

2025-26 Legislative Priorities



The League of Oregon Cities' (LOC) Board of Directors unanimously adopted eight legislative priorities for cities for the 2025 and 2026 sessions. The priorities were identified through a committee process and a vote by the LOC's 241 member cities. The following nine issues received the most votes from members, and were adopted by the LOC Board:

1 Infrastructure Funding

The LOC will advocate for a comprehensive infrastructure package to support increased water, sewer, stormwater, and road investments. The LOC will advocate to maintain and increase state investments to support the development and preservation of a range of needed housing types and affordability.

2 2025 Transportation Package

The LOC will support a robust, long-term, multimodal transportation package focused on stabilizing funding for operations and maintenance for local governments and ODOT, continued investment in transit and bike/ped programs, safety, congestion management, and completion of projects from HB 2017. This objective includes support for a transition from gas tax to road user fee and improved community safety and livability.

3 Recreational Immunity

The LOC will introduce legislation to protect cities and other landowners who open their property for recreational purposes from tort liability claims.

4 Behavioral Health Enhancements

The LOC will support legislation to expand access to behavioral health treatment beds and allow courts greater ability to direct persons unable to care for themselves into treatment through the civil commitment process.

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5 Lodging Tax Flexibility

The LOC will advocate for legislation that will increase the flexibility to use locally administered and collected lodging tax revenue to support tourism-impacted services. These services include public safety, infrastructure, and housing-related investment.

6 Shelter Funding and Homeless Response

The LOC will support a comprehensive homeless response package to fund the needs of homeless shelters, homeless response efforts statewide, and capital projects. Funding should include baseline operational support to continue and strengthen coordinated regional homeless response and include a range of shelter types and services, including alternative shelter models, safe parking programs, rapid rehousing, outreach, case management, staffing and administrative support, and other related services.

7 Address Energy Affordability Challenges from Rising Utility Costs

The LOC will support actions to maintain affordable, reliable, and resilient energy resources and invest in programs and new technology that support energy efficiency, renewable energy, and resilient communities. These efforts will help address members' concerns about increased costs associated with energy usage.

8 Operator-In-Training Apprenticeships

The LOC will advocate for funding apprenticeship training programs and expanding bilingual training opportunities to promote the workforce development of qualified wastewater and drinking water operators.

9 ORS 195.530

The LOC will advocate public policy that allows cities to respond to the unique needs of their community's housed and unhoused members. This advocacy will include adjustments to ORS 195.530 to provide cities with the necessary tools to address unsafe camping conditions, safeguard public spaces, and protect the health, safety, and wellness of all community members.