

Sound Cities Association

2024 Legislative Agenda



Improve Public Safety

Increase tools and resources, including local taxing authority, to address auto theft and property crime and to support officer recruitment and retention.

Promote Economic Vitality

Increase support for community revitalization and workforce development programs in critical fields with hiring shortages.

Address the Behavioral Health Treatment Crisis

Increase the capacity of the crisis response system and fund local programs that connect individuals with needed care and diversion programs.

Support Sustainable Funding for Core Local Services

Replace the 1% cap on annual property increases with a limit tied to inflation and population growth and increasing flexibility for use of

Invest in Transportation Infrastructure & Mobility

Increase investment in the Public Works Assistance Account, honor commitments made in Move Ahead Washington, and provide local funding options with an emphasis on preservation and maintenance.

Promote Housing Affordability

Provide resources such as local option REET to assist cities with implementation of local affordable housing plans and recently adopted planning and zoning changes, and reduce the cost of regulations on housing production.

Mitigate and Prepare for Impacts of Climate Change

Allocate state and federal funding to cities to mitigate and prepare for the impacts of climate change, including responding to extreme

Legislative Guiding Principles

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

- *Advance racial equity and social justice
- *Improve the social safety net
- *Make no unfunded mandates to cities
- *Preserve local decision-making authority
- *Honor commitments to shared revenues