



WEEKLY REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

June 18, 2025

Members of the City Council
City of Tacoma, Washington

Dear Mayor and Council Members:

ITEMS OF INTEREST

1. City Manager's Office Constituent Relations Analyst Karyssa Mathison provides the attached **Constituent Intake Report**.
2. Planning and Development Services Director Peter Huffman provides the attached **letter from the Transit-Oriented Development Task Force (TODTF)**. **The letter represents the final report from the TODTF, outlining their work and their accomplishments.** As a joint committee of the Planning and Transportation Commissions, the TODTF's successes included enhancing cross-commission coordination on TOD issues and playing a key role in the creation of the new Transportation and Mobility Plan (the Transportation element of the One Tacoma Comprehensive Plan), which is currently under final review by the City Council. With its core work completed, the TODTF has sunsetted, but the relationships fostered through this effort will clearly continue through improved collaboration on TOD projects and plans, work programs, and future joint meetings. I would like to express my appreciation for the dedication and hard work of the TODTF members and the staff who supported their work.
3. **City-funded Temporary and Emergency Shelter Performance**: The City posts weekly information about its Temporary and Emergency Shelter locations including current census, number of available beds, and exits to housing. This information can be found at: <https://cms.tacoma.gov/ncs/weeklydataupdate.pdf> and is updated weekly.
4. **Encampment Outreach**: For the week of **June 9-13, 2025**, the HEAL team visited **12 locations**. This resulted in **24 (4 new, and 20 repeat)** individuals contacted and referred to community services; **2 individuals** were placed in shelter. This information can be found at: [HEAL Team Engagement Dashboard | Tacoma Open Data](#)
5. Interim Tacoma Police Chief Patti Jackson provides the attached **Weekly Crime Report**.
6. Please see the attached City of Tacoma **Weekly Meeting Schedule**.
7. Public Works Director Ramiro Chavez provides the attached **May 2025 Vision Zero report**.

8. Tacoma Public Utilities Operations and Governance Manager Charleen Jacobs provides the attached June 25, 2025, Tacoma Public Utility Board Study Session and Board meeting agendas. **Please note, the below item will be going to Council July 8, 2025.**
 - Resolution U-11537 – Authorize execution of a successor collective bargaining agreement as negotiated with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 483, Tacoma Power Unit, effective retroactive from April 1, 2024, through March 31, 2028.
9. **Tacoma Rescue Mission, Forging Path Community, Shelter Standdown: The two phased micro shelter and mitigation site (3561 S Pacific Ave), operated by Tacoma Rescue Mission, is currently preparing to standdown.** Tacoma Rescue Mission staff will continue to work with the current individuals on their stability and housing plans during this transition and into permanent housing or other temporary solutions by **June 30, 2025**. Phase 1 of the site started operating in November 2022, and has served 215 individuals, with 48 of the clients have confirmed being connected to permanent housing. Phase 2 of the site started operating in June 2024, and has served 80 individuals, with 30 of the clients have confirmed being connected to permanent housing.

As of June 16, 2025, there were no residents remaining at the mitigation site (Phase 1), as all residents had been connected to housing or other shelter options. There were 15 residents at the micro-shelter site (Phase 2), all of whom are currently engaged with case management services. Neighborhood and Community Services has been meeting with Tacoma Rescue Mission weekly to assess operational needs and will continue to support the shelter during this transition. The City is committed to ensuring that every resident has the option to transition to housing or an alternative shelter location should they wish by or before June 30, 2025.

10. **Brotherhood RISE, Freedom Project, Shelter Standdown: The micro shelter site (23rd and MLK Jr Way), operated by Brotherhood RISE, is currently preparing to standdown.** Brotherhood RISE staff will continue to work with the current individuals on their stability and housing plans during this transition and into permanent housing or other temporary solutions by **July 31, 2025**. Since opening in June 2023, the shelter has served 50 individuals, with 28 of the clients have confirmed being connected to permanent housing.

On June 16, 2025, there were 10 residents at the site, and every person is currently working with case management. Neighborhood and Community Services has been meeting with Brotherhood RISE weekly to assess operational needs and will continue to support the shelter during this transition. The City is committed to ensuring that every resident has the option to transition to housing or an alternative shelter location should they wish by or before July 31, 2025.

11. Alzheimer Memorial Church, Give Me A Chance, Shelter Standdown: The family shelter (1121 South Alzheimer Street), operated by Alzheimer Memorial Church (Alzheimer), is currently preparing to standdown. Alzheimer staff will continue to work with the current families on their stability and housing plans during this transition and into permanent housing or other temporary solutions by **June 30, 2025**. Since opening in February 2020, the shelter has served 244 individuals, with 178 of the clients have confirmed being connected to permanent housing.

On June 16, 2025, there were 8 residents at the site and every household is currently working with case management. Neighborhood and Community Services has begun meeting with Alzheimer weekly to assess operational needs and will continue to support the shelter during this transition. The City is committed to ensuring that every resident has the option to transition to housing or an alternative shelter location should they wish by or before June 30, 2025.

12. Amy Clancy, Director of the Media and Communications Department shares some **good news** below:

- <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/16HaG1PL6Q/> Youth, small business owners, and residents helped shape the South Tacoma Neighborhood Plan that was adopted at the June 10, 2025, City Council Meeting. The plan reflects the diverse priorities of community members and sets a roadmap for the future. (Videos in English and Spanish)
- The City of Destiny Award recipients have been announced! You can check them all out at <https://www.tacomavenues.org/city-of-destiny-awards> and join us on June 26, 2025, at the [Tacoma Dome](#) to celebrate their positive impact in Tacoma.
- Summer break is here and there are two free summer programs we want you to know about. Summer Late Nights: Middle and high school students can get dinner and participate in fun activities with their friends at 10 locations across Tacoma. Please visit www.parkstacoma.gov/summer-late-nights/ for more details. Free Summer Meals which provides free lunch to all youth age 18 and younger, additional information can be found at: parkstacoma.gov/summermeals.
- The Public Works crew is wrapping up landscaping work along Schuster Parkway to beautify this waterfront stretch of Tacoma, improve visibility by cutting back vegetation, keep pollution out of Puget Sound by removing debris and sediment build-up, replace worn out and damaged signs. Thank you to our crews who have been out there all week.

- A huge THANK YOU to everyone who came out to celebrate 20 Years on Pine Street with the Tacoma Police Department Thursday night. We had a fantastic turnout and loved catching up with so many of you. Here's to community, connection, and the next 20 years! [#gritcitycops](#) [#tacomapd](#)
- The 2025 Tacoma Reads titles have just been announced! This annual partnership between Mayor Victoria Woodards and [Tacoma Public Library](#) invites everyone in Tacoma to take a literary journey this summer. For additional information can be found at: [Tacoma Reads 2025 | Tacoma Public Library](#).
- Join our "Access to Capital," panel discussion and Q&A session on June 23, 2025, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. This event is designed to empower small business owners by connecting them with critical resources and expert insights into financing opportunities. RSVP required at [makeittacoma.com/events](#).

STUDY SESSION / WORK SESSION

13. **The City Council Study Session of Tuesday, June 24, 2025, will be conducted as a hybrid meeting.** This meeting can be attended in-person at the Tacoma Municipal Building, Council Chambers, located at 747 Market Street on the 1st floor or be heard by dialing (253) 215 – 8782 or through Zoom at: [www.zoom.us/j/89496171192](#) and entering the meeting ID 894 9617 1192; passcode 89659 when prompted. This meeting will be broadcast on TV Tacoma.

The City Council discussion items will include: (1) **Media and Communications Strategy Update**; (2) **State Legislative End of Session Report**; (3) **Other Items Interest – Council Consideration Request – Adoption of the 2025 Climate Action Plan Update and Motions for Council Consideration: Ordinance No. 29041 & Ordinance No. 29042**; (4) **Committee Reports**; (5) **Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report**; (6) **Executive Session - Evaluate the Qualifications of an Applicant for Public Employment & Closed Session - Labor Strategy**.

On our first agenda item, staff from the Media and Communications Department will provide their **quarterly strategy update**.

On our second agenda, staff from the City Manager's Office will provide a **state legislative end of session report**.

Under other items of interest, the following items will be discussed;

- Council Consideration Request – **Adoption of the 2025 Climate Action Plan Update** [Council Member Walker]

- **Motion for Council Consideration:** Amend Ordinance No. 29041 by adding an additional final Recital - WHEREAS the City Council conducted a public hearing on June 3, 2025, in accordance with Tacoma Municipal Code 13.02, to receive public comments on the Planning Commission's recommendations, and ; ~~Now, Therefore,~~

WHEREAS the One Tacoma Comprehensive Plan does not dictate specific outcomes, it is a planning document and implementing its policies and actions always includes further analysis, outreach and balancing the use of limited resources among the City's many priorities; Now, Therefore,
[Mayor Woodards]
- **Motion for Council Consideration:** Amend Ordinance No. 29042 adding revisions to TMC 13.06.090.K.6.b.5.v. to establish landscape buffer width and perimeter fence setback requirements for properties zoned C-2 on Pedestrian Streets different than those of other Commercial, Mixed-Use Center, and Downtown zoning districts which reduces the landscape buffer width and setback between the public right-of-way and a perimeter fence from 5 feet to 3 feet.
[Council Member Bushnell]

14. The updated **Tentative City Council Forecast and Consolidated Standing Committee Calendars** are attached for your information.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

15. You are invited to the below events:

- Juneteenth Celebration – A Road to Economic Freedom: Thursday, June 19, 2025, 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Stewart Heights Park, 5715 Reginald Gutierrez In, Tacoma WA, 98404. Join Us on June 19th for a day full of great much and food fun celebrating Juneteenth! For more information click link [Juneteenth: A Road to Economic Freedom — WayOut Kids](#).
- 39th Annual City of Destiny Awards: Thursday, June 26, 2025, 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., Tacoma Dome Exhibition Hall, 2727 East D Street. Please join us for the Community Showcase and Reception at 5:00pm, followed by the Awards Ceremony at 7:00 pm. Tacoma City Council and the City's Events and Recognitions Committee will recognize Tacoma's top volunteers and service providers at the annual community event. Please see link, to learn more about the event tacomavenues.org.

- **Youth Violence Prevention Town Hall: Saturday, June 28, 2025, 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m., People's Community Center, 1602 Martin Luther King Jr. Way.** Join Deputy Mayor Kiara Daniels and Council Member Jamika Scott on for an important conversation about youth violence prevention. The event will feature guest speakers, opportunities to share your input on City actions, and a resource fair with local agencies. All are welcome to attend. No RSVP required.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hyun Kim", is written on a light-colored rectangular background.

Hyun Kim
Deputy City Manager

HK: ram



Tacoma City Council Constituent Intake Website Data Report: June 2025

Total Request
Submissions

563

Total Submissions

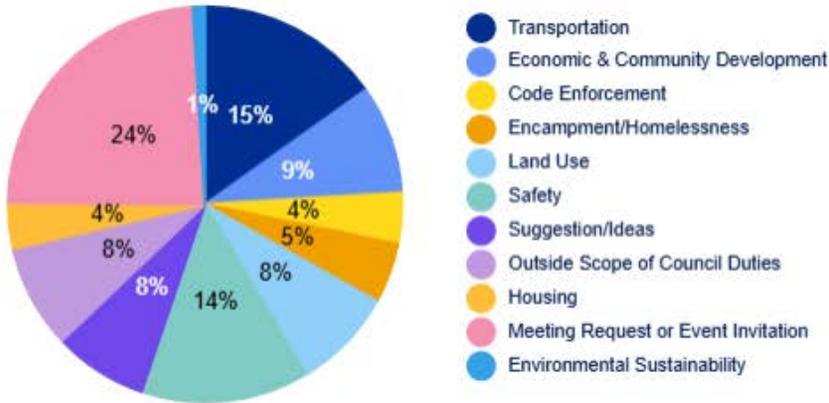
Request
Submissions

388

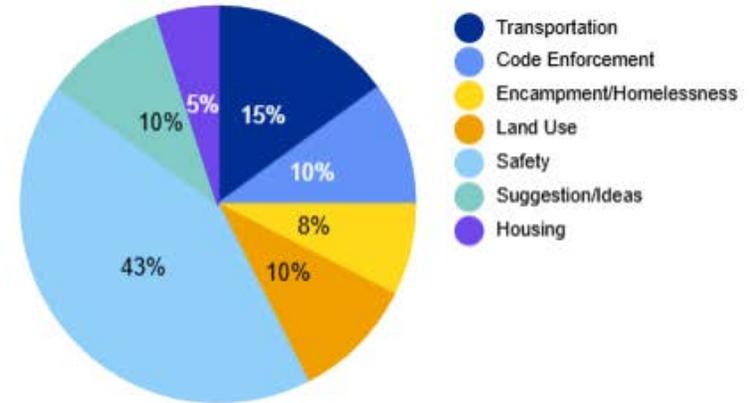
Inquiries that include
+1 Council Member

Topic Codes

Summary

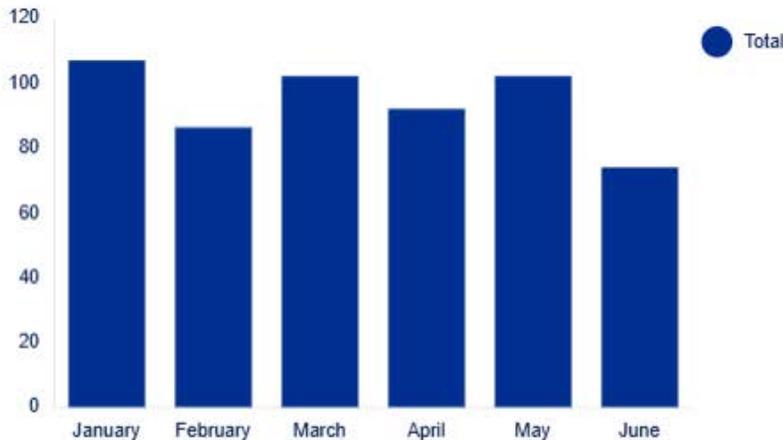


Last 14 Days

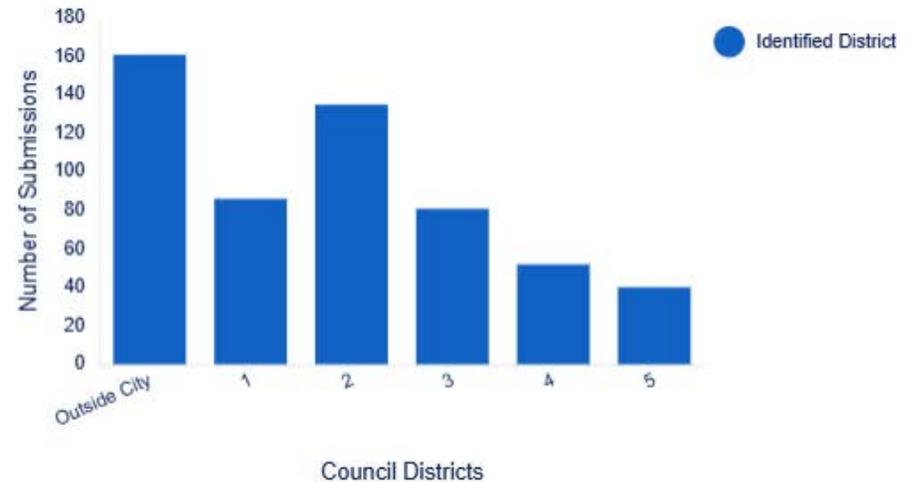


Submission Summary

Submissions by Month



Submissions by Council District



June 4, 2025

Tacoma City Council
747 Market Street, 12th Floor
Tacoma, WA 98402

RE: Sunsetting of the Transit-Oriented Development Task Force

Dear Mayor Woodards and Members of Council,

On behalf of the Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Task Force, I am writing to inform you that the Task Force has completed its initial charge and recommends a formal sunset of the group at this time.

The TOD Task Force was convened to provide cross-disciplinary coordination on policy development related to TOD in support of the One Tacoma Comprehensive Plan update. We are pleased to report the objective has been met. The Task Force provided guidance on key deliverables including the Transit Element and the new Frequent Transit Network map of the Transportation and Mobility Plan, and enhancements to the Growth Strategy and Complete Neighborhoods chapters. These products were informed by coordination with Pierce Transit, input from peer cities like Spokane, and deep collaboration between staff, consultants, and the Task Force members.

The Task Force's structure enabled focused, in-depth discussion on issues that are often difficult to fully explore in larger Commission settings. These conversations helped bridge perspectives between land use and transportation. The result was stronger alignment and mutual understanding across Commissions – something we believe is critical to successful TOD implementation.

While the group has fulfilled its initial purpose, it is clear TOD work is far from complete. Between now and 2030, a range of initiatives, including the new Climate Element of the Comprehensive Plan, TDLE, state legislation mandates, commercial zoning update, and Sub-Area Planning, will continue to shape Tacoma's transit and land use landscape. Sustained coordination between land use and transportation planning will be essential.

To maintain momentum and avoid duplication of effort, the Task Force recommends the Planning Commission and Transportation Commission develop a collaborative structure moving forward. This could include shared work plans, clearer division of TOD-related responsibilities, and joint meetings at key milestones. Such an approach would preserve the value of cross-Commission dialogue while recognizing current resource constraints.

If Council were to consider continuing the Task Force in some form, it would require a revised work plan and dedicated resources, which may be challenging under existing budget conditions.

We thank you for your support and for the opportunity to contribute to this important body of work. The TOD Task Force has demonstrated the value of focused, cross-Commission collaboration. We are confident with intentional coordination that Tacoma can lead in TOD planning in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

Pamela Wrenn
Chair, TOD Task Force

cc:

- TOD Task Force members: Chris Karnes, Jordan Rash, Troy Serad, Rubén Casas
- Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
- Planning Commission
- Transportation Commission
- Peter Huffman, Director, Planning and Development Services Department
- Ramiro Chavez, P.E. PgMP, Director/City Engineer, Public Works Department



Citywide Weekly Briefing for 09 June 2025 to 15 June 2025

The data is not National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) compliant. Do not compare the results with any report using that standard. The data is dynamic and is subject to change and/or revision. The number of distinct offenses listed on a report are counted. This does not represent reports or individuals. All data is compared to last year for the same number of days or date range. Small numbers may cause large percent increases and decreases. Beginning 1 October 2022, there was a change in how TPD reports certain Aggravated Assaults and Destruction offenses.

Offense Breakdown	7 Days		28 Days		Year to Date		7 Days	28 Days	YTD
	09-Jun-2024	09-Jun-2025	19-May-2024	19-May-2025	01-Jan-2024	01-Jan-2025			
	15-Jun-2024	15-Jun-2025	15-Jun-2024	15-Jun-2025	15-Jun-2024	15-Jun-2025			
Persons	79	79	333	328	2055	1850	0.0%	1.5%▼	10.0%▼
Assault	72	73	303	307	1861	1674	1.4%▲	1.3%▲	10.0%▼
Homicide (doesn't include Negligent/Justifiable)	1	1	2	1	10	11	0.0%	50.0%▼	10.0%▲
Kidnapping/Abduction	1	2	5	5	45	31	100.0%▲	0.0%	31.1%▼
Sex Offenses, Forcible	5	3	22	15	136	134	40.0%▼	31.8%▼	1.5%▼
Property	347	212	1536	1001	10228	6351	38.9%▼	34.8%▼	37.9%▼
Arson	1	1	8	10	48	46	0.0%	25.0%▲	4.2%▼
Burglary/Breaking and Entering	37	19	125	86	742	546	48.6%▼	31.2%▼	26.4%▼
Counterfeiting/Forgery	1	0	2	2	37	21	100.0%▼	0.0%	43.2%▼
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property	95	63	447	278	2862	1724	33.7%▼	37.8%▼	39.8%▼
Fraud	12	4	47	30	279	238	66.7%▼	36.2%▼	14.7%▼
Larceny/Theft	154	80	679	423	4116	2739	48.1%▼	37.7%▼	33.5%▼
Motor Vehicle Theft	34	31	178	124	1744	783	8.8%▼	30.3%▼	55.1%▼
Robbery	9	8	26	28	211	133	11.1%▼	7.7%▲	37.0%▼
Stolen Property	3	4	19	13	158	82	33.3%▲	31.6%▼	48.1%▼
Society	8	15	56	80	305	450	87.5%▲	42.9%▲	47.5%▲
Drug/Narcotic	5	9	35	47	175	293	80.0%▲	34.3%▲	67.4%▲
Pornography/Obscene Material	0	0	1	3	9	10	0.0%	200.0%▲	11.1%▲
Prostitution	0	0	0	0	2	8	0.0%	0.0%	300.0%▲
Weapon Law Violations	3	6	20	30	119	139	100.0%▲	50.0%▲	16.8%▲
Citywide Totals	434	306	1925	1409	12588	8651	29.5%▼	26.8%▼	31.3%▼

NC = Noncalculable

Last 7 Days

<p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was 1 Homicide offense during the last 7 days. 65.8% (48/73) of the Assaults were coded Simple Assault. There were 51 DV-related offenses. 78.4% (40/51) of the DV-related offenses were Persons. 52.1% (38/73) of the Assaults were DV-related. DV-related Offenses: 61 ↘ 51 There were no Gang-Related offense(s) during the last 7 days. Theft from Motor Vehicle: 44 ↘ 30 	<p>Top 5 Locations - Compared to last year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3701 S Pine St: 3 ↗ 4 101 S 10th St: 0 ↗ 4 8203 S Hosmer St: 3 ↗ 4 4314 E C St: 0 ↗ 3 S 38th St & Pacific Ave: 0 ↗ 3 2154 S L St: 0 ↗ 3 3120 S Pine St: 0 ↗ 3 There were 9 additional locations with 3. 	<p>Top 5 Offense Locations - Compared to last year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parking Lot: 78 ↘ 67 Street/Right Of Way: 63 ↘ 59 Apartment: 50 ↘ 49 Single Family Residence: 72 ↘ 41 Other Business: 6 ↗ 10
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Sector 1 Weekly Briefing for 09 June 2025 to 15 June 2025

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Offense Breakdown	7 Days		28 Days		Year to Date		7 Days	28 Days	YTD
	09-Jun-2024	09-Jun-2025	19-May-2024	19-May-2025	01-Jan-2024	01-Jan-2025			
	15-Jun-2024	15-Jun-2025	15-Jun-2024	15-Jun-2025	15-Jun-2024	15-Jun-2025			
Persons	22	20	96	77	532	458	9.1% ▼	19.8% ▼	13.9% ▼
Assault	21	18	87	72	466	405	14.3% ▼	17.2% ▼	13.1% ▼
Homicide (doesn't include Negligent/Justifiable)	0	0	1	0	5	4	0.0%	100.0% ▼	20.0% ▼
Kidnapping/Abduction	0	0	1	0	17	8	0.0%	100.0% ▼	52.9% ▼
Sex Offenses, Forcible	1	2	7	5	44	41	100.0% ▲	28.6% ▼	6.8% ▼
Property	94	56	432	291	2788	1946	40.4% ▼	32.6% ▼	30.2% ▼
Arson	0	1	4	3	25	18	NC	25.0% ▼	28.0% ▼
Burglary/Breaking and Entering	8	6	26	26	206	155	25.0% ▼	0.0%	24.8% ▼
Counterfeiting/Forgery	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.0%	0.0%	100.0% ▼
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property	36	18	171	95	986	650	50.0% ▼	44.4% ▼	34.1% ▼
Fraud	2	2	8	10	42	61	0.0%	25.0% ▲	45.2% ▲
Larceny/Theft	37	18	172	110	1046	731	51.4% ▼	36.0% ▼	30.1% ▼
Motor Vehicle Theft	9	9	38	38	411	262	0.0%	0.0%	36.3% ▼
Robbery	1	1	8	5	41	34	0.0%	37.5% ▼	17.1% ▼
Stolen Property	1	1	4	4	22	25	0.0%	0.0%	13.6% ▲
Society	2	4	17	18	81	95	100.0% ▲	5.9% ▲	17.3% ▲
Drug/Narcotic	1	3	12	13	50	55	200.0% ▲	8.3% ▲	10.0% ▲
Pornography/Obscene Material	0	0	1	0	3	2	0.0%	100.0% ▼	33.3% ▼
Prostitution	0	0	0	0	1	4	0.0%	0.0%	300.0% ▲
Weapon Law Violations	1	1	4	5	27	34	0.0%	25.0% ▲	25.9% ▲
Sector Totals	118	80	545	386	3401	2499	32.2% ▼	29.2% ▼	26.5% ▼

NC = Noncalculable

Last 7 Days

<p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were no Homicide offense(s) during the last 7 days. 77.8% (14/18) of the Assaults were coded Simple Assault. There were 11 DV-related offenses. 72.7% (8/11) of the DV-related offenses were Persons. 38.9% (7/18) of the Assaults were DV-related. DV-related Offenses: 15 ↘ 11 There were no Gang-Related offense(s) during the last 7 days. Theft from Motor Vehicle: 16 ↘ 10 	<p>Top 5 Locations - Compared to last year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 101 S 10th St: 0 ↗ 4 2119 Pacific Ave: 0 ↗ 3 2154 S L St: 0 ↗ 3 708 Court A: 1 ↗ 2 1618 S G St: 0 ↗ 2 110 S 10th St: 0 ↗ 2 436 Broadway: 0 ↗ 2 There were 5 additional locations with 2. 	<p>Top 5 Offense Locations - Compared to last year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Street/Right Of Way: 20 ↗ 28 Parking Lot: 34 ↘ 16 Apartment: 13 ↗ 15 Other Business: 0 ↗ 4 Single Family Residence: 8 ↘ 3
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Sector 2 Weekly Briefing for 09 June 2025 to 15 June 2025

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	15-Jun-2024	15-Jun-2025	15-Jun-2024	15-Jun-2025	15-Jun-2024	15-Jun-2025			
Persons	19	15	74	65	500	447	21.1% ▼	12.2% ▼	10.6% ▼
Assault	16	15	64	60	449	396	6.3% ▼	6.3% ▼	11.8% ▼
Homicide (doesn't include Negligent/Justifiable)	0	0	0	0	1	2	0.0%	0.0%	100.0% ▲
Kidnapping/Abduction	0	0	2	0	12	8	0.0%	100.0% ▼	33.3% ▼
Sex Offenses, Forcible	3	0	8	5	36	41	100.0% ▼	37.5% ▼	13.9% ▲
Property	62	46	353	244	2686	1497	25.8% ▼	30.9% ▼	44.3% ▼
Arson	0	0	2	2	6	7	0.0%	0.0%	16.7% ▲
Burglary/Breaking and Entering	5	2	25	18	165	131	60.0% ▼	28.0% ▼	20.6% ▼
Counterfeiting/Forgery	0	0	1	1	16	5	0.0%	0.0%	68.8% ▼
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property	21	10	108	70	744	410	52.4% ▼	35.2% ▼	44.9% ▼
Fraud	5	1	15	7	96	59	80.0% ▼	53.3% ▼	38.5% ▼
Larceny/Theft	25	23	169	110	1152	653	8.0% ▼	34.9% ▼	43.3% ▼
Motor Vehicle Theft	4	8	25	27	442	187	100.0% ▲	8.0% ▲	57.7% ▼
Robbery	2	2	5	6	39	28	0.0%	20.0% ▲	28.2% ▼
Stolen Property	0	0	0	0	18	6	0.0%	0.0%	66.7% ▼
Society	0	1	7	8	39	37	NC	14.3% ▲	5.1% ▼
Drug/Narcotic	0	0	5	2	23	13	0.0%	60.0% ▼	43.5% ▼
Pornography/Obscene Material	0	0	0	0	1	2	0.0%	0.0%	100.0% ▲
Prostitution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Weapon Law Violations	0	1	2	6	15	22	NC	200.0% ▲	46.7% ▲
Sector Totals	81	62	434	317	3225	1981	23.5% ▼	27.0% ▼	38.6% ▼

NC = Noncalculable

Last 7 Days

<p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were no Homicide offense(s) during the last 7 days. 73.3% (11/15) of the Assaults were coded Simple Assault. There were 8 DV-related offenses. 75.0% (6/8) of the DV-related offenses were Persons. 40.0% (6/15) of the Assaults were DV-related. DV-related Offenses: 12 ↘ 8 There were no Gang-Related offense(s) during the last 7 days. Theft from Motor Vehicle: 9 ↘ 8 	<p>Top 5 Locations - Compared to last year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3118 6th Ave: 0 ↗ 3 3910 N 28th St: 0 ↗ 3 3402 S 19th St: 1 ↗ 3 2315 Westridge Ave W: 0 ↗ 2 2412 6th Ave: 0 ↗ 2 510 N 11th St: 0 ↗ 2 2405 N Pearl St: 0 ↗ 2 	<p>Top 5 Offense Locations - Compared to last year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parking Lot: 12 ↗ 13 Apartment: 10 ↔ 10 Single Family Residence: 15 ↘ 9 Street/Right Of Way: 12 ↘ 4 Medical/Dental/Hospital: 1 ↗ 3
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Sector 3 Weekly Briefing for 09 June 2025 to 15 June 2025

The data is not National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) compliant. Do not compare the results with any report using that standard. The data is dynamic and is subject to change and/or revision. The number of distinct offenses listed on a report are counted. This does not represent reports or individuals. All data is compared to last year for the same number of days or date range. Small numbers may cause large percent increases and decreases. Beginning 1 October 2022, there was a change in how TPD reports certain Aggravated Assaults and Destruction offenses.

