding a deposit, to help hold the tenant accountable.

In early November, AWC conducted a survey to gather city data regarding usage of lien authority. Cities reported that using lien authority is the only sure way to collect payments, as often they cannot shut off water or sewer services. Cities use a variety of steps before relying upon a lien to collect on delinquent accounts, including letters in the mail, door hangers, late fees and penalties, phone calls, and collection agencies. However, cities report that liens are the most effective way to collect delinquent payments on vacated or foreclosed properties without transferring the burden to the subsequent property owner. The loss of city lien authority could result in over $8 million in lost city revenue.

Cities need to make sure their local legislators are aware of the challenges that this bill could create for city-owned utilities.
**JLARC’s lodging tax reporting system is officially open for 2019 reporting**

Contact: Candice Bock, Maggie Carol

Local governments are statutorily required to annually report expenditures of lodging tax revenue. The Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) has established an online system to collect data about lodging tax expenditures as required by state law.

The lodging tax reporting system is now open for reporting 2019 expenditures. The deadline for reporting 2019 expenditures is May 15, 2020. Cities may enter data and edit expenditure reports until this date.

Your city can access the reporting system and guidance documents on JLARC’s website (http://leg.wa.gov/JLARC/Pages/Lodging-Tax.aspx). The reporting system can also be accessed using this link (https://app.leg.wa.gov/JLARCLodgingTax/Account/Login?redirectUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fapp.leg.wa.gov%2FJLARCLodgingTax%2F). If you have any questions, please review the reporting instructions (http://leg.wa.gov/jlarc/Documents/LodgingTax/Instructions.pdf), the FAQ (http://leg.wa.gov/jlarc/Documents/LodgingTax/FAQ_Reporting_Lodging_Tax_Expenditures.pdf), or email JLARClodgingtax@leg.wa.gov.

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**Cannabis**

**Several cannabis bills receive hearings**

Contact: Sharon Swanson, Jacob Ewing

Several cannabis bills have received hearings during the opening days of the 2020 legislative session.

**HB 1131**, sponsored by Rep. Brian Blake (D–Aberdeen), and companion **SB 5155**, sponsored by Sen. Maureen Walsh (R–Walla Walla), change several regulations around residential marijuana possession, including:

- Legalizing adult recreational home cultivation of marijuana by authorizing adults to produce and possess up to six marijuana plants at their housing unit.
- Establishing production and possession limits for marijuana products derived from the plants and establishes a 15-plant limit per housing unit.
- Requiring marking of plants and marijuana produced from the plants with the grower’s name, date of birth, address, planting date, and harvest date.
- Retaining the right of property owners to prohibit cultivation of marijuana by a renter or lessee under a rental agreement.
- Modifying the seizure and forfeiture statute as it applies to marijuana.

**HB 1131** has moved out of the House Commerce & Gaming Committee and is now in the Appropriations Committee.

**SB 6033**, sponsored by Sen. Karen Keiser (D–Des Moines), addresses security of retail marijuana outlets by requiring law enforcement agencies to send reports regarding any incident of robbery in the first or second degree of a retail marijuana outlet to the Washington State Patrol (WSP) within ten days of making the report, if probable cause exists.

Additionally, the WSP is required to report details of any robbery incident to the state Liquor and Cannabis Board within ten days of receiving the report.

**SB 6033** received a hearing in the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee on Thursday, January 23.
Energy

Bill authorizes electric utilities and PUDs to encourage customer electrification
Contact: Logan Bahr, Maggie Carol

AWC and other public utilities have concerns about a new bill centered around electrifying homes and buildings.

**SB 6496**, sponsored by Sen. Liz Lovelett (D–Anacortes), and its companion bill, **HB 2586**, sponsored by Rep. Alex Ramel (D–Bellingham) incentivizes electric utilities and PUDs to encourage their customers to electrify their homes and buildings. This legislation authorizes the governing authority of an electric utility or PUD to establish a beneficial electrification plan, where they may consider the following:

- Applicability of multiple options for electrification of various energy end-uses or other energy sources;
- The impact of beneficial electrification on the electric utility's or PUD's load;
- Assessment of conservation measures to offset load impacts of beneficial electrification;
- System reliability and distribution system efficiencies;
- Opportunity for greenhouse gas emission reductions;
- Opportunity for indoor and outdoor air quality benefits to utility customers; and
- The overall benefits and costs of planned action, including the cost of greenhouse gas emissions calculated.

AWC and other public utilities have some concerns with the bill.

Dates to remember

**SB 6496** is scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Environment, Energy & Technology Committee on Wednesday, January 29 at 8 am.

**HB 2586**, the companion bill, is scheduled for public hearing in the House Transportation Committee on Thursday, January 30 at 3:30 pm.
Environment & natural resources

Clean air, green streets, carbon sinks…oh my!
Contact: Carl Schroeder, Shannon McClelland

Do you wish you had more resources and state assistance to identify and increase your city’s tree canopy or urban forest? This bill aims to do just that!

HB 2768 is requested by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and sponsored by Rep. Bill Ramos (D–Issaquah) and aims to modernize the Evergreen Communities recognition program. The bill intends to assist cities in efforts to preserve and enhance their urban tree programs, hoping to reap the benefits of all that trees provide to communities—health benefits, air and water quality improvements, and the happiness factor that people experience when spending time in natural settings.

The bulk of the new and comprehensive bill changes occur in Sections 9-11 and direct DNR to:
- Assess urban tree canopy and forest inventory data, adding data in areas that do not have adequate data available;
- Identify priority regions for urban tree programs based on listed criteria;
- Conduct a statewide inventory of urban trees and community forests;
- Assist in local governments access carbon markets;
- Provide technical assist to help develop urban forestry management programs; and
- Develop criteria for an Evergreen Community designation program.

Dates to remember

HB 2768 is scheduled for public hearing on Tuesday, January 28 at 10 am in the House Rural Development, Agriculture, & Natural Resources Committee.

