



4800 South 188th Street
SeaTac, WA 98188-8605

City Hall: 206.973.4800
Fax: 206.973.4809
TDD: 206.973.4808

Mayor
Erin Sitterley

Deputy Mayor
Clyde Hill

Councilmembers
Rick Forschler
Joel Wachtel
Peter Kwon
Amina Ahmed
Pam Fernald

City Manager
Joseph Scorcio

City Attorney
Mary Mirante Bartolo

City Clerk
Kristina Gregg

CITY OF SEATAC 2019 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Increase Department of Corrections Funding for Reimbursement of Local Jail Beds -The legislature sets the daily rate that the Department of Corrections (DOC) can pay to house inmates in local jails. The City of SeaTac is one of seven city owners of the South Correctional Entity (SCORE). While the facility provides services to around 30 entities, of the 802 beds available, the DOC has an average daily population of 280 inmates at SCORE. The market-based contract rate for non-DOC clients has been set at \$124 for guaranteed beds and \$180 for non-guaranteed beds, yet the DOC is limited to a statutory rate of \$85. This is not competitive with the Puget Sound market for jail beds. It is in the interest of both the SCORE owners and the state to increase this rate to a market rate to ensure the DOC has continued access to this facility. The City requests that the legislature increase the statutory rate and provide the DOC with sufficient resources to pay a market rate.

Mobile Home Park Relocation Assistance -SeaTac supports increased funding to ensure adequate relocation assistance for displaced residents of redeveloped mobile home parks, and legislation that provides greater rights to mobile home park tenants.

Housing -SeaTac residents are experiencing increased housing prices and fewer housing options. The City supports legislation that provides tools and funding options to promote additional housing options, including reforming the condominium liability act to spur development of middle income, starter, senior and high-density housing units.

Transportation: SR 509 and SR 518 -The City of SeaTac is significantly impacted by regional traffic associated with these two state routes, including those accessing the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport. Improving SR 509 and SR 518 has been and remains the City's top transportation priority.

Complete SR 509 Extension to I-5

The legislature will weigh several decisions impacting this critical project that is funded in the Connecting Washington transportation package. The City supports tolling authorization for the Puget Sound Gateway project; renewal of the budget proviso that ensures any cost savings on the corridor remain on the corridor; and implementing WSDOT's recommendations to expedite funding to ensure on-time or early delivery of the project.

SR 518 Corridor Study

Funding was provided in 2018 to evaluate options to address high vehicle volumes and delays on SR 518 including evaluation of solutions to the rapid growth of traffic, and how that growth impacts access to the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport and the surrounding communities. The City is closely following this project and supports implementing related legislative solutions.

Defend Local Control -The best governmental decisions are those that are made closest to the people represented. Cities possess strong local authority to provide for the safety and welfare of their residents, and the Legislature must abstain from restricting, mandating, or otherwise interfering with local decisions. The City of SeaTac will oppose legislative actions that are inconsistent with this view.

2019 Legislative Session
City of SeaTac Internal Policy Document:
(Additional direction to City staff and lobbyists only—not for distribution)

- **Animal Control:** SeaTac will oppose any state law that preempts local animal control authority, including cities' authority to choose whether to ban specific dog breeds or reduce the amount of liability insurance required of owners of potentially dangerous dogs.
- **Business Licenses and Taxes:** SeaTac will participate in the Business & Occupation Tax and Licensing Task Force comprised of city and business stakeholders to explore changes to the apportionment of local business & occupation taxes and facilitate the conversion to the State licensing program.
- **Gang Prevention:** SeaTac supports legislation that will provide a comprehensive approach to the growing gang problem including increased prevention and intervention efforts and sentencing enhancements for some types of gang-related crime.
- **Housing Choice:** SeaTac supports legislation that provides tools for the preservation, maintenance and development of a range of housing options.
- **Human Services:** SeaTac will encourage full participation by the State and counties in a comprehensive approach to complex social issues such as public health, mental health, substance abuse, health care, emergency and transitional housing, at-risk youth and immigration.
- **Legal Challenges to State Agency Mandates:** SeaTac supports establishing criteria that require equal judicial consideration of testimony and evidence provided by outside experts on the same basis as testimony provided by public agency staff or their consultants.
- **Lodging Tax and Tourism Promotion Area Administration:** SeaTac will work with the Legislature to ensure lodging tax revenues diverted from stadium bonds are allocated to the city's priority projects and programs, particularly that a portion of lodging tax revenues continue to be available for tourism operations.
- **State-Shared Revenues:** SeaTac supports maintaining funding for state-shared revenues. These funds include the Criminal Justice Assistance account, the Liquor Excise Tax account, and Liquor Profit Revenues. Additionally, the City opposes any cuts to state-funded programs that would negatively impact the city's ability to deliver services to its citizens.
- **Telecommunications:** SeaTac opposes legislation that removes local control in the siting and regulation of small cell network facilities. Furthermore, the City supports legislation that makes statutory changes to clarify and improve the deployment of small cell network facilities.
- **Economic Development and Infrastructure:** SeaTac supports legislation to enhance State funding, tools and programs for local economic development and infrastructure that further the economic development and growth of the city through investments that attract, retain and expand business and create living wage jobs.
- **Funding for Public Defense:** SeaTac supports additional state funding for the provision of public defense services in order to meet the requirements of the Court-adopted public defense standards and caseload limits.
- **Foreclosed Homes:** SeaTac supports legislation that requires notification to cities identifying foreclosed homes and the maintenance of tax- and bank- foreclosed properties.

- **Transportation Network Companies:** SeaTac opposes legislation that removes local control to regulate transportation network companies. Furthermore, the City supports legislation that streamlines local regulation of these transportation companies.
- **Tax exempt properties[TJ1]:** SeaTac opposes increased property tax exemptions as they negatively impact the City.
- **Aviation Studies and Airport Relief:** The City of SeaTac supports studies on Air Cargo, Aviation Economic Impacts, and the Aviation Baseline Study as it pertains to the City. The City also supports airport relief at SeaTac International Airport and exploring options for another major airport in the state as SeaTac reaches capacity.
- **State Agency Rulemaking:** SeaTac supports legislation requiring statutorily mandated agency rules be ratified by legislative action prior to their effective date(s) and require that rules drafted to implement legislation include an analysis and description of potential impacts to local businesses and economic development.
- **Seizures and Forfeitures:** SeaTac supports modernizing procedures and reporting requirements for seizures and forfeitures. Washington laws are inconsistent on this topic and cause requirements to be confusing and burdensome. The City supports a more streamlined approach to align consistencies with seizures and forfeitures.
- **Unfunded Mandates:** SeaTac recognizes that jurisdictions have limited fiscal capacity and opposes unfunded and under-funded mandates.