Offense Breakdown	7 Days		28 Days		Year to Date		7 Days	28 Days	YTD
	09-Jun-2024	09-Jun-2025	19-May-2024	19-May-2025	01-Jan-2024	01-Jan-2025			
	15-Jun-2024	15-Jun-2025	15-Jun-2024	15-Jun-2025	15-Jun-2024	15-Jun-2025			
Persons	19	18	65	88	476	429	5.3% ▼	35.4% ▲	9.9% ▼
Assault	17	16	59	83	443	394	5.9% ▼	40.7% ▲	11.1% ▼
Homicide <i>(doesn't include Negligent/Justifiable)</i>	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.0%	0.0%	100.0% ▼
Kidnapping/Abduction	1	1	1	1	8	6	0.0%	0.0%	25.0% ▼
Sex Offenses, Forcible	1	1	4	4	23	29	0.0%	0.0%	26.1% ▲
Property	112	62	405	259	2561	1537	44.6% ▼	36.0% ▼	40.0% ▼
Arson	1	0	1	2	8	9	100.0% ▼	100.0% ▲	12.5% ▲
Burglary/Breaking and Entering	14	6	45	18	199	118	57.1% ▼	60.0% ▼	40.7% ▼
Counterfeiting/Forgery	0	0	0	1	12	9	0.0%	NC	25.0% ▼
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property	21	23	91	69	609	363	9.5% ▲	24.2% ▼	40.4% ▼
Fraud	4	1	15	8	78	57	75.0% ▼	46.7% ▼	26.9% ▼
Larceny/Theft	55	25	189	123	1080	785	54.5% ▼	34.9% ▼	27.3% ▼
Motor Vehicle Theft	12	4	49	25	462	149	66.7% ▼	49.0% ▼	67.7% ▼
Robbery	3	2	6	9	54	25	33.3% ▼	50.0% ▲	53.7% ▼
Stolen Property	1	0	8	2	51	14	100.0% ▼	75.0% ▼	72.5% ▼
Society	1	4	13	20	73	109	300.0% ▲	53.8% ▲	49.3% ▲
Drug/Narcotic	1	1	8	11	39	76	0.0%	37.5% ▲	94.9% ▲
Pornography/Obscene Material	0	0	0	3	2	6	0.0%	NC	200.0% ▲
Prostitution	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.0%	0.0%	NC
Weapon Law Violations	0	3	5	6	32	26	NC	20.0% ▲	18.8% ▼
Sector Totals	132	84	483	367	3110	2075	36.4% ▼	24.0% ▼	33.3% ▼

NC = Noncalculable

Last 7 Days

Notes:

- There were no Homicide offense(s) during the last 7 days.
- 62.5% (10/16) of the Assaults were coded Simple Assault.
- There were 15 DV-related offenses.
- 73.3% (11/15) of the DV-related offenses were Persons.
- 68.8% (11/16) of the Assaults were DV-related.
- DV-related Offenses: 20 ↘ 15
- There were no Gang-Related offense(s) during the last 7 days.
- Theft from Motor Vehicle: 10 ↘ 6

Top 5 Locations - Compared to last year

- 3701 S Pine St: 3 ↗ 4
- 8203 S Hosmer St: 3 ↗ 4
- 4720 S Pine St: 0 ↗ 3
- 3120 S Pine St: 0 ↗ 3
- 3960 Mason Loop Rd: 0 ↗ 3
- 3212 S Sprague Ave: 1 ↗ 3
- 4502 S Steele St: 12 ↘ 3

Top 5 Offense Locations - Compared to last year

- Parking Lot: 20 ↗ 25
- Apartment: 15 ↗ 16
- Single Family Residence: 26 ↘ 14
- Other Business: 2 ↗ 4
- Street/Right Of Way: 12 ↘ 4



Sector 4 Weekly Briefing for 09 June 2025 to 15 June 2025

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Offense Breakdown	7 Days		28 Days		Year to Date		7 Days	28 Days	YTD
	09-Jun-2024	09-Jun-2025	19-May-2024	19-May-2025	01-Jan-2024	01-Jan-2025			
	15-Jun-2024	15-Jun-2025	15-Jun-2024	15-Jun-2025	15-Jun-2024	15-Jun-2025			
Persons	19	26	97	98	545	516	36.8%▲	1.0%▲	5.3%▼
Assault	18	24	92	92	501	479	33.3%▲	0.0%	4.4%▼
Homicide (doesn't include Negligent/Justifiable)	1	1	1	1	3	5	0.0%	0.0%	66.7%▲
Kidnapping/Abduction	0	1	1	4	8	9	NC	300.0%▲	12.5%▲
Sex Offenses, Forcible	0	0	3	1	33	23	0.0%	66.7%▼	30.3%▼
Property	79	48	345	207	2192	1371	39.2%▼	40.0%▼	37.5%▼
Arson	0	0	1	3	9	12	0.0%	200.0%▲	33.3%▲
Burglary/Breaking and Entering	10	5	29	24	172	142	50.0%▼	17.2%▼	17.4%▼
Counterfeiting/Forgery	1	0	1	0	8	7	100.0%▼	100.0%▼	12.5%▼
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property	17	12	77	44	523	301	29.4%▼	42.9%▼	42.4%▼
Fraud	1	0	9	5	63	61	100.0%▼	44.4%▼	3.2%▼
Larceny/Theft	37	14	148	80	837	570	62.2%▼	45.9%▼	31.9%▼
Motor Vehicle Theft	9	10	66	34	429	185	11.1%▲	48.5%▼	56.9%▼
Robbery	3	3	7	8	77	46	0.0%	14.3%▲	40.3%▼
Stolen Property	1	3	7	7	67	37	200.0%▲	0.0%	44.8%▼
Society	5	6	19	34	112	209	20.0%▲	78.9%▲	86.6%▲
Drug/Narcotic	3	5	10	21	63	149	66.7%▲	110.0%▲	136.5%▲
Pornography/Obscene Material	0	0	0	0	3	0	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%▼
Prostitution	0	0	0	0	1	3	0.0%	0.0%	200.0%▲
Weapon Law Violations	2	1	9	13	45	57	50.0%▼	44.4%▲	26.7%▲
Sector Totals	103	80	461	339	2849	2096	22.3%▼	26.5%▼	26.4%▼

NC = Noncalculable

Last 7 Days

<p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was 1 Homicide offense during the last 7 days. 54.2% (13/24) of the Assaults were coded Simple Assault. There were 17 DV-related offenses. 88.2% (15/17) of the DV-related offenses were Persons. 58.3% (14/24) of the Assaults were DV-related. DV-related Offenses: 14 ↗ 17 There were no Gang-Related offense(s) during the last 7 days. Theft from Motor Vehicle: 9 ↘ 6 	<p>Top 5 Locations - Compared to last year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8402 S Hosmer St: 0 ↗ 3 4314 E C St: 0 ↗ 3 S 38th St & Pacific Ave: 0 ↗ 3 8625 Pacific Ave: 0 ↗ 2 S 72nd St & S D St: 0 ↗ 2 2309 S 96th St: 0 ↗ 2 8843 Pacific Ave: 0 ↗ 2 There were 2 additional locations with 2. 	<p>Top 5 Offense Locations - Compared to last year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Street/Right Of Way: 19 ↗ 23 Single Family Residence: 23 ↘ 15 Parking Lot: 12 ↗ 13 Apartment: 12 ↘ 8 Rental/Storage Facility: 0 ↗ 3
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MEETINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 23, 2025 THROUGH JUNE 27, 2025

TIME	MEETING	LOCATION
MONDAY, JUNE 23, 2025		
5:00 PM	Local Improvement District (LID) Hearings*	747 Market St., Municipal Bldg., Council Chambers Visit https://tacoma.gov/hearingexaminer
5:30 PM	Bicycle and Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group	747 Market St., Municipal Bldg., Conf. Rm. 248 Join Zoom Meeting at: https://zoom.us/j/99545896138 Telephonic: Dial 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 995 4589 6138 Passcode: 762319
5:30 PM	Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs	747 Market St., Municipal Bldg., Conf. Rm. 243 Join Zoom Meeting at: https://zoom.us/j/84205262657 Telephonic: Dial 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 842 0526 2657 Passcode: 237481 Contact Vicky McLaurin at HRCandCIRA@tacoma.gov
TUESDAY, JUNE 24, 2025		
9:00 AM	Hearing Examiner's Hearing*	747 Market St., Municipal Bldg., Council Chambers Visit https://tacoma.gov/hearingexaminer
10:00 AM	Economic Development Committee	747 Market St., Municipal Bldg., Conf. Rm. 248 Join Zoom Meeting at: https://zoom.us/j/88227539908 Telephonic: Dial 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 882 2753 9908 Passcode: 614650
11:15 AM	Bid Opening**	3628 S. 35th St., Public Utilities Bldg., ABN-M1 Join Zoom Meeting at: https://zoom.us/j/88402680573 Telephonic: Dial 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 884 0268 0573 Passcode: 070737 Visit www.tacomapurchasing.org
NOON	City Council Study Session	747 Market St., Municipal Bldg., Council Chambers Join Zoom Meeting at: https://zoom.us/j/89496171192 Telephonic: Dial 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 894 9617 1192 Passcode: 896569
5:00 PM	City Council Meeting	747 Market St., Municipal Bldg., Council Chambers Join Zoom Meeting at: https://zoom.us/j/84834233126 Telephonic: Dial 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 848 3423 3126 Passcode: 349099
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25, 2025		
3:00 PM	Public Utility Board Study Session	3628 S. 35th St., Public Utilities Bldg., Conf. Rm. Lt1 Join Zoom Meeting at: https://zoom.us/j/81336402669 Telephonic: Dial 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 813 3640 2669
4:30 PM	Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee – CANCELLED	
5:30 PM	Landmarks Preservation Commission – CANCELLED	
6:30 PM	Public Utility Board Meeting	3628 S. 35th St., Public Utilities Bldg., Auditorium Join Zoom Meeting at: https://zoom.us/j/84626080846 Telephonic: Dial 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 846 2608 0846

THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 2025

7:30 AM	Tacoma Community Redevelopment Authority Board	747 Market St., Municipal Bldg., Conf. Rm. 248 Join Zoom Meeting at: https://zoom.us/j/84447211773 Telephonic: Dial 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 844 4721 1773 Passcode: 970091
9:00 AM	Hearing Examiner's Hearing*	747 Market St., Municipal Bldg., Council Chambers Visit https://tacoma.gov/hearingexaminer
4:30 PM	Community Vitality and Safety Committee	747 Market St., Municipal Bldg., Conf. Rm. 248 Join Zoom Meeting at: https://zoom.us/j/85961604917 Telephonic: Dial 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 859 6160 4917 Passcode: 614650
5:00 PM	Land Use Public Meeting***	747 Market St., Municipal Bldg., Council Chambers Contact Shirley Schultz at sschultz@tacoma.gov

FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 2025

NO MEETINGS SCHEDULED



Meeting sites are accessible to people with disabilities. People with disabilities requiring special accommodations should contact the appropriate department(s) 48 hours prior to the meeting time.

* Hearing Examiner's Hearings and Local Improvement District Meetings meet on an as-needed basis. Contact the Hearing Examiner's Office at 253-591-5195 to confirm whether a meeting will be held this week. Hearings may be held at various times throughout the day.

** Bid Opening will be held on an as-needed basis. Contact the Finance Procurement and Payables Office at 253-502-8468 or www.tacomapurchasing.org to confirm whether Bid Opening will be held.

*** Land Use Public Meetings meet on an as-needed basis. Contact Division Manager, Shirley Schultz at 253-345-0879 to confirm whether a meeting will be held this week.

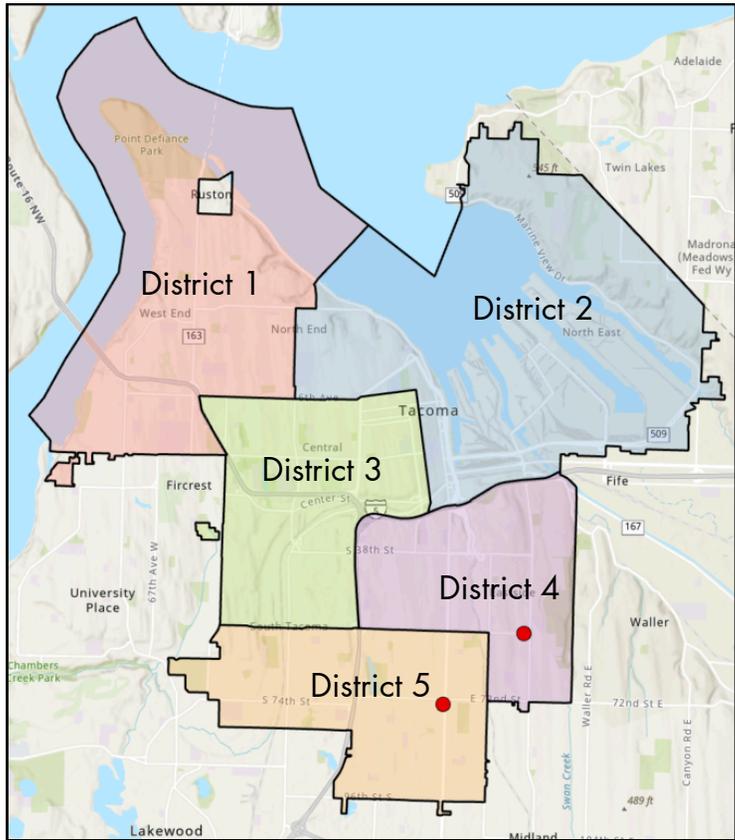


Vision Zero Monthly Crash Report

MAY 2025

THE DATA IS BASED UPON A TIME-SPECIFIC QUERY FROM THE WASHINGTON STATE PATROL - COLLISIONS ANALYSIS TOOL. THE DATA IS DYNAMIC AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND/OR REVISION.

May 2025 Fatal and Serious Injury Crashes by Council District



 **Fatal or Serious Injury Crash**

May Crash Summary

There were 277 total collisions in May:

- 9 collisions involved a pedestrian
- 4 collisions involved a bicyclist
- 2 collisions resulted in a serious injury or fatality

To see the Vision Zero data dashboard or to learn more about Vision Zero, visit: cityoftacoma.org/visionzero

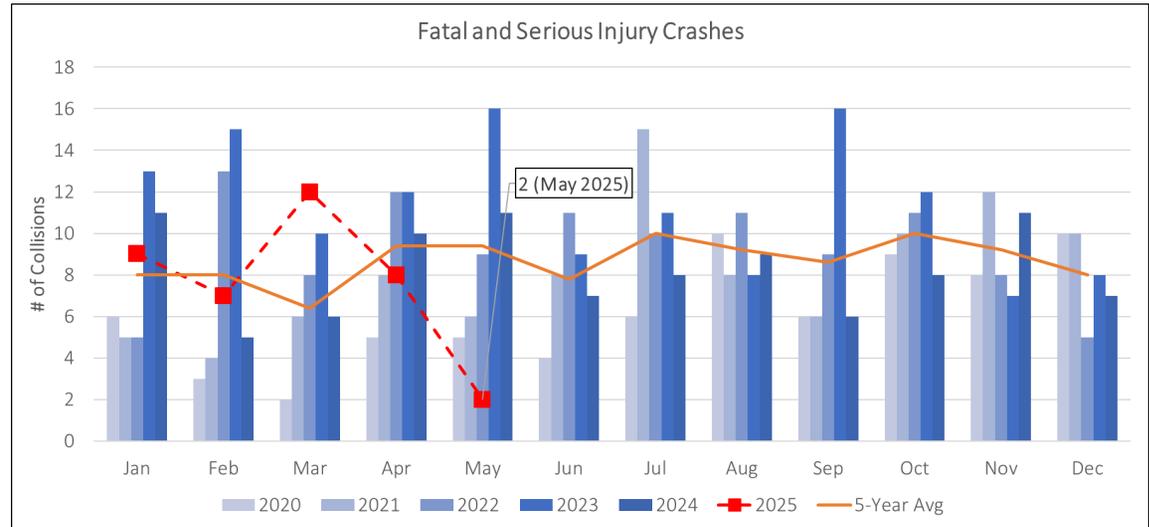
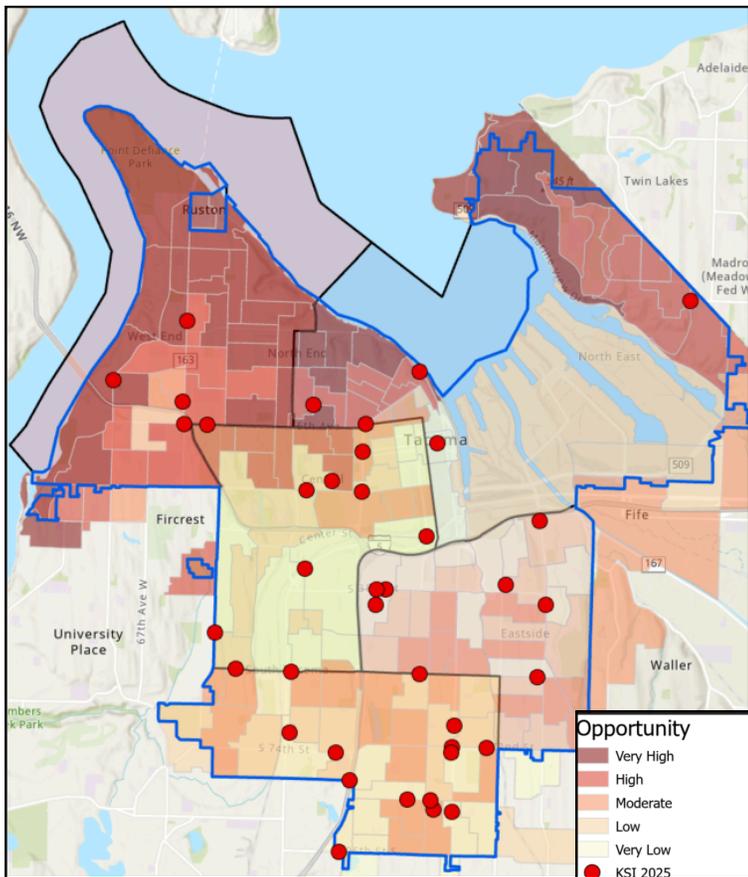
Primary Street	Secondary Street	Victim Age Range	Injury Level	Mode
S 72nd St	Pacific Ave	81+	Fatality	Motorist
E 56th st	E N St	46 - 50	Serious Injury	Motorist
		46 - 50	Serious Injury	Motorist



Vision Zero Cumulative and Trends

*City of Tacoma's Goal
Zero fatal and serious injury
traffic crashes by 2035*

2025 Year to Date Fatal and Serious Injury Crashes (Opportunity Index Overlay)



All Crashes (Annual Totals)				
Mode Type	5-Year Avg		Last 12 Months	
	Total	%	Total	%
Bicyclist	35	1%	37	1%
Motorist	3832	96%	3504	95%
Pedestrian	121	3%	146	4%

Fatal and Serious Injury Crashes (Annual Totals)				
Mode Type	5-Year Avg		Last 12 Months	
	Total	%	Total	%
Bicyclist	5	5%	3	3%
Motorist	77	74%	62	67%
Pedestrian	22	21%	27	30%

● Above 5-Year Average
■ Below 5-Year Average

Federal law 23 United States Code Section 407 governs use of the data in this report. Under this law, data maintained for purposes of evaluating potential highway safety enhancements "...shall not be subject to discovery or admitted into evidence in a federal or state court proceeding or considered for other purposes in any action for damages arising from any occurrence at a location mentioned or addressed in such reports, surveys, schedules, lists, or data." If you should attempt to use the information in this report in an action for damages against City, the State of Washington, or any other jurisdiction involved in the locations mentioned in the data, these entities expressly reserve the right, under Section 407, to object to the use of the data, including any opinions drawn from the data.



**City of Tacoma
Public Utility Board Meeting**

**June 25, 2025; 6:30 p.m.
Tacoma Public Utilities – Ground Floor Auditorium
3628 S 35th Street, Tacoma WA 98409**

**Join remotely: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84626080846>
or by dialing 253-215-8782 and entering meeting ID: 846 2608 0846**

Call to Order

Roll Call

- A. Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings**
- B. Comments by the Public**
- C. Recognitions**
 - **Tacoma Rail: Jake Award for Safety**
- D. Regular Agenda**

Departmental

- D-1 Resolution U-11536 - A resolution to award certain contracts and approve certain purchases:
1. Award contract to Unifin International for the purchase of six direct-replacement air coolers for the LaGrande Unit 5 Generator (\$800,000, plus applicable taxes) [Dave Collins, Nisqually Hydro Project Sr. Mgr];
 2. Award five-year contracts to Cramer Fish Sciences and Four Peaks Environmental for fish habitat program management and support services (\$833,333.33 each. Includes option to renew through mutually agreed upon amendment for a projected contract amount of \$2,500,000, plus applicable taxes) [David Cogswell, Natural Resources Analyst];
 3. Increase contract to Power Costs, Inc., for development, deployment, and support of three software modules within the energy trading and risk management software suite (\$520,000, plus applicable taxes. Cumulative total \$8,660,000, plus applicable taxes) [Rick Applegate, Principal Data Analyst].
 4. Award five-year contract to Nokia of America Corporation for hardware warranty, software upgrades, and technical support for TPU's multiprotocol label switching wide area network (\$619,678.91, plus applicable taxes. Includes option to renew for additional one-year periods for a projected contract total of \$739,678.91, plus applicable taxes) [Thomas Stedman, Sr. Telecom Engineer].
- D-2 Resolution U-11537 – Authorize execution of a successor collective bargaining agreement as negotiated with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 483, Tacoma Power Unit, effective retroactive from April 1, 2024, through March 31, 2028 [Dylan Carlson, Labor Relations Division Mgr].

E. Executive Session

- Executive Session to discuss potential/pending litigation
[RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)]

F. Adjournment

The Public Utility Board may enter a closed or executive session at any time during an open public meeting as provided by law.



The City of Tacoma does not discriminate on the basis of disability in any of its programs, Activities, or services. To request this information in an alternative format or to request a reasonable accommodation, please contact the TPU Director's Office at 253-502-8201. TTY or speech to speech users please dial 711 to connect to Washington Relay services.



**City of Tacoma
Public Utility Board
Study Session**

**June 25, 2025; 3:00 p.m.
Tacoma Public Utilities, LT1 (3rd Floor Conference Room)
(Directly Across Main Elevator)
3628 South 35th Street, Tacoma WA 98409**

**Join remotely: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81336402669>
or by dialing 253-215-8782 and entering meeting ID 813 3640 2669**

Call to Order

Roll Call

The Public Utility Board will hold a study session with staff to discuss the following:

Approximate Time	Topic	Presenter(s)
3:00 – 3:15	Tacoma Rail: South Intermodal Yard Lease	Tim Flood, Asst. Rail Supt.; Dylan Harrison, Real Property Services Mgr.
3:20 – 5:20	TPU Strategy; and Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats (SWOT) Analysis Discussion	Public Utility Board, Director Flowers, KayLyne Newell, Water Strategy Mgr; Twila Hofer, Power Strategy Mgr.
5:30	General Board Comments / Discussion and Director’s Reports	

Adjournment

The Public Utility Board may enter into a closed or executive session at any time during an open public meeting as provided by law.

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City of Tacoma

2025 General Government Legislative Report

June 17, 2025

Introduction

The City of Tacoma 2025 Legislative Report is a summary of the legislation passed during the state legislative session. The report provides information on policy bills and budgets, as well as additional discussion to provide background and context for the issues.

The City of Tacoma's State Government Affairs team was tremendously active throughout the 2025 legislative session. This report contains a summary of bills tracked and a portion of the team's work throughout the session. The City's advocacy is guided by the City's adopted legislative agenda and also includes work on issues impacting the City that arise during the legislative session.

The report is extensive; therefore, in order to provide easier access to the information on the bills and issues, the report is divided into sections both by topic and in relation to the legislative agenda. The following is an overview to assist readers in navigating this report with links to each section in order to allow readers access to content most relevant to their interests:

[Section 1](#): **Overview of the 2025 Legislative Session**: *A high-level summary of the legislative session that provides political and process context.*

[Section 2](#): **State Legislative Priorities**: *A report on those issues that the City Council identified as top-priority issues, including funding requests.*

[Section 3](#): **State Legislative Policy Positions**: *A summary of legislative issues tracked by the City's government affairs team organized by those topic areas identified in the City's State Legislative Policy Positions document. The topics are organized according to the following [City priorities](#) identified by the Council:*

- i. [Safety](#)
- ii. [Housing and Homelessness](#)
- iii. [Jobs](#)
- iv. [Access](#)
- v. [Health](#)
- vi. [Additional Police Priorities](#)

[Section 4](#): **Budget Overview**: *A summary of the 2025 Operating, Capital, and Transportation budgets.*

Section 1: Overview of the 2025 Legislative Session

The Washington State Legislature convened the 2025 Legislative Session for 105 days, starting January 13th and concluding April 27th. Democrats held strong majorities in both the House of

Representatives, 59 to 39, and the State Senate, 30 to 19. Following the November 2025 elections, 24 legislators were new to their positions. Additionally, voters elected Democrat Bob Ferguson to replace three-term outgoing Governor Jay Inslee. The Legislative Session also began as President Donald Trump re-entered the Oval Office and began making changes to the federal government that have impacts on state government.

As the 2025 Legislative Session approached, legislators indicated that the state faced a substantial budget shortfall due to increased costs of government services coupled with slower growth rates in revenue collection.

Budget writing became more tense with bold statements from Governor Bob Ferguson cautioning the Legislature to moderate tax increases given changes within the federal government, rising prices and economic uncertainty. The Legislature and Governor's Office reached agreement on proposed budgets during the final weeks of the legislative session, affording adequate time to adopt budget, tax proposal, and conclude the legislative session on time.

While the budget was the focal point throughout the legislative session, legislators also engaged in significant policymaking and considered 2,387 bills, of which 431 passed into law.

A session can sometimes be defined by what did not pass; this year, several significant policies did not get across the finish line, such as proposals regarding design review, regulation of encampments, and legislation addressing the 1% property tax cap. Any policies that did not pass into law can be considered during the second year of the legislative biennium during the 2026 legislative session.

Section 2: State Legislative Priorities

The City adopted the **2025 State Legislative Priorities** in December 2024. These are the City's top legislative requests, and those items are prioritized by the City's government affairs team and asked by the City's legislative delegation to prioritize.

Fiscal Sustainability: On the heels of significantly reducing the City's 2026-27 budget, the City of Tacoma asked that the state consider adjustments to local governments' tax structure to make it more sustainable. The City has made this request in previous legislative sessions; however, given the City's budget challenges, the City elevated this request going into the 2025 session.

The City participated in a coalition of stakeholders including, the Association of Washington Cities, the Washington State Association of Counties, SEIU 775, Washington Education Association, Washington State Labor Council, Association of Public Hospital Districts, Habitat for Humanity, and more. **Councilmember Joe Bushnell** signed an op-ed in the Tacoma News Tribune alongside Tacoma Parks Commissioner Andrea Smith and South Pierce County Fire and Rescue Commissioner John Linboe.

Despite this multi-year push to remove the 1% cap on property tax levy growth and allow local councils to align increases with the cost of services, this session's efforts ultimately failed.

While various legislative proposals, including [House Bill 2049/Senate Bill 5812](#), [Senate Bill 5798](#), and [House Bill 1334](#), were considered, strong opposition from businesses, the public (evidenced by over 40,000 sign-ins against the proposal), and Republicans proved significant. **The City of Tacoma expressed support for these proposals, with Councilmembers Joe Bushnell and Kristina Walker providing testimony on behalf of the City.**

While there was strong support amongst Democrats for House Bill 2049, in the final week of the legislative session, Governor Bob Ferguson indicated his intent to veto any bill increasing property taxes. Unwilling to pass a tax measure that would inevitably be vetoed, the Legislature ultimately approved a version of House Bill 2049 that sidestepped the local property tax levy growth issue, focusing instead on increasing the revenue school districts can generate through voter-approved levies for educational enrichment.

Emergency Shelter Operations: The City requested \$12 million (\$6 million each fiscal year) to prevent the closure of over 300 shelter beds in Tacoma. This request came after the Legislature allocated \$3 million in the 2024 Supplemental Operating Budget to operate the shelter beds through June 30, 2025.

Before the beginning of the legislative session, the City submitted a letter to outgoing Governor Jay Inslee, requesting that \$12 million be provided in the Governor's proposed 2025-27 Operating Budget to allow the shelters to continue operating through the end of the fiscal year, June 20, 2027. Unfortunately, the funding was not included in the Governor's proposed budget.

Once the legislative session began, the City's government affairs team coordinated with the 27th and 29th district legislators for operating budget funding requests to be submitted in both the House of Representatives and the State Senate. Additionally, those legislators who comprise the Pierce County Legislative Delegation voted to make this funding request a top priority. Even with this support, the City received indications early in the legislative session that a direct appropriation to the City, like what was provided in 2024, would be unlikely because of the state's significant budget shortfall.

When the House and Senate Operating Budget proposals were released, a direct appropriation to the City for shelter operations was not included. However, both budgets included funding for a grant program that would allow the City to apply to the Department of Commerce to receive funding for shelter operations. The Senate Operating Budget proposal included \$38.864 million in fiscal year 2026, and \$38.863 million in fiscal year 2027 for a grant program to maintain shelters throughout the state. The Senate language, as initially drafted, was restrictive and would not have allowed the City of Tacoma to be an eligible applicant to the grant program. Senators Yasmin Trudeau and Steve Conway, both of whom sit on the Senate Ways & Means Committee, sponsored an amendment to ensure that Tacoma would be an eligible applicant to

the grant program. The House Operating Budget proposal included \$58.8 million in fiscal year 2026, and \$58.7 million in fiscal year 2027, for a similar grant program, but included language that would have allowed the City to be an eligible applicant for the funding. The House and Senate reconciled their respective budget proposals, including grappling with how to fund those proposals, to reach agreement on a final operating budget.

The final 2025-27 Operating Budget signed into law included the House funding amount, and language regarding the grant program that was not previously included in either the House nor the Senate proposal:

\$58,802,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2026 and \$58,802,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for fiscal year 2027 are provided solely for grants to counties, cities, and other entities receiving contracts pursuant to RCW 43.185C.080(3) for homeless housing programs and services including, but not limited to, emergency housing and shelter, temporary housing, permanent supportive housing programs, and other homeless housing services and initiatives, including those funded through the document recording fee collected pursuant to RCW 36.22.250. Grant funds must be prioritized for maintaining existing levels of service and preventing the closure of existing beds or programs.

Since the conclusion of the 2025 Legislative Session, the City has communicated with the Department of Commerce. Commerce has indicated that they plan to provide the City of Tacoma with \$3 million to continue shelter operations, and that a subsequent competitive process will occur at a later date to allow the City to potentially receive additional funding in the second year of the biennium.

Fishing Wars Memorial Bridge: The City continues to need funding partnerships to complete Phase 2 of reconstructing the Fishing Wars Memorial Bridge. Prior to the beginning of the legislative session, Transportation Committee Chairs Rep. Jake Fey and Sen. Marko Liias cautioned that the 2025-27 Transportation Budget was facing a \$1 billion shortfall in the 25-27 biennium, and a multi-billion-dollar shortfall over the budget's six-year spending plan. Despite this, the City did submit a funding request for \$45 million for the Fishing Wars Memorial Bridge to complete the design/permitting needed for the replacement and needed as non-federal match to secure federal construction funding.

The House and Senate each developed their respective 2025-27 Transportation Budget proposals, which were quite different from one another. While both budget proposals relied on new revenue, including an increase in the State's gas tax, the Senate proposed Transportation Budget also assumed \$3 billion being transferred from the Operating Budget to the Transportation Budget, and the responsibility to fund state-owned fish culverts being transferred to the Capital Budget. These two structural differences afforded the Senate Transportation Budget more spending capacity, but also required a much larger revenue proposal to support the operating and capital budgets than what the House had proposed. The House Transportation Budget was more modest, did not fund any new projects and delayed others. Meanwhile, the Senate Transportation Budget proposed allocating \$700 million to a list of new

projects, which included the Fishing Wars Memorial Bridge Project. A specific funding amount for Fishing Wars Memorial Bridge was not noted, but the Senate envisioned WSDOT submitting a recommendation to the Legislature in 2026 detailing proposed funding amounts and timelines for each project over the following six years.

When the House and Senate reconciled differences between their respective transportation budget proposals, they adopted a structure more similar to what the House had proposed, including a more modest revenue proposal. As a result, the final 2025-27 Transportation Budget signed into law did not include any new projects; therefore, the Fishing Wars Memorial Bridge project was not allocated additional funds.

Priority Capital Funding Requests:

The City identified two capital funding requests, one located in the 29th Legislative District, and another located in the 27th Legislative District.

South Tacoma Fire Station: For the second time, the City of Tacoma requested that the state allocate \$2 million to construct a new South Tacoma Fire Station in the 29th Legislative District. In previous legislative sessions, certain legislators opposed allocating funding to a fire station because the city has the ability to fund the project through local property tax levies. After much discussion as the session was getting underway, legislators supported bringing forward the request this session. Both Sen. Steve Conway and Rep. Sharlett Mena submitted the funding requests. The final 2025 Capital Budget allocates \$2 million for the project.