Converting state environmental policies from “no net loss” to “net ecological gain”
Contact: Carl Schroeder, Shannon McClelland

HB 2550 is an environmental community priority that we believe may have far reaching implications for state and city environmental regulatory efforts. The premise of the proposal, sponsored by Rep. Debra Lekanoff (D–La Conner), is that the decline of Washington State Southern Resident Orca and our inability to recover the state's endangered salmon runs can be traced to the lack of rigor in the state and local environmental regulations. The argument is that the state's current “no net loss” approach to environmental standards has failed and that we must institute a “net ecological gain” standard.

Cities are interested in how we can participate in improving the natural systems of our state. Cities are on-the-ground implementers of many of the state's environmental efforts. This solution however poses some difficulties for cities.

"Net ecological gain" means a standard for a development project, policy, plan, or activity in which the impacts on the ecological integrity caused by the development are outweighed by measures taken consistent with the new mitigation hierarchy to avoid and minimize the impacts, undertake site restoration, and compensate for any remaining impacts in an amount sufficient for the gain to exceed the loss.

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This change raises immediate “takings” concerns about whether this would require a local government to require project mitigation that was beyond the nexus and proportionality of their project impact. We would appreciate any perspectives you have on that question. We are also consulting with the Washington State Association of Municipal Attorneys.

The bill also seems to put the cart before the horse. First, it directs all state agencies with rulemaking authority that cover environmental, land use, and development that are not otherwise bound to a different standard of ecological protectiveness to adopt rules to implement a standard of net ecological gain.

Then, in the following bill section, it directs the Office of Financial Management (OFM) to submit a report to the Legislature about how to incorporate and implement a net ecological gain standard under the Shoreline Management Act, the Growth Management Act, the Hydraulic Permitting Act, and the Model Toxics Control Act. Of particular interest to cities, this OFM assessment includes opportunities and challenges for local governments to implement a new “net ecological gain” standard.

We have concerns that the current bill structure puts cities at significant legal risk. Please provide feedback on this bill to Shannon.

**Dates to remember**

HB 2550 is scheduled for public hearing in the House Environment & Energy Committee at 3:30 pm on Tuesday.

**Phasing out single-use plastic food service products**

Contact: Carl Schroeder, Shannon McClelland

A proposal to reduce waste associated with single-use food service products has been scheduled for a hearing. HB 2656, sponsored by Rep. Mia Gregerson (D–SeaTac), makes the following changes:

- Beginning January 1, 2021:
  - Single-use utensils, straws, and condiment packaging may only be provided by request.
  - Polystyrene foam food service products are banned.
- Beginning January 1, 2022, plastic-containing food service products may not be provided, except for recyclable plastic bottles and beverage containers (made from PET and HDPE only) and plastic prepackaged food.
- Beginning July 1, 2022, compostable service-ware may be provided in jurisdictions that have facilities capable of composting such products.
- Beginning January 1, 2030, all plastic-containing food service products are banned.
- Grandfathers in “request only” single-use plastic food service products ordinances prior to July 1, 2020.
- Directs the Department of Ecology to establish a single-use food service item fee that provides funding to implement the new chapter the bill creates, as well as to fund solid waste management planning, and development of composting infrastructure.

**Dates to remember**

HB 2656 is scheduled for public hearing in the House Environment & Energy Committee at 1:30 pm on Monday, January 27.
General government
House and Senate consider differing facial recognition bills
Contact: Sharon Swanson, Jacob Ewing

Competing bills in the House and Senate take different approaches to regulate facial recognition technology used by law enforcement agencies.

**HB 2761**, sponsored by Rep. Zack Hudgins (D–Tukwila), would leave approval and regulation of using facial recognition by law enforcement at the local level. Law enforcement would need to receive explicit permission from their city council before implementing the technology. The city council would be required to:
- Seek public input on the use of facial recognition within the community;
- Provide notice to the community that facial recognition will be used within the community;
- Explicitly state to law enforcement and the public how the technology will be used;
- Establish a process for reviewing law enforcement’s compliance with the established local rules.

Under **HB 2761**, law enforcement would not report usage of facial recognition technology to the state.

In a previous Bulletin article, we wrote about **SB 6280**, sponsored by Sen. Joe Nguyen (D–West Seattle). This bill would require extensive reporting and public hearings if a law enforcement agency chose to use facial recognition technology. The legislation also specifies requirements, including:
- Public notification;
- Testing prior to deployment;
- Independent testing for accuracy across distinct subpopulations;
- Periodic operator training.

**Bill on local ballot measure committee membership scheduled for a vote**
Contact: Sharon Swanson, Jacob Ewing

A Senate bill changing the criteria for membership on a local ballot measure committee received a public hearing on Friday, January 24 and is headed to executive session for a vote this week.

**SB 6238**, sponsored by Sen. Sam Hunt (D–Olympia), requires that any member of a local ballot measure statement committee be a registered voter of the locality where the ballot measure would be enacted. AWC highlighted this bill in more detail in a previous Bulletin article (https://wacities.org/advocacy/News/advocacy-news/2020/01/20/bill-proposes-to-limit-membership-on-ballot-measure-statement-committees).

AWC is monitoring this bill and requests your feedback. Please contact Sharon or Jacob to share how this bill would affect your city’s ability to form statement committees.

**Date to remember**
**SB 6238** is scheduled for an executive session in the Senate State Government, Tribal Relations & Elections Committee at 1:30 pm on Friday, January 31.
House bill outlines new protections and procedures at Washington court facilities
Contact: Sharon Swanson, Jacob Ewing

Representatives heard public comment on January 22 regarding protections and procedures for individuals visiting Washington court facilities.

HB 2567, sponsored by Rep. My-Linh Thai (D–Bellevue), establishes new policies and procedures for law enforcement officers and individuals visiting Washington court facilities. A public hearing for the bill occurred in the House Civil Rights and Judiciary Committee on Wednesday, January 22.

