



Legislative Bulletin

December 18, 2017

Hot topics

Governor releases 2018 supplemental budget proposal

The Governor's budget proposal starts the conversation about changes to the already-adopted budget. Learn what changes he proposes and what new revenues it would generate.

Voting Rights Act likely to pass early in 2018 session

Proposals to implement a state Voting Rights Act have been introduced and debated in the Legislature for several years. Read about the upcoming version, and what cities need to know.

From the Director

Legislators return in 2018 with different expectations and challenges – what might it mean for cities?

The balance of power has again shifted in Olympia and how that impacts cities will be a major focus of AWC during a short 60-day session beginning January 8. Find out what we predict to happen.

Things you can do

Learn about implementing public records law changes & public records grant funds

The major public records bills that passed in 2017 created a new data collection requirement and a new grant program for some local governments. JLARC recently released a FAQ document for the new public records data collection metrics. The Secretary of State also released information on the Local Records Grant Program. The grants application process will open mid-January and can be used for technology, file room organization, and digital imaging.

Media time

Exploring Washington's Cities and Towns

Cities are the governments closest to the people. Efficient and effective city governments are the foundation for vibrant communities and economic opportunities. But what makes a city and why does it matter to you? Use this high-level quick read to learn how cities in Washington function. You'll discover how cities budget, how city funds are used, what city governments do, and what city employees do, all interspersed with facts and figures that illustrate the breadth of work that cities do every day to make their communities shine.

What you need to know

Budget & finance

SST Mitigation Advisory Committee discusses EHB 2163 implementation

Business license workgroup meets to develop model threshold

B&O Apportionment task force continues its work

Economic development

City officials help AWC narrow in on legislative priorities for economic development

Human services

AWC board finalizes legislative priority to address behavioral health challenges

Marijuana

LCB report outlines options for regulation of marijuana home grows

Personnel

AWC expresses concerns with Select Committee on Pension Policy recommendation for PERS 1 COLA

Paid Family and Medical Leave rulemaking begins this month

Public safety & criminal justice

Governor's 2018 budget proposal includes increased law enforcement training

Telecommunications

NLC blog article explains how net neutrality is just the tip of the preemption iceberg

Transportation

Joint Transportation Committee hears assessment of Transportation Commission

continued

From the Legislative Director

Legislators return in 2018 with different expectations and challenges – what might it mean for cities?

The balance of power has again shifted in Olympia and how that impacts cities will be a major focus of AWC during what we hope will be a short 60-day session beginning January 8 and ending March 8. Our Board of Directors adopted our 2018 Priorities in late September and we've spent the last few months discussing them with city officials across the state during ten regional meetings, as well as connecting with key legislators, administration officials and other interest groups.

Legislators will come to Olympia in January with their own priorities, and we'll help them sort out the priorities that are beneficial to cities and counsel them about ones that are not helpful to cities. Over the two-month period they're in town, we'll communicate with you electronically at least twice a week about what's happening, and how it impacts our 281 cities. On occasion, we'll send you an Action Alert when all hands on deck are needed to push or stop something that's time sensitive. We also hope many city officials will join us in Olympia for City Action Days on January 24 and 25, at which time you'll hear from movers and shakers and do some yourselves on Capitol Hill.

Who's in charge?

For the first time in five years, the Senate Democrats have a majority – by one vote, and the House Democrats maintain their two-vote majority. And as you know, Democratic Governor Jay Inslee occupies the Governor's Mansion with his offices below the legislative chambers. There's less than a year until November elections for all House seats and half of the Senate seats, so Democrats are likely to make their mark, but cautiously.

What might they do early in session?

First on their "to do" list will likely be an effort to pass the stalled capital budget that funds much-needed projects across the state. Efforts continue to resolve the Hirst water rights problems associated with the state Supreme Court ruling and we remain cautiously optimistic that our engagement is helping to find common ground.