Puyallup Avenue Sewer Utility Replacement Project: The City requested \$1 million to support the progressive design-build delivery for the Puyallup Avenue Sewer Replacement Project to reduce flooding events at Pacific Avenue and South Tacoma Way/26th Street. The final 2025 Capital Budget includes \$1.030 million for the project, which includes adequate funding to cover the Department of Commerce's administrative charge and allow the city to receive the full \$1 million requested.

Other Capital Funding Requests:

In addition to the City's top two capital budget requests, the City also identified several other capital funding request items through the Climate Commitment Act or other sources. This session budgets were constrained, including funds associated with the Climate Commitment Act, limiting funding opportunities for this secondary list of projects.

The Tacoma community, however, did benefit from significant capital funding investment. Of note were funding for proposals related to the Eastside Skills Training Center and an Eastside Childcare Center. Please see the capital budget chart in Section 3 of this report for a full list of capital budget expenditures.

Other Issues of Importance: The City Council elevated three proactive advocacy items to be “other issues of importance.” The City’s government affairs team advanced the following items in a manner that ensured the greatest emphasis remained on the top legislative priority items.

Property Tax Exemption for ADUs Rented to Low-Income Households: Several years ago, the Legislature authorized a property tax exemption for homeowners located in King County who construct an accessory dwelling unit (ADU) and rent that unit to a low-income household. The City of Tacoma requested the authority to offer this same exemption in Pierce County. Sen. Chris Gildon (R-25th LD) sponsored [Senate Bill 5529](#). As introduced, the bill would have extended the exemption to all counties. The County Assessors Association expressed concerns about how some counties would implement an exemption. The City of Tacoma worked directly with newly elected Pierce County Assessor Marty Campbell to arrive at a version of the bill limited to Pierce County, and that could be successfully implemented in Pierce County. Additionally, following any new tax exemption, the state requires that the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee conduct a review on whether the exemption is successfully accomplishing the stated public policy objective when the exemption was put in place. The report for this exemption was advanced to be completed in 2027 rather than 2029 to allow data to be collected to support expanding the program to more counties.

Route Transfer Jurisdiction: The City requested legislation to update the statutory framework that WSDOT uses to transfer state property to local jurisdictions, in order to allow more input from local jurisdictions and to require appropriate due diligence prior to the transfer. The City had recently received communication from the Washington State Department of Transportation indicating a desire to transfer several state facilities to the City. The current conditions of the facilities and the lack of available funding to upgrade the facility to modern standards were concerns the City identified regarding transfers.

The City learned that the Washington State Transportation Commission (Commission) is currently conducting a [statewide study](#) on the appropriate method/process to transfer routes. There are several methods allowing routes to be transferred. The Commission has placed a moratorium on any route transfers that utilize a method requiring its approval until January 2027. After learning this information, the City requested budget proviso language to ensure that all route transfers, including those that do not require approval by the Commission, are paused until the report is complete. The report is anticipated to be completed September-December 2025. At the City’s request, the Legislature included the following proviso language in the final 2025 Transportation Budget:

The department may not execute a state highway route transfer under RCW 36.75.090 and 47.24.010 without approval from the receiving city or county from July 1, 2025, until June 30, 2026.

The Legislature will likely consider holistic legislation stemming from the Commission's recommendation during the 2026 legislative session. The proviso ensures that no route transfers occur before that legislative discussion unless the receiving entity approves of the transfer.

Sidewalk Utility: The City expressed interest in identifying a new dedicated revenue tool to support sidewalk construction, repair, and broader infrastructure needs, including the creation of a sidewalk utility. The City determined that a statewide approach would be more effective and appropriate. The City's government relations team met with the Joint Transportation Committee, a Committee frequently assigned to conduct transportation studies, to advance this concept. In parallel, the City engaged Rep. Jake Fey, Chair of the House Transportation Committee, to share the City's desire to explore new sidewalk funding models. Following those conversations, Rep. Fey submitted a request for a proviso directing the Joint Transportation Committee to conduct a study evaluating the feasibility of mechanisms such as sidewalk utilities and other local funding options. The following proviso language was included in the final 2025 Transportation Budget:

\$200,000 is for the joint transportation committee to conduct a study and make recommendations on alternative new methods for local governments to fund sidewalk improvements, including but not limited to establishing a sidewalk utility. The study must review revenue options utilized in other states and make evaluations based on fairness, stability, adequacy, regressivity, simplicity, and the effect on economic vitality. A preliminary report is due to the office of the governor and the transportation committees of the legislature by December 15, 2025. The final report is due to the office of the governor and the transportation committees of the legislature by June 30, 2026.

The City has already been in contact with the Joint Transportation Committee regarding the implementation of the study. JTC staff affirmed that Tacoma would be included in stakeholder outreach and noted that the study would involve engagement with cities of varying sizes and geographies. The City remains committed to supporting this effort and helping to identify legally sound, scalable funding mechanisms to support sidewalk infrastructure across Washington State.

Section 3: State Legislative Policy Positions

The City adopted the **2025 State Legislative Policy Positions**, outlining topics that the City would like to engage in throughout the legislative session in addition to its top priorities. Below is a status update on these topics, as well as a broad overview of what the Legislature did in each of these issue areas.

I. Safety:

Law Enforcement

Recruitment & Retention:

Public Safety Grant and Sales Tax Funding: The City, like most jurisdictions in the country, faces a critical shortage of officers in its law enforcement agency, the Tacoma Police Department (TPD). While the TPD is making progress in hiring officers and is using data-driven strategies along with creative alternatives such as creating a unit of non-commissioned civilian officers, there remains a gap in staffing that is detrimental to public safety. The City requests the State's support for recruitment and retention efforts through increased funding and local revenue options, and to ensure there is sufficient capacity at the state Criminal Justice Training Commission to provide the necessary training for all officers in the state. The City also supports efforts to expand the pool of potential officers, such as modifying eligibility requirements to allow those in Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status to serve as police officers and changes that allow for part-time positions to be covered in the LEOFF 2 pension system.

During his campaign and subsequent entry into office, Governor Bob Ferguson pledged to dedicate \$100 million to law enforcement hiring grants. This initiative was advanced to the Legislature through proposals introduced by Republican Sen. Jeff Holy and Rep. Hunter Abell, [Senate Bill 5060](#) and [House Bill 1435](#). **The City testified in support of these proposed grant funds, in part because the proposals would assist the City in hiring officers for vacant positions, helping address overall budget challenges.** Additionally, the Association of Washington Cities requested [House Bill 1428](#), increasing revenues distributed to cities through the Municipal Criminal Justice Assistance Account. **The City of Tacoma also supported this proposal.**

Separately, the Legislature's Democratic Members of Color Caucus proposed an alternative framework for these grants in House Bill 2015, sponsored by Rep. Debra Entenman (D-47th LD), making the allocation of grant funding contingent upon adherence to specific law enforcement training and operational standards, as well as a requirement for local jurisdictions to have established a dedicated local tax. **The City of Tacoma supported this legislation throughout the legislative process.** The Legislature chose to adopt [House Bill 2015](#). The final version of the bill creates a new state grant program, linking grant awards to compliance with statewide training requirements, and new authority for cities to increase the sales tax by .01 with approval from the city council for funding public safety programs, including alternative response programs and public defense. The final 2025-27 Operating Budget includes \$100 million for the grant program.

Officer Training: The 2025-27 Operating Budget funds 23 Basic Law Enforcement Funding courses in 2026 and 2027, with two per year in each of the four regional training academies in Arlington, Pasco, Spokane, and Vancouver. Unfortunately, the budget also reinstates the requirement that cities pay 25% of the cost of each officer's training. This is a reduced investment from what the Legislature allocated in the 2023-25 budget but is similar to amounts allocated to law enforcement training before 2023.

Sen. Orwall introduced, and the Legislature considered but did not advance [Senate Bill 5367](#), which establishes a Community Immersion Law Enforcement Grant Program, requiring newly hired officers to work with community-based organizations for at least 45 days before attending

the basic law enforcement academy. **The City of Tacoma supported this legislation. Bervin Smith, Police Community Engagement Senior Manager, testified in support of the legislation.**

Additionally, the Legislature approved the following bills regarding law enforcement training:

Officer Certification Process: [Senate Bill 5224](#), sponsored by Sen. John Lovick (D-44th LD), enhances the certification and commissioning processes for law enforcement and corrections officers. The bill updates definitions, mandates background checks for officers transferring between agencies, and establishes procedures for certification lapse and reinstatement. It also revises the process for commissioning railroad police officers, requires all law enforcement personnel to complete basic training within specified timeframes, and mandates public access to hearing transcripts and decisions. The Governor signed the bill on May 19 and the bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Law Enforcement Training: [Senate Bill 5356](#), sponsored by Sen. Tina Orwall (D-33rd LD), expands training requirements for law enforcement, prosecutors, and Title IX investigators to improve responses to sexual and gender-based violence. The bill mandates the Washington Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) to develop trauma-informed curricula for patrol officers and peace officers, with separate training programs for responding to sexual violence and gender-based violence. It adds the Washington Student Achievement Council as an advisor, updates child testimony provisions to allow testimony outside the defendant's presence for minors under 18 and requires periodic retraining for officers. The Governor signed the bill on April 22 and the bill goes into effect on July 1, 2026.

Independent Prosecutions of Police Use of Force:

The City actively supported the establishment of the Office of Independent Investigations (OII) to conduct transparent, unbiased, and thorough investigations of police use of force cases. While this is an important step, the work is not complete. The state must establish an Office of Independent Prosecutions to review the OII investigations and make transparent, unbiased decisions in these cases. This is critical to the credibility of these investigations and to our community.

The Legislature once again considered a proposal, [Senate Bill 5584/House Bill 1740](#), sponsored by Sen. Manka Dhingra (D-45th LD) and Rep. Monica Jurado Stonier (D-49th LD), to create an Office of Independent Prosecutors to align with the new Office of Independent Investigations (OII) that was established in 2021. The independent prosecutor would conduct reviews of investigations, make charging decisions, and prosecute such cases upon the Governor's request. **The City of Tacoma supported this legislation throughout the legislative process.**

Previous efforts to establish an Office of Independent Prosecutions failed to advance in part due to a divergence of views between former Governor Jay Inslee and former Attorney General, now Governor, Bob Ferguson. With Governor Ferguson's election, it was hoped this bill would pass into law this session. This version of the bill would have placed prosecutorial authority within the

Office of Independent Investigations and would have renamed the office the Office of Independent Investigations and Prosecutions. However, the bill faced opposition from the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, the Washington Council of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, the Washington Narcotics Investigators Association, and others. The bill was unable to overcome this opposition and stalled in the Senate Ways & Means Committee with the first fiscal committee cutoff deadline.

The Legislature considered but did not advance [Senate Bill 5068](#), sponsored by Sen. John Lovick (D-44th LD), which would have clarified that persons legally authorized to work in the United States under federal law are eligible to apply for positions with law enforcement agencies, specified civil service employment, the Department of Fish and Wildlife officer positions, and deputy prosecuting attorney positions. **The City of Tacoma signed in support of this legislation.** The bill nearly passed the Legislature and is likely to return in 2026.

Automated Enforcement:

The City supports expanded use of automated traffic enforcement. Compared to previous legislative sessions, there was modest action to expand the use of automated traffic enforcement. Within an omnibus bill generating revenues for the transportation budget, [Senate Bill 5801](#), Section 905 clarified that the use of bus-mounted automated traffic safety cameras can be used to enforce transit-only lanes. Additionally, beginning January 1, 2026, the first violation penalty for a work zone speed safety camera system violation is changed from \$0 to \$125.

The Legislature held a public hearing on [Senate Bill 5757](#), sponsored by Sen. Leonard Christian R-4th LD), which would have directed 50% of revenues generated by local traffic safety camera infractions to the state. **The City opposed this legislation and arranged for city staff to provide testimony; however, due to technical issues, the City was unable to provide verbal comments and instead submitted written comments.** The bill did not advance after significant concerns were expressed by local jurisdictions at the public hearing on the proposal.

Public Defense:

In the lead-up to the legislative session, the Washington State Supreme Court considered a recommendation from the Washington State Bar Association to reduce public defender caseload standards. The Court held two public hearings and a public comment period that concluded on October 31, 2024. Stakeholders across the legal and advocacy communities actively participated in these proceedings, submitting diverse perspectives on potential revisions.

As of the start of the legislative session in Olympia, the Court had not yet released its decision regarding any modifications to these standards. Recognizing the potential impact of the forthcoming Supreme Court ruling, legislators convened informational briefings to understand the possible changes and their implications for the state's public defense system and budget.

The Legislature considered but did not advance [House Bill 1592/Senate Bill 5404](#), sponsored by Rep. Strom Peterson (D-21st LD) and Sen. Yasmin Trudeau (D-27th LD), which would have made the state responsible for a larger portion of the cost of providing public defense services. **The City of Tacoma submitted written comments and signed in expressing support for this proposal.** Ultimately, in the absence of a definitive decision from the Supreme Court, the Legislature proceeded to address public defense by investing \$2.7 million for public defense grants to cities. Funding for public defense and prosecution recruitment and training was not included.

Following the conclusion of the legislative session, on June 9, 2025, the Washington State Supreme Court announced new caseload standards for public defenders yesterday. [Click here to view the order.](#) Currently, public defenders are limited to handling 150 felony cases or 400 misdemeanor cases per year. Under the new standards, those limits will be reduced to 47 felony cases or 120 misdemeanor cases annually. For attorneys representing respondents in civil commitment proceedings, the new cap is 150 cases per year. Although the new standards will be costly to implement, the Court has provided a 10-year timeline for full compliance.

Jurisdictions are encouraged to meet the new standards as soon as reasonably possible but must do so no later than January 1, 2036. A phased approach is allowed, requiring at least a 10% annual reduction in the gap between the current and new standards. While jurisdictions may use case weighting and case credits to calculate compliance, doing so is optional, not required.

The Legislature can revisit and adjust the amount of funding allocated to public defense during the 2026 legislative session, which convenes on January 12, 2026. It's unclear whether the State's budget will be able to accommodate increased expenditures.

Business Support:

The City supports efforts to support businesses, including prevention of organized retail crime and state funding to provide security enhancements such as shatterproof windows.

The Attorney General's Office created an Office of Organized Retail Crimes in 2022. However, the 2025-27 Operating Budget does not specifically allocate funds to continue that Office; making its future uncertain. The 2025-27 Operating Budget did include \$39 million for a statewide recovery navigator program to assist with areas of high retail theft (i.e. Snohomish, King, and Pierce counties).

The Legislature considered but did not advance [House Bill 1276](#), sponsored by Rep. Mari Leavitt (D-28th LD), that would have created sentencing enhancements for theft of items valued over \$20,000.

Alternative Response

Alternatives to Traditional Law Enforcement Response:

Programs providing responses that are alternatives to traditional law enforcement are critical to improving public safety. In situations involving individuals experiencing behavioral health issues, programs such as behavioral health co-responders, diversion, and other alternative programs improve outcomes for the community and law enforcement.

The Legislature maintained investment levels for co-responder programs, allocating \$4 million to the Association of Washington Cities to provide grants to create alternative response team programs throughout the state. The Legislature also approved [House Bill 1811](#), sponsored by Rep. Osman Salahuddin (D-48th LD), enhancing behavioral health crisis response by integrating co-response teams and establishing statewide training programs. It defines “co-response” as a multidisciplinary partnership between first responders and human services professionals to address behavioral health crises and complex medical needs, restricts regional crisis lines from dispatching law enforcement, and expands peer support privilege protections to co-response professionals. The bill also directs the University of Washington School of Social Work to establish a crisis responder training academy by January 1, 2026, with statewide expansion by January 1, 2027, offering optional certification in best practices for crisis response. The Governor signed the bill on May 19 and the bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025. **The City of Tacoma supported this legislation throughout the session.**

Problem-Solving Courts: Problem-solving courts differ from traditional courts in that they focus on a type of offense or the person committing the offense. They offer therapeutic and interdisciplinary approaches to addressing the issues underlying criminal behavior. Therapeutic and community courts are types of problem-solving courts. The City supports increased funding for problem-solving courts, particularly as the need for alternatives to the traditional court system is increasing as a result of the City responsibility for possession of controlled substance and public use of controlled substances cases. The 2023-25 Budget included \$29.6 million to support the set up and operation of therapeutic courts. Unfortunately, the Legislature did not include this funding in the 2025-27 budget.

Community Violence Reduction Programs: The City has implemented, or is in the process of implementing, programs and services focused on reducing community firearm violence. The City requests that the state continue and increase funding opportunities to allow the implementation of community and law enforcement intervention programs to address firearm violence and to provide programs for young people with the goal of violence prevention.

In recent years, Democrats have advanced many progressive gun control policies. The Legislature considered but did not approve [Senate Bill 5098](#), which would have banned firearms at state and local public buildings, parks, playgrounds or facilities where children are likely to be present, and county fairgrounds. **The City of Tacoma supported this legislation and Councilmember Sarah Rumbaugh testified in support of the bill;** however, the bill failed to clear the final cutoff deadline of the legislative session. It is likely that the bill will be reconsidered during the 2026 legislative session.

The Legislature did approve [House Bill 1163](#), sponsored by Rep. Liz Berry (D-36th LD), which establishes a permit-to-purchase system and new training requirements for firearm purchases and concealed pistol licenses (CPLs). Key provisions include mandatory permits for firearm purchases requiring fingerprints, certified safety training, and eligibility checks, as well as enhanced CPL requirements such as live-fire training. Firearm dealers must verify permits and maintain transaction records, while the Washington State Patrol oversees permit issuance, background checks, and annual reporting on permit and CPL data. The Governor signed the bill into law on May 20, and the bill goes into effect on May 1, 2027.

Drug Possession

Adequate Funding for Implementing Drug Laws: The legislative changes to the controlled substance possession offenses require the cities to be responsible for enforcement of these statutes. The City supported the legislation making the possession offenses gross misdemeanors in most cases, based on the emphasis on treatment. The City encourages the state to ensure there are adequate services for behavioral health needs, including access to a continuum of services. The City also encourages the state to direct funding to help offset the cost of implementing the drug possession laws, including funding for staffing; law enforcement assisted diversion; alternative response programs, including co-responder teams; problem-solving courts; and diversion programs.

The Legislature appropriated \$7.7 million to the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) to refund legal financial obligations vacated under *Blake* and an additional \$1.7 million for the activities of the AOC including contracting with cities and counties to disburse legal financial obligations, \$7.6 million to AOC to assist cities and counties with costs to comply with *Blake*, and \$8.6 million to the Office of Public Defense to assist cities and counties with public defense services related to *Blake*. This is significantly less funding than was available in 2023-25.

Funding and Assistance to Address Substance Abuse Crisis: Opioid-related overdoses are the most [common cause of accidental death](#) in Pierce County, taking more lives than traffic or firearm fatalities, due largely to increased use of fentanyl. Opioid deaths in Washington are growing most quickly among people ages 18-24. In response to this growing crisis, the City supports additional resources and technical assistance from the state to help local, state, and federal agencies respond effectively.

During the 2025 legislative session, the Legislature allocated \$77.46 million from the Opioid Abatement Settlement Account to fund prevention, treatment, and recovery services across Washington, with targeted investments in high-need areas such as Pierce County. These funds provide critical support for harm reduction efforts, expanded treatment access, and coordinated public health and safety responses. Key outcomes include:

- **Recovery Navigator Program** – \$19.6 million per year in FY 2026 and FY 2027 was provided to expand this initiative, which offers community-based outreach and case management services modeled after the law enforcement-assisted diversion (LEAD) approach. Recovery navigator teams will connect individuals with substance use

disorders to treatment and recovery resources while also conducting educational outreach, including to retailers experiencing high levels of theft.

- **Street Medicine Teams** – \$2.65 million per year in FY 2026 and FY 2027 was allocated to continue support for integrated, mobile healthcare teams that address the acute and chronic physical and behavioral health needs of unsheltered individuals. Contracts were previously awarded to cities including Everett, Spokane, and Tacoma to provide services such as medical care, mental health support, substance use treatment, infectious disease prevention, and case management.
- **Opioid Awareness and Harm Reduction** – \$6.01 million annually, along with \$1.98 million in federal funds, was directed to statewide opioid awareness campaigns, with a particular focus on educating youth about the dangers of fentanyl. The funding also expands syringe service programs and increases access to naloxone, fentanyl testing kits, and other harm reduction supplies, particularly through community-based providers.
- **Mobile Methadone Units and Telehealth Support** – Over \$12 million in combined state, federal, and settlement funding was allocated to support mobile methadone units that address treatment gaps, particularly in underserved areas. Additional funds support a statewide telehealth hotline providing emergency departments with real-time clinical guidance and follow-up appointment scheduling for opioid use disorder treatment.
- **Behavioral Health Crisis Response** – \$15.4 million from the 988 Crisis Response Line Account was appropriated for the development and operation of three Crisis Relief Centers. These centers will deploy rapid-response mobile teams to deliver urgent behavioral health and substance use services. Funding will be awarded competitively based on geographic need and readiness to operate.
- **Health Engagement Hub Pilot** – \$9.5 million from the Opioid Abatement Settlement Account was provided to pilot health engagement hubs in select locations, including Tacoma. These hubs will offer comprehensive harm reduction services, overdose prevention, and direct access to treatment and recovery supports. The funding also supports technical assistance and program evaluation.
- **Criminal Justice and Reentry Support** – \$10 million from a mix of general fund, criminal justice, and settlement resources was directed to expand access to medications for opioid use disorder in jails and to provide short-term housing vouchers for individuals reentering the community. These efforts aim to reduce relapse and recidivism during the transition from incarceration.
- **Law Enforcement Wellness Programs** – \$5 million was appropriated to support local law enforcement wellness initiatives and improve coordination between state, local, and federal partners responding to the fentanyl crisis. These programs are designed to address the strain on first responders and support overall workforce resilience.

Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention

The City supports legislation requiring the surrender of firearms in cases involving domestic violence and sexual assault, including following conviction and related to orders for protection and no-contact orders. The City supports funding for programs and services to support survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, and encourages the state to ensure there is ongoing funding for these services. The City also supports funding for domestic violence and sexual assault prevention educational programs, such as teach-the-teacher programs. The Legislature approved two notable bills in this space:

Protection Order Reforms: [Senate Bill 5202](#), sponsored by Sen. Jesse Salomon (D-32nd LD), enhances the protection order process to better support survivors of abuse and address firearm restrictions. The bill requires ongoing acceptance of electronic protection order petitions, allows previously protected minors to renew orders as adults, and provides mechanisms to modify or terminate ex parte orders in specific circumstances. It also expands the definition of unlawful firearm possession to include untraceable or undetectable firearms when an individual is under certain protection orders, elevating such possession to a class B felony. Courts of limited jurisdiction must allow electronic and mail submissions for protection order petitions by January 1, 2026, and provide electronic notifications about case progress, including firearm surrender updates and reminders about court appearances. The bill was signed by the Governor on April 22 and goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Hope Card Modernization: [House Bill 1460](#), sponsored by Rep. Dan Griffey (R-35th LD), expands and streamlines the hope card program to improve accessibility, content, and trauma-informed support for protection order petitioners. The bill removes the requirement to include physical characteristics of the restrained person, adds firearm-related restrictions to the card's content, and ensures petitioners can obtain cards without waiting periods or fees. It also mandates the Administrative Office of the Courts to oversee implementation, collaborate with expanded stakeholder groups, and ensure consistent court practices. The Governor signed the bill on May 12 and the bill goes into effect July 27, 2025.

Fire

The City of Tacoma's government affairs team supported Tacoma Fire in several efforts to ensure urban, municipal fire interests had a strong voice in Olympia. Below are those issues impacting Tacoma Fire that were approved by the Legislature:

Wildfire Mitigation Standards: [House Bill 1539](#), sponsored by Rep. Kristine Reeves (D-30th LD), establishes a work group to study and recommend wildfire mitigation and resiliency standards. Co-chaired by the Insurance Commissioner and the Commissioner of Public Lands, the group includes representatives from state agencies, the insurance industry, local emergency management, fire chiefs, small forest and rural landowners,

utilities, and legislative members. Key tasks include aligning wildfire property mitigation standards with national benchmarks, enhancing community-level efforts, improving data sharing, increasing consumer transparency, and proposing a homeowner grant program to support retrofitting homes for wildfire resistance. The Governor signed the bill on May 17 and the bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Emergency Services Theft: [Senate Bill 5323](#), sponsored by Sen. Judy Warnick (R-13th LD), enhances penalties for theft and possession of firefighter and EMS equipment critical to emergency response. The bill classifies theft or possession of such property as first-degree offenses if the loss significantly hinders emergency response or exceeds \$1,000 in value, and expands coverage to property taken from fire department vehicles, stations, and EMS facilities. It aims to address theft of equipment essential to emergency services with heightened penalties. The Governor signed the bill on May 15 and the bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Fire Loss Reporting: [Senate Bill 5419](#), sponsored by Sen. John Lovick (D-44th LD), centralizes fire loss reporting with the Insurance Commissioner and strengthens confidentiality protections for insurers. The bill requires insurers to report fire losses within 90 days of closing a claim or conducting significant adjustments, including details such as property address, date of loss, and cause of loss. Confidentiality protections exempt fire loss reports from public disclosure and civil subpoenas, while allowing limited information sharing with law enforcement and regulatory agencies. The Governor signed the bill on May 12 and the bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Bill Tracking for Bills Pertaining to Safety

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor	Position
HB 1000 (Dead)	Controlled subst. violations	Expanding the circumstances that may constitute a major violation of the uniform controlled substances act.	H Community Safe	Walsh	
EHB 1052 (SB 5038)	Hate crime offense	Clarifying a hate crime offense.	C 249 L 25	Ryu	
HB 1053 (Dead)	Juvenile access to attorney	Concerning juvenile access to an attorney.	H Civil R & Judi	Low	
HB 1056 (Dead) (SSB 5066)	Law enf. misconduct	Concerning law enforcement and local corrections agency misconduct through investigations and legal actions.	H Civil R & Judi	Farivar	
HB 1074 (Dead)	Hit & run/first-time waiver	Excluding any person who is convicted of a hit and run resulting in death from	H Community Safe	Jacobsen	

		being eligible for a first-time offender waiver.			
HB 1086 (Dead)	Motor vehicle chop shops	Concerning motor vehicle chop shops.	H Community Safe	Low	
HB 1087 (Dead)	Criminal endangerment	Expanding the crime of endangerment with a controlled substance to include fentanyl and other high-potency synthetic opioids.	H Community Safe	Graham	
HB 1095 (Dead)	Law enforcement funding	Incentivizing cities and counties to attract and retain commissioned law enforcement officers.	H Finance	Walen	
SHB 1101 (Dead)	Vehicular homicide offenses	Concerning vehicular homicide offenses.	H Approps	Jacobsen	
HB 1118 (Dead)	Firearm rights restoration	Concerning restoration of the right to possess a firearm.	H Civil R & Judi	Simmons	
SHB 1132 (Dead)	Bulk firearm purchases	Enhancing public safety by limiting bulk purchases and transfers of firearms and ammunition.	H Rules R	Farivar	
SHB 1133	Sexually violent predators	Concerning sexually violent predators.	C 48 L 25	Leavitt	
HB 1138 (Dead)	Criminal interview practices	Improving public safety by implementing evidence-based interview practices that increase the reliability of statements collected during criminal investigations.	H Community Safe	Peterson	
HB 1139 (Dead)	Unlawful firearm possession	Promoting public safety and deterring unlawful firearm possession by increasing criminal penalties for unlawful possession of a firearm.	H Community Safe	Low	
HB 1152 (Dead)	Firearm storage	Enhancing public safety by establishing secure storage requirements for firearms in vehicles and residences.	H Rules R	Doglio	
HB 1159 (Dead)	Control. subst. endangerment	Concerning the crime of endangerment with a controlled substance.	H Community Safe	Leavitt	
E2SHB 1163 (SB 5140)	Firearm purchase	Enhancing requirements relating to the purchase, transfer, and possession of firearms.	C 370 L 25	Berry	
SHB 1178 (Dead)	Sentencing enhancements	Concerning sentencing enhancements.	H Rules C	Goodman	

HB 1250 (Dead)	Law enf agency accreditation	Facilitating law enforcement and corrections agency accreditation.	H Approps	Barnard	
HB 1276 (Dead)	Organized retail theft	Concerning organized retail theft.	H Community Safe	Leavitt	
HB 1315 (Dead)	Impaired driving	Concerning impaired driving.	H Community Safe	Donaghy	
SHB 1317 (Dead)	Sentences/offenses before 21	Concerning persons serving long sentences for offenses committed prior to reaching 21 years of age.	H Rules R	Hackney	
HB 1378 (Dead) (SB 5333)	Eluding & resisting arrest	Concerning penalties related to eluding police vehicles and resisting arrest.	H Community Safe	Shavers	
HB 1386 (Dead)	Firearms tax	Imposing a new tax on firearms, firearm parts, and ammunition.	H Finance	Thai	
2SHB 1399 (Dead) (SB 5364)	Sheriffs, chiefs, etc.	Modernizing, harmonizing, and clarifying laws concerning sheriffs, chiefs, marshals, and police matrons.	H Rules C	Goodman	
HB 1400 (Dead) (SB 5224)	Officer certification	Concerning officer certification definitions, processes, and commissioning.	H Rules C	Goodman	
HB 1413 (Dead)	Opioid reversal purchasing	Prohibiting government purchases of opioid overdose reversal medications from certain entities.	H HC/Wellness	Reeves	
HB 1424 (Dead) (SSB 5005)	Jail system	Concerning transparency, public safety, and independent oversight of the city, county, and regional jail system in Washington state.	H Community Safe	Obras	
HB 1428 (Dead)	Criminal justice assistance	Concerning the county criminal justice assistance account and municipal criminal justice assistance account.	H Approps	Rule	Support
HB 1435 (Dead) (2SSB 5060)	Law enf. hiring grants	Creating a law enforcement hiring grant program.	H Approps	Abell	Support

HB 1436 (Dead) (SB 5285)	Law enf. officers/increase	Incentivizing cities and counties to increase employment of commissioned law enforcement officers.	H Finance	Abell	
E2SHB 1440	Civil forfeiture proceedings	Concerning seizure and forfeiture procedures and reporting.	C 306 L 25	Goodman	Concerns
HB 1451 (Dead)	SVP civil commitment	Concerning civil commitment of sexually violent predators.	H Community Safe	Griffey	
HB 1452 (Dead)	Vehicle & retail theft	Addressing motor vehicle and retail theft offenses.	H Community Safe	Griffey	
HB 1453 (Dead)	Scrap metal/stolen copper	Protecting consumers by increasing penalties for scrap metal businesses who purchase stolen copper from telecommunication cables.	H ConsPro&Bus	Griffey	
HB 1454 (Dead)	Drug task force funding	Funding multijurisdictional drug task forces.	H Approps	Griffey	
HB 1455 (Dead)	Toxicology lab. funding	Funding the state toxicology laboratories to process submissions for drug and alcohol impairment cases in a timely manner.	H Approps	Griffey	
HB 1456 (Dead)	Law enforcement personnel	Changing conditions, policies, and programs to support specified law enforcement personnel and help in recruiting and retaining law enforcement officers.	H Community Safe	Griffey	
SHB 1498	Domestic viol. co-responders	Concerning domestic violence co-responder programs.	C 345 L 25	Davis	
HB 1512 (Dead) (SB 5521)	Traffic safety	Improving traffic safety.	H Community Safe	Street	
HB 1518 (Dead)	Vehicle collision liability	Establishing liability standards for certain vehicle collisions.	H Civil R & Judi	Reed	
HB 1548 (Dead)	Cannabis retail robberies	Deterring robberies from cannabis retail establishments.	H Community Safe	Rule	
SHB 1592 (Dead) (SB 5404)	Public defense services	Concerning public defense services.	H Approps	Peterson	Support

