



CITY OF RENTON // KEY PRIORITIES

# 2025 Federal Affairs Agenda

## Federal Funding Opportunities

**TRANSIT ACCESS:** Preserve federal funding for public transit providers and for Sound Transit to meet the growing needs of the Renton community.

### **PUBLIC WORKS & INFRASTRUCTURE:**

Protect federal funding identified in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) for cities of all sizes and maintain funding for the RAISE grant program, and other important programs that support local infrastructure needs, to ensure local governments maintain access to these important investment opportunities.

**ELECTRIFICATION & SUSTAINABILITY:** Expand investment and funding opportunities for electric-vehicle infrastructure to ensure our communities have adequate and reliable access to charging infrastructure.

**“COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING” & “CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING” OPPORTUNITIES:** Work with Renton’s Congressional delegation to pursue line-item funding opportunities that will generate public benefit for the Renton community.

## Public Safety

**ACCESS TO JUSTICE:** Bureau of Justice Assistance funding for prosecutors and public defenders to ensure our criminal justice system remains fair and resilient to the growing needs of our community.

**ALTERNATIVE RESPONSE PROGRAMS:** Grants for municipal co-responder programs and homeless outreach teams.

**COMBATING ORGANIZED RETAIL THEFT:** Additional federal support for addressing organized retail theft, including funding opportunities for local law enforcement agencies and stronger enforcement and prosecution from federal agencies.

**FIRST RESPONDER MENTAL WELL-BEING:** Support for federal programs to provide training opportunities and support the mental health needs of first responders.

**COMBATING FENTANYL:** Additional federal support for addressing fentanyl usage within our community and combating its distribution.



## Renton Municipal Airport

**GENERAL AVIATION AIRPORTS:** Protect FAA funding for enhancing critical general aviation and regional airports to ensure regional aviation capacity meets the growing needs of our community.

**TECHNOLOGY ADVANCEMENTS:** Federal investments into new aviation transportation technologies, such as autonomous electric vertical take-off and landing (eVTOL) vehicles.

**RECRUITMENT & RETENTION:** Grants for “by-contract” air traffic control tower recruitment and retention efforts.

**ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY:** New FAA funding for general aviation and regional airports to reduce environmental impacts, improve efficiency, optimize resource usage, and implement new clean energy technologies.

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### CONTACT

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## Mental and Behavioral Health

### **MENTAL HEALTH CAPACITY AND WORKFORCE:**

Additional federal investments into mental health programs, including the Mental Health Block Grant and Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training Program, to support the development of strong, community-based clinics and strengthen the mental health workforce.

**SUBSTANCE USE TREATMENT:** DHHS funding for enhancing the response to substance use disorders and ensure availability of treatment centers.

**YOUTH WELLBEING:** Grants for school districts and youth providers to provide mental health services and counselling at or near school buildings.

## Environment and Climate Resiliency

**CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE:** Enhance FEMA funding for hardening critical infrastructure against extreme weather events, including the policy recognition for replacement of tree assets as a climate mitigation strategy.

**RESILIENT TECHNOLOGIES:** Enhance federal investments into resilient power grid technologies.

**RESPONSE EFFICACY:** Create grants for municipal backup power systems, emergency communications, and cellular resistance and explore policy considerations mandating backup power generation for cellular communications infrastructure that is tied into local infrastructure, minimizing communications failures during extreme weather events.



## Housing and Human Services

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:** Protect and enhance the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, which allow our community to support low-to-moderate income persons. Preservation of the CDBG program is particularly critical as local governments lose other one-time funding sources, such as ARPA.

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING:** Protect Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) to ensure supply can meet the high demand for this program and that this remains a viable tool for development of affordable housing in the Renton community.

**HOUSING VOUCHERS:** Preserve and expand, where possible, Section 8 Housing Vouchers to ensure our most vulnerable populations can afford safe and decent housing in the private market, especially during the current housing crisis.

**HOMELESSNESS:** Protect and maintain funding opportunities available through the federal government for homelessness responses, including the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grant program.

**INSTITUTIONAL EDUCATION:** Protect federal PELL Grant funding for incarcerated individuals and advocate for expanded opportunities to educate juveniles within the judicial system.