Under the bill, courts could not inquire regarding an individual’s place of birth or immigration status during court proceeding unless the information directly relates to the court case. Additionally, court personnel would not disclose an individual’s place of birth or immigration status to federal authorities.

The bill requires courts to establish a system to collect the following information from all law enforcement officials at a court facility to carry out an arrest:

- Name;
- Agency name;
- Date and time present at the court facility; and
- Purpose of action at the court facility.

Courts are required to report collected information related to law enforcement officers to the Administrative Office of the Courts each month. The Office of the Courts will publish collected information each quarter.

The bill also outlines provisions for making civil arrest at a court facility when it is:

- Pursuant to court action;
- Necessary to secure the immediate safety of the court; or
- Under certain conditions for warrantless arrests outlined in state law.

If law enforcement officers plan on carrying out a civil arrest pursuant to a court order, a designated judicial officer must approve of the action prior to the arrest being carried out.

New requirements for fire and smoke control systems testing
Contact: Sharon Swanson, Jacob Ewing

A bill proposes new testing requirements for owners of buildings equipped with fire and smoke control systems.

HB 2701, sponsored by Rep. Timm Ormsby (D–Spokane), allows qualified contractors or engineers to carry out required testing and inspections of building with certain systems, including:

- Fire dampers;
- Smoke dampers;
- Combination fire and smoke dampers; and/or
- Fire control systems

Citing of noncompliant building owners falls to local jurisdictions, who can levy civil infractions with monetary penalties. Collected penalties are forwarded to the state treasurer for deposit in the Fire Service Training Account.

Date to remember
HB 2701 is scheduled for public hearing in the House Local Government Committee at 10 am on Friday, January 31.
Bill encourages pet adoptions over retail pet sales
Contact: Sharon Swanson, Jacob Ewing

A new House bill would eliminate the retail sale of cats and dogs and, instead, encourage animal service agencies and pet stores to work together in promoting adoption.

**HB 2344**, sponsored by Rep. Sherry Appleton (D–Poulsbo), would impose criminal penalties on retail pet stores selling cats and dogs. However, the store could collaborate with animal care agencies to offer space to showcase adoptable cats and dogs. The animal care agency would be required to:

- Post signage at each animal's cage that identifies the animal service agency and includes contact information for the agency.
- Ensure that all animals receive necessary veterinary care and medical treatment before placing the animal.
- Create a methodology to determine suitable matches between the adopting party and available animals.
- Require adopting parties to sign an adoption contract outlining the process for returning the animal if the party finds they cannot properly care for the animal.
- Provide the adopting party with the most up-to-date medical information, vaccination records, and behavioral testing documentation at the time of adoption.
- Ensure that the adopted animal is spayed or neutered before releasing the animal to the adopting party.

**Dates to remember**

**HB 2344** is scheduled for public hearing in the House Consumer Protection & Business Committee at 8 am on Friday, January 31.

Bill to limit elections in odd-numbered years receives a hearing
Contact: Sharon Swanson, Jacob Ewing

A bill that eliminates statewide general elections in odd-numbered years received a hearing in the House State Government & Tribal Relations Committee and is scheduled for a committee vote later this week.

In addition to eliminating general elections in odd-numbered years, **HB 2529**, sponsored by Rep. Mia Gregerson (D–SeaTac), permits elections in odd-numbered years only for:

- County, city, town, and special district general elections before the year 2026, unless the entity chooses to switch to even-numbered years before then;
- Special elections called for any purpose authorized by law;
- Elections for recall of a public officer;
- Public utility districts, conservation districts, or district elections at which property ownership is a prerequisite to voting;
- Consolidation proposals and nonhigh capital fund aid proposals; and
- Special flood control districts consisting of three or more counties.

In the event that the term of office of an elected official is scheduled to expire before a general election for that office has been held, the elected official shall continue to serve until a successor is elected and qualified.
AWC testified with concerns about voter fatigue and the potential that voters would struggle to complete a full ballot, as well as the costs of special elections in odd-numbered years increasing for cities. Finally, AWC expressed concerns about a potential impact on current law which prohibits an individual from appearing twice on the same ballot for elected offices. As the bill is written, there are no provisions for this issue.

**Dates to remember**

**HB 2529** is scheduled for executive session in the House State Government & Tribal Relations Committee at 8 am on Friday, January 31.

### Homelessness & human services

**Greater access to opioid medication the focus of bills**

Contact: Sharon Swanson, Jacob Ewing

Legislators heard public testimony in both the House and Senate on expanded patient access to medication used to treat opioid addiction.

**HB 2335**, sponsored by Rep. Lauren Davis (D–Shoreline), and companion **SB 6086**, sponsored by Sen. Bob Hasegawa (D–Seattle), allow a health care entity to administer, dispense, or deliver up to a two-week supply of medication to a patient receiving evidence-based opioid use disorder treatment. This is an increase from the previous limit of 72 hours.

**Dates to remember**

**HB 2335** is scheduled for executive session in the House Health Care & Wellness Committee at 8 am on Friday, January 31.

**Governor’s homeless sheltering proposal has first hearing**

Contact: Carl Schroeder, Shannon McClelland

AWC is seeking feedback on a Governor-request bill aimed at increasing shelter capacity.

Governor Inslee made a centerpiece of his intent to address homelessness this session, with a specific focus on increasing shelter capacity by 50% across the state, either in homeless shelters or authorized encampments. **HB 2649**, the bill intended to accomplish this, is in the process of significant amendment and is very unlikely to stay in its current form.

We encourage you to reach out to AWC to share your thoughts on what your city is willing (and unwilling) to do in terms of enhanced attention to sheltering.

Consider these questions when contemplating your city’s input:

- If provided with resources, would your city be willing to site more shelters or authorized encampments?
- Are you interested in a process that would require cities to coordinate with counties to enhance shelter opportunities or evaluate current zoning and permitting structures with a goal towards siting these facilities?