HB 1740 (Dead) (SSB 5584)	Oil expansion/prosecutions	Expanding the office of independent investigations to include prosecutions of criminal conduct.	H Community Safe	Stonier	
HB 1786 (Dead)	Public safety facilities	Adding public safety facilities to the allowable uses of revenues for local infrastructure financing projects.	H Finance	Volz	
SHB 1811	Crisis co-response	Enhancing crisis response services through co-response integration and support.	C 346 L 25	Salahuddin	Support
HB 1896 (Dead)	Local law enf. officers	Increasing local law enforcement officers by authorizing a local sales and use tax credited against the state portion to hire additional officers and increasing the number of basic law enforcement courses offered by the criminal justice training commission.	H Finance	Abell	
HB 1897 (Dead)	Community safety/liability	Concerning liability protections for community public safety programs.	H Civil R & Judi	Obras	
ESHB 2015	Public safety funding	Improving public safety funding by providing resources to local governments and state and local criminal justice agencies, and authorizing a local option tax.	C 350 L 25	Entenman	Support
SSB 5005 (Dead) (HB 1424)	Jail system	Concerning transparency, public safety, and independent oversight of the city, county, and regional jail system in Washington state.	S Ways & Means	Saldana	
SSB 5027 (Dead)	Law school loan repayment	Establishing a loan repayment program for public defense attorneys and prosecutors.	S Ways & Means	Torres	
SB 5038 (Dead) (EHB 1052)	Hate crime offense	Clarifying a hate crime offense.	S Law & Justice	Dhingra	
SSB 5052 (Dead)	Law enf. juvenile contact	Modifying law enforcement ability to contact juvenile witnesses and victims not	S Rules X	Salomon	Neutral

		suspected of criminal involvement or activity.			
SB 5056 (Dead)	WSP firearms records system	Concerning Washington state patrol providing firearm background checks when state record systems are unavailable.	S Law & Justice	Wagoner	
2SSB 5060 (Dead) (HB 1435)	Law enforcement personnel	Creating a law enforcement hiring grant program.	S Rules X	Holy	Support
SSB 5066 (Dead) (HB 1056)	Law enf. misconduct	Concerning law enforcement and local corrections agency misconduct through investigations and legal actions.	S Ways & Means	Hansen	
SSB 5067 (Dead)	Impaired driving	Concerning impaired driving.	S Rules X	Lovick	
SB 5068 (Dead)	Public employ. eligibility	Concerning agencies, firefighters, prosecutors, and general or limited authority law enforcement, extending eligibility for employment to all United States citizens or persons legally authorized to work in the United States under federal law.	S Rules 3	Lovick	Support
SSB 5071 (Dead)	Synthetic opioids/endanger.	Updating the endangerment with a controlled substance statute.	S Rules 3	Braun	
E2SSB 5098 (Dead)	Weapons in certain areas	Restricting the possession of weapons on the premises of state or local public buildings, parks or playground facilities where children are likely to be present, and county fairs and county fair facilities.	S Rules 3	Valdez	Support
SSB 5099 (Dead)	Firearms dealers	Protecting the public from gun violence by establishing additional requirements for the business operations of licensed firearms dealers.	S Ways & Means	Lovick	
SSB 5101	Worker leave/hate crimes	Expanding access to leave and safety accommodations to include workers who are victims of hate crimes or bias incidents.	C 375 L 25	Valdez	

SB 5140 (Dead) (E2SHB 1163)	Firearm purchase	Enhancing requirements relating to the purchase, transfer, and possession of firearms.	S Law & Justice	Liias	
SB 5150 (Dead)	Juvenile access to attorney	Concerning juvenile access to an attorney.	S Human Services	Gildon	
SSB 5156 (Dead)	Elevators/smaller apartments	Concerning elevator standards in smaller apartment buildings.	S Rules 3	Salomon	
ESSB 5202	Judicial orders	Ensuring the efficacy of judicial orders as harm reduction tools that increase the safety of survivors of abuse and support law enforcement in their efforts to enforce the law.	C 122 L 25	Salomon	
SB 5213 (Dead)	Fentanyl possession	Penalizing the possession of fentanyl.	S Law & Justice	McCune	
SB 5224 (HB 1400)	Officer certification	Concerning officer certification definitions, processes, and commissioning.	C 349 L 25	Lovick	
SB 5230 (Dead)	Juvenile attorney exceptions	Providing exceptions for juvenile access to attorney.	S Human Services	Wagoner	
SSB 5238 (Dead)	Reckless driving, speed	Addressing reckless driving in cases involving excessive speed.	S Rules 3	Muzzall	
ESSB 5268 (Dead)	Unlawful firearm possession	Classifying unlawful possession of a firearm as a violent offense.	S Rules 3	Wagoner	
SB 5273 (Dead)	Violence prevention services	Concerning the availability of community violence prevention and intervention services.	S Health & Long-	Orwall	
SB 5285 (Dead) (HB 1436)	Law enf. officers/increase	Incentivizing cities and counties to increase employment of commissioned law enforcement officers.	S Loc Gov	Holy	
SSB 5290 (Dead)	Controlled subs. dismissal	Allowing persons who complete substance abuse programs to seek dismissal of certain controlled substance related charges.	S Rules X	Salomon	
SB 5333 (Dead) (HB 1378)	Eluding & resisting arrest	Concerning penalties related to eluding police vehicles and resisting arrest.	S Law & Justice	Lovick	

SB 5347 (Dead)	Organized retail theft	Concerning organized retail theft.	S Law & Justice	Fortunato	
SB 5348 (Dead)	Organized retail theft	Creating a sentencing enhancement for organized retail theft.	S Law & Justice	Fortunato	
2SSB 5356	Criminal justice trainings	Concerning training provided by the criminal justice training commission.	C 125 L 25	Orwall	
SB 5364 (Dead) (2SHB 1399)	Sheriffs, chiefs, etc.	Modernizing, harmonizing, and clarifying laws concerning sheriffs, chiefs, marshals, and police matrons.	S Law & Justice	Lovick	
SSB 5367 (Dead)	Law enf. community grants	Concerning grant programs fostering community engagement through law enforcement-community partnerships and immersion.	S Ways & Means	Orwall	Support
SB 5404 (Dead) (SHB 1592)	Public defense services	Concerning public defense services.	S Law & Justice	Trudeau	
SB 5417 (Dead) (ESHB 1423)	Vehicle noise cameras	Authorizing the use of automated vehicle noise enforcement cameras in vehicle-racing camera enforcement zones.	S Transportation	Lovick	
SB 5453 (Dead) (HB 1956)	Public defense recruitment	Concerning public defense recruitment and retention.	S Ways & Means	Slatter	
SSB 5584 (Dead) (HB 1740)	Independent prosecutor	Expanding the office of independent investigations to include prosecutions of criminal conduct.	S Ways & Means	Dhingra	Support
SB 5624 (Dead)	Electric vehicle fires	Developing best practices for responding to electric vehicle fires.	S Ways & Means	Wilson	
SB 5757 (Dead)	Auto. traffic safety revenue	Concerning the distribution of automated traffic safety revenue.	S Transportation	Christian	Oppose
ESB 5775 (Dead)	Public safety/local tax	Expanding local taxing authority to fund public safety and community protection focused programs and services.	S Rules 3	Slatter	

II. Housing and Homelessness

Continuing efforts from prior legislative sessions, the Washington State Legislature dedicated attention to the issue of housing affordability. Throughout the session, Democratic lawmakers concentrated on three key pillars: enhancing housing stability for renters, increasing the overall housing supply, and expanding financial subsidies for housing development. These themes are integrated throughout actions taken by the 2025 Legislature and outlined below.

Housing

Housing Development and Land Use Regulations, Codes, and Policies: Housing issues within the state are not uniform across cities; therefore, there must be flexibility in legislation adopted to ensure cities are able to implement policies in ways that meet the local constraints and needs, as well as minimize displacement. Consistent with this policy, the City supports the state's efforts to increase density.

Land use reform to facilitate housing supply has been a top priority for legislators, and this year was no exception. Many of the bills that made it to the finish line are concepts that have been circulating for several sessions. One of the most notable bills was:

Housing Accountability Act: [Senate Bill 5148](#), sponsored by Sen. Jessica Bateman (D-22nd LD), introduces a state-level review process for housing elements and related development regulations adopted by counties and cities under the Growth Management Act. The bill requires jurisdictions to submit these plans to the Department of Commerce for compliance review, with a decision issued within 90 days, and prohibits noncompliant jurisdictions from denying affordable or moderate-income housing developments without specific exceptions. It also establishes mandatory targeted reviews for up to 10 jurisdictions annually and directs the Department to publish minimum compliance standards within six months of the bill's effective date. The Governor signed the bill on May 13 and the bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Additional land use bills are covered in the Planning Section of this Report under "Additional Legislative Issues."

Condominium Liability: For several years, the City of Tacoma has supported, and the Legislature has been exploring, ways to reduce condominium liability. This session, the Legislature approved [House Bill 1403](#), sponsored by Rep. Jamila Taylor (D-30th LD), simplifying condominium construction and warranty requirements to promote homeownership and streamline development of smaller buildings and accessory dwelling units. **The City of Tacoma supported this bill throughout the legislative process. Councilmember Sadalge testified in support of the bill.** The final version of the bill introduces changes to implied warranties, express warranties, and the applicability of construction standards for condominiums and multiunit residential buildings. It provides an express warranty alternative for certain condominiums, exempts accessory dwelling units from specific construction standards, and

includes transitional provisions phasing in new definitions and standards by 2028. The Governor signed the bill on May 7, and the bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Transit-Oriented Development: The City has been a leader in planning for housing development and welcomes transit-oriented development. As the state engages in a policy discussion on transit-oriented development, the City encourages the state to look at those strategies the City has utilized as a resource, including partnerships with transit agencies and collaboration with a broad range of stakeholders.

The multi-year debate on state-mandated zoning and affordability requirements around light rail and bus rapid transit stops continued in 2025. At the beginning of the session, there were competing bills that focused on the issue of transit-oriented development (TOD). Those multiple proposals narrowed to [House Bill 1491](#), sponsored by Rep. Julia Reed (D-36th LD), which was approved by the Legislature. The final version of the bill requires cities to adopt regulations facilitating TOD in designated "station areas," including minimum floor area ratios and affordable housing requirements. These changes need to be implemented at each impacted jurisdiction's five-year comprehensive plan check in (for Puget Sound jurisdictions, that is in 2029). The bill also authorizes a 20-year multifamily property tax exemption for residential and mixed-use buildings constructed within a station area.

Multifamily Property Tax Exemption: The City closely monitors any legislation pertaining to the multifamily property tax exemption (MFTE). The Legislature approved [House Bill 1494](#), sponsored by Rep. Alex Ramel (D-40th LD), which amends property tax exemption laws for new and rehabilitated multiple-unit dwellings in urban centers. The bill refines definitions, strengthens affordability requirements, enhances administrative oversight, and introduces anti-displacement measures to ensure alignment with housing needs. Key changes include clarifying affordability requirements for exemptions, updating transit proximity criteria, adding tenant relocation assistance provisions, and expanding eligibility for 20-year exemptions to cities with populations of at least 15,000. No new exemptions may be granted after January 1, 2032, and no extensions after January 1, 2046. The bill was signed by the Governor on April 21 and goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Implementation Support: The City requests that the state allow time to implement the recently adopted planning and zoning changes consistent with the comprehensive plan update schedules. The 2025-27 budget includes the following:

- \$22.5 million for local government climate planning implementation
- \$18 million for updating comprehensive plans and development regulations to comply with the Growth Management Act.
- \$1.7 million to increase middle housing.

State Funding for Affordable Housing: The Legislature made significant investments in the state's Housing Trust Fund, allocating substantial resources to subsidize the construction of affordable housing units across Washington. Here are some of the highlights:

- \$605 million for the Housing Trust Fund.
- \$90 million for Connecting Housing to Infrastructure (CHIP) grants to local governments.

- \$14.7 million for recovery residences grants.
- \$9 million for youth shelters and housing.
- \$5 million for low-income home rehabilitation grants.

BIPOC Homeownership: The City supports state efforts to enhance homeownership opportunities among Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities through assistance to homebuyers, including down payment assistance, and modifications to existing programs to support homeownership. The Legislature continued last year’s efforts to improve homeownership opportunities for the BIPOC community by expanding last year’s Covenant Homeownership Program. [House Bill 1696](#), sponsored by Rep. Jamila Taylor (D-30th LD), expands the Covenant Homeownership Program to address racial disparities in homeownership. The bill raises the eligibility threshold from 100 percent to 120 percent of the area median income (AMI) and allows county-specific adjustments based on housing needs. It introduces loan forgiveness for down payment and closing cost assistance loans after five years of repayment for participants with incomes at or below 80 percent of AMI, replacing the prior requirement of repayment upon sale of the home. The bill was signed by the Governor on April 22 and goes into effect on July 27, 2025. Additionally, \$200 million was allocated in the final 2025-27 budget to support this. **The City of Tacoma supported this legislation throughout the session.**

Homelessness Services

Funding for Shelters: The City supports funding for programs and services to assist people experiencing homelessness, including mental health and substance use disorder treatment services. Despite the state’s challenging budget, the Legislature continued to make significant investments to uplift the unhoused population:

- \$200 million for covenant homeownership programs
- \$137 million for Housing Essential Needs program
- \$117.6 million for grants to help local governments impacted by declining document recording fee revenues
- \$111 million for grants for local governments and nongovernmental organizations for homeless housing programs and services
- \$90 million to transition those living in encampments to safer housing
- \$30.4 million for homeless families, youth prevention, and diversion
- \$25 million for grants to support building operations, maintenance, and service costs of permanent supportive housing projects.
- \$22.5 million for housing assistance, including rental subsidies, permanent supportive housing, and low-and and no-barrier housing best for unhoused individuals
- \$6.5 million for the Consolidated Homeless Grant program
- \$1.2 million for foreclosure prevention assistance
- \$1 million for diversion services for those at risk of losing stable housing or are homeless that are determined to have a high probability of returning to stable housing

Additionally, the Legislature considered but did not advance [House Bill 1195](#), sponsored by Rep. Strom Peterson (D-21st LD) requiring Commerce to resolve disputes between applicants

and cities on the siting of permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, indoor emergency housing, or indoor emergency shelter (STEP housing). The bill did meet the chamber-of-origin deadline.

Rights-of-Way: The City supports efforts that honor existing city policy regulating public property near shelter regulations and encourages the state to provide resources to assist in managing the right-of-way.

The Legislature considered but did not advance [House Bill 1380](#), sponsored by Rep. Mia Gregerson (D-33rd LD), which would require any ordinance regulating the acts of sitting, lying, sleeping, or keeping warm and dry outdoors on public property that is open to the public to be objectively reasonable to time, place, and manner. The bills did not advance out of its chamber-of-origin due to concerns that the legislation would result in litigation rather than providing a solution to housing those living within right-of-way. **The City of Tacoma signed in “other” and provided feedback on how the bill could be revised to honor the City’s existing regulatory structure while prompting other communities to better accommodate individuals experiencing homelessness.**

The City of Tacoma is also the beneficiary of the state funding a partnership between the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and the City of Tacoma to remove encampments on state-owned right-of-way within the City’s boundaries. The 2025-27 Transportation Budget includes funding for that program:

\$1,015,000 is provided solely for a partnership program between the department and the city of Tacoma... The program must address the safety and public health problems created by homeless encampments on the department's property along state highways within the city limits. Of the amounts provided in this subsection, \$570,000 is for dedicated department maintenance staff and associated clean-up costs. The department and the city of Tacoma shall enter into a reimbursable agreement to cover up to \$445,000 of the city's expenses for clean-up crews and landfill costs.

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) is also allocated funds to address homeless encampments in the right-of-way statewide. The Legislature appropriated a total of \$9.2 million, including the amount allocated to Tacoma. This is a reduction from the \$13.5 million that was allocated in 2023-25.

Recreational Vehicles (RV): The City supports a statewide response to homelessness issues related to RVs given their potential impacts to the environment and transient nature that allows them to move between local jurisdictions making local enforcement more challenging. The Legislature considered several bills related to abandoned recreational vehicles, including [Senate Bill 5484/House Bill 1653](#), sponsored by Sen. Mike Chapman (D-24th LD) and Rep. Brandy Donaghy (D-44th LD), and [Senate Bill 5363/House Bill 1530](#), sponsored by Sen. John Lovick (D-44th LD) and Rep. Amy Walen (D-48th LD); however, none of these proposals passed into law. As part of the policy package that increased revenues for the transportation budget,

[Senate Bill 5801](#), sponsored by Sen. Mario Liias (D-21st LD), increased the fee for abandoned RVs from \$6 to \$8. The associated funds are deposited into the Abandoned RV Disposal Account to reimburse tow operators and dismantlers for costs related to RV removal.

The Legislature also considered but did not advance [House Bill 1443/Senate Bill 5332](#), sponsored by Rep. Mia Gregerson (D-33rd LD) and Sen. Sharon Shewmake (D-42nd LD), that would allow RVs, along with other types of mobile dwelling units such as tiny homes on wheels, to be allowed on any lot. **The City of Tacoma joined other cities in expressing concerns with these proposals.**

Additional Bills on Homelessness:

Pet-Friendly Emergency Shelters: [House Bill 1201](#), sponsored by Rep. Mari Leavitt (D-28th LD), requires local governments to incorporate companion animal co-sheltering into their emergency management plans and operations. Political subdivisions must identify emergency shelters that can accommodate persons with companion animals, provide companion animal emergency preparedness information on their websites, and ensure compliance with FEMA disaster assistance policies. The bill emphasizes the importance of addressing gaps in public preparedness and co-sheltering opportunities during disasters or extreme weather events. The bill was signed by the Governor on April 21 and goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Homeless Housing Funding: [House Bill 1260](#), sponsored by Rep. Suzanne Schmidt (R-4th LD), modifies the distribution of document recording surcharge funds to ensure cities operating their own homeless housing programs receive proportional shares without county administrative deductions. The bill limits county administrative costs to 10 percent of retained funds and allows cities to use up to 10 percent of their share for administrative costs. It prohibits counties from deducting administrative costs from funds distributed to cities operating their own homeless housing programs. The bill was signed by the Governor on April 21 and goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Homelessness Data Collection: [House Bill 1899](#), sponsored by Rep. Janice Zahn (D-41st LD), revises the state homeless census by removing the annual mandate and allowing the Department of Commerce to set the schedule. The bill eliminates requirements for coordination with federal HUD standards, as well as provisions for an online housing referral system, continuous case management, and an organizational quality management system. Confidentiality protections for personal information remain intact, and the Department must continue to publish annual summary data by county. The bill was signed by the Governor on April 24 and goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Mobile Market Program: [Senate Bill 5214](#), sponsored by Sen. Sharon Shewmake (D-42nd LD), establishes a mobile market program within the Department of Health to expand access to fresh, healthy foods for participants in the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Programs. The program, contingent on funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, aims to support local farmers while

addressing nutritional needs in underserved communities through nonprofit-operated mobile markets. The Department is authorized to define the program through rulemaking and may seek federal approval to allow mobile markets to accept program benefits. The act will take effect on March 1, 2026. The Governor signed the bill on April 22.

Essential Needs Program Expansion: [Senate Bill 5232](#), sponsored by Sen. Claire Wilson (D-30th LD), expands eligibility and funding flexibility for the Essential Needs and Housing Support (ENHS) program. It clarifies that ENHS is not an entitlement program, allows low or extremely low-income elderly or disabled adults to receive support without requiring a referral from the Department of Social and Health Services, and permits the use of funds for direct cash assistance tied to housing stability plans. The bill also aligns administrative expense rates with other Home Security Fund programs and removes certain eligibility requirements, such as citizenship or Social Security number status. The Governor signed the bill on May 20 with a [partial veto](#) removing section five of the bill regarding the expansion of eligibility for the program. The bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Nonprofit Property Tax Exemption: [House Bill 1094](#), sponsored by Rep. Amy Walen (D-48th LD), expands property tax exemptions for nonprofit-owned properties loaned, leased, or rented to government entities or other nonprofits to provide character-building, benevolent, protective, or rehabilitative social services. It clarifies that the sale of donated merchandise by nonprofits is an exempt use if proceeds further the organization's mission. The bill specifies that these changes apply to taxes levied for collection starting in 2026. The bill was signed by the Governor on April 7 and goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Rental Housing

Rental Assistance and Tenant Protections: The City supports rental assistance and tenant protections to keep rents affordable and individuals housed. The City supports state efforts to enact rent stabilization policies. Below are four policies approved by the Washington State Legislature:

Rent Stabilization: [House Bill 1217](#), sponsored by Rep. Emily Alvarado (D-34th LD), caps annual rent increases at seven percent, prohibits increases during the first 12 months of tenancy, and establishes stricter notice requirements for rent increases. The bill includes exemptions for newly constructed units, public housing authorities, and certain nonprofit-owned properties, while also capping security deposits and move-in fees at one month's rent. Tenants may terminate leases without penalty for unauthorized rent increases, and the bill mandates a social vulnerability assessment on the impacts of rent stabilization by 2028. The bill takes effect immediately.

Eviction Notice Procedures: [House Bill 1003](#), sponsored by Rep. Peter Abbarno (R-20th LD), standardizes eviction notice requirements by mandating certified mail sent from within the state to the recipient's last known address. The bill extends the waiting period

for tenants to respond to eviction notices sent by mail from one day to five days and requires termination notices to specify the date by which the recipient must vacate the premises or comply with specified terms. The bill was signed by the Governor on April 11 and goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Tenant Protections: [Senate Bill 5313](#), sponsored by Sen. Jamie Pedersen (D-43rd LD), expands tenant protections by prohibiting rental agreements from including provisions such as nondisclosure agreements about lease terms, class action waivers, mandatory arbitration agreements unless specific conditions are met, or late fees for rent paid within five days of the due date. It also prohibits landlords from requiring tenants to pay rent exclusively through electronic means and clarifies existing restrictions on attorney fees and arbitration agreements. Tenants may recover damages, including up to two times the monthly rent, court costs, and attorney fees for violations, with the bill applying prospectively to leases entered into or renewed after its effective date. The Governor signed the bill on May 7 and the bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Professional Civil Legal Assistance: The City supports funding for civil legal aid services for low-income clients to prevent or mitigate risks of eviction.

Housing Court Commissioners: [House Bill 1621](#), sponsored by Rep. Nicole Macri (D-43rd LD), authorizes superior courts to appoint housing court commissioners to expedite unlawful detainer proceedings and address delays caused by increased eviction filings. The bill allows courts, with county legislative approval, to appoint attorneys as commissioners to handle eviction cases, requiring appointees to undergo training in landlord-tenant law and eviction procedures. Commissioners may perform duties such as holding hearings, issuing orders, and supervising cases under the oversight of superior court judges, with the bill effective immediately upon passage. The Governor signed the bill on May 13 and the bill goes into effect immediately.

Prior Criminal History: The City supports legislation that would ban discrimination against renters based on a prior criminal record. Within [House Bill 1217](#), regarding rent stability, there is an update to RCW 59.18 that includes clarifications around landlord grounds for eviction, including behaviors contributing to habitability issues or rental rule violations (which could loosely incorporate criminal conduct under broader lease terms).

Infrastructure

Infrastructure Investments: To successfully accommodate growth, the City supports increased state resources for infrastructure such as sidewalks, street lighting, green spaces, electric vehicle charging stations, and other infrastructure integral to urban living. Additionally, investing funding in water, sewer, and stormwater infrastructure necessary to the development can help offset rising housing constructions costs to make housing more affordable. The City specifically indicated support for the Connecting Housing to Infrastructure grant program (CHIP) and the Public Works Assistance Account.

The primary source of infrastructure funding for local governments is the Public Works Assistance Account (PWAA), also referred to as the Public Works Trust Fund. The account is funded through a combination of revenue sources, including a statutory allocation of a percentage of certain taxes, repayments from local government loans and interest earned. It also receives funding from bond proceeds when authorized by the legislature. The PWAA is a stable account that is often raided when the state is facing a challenging budget. The 2025 session was no exception. Both the House and Senate budget proposals included sweeps of funds from the PWAA. The Senate proposal took it one step further by diverting the revenue that is otherwise dedicated to the account and using it to pay for fish culverts. Due to the advocacy of local governments around the state, this concept did not advance.

In the 2025-27 budget the Legislature transferred \$288 million from the PWAA to the state's general fund. All the revenues dedicated to the account remain intact and the legislature provided additional bond authority of \$100 million for the 25-27 biennium. Overall, the legislature did not make new investments in infrastructure resources, but they also didn't eliminate existing resources.

As part of one of the state's largest investments in housing infrastructure, the 25-27 Capital Budget includes \$90 million for Connecting Housing to Infrastructure (CHIP) grants.

Sidewalks: See Section 2 re: the Sidewalk Utility.

Bill Tracking for Bills Pertaining to Housing and Homelessness

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor	Position
HB 1003	Service of notice/tenants	Addressing service of notice by mail in cases involving forcible entry and forcible and unlawful detainer.	C 44 L 25	Abbarno	
HB 1075	Affordable housing financing	Expanding housing supply by supporting the ability of public housing authorities to finance affordable housing developments.	C 31 L 25	Walen	
HB 1088 (Dead) (SB 5678)	Residential landlord-tenant	Preparing for revisions to the residential landlord-tenant act by creating a task force and establishing a moratorium on new residential landlord-tenant regulations.	H Housing	Barkis	
HB 1089 (Dead) (SB 5740)	Eviction reform	Preparing for revisions to the residential landlord-tenant act by creating a task force and establishing a moratorium on new	H Housing	Barkis	

		residential landlord-tenant regulations.			
HB 1099 (Dead) (SB 5731)	Tenant assistance program	Creating a tenant assistance program.	H Housing	Low	
E2SHB 1108	Housing cost task force	Creating a task force on housing cost driver analysis.	Gov vetoed	Klicker	
ESHB 1201	Emergency shelters/pets	Identifying accommodations allowing pets in an emergency or extreme weather event.	C 80 L 25	Leavitt	
HB 1204 (Dead)	Senior shared housing	Concerning senior shared housing in manufactured home communities.	H Rules R	Eslick	
EHB 1217 (SSB 5222)	Residential tenants	Improving housing stability for tenants subject to the residential landlord-tenant act and the manufactured/mobile home landlord-tenant act by limiting rent and fee increases, requiring notice of rent and fee increases, limiting fees and deposits, establishing a landlord resource center and associated services, authorizing tenant lease termination, creating parity between lease types, and providing for attorney general enforcement.	C 209 L 25	Alvarado	
HB 1240 (Dead)	Vehicle impounds	Concerning vehicle impounds.	H Transportation	Peterson	
HB 1255 (Dead)	Encampment removal	Funding the removal of illegal and dangerous encampments.	H Local Govt	Jacobsen	
SHB 1353	ADU self-certification	Establishing a self-certification program for accessory dwelling unit project permit applications.	C 22 L 25	Ramel	
HB 1358 (Dead) (SSB 5298)	Mobile home community sale	Concerning the notice of sale or lease of manufactured/mobile home communities.	H Housing	Gregerson	
HB 1365 (Dead)	Mobile home rental assist.	Providing rental assistance to manufactured/mobile home park tenants.	H Housing	Orcutt	

SHB 1380 (Dead)	Public property regulations	Allowing objectively reasonable regulation of the utilization of public property.	H Rules R	Gregerson	
EHB 1403	Condominium construction	Simplifying condominium construction statutes.	C 201 L 25	Taylor	Support
2SHB 1443 (Dead) (SSB 5332)	Mobile dwellings	Concerning mobile dwellings.	H Rules R	Gregerson	Oppose
HB 1480 (Dead)	Affordable housing REET	Allowing all counties to impose a real estate excise tax for the purpose of developing affordable housing, subject to the will of the voters.	H Finance	Ramel	
HB 1494	Multiple-unit dwellings/tax	Concerning the property tax exemptions for new and rehabilitated multiple-unit dwellings in urban centers.	C 164 L 25	Ramel	
HB 1694 (Dead)	City & county REET revenues	Concerning revenues from the excise tax on real estate transactions imposed by cities and counties under RCW 82.46.035.	H Finance	Thai	
2SHB 1696	Covenant homeownership prg.	Modifying the covenant homeownership program.	C 143 L 25	Taylor	Support
HB 1708 (Dead)	Homelessness info. dashboard	Helping local governments provide information about the impacts of homelessness.	H Housing	Stuebe	
HB 1717 (Dead) (SB 5591)	Affordable housing/sales tax	Creating a sales and use tax remittance program for affordable housing.	H Approps	Leavitt	
HB 1732 (Dead) (2SSB 5496)	Home buying by entities	Preserving homeownership options by limiting excessive home buying by certain entities.	H Housing	Thomas	
HB 1763 (Dead) (ESSB 5576)	Affordable housing funding	Providing state funding for essential affordable housing programs.	H Finance	Parshley	
SHB 1808 (Dead)	Homeownership revolving loan	Creating an affordable homeownership revolving loan fund program.	H Cap Budget	Zahn	
SHB 1859 (Dead)	Housing dev./religious orgs.	Expanding opportunities for affordable housing developments on properties owned by religious organizations.	H Finance	Salahuddin	

SHB 1867 (Dead)	Affordable housing REET	Allowing counties or cities to impose a real estate excise tax for the purpose of developing affordable housing, subject to the will of the voters.	H Rules R	Ramel	
HB 1907 (Dead) (SB 5711)	Self-service storage/tax	Defining the rental or lease of individual storage space at self-service storage facilities as a retail transaction for the imposition of business and occupation and sales and use taxes.	H Finance	Peterson	
HB 2022 (Dead)	Landlord-tenant	Concerning reforms of landlord-tenant laws.	H Housing	Richards	
HB 2027 (Dead)	Housing/taxes	Increasing the supply of affordable and workforce housing.	H Finance	Berg	
HB 2067 (Dead)	Document recording fee	Concerning the document recording fee.	H Approps	Manjarrez	
SSB 5082 (Dead) (HB 1429)	Extended foster care/housing	Creating a housing assistance program for youth enrolled in extended foster care.	S Ways & Means	Wilson	
SSB 5222 (Dead) (EHB 1217)	Residential tenants	Improving housing stability for tenants subject to the residential landlord-tenant act and the manufactured/mobile home landlord-tenant act by limiting rent and fee increases, requiring notice of rent and fee increases, limiting fees and deposits, establishing a landlord resource center and associated services, authorizing tenant lease termination, creating parity between lease types, and providing for attorney general enforcement.	S Ways & Means	Trudeau	
SSB 5298 (HB 1358)	Mobile home community sale	Concerning the notice of sale or lease of manufactured/mobile home communities.	C 205 L 25	Frame	
ESB 5313	Rental agreement provisions	Adding to the list of provisions prohibited from rental agreements.	C 206 L 25	Pedersen	
SSB 5332 (Dead) (2SHB 1443)	Mobile dwellings	Concerning mobile dwellings.	S Ways & Means	Shewmake	Oppose

2SSB 5496 (Dead) (HB 1732)	Home buying by entities	Preserving homeownership options by limiting excessive home buying by certain entities.	S Rules X	Alvarado	
SB 5497 (Dead) (2SHB 1195)	Housing & shelters	Concerning compliance with siting, development permit processes and standards, and requirements for permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, indoor emergency housing, or indoor emergency shelters.	S Housing	Alvarado	
ESB 5529	ADU tax exemptions	Amending the county population threshold for counties that may exempt from taxation the value of accessory dwelling units to incentivize rental to low-income households.	C 207 L 25	Gildon	Support
SB 5553 (Dead)	Multifamily housing/tax	Providing a sales and use tax incentive for multifamily affordable housing.	S Ways & Means	Salomon	
ESSB 5576 (Dead) (HB 1763)	Affordable housing funding	Providing a local government option for the funding of essential affordable housing programs.	S Rules 3	Lovelett	
SB 5580 (Dead)	Corp. homeowner registration	Concerning the registration of certain corporations and trusts that own single-family homes and condominium units.	S Ways & Means	Orwall	
SSB 5587	Affordable housing dev.	Concerning affordable housing development in counties not closing the gap between estimated existing housing units within the county and existing housing needs.	C 390 L 25	Cleveland	
SB 5591 (Dead) (HB 1717)	Affordable housing/sales tax	Creating a sales and use tax remittance program for affordable housing.	S Housing	Bateman	
SB 5647 (Dead)	Affordable housing/REET	Providing a real estate excise tax exemption for the sale of qualified affordable housing.	S Rules 3	Alvarado	
SB 5659 (Dead)	Housing shortage/local share	Eliminating each local government's proportional share of Washington's housing shortage.	S Rules X	Goehner	Oppose

SB 5661 (Dead)	Landlord-tenant/preemption	Creating consistency in housing.	S Housing	Goehner	
SB 5696	Mental health treatment/tax	Concerning the sales and use tax supporting chemical dependency and mental health treatment programs.	C 152 L 25	King	
SB 5711 (Dead) (HB 1907)	Self-service storage/tax	Defining the rental or lease of individual storage space at self-service storage facilities as a retail transaction for the imposition of business and occupation and sales and use taxes.	S Ways & Means	Bateman	

III. Jobs

Livable Wage Jobs

Tacoma has established alignment between the City and the local workforce development board, allowing us to braid funding across initiatives to increase impact while leveraging the expertise of the private sector, labor, and technical colleges that make up the workforce board, with the goal of increasing the pool of skilled workers who can compete for high wage jobs. The state should encourage and support similar programs.

