



2020 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Reduce Airport Noise and Emissions

Work with our Congressional delegation, neighboring communities, the FAA, and the Port of Seattle to reduce SeaTac Airport noise and emissions by:

- Promoting and supporting a regional “Coalition of Electeds”, or other regional forum, to bring airport noise and emission issues before Congress, the FAA, and the Port;
- Work with the FAA regional ombudsperson to address issues raised by the regional forum;
- Encourage the Port to complete another Part 150 aircraft noise study;
- Support HR 6168, known as the Aviation Impacted Communities Act that creates Aviation Impacted Community Boards to help citizens to better and more productively engage with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA);
- Support HR 976, Air Traffic Noise and Pollution Expert Consensus Act of 2019, to provide for a study and report on the health impacts of air traffic noise and pollution;
- Encourage the FAA to complete the studies in the 2018 FAA Reauthorization Act including:
 - Evaluation of alternative noise metrics to the current Day Night (DNL) standard;
 - Measuring the ambient lead concentrations around airports, identifying mitigation measures, and identifying existing non-leaded fuel alternatives;
 - Evaluation of the health impacts of aircraft noise on residents around airports: Seattle is one of the cities to be studied;
 - Implementing the pilot programs at six (6) “public use” airports to establish environmental mitigation projects.

Climate Action

Encourage and support a national climate action plan. Burien and neighboring cities are working on local climate action plans.

Sustainable Airport Master Plan (SAMP) Mitigation Funding

Work with the federal delegation, the Port of Seattle, and neighboring cities to identify traffic, environmental, and other appropriate mitigation funding for Burien due to SAMP impacts.

Support Federal Funding for Housing and Homelessness Programs

- Maintain or Increase Community Development Block Grants (CDBG): the King County Consortium (of cities) uses CDBG for housing stability/homelessness prevention, affordable housing development and many other human services. The federal government funded CDBG at 3.365 billion in FY 2019.

- Maintain or Increase the HOME Program: HOME funds provide funding for affordable housing. Each HOME dollar invested leverages an additional five dollars for housing. The federal government funded HOME at \$1.25 billion in FY 2019.
- Maintain or Increase McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants: McKinney grants help provide shelter and services to homeless families and individuals. The federal government funded McKinney at 2.636 billion in FY 2019.
- Support Full Funding for Section 8 Vouchers: Support full funding for Section 8 Tenant-Based and Project-Based Housing Choice Vouchers.
- Support Funding for VA Supportive Housing Vouchers (VASH): Support funding for the VASH program that has been a vital source of homelessness services for low-income veterans in King County.
- Support Amendments to the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Program: Support the bipartisan Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act (HR 1661/S. 548) sponsored by Senator Cantwell in the Senate (S. 548). S. 548 increases the annual housing credit allocation authority by 50%, phased in over five years, and would provide more predictability and flexibility in housing credit financing by establishing a 4% rate for credits used to finance acquisitions and housing bond-financed developments.
- Seek competitive grant funding or other federal funding for a Housing Trust Fund for the South King Housing and Homelessness Partners (SKHHP). South King Housing and Homelessness Partners (SKHHP) is a coalition formed by an interlocal agreement among the jurisdictions of Auburn, Burien, Covington, Des Moines, Federal Way, Kent, Normandy Park, Renton, Tukwila, and King County. The agreement allows South King County jurisdictions to work together and share resources in order to effectively address affordable housing and homelessness.

Federal Gang Prevention and At-Risk Youth Funding

Support federal funding for gang prevention and at-risk youth programs.

Infrastructure

- Support Rep. Larsen’s BUILD UP Act – “Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development for Underfunded Projects Act” – the successor to the “TIGER CUBS” legislation. BUILD UP is \$100 million annual competitive infrastructure grant program for cities between 10,000 and 75,000 in population. Burien supports a category in BUILD UP to help fund new and reconstructed sidewalks.
- Burien supports expediting the already funded Sound Transit study for light rail extension to Burien.
- Burien supports the as-needed federal funding to extend Sound Transit light rail to Burien.

Burien Public Works Projects

Work with potential regional partners in applying for federal grant money for two projects:

- The Burien Public Works and Parks Shared Maintenance Facility; Burien has set aside \$7.5M.
- The SR 518 Westbound On-Ramp to Des Moines Memorial Drive.

Gun Violence

Support of federally funded studies treating gun violence as a public health issue.

A 1996 congressional appropriations bill stipulated that “none of the funds made available for injury prevention and control at the Centers for Disease Control [CDC] may be used to advocate or promote gun control.” The bill effectively removed funding for firearms research. Similar restrictions were subsequently extended to other agencies, including the National Institutes of Health.

Immigration

Support of comprehensive immigration reform with an emphasis on ensuring that families stay together and enhancing community and economic stability for the City’s residents and citizens.

Opportunity Zones Extension

Support of an extension of the Opportunity Zone program beyond the present end date of December 31, 2026. Currently, funds must be invested by December 31, 2019 in order to be held for the seven (7) year period required to receive the maximum capital gains tax benefits before the program ends. Burien has two opportunity zones, which would benefit from an extension of the program to encourage development in these zones.

Salmon Recovery Funding

Support funding for the Army Corps of Engineers to construct a downstream Fish Passage Facility at the Howard Hanson Dam without additional costs to local governments and regional ratepayers. Howard Hanson Dam is on the Green River in King County.

- A downstream fish passage system at Howard Hanson Dam is essential to the recovery of Puget Sound Chinook salmon, a primary food source for the endangered Puget Sound southern resident killer whales (orcas).

Support an appropriation to implement capital projects authorized by Corps of Engineers Green/Duwamish Ecosystem Restoration Project.

Burien is located in WRIA 9, the Green/Duwamish and Central Puget Sound Watershed.