

# City of Tacoma, Washington Federal Agenda

October 12, 2021



**Jen Covino, President**  
Simon and Company, Inc.

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## City of Tacoma: Federal Priorities



- Responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic as Partners
- “Together, We Will Change” – Systems Transformation
- Economic Security
- Human Dignity and Safety
  - Police Accountability, Gun Violence, Immigration
- Infrastructure
  - Climate and Environment
  - Water & Energy
  - Telecommunications
  - Human/Social
  - Affordable Housing and Homelessness



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## 117<sup>th</sup> Congress

- **US Senate: 50-50 Split**
  - 48 Democrats plus 2 Independents
    - Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer
    - Vice President Kamala Harris serving as tiebreaker as President of the Senate
  - 50 Republicans
    - Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell
- **US House of Representatives: 432 - Democratic Majority**
  - Speaker Nancy Pelosi
    - 220 Democrats
  - House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy
    - 212 Republicans
  - 3 Vacancies
    - Marcia Fudge (D), OH to be filled on November 2, 2021
    - Alcee Hastings (D), FL to be filled January 11, 2022
    - Steve Stivers (R), OH to be filled November 2, 2022



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## Biden-Harris Administration

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Antony Blinken</b>, Secretary of State</li> <li>• <b>Dr. Janet Yellen</b>, Secretary of the Treasury</li> <li>• <b>Lloyd Austin</b>, Secretary of Defense</li> <li>• <b>Merrick Garland</b>, Attorney General</li> <li>• <b>Deb Haaland</b>, Secretary of the Interior</li> <li>• <b>Tom Vilsack</b>, Secretary of Agriculture</li> <li>• <b>Gina Raimondo</b>, Secretary of Commerce</li> <li>• <b>Marty Walsh</b>, Secretary of Labor</li> <li>• <b>Xavier Becerra</b>, Secretary of Health and Human Services</li> <li>• <b>Marcia Fudge</b>, Secretary of Housing &amp; Urban Development</li> <li>• <b>Pete Buttigieg</b>, Secretary of Transportation</li> <li>• <b>Jennifer Granholm</b>, Secretary of Energy</li> <li>• <b>Dr. Miguel Cardona</b>, Secretary of Education</li> <li>• <b>Denis McDonough</b>, Secretary of Veterans Affairs</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Alejandro Mayorkas</b>, Secretary of Homeland Security</li> <li>• <b>Michael Regan</b>, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency</li> <li>• <b>Avril Haines</b>, Director of National Intelligence</li> <li>• <b>Katherine Tai</b>, United States Trade Representative</li> <li>• <b>Linda Thomas-Greenfield</b>, United States Ambassador to the United Nations</li> <li>• <b>Dr. Cecilia Rouse</b>, Chair of the Council of Economic Advisors</li> <li>• <b>Isabel Guzman</b>, Administrator of the Small Business Administration</li> <li>• <b>Ron Klain</b>, Chief of Staff</li> </ul> |
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## 2020 Platform Updates: COVID Relief

### **American Rescue Plan Act of 2021**

- President Biden signed ARPA into law on March 11, 2021
- It provided \$1.9 trillion of federal assistance to facilitate response and recovery efforts, including investments to address income, housing, food insecurity of residents and financial distress of small businesses, nonprofits, and venues
- Law provided \$350 billion through the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund, including \$60.969 million for the City of Tacoma with the ability to cover expenses and revenue losses
- Treasury issued Interim Final Rule on CSLFRF on May 17, 2021 and it is expected to issue Final Rule later this fall



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## 2020 Platform Updates: Other Priorities

### **Economic Security**

- Minority Development Business Act of 2021 in IIJA

### **Climate**

- Biden Administration Rejoins Paris Agreement
- Issues Series of Executive Orders
- Pending Legislation: Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and Build Back Better Act

### **Housing**

- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) proposed regulation to rescind 2020 “disparate impact” standard and restore 2013 discriminatory effects rule
- HUD Interim Final Rule to restore implementation of Obama Administration’s Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) regulation



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## 2020 Platform Updates: Earmarks