Skills Training: The City of Tacoma supports upskilling/reskilling workers to meet the state’s workforce demand. The State Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board is the state agency tasked with advancing skills training programs. The 2025-27 Operating Budget allocated funding for the Career Bridge project, which will strengthen a central resource that helps job seekers discover training paths, credential opportunities, and job-matching tools.

Additionally, the Legislature approved [House Bill 1414](#), sponsored by Rep. April Connors (R-8th LD), which enabled 16–17 year-olds to work more hours in approved work-integrated learning through school programs. Additionally, WorkFirst (Washington’s TANF-based welfare-to-work program) sustained its job-training and employment services for low-income parents.

Eastside Training Center: The Legislature appropriated \$15 million to the Clover Park Technical College for the Eastside Training Center in Tacoma.

Apprenticeship Programs: The City supports apprentice, pre-apprentice programs, and other workforce development programs. The Legislature approved [House Bill 1549](#), sponsored by Rep. Mary Fosse (D-38th LD), modifies responsible bidder criteria for public works projects to enhance compliance with apprentice utilization and training requirements. The bill requires bidders on projects subject to apprentice utilization requirements to submit an apprentice utilization plan, with templates developed or approved by the Department of Labor and

Industries (L&I), and exempts bidders who met utilization requirements on their previous project. It revises training requirements to focus on recent public works experience or completion of specific training, and mandates contracting agencies verify compliance using publicly available information. L&I must publish compliance records and maintain training completion data. Sections of the bill take effect in 2026 and 2027, with phased expiration dates. The bill was signed by the Governor on April 16 and goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Barriers Related to Employment: The City of Tacoma supports programs that remove barriers to employment for vulnerable populations. The Legislature approved [House Bill 1747](#), sponsored by Rep. Lillian Ortiz-Self (D-21st LD), which strengthens protections for job applicants and employees with criminal records under the Washington Fair Chance Act. The bill prohibits employers from inquiring about criminal records until after a conditional job offer, bars adverse actions based on arrest records or juvenile convictions, and requires employers to document specific factors when making decisions based on adult conviction records. It increases penalties for violations, expands exemptions for positions under federal contracts prohibiting hiring individuals with criminal records, and revises enforcement provisions to allow the attorney general to waive penalties for minor violations. The bill was signed by the Governor on April 21 and goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Specific to immigrant and refugee populations, the Legislature approved [Senate Bill 5104](#), sponsored by Sen. Bob Hasegawa (D-11th LD), which prohibits workplace coercion based on immigration status and establishes penalties for violations. **The City of Tacoma supported this bill throughout the legislative session.** The bill defines coercion as threats related to an employee's or their family member's immigration status to deter them from exercising rights under labor laws and treats each act of coercion against each employee as a separate violation. Civil penalties range from \$1,000 for a first violation to \$10,000 for subsequent violations, adjusted for inflation every three years starting in 2028, and are deposited into the supplemental pension fund. It ensures confidentiality for employees during investigations, sets a clear process for complaints and appeals, and prohibits employers from using withheld records to challenge penalties. The act is set to take effect on July 1, 2025.

Economic Development Tools and Supports

To achieve the City goals for the economy and workforce, there must be support for large and small businesses, and increased economic development tools and supports. The Legislature approved [Senate Bill 5677](#), sponsored by Sen. Adrian Cortes (D-18th LD), which standardizes performance reporting requirements and clarifies funding allocations for associate development organizations (ADOs). The bill removes additional reporting obligations for ADOs in counties with populations over 1.5 million, ensuring uniform performance measures statewide. It specifies that the Department of Commerce must submit biennial performance results of ADO contracts to legislative committees by December 31 of each even-numbered year and prohibits the use of state general funds for local matching requirements. The bill maintains the locally matched allocation of up to \$0.90 per capita for urban counties with a funding cap of \$300,000 per organization, and retains the base allocation of \$40,000 for rural counties. The Governor signed the bill on May 20 and the bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025. **The City of Tacoma**

supported this legislation throughout the session. Frank Boykin testified on behalf of the City.

Green Jobs: The Legislature considered [House Bill 1508](#), sponsored by Rep. Kristine Reeves (D-30th LD), to foster economic opportunities via natural climate solutions and ecosystem services—launching pilot markets for carbon sequestration through forestry, agriculture, and wetlands. The bill received a public hearing but otherwise did not advance.

Interstate Licensure Compact: The 2025 Legislature took meaningful steps to expand workforce mobility by passing two new interstate licensure compacts, one for respiratory therapists and another for cosmetologists. These agreements allow licensed professionals in participating states to practice across state lines without obtaining additional licenses, provided they meet the compact’s uniform standards.

[House Bill 1114](#), sponsored by Representative Mari Leavitt (D-28th LD), enacts the Respiratory Care Interstate Compact. Adopted by a growing number of states in response to ongoing healthcare workforce shortages, the compact will enable licensed respiratory therapists in Washington to more easily relocate or travel to meet patient needs in other member states. This is particularly important for supporting hospitals and long-term care facilities in addressing critical staffing gaps.

[House Bill 1023](#), sponsored by Representative Cindy Ryu (D-32nd LD), establishes a similar compact for cosmetologists, estheticians, and related beauty professionals. The compact reduces barriers to employment for relocating military spouses, new residents, and small business owners, allowing them to integrate more quickly into the local economy. It also strengthens consumer protection by establishing shared enforcement and licensing standards among participating states.

An effort to repeal Washington’s participation in the Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact was introduced but did not advance. While some legislators raised concerns regarding reciprocity and certification oversight, the repeal measure failed to gain traction and is expected to return in the 2026 session.

Taken together, these licensure compact developments reflect meaningful progress toward a more mobile, flexible workforce and demonstrate Washington’s commitment to reducing employment barriers, particularly for high-demand and high-turnover professions.

Equity and Diversity

Cannabis Industry: The state has made efforts to establish greater equity within the cannabis industry. The City supports ensuring that these efforts continue and include assistance such as providing technical and financial assistance to social equity applicants to reduce barriers to entry in the industry and help these new businesses thrive.

Cannabis License Restrictions: [Senate Bill 5403](#), sponsored by Sen. Rebecca Saldaña (D-37th LD), imposes new restrictions on financial interest agreements for licensed cannabis retailers to prevent indirect control over more than five retail licenses. The bill broadly defines "financial interest" to include activities such as sharing profits or revenue, coordinating cannabis product purchases, using common branding or intellectual property, operational control, shared marketing and advertising efforts, and shared employment decisions. These provisions apply retroactively and prospectively, with an effective date of January 1, 2026. The Governor signed the bill on May 12.

Cannabis Advertising Regulations: [Senate Bill 5206](#), sponsored by Sen. Drew MacEwen (R-35th LD), revises cannabis retailer advertising regulations to limit content, placement, and proximity to sensitive locations. The bill prohibits advertising within 1,000 feet of game arcades admitting persons under 21, increases allowable signage on licensed premises to four signs on the building's main entrance side, and exempts small signs with general information from advertising restrictions. It prohibits transit-related ads, content depicting alcohol or tobacco, and advertising practices targeting youth, while allowing local authorities to enforce stricter rules. The Governor signed the bill on May 20 and the bill goes into effect on January 1, 2026.

Bill Tracking for Bills Pertaining to Jobs

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor	Position
HB 1016 (Dead)	Veterans/employer incentives	Providing employer tax incentives for the support of veterans and military families.	H Finance	Abbarno	Support
HB 1114	Respiratory care compact	Concerning the respiratory care interstate compact.	C 49 L 25	Leavitt	
HB 1167	Maritime careers task force	Directing the statewide career and technical education task force to consider educational opportunities for careers in maritime professions.	C 252 L 25	Shavers	
HB 1181 (Dead)	Labor standards	Concerning labor standards and the Washington minimum wage act.	H Labor & Workpl	Mena	
E2SHB 1213 (SB 5539)	Paid family & medical leave	Expanding protections for workers in the state paid family and medical leave program.	C 304 L 25	Berry	
SHB 1406 (Dead) (ESSB 5677)	Associate development orgs	Concerning associate development organizations.	H Rules C	Barnard	Support
ESHB 1551 (Dead)	Cannabis social equity prg.	Extending the cannabis social equity program.	H Rules 3C	Reeves	

EHB 1747 (SB 5549)	Job applicants and employees	Expanding protections for applicants and employees under the Washington fair chance act.	C 71 L 25	Ortiz-Self	
SB 5056 (Dead)	WSP firearms records system	Concerning Washington state patrol providing firearm background checks when state record systems are unavailable.	S Law & Justice	Wagoner	
SB 5549 (Dead) (EHB 1747)	Job applicants and employees	Expanding protections for applicants and employees under the Washington fair chance act.	S Labor & Comm	Saldana	
ESSB 5677 (SHB 1406)	Associate development orgs	Concerning associate development organizations.	C 392 L 25	Cortes	Support

IV. Access

Equity & Empowerment

The City of Tacoma supports efforts to advance reforms that address the disparate impacts of systems and institutions on communities of color:

Washington Future Fund: The City supports programs and funding that will help to close generational wealth gaps. **The City signed in support of [Senate Bill 5541](#)/[House Bill 1661](#)**, sponsored by Sen. Yasmin Trudeau (D-27th LD) and Rep. Monica Jurado Stonier (D-49th LD), legislation requested by State Treasurer Mike Pellicciotti to establish a Future Fund Pilot Project to award 40 grants of \$25,000 to eligible applicants for education expenses or the purchase of a home or a business. Eligible applicants include individuals who were born in Washington State, are between the age of 18 and 36, and have been enrolled in either Medicaid or the Children’s Health Insurance Program before their first birthday and at the time of application. The bill did not advance out of fiscal committees, likely due to the significant budget challenges the state faced this session. The bill will likely be reconsidered in 2026.

Guaranteed Income: Many Tacoma families struggle with financial instability. Tacoma launched a guaranteed income pilot program in 2021, Growing Resilience in Tacoma (GRIT), which granted 100 needy families a monthly, no-strings attached payment. The City supports a state guaranteed income program to stabilize needy families and interrupt cycles of poverty, including funding to extend the local GRIT program for an additional biennium. Unfortunately, the 2025-27 Operating Budget did not include funding for this program.

Reparations: The City supports efforts to acknowledge and address the impacts of discriminatory laws and policies on formerly enslaved people and their descendants. As part of the 2025–27 biennial budget signed by Governor Bob Ferguson, the Legislature allocated \$300,000 toward the Charles Mitchell and George Washington Bush Study on Reparative

Action. The study directs the Commission on African American Affairs to examine the historical and ongoing effects of U.S. chattel slavery in Washington State, and to present concrete recommendations.

Election Reform: The Legislature considered several different proposals related to election reform; however, none of them passed into law. The three bills below are likely to be reconsidered in 2026.

[House Bill 1339](#), sponsored by Rep. Mia Gregerson (D-33rd LD), allows local governments to move their elections from odd-numbered to even-numbered years to boost voter turnout.

[House Bill 1750](#), sponsored by Rep. Natasha Hill (D-3rd LD), amends the Washington Voting Rights Act (WVRA) to expand protections against voter suppression and vote dilution for members of protected classes, defined as racial, color, or language minority groups. The bill prohibits election policies or practices that result in, are likely to result in, or are intended to result in a material disparate burden on the ability of protected class members to vote or participate in the political process, without requiring proof of discriminatory intent.

[House Bill 1710](#), sponsored by Rep. Sharlett Mena (D-29th LD), establishes a preclearance process for voting-related changes in political subdivisions designated as "covered jurisdictions."

College Promise: The City supports efforts to create a college promise program that links already existing state-level financial aid and guaranteed admissions programs, and that addresses non-tuition cost barriers and incentivizes postsecondary enrollment and persistence through direct cash assistance, as well as investing in student navigation assistance. The Legislature considered but did not approve [Senate Bill 5442/House Bill 1495](#), sponsored by Sen. Manka Dhingra (D-45th LD) and Rep. Natasha Hill (D-3rd LD), which would have created a regional college promise pilot program in Eastern Washington.

The Legislature approved [House Bill 1587](#), sponsored by Rep. Steve Bergquist (D-11th LD), which allows local governments to establish their own Promise Scholarship within the state's Washington State Opportunity Scholarship program. To receive a Promise Scholarship, a student needs to plan to attend a two-year institution of higher education or a professional-technical certificate or degree program. The local government may adopt separate rules for its program that are independent of the broader state program. **Mayor Victoria Woodards testified in support of this proposal.**

Community Reinvestment: The Legislature previously set aside funding into the Community Reinvestment Account to invest in communities disproportionately harmed by the historical design and enforcement of state and federal criminal laws and penalties. The Legislature continued that work by allocating \$60 million in the 2025-27 Operating Budget from the

Community Reinvestment Account to grants for economic development, civil and criminal legal assistance, community-based violence intervention and prevention services, and reentry services programs. **The City of Tacoma supported this budget investment and submitted written support to the legislative fiscal committees.**

Childcare

Access to childcare is important to Tacoma residents. The City supports funding and policies to expand access to affordable, quality childcare and preschool, including Universal Pre-Kindergarten, as well as early childhood mental health services. The City also supports state efforts to expand quality childcare in underserved areas and for people in the building and construction trades.

The Legislature has been attempting to address the shortage of childcare services as well as the high cost of childcare. Rather than increasing funding for subsidized childcare services, as has been done in years past, the Legislature opted to pass policies with the goal of removing red tape for childcare providers. The Legislature approved [Senate Bill 5509](#), sponsored by Sen. Emily Alvarado (D-34th LD), which establishes childcare centers as an outright permitted use in all zones except industrial, light industrial and open space. They passed [Senate Bill 5655](#), sponsored by Sen. Deborah Krishnadasan (D-29th LD). The bill changes the way occupancy requirements are determined for a childcare center that operates in a dedicated space within an existing building that has more than one use. While a seemingly insignificant alteration, it allows more flexibility to provide childcare services in existing facilities.

In addition to these policy changes, the capital budget allocates \$87 million to Early Learning Facilities grants and, of that amount, \$51 million is available through a [competitive grant process](#).

Arts and Cultural

Arts and Creative Economy: The City supports state funding and policies that support growth of the arts and creative economy. The Legislature supports funds for arts through a variety of grant programs. This session, there were several appropriations through the Building for the Arts Grant program to support projects located in the City of Tacoma:

- \$878,000 allocated to the Tacoma Museum of Glass Phase 1
- \$146,000 allocated to the Tacoma Little Theater Lobby & Bathroom Renovations
- \$878,000 allocated to the TACM Community Gallery and Visual Storage
- \$1.622 million allocated to the Tacoma Urban Performing Arts Center

Additionally, while statewide, Tacoma artists and organizations are eligible for ArtsWA's Art Project grants. The Legislature allocated \$1.2 million to ArtsWA to ensure effective statewide arts and grantmaking coordination.

Bill Tracking for Access-Equity & Empowerment

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor	Position
HB 1033 (Dead)	Childcare local licensing	Authorizing local licensing and regulation of childcare providers.	H EL & Human Svc	Couture	
HB 1082 (Dead) (SB 5279)	Childcare provider qualif.	Concerning qualifications for childcare providers.	H EL & Human Svc	Senn	
HB 1224 (Dead)	Working families' tax credit	Modifying the working families' tax credit by enhancing collection services and increasing participation rates through data-sharing agreements.	H Finance	Thai	
ESHB 1414	CTE careers work group	Improving access to career opportunities for students.	C 61 L 25	Connors	
2SHB 1448 (Dead)	Local elections	Increasing representation and voter participation in local elections.	H Rules R	Gregerson	
HB 1495 (Dead) (SB 5442)	College promise pilot	Establishing a college promise pilot program.	H Approps	Hill	
SHB 1557 (Dead) (SB 5308)	Guaranteed admissions prg.	Establishing the Washington guaranteed admissions program and requiring student notifications.	H Approps	Reed	
HB 1582 (Dead) (SSB 5655)	Childcare centers/buildings	Concerning childcare centers operated in existing buildings.	H Rules R	Caldier	
2SHB 1587	Partner promise scholarships	Encouraging local government partner promise scholarship programs within the opportunity scholarship program.	C 254 L 25	Bergquist	Support
HB 1593 (Dead)	Social equity land trust	Creating the children's social equity land trust.	H Ag&Nr	Reeves	
E2SHB 1648	Childcare qualifications	Modifying childcare provider qualifications.	C 281 L 25	Dent	
HB 1661 (Dead)	Future fund pilot project	Concerning the Washington future fund pilot project.	H EL & Human Svc	Stonier	

(SB 5541)					
2SHB 1710 (Dead)	Voting rights act compliance	Concerning compliance with the Washington voting rights act of 2018.	H Rules C	Mena	
SSB 5106 (SHB 1434)	Eid al-Fitr & Eid al-Adha	Establishing Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha as state holidays.	C 30 L 25	Trudeau	
SSB 5123 (Dead) (HB 1855)	Discrimination in schools	Expanding protections for certain students to promote inclusivity in public schools.	S Rules 3	Nobles	
SB 5308 (Dead) (SHB 1557)	Guaranteed admissions prg.	Establishing the Washington guaranteed admissions program and requiring student notifications.	S Higher Ed & Wo	Hansen	
ESSB 5403	Cannabis industry agreements	Supporting a sustainable cannabis industry. (REVISED FOR ENGROSSED: Limiting financial interest agreements for licensed cannabis retailers.)	C 250 L 25	Saldana	
SB 5442 (Dead) (HB 1495)	College promise pilot	Establishing a college promise pilot program.	S Higher Ed & Wo	Riccelli	
SB 5541 (Dead) (HB 1661)	Future fund pilot project	Concerning the Washington future fund pilot project.	S Ways & Means	Trudeau	Support

Transportation & Infrastructure

Transportation Network: The City is dedicated to building out a local transportation network that supports all modes and is well maintained and safe.

The Legislature considered, but did not pass, [House Bill 1992/Senate Bill 5581](#), sponsored by Rep. Janice Zahn (D-41st LD) and Sen. Sharon Shewmake (D-42nd LD). The proposals require alternative accommodations when recreational trails or shared-use paths are disrupted by highway construction, expands the Department of Transportation's authority to fund active transportation facilities, and integrates complete streets principles into state transportation projects. They also update traffic laws to reflect modern designs and establish clear legal

definitions for roundabouts. **The City of Tacoma signed in supporting this legislation and offered technical feedback to improve the bills. Councilmember Walker signed in to testify, but the committee ran out of time to accept all testimony.**

The City also supported [Senate Bill 5595](#), sponsored by Sen. Emily Alvarado (D-34th LD), which establishes a framework for “shared streets” where pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicles share roadway space under modified traffic rules. The bill allows local authorities to designate nonarterial highways as shared streets, provided they develop procedures for doing so, and permits state highways to be designated as shared streets only if they are primary roads through a central business district. Key provisions include modified right-of-way rules, exemptions from certain existing traffic regulations, and the ability for local authorities to set speed limits as low as 10 miles per hour without requiring a traffic study. The Governor signed the bill on May 17 and the bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Transportation System Revenue Source: As part of the final Transportation Budget and associated revenue, the Legislature imposed a 6-cent increase to the current 49.4 cent rate. The entire higher rate is then inflated 2% each year. Of the increased amounts (both the 6-cent and inflationary increases), 2.5% is distributed to cities and 2.5% is distributed to counties. This revenue-sharing with locals is significant since recent packages have not provided local distributions. The Legislature considered but did not advance alternative transportation revenue sources, such as a road usage charge or highway fee.

The legislature also considered [Senate Bill 5726/House Bill 1921](#), sponsored by Sen. Bill Ramos (D-5th LD) and Rep. Jake Fey (D-27th LD), which would have established a road usage charge. **The City of Tacoma supported these proposals.** After public input on these two proposals, budget proposals chose to advance a gas tax rather than a road usage charge at this time. The road usage charge discussion is likely to continue into future years.

Transportation and Infrastructure Funding: The City supports ongoing and increased funding for transportation and freight mobility grant opportunities including grants that have historically been offered through the Transportation Improvement Board (TIB), the Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board (FMSIB), WSDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Program, and the Safe Routes to Schools Program, and the Climate Commitment Act.

The Legislature continued to fund many of these grant programs:

- \$310.8 million for the Transportation Improvement Board (and increase from 23-25)
- \$83.3 million for Safe Routes to Schools Grants (a slight decrease from the \$98 million in 23-25)
- \$81.7 million for the WSDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Program (a slight decrease from the \$90.7 million in 23-25)
- \$33.2 million is allocated to the Sandy Williams Connecting Communities Pilot Program for projects that reconnect communities bifurcated by state highways
- \$44.2 million for the Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board (a decrease from 23-25)

Telecommunications

Digital Access: The City supports and encourages efforts to increase digital access including access to low-cost internet service, affordable computers, and digital literacy training resources. The Legislature considered but did not advance [House Bill 1503](#), sponsored by Rep. Mia Gregerson (D-33rd LD), which would have transferred the responsibility for digital equity effects from the Washington State Broadband Office to the Office of Equity.

High Speed Broadband: The City supports the extension of pandemic-era initiatives including the Affordable Connectivity Program to promote broadband access in qualified low-income households, including 38,000 eligible households in Tacoma.

The Legislature appropriated \$1.3 billion for broadband grants and loans; \$1.2 billion of this funding was an allocation of federal funds, while \$114 million is state match funding for the Broadband Equity Access and Deployment (BEAD) grants. The Legislature also allocated funds to provide technical assistance to jurisdictions to apply for these grants.

Bill Tracking for Transportation & Infrastructure

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor	Position
SHB 1043 (Dead)	Commute trip reduction	Extending the commute trip reduction tax credit.	H Rules 3C	Wylie	
HB 1256 (Dead)	Public works/made in US	Concerning products manufactured in the United States for the purposes of public works projects.	H Cap Budget	Hill	
HB 1324 (Dead) (SB 5550)	Transportation funding/CCA	Funding the state transportation system using climate commitment act revenues.	H Transportation	Barkis	
HB 1387 (Dead) (SB 5293)	Prevailing wage/public works	Concerning the prevailing wages on public works.	H Labor & Workpl	Schmidt	
HB 1405 (Dead)	Complete streets obligations	Reducing the requirements of complete streets obligations for transportation projects.	H Transportation	Walsh	
SHB 1418	PTBA governing body members	Adding two voting members that are transit users to the governing body of public transportation benefit areas.	C 230 L 25	Timmons	
ESHB 1423 (Dead) (SB 5417)	Vehicle noise cameras	Authorizing the use of automated vehicle noise enforcement cameras in vehicle-racing camera enforcement zones.	H Rules 3C	Donaghy	

SHB 1529 (Dead)	Cities/county road resources	Increasing opportunities for cities to utilize county resources for road construction and maintenance.	H Rules C	Griffey	
E2SHB 1549 (SB 5476)	Responsible bidder criteria	Modifying the responsible bidder criteria for public works projects.	C 63 L 25	Fosse	
HB 1643 (Dead)	Utility facility removal	Supporting transportation system improvements by addressing utility facility removal and relocation responsibilities.	H Transportation	Barkis	
SHB 1690 (Dead)	Water and sewer systems	Assessing the state's existing water and sewer systems.	H Approps	Wylie	
HB 1921 (Dead) (SB 5726)	Transportation revenue	Establishing new sources of transportation revenue based on motor vehicle use of public roadways.	H Transportation	Fey	
SHB 1967	Design-build projects/bonds	Modifying bonding requirements in the design portion of design-build public works projects.	C 103 L 25	Zahn	
HB 1992 (Dead) (SB 5581)	Safe system approach strat.	Implementing safe system approach strategies for active transportation infrastructure.	H Transportation	Zahn	Support
E2SSB 5061 (Dead)	Public works wages	Requiring certain wages in public works contracts to be at least the prevailing wage in effect when the work is performed.	S Rules 3	Conway	Concerns
SSB 5215 (Dead)	Vehicle debris escape	Concerning debris escaping from vehicles on public highways.	S Rules 3	Shewmake	
SB 5220 (Dead)	City small works rosters	Modifying small works roster requirements for cities.	S Loc Gov	Shewmake	
SB 5293 (Dead) (HB 1387)	Prevailing wage/public works	Concerning the prevailing wages on public works.	S Labor & Comm	King	
SB 5476 (Dead) (E2SHB 1549)	Responsible bidder criteria	Modifying the responsible bidder criteria for public works projects.	S State Gov/Trib	Hasegawa	
SB 5581 (Dead) (HB 1992)	Safe system approach strat.	Implementing safe system approach strategies for active transportation infrastructure.	S Rules 3	Shewmake	

ESB 5595 (HB 1772)	Shared streets	Establishing shared streets.	C 300 L 25	Alvarado	Support
ESSB 5627	Safe excavation	Improving safe excavation practices and preventing damage to underground utilities.	C 292 L 25	Ramos	
ESB 5662	Utility connection charges	Concerning the waiver of municipal utility connection charges for certain properties.	C 351 L 25	Riccelli	
SSB 5690 (Dead)	Utility relocation	Concerning actions of the department of transportation to notify utility owners of projects and seek federal funding for utility relocation costs.	S Rules 3	MacEwen	
SB 5726 (Dead) (HB 1921)	Transportation revenue	Establishing new sources of transportation revenue based on motor vehicle use of public roadways.	S Transportation	Ramos	Support

V. Health

Physical and Behavioral Health

Access to Community-Based Behavioral Health Services: The City supports creating greater access to community-based behavioral health services to include substance use disorder, mental health, and dual diagnosis treatment facilities.

There continues to be bipartisan recognition that addressing behavioral health (mental health and substance use) is a key element to improving public safety. Consistent with recent budgets, the Legislature continued to make significant investments in the state's behavioral health system, including:

- \$78.5 million for assertive community treatment (PACT) teams
- \$4.1 million for mental health services for mentally ill offenders in county or city jails and connection to services after release from confinement.
- \$38.1 million for clubhouse programs
- \$17 million for substance use disorder peer supports
- \$61.2 million to support the housing needs of individuals with behavioral health disorders including crisis response teams, housing programs, recovery navigators, stabilization teams, and more.
- \$14 million for substance use or drug overdose prevention campaign
- \$9.5 million for health engagement hub pilot program
- \$5.3 million to continue existing street medicine programs
- \$6.9 million to expand distribution of naloxone to community health programs, other community settings, and first responders

- \$2 million to increase access to buprenorphine
- \$2.7 million to launch a tele-buprenorphine hotline to increase access to medications for opioid use disorder
- \$4.5 million for young adult post inpatient housing

Individuals also find themselves interacting with the state's behavioral health system if they are suspected of committing a crime, and a court determines that they are incompetent to stand trial. The recent *Trueblood* court settlement found that the state failed to provide timely competency evaluations and restoration services to such individuals. The state allocated \$14.3 million to improve the timeliness of competency evaluation services in local jails, among other investments to comply with *Trueblood*.

988: The City supports the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline and the need to develop a robust system to triage, provide rapid response, follow-up services, as well as to coordinate 911, law enforcement, and behavioral health.

The Legislature considered, but did not advance, two proposals that would have provided an increase in funding to the 988 system. [House Bill 1581](#), sponsored by Rep. Mia Gregerson (D-33rd LD), would have increased the tax on all wired, wireless, and VoIP lines from .40 per line to .70 per line to raise funds for the 988 system. The bill was introduced, but did not receive a public hearing. [Senate Bill 5762](#), sponsored by Sen. Tina Orwall (D-33rd LD), would have introduced the same tax from .40 per line to .60 per line.

Behavioral Health Workforce: The City encourages the legislature to advance policies and funding that support a behavioral health workforce:

Please see the summary of House Bill 1181 under Safety – Alternative Response Teams, which provides a training program for co-responders in crisis tactics, safety, and cultural responsiveness.

Additionally, the Legislature approved [House Bill 1427](#), sponsored by Rep. Lauren Davis (D-32nd LD), which establishes certification standards for peer support specialists in the behavioral health system, replacing references to "peer counselors." Certification is required for Medicaid and health carrier billing by January 2027, with training courses and supervised experience mandated for certification. The bill expands the role of peer support specialists in crisis response systems and caps certification fees at \$100 through 2030. The bill was signed by the Governor on May 19 and goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Programs to Support Vulnerable Populations: The City supports funding for programs that serve our most vulnerable populations, including Housing & Essential Needs (HEN) and Aged, Blind, and Disabled (ABD) Cash Assistance Program.

The final 2025-27 Operating Budget allocated \$130.6 million to the Housing & Essential Needs Program. This is a slight increase in funding from the 2023-25 Operating budget, which allocated \$119.2 million.

In 2023, the Legislature passed a law eliminating the requirement that recipients of Aged, Blind, and Disabled assistance payments pay the state back if they also receive federal Social Security Income (SSI) payments for the same time period as the state assistance. This session, the Legislature approved [House Bill 2040](#), sponsored by Rep. Nicole Macri (D-43rd LD), which delays this policy until 2028, thereby saving the state approximately \$66 million in assistance funds. The Statewide Poverty Action Network strongly opposed this proposal, arguing that people on the Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD) program are some of the most vulnerable members of our community and they are unable to work to provide for themselves. Continuing to make them pay back their ABD benefits to the state for another three years will make it very hard for them to meet their basic needs. These individuals rely on these lump-sum federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments to pay off debts, put down a deposit on a rental housing unit, and make other necessary purchases they have been putting off for a long time.

