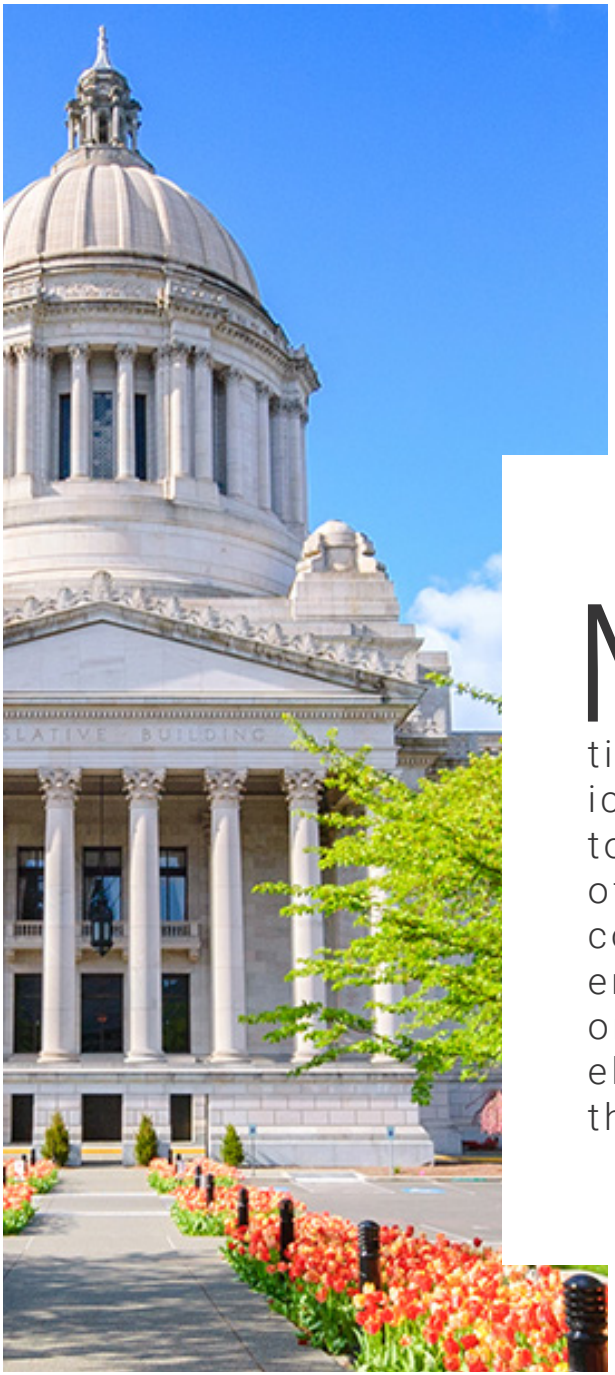
EAST KING

CHAMBERS COALITION

2021

Legislative Agenda

www.eastkingchambers.org



About the Coalition

More than twenty years ago, Eastside business leaders formed the East King Chambers Coalition to advocate for pro growth policies in Olympia. The Coalition brings together eleven Eastside chambers of commerce representing over 3,000 companies. The coalition enables these employers to speak with a unified voice on key legislative issues and brings elected and business leaders together through events and advocacy efforts.

Coalition Members

The East King Chambers Coalition represents the following Chambers of Commerce:

Bellevue Chamber

Bothell Kenmore Chamber

The Greater Issaquah Chamber of Commerce
Where Business & Community Meet

Greater Kirkland Chamber of Commerce
est. 1919

Maple Valley Black Diamond Chamber of Commerce

Mercer Island Chamber of Commerce

OneRedmond

Renton Chamber of Commerce

Sammamish Chamber of Commerce

Woodinville Chamber

SnoValley Chamber of Commerce

Contact Us

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Housing Affordability

Grow housing supply at all price points and incentivize affordable units.

Expand the Multi-Family Tax Exemption

- Provide flexibility and incentives for cities to participate in the MFTE program
- Extend the MFTE to 20-years (currently 8-12 yrs.) to be consistent with financing programs
- Expand the MFTE to include affordable condominium conversions

Incentivize Transit Oriented Development

- Incentivize all jurisdictions to include TOD in their comprehensive plans
- Require TOD corridors to be zoned to accommodate 50-years of growth
- Incentivize new construction within 2,500 feet of transit stations to be mixed use and at least 7-stories

Promote Affordability & Supply

- Increase density
- Create height and floorplate incentives for projects that include affordable units
- Give local governments authority to modify zoning through development agreement in exchange for building affordable housing

Transportation

Pass a statewide transportation revenue package.

Accelerate Transportation Technologies

- Support incentives and investments in transportation electrification
- Expedite expansion of 5G wireless technology for smart transportation solutions

Key Projects

- Accelerated completion of I-405 Master Plan capacity projects
- Completion of key SR 520 interchanges and fund a 520 Master Plan
- Completion of additional SR 18 improvements and park and ride capacity
- Completion of SR 900, SR 167, SR 169 and SR 522 capacity and safety improvements

Accountability

- Deposit all taxes, tolls, and fees levied on drivers into the Motor Vehicle Fund
- Keep toll revenues on the highway they are collected
- Deposit any future assessment on carbon emissions in the MVF

Economic Revitalization

Our economic recovery strategy must encourage employers to retain workforce and invest in Washington State by hiring local residents.

Protect at Risk Small Businesses

Without a clear timeline to reopen, many brick and mortar small business owners are struggling to survive. It is a race against time to save as many of our small businesses as possible.

Invest in Infrastructure

Upgrades to our infrastructure will create family wage jobs and lay the groundwork to support stable economic expansion into the future.

Support Innovation and Growth

Continued innovation in products and services will be critical to our economic recovery. Targeted tax incentives will create a positive business climate and family wage jobs.

Budget & Tax Policy

Our local businesses are being forced to make hard choices to cut costs such as reducing wages and lay-offing employees.

Use Existing Revenue Sources

An income tax, sales tax increase or a capital gains tax, will be a barrier to survival, and a threat to economic recovery. Higher or new taxes will lead to more business failures.

Do Not Raise Unemployment Premiums

While Covid-19 has increased demand on the state's unemployment insurance program, now is not the time to increase premiums.

Act Quickly

Every day the Legislature delays in amending the current budget to fit our economic reality, will lead to even larger cuts in the future.

Upcoming

January
06

Legislative Breakfast

Our premier annual event where members from each Chamber and our legislative delegation come together to discuss the upcoming session.

January
28

Chamber Day in Olympia

Chamber members and Coalition delegates engage our elected officials on the legislative priorities of the Eastside.

June
03

Legislative Wrap Up

Legislators discuss session highlights and provide insight into next year's priorities.

Information and registration is available at www.eastkingchambers.org

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