We also expect the new majorities to take up a voting rights bill that would allow persons under-represented in local government entities to challenge whether or not officials should instead be elected on a district-by-district basis, rather than communitywide. AWC has been involved in the evolution of this bill over the past several years and has done our best to make sure that it can work in cities.

What about their budget?

The Legislature adopted the state's two-year budget in July and since then more revenues are coming in than originally anticipated, and along with it came some likely unbudgeted obligations. One involves the state Supreme Court, which has said that funds needed to pay K-12 teacher salaries aren't ramping up fast enough. Another is that discrepancies exist in the budget that need attention, and there are unmet needs resulting from several factors. The Governor released his ideas for a supplemental operating budget [[link to Gov budget article](#)] and there will likely be a hearing on those during the first few weeks of session. After that, House and Senate budget leads will begin working on their budget plans. During these deliberations, AWC will share our funding priorities and will keep you posted.

continued

What happens next?

Legislators will spend the first month considering bills in committees, which is where we will focus our attention to start. Bills that could impact cities come up in a wide variety of committees in both the House and Senate. Each chamber has a local government committee where legislators who once served at the local level make up a majority of members from both parties. We engage with many other committees that deal with human service issues, fiscal matters, law and justice, personnel and pension matters, infrastructure, transportation, housing, and more.

In early February, legislators will narrow down the list of bills that leadership wants to keep moving and by Valentine's Day, they'll debate and decide which ones to move to the opposite chamber for their consideration. Things accelerate quickly and by the beginning of March, each chamber needs to decide which issues are in the endgame and by March 8, which will pass and how differences get resolved.

Amid all of this, hearings on budget fixes will ramp up and AWC will work to advance our issues, stop ones that damage or add unfunded costs to cities, and do what we can to help them achieve their priorities.

We look forward to keeping you informed and engaged, and we encourage you to keep in touch with us and your own legislators. As a powerful and influential Senator recently said when responding to a question from one of her local officials about how best to influence policy outcomes, "Have my cell number, call me and keep me informed of your needs – there's no better person to influence me than one of my own constituents and as another elected official, you'll always be listened to."

Happy Holidays!

Budget & finance

Governor releases 2018 supplemental budget proposal

On December 14, Governor Inslee released his proposed supplemental budget to the adopted FY 2017-2019 budget. It starts the conversation about changes to the already-adopted budget. His proposal adds \$1.5 billion in new spending with \$950 million to fully implement the Supreme Court's view of how to implement their McCleary decision. The proposal uses revenue from the "Rainy Day Fund," which are then replaced with revenue from a new proposed carbon tax.

State-shared revenues: The proposal leaves intact the adopted funding levels for revenues shared with cities, including liquor profits and taxes. Additional marijuana revenues for disbursement to certain cities and counties tied to the February 2018 forecast are not yet included in this proposal. Streamlined Sales Tax mitigation is increased to \$20.6 million over the biennium.

Public Works Trust Fund: There is \$97 million for the same project list that is held up in the capital budget that was not passed last session.

Homelessness: Juvenile Rehabilitation is proposed to receive an additional \$1.2 million to provide safe and stable placements for youth transitioning from incarceration to a community setting. The Department of Commerce is slated to receive \$10 million from the Housing Trust Fund and \$113.2 million in bond capacity for affordable housing, cleaning up brownfields sites for affordable housing, and preservation of affordable housing stock.

continued

Opioid treatment and prevention: The proposal adds \$19.9 million to combat the opioid crisis. The proposal includes increasing the Medicaid rate for Medication Assisted Treatment to match the Medicare rate, \$1.7 million for youth drug prevention, \$793,000 for prescription monitoring, and \$2.3 million for four new hub and spoke networks to provide capacity in rural areas.

Pensions: PERS/TRS 1 COLA includes a one-time, 3 percent COLA on up to \$25,000 of annual benefit for retired PERS 1 members. There is a \$750 annual benefit increase cap. This would increase the PERS 1 supplemental contribution rate for PERS and PSERS employers by 0.14 percent.

