



General Principles

Kirkland supports legislation that promotes the City Council's goals, plans, policies, and initiatives that enable Kirkland to provide basic municipal services and meet the needs of current and future community members.

- Protect shared state revenue sources available to the City and provide new revenue options and flexibility in the use of existing revenues.
- Support the partnership between Cities and the State to ensure that critical mandates are funded, and vital services are provided to all community members.
- Advance initiatives identified in the City's Work Program; 2023-24 Council Goals; City's 2023-2024 Budget; 2015 Comprehensive Plan (as updated); 2020 Sustainability Master Plan; 2015 Transportation Master Plan; 2022 Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Roadmap; and 2018 Housing Strategy Plan, and related documents.

2024 Legislative Priorities

Kirkland supports legislation that provides funding and policy tools to increase access to housing and expands the construction and preservation of moderate- and low-income housing supply, such as:

- A policy framework that results in high-capacity transit-oriented development and also encourages creation of crucial community benefits, such as affordable housing, fees in lieu of housing (for commercial developments), multi-modal transportation, parks and open spaces, green buildings and infrastructure, and increased school and childcare capacity.
- A new Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) increment with new revenues dedicated to construction and preservation of affordable housing.

Kirkland supports legislation that addresses the behavioral health treatment crisis by increasing the capacity of the crisis response system and supporting local programs that connect individuals with needed care.

Kirkland supports legislation that allows for property tax increases of greater than 1% in order to improve the City's ability to provide basic municipal services to its community members in a manner that is stable and transparent.

Kirkland supports capital budget funding for:

- Updated facilities in Everest Park, home of the Little League Junior Softball World Series (in the 48th Legislative District)
- Safety and access improvements in OO Denny Park (in the 1st and 45th Legislative Districts)

Kirkland supports State budget reprogramming to:

- Move money appropriated in the State's 2025-2027 and 2027-2029 transportation biennial budgets for the Cross Kirkland Corridor HAWK Crossing and 132nd Intersection Improvements (awarded to the City as a grant by WSDOT) to the State's 2023-2025 transportation biennial budget.
- Address forecasted WSDOT and Sound Transit funding shortfalls for the I-405/SR 167 Corridor improvements, including the Stride I-405 Bus Rapid Transit Project.