Stay tuned to our *Legislative Bulletin* in the coming weeks for more specifics on the direction this bill ultimately takes.

**Dates to remember**

**HB 2649** is scheduled for public hearing in the House Housing, Community Development & Veterans Committee at 10 am on Tuesday, January 28. It is scheduled for a committee vote at 10 am on Friday, January 31.

continued
Proposed state pilot program provides intervention and treatment funding to counties
Contact: Sharon Swanson, Jacob Ewing

The Senate is considering a pilot program to provide Washington's three largest counties with funds to intervene and provide treatment for mental health and substance use disorders for those who cannot care for themselves.

Under current state law, individuals can only be involuntarily committed to treatment if they are likely to cause serious harm to others. SB 6109, sponsored by Sen. Steve O'Ban (R–University Place), provides state funding to the three largest counties to establish a new pilot program to intervene and provide treatment for up to 10 individuals at a time per county.

Under the pilot program, county courts appoint court-appointed resource executor (CARE) officers to oversee the care and treatment of designated individuals. CARE officers are responsible for developing an appropriate treatment plan for individuals using available regional resources.

Law enforcement, hospitals, jails, and certain service providers have authority under the pilot program to request screening of certain individuals to determine if they qualify to participate in the program. All proposed individuals subject to an executorship retain the right to demand a hearing on the issue.

Before commencing the pilot program, counties must ensure that they have adequate available resources, including:
• Supportive community housing that provides wraparound services
• Individuals qualified to serve as CARE officers
• Outpatient mental health services
• Access to necessary medication to treat mental illness and drug addiction
• Psychiatric and psychological services
• Vocational rehabilitation
• Veterans' services
• Family support and consultation services

The program is scheduled to begin January 1, 2021, and would expire on December 31, 2025.

Dates to remember
SB 6109 is scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Behavioral Health Subcommittee to Health & Long Term Care at 1:30 pm on Friday, January 31.
**HR & labor relations**

**New bill modifies marijuana testing protocols during hiring process**
Contact: Candice Bock, Jacob Ewing

A new House bill changes how employers select employees based on marijuana use.

**HB 2740**, sponsored by Rep. Shelley Kloba (D–Kirkland), sets forth new standards for drug testing during the hiring process. The bill makes it illegal for employers to refuse to hire a prospective employee if they test positive for marijuana. Exceptions to this rule include:
- Firefighters;
- Emergency medical technicians; and
- Positions that require an employee to operate a motor vehicle and must be screened prior to hiring due to state or federal law.

Additional exceptions to this rule include any employer who may lose federal benefits for not screening employees or is required to screen prospective employees under federal law. Provisions under an employment contract or collective bargaining agreement are also exempt.

Employees who fail a drug test required within the first 30-days of employment may, at their own expense, undergo another drug test. Employers are required to accept the results of the drug test paid for by the employee unless they fall under one of the exemptions listed above.

Employers are permitted to establish drug-free work policies if the employer is required to have a drug-free workplace to remain in compliance with a federal contract.

**Dates to remember**

**HB 2740** is scheduled for a public hearing in the House Labor & Workplace Standards Committee at 3:30 pm on Tuesday, January 28.

**Bill restricts ability to consider traffic citation information in officer performance evaluations**
Contact: Candice Bock, Jacob Ewing

Legislators will consider a bill that removes the number of traffic citations and penalties assessed from a police officer’s performance review, evaluation, assessment, promotion, or assignment.

**SB 6316**, sponsored by Sen. Jeff Holy (R–Spokane), limits factors that can be considered in reviewing a police officer’s performance. The bill specifically eliminates from consideration:
- The number of citations issued by an officer for traffic infractions; and
- The monetary amount of penalties assessed for the traffic infractions.

This proposal would severely impact a police department's ability to consider all factors of an officer's performance. This would be detrimental to provide a complete evaluation of an officer and hamper potential measures like the need for additional training or even discipline. Under the conditions created in this bill, a police department couldn’t consider the number of traffic citations issued by an officer that sought an assignment as a traffic officer, nor could they consider the number of traffic citations issued in a situation where an officer is suspected of inappropriate profiling.

**Dates to remember**

**SB 6316** is scheduled for a public hearing in the Senate Law & Justice Committee at 10 am on Tuesday, January 28. The bill is scheduled for executive session of the same committee at 10 am on Thursday, January 30.
Several bills adjust workers’ compensation in Washington
Contact: Candice Bock, Jacob Ewing

Several bills circulating in the House and Senate make significant changes to how workers’ compensation is managed in Washington.

**HB 2689**, sponsored by Rep. Jared Mead (D–Mill Creek), and **SB 6440**, sponsored by Sen. Derek Stanford (D–Bothell), place significant restrictions on the use of independent medical examinations (IME) by Labor and Industries (L&I) and self-insurers for workers compensation claims. Additionally, the bills regulate the conduct of the IME provider and provide new accommodations to claimants—including barring the use of a no-show fee in certain situations.

AWC is strongly opposed to the changes. The current system for using IMEs in the claims process provides both the claimant and the insurer with adequate access to resources to properly manage and resolve claims.

**HB 2758**, sponsored by Rep. Chris Corry (R–Yakima), allows 911 emergency dispatch personnel who receive calls and dispatch emergency services to make a workers’ compensation claim for posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) as an occupational disease. Barring a few exceptions, mental conditions such as PTSD are not classified as occupational diseases.

AWC has concerns about the potential for increased costs related to this expansion. Additionally, AWC would like to see a wholistic approach in considering which professions should be included in the exemption.

**SB 6372**, sponsored by Sen. Curtis King (R–Yakima), removes minimum age requirements from conditions needed to access structured settlements for injured workers. A structured settlement is an option to settle a workers’ compensation claim for fixed cash payments. Under the bill, qualified injured workers of any age could select from the following:
- Continue to receive all benefits of which they are eligible;
- Participate in vocational training; or
- Initiate and agree to a structured settlement.