Basic Law Enforcement Academy: One additional class would be added in 2019.

More details about the Governor's budget proposals are available on AWC's budget summary chart at awcnet.org/portals/0/documents/legislative/1719govbudget.pdf and through the Office of Financial Management's budget page at ofm.wa.gov/budget/state-budgets/gov-inslees-proposed-2018-supplemental-budget.

Streamlined sales tax mitigation advisory committee meeting

EHB 2163 implements a state version of marketplace fairness (aka internet sales tax) on January 1, 2018, by imposing new requirements on more out-of-state internet retailers to collect sales tax or to report customer sales and notify customers for use tax purposes. The bill also requires the Department of Revenue (DOR) to determine impacts for streamlined sales tax mitigation and consult with the mitigation advisory committee regarding implementation.

The mitigation advisory committee met on December 14 to discuss DOR's implementation plans. Here are some highlights of those plans:

- DOR will flag new sale tax collections resulting from EHB 2163 taxpayers in their system to identify those revenues for the mitigation calculations.
- The first mitigation payments that will reflect offsets from new revenues from marketplace fairness will be the June 30, 2018, mitigation payment reflecting actual **EHB 2163** revenues from the first quarter of 2018.
- Key marketplace facilitators, as defined in the bill, have publicly stated their intent to collect sales tax on January 1, 2018, when the requirements take effect.
- For businesses that choose the alternative option to provide a use tax statement to their customers, the deadline to provide that annual statement is December 31, 2017, and the customers' use tax returns will be due by April 1, 2018. As a result, the offsets for mitigation for the new use tax revenues may be reflected in either the June 2019 and September 2019 mitigation distributions.
- The last quarterly mitigation payment to local jurisdictions will be on September 30, 2019.

As part of the implementation process, DOR has been collecting questions from cities on implementation of **EHB 2163** and other aspects of mitigation impacts. Answers to those questions are available here - awcnet.org/portals/0/documents/legislative/DORAnswersLocalQuestionsEHB2163Implementation.pdf.

DOR has additional materials related to implementation of **EHB 2163** here - dor.wa.gov/find-taxes-rates/retail-sales-tax/marketplace-fairness-leveling-playing-field. If you have further questions on implementation, DOR has set up a specific email address: DORMarketplaceFairness@dor.wa.gov.

The estimates of impacts (awcnet.org/portals/0/documents/legislative/EB2163LocalImpactDetail.pdf) to local sales tax distributions and mitigation have not changed since they were released during the bill's consideration earlier this year.

continued

Apportionment workgroup

On December 12 a task force of city and business representatives met to review the two-factor apportionment formula for service-income for local B&O taxes.

The task force members have been evaluating elements of market-based tax apportionment models used in other state tax systems. Once this education portion of the process concludes, the task force will begin evaluating these alternatives with the goal of simplifying the administration of the portion of the allocation formula related to service income based on contacts with customers. **EHB 2005** requires the task force to submit a report to the Legislature by November 1, 2018.

Business license workgroup

The city workgroup developing the city business license model threshold under **EHB 2005** met again on December 7 to continue its work to develop a model threshold that all cities with business licenses will be required to adopt by January 1, 2019.

To help inform the committee's work, AWC sent a survey to city finance directors in November asking for information on current thresholds in cities, the characteristics of cities' business license holders, and preferences for the basis and amount of the model threshold. 85 cities responded to the survey. We appreciate your city's assistance in providing information for this important project. If your city did not respond and would still like to provide input, the survey link sent to finance directors is still available for responses.

We anticipate that a draft version of the model threshold language will be available early next year. Once that is complete, we plan to send it out to finance directors and other city business license officials for review and comment, followed by seeking business feedback in the spring. The model must be finalized by July 1, 2018.

