



SOUND CITIES ASSOCIATION

38 Cities. A Million People. One Voice.

## SCA Legislative Committee AGENDA

Tuesday, March 9, 2021  
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Public Notice: In an effort to curtail the spread of COVID-19, the SCA Legislative Committee meeting will be conducted remotely.

**Members of the public may view or listen to the meeting using the following methods:**

**From computer, tablet, or smartphone:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84598597733?pwd=YUxQcUtyYWdKZ2RNRkk0UXA4aC96dz09>

Dial In: 253-215-8782 **Meeting ID:** 845 9859 7733 **Password:** 971921

3:00 PM **Welcome & Introductions**

3:05 PM **2021 State Legislative Session Update/Bill Status**

- SCA 2021 Legislative Agenda ([Attachment 1](#))
- AWC Hot Sheet – March 8 ([Attachment 2](#))

3:15 PM **Legislative Strategy**

- What strategy does the SCA Legislative Committee want to take when members flag bills with concerns or want to support?
  - Action Alerts
  - Letters to delegation
- Is there anything that needs to be taken to PIC (March 10)?

3:55 PM **Discuss next steps**

4:00 PM **Adjourn**

# Sound Cities Association

## 2021 Legislative Agenda



### Promote Economic Recovery

The COVID-19 public health crisis has had a devastating economic impact on Washington's businesses and workforce. Additional investments will be necessary to support the long-term economic recovery of businesses. SCA urges the Legislature to:

- \* Provide tools and resources for local business recovery, particularly the small business community
- \* Be cognizant of tax implications and do no harm to businesses already hurt by the economic downturn
- \* Consider greater flexibility on business regulations to encourage economic vitality

### Address the Fiscal Needs of Cities to Provide Local Services

The need for cities to continue providing basic core services to residents remains essential despite the substantial revenue loss and unanticipated expenses brought by the COVID-19 pandemic. SCA urges the Legislature to:

- \* Provide a fair portion of any future federal or state COVID-19 relief funding directly to cities
- \* Ensure that state-shared revenue distributions remain whole
- \* Provide greater flexibility with existing revenue sources
- \* Replace the 1% cap on annual property tax increases with a limit tied to inflation plus population growth
- \* Ensure funding for Streamlined Sales Tax Mitigation
- \* Support local infrastructure and fully fund the Public Works Assistance Account

### Address Housing Instability

The state and cities must partner to preserve existing and increase the supply of affordable housing as well as address behavioral health needs and other root causes of homelessness. SCA urges the Legislature to:

- \* Address the instability resulting from the economic impacts of COVID-19, including rental, mortgage, and utility assistance
- \* Provide local option tools and incentives to diversify the housing supply that recognizes the diversity of our communities

### Clarify the Open Public Meetings Act Regarding Remote Meetings

SCA urges the Legislature to provide local governments with greater flexibility to hold virtual meetings without a physical location during an emergency.

### Invest in Transportation Infrastructure & Mobility

The economic recovery and vitality of our state demands that we invest in our existing transportation infrastructure and prioritize new investments that improve the mobility of people and goods. SCA urges the Legislature to:

- \* Partner with cities to develop a comprehensive transportation revenue package that provides new resources and options for local governments to address multimodal transportation and mobility needs

### Address Law Enforcement Reform

As cities are best positioned to understand the needs of our individual communities and police departments, SCA encourages the Legislature to partner with cities in addressing law enforcement reform. SCA supports thoughtful reforms that are timely, reasonable, and effective while recognizing local decision-making authority that ensures the needs of each community with varying levels of resources are met. SCA urges the Legislature to:

- \* Enact statewide law enforcement reform including:
  - \* establish a statewide standard use of force,
  - \* create database to track officers fired for misconduct,
  - \* expand grounds for decertification,
  - \* require officer misconduct investigations,
  - \* establish a duty to intervene when an officer witnesses misconduct by an officer,
  - \* require all officers receive regular mental health support and mental health screening for officers involved in fatal use of force.
- \* Provide state funding for any new statewide law enforcement programs or mandates

### Legislative Principles

SCA adopts the following guiding principles through which all legislative proposals will be measured against:

- \* Advance racial equity and social justice
- \* Preserve local decision-making authority
- \* Do not eliminate the social safety net
- \* Protect shared revenues
- \* No unfunded mandates to cities