Bill Tracking for Physical and Behavioral Health

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor	Position
HB 1094 (SB 5697)	Social services/property tax	Providing a property tax exemption for property owned by a qualifying nonprofit organization and loaned, leased, or rented to and used by any government entity to provide character-building, benevolent, protective, or rehabilitative social services.	C 16 L 25	Walen	
HB 1148 (Dead)	Youth athletics/sales tax	Exempting goods and services provided by youth athletic facilities from sales and use tax.	H Finance	Schmidt	
E2SHB 1218 (Dead)	Competency eval. & restor.	Concerning persons referred for competency evaluation and restoration services.	H Rules 3C	Farivar	
EHB 1574 (Dead)	Substance use/care, services	Protecting access to life-saving care and substance use services.	H Rules 3C	Macri	
SHB 1996 (Dead)	Behavioral health diversion	Authorizing a qualified county to impose a tax for the funding of behavioral	H Rules R	Farivar	

		health diversion from the criminal justice system.			
SB 5126 (Dead) (HB 1547)	Student mental health net.	Establishing a statewide network for student mental and behavioral health.	S EL/K-12	Nobles	
SB 5762 (Dead)	988 line tax	Increasing the statewide 988 behavioral health crisis response and suicide prevention line tax.	S Ways & Means	Orwall	

Environment

State Funding for Local Climate Efforts: The City encourages the state to allocate a portion of the funding generated through the Climate Commitment Act to cities for activities and projects identified in locally developed Climate Action Plans.

The Legislature made the following investments in the 2025-27 budgets:

- \$22.5 million for local government climate planning implementation
- \$5 million to support local governments in siting and permitting clean energy projects
- \$13 million to assist owners of public buildings to conduct energy audits
- \$10 million to assist local governments, local organizations, and tribes to access federal tax incentives and grants

Additionally, the Legislature approved [House Bill 1975](#), sponsored by Rep. Joe Fitzgibbon (D-34th LD), which amends Washington’s Climate Commitment Act to refine auction price containment mechanisms, ceiling prices, and the Department of Ecology’s authority to amend rules for linkage with other jurisdictions. The bill requires the Department to conduct market dynamic analysis, perform economic modeling, and adjust compliance obligations and reporting deadlines to ensure program implementability. It establishes a fixed price ceiling for 2026–2027, introduces flexibility in emissions reporting deadlines, and includes funding and severability provisions. The Governor signed the bill on May 17 and the bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Environmental Justice: The City encourages the state to implement policies and provide funding to advance environmental justice and to ensure environmental justice considerations factor into policy decision-making. The Climate Commitment Act requires that 35-40% of funds generated through the Climate Commitment Act are allocated to overburdened communities. The Legislature continued to honor this commitment through fund allocations in the 2025-27 budgets.

Additionally, the Legislature considered but did not advance [House Bill 1303](#) and [Senate Bill 5380](#), sponsored by Sen. Sharlett Mena (D-29th LD) and Sen. Liz Lovelett (D-40th LD), which

would have integrated environmental justice into the State Environmental Protection Act (SEPA), requiring lead agencies to complete an environmental justice impact statement. The bill is likely to be reconsidered during the 2026 legislative session.

Electric Vehicles: The City encourages the state to support funding for vehicle and bicycle electrification, including continuing to offer the e-bike incentive program with additional funding. The City supports efforts to support zero emissions truck program to provide equitable access to heavy duty electric trucks and high speed truck charging to ensure highly impacted communities in Tacoma benefit from the Climate Commitment Act. The City supports state funding related to establishing electric vehicle charging stations, including accessible vehicle charging stations, and related necessary infrastructure improvements.

The Legislature continued to allocate grant funds to advance the state's electric vehicle system. The 2025-27 budgets allocated \$25 million for clean alternative fuel vehicle charging and refueling infrastructure, and \$3.5 million for an e-bike lending library and ownership program offering competitive grants. This is a reduction in similar investments that were made in the 2023-25 biennium.

Climate Adaptation: The City encourages policies and investments that support the City in preparing for the changes occurring due to climate change. The 2025 Legislature allocated \$1.9 million for coastal hazard monitoring and resilience, including grant technical assistance to local governments and tribes.

Carbon: The City encourages policies and investments that reduce the carbon intensity of new and existing buildings, including expanding energy efficiency, electrification through heat pumps, green building standards, upgrades to public buildings, and other measures. The 2025-27 capital budget includes \$20 million for the [Energy Retrofits for Public Buildings Grant program](#). Of that amount, \$11 million is available for the Department of Commerce to issue on a competitive basis. An additional \$20 million is allocated to a [Solar and Energy Storage Grant program](#) to support installation and planning work for solar storage systems at community buildings so they can provide essential services when the power goes out. The state budget does not support maintenance for public facilities, but these grant programs are designed to help alleviate some of the cost of energy efficiency and resiliency upgrades.

Additionally, the Legislature approved [House Bill 1543](#), sponsored by Rep. Beth Doglio (D-22nd LD), expanding compliance options for building owners under Washington's clean buildings performance standards. The bill allows the Department of Commerce to develop alternative metrics for energy use and greenhouse gas emissions, alongside existing energy use intensity (EUI) targets, and provides conditional compliance pathways for building owners who meet these alternative metrics. It broadens exemptions for compliance, including historic preservation and financial hardship, and introduces requirements for Tier 2 buildings, such as benchmarking and operations planning, while prohibiting penalties from being passed on to tenants. The Governor signed the bill on May 13 and the bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Investments to Improve Fish Passage and Water Quality: The City encourages investments in local culvert and stormwater projects to improve fish passage and water quality. The primary source of funding for local fish culverts is the Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board. The grant program is administered jointly by the Recreation and Conservation Office and the Department of Fish & Wildlife. Every two years the Board administers a competitive grant process and provides a prioritized list of local fish culvert projects for the legislature to consider for funding. Click [here](#) to see the recommended list for the 2025 grant cycle. This year the legislature allocated \$32.5 million to the program which supports fish passage for [13 local projects](#) around the state. This funding is lower than the 2023 level of investment which was the high-water mark for this program at \$48.4 million. This year's investment funds 24% of the projects that requested funding and 46% of the total amount of funds requested.

Reuse and Recycling: The City encourages policies and investments that prevent waste and create opportunities for reuse and recycling markets, including extended producer responsibility and product stewardship models. The Legislature enacted the following bills to encourage reuse and recycling:

Extended Producer Responsibility: After several years of consideration, the Legislature approved a statewide extended producer responsibility program. [Senate Bill 5284](#), sponsored by Sen. Liz Lovelett (D-40th LD), establishes an extended producer responsibility (EPR) program for consumer packaging and paper products. This requires producers to manage these materials throughout their lifecycle, emphasizing recycling and reuse. The legislation also seeks to expand curbside recycling access, especially in rural and multifamily areas, and introduces new regulations for managing recyclable and compostable materials. **The City joined stakeholders on coalition letters in support of the bill and signed in support of the bill at public hearings throughout the legislative process.**

Organic Waste Management: [House Bill 1497](#), sponsored by Rep. Beth Doglio (D-22nd LD), establishes new standards for organic waste management across jurisdictions, businesses, schools, and multifamily buildings. Key provisions include mandatory color-coded waste collection containers by 2028, phased organic waste collection for multifamily residences, and penalties for businesses generating significant organic waste that fail to comply with management requirements. The bill also promotes food waste reduction in schools, expands farm-to-school programs, and updates the state building code to ensure sufficient space for organic waste collection in new buildings. The Governor signed the bill on May 17 and the bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Photovoltaic Module Recycling: [Senate Bill 5175](#), sponsored by Sen. Sharon Shewmake (D-42nd LD), extends deadlines for photovoltaic module stewardship plans and establishes an advisory committee to recommend program improvements with a focus on environmental justice. Manufacturers must submit stewardship plans by January 31, 2030, or within 30 days of their first sale, and sales without an approved plan are prohibited after January 31, 2031. The advisory committee, supported by an

independent consultant, will develop recommendations for a safe and equitable recycling system, with a report due to the legislature by December 1, 2028. The bill was signed by the Governor on April 22 and goes into effect on June 30, 2025.

Nutrients: Ecology previously issued a Puget Sound Nutrient General Permit, which regulates wastewater effluent in the Puget Sound and would have required many wastewater treatment plants to undergo significant and expensive upgrades to comply.

In March, the Pollution Control Hearings Board issued a decision that the Department of Ecology did not have the authority to issue a mandatory nutrients general permit in addition to the requirements of individual wastewater treatment plant discharge permits. Ecology has announced it is not appealing the decision and that the former general permit requirements for nutrients are now voluntary for permittees. Since then, Ecology plans to release a proposed voluntary general permit for public comment this month and intends to implement it by the end of the year.

The Legislature appropriated \$10 million in the 2025-27 Operating Budget for grants to local jurisdictions to reduce nutrients in Wastewater Treatment Plants.

Biosolids: The Legislature approved [Senate Bill 5033](#), sponsored by Sen. Jeff Wilson (R-19th LD), which establishes requirements for PFAS sampling, testing, and reporting in biosolids. The Department of Ecology must publish guidance on sampling requirements by July 1, 2026, and facilities generating biosolids must conduct quarterly sampling for PFAS chemicals starting in 2027, with results due by September 30, 2028. The bill also requires an advisory committee to provide input on testing standards and directs the Department of Ecology to report PFAS levels and recommendations to the Legislature by July 1, 2029.

Bill Tracking for Environment

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor	Position
SHB 1015 (Dead)	Energy labeling/residential	Concerning energy labeling of residential buildings.	H Rules C	Duerr	Neutral
SHB 1071 (Dead) (SB 5058)	Recycling rates	Implementing strategies to achieve higher recycling rates within Washington's existing solid waste management system.	H Approps	Fey	Neutral
HB 1107 (Dead)	Fashion environmental impact	Concerning environmental impacts of fashion.	H Env & Energy	Mena	
HB 1117 (Dead)	Motor vehicle emissions	Removing the delegation of authority related to California motor vehicle emissions standards to generate new transportation	H Env & Energy	Barkis	

		revenue for the state by reducing administration burdens on the government and the people.			
HB 1134 (Dead)	Schools/resource conserv.	Promoting resource conservation practices in public schools.	H Education	Bergquist	
2SHB 1150 (Dead) (E2SSB 5284)	Solid waste management	Improving Washington's solid waste management outcomes.	H Rules R	Berry	Support
HB 1153 (Dead)	Urban forest management	Concerning urban forest management ordinances.	H Ag&Nr	Duerr	
HB 1290 (Dead)	Water quality trading prog.	Improving climate resiliency through the development of a water quality trading program for recipients of national pollutant discharge elimination system general permits.	H Env & Energy	Dye	
2SHB 1303 (Dead) (SB 5380)	Environmental justice	Increasing environmental justice by improving government decisions.	H Rules R	Mena	
SHB 1420 (Dead)	Textile producers	Establishing producer responsibility for textiles.	H Approps	Reeves	
E2SHB 1422 (Dead)	Drug take-back program	Modifying the drug take-back program.	C 215 L 25	Peterson	
2SHB 1458 (Dead)	Embodied carbon/buildings	Reducing embodied carbon emissions of buildings and building materials.	H Approps	Duerr	
2SHB 1462 (SB 5438)	Hydrofluorocarbons	Reducing greenhouse gas emissions associated with hydrofluorocarbons.	C 313 L 25	Duerr	
ESHB 1483 (SB 5423)	Digital electronics/repair	Supporting the servicing and right to repair of certain products with digital electronics in a secure and reliable manner to increase access and affordability for Washingtonians.	C 353 L 25	Gregerson	
2SHB 1497	Waste material management	Improving outcomes associated with waste material management systems.	C 314 L 25	Doglio	

SHB 1543 (SSB 5514)	Clean buildings standard	Increasing compliance pathways for the clean buildings performance standard.	C 264 L 25	Doglio	
SHB 1550 (Dead) (SB 5586)	Electric vehicle batteries	Improving the end-of-life management of electric vehicle batteries.	H Rules C	Street	
2SHB 1607 (Dead) (2SSB 5502)	Recycling & waste reduction	Concerning recycling and waste reduction.	H 2nd Reading	Stonier	
HB 1652 (Dead) (SB 5519)	Ocean vessels/environment	Reducing environmental impacts associated with the operation of certain ocean-going vessels.	H Env & Energy	Lekanoff	
SHB 1670 (SSB 5450)	Sewage-containing spills	Increasing transparency regarding sewage-containing spills.	C 315 L 25	Hunt	
HB 1678 (Dead)	Sewage discharge fee	Providing funding for enhanced wastewater treatment infrastructure for salmon recovery.	H Approps	Dye	
HB 1689 (Dead)	Emissions/vessels at berth	Adopting emission standards for ocean-going vessels at berth.	H Env & Energy	Reed	
HB 1749 (Dead)	SEPA considerations	Ensuring consideration of climate change, carbon sequestration, environmental health disparities, and treaty-protected and cultural resources in the state environmental policy act.	H Env & Energy	Pollet	
HB 1901 (Dead)	Mattress producer resp.	Concerning mattress producer responsibility organizations.	H Env & Energy	Hunt	
SSB 5033	Biosolids/PFAS chemicals	Concerning sampling or testing of biosolids for PFAS chemicals.	C 317 L 25	Wilson	
SB 5045 (Dead)	Battery stewardship/EVs	Expanding the state battery stewardship program to include electric vehicle batteries.	S Environment, E	Wilson	
SB 5058 (Dead) (SHB 1071)	Recycling rates	Implementing strategies to achieve higher recycling rates within Washington's existing solid waste management system.	S Environment, E	Chapman	
SB 5088 (Dead)	Public utility tax, counties	Authorizing counties to impose a public utility tax.	S Loc Gov	Chapman	

SB 5091 (Dead)	Motor vehicle emissions	Concerning motor vehicle emission standards for Washington.	S Environment, E	Boehnke	
E2SSB 5175 (HB 1789)	Photovoltaic modules	Concerning the photovoltaic module stewardship and takeback program.	C 126 L 25	Shewmake	
E2SSB 5284 (2SHB 1150)	Solid waste management	Improving Washington's solid waste management outcomes.	C 316 L 25	Lovelett	Support
SB 5423 (Dead) (ESHB 1483)	Digital electronics/repair	Supporting the servicing and right to repair of certain products with digital electronics in a secure and reliable manner.	S Rules X	Stanford	
SB 5438 (Dead) (2SHB 1462)	Hydrofluorocarbons	Reducing greenhouse gas emissions associated with hydrofluorocarbons.	S Environment, E	Lovelett	
SSB 5450 (Dead) (SHB 1670)	Sewage-containing spills	Increasing transparency regarding sewage-containing spills.	S Ways & Means	Slatter	
SSB 5514 (Dead) (SHB 1543)	Clean buildings standard	Increasing compliance pathways for the clean buildings performance standard.	S Rules X	Shewmake	
SB 5519 (Dead) (HB 1652)	Ocean vessels/environment	Reducing environmental impacts associated with the operation of certain ocean-going vessels.	S Environment, E	Lovelett	
SB 5586 (Dead) (SHB 1550)	Electric vehicle batteries	Improving the end-of-life management of electric vehicle batteries.	S Environment, En	Stanford	
SSB 5703 (Dead)	Municipal solid waste	Concerning fair treatment of municipal solid waste systems.	S Rules X	Holy	

VI. Additional Policy Positions

Fiscal Issues

State-Shared Revenue: The City supports efforts to protect and enhance state-shared revenues, including but not limited to liquor taxes, cannabis excise taxes, and the Municipal Criminal Justice Assistance Account. The Legislature maintained these traditional state-shared revenues:

- \$98.9 million – Liquor Profits

- \$88 million – Liquor Taxes
- \$44.2 million – Cannabis Excise Tax
- \$60.3 million – Municipal Criminal Justice Assistance Account
- \$43.8 million – City-County Assistance
- \$16.9 million – Fire Insurance Premium Tax

The Legislature considered but did not advance two proposals, [Senate Bill 5547](#) and [Senate Bill 5389](#), both sponsored by Sen. Keith Wagoner (R-39th LD), which would have increased cannabis and liquor revenue distributions. **The City of Tacoma signed in support of Senate Bill 5547.**

Fiscal Sustainability: To assist with providing critical public service needs, the City supports legislation that protects or increases the City’s authority and ability to raise revenue.

See the discussion regarding the 1% Property Tax cap on levy growth in Section 2 of this report, and the discussion on HB 2015 in the Safety Section of Section 3 of this report.

Additionally, the Legislature approved [House Bill 1791](#), sponsored by Rep. Dave Paul (D-10th LD), which removes prior restrictions on using REET funds for operations and maintenance of capital projects and explicitly allows their use for planning, acquisition, construction, and improvement of facilities for affordable housing and homelessness. The bill was signed by the Governor on April 24 and goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

State Infrastructure Bank: The City supports the creation of a state-sponsored financing cooperative option that provides low-interest (less than market rate) public infrastructure financing specifically targeting urban areas to support the creation and retention of livable wage jobs. The Legislature considered but did not pass [Senate Bill 5754](#), which proposed creating a state-run bank for public entities to deposit funds and borrow against the value of these deposits. If passed, it would have made Washington the first state to create such a bank.

Bill Tracking Related to Fiscal Issues

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor	Position
HB 1042 (Dead)	County treasurer costs	Authorizing cost recovery for county treasurers.	H Finance	Wylie	
HB 1100 (Dead)	Local sales and use tax	Creating a local sales and use tax.	H Finance	Jacobsen	
HB 1126 (Dead) (SB 5315)	Local tax rate changes	Standardizing notification provisions relating to local tax rate changes and shared taxes administered by the department.	H Rules 3C	Walén	
HB 1319 (Dead)	Wealth tax	Enacting a wealth tax on the ownership of stocks, bonds, and other financial intangible property.	H Finance	Street	

HB 1320 (Dead)	Business & occupation tax	Modifying business and occupation tax rates to fund programs and services to benefit Washingtonians.	H Finance	Street	
HB 1334 (Dead)	Property tax revenue growth	Modifying the annual regular property tax revenue growth limit.	H Finance	Pollet	Support
SHB 1702 (Dead)	Public utility tax, counties	Authorizing counties to impose a public utility tax.	H Rules R	Wylie	
HB 1704 (Dead)	Cannabis revenue/local gov.	Increasing cannabis revenue distributions to local governments.	H Approps	Schmidt	
HB 1778 (Dead)	State sales tax revenues	Sharing state sales tax revenues with local governments and not increasing the state or local sales tax rate.	H Approps	Dufault	
SHB 1791	Local real estate excise tax	Increasing the flexibility of existing funding sources to fund public safety and other facilities by modifying the local real estate excise tax.	C 159 L 25	Paul	Neutral
HB 1882 (Dead)	State tax on lodging	Imposing an additional temporary state tax on lodging.	H Finance	Cortes	
HB 2018 (Dead)	Solid waste/local government	Concerning solid waste and establishing the local government solid waste assistance account.	H Finance	Doglio	
HB 2043 (Dead)	Transportation resources	Concerning transportation resources.	H Transportation	Fey	
HB 2045 (Dead)	Business and occupation tax	Investing in Washington families by restructuring the business and occupation tax on high grossing businesses and financial institutions.	H Finance	Fitzgibbon	
HB 2046 (Dead)	Intangible assets tax	Creating fairness in Washington's tax by imposing a tax on select financial intangible assets.	H Finance	Berg	
ESHB 2049 (SB 5812)	K-12 education funding	Investing in the state's paramount duty to fund K-12 education and build strong and safe communities.	C 404 L 25	Bergquist	Support
SSB 5085 (Dead)	Closed retirement plans	Concerning three of Washington state's closed retirement plans.	S Rules 3	Robinson	
SB 5088 (Dead)	Public utility tax, counties	Authorizing counties to impose a public utility tax.	S Loc Gov	Chapman	
SB 5138	Public facilities districts	Concerning public facilities districts.	C 376 L 25	Saldana	

SB 5315 (HB 1126)	Local tax rate changes	Standardizing notification provisions relating to local tax rate changes and shared taxes administered by the department.	C 245 L 25	Gildon	
SB 5389 (Dead)	Liquor revenue/local gov.	Restoring liquor sales revenue distributions to local governments.	S Ways & Means	Wagoner	
SB 5547 (Dead)	Cannabis revenue/local gov.	Increasing cannabis revenue distributions to local governments.	S Ways & Means	Wagoner	Support
SB 5650 (Dead)	Cannabis local excise tax	Authorizing a local excise tax on cannabis.	S Ways & Means	Wagoner	
ESSB 5794 (Dead)	Tax preferences	Adopting recommendations from the tax preference performance review process, eliminating obsolete tax preferences, clarifying legislative intent, and addressing changes in constitutional law.	C 423 L 25	Salomon	
SB 5796 (Dead)	Payroll expense tax	Enacting an excise tax on large employers on the amount of payroll expenses above the social security wage threshold to fund programs and services to benefit Washingtonians.	S Ways & Means	Saldana	
SSB 5798 (Dead)	Property tax	Concerning property tax reform.	S Rules	Pedersen	Support
ESSB 5801	Transportation resources	Concerning transportation resources.	C 417 L 25	Liias	
SSB 5804 (Dead)	Fish habitat restoration	Concerning fish habitat restoration.	S Rules 2	Trudeau	
SB 5812 (ESHB 2049)	K-12 education funding	Investing in the state's paramount duty to fund K-12 education and build strong and safe communities.	S Ways & Means	Wellman	Support

Planning

Local Control: The City prioritizes public input and community engagement in local decision-making. The state should honor local decision-making authority and the public processes that support the local decision-making. The City opposes preemption, particularly in areas the City currently has ordinances in place.

The Legislature considered several bills that would have conflicted with city code. Two in particular would have required the City to redo the design review process that the city enacted in December 2024. **The City of Tacoma expressed concerns with House Bill 1160 and**

Senate Bill 5613. Both bills made changes to the state-mandated design review process that was enacted in 2023.

[House Bill 1160](#), sponsored by Rep. Amy Walen (D-48th LD), clarifies that design review processes must use clear, objective, and ascertainable standards, prohibiting subjective criteria. It limits local governments to requiring one architectural drawing set per housing development application and removes the requirement for public meetings during design review. The bill also aligns middle housing regulations with single-family standards, including development permit processes, environmental review, and parking requirements.

[Senate Bill 5613](#), sponsored by Sen. Jesse Salomon (D-32nd LD), amends the Growth Management Act to require cities and counties to adopt clear and objective development regulations and design standards for residential development. The bill defines "clear and objective development regulations" as those involving no personal or subjective judgment by public officials and ascertainable by measurable written or graphic criteria. "Clear and objective design standards" are similarly defined, with the stipulation that they do not reduce density, height, bulk, or scale below generally applicable development regulations. Cities and counties must comply with these standards by January 1, 2029, and the Department of Commerce must publish a model code by June 30, 2027.

The City also expressed concerns with [House Bill 1175](#), sponsored by Rep. Mark Klicker (R-16th LD), which would have mandated that cities allow small businesses to be allowed in residential neighborhoods. While consistent with some of the City's vision on neighborhood planning, the bill had significant limitations on local control of such businesses.

The Legislature approved the following land use bills that are likely to require code changes by the City to implement:

Residential Driveway Parking: [House Bill 1061](#), sponsored by Rep. Sam Low (R-39th LD), allows residential property owners to park vehicles across their driveways if permitted by local ordinances or resolutions. The bill applies only to driveways no longer than 50 feet and ensures that such parking does not obstruct sidewalks, other driveways, or the roadway. Technical changes standardizing numerical references in the statute are also included. The bill was signed by the Governor on April 22 and goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Lot Splitting: [House Bill 1096](#), sponsored by Rep. Andrew Barkis (R-2nd LD), facilitates administrative lot splitting to expand middle housing and affordable ownership opportunities in cities under the Growth Management Act. The bill allows residential lots to be split into two through a streamlined administrative process without predecision public hearings, provided conditions such as compliance with development regulations, mitigation of renter displacement, and restrictions on further splitting are met. Cities with

comprehensive plan updates due in 2027 must incorporate the requirements into their next update, while others must implement them within two years of the bill's effective date (July 27, 2025).

Retrofit Housing: [House Bill 1183](#), sponsored by Rep. Davina Duerr (D-1st LD), facilitates affordable and sustainable housing development by reforming building codes and development regulations. It adjusts setback and roof height limits for retrofits and passive house construction, prohibits façade modulation and upper-level setbacks for certain residential projects, and restricts off-street parking requirements for affordable housing. Additionally, it establishes maximum size limits for affordable housing units and requires local governments to incorporate these provisions into their regulations during their next comprehensive plan update. The bill was signed by the Governor on April 22 and goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Boundary Review Process: [House Bill 1304](#), sponsored by Rep. Brandy Donaghy (D-44th LD), modifies the filing and review process for notices of intention submitted to boundary review boards. It establishes the effective filing date of a notice as the earlier of the chief clerk's sufficiency determination or automatic sufficiency after deadlines. The bill also introduces criteria for sufficiency, procedures for correcting insufficient notices, and mandates timely review, while aligning existing timelines for board actions with the new framework. The bill was signed by the Governor on April 11 and goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Accessory Dwelling Unit Self-Certification: [House Bill 1353](#), sponsored by Rep. Alex Ramel (D-40th LD), establishes a framework for cities to create self-certification programs for accessory dwelling unit (ADU) permit applications. Registered architects may self-certify compliance with applicable building codes for detached ADU projects, streamlining the permitting process. Cities must adopt rules requiring random audits of at least 20% of self-certified applications annually, penalties for failed audits, and professional liability insurance for participating architects. The bill clarifies that self-certified permits are treated as equivalent to those issued after full project review and includes safeguards such as reporting requirements and indemnification agreements signed by property owners, contractors, and architects. The bill was signed by the Governor on April 7 and goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Transit-Oriented Development: [House Bill 1491](#), sponsored by Rep. Julia Reed (D-36th LD), promotes transit-oriented development and affordable housing by requiring cities to allow multifamily housing in station areas near major transit stops and adopt minimum floor area ratios (FAR) for residential and mixed-use development. Rail station areas must have an average FAR of at least 3.5, while bus station areas must have an average FAR of at least 2.5 or 3.0 if up to 25% of bus station areas are exempted. Additional provisions include affordability requirements for residential developments, parking restrictions, a grant program to assist cities, a model TOD ordinance, anti-displacement measures, a surplus property pilot program, impact fee reductions,

property tax exemptions, prohibitions on restrictive covenants, and categorical environmental exemptions for certain developments. The Governor signed the bill on May 13 and the bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Historic Landmark Designations: [House Bill 1576](#), sponsored by Rep. Amy Walen (D-48th LD), prohibits designating properties as historic landmarks without the written consent of the property owner if the designation would restrict the use, alteration, or demolition of the property. The bill requires cities and code cities to adopt or amend regulations within one year to comply with the bill's requirements for properties zoned for residential or mixed use, with automatic preemption of conflicting local regulations if they fail to do so. Exceptions are provided for properties within historic districts established through local preservation ordinances or for properties more than 125 years old. The Governor signed the bill on May 12 and the bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Conversion of Existing Buildings: [House Bill 1757](#), sponsored by Rep. Amy Walen (D-48th LD), facilitates the addition of housing units within existing buildings in commercial, mixed-use, or residential zones by limiting local government restrictions. Cities must adopt ordinances to comply by June 30, 2026, and are prohibited from imposing additional permitting requirements beyond those generally applicable to residential development in the zone, though change of use permits may be required. The bill restricts cities from denying permits based on nonconformities such as parking or setbacks unless significant detriment to the surrounding area is demonstrated and exempts unchanged portions of buildings from energy code compliance solely due to the addition of dwelling units. The Governor signed the bill on May 7 and the bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Building Permit Exclusion: [House Bill 1935](#), sponsored by Rep. Davina Duerr (D-1st LD), excludes building permits from the definition and procedural requirements of "project permits." The bill refines the definition of "project permit" by explicitly removing building permits and adjusts related statutory provisions to align with this exclusion. These changes clarify the scope of project permits and streamline the application of procedural requirements for local governments. The bill was signed by the Governor on April 21 and goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Preemption on Parking Requirements: [Senate Bill 5184](#), sponsored by Sen. Jessica Bateman (D-22nd LD), establishes statewide limitations on minimum parking requirements for residential and commercial developments. Residential parking is capped at 0.5 spaces per multifamily dwelling unit and one space per single-family home, while commercial parking is capped at two spaces per 1,000 square feet. Exemptions are provided for affordable housing, senior housing, small residences, licensed childcare centers, and certain facilities, with accessible parking requirements under the ADA remaining unaffected. Cities and counties may request variances based on safety studies, and areas near major airports are exempt. The bill repeals prior parking requirement laws and directs the State Building Code Council to review

accessible parking standards. Cities and counties with a population between 30,000 and 50,000 must implement the requirements within three years of the effective date of the bill. Cities and counties with a population of 50,000 or greater must implement the requirements of this act within 18 months of the effective date of the bill, which is July 27, 2025. The Governor signed the bill into law on May 7.