Cannabis

Liquor and Cannabis Board releases marijuana home grow report

As directed by the Legislature, the Liquor and Cannabis Board (LCB) studied and reported ([lcb.wa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/WSLCB Home Grows Study Report FINAL.PDF](http://lcb.wa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/WSLCB_Home_Grows_Study_Report_FINAL.PDF)) on the possibility of legalizing and regulating recreational marijuana plant possession, also known as "home grow." The LCB gathered information for this study by researching and discussing regulatory structures with states that allow recreational home grows, reviewing news media and studies, and soliciting input from stakeholders and the public. The LCB included enforcement and resource impacts in its evaluation and considered many options to regulate home grow ranging from tightly regulated to no regulations.

The LCB study recommends three options for recreational home grow:

1. Tightly regulated by the state with shared local and state enforcement
 - Require a state permit for home grow and include a plant tracking system
 - Enforcement jurisdiction is shared between LCB and local authorities
 - Four plant limit per household
 - Violations will result in removal and destruction of all marijuana plants
 - Plants must be purchased via a licensed retailer
 - Include security requirements to prevent youth access and theft

continued

2. State standards with local authority
 - Provide standards for home grow in state statute; but all authorization, control and enforcement is provided by county and city authorities
 - Allow jurisdictions to opt-in or opt-out of home grow
 - Recommends the same provisions outlined in Option 1 for plant limit, violations, plant purchases, and security requirements
3. Continued prohibition
 - Do not allow home grow and maintain the status quo

AWC provided input supporting the continued prohibition of home grow, maintaining Washington's compliance with the federal guidelines outlined in the Cole Memo (documentcloud.org/documents/781805-doj-marijuana-memo.html). The memo details the U.S. Department of Justice's enforcement priorities regarding marijuana in legalized states. Marijuana remains a Schedule I controlled substance by the federal government and the memo does not change federal law.

In the study, the LCB noted that it dismissed any regulatory options not consistent with the Cole Memo. The LCB also cited public safety as a focus for the state's legalized marijuana system and the number one priority for the LCB.

Economic development

AWC works to develop its economic development priority

In their September 29 board meeting, the AWC Board of Directors added economic development to their list of 2018 legislative priorities. Over the course of the last two months, AWC staff have been working with interested stakeholders to develop the specific policies around this priority.

Specifically, staff have reached out to targeted city officials and stakeholders to research which types of economic development incentives and policies are working in our communities, which are not working, and which cities do not have access to incentives but would like to, and other barriers to development in our communities.

On December 11, a group of city officials gathered at AWC to narrow the policy priorities for the 2018 session and strategize a larger economic development plan for after the 2018 session and beyond. While the priorities still need formal adoption by AWC, they will likely include but are not limited to:

2018 focus

- Continue to actively support programs that work for cities, such as the Public Works Trust Fund (PWTF), the Community Economic Revitalization Board (CERB), and the Transportation Improvement Board (TIB).
- Focus on rural cities and their needs, such as rural broadband access and programs that incentivize development. AWC staff will also explore some of the regulatory hurdles that have disincentivized rural economic development.
- The mainstreet program – AWC will support legislation to increase the tax credit limit and make permanent changes made in 2017 that will expire in 2019.

Longer term

- Tax Increment Financing/Local Revitalization Fund programs – AWC will pursue opportunities to permanently establish and fund programs that help finance economic development in both urban and rural communities.
- Workforce development – AWC will explore partnerships with our education community.

continued

- AWC will examine the possibility of reestablishing an economic development office/lead/director within state government to assist local communities in their economic development pursuits.

This list is not meant to be exhaustive and AWC staff will continue to reach out to perfect our priority moving forward. If you have feedback please contact Jane Wall, Government Relations Advocate, who serves as AWC's lead on the issue.

