



# 2025 Legislative Agenda

## City of Sammamish

### Funding to Stabilize East Lake Sammamish Parkway

Project Cost Estimate: Design \$0.3-1.0M | Construction \$2.8-7.9M

Timeline: Early 2025 – Mid 2027

Request: \$1.0M to complete alternatives analysis and design

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The City requests funding to complete an alternatives analysis and design phase to ensure the stability and safety of East Lake Sammamish Parkway, just south of Inglewood Hill Road. This vital freight and commuter route has settled approximately six inches in six years, degrading underground utility pipes. Alternatives will consider stabilization versus a complete rebuild.



### Reauthorize Funding to Complete George Davis Creek Fish Passage Project

Project Cost Estimate: \$8.3M

Timeline: Early 2026 – Late 2026 (construction)

Request: Reauthorize \$515,000 appropriation

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Thanks to the support of our local legislative delegation, \$515,000 was appropriated in the 2019-2021 Capital Budget to remove two fish passage barriers on George Davis Creek. Due to years of project delays related to acquisition of property rights, this funding was carried forward into subsequent budgets. The City recently resolved the remaining legal issues and will be ready to construct the project in 2026. The City seeks reauthorization of these funds in the 2025-2027 Budget.

### Support Progressive and Realistic City Revenue Options

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Local government revenues are not keeping pace with the rising cost of delivering services, and existing revenue options available to cities unfairly penalize lower income community members.

#### **Enact progressive revenue options**

Including a local option Graduated Real Estate Excise Tax.

#### **Revise the arbitrary 1% property tax cap**

Revise the property tax cap so it tracks inflation, with a new cap not to exceed 3%.

### Support Local Climate Action Initiatives

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Local jurisdictions are a key partner in helping Washington achieve its commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 95% by 2050.

#### **Climate Commitment Act funding**

Improve access to Climate Commitment Act funding, including direct distributions, for city priorities that support carbon reduction and climate resiliency. Provide grants to incentivize low/middle income homeowners to electrify their homes with heat pumps and solar power.

#### **Reduce wasteful packaging**

Support proposals to establish producer responsibility for packaging, such as the WRAP Act.

## The City of Sammamish also supports:

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### **Affordable Housing**

**Increase funding for affordable housing at the state and local level and through local options, such as changes to real estate excise tax (REET).**

- Allow greater flexibility in existing REET revenues to be dedicated to affordable housing, including through regional efforts such as A Regional Coalition for Housing (ARCH).
- Direct the Department of Revenue and other relevant agencies to explore and direct what would be necessary for a graduated local option REET for affordable housing.

**Continue to reduce barriers and support local efforts to build more affordable housing faster**, such as providing policy and funding support to promote affordable housing development on properties owned by religious organizations.

### **Multimodal Transportation Improvements**

Continue to appropriately use Climate Commitment Act funding in the transportation budget to support improved transit service, pedestrian and bike safety initiatives, e-bike rebates, electrification infrastructure, and similar investments. Provide guidance to cities on local regulation of e-bikes and scooters, such as a model ordinance.

### **Access to Behavioral Health Resources**

The City recognizes that many in our community are struggling with behavioral health challenges, including our youth. Therefore, the City supports greater access to the entire continuum of behavioral health services and substance use disorder (SUD) treatment for adults and youth.

### **Full Funding for Washington Public Schools**

Ensure every school has the resources it needs to provide engaging learning opportunities, including fully funding special education.

### **Partner organization legislative agendas, including:**

- Association of Washington Cities
- Eastside Fire & Rescue
- King County-Cities Climate Collaboration
- Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed (WRIA 8) Partners
- Sound Cities Association