

2023 State Legislative Agenda

Financial Sustainability

- Support comprehensive reform efforts that improve the system, do not disadvantage Gresham relative to other jurisdictions, improve the revenue sufficiency of Oregon's property tax system, and allow local government's continued authority to finance the level of services needed by their residents
- Support legislation to change local operating levies from a 5-year renewal by voters to 10-years or permanent
- Oppose new property tax exemptions or the creation of new special taxing district categories in statute that would threaten or diminish existing revenue to the City
- Support the ability to maintain local flexibility over revenue systems, retain local apportionment of revenue from state gas, liquor, beer and wine taxes, marijuana taxes and other state-imposed taxes and fees, and the preservation and enhancement of state shared revenues
- Support maintaining current tax, local control, and fee authority regarding System Development Charges (SDCs) and Urban Renewal Districts
- Oppose efforts to reduce or preempt Gresham's home-rule authority to regulate the use of the public right-of-way, and collect adequate fees and taxes from users
- Oppose efforts to reduce the proportionate share of State-shared revenues and support efforts to increase revenue distribution to local governments
- Support transportation funding measures and transportation capital projects that increase maintenance, and/or improve the flow of traffic in Gresham and key regional transportation infrastructure important to Gresham's economic success
- Oppose any unfunded mandates

Community Safety (Including Transportation)

- Support expansion of DPSST resources to support police recruitment and retention
- Support funding for local government public safety emergency operations, disaster preparedness, and capital facilities
- Support for alternative response models to address behavioral and mental health challenges as well as supporting the right response to a 911 call
- Support funding opportunities to address safety on local and state roadways
- Supports state funding for walking, biking, and transit infrastructure projects

Thriving Economy (Including Land Use)

- Support and extend effective existing economic development tools, and support initiatives that would increase the State's role in economic development incentives including the Strategic Investment Program/Zone, Gain Share, Enterprise Zone, and Urban Renewal
- Support funding and policies that will assist with workforce training
- Support initiatives to increase the supply of shovel-ready industrial land through the creation of tools and funding for infrastructure in industrial lands
- Oppose legislative or regulatory pre-emption of local land use laws and authorities

Housing for All

- Support funding and policies that will assist with the development and deployment of affordable housing
- Support increased funding for addiction treatment and recovery
- Support funding for mental health outreach, services, and treatment designed to transition persistently homeless individuals with mental health challenges to housing and treatment
- Support the removal of regulatory barriers to housing affordability, availability, and diversity without sacrificing local control

Other

- Support funding for electric vehicles and small electric vehicles, electric vehicle infrastructure, fleet incentives, and electric vehicle education programs
- Support and fund public policy reform to ensure that those who are affected by decisions are involved in the decision-making process, and that public involvement will influence decisions

Federal Priorities

- 181st safety improvements
- Police: Ongoing grant submissions for COPS/Byrne
- Fire: Ongoing funding through SAFER grants
- Economic Development: Support for domestic manufacturing and OJT training programs
- Housing: Continued support/expansion of CDBG, emergency rental, preservation funds, and LIHTC
- Mental Health resources through SAMHSA