General government

Another bill seeks to implement a Washington Voting Rights Act

Proposals implementing a state Voting Rights Act have been introduced and debated in the Legislature for several years. Under existing federal law, [uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?hl=false&edition=prelim&req=granuleid%3AUSC-prelim-title52-section10302&num=0&saved=%7CKHRpdGxIOjUyIHNIY3Rpb246MTAzMDEgZWRpdGlvbjpwcmVsaW0p%7C%7C%7C0%7Cfalse%7Cprelim](https://www.uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?hl=false&edition=prelim&req=granuleid%3AUSC-prelim-title52-section10302&num=0&saved=%7CKHRpdGxIOjUyIHNIY3Rpb246MTAzMDEgZWRpdGlvbjpwcmVsaW0p%7C%7C%7C0%7Cfalse%7Cprelim), if a Washington voter is a member of a minority group (in race, color or language) and believes that local voting procedures denied them equal opportunity to participate in the nomination and election process to elect a representative of their choice, they can challenge the local procedures in federal court.

A bill heard last session (**HB 1800**), if passed, would provide a Washington voter the ability to challenge voting procedures in state court if, after 180 days' notice of an alleged violation, the jurisdiction fails to implement a remedy. **HB 1800** (and its companion bill) is still in committee for potential consideration in the 2018 session.

A new bill seeking to implement a state Voting Rights Act, **SB 6002**, was prefiled last week and mirrors many of the provisions in **HB 1800**. **SB 6002**, however, includes additional local authority to voluntarily change their council election system, additional notice provisions for local governments that choose to change their system, and triples the amount a time a jurisdiction has to remedy a violation when it receives more than one notice proposing materially different remedies (from 90 days to 270 days). **SB 6002** also extends the implementation date.

As telegraphed by both the Governor and new Democratic majorities in the Legislature, early action is expected on voting rights legislation in the 2018 session. AWC continues to take a neutral position on this legislation, acknowledging that cities have varying opinions about this issue and the proposals. We are engaging with legislators and stakeholders to provide our ideas and perspectives, and to work to identify actions cities can take to be proactive. Examples of steps that cities can take now include actively engaging minority groups within your city, evaluating past elections to understand how your city's election system works, and seeking advice from experts on this issue.

continued

Human services

AWC board finalizes legislative priority to address behavioral health challenges

On December 8, the AWC board approved more specific language for our legislative priority to address behavioral health challenges across the state.

Please begin to talk to your legislators about helping your city respond to emerging challenges on city streets across the state by:

Ensuring a better funded and strengthened traditional mental health delivery system

Ensure appropriate funding for the mental health and chemical dependency system. City streets are where the consequences of an underfunded mental health and chemical dependency system appear. We support efforts to provide necessary funding to the state and county mental health systems to ensure capacity to meet the needs arising across the state for mental health and chemical dependency services. This includes sufficient Medicaid reimbursement rates, support for coordinated treatment, increasing no or low barrier treatment beds, support for step-down services and crisis facilities, and programs for transient drug populations.

Creating a strengthened partnership between cities and existing service providers

Create a program to leverage investments already being made by cities. Although cities are not direct service providers, many communities have begun investing limited resources because the needs are so great. Each city has unique challenges and many have begun to partner with service providers to address those challenges. Focused investment from the state in the form of a \$10 million program funded from marijuana taxes to match these local dollars would stretch these efforts and public resources further by supporting city programs that provide access to care, diversion from incarceration, de-escalation by embedding social workers with police and other means to provide targeted relief.

Directing more robust prevention efforts

Support efforts to create or enhance efforts to prevent opioid abuse. The opioid crisis requires a multifaceted approach, including prevention. AWC will look for opportunities to weigh in and connect interested cities in efforts to enhance prevention efforts such as: proposals to make it easier to safely dispose of unwanted drugs to reduce the opportunity for those drugs to make it into the wrong hands, expanded access to medically assisted treatment to prevent opioid overdoses, efforts to enhance prescription drug monitoring and other efforts to address overprescribing.