**SB 6373**, sponsored by Sen. Curtis King (R–Yakima), provides self-insurers the ability to allow certain industrial insurance claims if the claim would entitle a worker to more than just medical treatment. To allow this claim, the self-insurer must issue an order to the injured worker, their attending medical provider, and Labor and Industries (L&I) within 60 days of the claim being filed. The bill also provides self-insurers a process to request more time to properly investigate the validity of the claim.

**Dates to remember**
**HB 2758** is scheduled for public hearing in the House Labor & Workplace Standards Committee at 1:30 pm on Tuesday, January 27. The bill is also scheduled for executive session in the same committee at 8 am on Thursday, January 30.

**SB 6372** is scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee at 8 am on Tuesday, January 28.

**SB 6373** is scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee at 8 am on Tuesday, January 28.

**SB 6440** is scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee at 8 am on Tuesday, January 28.

*continued*
Bill allows for waiving or modifying safety violation penalties incurred during an emergency
Contact: Candice Bock, Jacob Ewing

A House bill under consideration would permit the Director of Labor and Industries (L&I) to waive or modify penalties against organizations that violate laws to preserve life during an emergency.

HB 2585, sponsored by Rep. Joe Schmick (R–Colfax), addresses the need for organizations to take action during an emergency using unconventional methods to preserve the lives of residents. The bill allows the Director of L&I to waive fees or penalties if:

- The violating act was required due to imminent danger or risk of serious injury or death; and
- No other practical or immediate option was available to the organization to use during the event.

Dates to remember
HB 2585 is scheduled for a public hearing in the House Labor & Workplace Standards Committee at 1:30 pm on Monday, January 27.

New bills clarify municipal authority to set minimum labor standards at airports
Contact: Candice Bock, Jacob Ewing

Companion bills in the House and Senate address the ability for municipalities to set minimum labor standards for airports and other air navigation facilities.

HB 2715, sponsored by Rep. Mia Gregerson (D–SeaTac), and SB 6217, sponsored by Sen. Karen Keiser (D–Kent), permit municipalities that control or operate an airport or air navigation facilities to enact minimum labor standards for employees of those facilities. However, the municipality's enacted standards must meet or exceed the standards set by the municipality where the facilities are located.

It is unclear at this time how widespread the impacts of this bill would have on cities and towns. AWC is monitoring this bill and will provide updates as the bill moves through the legislative process.

Dates to remember
HB 2715 is scheduled for public hearing in the House Labor & Workplace Standards Committee at 3:30 pm on Tuesday, January 28.
SB 6217 is scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee at 10 am on Monday, January 27.
Land use & planning

Hoping to make an anonymous land use violation tip? Not so fast
Contact: Carl Schroeder, Shannon McClelland

**SB 6572** prohibits investigation of anonymous land use violation complaints without additional corroboration. In addition, before notice of violation, the name of the complainant must be available to the person at risk of receiving the violation notice. Notice of violation can be issued after determination to investigate is made. The bill is sponsored by Sen. Phil Fortunato (R–Auburn).

**Date to remember**
**SB 6572** is scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Local Government Committee at 8 am on Thursday, January 30.

Bill delays implementation of state energy code for two years
Contact: Carl Schroeder, Shannon McClelland

**HB 2667** proposes to encourage affordable housing construction by reducing the costs of complying with the state energy code.

The bill, sponsored by Rep. Mike Chapman (D–Port Angeles), directs the state building code council to delay implementation of the 2018 state residential energy code. During the delay, the council is directed to amend the code by January 1, 2021. Any amendments must decrease construction costs and provide the least burdensome compliance alternatives. No amendments can increase, but may decrease, energy efficiency requirements. The new, revised edition would go into effect July 1, 2021.

This bill is scheduled to be out of committee this week, so please let us know if you have concerns.

**Dates to remember**
**HB 2667** is scheduled for public hearing on Wednesday, January 29 at 8 am in the House Local Government Committee, and is scheduled for committee vote on Friday at 10 am.

Bill to reduce unnecessary SEPA reviews
Contact: Carl Schroeder, Shannon McClelland

A bill from Sen. Phil Fortunato (R–Auburn) is intended to reduce “superfluous” State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) paperwork. **SB 6470** declares that an applicant whose project, action, or project decision is described as being exempt or categorically exempt under SEPA is not required to file a checklist or any other paperwork to prove the categorical exemption if the initial application contains sufficient information showing that the project, action, or project decision is exempt or categorically exempt.

We think this is generally consistent with previous city interests in SEPA reform, but we need guidance on whether the construction of this bill is implementable for your city. Please send feedback to Shannon.

**Dates to remember**
**SB 6470** is scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Environment, Energy & Technology Committee at 10am on Tuesday, January 28.

*continued*
Comprehensive climate companion bill will be heard
Contact: Carl Schroeder, Shannon McClelland

The House version of a companion pair of bills that we reported on last week is also receiving a hearing.

HB 2609, whose companion, SB 6335, was heard last week, takes a comprehensive approach to incorporating climate into the Growth Management Act (GMA). The bill, sponsored by Rep. Davina Duerr (D–Bothell), does the following:

- Adds a new GMA goal:
  Goal 14: Climate change. Ensure that comprehensive plans, development regulations, and regional policies, plans, and strategies under RCW 11 36.70A.210 and chapter 47.80 RCW adapt to and mitigate the effects of a changing climate; support state greenhouse gas emission reduction requirements and state vehicle miles traveled goals; build resilient infrastructure; and nurture environmental, economic, and human health.

- Adds a new GMA element:
  The stated intent of the new element is to reduce greenhouse gas emission reductions generated by the transportation and land use systems within the jurisdiction.

