



POLICY DOCUMENT

In addition to the City's 2019 adopted legislative priorities, the city has adopted the following policies. The policy document provides direction to city staff and the city lobbyist. These are issues that the city will monitor and support along with AWC and other stakeholders, but are secondary to the 2019 legislative priorities of the City.

STATE-SHARED REVENUES

The City of Covington requests that as the Legislature continue to fully fund local-state shared revenues, including liquor revolving account revenues, liquor profit revenues, marijuana excise tax revenues, and others.

PROPERTY TAX

The City of Covington supports lifting the 1% property tax ceiling to allow city revenues to increase with inflation/increasing costs.

HIGHER EDUCATION

The City of Covington will monitor the results of the pilot program where Green River College is offering courses at Kentwood High School, scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2019. The City will also monitor any legislative proposals that would assist the Covington community in attaining higher education.

INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING

The City of Covington supports continued and increased funding for the Public Works Assistance Account to meet local infrastructure needs, including redirecting Real Estate Excise Tax revenues and Utility Tax revenues back into the Public Works Assistance Account.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION NEEDS

The cities of Covington, Maple Valley, and Black Diamond will continue to advocate jointly for federal and state funding for State Route 169 and State Route 516 improvements and for transit alternatives in the three rapidly growing communities.

CONTINUED ON BACK

UNFUNDED MANDATES

Oppose unfunded and under-funded mandates on local government. Support funding for existing mandates including comprehensive plan updates, Shoreline Management Act updates and National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) requirements.

LOCAL CONTROL

The City of Covington supports legislation that provides greater local control of city regulatory issues, particularly around fireworks, marijuana lounges, liquor establishments, etc.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING & HOMEOWNERSHIP TOOLS

The City of Covington joins housing advocates in requesting funding tools for affordable housing, funding for the Housing Trust Fund, reforms to the Condominium Liability Act, and other creative solutions to funding or incentivizing affordable housing.

STORMWATER & CULVERT FUNDING

The City of Covington has significant stormwater and culvert funding needs. The City requests funding for current and new grant programs for local stormwater and culvert projects.

** The City supports the efforts of the Association of Washington Cities and Sound Cities Association.*