- **Member Designated Projects included in House-passed *INVEST in America Act***
  - E 64th Street Phase 2 (\$5,600,000; Rep. Strickland)
  - Links to Opportunity (\$2,000,000; Rep. Kilmer)
  - Puyallup Avenue Transit/Complete Streets Improvements (\$2,000,000; Rep. Smith)
  - Safe Route to school Improvements: Whitman Elementary and Edison Elementary Schools (\$1,000,000; Rep. Kilmer)
- **Community Project Funding included in House FY 2022 appropriations bills**
  - Pedestrian Accessibility Improvements (\$3,900,000; T-HUD; Rep. Strickland)
- **Community Project Funding requested by Senators for Senate FY 2022 appropriations bills**
  - Fishing Wars Memorial Bridge (\$2,200,000; T-HUD; Senator Cantwell)
  - Links to Opportunity (\$2,000,000; T-HUD; Senator Murray)



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## Together, We Will Change: Systems Transformation

### **Executive Orders:**

- Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government
- Advancing Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility in the Federal Government
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility in the Federal Workforce
- Advancing Equity, Justice, and Opportunity for Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders
- Preventing and Combating Discrimination on the Basis of Gender Identity or Sexual Orientation

### **Other Efforts:**

- Memorandum Condemning and Combating Racism, Xenophobia, and Intolerance Against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States
- Memorandum on Advancing the Human Rights of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Intersex Persons Around the World
- White House Justice40 Initiative



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## Together, We Will Change: Systems Transformation

### Police Reform

- In response to officer-involved fatalities and civil unrest last summer, federal lawmakers focused on police reform over the summer, then those discussions stalled after introduction of competing, comprehensive legislative proposals:
  - **George Floyd Justice in Policing Act (HR 7120 & S 3912)**
    - Introduced in the 116th Congress, passed in the House on June 25, 2020, but it has not been considered in the Senate.
  - **Just & Unifying Solutions To Invigorate Communities Everywhere (JUSTICE) Act (HR 7278 & S 3985)**
    - Introduced by South Carolina Senator Tim Scott in the 116th Congress, but not voted on in either the House or Senate.



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## Together, We Will Change: Systems Transformation

### Economic Security

- Mayor Woodards joined Mayors for a Guaranteed Income (MGI), a network of mayors who are studying or piloting guaranteed income projects in their communities.
- **The Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African-Americans Act (H.R. 40/S. 1083)** would establish a commission to study and recommend reparation proposals in a report to Congress and to examine federal and State policies that contribute to white supremacy.
- Anchor Institutions Task Force (AITF) recommends creating a Fund for Anchor Institutions within a federal agency to rebuild in the wake of the pandemic by targeting low-income and historically disadvantaged communities of color.



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## Human Dignity & Public Safety: Gun Violence

- The Tacoma City Council adopted a Firearms and Ammunition Tax to help address gun violence locally.
- The City joins the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the National League of Cities in urging the President to advance critical legislation to reduce gun violence and promote public safety.
- The House passed two bills, the **Bipartisan Background Checks Act** and the **Enhanced Background Checks Act**, (H.R. 8 & H.R. 1446) to require and enhance background checks. The Senate has not acted.
- Biden Administration gave flexibility on ARPA funds for community-based violence intervention.



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## Human Dignity & Public Safety: Immigration

- The City supports federal legislation that would end the use of privately-operated prisons and instead utilize available alternatives to immigration detention.
- The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit ruled to overturn a District Court ruling that upheld a 2019 California bill banning for-profit prison and detention facilities in the state.
- **The Dignity for Detained Immigrants Act (H.R. 2222/S. 1186)** would ensure all immigrants receive individualized and fair bond hearings by ending the use of mandatory detention of certain immigrants and requiring the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to establish probable cause of removability in 48 hours.
  - House bill is sponsored by Rep. Jayapal with 109 co-sponsors, including Rep. Kilmer and Rep. Larsen.
  - Senate companion measure is sponsored by Senator Booker with 6 co-sponsors, including Senator Murray and no Republicans.
- President Biden issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) to fortify the DACA program & announced the end of the Trump-era Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP).



