



City of Bothell™ 2019-21 Policy Manual

The City of Bothell strongly promotes local control and home rule for cities and will support or oppose legislation and proposed constitutional amendments based on whether they advance maximum local control by city governments over city budgets, land use, community development, and other municipal activities.

Administrative and Employment Related

- Oppose legislation that shifts payments for City employee's pension and benefit programs from the state to cities.

Affordable Housing, Health, Human Services and Homelessness

- Support initiatives that increase the availability of resources that add services and shelter, and assist communities in addressing issues of mental health, substance use disorder, and homelessness.
- Support legislative efforts and additional funding to combat the heroin/opioid epidemic and to aid those hampered by addiction.
- Support legislative efforts toward fair housing and anti-discrimination.
- Support options to increase the supply of affordable housing in the Central Puget Sound region through investments in the Housing Trust Fund and providing local option funding mechanisms.
- Support legislative reforms to the Condominium Act that better enable the development community to construct market-rate condominiums to provide additional affordable housing options while still protecting the consumer.

Budget and Fiscal Matters

- Oppose legislation that would impose state-mandated costs for which there is no guarantee of local reimbursement or offsetting benefit.
- Support full cost reimbursement to the City for all state mandated programs.
- Support legislative efforts to address property tax cap limits.
- Protect state shared revenues (liquor, marijuana, MRSC).
- Oppose legislation that would preempt or reduce local discretion over locally imposed taxes.
- Support legislation that preserves tax exempt municipal bonds and advanced refunding of municipal bonds.

Community and Economic Development

- Support legislation that expands community and economic development tools and funding options for infrastructure and affordable housing - including, but not limited to expanding LIFT and/or adopting tax increment financing.
- Support legislation that enhances the City's ability to promote economic development and job creation.



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Education

- Support capital funding for UW Bothell/ Cascadia College.
- Support for the Washington State Opportunity Scholarship (Student Support Pathways Account) program. This allows the State of Washington to match municipal and private sector investments in eligible professional-technical degrees and certificates through an application process in the fields of science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM) and healthcare, and to encourage scholarship recipients to work in the state upon completion of their degrees.

Environment

- Support stable and increased funding for contaminated site remediation and policies that encourage greater than 50% state match for projects.
- Support increased staffing at Department of Ecology to operate contaminated site remediation programs and streamline the administrative processes.
- Support sustainability measures which protect the environment, including those related to waste reduction and diversion policies, clean air, and clean renewable energy, after careful assessment of each for adverse impacts on existing City resources.
- Support for a statewide ban on disposable plastic bags.
- Support for the preservation of Shelton View Forest.

Land Use and Planning

- Oppose legislation that requires cities to modify their permitting process.
- Oppose legislation that limits cities' ability to set and collect impact fees.
- Oppose legislation that erodes local land use decisions and long-range planning.
- Support tools that incentivize, but do not mandate, cities to increase density within their jurisdiction.
- Oppose additional Growth Management requirements (e.g. buildable lands reporting) that are not fully reimbursed by state funding.

Public Safety

- Support increased funding for law enforcement training through Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA) classes.
- Support legislation that makes it easier for public service agencies to collaborate with social services providers in order to implement emergency prevention and risk reduction programs for at-risk populations.
- Support legislation that provides funding for disaster preparedness, Homeland Security, and other local emergency management and law enforcement activities.
- Support and promote programs that enhance the benefits of mutual aid agreements between local governments.



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- Support legislation and budget requests to fund immediate and critical court services.
- Support legislative changes to increase the state's contribution towards indigent defense services.

Transportation, Utilities and Public Works

- Support sustainable funding for the Public Works Assistance Account.
- Support continuation of Transportation Improvement Board funding.
- Support implementation of the WSDOT I-405 Master Plan, including acceleration of funding for north corridor improvements.
- Support improvements to SR 522 and SR 527 as major arterials through Bothell.
- Support legislation that provides a fair, reliable, equitable, and continuous funding source for transportation projects, allocates funding for local street maintenance projects, and increases revenues for infrastructure repair and maintenance.
- Support legislation that provides funding to local governments for local transportation, water, sewer, and storm system projects.
- Support efforts to ensure and protect the water supply for local agencies.
- Oppose legislation that seeks to lessen the City's ability to enforce contractual language agreed to and contained within existing franchise documents.
- Oppose legislation that diminishes or does not assure local franchise fees for all utilities' use of City right-of-way.
- The City of Bothell is a member of the Eastside Transportation Partnership (ETP), a collaborative organization representing 21 Eastside King County cities and King County. The City supports the ETP's 2019 Legislative Priorities; in particular the acceleration of funding for the I-405 Master Plan.