- Requires the Department of Commerce to allocate statewide emission reductions to each jurisdiction;

- Requires each jurisdiction to achieve those emission reductions, as allocated;

- Requires each jurisdiction to achieve reductions in per capita vehicle miles traveled consistent with state goals;

- Requires that the new climate element “avoids and build resiliency to the impacts of climate change such as sea level rise, landslides, flooding, drought, heat, smoke, wildfire, and other reasonably anticipated changes.”

The new climate element must be finalized no later than two years prior to the current comprehensive plan review and revision deadlines. Adoptions of these elements are not subject to administrative or judicial appeal until January 1, 2029.

The new goal would apply to all GMA planning jurisdictions. The more specific element requirements would only affect Western Washington counties and their cities with 2019 population estimates from the Office of Financial Management that are greater than 100,000. For Eastern Washington counties and cities, there are three tiers of eligibility based on population:

- Greater than 500,000
- Greater than 200,000, but with an incorporated population less than 40,000
- Greater than 90,000, but with an incorporated population less than 15,000

Dates to remember
HB 2609 is scheduled for public hearing on Tuesday, January 28 at 3:30 pm in the House Environment & Energy Committee.

continued
Mandatory ADU bill back for round two
Contact: Carl Schroeder, Shannon McClelland

AWC is seeking feedback on an accessory dwelling unit (ADU) preemption bill that may be concerning for some cities.

HB 2570 requires that all cities with a population of 2,500 as of April 2019 that are in Growth Management Act (GMA) counties adopt ordinances and development regulations allowing at least one ADU on all single-family lots (detached ADUs are required on lots at least 3500 sq. ft.).

More troubling, the bill mandates:
- How a city must allow this type of housing, with pages of prescriptive instructions on off-street parking and owner occupancy requirements (neither allowed);
- How impact and permit fees and utility connection fees are assessed; and
- An additional list of a required three out of five policy outcome “options.”

The bill is sponsored by Rep. Mia Gregerson (D–SeaTac).

We received voluminous feedback on a very similar proposal last year. We would appreciate hearing whether you remain opposed to this preemption or now support the bill. Do you have specific examples of how any of these prescriptive policies run counter to your community decisions and why (i.e., maybe you just passed an ADU code change)?

Please let us know how they pose particular challenges for your city for whatever reason. You can send feedback to Shannon.

Dates to remember
HB 2570 is scheduled for public hearing in the House Environment & Energy Committee at 3:30 pm on Tuesday, January 28.

Three bills affect how impact fees are set
Contact: Carl Schroeder, Shannon McClelland

Three proposals related to impact fees have been introduced with the goal of promoting housing affordability. Some of these bills, sponsored by Sen. Hans Zeiger (R–Puyallup), are likely to generate concern from cities. We would appreciate specific examples of how they would cause problems for your city or, alternatively, how they could help.

SB 6364: The first proposal is voluntary. It allows cities to offer a sliding-scale impact fee based on the square footage per bedroom of a housing unit and authorizes a proportionally lower impact fee for single-family homes with a lower square-footage-per-bedroom ratio.

SB 6387: This bill reduces the time for a local government to collect and pool impact fees before expenditure or rebate to fee-payers from ten years to six. We know that some communities need to be able to save up enough fee revenues to complete certain projects, which could make this bill problematic. Please share specific examples so that we can tell your story.

SB 6388: Declares that cities may not charge a higher per-unit fee for multifamily residential construction than for single-family residential construction. Please let us know if this is problematic and why.

Dates to remember
SB 6364, SB 6387, and SB 6388 are all scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Housing Stability & Affordability Committee at 1:30 pm on Monday, January 27.
Public safety & criminal justice

Multiple gun regulation bills considered in the House
Contact: Sharon Swanson, Jacob Ewing

Legislators spent several days in public hearings and executive session considering new regulations on guns in Washington.

HB 1315, sponsored by Rep. John Lovick (D–Mill Creek), received a public hearing on Tuesday, January 21. The bill sets new requirements and standards for obtaining a concealed pistol license, including the need to pass a handgun proficiency test administered by the Washington State Patrol (WSP).

HB 2240, sponsored by Rep. Javier Valdez (D–Seattle), received a public hearing on Tuesday, January 21. The bill sets forth restrictions on the sale and ownership of high capacity magazines—defined as clips with a capacity of more than 10 rounds—and establishes criminal penalties for violating the restrictions. The companion bill, SB 6077, sponsored by Sen. Patty Kuderer (D–Clyde Hill), received a public hearing on Monday, January 20 and moved to the Senate Rules Committee on Friday, January 25.

HB 2305, sponsored by Rep. Beth Doglio (D–Olympia), grants the court system the ability to restrict possession and force the surrender of firearms, dangerous weapons, and concealed pistol licenses for individuals named in a protection order for vulnerable adults.

HB 2555, sponsored by Rep. Roger Goodman (D–Kirkland), received public hearing on Wednesday, January 22 in the House Civil Rights & Judiciary Committee. The bill establishes a six-month period when a firearm dealer would be required to notify local law enforcement before delivering certain firearms to a purchaser or transferee. Law enforcement agencies would be required to run a background check before allowing the firearm dealer to complete the transaction. This requirement expires six months after the centralized background check system is established by WSP as outlined in HB 2467.

Dates to remember
HB 1315 is scheduled for executive session in the House Civil Rights & Judiciary committee at 10 am on Friday, January 31.

HB 2240 is scheduled for executive session in the House Civil Rights & Judiciary committee at 10 am on Friday, January 31.

HB 2305 is scheduled for public hearing in the House Civil Rights & Judiciary Committee at 8 am on Wednesday, January 29.

HB 2555 is scheduled for executive session in the House Civil Rights & Judiciary committee at 10 am on Friday, January 31.

continued
Three bills look address sexual assault and sexual exploitation among children and youth
Contact: Sharon Swanson, Jacob Ewing

Both the House and Senate have active proposals to provide services and resources to children and youth who are victims of sexual crimes.

