

City of Yakima 2021 State Legislative Priorities

Actively Pursue

- \$8.2 million budget request from the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife for the Nelson Dam removal/replacement project
- State funding participation in public/private investment in Miller Park upgrades
- Regulatory and legislative advocacy to preserve community access to health care services
- Development of a comprehensive transportation funding package that includes additional resources for cities. Do not eliminate local
- Increased state funding to support local efforts to provide homeless services and affordable housing
- Legislation and state funding designed to address the high rate of domestic violence present in Washington State
- Increased state funding to support local gang prevention, intervention, and suppression programs
- Continued support of local governments and business in response to the COVID-19 pandemic

Support

- Increased state funding for "Floodplains by Design" projects
- Yakima Basin Integrated Plan (YBIP) capital budget request of \$41 million to continue critical elements of the YBIP
- Replacing the one percent property tax revenue increase limit with a limit tied to cost drivers
- Equitable distribution of marijuana excise tax revenue to local government
- Legislation to improve broadband accessibility in rural communities
- Continued funding of the Trueblood state grants for mental health response assistance

Monitor

- Legislation providing greater flexibility in the use of public funds for economic development purposes
- Coordinate with Yakima County for flood risk reduction projects at and near Cowiche Creek
- Cuts to intergovernmental shared revenue, which should not be made to balance the state budget
- Efforts to eliminate or curtail local government options for Transportation Benefit Districts