

APA-Washington 2020 Legislative Priorities Chapter Membership Comments

Long-term advocacy priorities?

Specific issues rise and fall on the legislature's list of priorities for attention each session. Reports (e.g. Road Map), court cases (e.g. Hirst), emergencies (e.g. pandemic), and groundswells (e.g. social justice) can all drive specific issues to the forefront in a given year.

Setting aside the particulars of any given year's hot topics, what issues do you think the chapter's long-term advocacy efforts should focus on?

Item (12/7/20)	High priority	Med priority	Avoid
Annexation, governance, and special districts	6	10	2
Buildable lands and growth targets	12	6	1
Climate change	15	4	0
Comprehensive plans	12	7	0
Development regulations/zoning code	12	6	0
Economic development	6	10	3
Fish and wildlife habitat	10	9	0
Food systems	5	12	2
Hazard mitigation	7	11	0
Housing	17	2	0
Infrastructure financing	15	4	1
Infrastructure planning	14	4	1
Local budgets and revenue authority	7	11	1
Parks and open space	6	11	2
Placemaking	4	11	4
Shorelines	4	13	1
Social equity and accessibility	14	2	2
State capital budget	8	9	2
State operating budget	8	9	2
Transportation	14	5	1
Urban growth areas	10	8	1
Water quality	12	7	0
Water supply	12	6	0

What to keep/change from 2020 legislative agenda?

In 2020, the chapter's Legislative Priorities covered the following topics. Which ones should be carried over for 2021? Refer to the priorities document for the full language.

Item (12/7/20)	High priority	Med priority	Drop
Housing - stronger requirements for local housing elements and more state assistance	17	3	0
Housing and homelessness – support for the 2017 Housing Affordability Response Team Recommendations	15	5	0
Housing - expand availability of accessory dwelling units in urban areas	10	10	0
Housing - calculate graduated real estate excise tax on per-unit basis	4	13	3
Climate change – stronger, clearer greenhouse gas reduction benchmarks	12	7	1
Climate change – mechanisms to achieve benchmarks	14	5	1
Climate change – incorporate climate impacts and greenhouse gas reduction benchmarks in planning and analysis	15	5	0
State funding for local planning work	19	1	0
Equity in all policies (empowerment, access to opportunity, housing, and health)	14	4	1
Infrastructure – support loan programs, local funding authority and state funding for infrastructure	12	8	0
School siting – locate public facilities for urban users in urban areas	10	9	1
School siting – fund collaborative efforts to address siting challenges	9	8	3
Implement Road Map reforms and systemic changes	13	5	1
Infrastructure – support loan programs, local funding authority and state funding for infrastructure	10	9	1
Annexation – incentives and regulatory simplification to encourage annexations	8	10	2
Transportation – performance-based transportation planning	8	9	2
Transportation – sustainable revenue sources	10	6	4
Transportation – safety	12	6	2
Transportation – multimodal level of service	12	7	1
Transportation – state of good repair	13	5	2

What new topics should be considered for the chapter's 2021 legislative agenda (or other comments)?

- Anything to incentivize more/denser urban development with costs (REET, etc.) distributed on SF more than per unit
- It's tough - I could see top priority on all of these!
- Need more support at state-level for housing, transportation, and climate resiliency
- Discourage more spending on new and expanded highways, and shift transportation funding to clean and sustainable multimodal modes along with highway preservation.
- Focus on topics and legislative changes that would have concrete and measurable impacts. Avoid nebulous topics or legislative changes that simply create aspirational statements or aspirational statements and vague or ambiguous requirements. With respect to school siting, the tools are already there, what's needed is firm direction from the legislature to school districts to use the tools.
- Three "low priority" items are really "need more information" due to not knowing how two housing groups are changing or have changed recommendations; do not know impact, challenges, successes of 2020 ADU legislation; do not know exactly how REET is now calculated vs the per unit. Also, not sure what safety includes for transportation-all modes, electric vehicles, pedestrians??? but still marked it high priority and would stress safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, as well as access to cross roads/highways at schools, community centers, commercial, mixed use, and at all transit stops.

-
- Single family should mean a min of 4 units. As mentioned above, priorities should highlight things that incentivize more/denser urban development with costs (REET, etc.) distributed on square footage-basis more than per unit in order to have larger units pay a larger share than a micro unit.
 - I would keep housing availability at the top. I guess from my perspective in a rural jurisdiction some of it wouldn't be applicable to my day to day regulations.
 - GHG Tax
 - Expand enabling legislation for automated traffic enforcement to meet traffic safety goals and reduce burden on police departments to enforce traffic laws.
 - Repair communities that have been divided by state and federal highways. Simplification of state subdivision regulations. Additional funding to assist with zoning code reforms and housing production.
 - None, plenty on the plate right now.
 - Align rural densities with available resources (such as water).
 - Renter protections and eviction moratoriums.
 - Expanding Automated Traffic Safety Cameras regulations to include mobile locations in Cities who want to implement it, or expanding the pilot program to all cities (see RCW46.63.170)
 - The topics listed above are more than sufficient for the agenda.
 - Roadmap reference is good because some of the items from Roadmap are also in the 2020 Updating Washington's Growth Policy Framework. Not sure if "Adaptive and Inclusive Planning at a Regional Level" should be separate priority or part of other priorities already in the 2020 Legislative Priorities. During the last 6 months there has also been greater discussion of inclusion of tribal entities throughout the state in GMA with other planning entities. Last, given the issues of COVID and its impact on public health; providing education at all levels from K-12 to college and trades/technical training to graduate level; as well as natural resources management and response to disasters (fire, floods, earthquakes, etc.), there is a need for more robust collaboration among