



2025

STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA



The City of Everett is home to a diverse community of 115,000 people. Our goal is to build a safe, vibrant and affordable city by advancing work in our priority areas of quality of life, economic development, housing, workforce development, behavioral health and public safety.



QUALITY OF LIFE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

Everett is poised for prosperity. We have most of the ingredients we need to promote positive growth and create a vibrant, attractive community. While we have a strong foundation to grow from, we also have immediate needs to address to sustain our existing job centers and recruit new businesses and ideas to Everett.

- Fund the Defense Community Compatibility Account projects, including Everett's top-rated **Fire Training Facility** construction (\$6.7m), a partnership with Naval Station Everett.
- Support the creation of new tools and incentives to increase the development and accessibility of **home ownership and affordable housing** at a variety of price points. This includes incentives for increased housing density around mass transit.
- Support the **expansion of green infrastructure** to promote conservation and sustainability.



REVENUE OPPORTUNITIES, TOOLS AND CHALLENGES

- Support **responsive revenue options** to address structural budget challenges, including revisions to the arbitrary 1% property tax cap that has been in place for more than a generation.
- Expand existing tools like the **Fire Benefit Charge** (available only to Fire Districts) to Cities.
- Provide support to **help cities respond to indigent defense standards**.
- With the exciting advent of the biggest ever **FIFA World Cup event in the Seattle area in 2026**, consider increasing LTAC tax rates for one year only, to capitalize on this tourism boom in the greater Puget Sound.
- Oppose any state policies that impose new unfunded mandates on cities.

 WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT

Everett is fortunate to have a very skilled workforce to fill the needs of Boeing and other critical industries, but we need to ensure we continue to meet the needs of our industries for the economic well-being of our City.

- Support efforts to **improve childcare access and affordability** to support both the current and future workforce.
- Support investments to **behavioral health and general healthcare workforces**: improve career pathways for young adults, sustain the existing workforce and expand worker retraining opportunities to help meet regional workforce needs.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND
PUBLIC SAFETY

Everett is fortunate to have a progressive and highly trained police force but recognizes the need to transform criminal justice policies to provide greater safety for communities that historically have not been well-served by the existing system, with a focus on behavioral health.

- **Allow cities to use technology** to effectively address and issue citations for vehicle noise on our roads.
- The City strongly **supports efforts to help recruit and retain police officers** for public safety. This includes updating the existing local option public safety sales tax to allow implementation by councilmanic authority and flexibility of funds to cover more uses, including behavioral health co-response teams.
- We support increasing **voluntary treatment options**.
- Though the 2015 Trueblood decision has helped increase availability of **inpatient competency evaluation** around the State, Snohomish County is still not included in these investments for the foreseeable future.
- Support solutions that address the gap between competency and involuntary commitment for behavioral health related issues to **ensure individuals receive the support they need** in the least restrictive setting.
- Advocate to amend Ricky's Law (Involuntary Treatment Act) to make it less restrictive, allowing **more individuals to access involuntary treatment**.
- Continue State Operating Budget funding for **emergency mobile opioid treatment**, also referred to as street medicine, including a direct allocation to Everett's EMOTE (Emergency Mobile Opioid Team in Everett), which is currently serving clients in our community in need of care.
- Support long-term, sustainable state **funding to increase access to substance use disorder (SUD) treatment, detox beds, assessments, medications, 24-hour wrap-around services, transportation, and recovery housing** and provide ongoing and adequate funding for care coordination.
- Support a permanent funding source for **Multi-Jurisdictional Drug Task Forces (MJTF)** in the Washington State Biennial Operating budget.

CAPITAL &
TRANSPORTATION
BUDGET PRIORITIES

- Full funding for Recreation and Conservation Office grants to support Everett parks, trails, futsal, and pickleball
- US2 Investments, including I5 interchange projects
- Energy Efficiency investments, supporting City facilities

Contact the City of Everett

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