**HB 2704**, sponsored by Rep. Michelle Caldier (R–Port Orchard), charges the Office of Crime Victims Advocacy with developing a competitive annual grant program to provide group counseling in public schools for youth survivors of sexual assault. To qualify for grant funds, an applicant must:
- Be a community sexual assault program accredited and contracted through the Office of Crime Victims Advocacy;
- Have prior experience providing group counseling to youth; and
- Have established, or be willing to establish, partnerships with one or more public schools.

**HB 1775**, sponsored by Rep. Tina Orwall (D–Des Moines), and companion **SB 5744**, sponsored by Sen. Manka Dhingra (D–Redmond), remove criminal penalties from children or youth engaged in prostitution and establishes two state resource facilities for sexually trafficked children and youth. Law enforcement who takes a sexually exploited child into custody may transport that child to the state facilities for evaluation and treatment.

**HB 1775** received public hearing in the House Human Services & Early Learning Committee on Friday, January 24. **SB 5744** received public hearing in the Senate Human Services, Reentry & Rehabilitation Committee on Thursday, January 23.

**Dates to remember**

**HB 2704** is scheduled for public hearing in the House Appropriations Committee at 3:30 pm on Monday, January 27.

**HB 1775** is scheduled for possible executive session in the House Human Services & Early Learning Committee at 1:30 pm on both Tuesday, January 28 and Wednesday, January 29.

**Bill expands access to jail records for medical purposes**
Contact: Sharon Swanson, Jacob Ewing

A House bill allows for managed health care systems to access records of jailed individuals.

**HB 2545**, sponsored by Rep. Lauren Davis (D–Shoreline), expands access to jail records by managed health care systems, allowing the systems to determine jailed individual’s eligibility for services, including:
- Mental health treatment
- Medical treatment
- Chemical dependency treatment
- Veteran benefits

Managed health care systems accessing records are held to all relevant state and federal privacy statutes.

**Dates to remember**

**HB 2545** is scheduled for public hearing in the House Public Safety Committee at 1:30 pm on Monday, January 27. The bill is scheduled for executive session in the same committee at 8 am on Thursday, January 30.

*continued*
Senate looks to alleviate burden on indigent defense
Contact: Sharon Swanson, Jacob Ewing

The Senate Law & Justice Committee took public testimony this week on a proposal to streamline the process of determining a charged individual's receipt of public assistance.

**SB 6215**, sponsored by Sen. John Braun (R–Centralia), requires the Office of Public Defense in collaboration with the Department of Social and Health Services and the Health Care Authority to develop a process for reporting to the county court system on an individual's level of public assistance. This information will enable judges to better determine a charged individual's eligibility for indigent defense.

**Dates to remember**
**SB 6215** is scheduled for executive session in the Senate Law & Justice Committee at 10 am on Thursday, January 30.

Bill sets forth new reporting requirements for elected city attorneys
Contact: Sharon Swanson, Jacob Ewing

A new House bill requires elected city attorneys to collect, compile, and submit annual reports to the Attorney General's Office.

**HB 2465**, sponsored by Rep. Chris Gildon (R–Puyallup), received a public hearing in the House Civil Rights & Judiciary Committee on Wednesday, January 22. The bill mandates that elected city attorneys track case filings and submit an annual report to the Attorney General's (AG) Office. The AG's Office is required to compile all reports and publish the information to its website annually on February 28.

Bill increases seizure and forfeiture reporting requirements
Contact: Sharon Swanson, Jacob Ewing

A bill that significantly increases reporting requirements around property seized and forfeited by law enforcement agencies is scheduled for a hearing in the Senate.

**SB 6266**, sponsored by Sen. Mike Padden (R–Spokane Valley), requires a seizing agency to keep records on all property seized and forfeited. Additionally, each agency must file a quarterly report with the State Treasurer. The State Treasurer must establish and maintain a searchable public website that includes all records received. Finally, by March 1 of each year, each seizing agency must file a report with the State Treasurer that summarizes all expenditures from the sum of the net proceeds of all seized and forfeited property during the previous calendar year.

AWC does not support the bill.

**Dates to remember**
**SB 6266** is scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Law & Justice Committee at 10 am on Monday, January 27. It is scheduled for a committee vote at 10 am on Thursday, January 30.
Multiple bills impacting law enforcement will be heard on the Hill

Contact: Sharon Swanson, Jacob Ewing

Legislators will take public comment this week on several bills that impact law enforcement.

**HB 2499**, sponsored by Rep. Sherry Appleton (D–Poulsbo), establishes new requirements for the hiring, certification, and firing of Washington correctional officers. The sweeping changes align requirements for correctional officers with requirements for peace officers.

**HB 2560**, sponsored by Rep. Jacquelin Maycumber (R–Republic), increases the mandatory number of Basic Law Enforcement Academy Classes to 15 classes per year starting July 1, 2021, and 19 classes per year starting July 1, 2024. Even with these new minimums in place, the Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) is allowed to request additional trainings as needed.

**HB 2566**, sponsored by Rep. Javier Valdez (D–Seattle), allows law enforcement agencies to use an automated license plate recognition system for matters of public safety. If an agency chooses to use such a system, the agency must post annual reports to its web site.

**HB 2632**, sponsored by Rep. Javier Valdez (D–Seattle), and companion **SB 6295**, sponsored by Sen. Jesse Salomon (D–Shoreline), set new standards and criminal penalties for falsely reporting an emergency. Criminal charges could range from a gross misdemeanor to a class B felony. In certain cases, injured parties are allowed to file a civil suit against the guilty party.

**HB 2735**, sponsored by Rep. Larry Springer (D–Kirkland), allows limited authority officers, authorized by a local law enforcement agency, to issue traffic infractions when the infraction is detected using an automated traffic safety camera or automated school bus safety camera.

**HB 2785**, sponsored by Rep. Debra Lekanoff (D–La Conner), and companion **SB 6537**, sponsored by Sen. John McCoy (D–Tulalip), increase the membership of the CJTC to 15 members from 14 members. The additional member is required to be a private citizen—this raises the total number of private citizens on the CJTC to two. One private citizen must be from western Washington and the other from eastern Washington. One of the private citizens must be from a historically underrepresented community.