Personnel

PERS/TRS 1 COLA recommended by the Select Committee on Pension Policy

The Select Committee on Pension Policy met on December 12 and voted to recommend a Cost-of-Living-Adjustment (COLA) for members of the Teachers' Retirement System Plan 1 (TRS 1) and Public Employees' Retirement System Plan 1 (PERS 1). The COLA proposal would provide a one-time permanent increase equal to 3 percent on the first \$25,000 of a retiree's annual benefit. So, for example, if a PERS 1 retiree was receiving an annual benefit of \$30,000, the COLA would only be applied to the first \$25,000 of their benefit.

continued

The Office of the State Actuary (OSA) estimates that the COLA proposal would cost PERS employers an increase of 0.14 percent to the PERS employers' supplemental contribution rate. OSA further estimates that this would cost local governments (cities, counties, and more) \$13.9 million in 2018-2019, \$32.7 million in 2019-2021, and \$184.6 million in the next 10 years.

AWC is opposing the COLA proposal because it would be a significant cost to local government and would further degrade the financial status of the PERS 1 system. AWC partnered with the Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC) in producing a joint letter to the committee, which can be read here at awcnet.org/portals/0/documents/legislative/COLAPensionPolicyComLetter.pdf.

Paid Family and Medical Leave rulemaking begins this month

This past legislative session saw the creation of a new employee benefit system, the Paid Family and Medical Leave program (PFML). The program is intended to cover all employees and provide 12 weeks of paid leave for medical disability or family-related health reasons, such as a child's birth or illness. The Employment Security Department (ESD) is initiating rulemaking by providing a public meeting on December 19 to discuss and receive input on collective bargaining agreements, voluntary plans, and premiums. More information is found on ESD's website at esd.wa.gov/paid-family-medical-leave. Please contact AWC staffer Logan Bahr at LoganB@awcnet.org with questions.

Public safety & criminal justice

Governor's 2018 budget includes increased law enforcement training

The Governor's proposed supplemental budget released on December 14 includes funding for one additional Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA) class in 2019. This would provide a total of 16 BLEA classes in FY 2018 and 17 BLEA classes in FY 2019.

The Governor's budget also adds three additional Corrections Officer Academy classes each fiscal year and one additional Equivalency Academy class each fiscal year. Equivalency Academy classes retrain officers who are certified in another state or have experienced a break in law enforcement employment. Funding for de-escalation and non-lethal force training of \$1.1 million for FY 2018 and \$603,000 for FY 2019 is unchanged.

Telecommunications

NLC: Net neutrality is just the tip of the preemption iceberg

As Washington's cities prepare for the deployment of small cell technology by telecommunications companies, we look to do so in a way that protects the rights of local governments and the taxpayers to decide how we lease public property. This article from the National League of Cities (NLC) details how the FCC's recent reversal of net neutrality rules sets a precedent that the federal government intends to continue to preempt local governments from effectively managing the public right-of-way in their communities. Read this article, at cityspeak.org/2017/12/15/net-neutrality-is-just-the-tip-of-the-preemption-iceberg/, to learn how these preemptive ideas proposed by the FCC would limit local governments' ability to ensure equitable broadband infrastructure deployment in their communities and would hamper local digital equity efforts.

continued

Transportation

Joint Transportation Committee hears assessment on Transportation Commission

The 2017 transportation budget included a proviso directing the Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) to conduct an assessment of the roles and responsibilities of the Washington State Transportation Commission (WSTC). On December 14, 2017 the JTC heard the assessment.

Morningside Research and Consulting, Inc. conducted the assessment over a 4-month period beginning in July 2017 and concluding in November 2017.