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## Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

\$1.2 trillion infrastructure measure with \$550 billion worth of new additional investment beyond baseline spending

- **Transportation: \$284 billion**
  - Roads and Bridges: \$110 billion
  - Rail: \$66 billion
  - Transit: \$39 billion
  - Aviation: \$25 billion
  - Ports and Waterways: \$17 billion
  - Safety: \$11 billion
  - Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging: \$7.5 billion
  - Electric buses: \$7.5 billion
  - Reconnecting Communities: \$1 billion



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## Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

### **Other Infrastructure Sectors: \$266 billion**

- Energy and Power: \$73 billion
- Broadband: \$65 billion
- Water: \$55 billion
- Resiliency: \$46 billion
- Environmental Remediation: \$21 billion
- Western Water Infrastructure: \$8.3 billion



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## Infrastructure: Climate & Environment

- Biden Administration Rejoins Paris Agreement
- Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act
  - Resiliency: \$46 billion
  - Environmental Remediation: \$21 billion
  - Electric Vehicles: \$7.5 billion
- Robust climate and environment funding in reconciliation titles developed by House Natural Resources Committee, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, House Energy and Commerce Committee, and House Agriculture Committee



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## Infrastructure: Water and Energy

- Community Project Funding: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) local projects included in FY 2022 Energy-Water spending bill
- \$250 million for Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) included in IIJA
- **Build Back Better Act:**
  - Water
    - \$100 million to support water reuse projects.
    - \$30 billion to replace lead service lines (LSLs) in drinking water systems.
    - \$6 billion in direct loans and grants for affordable housing projects that improve water and energy efficiency and climate resiliency.
  - Energy
    - \$27.5 billion for state, local, and nonprofit climate finance institutions to deploy low- and zero-emission technologies.
    - \$18 billion to provide rebates for home energy efficiency and appliance electrification.
    - \$7 billion to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) for loan and grant programs supporting the development of zero-emission transportation technologies.
    - \$1.1 billion to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) for renewable energy demonstration projects.



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## Infrastructure: Telecommunications

- The City calls on the Federal Communications Commission and Congress to **preserve local government authority to manage their rights-of-way to ensure the siting of cell towers and small cells is safe and appropriate.**
- **The Accelerating Wireless Broadband Development by Empowering Local Communities Act of 2019** (H.R. 530) would overturn the FCC regulations limiting the ability of local governments to regulate the deployment of 5G wireless infrastructure.
- FCC has not yet acted under the Biden Administration to overturn the “Accelerating Wireless and Wireline Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment” action, nor have lawmakers reintroduced this piece of legislation



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## Build Back Better Act

- House Agriculture Committee: \$89.1 billion
- House Education and Labor Committee: \$779.5 billion
- House Energy and Commerce Committee: \$486.5 billion
- House Financial Services Committee: \$330 billion
- House Homeland Security Committee: \$865 million
- House Judiciary Committee: \$107.5 billion
- House Natural Resources Committee: \$25.6 billion
- House Oversight and Reform Committee: \$15.5 billion
- House Science, Space, and Technology Committee: \$45.51 billion
- House Small Business Committee: \$25 billion
- House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee: \$60 billion
- House Veterans' Affairs Committee: \$18 billion
- House Ways and Means Committee



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## Infrastructure: Human and Social

### Human infrastructure in the *Build Back Better Act*:

- \$450 billion in affordable child care and universal pre-k for three- and four-year-olds.
- \$190 billion in funding to expand home- and community-based services (HCBS) for older adults and individuals with disabilities
- \$111 billion to provide two years of tuition-free community college, increase federal Pell grants, address teacher shortages, and invest in minority-serving institutions of higher education (IHEs).
- \$82 billion in America's public school infrastructure
- \$80 billion in workforce development programs.
- \$35 billion in child nutrition programs including expanding EBT over the Summer.
- \$25 million to the pregnancy assistance fund.
- Expands *Affordable Care Act (ACA)* premium tax credits to individuals below 100 percent of the federal poverty line (FPL)



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## Infrastructure: Affordable Housing & Homelessness

- Tacoma received \$63 million in Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) funding to date through coronavirus relief legislation.
- Affordable Housing and Homelessness in the *Build Back Better Act*
  - \$80 billion for public housing
  - \$75 billion for Housing Choice Vouchers
  - \$37 billion for the Housing Trust Fund
  - \$35 billion for HOME
  - \$15 billion for Project-Based Rental Assistance
  - \$8.5 billion for CDBG
  - Expansion of Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC)



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**Thank you for the opportunity  
and partnership!**



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