**HB 2789**, sponsored by Rep. John Lovick (D–Mill Creek), and companion **SB 6527**, sponsored by Sen. David Frockt (D–Seattle), establish a “use of deadly force” database managed by WASPC. All local law enforcement agencies will report all use of deadly force incidences to WASPC following guidelines established by the association. WASPC will publish the reported findings on an annual basis.

**Dates to remember**

**HB 2499** is scheduled for public hearing in the House Public Safety Committee at 3:30 pm on Tuesday, January 28.

**HB 2560** is scheduled for public hearing in the House Public Safety Committee at 3:30 pm on Tuesday, January 28. The bill is then scheduled for executive session in the same committee at 8 am on Thursday, January 30.

**HB 2566** is scheduled for public hearing in the House Transportation Committee at 3:30 pm on Thursday, January 30.

continued
HB 2632 is scheduled for public hearing in the House Public Safety Committee at 3:30 pm on Tuesday, January 28.

HB 2735 is scheduled for public hearing in the House Public Safety Committee at 1:30 pm on Monday, January 27. The bill is then scheduled for executive session in the same committee at 8 am on Thursday, January 30.

HB 2785 is scheduled for public hearing in the House Public Safety Committee at 3:30 pm on Tuesday, January 28.

HB 2789 is scheduled for public hearing in the House Public Safety Committee at 3:30 pm on Tuesday, January 28.

**Public works**

**LOCAL Program webinar recording and slides now available**

Contact: Logan Bahr, Maggie Carol

AWC and the Office of the State Treasurer recently hosted a webinar about the LOCAL program.

The LOCAL Program (https://tre.wa.gov/local-program/) provides Washington local governments (including cities, counties, school districts, fire districts, and others) with a cost-effective way to finance equipment and real estate projects, including property acquisition and new facility construction. The program's benefits include low fees, technical assistance, and access to the public bond markets.


Be sure to check out the Office of the State Treasurer's Washington Fund Directory (https://www.wafunddirectory.wa.gov/) to view a listing of more than 100 other grant and loan programs designed to support local government.

**Bill requires additional protection of archaeological and cultural sites**

Contact: Logan Bahr, Maggie Carol

A new bill looks to create redundant processes.

**SB 6519**, sponsored by Sen. John McCoy (D–Tulalip), requires any project that has received state monies to consult federally recognized tribes, the Governor's Office of Indian Affairs, and the Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation before any groundbreaking activity has occurred.

This bill was written with the intention to preserve archaeological and cultural sites throughout Washington. However, AWC has concerns with the bill as it proposes new and redundant processes for constructing local projects.

**Dates to remember**

This bill is scheduled for public hearing in the Senate State Government, Tribal Relations & Elections Committee on Wednesday, January 29 at 8 am.
Transportation

Bills authorize use of bicycle traffic control signals
Contact: Logan Bahr, Maggie Carol

Two companion bills have been introduced that clarify the use of traffic control signals specific to bicyclists.

SB 6466, sponsored by Sen. Emily Randall (D–Bremerton) and its companion bill, HB 2684, sponsored by Rep. Sharon Shewmake (D–Bellingham) clarifies that local governments may use traffic control signals that are specifically intended for bicyclists. The signals will have the same meaning as traffic lights on main roads.

AWC supports this bill.

Dates to remember
SB 6466 is scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Transportation Committee on Wednesday, January 29 at 3:30 pm.

HB 2684, the companion bill, is schedule for public hearing in the House Transportation Committee on Thursday, January 30 at 3:30 pm.

Bill authorizes cities to provide passenger-only ferry service
Contact: Logan Bahr, Maggie Carol

AWC supports a bill that allows cities to create a ferry service to benefit the residents of a city.

HB 2641, introduced by Rep. Jake Fey (D–Tacoma), authorizes any city with a boundary located on Puget Sound or Lake Washington to establish a passenger-only ferry service within its boundaries. This legislation requires the city to first develop a passenger-only ferry investment plan that includes operation and contracting plans, as well as projected costs of providing services and projected revenues to be collected.

AWC supports this bill.

Dates to remember
This bill is scheduled for public hearing in the House Transportation Committee on Wednesday, January 29 at 3:30 pm.
Senate bill proposes to institute per-mile charges on electric and hybrid vehicles
Contact: Logan Bahr, Maggie Carol

Sen. Rebecca Saldaña (D–Seattle) introduced **SB 6586** to institute a per-mile charge on electric and hybrid vehicles.

The intent of this bill is to ensure that the greater adoption of electric and hybrid vehicles do not reduce funds to maintain and improve transportation infrastructure.

The per-mile charge for electric and hybrid vehicles is between two cents and three and a half cents per mile, depending on whether the vehicle uses an internal combustion engine.

**Dates to remember**
This bill will be heard Wednesday, January 29 in the Senate Transportation Committee at 3:30 pm.

Bill expands use for city traffic safety cameras
Contact: Logan Bahr, Maggie Carol

**SB 5789**, sponsored by Sen. Marko Liias (D–Lynnwood), expands the usage of city traffic safety cameras.

The expansion includes detection of drivers that:
• Stop at intersections or crosswalks;
• Drive in public transportation-only lanes; and
• Stop, stand, or park at locations restricted for emergency response vehicles, public transportation vehicles, and public ferries.

This bill was considered during the 2019 regular session. It was reintroduced and retained in present status at the beginning of the 2020 regular session.

**Dates to remember**
The bill is scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Transportation Committee on Tuesday, January 28 at 3:30 pm.
AWC Legislative Contacts

During the legislative session, AWC’s lobbyists often are unable to return your phone calls immediately. If you have a legislative or specific issue question, please request AWC’s analyst staff, or send them an email.

Call AWC at (360) 753-4137 or 1-800-562-8981

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