Middle Housing Expansion: [Senate Bill 5471](#), sponsored by Sen. Keith Goehner (R-12th LD), authorizes counties to permit middle housing, such as duplexes and triplexes, in urban growth areas (UGAs) and Limited Areas of More Intensive Rural Development (LAMIRDs) under certain conditions. The bill limits development standards and permitting processes for middle housing to be no more restrictive than those for single-family housing and allows up to four residential units per lot in these areas if infrastructure requirements, such as sewer service, are met. It also exempts county actions implementing these provisions from appeals under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) and review by the Growth Management Hearings Board (GMHB). The Governor signed the bill on May 20 and the bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Unit Lot Subdivisions: [Senate Bill 5559](#), sponsored by Sen. Liz Lovelett (D-40th LD), streamlines the subdivision process for residential developments within urban growth areas by establishing procedures for “unit lot subdivisions.” The bill introduces definitions for terms such as “parent lot,” “unit lot,” and “unit lot subdivision” and requires cities and towns in counties planning under growth management laws to adopt regulations allowing unit lot subdivisions. It mandates clear, objective, and streamlined procedures, prohibits public predecision meetings or hearings except where required by law, and specifies implementation deadlines tied to comprehensive plan updates or within two years of the bill’s effective date. The Governor signed the bill on May 13 and the bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Cladding Material Regulation: [Senate Bill 5571](#), sponsored by Sen. Jessica Bateman (D-22nd LD), prohibits cities, code cities, and counties from mandating or excluding specific exterior cladding materials that comply with the state building code, with certain exceptions. Exceptions include historic districts, wildfire safety areas, and jurisdictions with unique architectural themes, such as Bavarian-style requirements. The bill also allows local governments to mandate fire-resistant siding materials for wildfire protection without violating the prohibition. The Governor signed the bill on May 13 and the bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Permitting: [Senate Bill 5611](#), sponsored by Sen. Jesse Salomon (D-32nd LD), streamlines local land use permitting processes and expands the use of binding site plans to include commercially zoned property allowing multifamily residential uses. It prohibits local governments from requiring or requesting deadline extensions at the initial submission of a project permit application, introduces refund provisions for permit fees if deadlines are missed, and mandates annual performance reporting on permit timelines. The bill also ensures equitable treatment of condominiums and cooperatives in zoning

and permitting processes. The Governor signed the bill on May 7 and the bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Growth Management Act Reform: The City supports the objective of the Growth Management Act (GMA) to focus growth in urban centers. In addition to the land use changes above, the Legislature approved the following:

Growth Management Compliance: [House Bill 1135](#), sponsored by Rep. Davina Duerr (D-1st LD), strengthens requirements for jurisdictions to amend noncompliant plans under the Growth Management Act before achieving compliance. The bill specifies that the Growth Management Hearings Board cannot issue a finding of compliance unless the jurisdiction has amended the portion of its plans or regulations previously found noncompliant, and allows individuals with standing to participate in compliance hearings. It also emphasizes prioritization of compliance hearings and reiterates existing timelines for board findings. The bill was signed by the Governor on April 7 and goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Housing Accountability Act: [Senate Bill 5148](#), sponsored by Senator Jessica Bateman (D-22nd LD), introduces a state-level review process for housing elements and related development regulations adopted by counties and cities under the Growth Management Act. The bill requires jurisdictions to submit these plans to the Department of Commerce for compliance review, with a decision issued within 90 days, and prohibits noncompliant jurisdictions from denying affordable or moderate-income housing developments without specific exceptions. It also establishes mandatory targeted reviews for up to 10 jurisdictions annually and directs the Department to publish minimum compliance standards within six months of the bill's effective date. The Governor signed the bill on May 13 and the bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Comprehensive Plan Deadline Extension: [Senate Bill 5558](#), sponsored by Sen. Keith Goehner (R-12th LD), adjusts Growth Management Act compliance timelines for comprehensive plan updates, design review processes, and housing density regulations. The deadline for Benton, Chelan, Cowlitz, Douglas, Franklin, Kittitas, Skamania, Spokane, Walla Walla, and Yakima counties to update their plans is extended to December 31, 2026, with subsequent updates due every 10 years. Cities must align design review and housing density requirements with their next periodic updates, while capital facilities plan updates for housing density compliance are deferred until June 30, 2034. The bill also aligns Accessory Dwelling Unit ordinance timelines with periodic updates. The bill was signed by the Governor on April 22 and goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Local Planning Implementation: The City supports state efforts to assist local jurisdictions in implementing planning processes. The Legislature appropriated \$18 million for updated comprehensive plans and development regulations to comply with the Growth Management Act.

Additionally, \$3.8 million was appropriated to support the implementation of various land use bills, and \$1.7 million was allocated to increase middle housing.

Bill Tracking for Planning

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor	Position
HB 1029 (Dead)	3D-printed buildings	Concerning 3D-printed building construction.	H Local Govt	Shavers	
SHB 1061	Residential parking	Providing additional parking flexibility in residential neighborhoods.	C 137 L 25	Low	
E2SHB 1096	Lot splitting	Increasing housing options through lot splitting.	C 301 L 25	Barkis	
HB 1097 (Dead)	Gov. services beyond UGA	Extending governmental services beyond the urban growth area in specific circumstances.	H Local Govt	Low	
ESHB 1135	Local government planning	Ensuring that local government planning complies with the growth management act.	C 17 L 25	Duerr	
SHB 1160 (Dead)	Local gov. design review	Concerning local government design review.	H Rules C	Walen	Concerns
HB 1164 (Dead)	Urban growth area boundaries	Expanding urban growth area boundaries for residential development.	H Local Govt	Connors	
2SHB 1175 (Dead)	Small businesses/residential	Allowing small business establishments in residential zones.	H Rules C	Klicker	Concerns
2SHB 1183	Building codes	Concerning building code and development regulation reform.	C 139 L 25	Duerr	
2SHB 1195 (Dead) (SB 5497)	Housing & shelters	Concerning compliance with siting, development permit processes and standards, and requirements	H Rules C	Peterson	

		for permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, indoor emergency housing, or indoor emergency shelters.			
HB 1206 (Dead) (SB 5679)	Multifamily tax exemption	Expanding eligibility to utilize the multifamily tax exemption program to all counties required or choosing to plan under RCW 36.70A.040.	H Finance	Low	
SHB 1212 (Dead) (ESSB 5509)	Child care center siting	Concerning the siting of child care centers.	H Approps	Alvarado	Neutral
HB 1235 (Dead) (E2SSB 5148)	GMA housing element	Ensuring compliance with the housing element requirements of the growth management act.	H Housing	Peterson	
SHB 1254 (Dead)	Wildland urban interface	Implementing the International Wildland Urban Interface Code.	H Rules R	Duerr	
HB 1299 (Dead) (ESSB 5184)	Minimum parking requirements	Concerning minimum parking requirements.	H Local Govt	Peterson	
HB 1438 (Dead)	Housing permit approval	Ensuring efficient approval of certain housing permit applications.	H Local Govt	Connors	
3SHB 1491	Transit-oriented housing dev	Promoting transit-oriented housing development.	C 267 L 25	Reed	
HB 1757	Residential use/existing	Modifying regulations for existing buildings used for residential purposes.	C 203 L 25	Walen	
HB 1772 (Dead)	Shared streets	Establishing shared streets.	H Transportation	Reed	Support

(ESB 5595)					
HB 1818 (Dead)	Administration of plats	Concerning the administration of plats.	H Local Govt	Penner	
E2SSB 5148 (HB 1235)	GMA housing element	Ensuring compliance with the housing element requirements of the growth management act.	C 269 L 25	Bateman	
SB 5173 (Dead)	County comprehensive plans	Concerning county comprehensive plans and development regulations.	S Loc Gov	Short	
ESSB 5184 (HB 1299)	Minimum parking requirements	Concerning minimum parking requirements.	C 204 L 25	Bateman	
SSB 5197 (Dead)	Local government planning	Ensuring that local government planning complies with the growth management act.	S Rules X	Salomon	
SSB 5249 (Dead)	Kit home siting	Concerning siting kit homes.	S Ways & Means	Wilson	
SB 5380 (Dead) (2SHB 1303)	Environmental justice	Increasing environmental justice by improving government decisions.	S Environment, E	Lovelett	
SB 5421 (Dead)	Small businesses/residential	Allowing small business establishments in residential zones.	S Loc Gov	Shewmake	
ESSB 5509 (SHB 1212)	Childcare center siting	Concerning the siting of childcare centers.	C 276 L 25	Alvarado	
SB 5554 (Dead)	Historic landmark desig.	Concerning historic landmark designations.	S Rules X	Salomon	
SB 5555 (Dead)	Zoning regulations	Concerning zoning regulations in commercial, retail, and mixed-use areas in cities and code cities.	S Housing	Salomon	
ESB 5559	UGA subdivision process	Streamlining the subdivision process inside urban growth areas.	C 271 L 25	Lovelett	

SB 5604 (Dead)	Transit-oriented development	Promoting transit-oriented development.	S Housing	Liias	
SB 5609 (Dead)	Cultural resources/land use	Regarding cultural resource protection for certain land use activities that are categorically exempt from the state environmental policy act.	S Environment, E	Kauffman	
ESSB 5611	Land use permitting workload	Streamlining and clarifying local governments' land use permitting workloads.	C 208 L 25	Salomon	
SB 5612 (Dead)	Multiunit housing/SEPA	Creating a categorical exemption for multiunit housing development within the incorporated areas in an urban growth area under the state environmental policy act.	S Housing	Salomon	
E2SSB 5613 (Dead)	Residential development	Concerning the development of clear and objective standards, conditions, and procedures for residential development.	S Rules 3	Salomon	Concerns
SSB 5614 (Dead)	Impact fees	Concerning impact fees.	S Rules X	Salomon	
SB 5615 (Dead)	Residential housing permits	Concerning project permit applications for residential housing units.	S Housing	Salomon	
SB 5633 (Dead)	Subdivision of land	Concerning the subdivision of land.	S Loc Gov	Lovelett	Concerns
SSB 5655 (HB 1582)	Childcare centers/buildings	Concerning childcare centers operated in existing buildings.	C 150 L 25	Krishnadasan	
SB 5660 (Dead)	Water & sewage system access	Making it possible for more properties	S Loc Gov	Goehner	

		to have access to water, storm drains, and sanitary sewage systems.			
ESSB 5719 (Dead)	Local gov. hearing examiners	Concerning local government hearing examiners.	S Rules 3	Salomon	
ESB 5729 (Dead)	Housing permitting	Encouraging construction of affordable housing by streamlining the permitting process.	S Rules 3	Gildon	

General Government

Public Disclosure, Participation, and Transparency: The City supports expanded opportunities for public comment and participation in public meetings when done in a manner that the city can implement efficiently and cost-effectively. The Legislature considered but did not advance legislation related to reducing the cost and burden of complying with the Public Records Act. The Legislature approved three relatively minor bills related to public disclosure:

PRA Exemption for Employees Involved in Investigation: [House Bill 1934](#), sponsored by Rep. Rob Chase (R-4th LD), expands privacy protections for individuals in employment investigations by requiring redactions of names, images, job titles, email addresses, and phone numbers of complainants, accusers, and witnesses in investigative records. It also mandates voice alterations in audio recordings to ensure anonymity while retaining inflection and tone. The bill includes an exception for elected officials, whose names and titles will not be redacted after investigations conclude, and clarifies that disclosure of redacted information requires consent. The Governor signed the bill on May 15 and the bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Public Records Exemptions Review: [Senate Bill 5049](#), sponsored by Senator Jeff Wilson (R-19th LD), clarifies the Sunshine Committee’s meeting schedule by specifying it must meet four times a year, replacing the previous language requiring quarterly meetings. The bill does not alter the committee’s composition, duties, or support structure, which remains focused on reviewing public disclosure exemptions, developing criteria for evaluations, and recommending whether exemptions should be continued, modified, or terminated. The bill takes effect on July 27, 2025. The bill was signed by the Governor on April 22 and goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Public Risk Pools Exemption: [Senate Bill 5102](#), sponsored by Sen. Bob Hasegawa (D-11th LD), exempts proprietary financial data of public risk pools from public disclosure.

This includes formulas, data used for calculating member contributions or assessments, and actuarial analyses and reports. The bill seeks to expand the scope of information exempt from public disclosure to safeguard sensitive proprietary information related to public risk pools' financial operations. The Governor signed the bill on April 19 and the bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Liability: The City supports protecting against liability expansion and new policies that would drive additional claims and litigation increasing costs especially in the area of law enforcement and public safety. The City opposes legislation that would negatively impact the City's self-insurance program.

Public Works Contract Thresholds: The City supports state modifications to public works contract thresholds that provide the City with flexibility. The Legislature discussed but did not advance changes to the public works contract thresholds. Additionally, the Legislature considered several different proposals that did not pass into law. The City expressed concerns with [Senate Bill 5061](#), sponsored by Sen. Steve Conway (D-29th LD), which requires annual adjustments to prevailing wage rates for most public works contracts to ensure wages reflect current rates during the duration of a project. The City also expressed concerns with [Senate Bill 5176](#), sponsored by Sen. Javier Valdez (D-46th LD), which strengthens prompt payment requirements and dispute resolution procedures for public works projects. Public agencies must pay contractors within 30 days of receiving a properly completed invoice, with interest penalties of 1% per month for late payments. The bill also requires timely issuance of change orders within 30 days of additional work completion, mandates that contractors and subcontractors pay lower-tier subcontractors within 10 days, and establishes procedures for addressing payment disputes, including civil remedies for aggrieved parties.

The Legislature did approve several bills impacting public works contracting:

Subcontractor Licensing Requirements: [House Bill 1633](#), sponsored by Rep. Natasha Hill (D-3rd LD), tightens requirements for subcontractor listing and licensing in public works bidding. The bill requires subcontractor names for HVAC, plumbing, and electrical work to be submitted "at" the published bid submittal time rather than "within one hour after." Prime contract bidders must provide proof of licensing for listed subcontractors, with errors in proof of licensing corrected within 48 hours of submission. It removes outdated provisions, including legislative intent language and reporting requirements, and eliminates licensing as a specific reason for substituting a subcontractor. The Governor signed the bill on May 17 and the bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Prevailing Wage Oversight: [House Bill 1821](#), sponsored by Rep. Julio Cortes (D-38th LD), expands the definition of "interested party" under prevailing wage laws to include joint labor-management cooperation committees and Taft-Hartley trusts, allowing these entities to monitor and enforce compliance. The bill regulates access to certified payroll records, restricting their use to filing complaints and prohibiting use for union organizing

or commercial activities. It includes provisions for the expiration and effective dates of certain sections to ensure continuity. The bill was signed by the Governor on April 21 and goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Design-Build Bonding: [House Bill 1967](#), sponsored by Rep. Janice Zahn (D-41st LD), clarifies bonding requirements for design-build public works contracts by exempting non-construction services and aligning bond amounts with construction costs. The bill specifies that performance and payment bonds are required only for the construction portion of the contract and must be in an amount no less than the value of that portion. It also provides procedural clarity regarding the timeline for bond submission. The bill was signed by the Governor on April 21 and goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Surplus State Property: The Legislature approved [House Bill 1774](#), sponsored by Rep. Jake Fey (D-27th LD), authorizing the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to lease unused highway land for community purposes under specified conditions. The bill expands eligible lessees to include public agencies, tribes, state historical societies, and nonprofit organizations, and establishes criteria for evaluating leases, including benefits to overburdened communities and lessee qualifications. Lease agreements must incorporate community benefits, limit use to designated purposes such as housing and salmon habitat restoration, and require legislative approval for nonprofit leases exceeding five years. The Governor signed the bill on May 17 and the bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025. **The City of Tacoma supported this legislation. Mayor Victoria Woodards testified to its importance to Pugnetti Park.**

Bill Tracking on General Government

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor	Position
HB 1270	Deferred comp. by local gov.	Concerning automatic deferred compensation enrollment for county, municipal, and other political subdivision employees.	C 154 L 25	Bronoske	
HB 1275 (SB 5381)	Self-insurer withdrawal	Establishing department authority to ensure payment is received from the self-insured employer after a self-insured group or municipal employer has their self-insurer certification withdrawn.	C 57 L 25	Scott	Neutral
SHB 1308 (SB 5345)	Access to personnel records	Concerning access to personnel records.	C 273 L 25	Reed	
HB 1571 (Dead)	Occupational disease/heart	Removing qualifiers related to the presumption of	H Labor & Workpl	Bronoske	

		occupational disease for heart problems.			
ESHB 1622 (Dead) (SSB 5422)	Collective bargaining/AI use	Allowing bargaining over matters related to the use of artificial intelligence.	H Rules 3C	Parshley	
SHB 1653 (Dead) (ESSB 5484)	Tow truck payments/indigent	Concerning payments to tow truck operators for the release of vehicles to indigent citizens.	H Rules R	Donaghy	
ESHB 1688	Electric security alarms	Concerning electric security alarm systems.	C 67 L 25	Parshley	
HB 1765 (Dead) (SB 5707)	Subscriber emails/PRA	Exempting email addresses of individuals who subscribe to regular communications and updates from local agencies.	H State Govt & T	Simmons	
HB 1835 (Dead)	Cannabis licensing/zoning	Aligning cannabis licensing decisions by the liquor and cannabis board with local zoning ordinances.	H ConsPro&Bus	Burnett	
HB 1934	Employment investigation/PRA	Concerning the disclosure of information pertaining to complainants, accusers, and witnesses in an employment investigation.	C 283 L 25	Chase	
SSB 5176 (Dead)	Prompt pay/capital projects	Implementing prompt pay recommendations from the capital projects advisory review board.	S Ways & Means	Valdez	Concerns
ESB 5206	Cannabis advertising	Concerning cannabis retailer advertising.	C 378 L 25	MacEwen	
SB 5345 (Dead) (SHB 1308)	Access to personnel records	Concerning access to personnel records.	S Labor & Comm	Saldana	
SB 5381 (Dead) (HB 1275)	Self-insurer withdrawal	Establishing department authority to ensure payment is received from the self-insured employer after a self-insured group or municipal employer has their self-insurer certification withdrawn.	S Rules X	Conway	
SSB 5422 (Dead) (ESHB 1622)	Collective bargaining/AI use	Allowing bargaining over matters related to the use of artificial intelligence.	S Ways & Means	Bateman	Oppose

ESSB 5484 (Dead) (SHB 1653)	Tow truck payments/indigent	Concerning payments to tow truck operators for the release of vehicles to indigent citizens.	S Rules 3	Chapman	
SSB 5503	Public employee bargaining	Concerning public employee collective bargaining processes.	C 387 L 25	Valdez	
SB 5539 (Dead) (E2SHB 1213)	Paid family & medical leave	Expanding protections for workers in the state paid family and medical leave program.	S Labor & Comm	Alvarado	
SB 5707 (Dead) (HB 1765)	Subscriber emails/PRA	Exempting email addresses of individuals who subscribe to regular communications and updates from local agencies.	S State Gov/Trib	Short	
SB 5754 (Dead)	Washington state public bank	Creating the Washington state public bank.	S Ways & Means	Hasegawa	

Immigration and Detention

The City of Tacoma supports policies that limit transfers into the Northwest ICE Processing Center (NWIPC) and any other proposals to further regulate the facility. **The City supported, and Councilmember Kristina Walker testified in favor of [House Bill 1232](#)**, sponsored by Rep. Lillian Ortiz-Self (D-21st LD). The Legislature approved the bill, which broadens the definition of private detention facilities to include any non-governmental entity operating such a facility under contract with a governmental body, regardless of profit status. These facilities now face enhanced operational standards mandated by the Department of Health (DOH), covering areas like lighting, housekeeping, accessibility for individuals with disabilities, water supply, waste disposal, and maintenance procedures. Notably, previous distinctions based on contract effective dates have been removed, and all such facilities must now adhere to DOH food service rules, ensure adequate meal times, provide accessible telephones (including free emergency options), offer private visiting areas, establish robust policies against abuse and neglect, employ sufficient qualified staff with proper training, and implement comprehensive infection control programs. The DOH retains the authority to inspect these facilities at any time and is required to make inspection findings and enforcement actions publicly available online when resources allow. In cases of noncompliance, especially repeat violations, the DOH can impose fines up to \$10,000 per violation (capped at \$1 million) and mandate corrective actions, with fine proceeds dedicated to training and technical assistance for these facilities; facilities retain the right to appeal fines.

Bill Tracking Related to Immigration and Detention

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor	Position
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E2SHB 1232	Private detention facilities	Concerning private detention facilities.	C 235 L 25	Ortiz-Self	Support
HB 1482 (Dead)	Health coverage access	Assuring equity in health coverage.	H HC/Wellness	Thai	
ESHB 1875	Sick leave/immigration	Allowing the use of paid sick leave to prepare for or participate in certain immigration proceedings.	C 170 L 25	Salahuddin	
SB 5002 (Dead)	Immigration enforcement	Concerning federal immigration enforcement.	S Law & Justice	Fortunato	
SSB 5104	Immigration status coercion	Protecting employees from coercion in the workplace based on immigration status.	C 236 L 25	Hasegawa	Support
SSB 5714	Bail bond agents/immigration	Declaring civil immigration enforcement as unprofessional conduct of bail bond recovery agents.	C 237 L 25	Trudeau	

Other Issues

City Codes and Policies: Ensure that state laws and policies are consistent with, or allow for the continuation of, policies adopted by the Council in areas that impact residents of the City of Tacoma including, but not limited to, electric fences, control of rights-of-way, clean energy sites, and animals.

Electric Security Alarms: [House Bill 1688](#), sponsored by Rep. Lisa Parshley (D-22nd LD), establishes statewide standards for the installation and operation of electric security alarm systems in jurisdictions without existing regulations. The bill requires compliance with international safety standards, warning signage, height requirements, and perimeter barriers, while allowing local governments to regulate or prohibit these systems through specific ordinances. Systems installed before the adoption of local regulations may continue to operate if they meet statewide standards. The bill was signed by the Governor on April 16 and goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Events and Venues: [House Bill 1109](#), sponsored by Rep. Cindy Ryu (D-32nd LD), extends the maximum duration for public facilities districts to collect sales and use tax credits from 40 to 55 years. The bill also clarifies statutory language by replacing “the regional center” with “a regional center” to improve consistency. The Governor signed the bill on May 17 and the bill goes into effect on July 27, 2025.

Additionally, among the tax proposals considered this session, transportation budget writers considered imposing a “large event fee” which would have imposed a fee on each attendee at

an event at the Tacoma Dome, even if the event was free to participate in. The initial proposal of the large event fee would have uniquely applied to Tacoma, but not to the other venue in the state that compete for similar events – Climate Pledge Arena. Budget writers revised the proposal to apply to all large event venues before abandoning the concept altogether in light of pushback from stakeholders throughout the state.

Finally, the Legislature once again considered legislation regulating ticket sales. [Senate Bill 5676](#), sponsored by Sen. Derek Stanford (D-1st LD), and [House Bill 1613](#), sponsored by Rep. Kristine Reeves (D-30th LD), both would have regulated ticket sales and had an impact on the Tacoma Dome. The City reviewed and provided input on these bills; however, neither advanced through the legislative process.

Psilocybin Substances: The City encourages the legislature to consider decriminalizing psilocybin substances in light of the growing research indicating potential medical uses for the substances and the number of local jurisdictions and states that are decriminalizing the substance. The Legislature considered but did not approve [Senate Bill 5201/House Bill 1433](#), sponsored by Sen. Jesse Salomon (D-32nd LD) and Rep. Nicole Macri (D-43rd LD). The proposals establish a regulatory framework for the access and use of psychedelic substances by individuals aged 21 and older. The bill defines "psychedelic substances" to initially include psilocybin and psilocin, with potential expansion to other substances after 2029, and creates the Washington Psychedelic Substances Board to advise on implementation. It outlines the roles of the Department of Health and the Liquor and Cannabis Board in overseeing licensure, regulation, and safety standards, while emphasizing equity and inclusion for historically disadvantaged communities and limiting local government regulation. **The City of Tacoma signed in supporting this legislation throughout the session.**

Litter and Graffiti:

Litter Reduction Policy: [House Bill 1293](#), sponsored by Rep. Mark Klicker (R-16th LD), increases penalties for littering and modifies regulations for plastic carryout bags. The bill reclassifies littering of less than one cubic foot as a class 2 civil infraction, adds penalties for littering from vehicles, delays the minimum thickness requirement for reusable plastic bags to 4 mils until January 1, 2028, and introduces a new four-cent penalty for thicker bags during the transition period. Retail establishments are required to itemize pass-through charges and penalties on customer receipts, with penalty funds directed to the waste reduction account. The Governor signed the bill into law on May 17, and it will go into effect on July 27, 2025.

The two efforts below did not pass this session:

Graffiti Penalties: [House Bill 1407](#), sponsored by Rep. Andrew Barkis (R-2nd LD), strengthens penalties for graffiti-related offenses and mandates community restitution. Courts must impose at least 40 hours of community restitution for certain graffiti-related crimes, with repeat offenses elevated to a class C felony. The bill also introduces a special allegation for "organized graffiti" causing significant property damage, adding a mandatory 12-month sentencing enhancement, and establishes a grant program through

the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs to support graffiti abatement efforts.

Littering Penalties and Task Force: [House Bill 1236](#), sponsored by Rep. Mark Klicker (R-16th LD), increases penalties for littering and establishes a task force to develop litter reduction strategies. The bill reclassifies littering less than or equal to one cubic foot from a class 3 to a class 2 civil infraction, imposing higher penalties that are additive to fines for littering from vehicles. It directs the Department of Ecology to convene a "littering solutions task force" with representatives from state agencies, local governments, and industry groups to provide policy recommendations, including strategies to address commonly littered items and reduce cleanup costs. The Department of Ecology must submit a status update by January 15, 2026, and a final report by November 15, 2026.

Civil Asset Forfeiture: The City supports state efforts to expand the uses of civil forfeitures to include prevention programs and behavioral health treatment. After several years of discussion, the Legislature approved reforms to civil asset forfeiture. [House Bill 1440](#), sponsored by Rep. Roger Goodman (D-45th LD), establishes a new framework to standardize civil asset forfeiture procedures, replacing existing processes in various statutes. Key provisions include extended deadlines for contesting forfeitures, shifting the burden of proof to seizing agencies to establish forfeiture by "clear, cogent, and convincing evidence," protections for innocent owners and community property interests, and revenue allocation prioritizing victim restitution and behavioral health programs. The act applies to seizures occurring on or after January 1, 2026. The Governor signed the bill on May 17. **The City expressed concerns with early versions of this bill and provided technical feedback, much of which was integrated.**

Bill Tracking on Additional Issues

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor	Position
HB 1109	Public facilities districts	Concerning public facilities districts.	C 302 L 25	Ryu	Support
HB 1236 (Dead)	Littering, penalty increase	Increasing penalties for littering.	H Env & Energy	Klicker	
ESHB 1293	Litter	Concerning litter.	C 312 L 25	Klicker	
SHB 1305 (Dead)	Property owners/projects	Concerning reimbursement by property owners for street, road, and water or sewer projects.	H Rules R	Donaghy	
SHB 1339 (Dead) (SB 5373)	Even-numbered year elections	Shifting general elections for local governments to even-numbered years to increase voter participation.	H Rules C	Gregerson	
HB 1407 (Dead)	Graffiti & property damage	Concerning offenses involving graffiti or other damage to property.	H Community Safe	Barkis	

HB 1408 (Dead) (SB 5460)	Community authority funding	Establishing funding for community preservation and development authorities approved through RCW 43.167.060.	H Approps	Santos	
HB 1433 (Dead) (SB 5201)	Psychedelic substances	Concerning access to psychedelic substances.	H HC/Wellness	Macri	
SHB 1449 (Dead)	Home cultivation of cannabis	Legalizing the home cultivation of cannabis by persons who are 21 years of age and older.	H Approps	Kloba	
2SHB 1515	Alcohol service in public	Modernizing the regulation of alcohol service in public spaces.	C 361 L 25	Reed	Support
HB 1613 (Dead)	Ticket sales	Concerning ticket sales.	H ConsPro&Bus	Reeves	
SHB 1673 (Dead) (ESSB 5466)	Electric transmission system	Improving reliability and capacity of the electric transmission system in Washington state.	H Approps	Ramel	
SHB 1774	Lease of unused highway land	Modifying allowable terms for the lease of unused highway land.	C 298 L 25	Fey	Support
HB 1904 (Dead)	Declawing cats	Prohibiting the act of declawing cats.	H HC/Wellness	Peterson	
HB 2013 (Dead)	Liquor licensees/fan zones	Concerning temporary authorizations for liquor licensees in fan zones or host cities.	H ConsPro&Bus	Richards	
SB 5001 (Dead)	Year-round Pacific std. time	Implementing year-round Pacific standard time.	S State Gov/Trib	Wilson	
SB 5107 (Dead)	Local gov. vehicle insurance	Concerning underinsured motorist coverage for local government employees.	S Loc Gov	Boehnke	
SB 5201 (Dead) (HB 1433)	Psychedelic substances	Concerning access to psychedelic substances.	S Labor & Comm	Salomon	Support
SSB 5265	Electrical inspector exp.	Expanding minimum requirements for electrical inspectors to include certain out-of-state experience.	C 132 L 25	King	
SSB 5365	Library funding alternate	Concerning alternate funding for libraries.	C 275 L 25	Wilson	
SB 5373 (Dead) (SHB 1339)	Even-numbered year elections	Shifting general elections for local governments to even-numbered years to increase voter participation.	S State Gov/Trib	Ramos	
ESSB 5466 (Dead)	Electric transmission system	Improving reliability and capacity of the electric	S Rules 3	Shewmake	

(SHB 1673)		transmission system in Washington state.			
SSB 5573 (Dead)	Electric security alarms	Concerning electric security alarm systems.	S Rules X	Chapman	
SB 5676 (Dead)	Electronic admission tickets	Concerning the delivery of electronic admission tickets.	S Environment, En	Stanford	Concerns

Section 4: Budget Overview

The 2025 legislative session convened on January 13 and was scheduled for 105 days. As with all odd-numbered years, 2025 marked the beginning of Washington State’s biennial budget cycle. The Legislature’s primary responsibilities were twofold: to develop and adopt biennial operating, capital, and transportation budgets, and to debate, advance, and adopt policy. The session began amidst significant turnover: 24 new legislators joined the House and Senate, nine new state senators took office, and several statewide executive positions changed hands, including newly elected Governor Bob Ferguson, Attorney General Nick Brown, Insurance Commissioner Patty Kuderer, and Commissioner of Public Lands Dave Upthegrove. These changes led to notable shifts in dynamics both within the Legislature and between the legislative and executive branches.

Budget Shortfall

While a broad array of policy topics was on the agenda, the dominant issue throughout the session was a multi-billion-dollar operating budget shortfall. Revenue forecasts in September and November 2024 projected that expenditures would outpace revenues in both the current and upcoming biennia. The precise size and causes of the shortfall remain debated, but contributing factors likely included increased contractual obligations to state employees, the expiration of temporary federal COVID relief funding, and inflationary pressures. Just before the session began, a leaked email from Senate Democrats previewed a plan to reform Washington’s regressive tax code by introducing new taxes targeted at the state’s highest earners and largest corporations.

Beyond the budget, legislators grappled with a record number of policy proposals. Key themes included housing affordability, parental rights, unemployment benefits for striking workers, and public safety—including firearm regulations. A total of 2,387 bills were introduced (1,305 in the House, 1,082 in the Senate), with only 433 ultimately passing the full Legislature. On March 18, the state’s revenue forecast was updated, projecting a \$900 million drop in the four-year outlook compared to November 2024, bumping the budget deficit to \$15 billion and further complicating budget negotiations. As required by law, the Legislature had to adopt a budget that balanced over two biennia, or four years, (2025-27 and 2027-29), prompting discussions around both spending cuts and new revenue sources.

Governor Ferguson released his own operating budget proposal, demonstrating how the Legislature could reduce spending at the agency level to reduce pressure on the general fund. In addition to continuing \$3 billion in programmatic cuts proposed by outgoing Governor Jay Inslee, Ferguson added another \$4 billion in reductions. He emphasized protecting vulnerable populations, investing \$100 million in law enforcement and public safety, and improving the state's ferry system. However, he also warned that deeper cuts at the federal level —potentially affecting critical services like Medicaid—required Washington State to be adaptable, adjusting to meet the needs of Washingtonians should cuts go into effect. This appeared to mean the Legislature should not exhaust all possible revenue options during the 2025 session.

Revenue Proposals

Democratic lawmakers in both chambers released initial revenue proposals aimed at addressing the shortfall. Though the specifics varied, both proposals centered on increasing taxes on wealth and financial assets and lifting limits on property tax growth. The proposals were expected to generate \$14–17 billion over four years.

Senate Democrats' Initial Revenue Proposal (March 2025):

- 5% employer payroll tax on payroll expenses exceeding the Social Security threshold (\$176,100), for businesses with \$7 million+ in total payroll.
- Adjust property tax levy growth to reflect population and inflation (replacing the 1% cap).
- \$10 per \$1,000 financial intangible asset tax (stocks, bonds, etc.) for those with over \$50 million in assets.
- Repeal 20 tax exemptions deemed ineffective.
- State sales tax rate reduction from 6.5% to 6%.

House Democrats' Initial Revenue Proposal (March 2025):

- Additional 1% B&O tax surcharge on taxable income over \$250 million.
- Increase in existing financial institution surcharge from 1.2% to 1.9% for institutions with income exceeding \$1 billion.
- \$8 per \$1,000 financial intangible property tax, with the first \$50 million exempt.
- Property tax levy cap increased to 3%, reflecting population and inflation.