Among their findings, Morningside reported:

- In 2005, the Legislature removed the commission as the policy body overseeing Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and structured WSDOT as a cabinet agency headed by a Governor-appointed Secretary of Transportation. The newly separated commission retained statutory authority to develop the “comprehensive and balanced statewide transportation plan,” while WSDOT still operated under the statutory requirement to develop a statewide multimodal transportation plan.
- The lack of a clear role for the statewide transportation policy plan of the commission complicates cooperation and coordination between the commission and WSDOT.
- Stakeholders are not in agreement about which state entity should prepare and submit a federally compliant transportation plan.
- Several stakeholders who support having an independent body to conduct policy development and planning separate from WSDOT lamented the lack of attention paid to the work of the commission. Others questioned the value of the policy and planning activities of the commission.
- Stakeholders indicated the commission-developed statewide transportation policy plan does not drive transportation decision-making.
- The commission’s local meetings, designed to gather input from local communities on local transportation issues, lack a clear focus and outcome.
- No other state has an independent transportation commission similar to Washington and none have responsibility for the type of transportation plan the commission develops.
- Some stakeholders expressed concern about the commitment of WSDOT to incorporate broad transportation planning, particularly local issues and concerns, in their planning efforts.

As a result of their findings they provide many recommendations. These include:

1. Transferring the responsibility for developing the statewide transportation policy plan from the commission to WSDOT.
2. Requiring WSDOT to adopt a rule specifying a timeframe for its review and update of the integrated statewide transportation plan.
3. Requiring WSDOT to assume the responsibility for the local meetings, whose purpose is to provide an opportunity for local officials to present information about transportation issues important to their communities.
4. Formalizing communication among the commission, the Legislature, and the Governor’s office.
5. Adopting internal policies and procedures for engaging the Legislature and Governor on the issues within the purview of the commission.

continued

In addition, the report concludes “eliminating the functions of the commission in statewide planning, policy development, and community engagement, as recommended above, would result in a commission with a narrow set of responsibilities. The budget proviso and the Request for Proposals for the WSTC assessment prohibited the consultant team from reviewing the toll rate and ferry fare setting functions of the commission and the role of the commission in the road usage charge study. The consultant team therefore makes no recommendations on these functions or the viability of the agency without transportation planning and outreach responsibilities.”

AWC will continue to monitor this issue if the Legislature chooses to respond to these recommendations. Of particular interest to cities will be whether this leads to a change in the way that the state develops its statewide transportation plans.

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

Dave Williams

Director of Government Relations
davew@awcnet.org

Logan Bahr

Government Relations Advocate
loganb@awcnet.org
Issue areas: Emergency management, law & justice, liability, marijuana (policy), open government, pensions, personnel & labor relations, public records

Victoria Lincoln

Government Relations Advocate
victorial@awcnet.org
Issue areas: Energy, general government, marijuana (fiscal), municipal finance, state budget, telecommunications

Carl Schroeder

Government Relations Advocate
carls@awcnet.org
Issue areas: Environment & water, housing, human services, land use, state building codes

Jane Wall

Government Relations Advocate
janew@awcnet.org
Issue areas: Economic development, infrastructure, transportation

Dave Catterson

Government Relations Analyst
davec@awcnet.org
Issue areas: Economic development, energy, environment & water, housing, infrastructure, land use, state building codes, telecommunications, transportation

Shannon McClelland

Government Relations Advocate
shannonm@awcnet.org
Issue areas: Emergency management, general government, health care (non-personnel issues), human services (policy), law & justice, liability, marijuana (policy), open government, personnel & labor relations

Andrew Pittelkau

Government Relations Analyst
Issues areas: Human services (fiscal), marijuana (fiscal), municipal finance, pensions, state budget

Regina Adams

Government Relations Coordinator
reginaa@awcnet.org
Issues area: Federal

AWC CEO

Peter B. King, peterk@awcnet.org

AWC Officers

President Pat Johnson, Mayor, Buckley

Vice President Don Britain, Mayor Pro Tem, Kennewick

Secretary Ed Stern, Councilmember, Poulsbo

Immediate Past President James Restucci, Mayor, Sunnyside

Past President Paul Roberts, Councilmember, Everett

Large City Representative Sally Bagshaw, Councilmember, Seattle

For a complete list of AWC Board of Directors, visit awcnet.org/boarddirectors.