# AWC Hot sheet – Bills of interest Week of March 8, 2021

## Priority bills – Support

<a href="#">HB 1054</a> Establishes requirements for tactics and equipment used by peace officers	Passed House – needs Senate committee action
<a href="#">HB 1069</a> Allows for fiscal flexibility with existing restricted revenues so cities can use them to address current budget challenges	Passed House – needs Senate committee hearing
<a href="#">SB 5051</a> Creates a database of officers fired for misconduct and adds use of force violations as grounds for decertification of an officer	Passed Senate – needs House committee action
<a href="#">HB 1108</a> Maintains foreclosure counselor program and funding	Needs Senate committee action
<a href="#">HB 1277</a> Increases document recording fee to fund rental assistance for tenants and landlords	House Appropriations – needs committee action (NTIB)
<a href="#">HB 1362</a> Resets the property tax cap to tie it to inflation	Needs committee hearing
<a href="#">SB 5066</a> Creates a duty to intervene if a law enforcement officer witnesses misconduct by another officer	Passed Senate – needs House committee action
<a href="#">SB 5160</a> Creates a pathway back from eviction moratorium including tenant protections and access to financial assistance for landlords	Passed Senate – needs House committee hearing
<a href="#">HB 1310</a> Concerning permissible uses of force by law enforcement	Passed House – needs Senate committee hearing

## Other bills – Support

<a href="#">HB 1056</a> Updates the Open Public Meetings Act to allow virtual meetings during emergencies	Needs Senate committee action
<a href="#">HB 1089</a> Permits state auditor to conduct inquiries into law enforcement agencies regarding compliance with I-940 (independent investigations)	House committee hearing scheduled – needs committee action
<a href="#">SB 5259</a> Establishes reporting requirements for law enforcement practices	Passed Senate – needs House committee hearing
<a href="#">HB 1117</a> Promotes salmon recovery in the Growth Management Act (GMA)*	Passed House – needs Senate committee hearing
<a href="#">HB 1099</a> Addresses climate change into the GMA*	Passed House – needs Senate committee hearing
<a href="#">HB 1189</a> Creates a property tax-based Tax Increment Financing (TIF) tool to fund public infrastructure to spur development	Passed House – Senate committee hearing set
<a href="#">SB 5237</a> Expands access for affordable childcare and early childhood development programs	Passed Senate – needs House committee hearing
<a href="#">HB 1267</a> Creates Office of Independent Investigations for deadly use of force incidents involving law enforcement	Passed House – needs Senate committee hearing



# AWC Hot sheet – Bills of interest Week of March 8, 2021

<a href="#">HB 1336</a> Expands authority for public entities to provide broadband	Needs Senate committee action
<a href="#">HB 1521</a> Provides mitigation to cities negatively impacted by streamlined sales tax	Needs Senate committee hearing
<a href="#">HB 1523</a> Allows voters to continuously approve a percentage of sales tax as a TBD revenue stream every 10 years vs 20-year limit	Needs floor action
<a href="#">SB 5055</a> Updates the arbitrator selection process for police discipline grievance cases	House committee hearing set
<a href="#">SB 5287</a> Removes flexibility for cities to address local circumstances within the Multifamily Tax Exemption (MFTE) Program	Passed Senate – needs House committee hearing

## Monitor

<a href="#">HB 1073</a> Expands eligibility for the Paid Family Medical Leave (PFML) program for those whose eligibility was impacted by the pandemic -- as amended it removes the main provisions that created concerns about significant increased costs for employers	Awaiting Senate committee hearing
<a href="#">SB 5013</a> Establishes new timelines for redistricting using 2020 Census data	Working on amendment language – Awaiting House committee hearing
<a href="#">SB 5097</a> Expands eligibility for the Paid Family Medical Leave (PFML) program and expands employer requirements for medical coverage during all PFML covered leave creating a new cost burden for employers	Amended to address concerns with expanded employer costs – awaiting House hearing

*\*Funding commitments and other potential policy changes needed for AWC to support these bills*

## Oppose

<a href="#">HB 1202</a> Increases liability for cities by providing additional cause of action to allow any person injured by law enforcement to sue an officer and their employing city	Do not advance
<a href="#">HB 1203</a> Requires law enforcement agencies with fifteen or more officers to establish a community oversight board	Do not advance without amendment removing mandate
<a href="#">HB 1220</a> Makes GMA housing element changes*	Awaiting Senate committee hearing - Asking for Section 3 & 4 to be amended
<a href="#">SB 5155</a> Increases tort costs by calculating the interest on judgements from the date of the cause of action instead of when the judgement is made	Do not advance

*Floor action indicates that the bill needs to move the floor to be voted on by the full House or Senate.*