Following public hearings for each revenue bill, budget writers integrated these revenue assumptions into their respective proposed spending plans. Governor Ferguson, however, criticized the magnitude of the proposed revenue increases, particularly the wealth tax components, citing likely legal challenges and a strong probability that the tax would be unable to provide immediate fiscal relief. He urged lawmakers to consider deeper budget cuts and more conservative revenue options.

Roughly ten days before adjournment, Democrats unveiled a revised revenue package, removing the most controversial proposals and scaling back others in response to the Governor's concerns. The package included the following (April 2025):

- Capital gains and estate tax increase.

- Business and occupation tax increase, and an increase to the Advanced Computing Surcharge (ACS) cap.
- Tax on services and nicotine products, including a prepayment on sales tax for certain businesses.
- Excise tax on zero emission vehicle tax credits.
- Modified tax preferences for certain industries.
- Lifting the state and local property tax cap (later abandoned in final negotiations after pushback from Governor Ferguson).

These changes were projected to generate approximately \$12 billion, though further revisions to the proposals eventually brought the projected revenue closer to \$9 billion over four years. For more details about each proposal's final form, please see the Legislature Adopted Revenue document.

Outcomes

The Legislature adopted both new revenue and programmatic cuts or delays to support a balanced budget over four years. The Legislature advanced cost-saving measures by unwinding or delaying several statutory programs, including:

- Delay implementation of 2023 law related to the Aged, Blind, and Disabled (ABD) Assistance Program, requiring recipients to pay the state back if they receive federal SSI disability payments for the same time period as the state assistance.
- Eliminates a 2023 law that created the Washington Employee Ownership Program that allows businesses to sell to an employee ownership structure.
- Delays the implementation of a 2024 law that addressed families receiving assistance through Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). Families receiving TANF must assign their rights to child support to the state as partial reimbursement for receiving assistance. The law would have required DSHS to pass through all child support regardless of TANF assistance; that is delayed until 2029.

The Legislature adjourned *Sine Die* on April 27 at approximately 6 p.m., having passed balanced budgets and accompanying revenue legislation in both chambers. There was much speculation that Governor Ferguson may veto some revenue bills, prompting a special session. Ultimately, the Governor honored the Legislature's work and signed all three budgets and accompanying revenue bills into law. Not surprisingly, the Governor did utilize partial veto authority to cut a total of \$25 million in the operating budget, mostly attributed to studies and programs.

Operating Budget

The proposed state operating budget for the 2025–27 biennium is based on the March 2025 revenue forecast, which projects \$71.0 billion in General Fund revenue, and assumes 3.5% average annual growth rate over two years. Annual average growth in revenues was 5.2% over fiscal year (FY) 2022 through FY 2024; an annual average growth of 3.5% reflects a decline in revenue growth to support the state budget. For reference, the 2023-25 biennial budget totaled \$71.9 billion.

Total proposed spending for 2025-27 Operating Budget includes \$77.9 billion from the General Fund and \$150.4 billion across all funds. Of the increase in spending from 2023-25 to 2025-27, \$4.4 billion from the General Fund and \$6.8 billion overall are needed just to maintain current services, even without new programs. Budget writers reported that the key cost drivers included inflation in K–12 salaries, growing caseloads in childcare, low-income medical assistance, and long-term care. The budget funds and approves collective bargaining agreements for state employees, including for those who are not union-represented and does not include any furloughs or benefit changes.

The General Fund is projected to end with a \$225 million balance. Total reserves are estimated at \$2.3 billion, including \$2.1 billion in the Budget Stabilization Account. The four-year outlook for 2027–29 anticipates a \$673 million General Fund balance and \$3.6 billion in reserves.

Transfers were made out of the General Fund, including:

- \$77 million to the Disaster Response Account
- \$70.1 million to the Home Security Fund.

Transfers into the General Fund include:

- \$288 million from the Public Works Assistance Account
- \$110 million from the State Treasurer’s Service Account
- \$89 million from the Washington Student Loan Account.

Investments made in the Operating Budget include maintaining funding to the following areas:

- \$93 million for emergency food assistance programs
- \$1.2 billion for homelessness and affordable housing including:
 - \$200 million for the covenant homeownership program
 - \$137 million for the housing essential needs program
 - \$117 million for grants to local governments to maintain shelter space historically funded through document recording fee revenues
 - \$111 million for grants to local governments and nonprofit organizations for homeless housing programs and services
 - \$90 million to transition those living in encampments to safer housing
 - \$25 million for grants to support permanent supportive housing
- \$100 million is allocated to law enforcement grants
- \$20 million to expand resources for crime victims
- \$25 million to improve support for refugee and immigrant communities

The 2025-27 budget also includes \$4.4 billion in new revenue, primarily from increases to the business & occupation tax, capital gains and estate taxes, and excise taxes on services. For more information on the revenue package approved by the Legislature this session, please refer to the Legislature Adopted Revenue document.

Transportation Budget

Transportation Budget writers faced a multi-billion shortfall over the budget's 10-year spending plan. This was exacerbated with the March 2025 revenue forecast, which projected a further \$1.7 billion decrease in the fuel tax from the prior year's forecast. The fuel tax represents 44% of all forecasted transportation revenues, which presented significant challenges to balance the budget in the next four years. The final negotiated 2025-27 biennial transportation budget totals \$15.5 billion, which is lower than both the House and Senate's initial proposals. Of the \$15.5 billion, approximately 60% (\$9.2 billion) is allocated for capital expenditures, and approximately 40% (\$6.2 billion) will pay for ongoing operating expenditures.

The final budget relies on a variety of new and existing revenues, including a 6-cent fuel tax increase, and increases in several fees such as truck weight fees, passenger weight fees, filing fees and more. While the Legislature considered revenue proposals to replace the fuel tax, such as the road usage charge – a fee modeled after a program in Virginia that is calculated based on a car's average miles per gallon – the Legislature chose to not advance those proposals and instead increased revenues through the state's traditional transportation funding sources. [Click here](#) for a full list of new revenue sources.

Despite these increases, some planned projects were delayed in order to maintain a balanced budget. The budget also includes a permanent transfer of 0.1% of the state sales tax to transportation, beginning in 2028, adding \$300 million annually.

Capital Investments & Project Adjustments

Most capital funding supports ongoing projects from previous legislative packages and the Climate Commitment Act (CCA). However, many state and local projects not yet under contract have been deferred. To view the final 2025-27 Transportation Budget, [click here](#).

- Fish passage barrier removal receives \$1.09 billion this biennium—\$125 million more than the last—and \$1.12 billion is committed in future budgets.
- Washington State Ferries funding supports construction of a new hybrid-electric ferry and related electrification. The first vessel conversion is delayed by one year, with bids for new vessels due in May 2025. Fleet preservation funding increased by \$100 million for 2025–27.
- Highway maintenance and preservation remains flat for 2025–27 but increases by \$200 million in 2027–29.

Climate Commitment Act (CCA)

Appropriations totaled \$1.36 billion for the 2025-27 biennium, including the following key investments:

- \$127 million for ferry terminal electrification
- \$33 million for the Sandy Williams Connecting Communities program
- \$26.2 million for port electrification competitive grants
- \$7.5 million for the high-speed rail program

Cost Management & Program Changes

To manage costs, the budget reduces or eliminates certain programs and administrative expenses. Savings include reduced travel for agency staff, expanded flexibility for WSDOT project delivery, and authorization for in-house ferry work. While funding for bike and pedestrian safety programs was preserved, reductions were made to transit coordination, rideshare, and transportation demand management grants.

Public Safety & Enforcement

New investments total \$30 million for driver safety, including over \$18 million for work zone speed cameras and \$10 million for young driver education. An additional \$16 million supports the Washington State Patrol, funding training, bonuses, and new trooper classes.

Capital Budget

The state's capital budget funds infrastructure and building construction for state and local communities through direct appropriations and grant programs. A percentage of the operating budget is dedicated to paying bonds issued to fund the budget. Of the three budgets, revenues in the capital budget were the most stable although not as ample as in previous years. In recent years there was an influx of funding into the capital budget from the federal government through American Rescue Plan (ARPA) funds that did not occur for the 25-27 biennium.

Key Investments

The 2025-27 Capital Budget appropriates \$4.5 billion in new bond capacity and \$7.5 billion in total funds, including cash, federal funds, and other revenue sources. To view the final 2025-27 Capital Budget and the associated project lists and grant programs, [click here](#). Below are some highlights of the investments made within the final Capital Budget:

- \$975 million for construction of and improvements to K-12 buildings
- \$827 million for natural resources
- \$605 million for the Housing Trust Fund
- \$129 million for behavioral health facilities
- \$365 million for the Public Works Assistance Account to finance infrastructure projects for cities, counties, and special purpose districts. Existing revenue streams are predicted to give the PWAA some \$754 million in resources through the 2025-27 biennium. This year's budgets make a one-time additional diversion of \$288 million on top of preexisting diversions of \$180 million. To offset that, the capital budget gives the Board \$100 million in state construction bonds and authority to spend \$265 million from the PWAA, which protects existing commitments and allows the Board to offer a new loan round.
- \$81 million for the Community Economic Revitalization Board to assist communities with financing publicly owned economic development infrastructure improvements to encourage new business development and expansion.
- \$32.5 million for the Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board to award grants for local culvert replacements.
- \$125 million for grant programs funding local clean energy and climate resilience and mitigation projects.



**CITY OF TACOMA, WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CONSIDERATION REQUEST**

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee and Christina Caan, Policy Analyst
COPIES TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager; Chris Bacha, City Attorney
SUBJECT: **Resolution Request -- Adopting the 2025 Climate Action Plan Update**
DATE: June 11, 2025

We ask for your support for a resolution adopting the 2025 Climate Action Plan Update as the City's guide to bolstering our preparedness and ability to reduce the impact of immediate threats to our community that are created and amplified by climate change.

LEGISLATIVE INTENT

Background: Our planet is warming at an unprecedented rate, creating irreversible changes in our natural environment that threaten the health, safety, and economic vitality of our residents. While we have lowered our own greenhouse gas emissions, Tacoma cannot isolate itself from the global environment and the damaging impacts of global climate change and environmental degradation. Instead, we must build our resilience to climate change to ensure that we are protecting and strengthening our local economy, infrastructure, and the health and well-being of our residents for generations to come.

Tacoma's history, coastal location, and urban topography make our city and its residents particularly susceptible to specific challenges that are created and amplified by climate change, including air pollution, flooding and rising sea levels, and urban heat islands.

- **Air pollution:** Our air quality is being diminished by the presence of harmful gases and particles in the environment. Tacoma's air quality is particularly affected by greenhouse gas emissions from transportation, which accounted for 44 percent of the City's emissions in 2019, and smoke from wildfires happening across the Pacific Northwest. When the air we breathe is polluted, members of our community face a greater risk of respiratory and heart problems and other diseases that can shorten lifespans.
- **Flooding and rising sea levels:** Soaring temperatures are melting glaciers and ice sheets at an accelerating pace, causing our sea levels to rise. As a coastal city, Tacoma's Port, along with vital infrastructure, habitat, and tribal lands, are at increased risk of costly damage from storm surges, flooding, and erosion.
- **Urban heat islands:** Climate change is causing frequent and extreme heat waves, amplifying urban heat island effects in our city. Urban heat islands increase the risk of cardiovascular diseases, respiratory illness, and heat stroke, as well as mortality rates for our residents. In addition, extreme heat can damage power infrastructure and impede our ability to reap the benefits of a more walkable and connected community.

The 2025 Climate Action Plan (CAP) Update can serve as a guide to bolstering our preparedness and ability to reduce the impact of air pollution, flooding and rising sea levels, and urban heat islands, while also reducing our contributions to global climate emissions. In addition, the near-term actions in the 2030 CAP have expired, creating a need for this update. While the CAP adopted in 2021 still serves as our guiding foundation and the goals remain the same, the 2025 CAP Update is streamlined to increase readability and accountability. This update attempts to balance doing the most we can to impact our residents' lives today with the resources available, while also looking for opportunities to advance the transformational actions necessary to achieve our broader goals.

RESOLUTION REQUEST: This resolution would adopt the 2025 CAP Update as the City's guide to bolstering our preparedness and ability to reduce the impact of immediate threats to our community that are created and amplified by climate change.

DESIRED RESOLUTION DATE: July 1, 2025

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability undertook a variety of community engagements for the 2025 CAP Update, with a particular focus on how, if at all, community priorities have shifted since 2021. Because the Pierce County Sustainability 2030 Plan also scheduled a 2025 update, staff from Pierce County and the City of Tacoma collaborated on much of the community engagement process.

- Along with broader engagement, such as tabling at large events, staff held focused Community Dialogues with representatives of communities and organizations throughout Tacoma. Tacoma and Pierce County received further feedback through interviews with community members from a University of Washington Tacoma nursing class.

In addition to working with Pierce County, City staff inventoried engagement appendices from a variety of plans, documents, and Environmental Impact Statements since 2021. This provided a broader lens for understanding community needs. The Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability also held multiple workshops with subject matter experts for each of the CAP's sectors of focus and released a survey focused on CAP priorities to Tacoma residents.

- The Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability provided public updates to the Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee on April 9 and to City Council's Study Session, during a joint meeting with the Public Utilities Board, on May 20.¹

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Equity and Accessibility: The impacts of climate change and climate solutions are not distributed equally across our city due to history, coastal location, and urban topography. For example, some neighborhoods face far greater risks from urban heat islands due to historical marginalization and underinvestment, while businesses along the coastline face greater risks from rising sea levels. The 2025 CAP Update is vital to improving equitable outcomes for community health and safety, as well as economic opportunity and job growth, across our city.

Civic Engagement: *Equity Index Score:* Moderate Opportunity

Increase the percentage of residents who believe they are able to have a positive impact on the community and express trust in the public institutions in Tacoma.

¹ [City of Tacoma - File #: 25-0273](#); [City of Tacoma - File #: 25-0471](#)

Livability: Equity Index Score: Moderate Opportunity

Increase positive public perception of safety and overall quality of life.

How does your policy, program, or service help or harm the health of the natural environment?² (e.g. reduction in carbon emissions, open space conditions, sustainability, clean air, water and soil, and noise and light pollution).

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts
Do not adopt the 2025 Climate Action Plan Update.	The City Council could have the City Manager focus on other Council priorities.	The City would lack an up-to-date pathway for building greater resilience to the impacts of climate change, undermining the ability of the City to take decisive climate action.

EVALUATIONS AND FOLLOW UP

If approved, the Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability will continue to provide CAP progress updates to the City Council at regular intervals.

SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION

Sponsors recommend moving the resolution forward to a vote on July 8, 2025.

FISCAL IMPACT

If approved, this resolution does not bind the City to any financial expenditures beyond staff time, which is already factored into Department fiscal calculations. However, implementation of some recommended actions in the 2025 CAP Update would require the allocation of additional resources. There are also likely financial benefits related to efforts that improve Tacoma’s climate resilience. For example, steps to reduce urban heat islands are likely to help decrease impacts on our stormwater infrastructure, reduce flood damage, and lower heating and air conditioning costs for residents.

If you have a question related to the resolution request, please contact Christina Caan, Policy Analyst, at (253) 219-0679 (phone) or ccaan@cityoftacoma.org.

SUBMITTED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION BY:


Council Member Kristina Walker

SUPPORTING COUNCIL MEMBERS SIGNATURES

1.  _____ POS# 4

2.  _____ POS# 1

3.



POS# 7

Mayor initials: *Victor R. Woodard*

**MOTION FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION
ORDINANCE NO. 29041**

June 24, 2025

I move to amend Ordinance No. 29041 by adding an additional final

Recital as follows:

WHEREAS the City Council conducted a public hearing on June 3, 2025, in accordance with Tacoma Municipal Code 13.02, to receive public comments on the Planning Commission's recommendations, and ~~Now,~~

~~Therefore,~~

WHEREAS the One Tacoma Comprehensive Plan does not dictate specific outcomes, it is a planning document and implementing its policies and actions always includes further analysis, outreach and balancing the use of limited resources among the City's many priorities; Now, Therefore,

**MOTION FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION
ORDINANCE NO. 29041**

June 24, 2025

I move to amend Ordinance No. 29041 by adding additional revisions to the amendments in the Draft Plan, specifically in Chapter 5: Housing, Section 5.3 Priority Actions, at Page 5-339, by modifying and adding to the list of Priority Actions as follows:

- Evaluate the City's bonus programs, prioritize incentives, implement expansion of inclusionary zoning when feasible in submarkets, and set goals ~~focus~~ objectives for new housing development. Draft plan for achieving goals in alignment with current staff workload and provide annual progress update to City Council.
- Review and continue to update ~~Finalize and publish~~ set of pre-approved ADU and other planning designs and house subdivision guidance. As part of this program, review success after a two or three-year horizon and add more models, if feasible.
- Update the Downtown Subarea Plans to incorporate a minimum 10% affordable housing set aside and consider projected demand for transitioning commercial space to housing. Ensure all future TOD related subarea plans incorporate inclusionary zoning mechanisms when feasible. Consider state and federal funding and zoning support for transitioning commercial space to housing.
- Provide updates in alignment with data availability to City Council on how many new housing units have been built and how many permits for new housing units are under review. Coordinate housing data and reporting between PDS, CEDD, and the Office of Strategy.
- Pursue a local source of revenue to preserve and develop housing units.
- Build staff capacity and determine an appropriate funding source to create a feasibility study on the establishment of a social housing program, and other

innovative housing programs that may arise, in collaboration with regional stakeholders, particularly at the County level. The feasibility study will inform next steps, provide best practices for implementation and give a robust understanding of the program costs.

- Provide City Council with options for funding to expand land banking opportunities. As part of future Subarea planning, identify potential opportunities for land banking.
- Provide educational opportunities and incentives for Tacoma residents and developers to encourage home ownership and middle housing and expand community awareness of these opportunities.
- Create a streamlined annual process for evaluating City-owned surplus land for affordable housing opportunities and transferring it to private ownership.
- Reduce costs for new affordable housing projects by investing proactively and working with state partners to fund and construct regional stormwater facilities and other infrastructure projects.
- To support more affordable homeownership opportunities, advocate at the state-level for continued reforms to condominium construction and liability laws to provide greater certainty to builders and reduce costs.
- Continue to implement the actions identified in the Affordable Housing Action Strategy, Homelessness Strategy, and Anti-Displacement Strategy and seek funding and resources to expand and accelerate implementation.

Exhibit to Motion

CHAPTER 5 - HOUSING

5.3 Priority Actions.

- Evaluate the City's bonus programs, prioritize incentives, [implement expansion of inclusionary zoning when feasible in submarkets](#), and [set goals](#) ~~focus-objectives~~ for new housing development. [Draft plan for achieving goals in alignment with current staff workload and provide annual progress update to City Council.](#)
- [Review and continue to update](#) ~~Finalize and publish~~ set of pre-approved ADU [and other planning](#) designs and house subdivision guidance. As part of this program, review success after a two or three-year horizon and add more models, if feasible.
- Create guidance for affirmative marketing.
- Update the Downtown Subarea Plans to incorporate a minimum 10% affordable housing set aside [and consider projected demand for transitioning commercial space to housing](#). Ensure all future TOD related subarea plans incorporate inclusionary zoning mechanisms [when feasible. Consider state and federal funding and zoning support for transitioning commercial space to housing.](#)
- Consider expansion of Reduced Parking Areas to reduce housing costs, especially in coordination with future subarea plans and in conjunction with the expansion of high frequency transit.
- Update commercial zoning districts to improve the feasibility of multidwelling and mixed-use development. Implement middle housing standards and housing types within the city's high density zoning districts.
- Explore the benefits and impacts of dedicating revenue from expiring affordable housing incentives to support the long-term sustainability of the Housing Trust Fund.
- [Provide updates in alignment with data availability to City Council on how many new housing units have been built and how many permits for new housing units are under review. Coordinate housing data and reporting between PDS, CEDD, and the Office of Strategy.](#)
- [Pursue a local source of revenue to preserve and develop housing units.](#)

- Build staff capacity and determine an appropriate funding source to create a feasibility study on the establishment of a social housing program, and other innovative housing programs that may arise, in collaboration with regional stakeholders, particularly at the County level. The feasibility study will inform next steps, provide best practices for implementation and give a robust understanding of the program costs.
- Provide City Council with options for funding to expand land banking opportunities. As part of future Subarea planning, identify potential opportunities for land banking.
- Provide educational opportunities and incentives for Tacoma residents and developers to encourage home ownership and middle housing and expand community awareness of these opportunities.
- Create a streamlined annual process for evaluating City-owned surplus land for affordable housing opportunities and transferring it to private ownership.
- Reduce costs for new affordable housing projects by investing proactively and working with state partners to fund and construct regional stormwater facilities and other infrastructure projects.
- To support more affordable homeownership opportunities, advocate at the state-level for continued reforms to condominium construction and liability laws to provide greater certainty to builders and reduce costs.
- Continue to implement the actions identified in the Affordable Housing Action Strategy, Homelessness Strategy, and Anti-Displacement Strategy and seek funding and resources to expand and accelerate implementation.

**MOTION FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION
ORDINANCE NO. 29042**

June 24, 2025

I move to amend Ordinance No. 29042 by adding revisions to TMC 13.06.090.K.6.b.5.v. to establish landscape buffer width and perimeter fence setback requirements for properties zoned C-2 on Pedestrian Streets different than those of other Commercial, Mixed-Use Center, and Downtown zoning districts which reduces the landscape buffer width and setback between the public right-of-way and a perimeter fence from 5 feet to 3 feet. This amendment would maintain the 5-foot landscape buffer width and setback for non-C-2 properties adjacent to Core Pedestrian Streets or Pedestrian Streets. The amendment is written to allow flexibility on how that can be achieved to allow for cost effective options that still enhance the pedestrian experience as follows:

(v) Electric fences adjacent to designated Core Pedestrian Streets or designated Pedestrian Streets shall be required to have a ~~planting strip~~ landscape buffer at least 5 feet wide between the public right-of-way and the perimeter fence, with landscaping pursuant to the requirements of TMC 13.06.090.B.3, in order to soften the view of the fence and contribute to the pedestrian environment. The landscape buffer must meet the following standards:

- All districts, except C-2: A landscape buffer at least 5 feet wide shall be provided consisting of a mix of trees, shrubs, and groundcover pursuant to site perimeter landscaping requirements of TMC 13.06.090.B.4.e(4).

- C-2 districts: A landscape buffer at least 3 feet wide shall be provided consisting of a mix of shrubs and groundcover. There must be at least one shrub for every three linear feet of buffer area. Groundcover plants must fully cover the remainder of the landscaped area. Some or all of the landscape buffer may be contained in planters as long as other requirements are met.

Exhibit to Motion

CHAPTER 13.06 ZONING

13.06.090 Site Development Standards.

K. Fences and Retaining Walls.

* * *

6. Commercial, MUCs, and Downtown Districts.

* * *

b. Electrified Fence Standards.

* * *

(5) Perimeter Fence.

(i) An electric fence shall be surrounded by a non-electric, perimeter fence, with a smaller aperture designed to limit the passthrough of hands. This perimeter fence shall be a minimum of 6 feet in height and a maximum of 7 feet in height. This fence may be located on the property line.

(ii) The required perimeter fence shall be setback a minimum of 1 foot from the electric fence.

(iii) When the perimeter fence is between the building and the front property line, or otherwise along a public street, sidewalk or trail, the perimeter fence shall be decorative and not be chain link or similar wire fencing.

(iv) When the perimeter fence is between a public street or sidewalk and the property, the fence must be designed to allow pedestrians and drivers to see onto the property.

(v) Electric fences adjacent to designated Core Pedestrian Streets or designated Pedestrian Streets shall be required to have a ~~planting strip~~ landscape buffer at least 5 feet wide between the public right-of-way and the perimeter fence, with landscaping pursuant to the requirements of TMC 13.06.090.B.3, in order to soften the view of the fence and contribute to the pedestrian environment. The landscape buffer must meet the following standards:

- All districts, except C-2: A landscape buffer at least 5 feet wide shall be provided consisting of a mix of trees, shrubs, and groundcover pursuant to site perimeter landscaping requirements of TMC 13.06.090.B.4.e(4).
- C-2 districts: A landscape buffer at least 3 feet wide shall be provided consisting of a mix of shrubs and groundcover. There must be at least one shrub for every three linear feet of buffer area. Groundcover plants must fully cover the remainder of the landscaped area. Some or all of the landscape buffer may be contained in planters as long as other requirements are met.

Date	Meeting	Subject	Department	Background
June 24, 2025	Study Session (Hybrid Council Chambers / Dial-in 12:00 p.m.)	Media and Communications Quarterly Communications Strategy Update	Media and Communications - Amy Clancy, Goldin Doles and Brian Cox	Media and Communications staff will provide their quarterly briefing to the Mayor and City Council
		State Legislative Session End of Session Report	Office of Strategy - Sonja Hallum, GRO Alex MacBain	Staff will provide Mayor and Council the State Legislative Session end of session report.
	City Council Meeting (hybrid Council Chambers /dial-in 5:00 PM)			
July 1, 2025	Study Session (Hybrid Council Chambers / Dial-in 12:00 p.m.)			
	Committee of the Whole - (Immediately Following the Study Session) hybrid / Council Chambers			
	City Council Meeting (hybrid Council Chambers /dial-in 5:00 PM)			
July 8, 2025	Study Session (Hybrid Council Chambers / Dial-in 12:00 p.m.)	Tacoma Smelter Plume Annual Update	Tacoma Smelter Plume - Justin Zakoren, Yard Program Manager	Staff will provide their annual update to the Mayor and Council Members
	City Council Meeting (hybrid Council Chambers /dial-in 5:00 PM)			
July 15, 2025	Study Session (Hybrid Council Chambers / Dial-in 12:00 p.m.)			
	Committee of the Whole			
	City Council Meeting (hybrid Council Chambers /dial-in 5:00 PM)			
July 22, 2025	Study Session (Hybrid Council Chambers / Dial-in 12:00 p.m.)			

Community Vitality and Safety Committee

Committee Members (Chair) CM Rumbaugh, (Vice Chair) CM Walker, CM Sadalge, and CM Scott Alternate: CM Diaz Executive Liaison: Katie Johnston; Coordinator: D'Angelo Baker		2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month 4:30pm Zoom and TMB 248	CBC Assignments • Commission on Disabilities • Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs • Community's Police Advisory Committee • Housing Authority • Human Rights Commission • Human Services Commission • Public Library Board • Tacoma Community Redevelopment Authority
Date	Topic	Presenter(s)	Description
June 26, 2025	Code Compliance Informational Briefing	Mindee Weber, Code Compliance, Planning and Development Services	Informational update on current code compliance work and process improvements.
July 10, 2025	Street Medicine	Chantel Harmon Reed - Tacoma Pierce County Health Department	
July 24, 2025	To be Determined		

Economic Development Committee			
Committee Members (Chair) DM Daniels, (Vice Chair) CM Diaz, CM Bushnell, and CM Scott Alternate: CM Rumbaugh; Executive Liaison: Tanja Carter; Coordinator: Anna Le		2nd, 4th, and 5th Tuesdays of the month 10:00am Zoom and TMB 248	CBC Assignments • City Events and Recognition Committee • Equity in Contracting Advisory Committee • Convention Center Public Facilities District • Tacoma Arts Commission • Tacoma Creates Advisory Board
Date	Topic	Presenter(s)	Description
June 24, 2025	Ceiba Redevelopment Project Loan Briefing	Debbie Bingham, Business and Economic Development Manager, Community and Economic Development	This presentation will provide an overview of an exciting project which will preserve 78 units of affordable housing units and revitalize eight street-front retail commercial spaces (8,500 square feet total) surrounding City Hall. CEDD intends to fill a financial gap with a loan to bring this project across the finish line.
	Economic Development Strategic Plan Work Session	Rebecca Solverson, Arts and Cultural Vitality Division Manager, Community and Economic Development	The eighth strategic plan work session will focus on objective 8 of the Economic Development Strategic Plan: Choose Tacoma in Which to Live, Work, and Explore.
July 8, 2025	Farmers Market Update and Transition Plan	Shari Hart, Business and Economic Development Analyst, Community and Economic Development	This presentation will provide updates on the Farmers Market Program, including the transition from legacy funding to a competitive funding model aimed at increasing transparency, equity, and program sustainability. Staff will also outline the timeline and next steps for the transition process.
July 22, 2025	Tacoma Creates Advisory Board Interviews	Nicole Emery, City Clerk	The Committee will conduct interviews to fill three seats on the Advisory Board for terms to begin August 1, 2025.
July 29, 2025	Tacoma Mall Subarea Art and Placemaking Plan	Rebecca Solverson, Arts and Cultural Vitality Division Manager, Community and Economic Development; Linda Wysong, Artist	Staff will present the Tacoma Mall Subarea Art and Placemaking Plan, developed by artists Horatio Law and Linda Wysong. The Art and Placemaking Plan is a recommendation of the Tacoma Mall Neighborhood Subarea Plan adopted by City Council in 2018, and will help guide public art and placemaking investments over the next 10 to 15 years.

Government Performance and Finance Committee

<p align="center">Committee Members (Chair) CM Hines, (Vice Chair) CM Bushnell, DM Daniels, and CM Rumbaugh Alternate: CM Walker Executive Liaison: Andy Cherullo; Coordinator: D'Angelo Baker</p>	<p align="center">1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month 10:00am Zoom and TMB 248</p>	<p align="center">CBC Assignments • Audit Advisory Board • Board of Ethics • Civil Service Board • Public Utility Board</p>
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Date	Topic	Presenter(s)	Description
July 1, 2025	Consumption Assumptions for New Customers of Environmental Services	ES Staff	Staff from Environmental Services will present on modifications to TMC 12.08B.210.C related to assumed water use for new residential customers.
	Rail South Intermodal Yard (SIM) Lease	Tacoma Rail Staff	Lease of TPU-Rail's South Intermodal Yard to the North West Seaport Alliance (NWSA) for continued use as a domestic intermodal freight rail facility.
Joint Meeting with the Audit Advisory Board	2024 Moss Adams Exit Conference	Olga Darlington	Staff from Moss Adams will present on audit results for the 2024 Utilities Audit - Water, Power, Rail, Solid Waste, Wastewater and Surface Water.
July 15, 2025	Advanced Meter Project (AMI) Update	TPU Staff	Staff from TPU will provide an update on the Advanced Meter Project.
	Monthly Budget Update	Andy Cherullo, Finance Director	Staff from OMB will present on topics related to the current biennium budget, revenue collections and expenditures, and other issues related to budgeting.
	State Auditor's Office 2023 Exit Conference- Accountability Audit		
	State Auditor's Office 2024 Entrance Conference- Federal Audit		

Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee

Committee Members (Chair) CM Walker, (Vice Chair) CM Diaz, CM Hines, and CM Sadalge Alternate: CM Bushnell Executive Liaison: Ramiro Chavez; Coordinator: Anna Le		2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month 4:30pm Zoom and TMB 248	CBC Assignments • Board of Building Appeals • Climate and Sustainability Commission • Landmarks Preservation Commission • Planning Commission • Transportation Commission • Urban Design Board
Date	Topic	Presenter(s)	Description
June 25, 2025	Cancelled	--	--
July 9, 2025	Cancelled	--	--
July 23, 2025	Board of Building Appeals Interviews	Nicole Emery, City Clerk	The Committee will conduct interviews to fill five seats on the Board for terms to begin August 1, 2025.