



**City of Yakima
2023
State Legislative Priorities**

Actively Pursue

1. Full funding of the Washington State Patrol Crime Lab in order to address the backlog of cases.
2. Funding for construction of a community pool at MLK, Jr. Park
3. Regulatory and legislative advocacy to preserve community access to health care services, including additional funding for mental health response assistance to local governments and mental health providers
4. Legislation and state funding designed to address the high rate of domestic violence present in Washington State
5. Increased state funding in the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, funds for affordable housing, and funds to reduce homelessness including additional funding rounds for CHIP grants
6. Opportunities to provide financial incentives for downtown redevelopment for all cities
7. Funding for parking structures that will enhance the City's parking availability and provide opportunities for redevelopment of existing surface parking lots

Support

1. Efforts to continue to clarify and/or modify police reform legislation adopted during the 2021 state legislative session
2. Amendments to the WSDOT budget in order to ensure completion of committed projects in the Connecting Washington transportation package
3. Replacing the one percent property tax revenue increase limit with a limit tied to cost drivers
4. Legislation restricting the conversion of hotels located near event venues to housing
5. Effort to expand the ability and flexibility of cities to use Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) funds for additional capital needs, including maintenance and operation, and to support affordable housing

Monitor

- Legislation providing greater flexibility in the use of public funds for economic development purposes
- Cuts to intergovernmental shared revenue
- Enhancing distribution of marijuana excise tax revenue to local governments
- Modification of authorized outlets for publishing office local government notices