



City of Port Townsend 2024 State Legislative Agenda

Passed as Resolution 24-003 by Port Townsend City Council unanimously on January 2, 2024

1. Housing

Top Request:

Promptly streamline Urban Growth Area swap legislation under ESSB 5593 to allow swaps to occur outside of periodic review updates to harness capital investment for sewer to serve manufacturing and housing while preserving prime agricultural land – support pre-filed Senate Bill 5834

Additional Requests:

- Expand definition of affordable housing to allow public subsidy to support middle-income housing. For instance, increase Area Median Income (AMI) threshold to 150% (or beyond 80% for rural communities) or replace AMI with an affordability index that affects a variety of subsidies like MFTE, tax increment financing, fee waivers/deferrals/exemptions, and affordable housing sales tax funding eligibility
- Allow local governments to assess affordable housing impact fees as part of the GMA

2. Transportation

Top Request:

Regional SR19/20 Mill Road Roundabout and Jacob Miller Safety and Economic Development Project - \$15m request

Additional Request:

- Protect and enhance the Port Townsend-Coupeville and Edmonds-Kingston Ferry Service as an important segment of the maritime highway and a critical economic connector to and from Port Townsend and the Olympic Peninsula

3. Climate Action

Top Request:

Incentivize urban density to decrease vehicle miles traveled by building on 2023 middle housing legislation in areas traditionally dedicated to single-family detached housing

Additional Requests:

- Provide more electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure incentives and grant opportunities, including for municipal fleet conversion
- Increase active mode and transit trips to reduce our region's #1 climate pollutant
- Develop and prioritize capital funding for climate resilient infrastructure design and construction

The City of Port Townsend actively supports the legislative agendas of our key partners, including Jefferson County, the Port of Port Townsend, Jefferson County Public Utility District #1, the North Olympic Legislative Alliance (NOLA), the Fort Worden Public Development Authority, the Association of Washington Cities (AWC), and Peninsula Regional Transportation Planning Organization (PRTPO)

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