



Intergovernmental Relations

OCTOBER 3, 2022

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Overview

Status update on the 2022 Federal & State Legislative Agendas

Adoption of 2023 Federal & State Legislative Agendas

Engagement with General Assembly

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Current 2022 Federal & State Legislative Agendas

What is a Legislative Agenda? – Program of proposed legislative initiatives to support policies and programs of the City government

City Council adopts Federal & State Legislative Agendas to guide its advocacy in given legislative session

Agendas serve as a unifying voice for Mayor and City Council

2022 Agendas were adopted by City Council on November 22, 2021

US Congress

Holland & Knight is our federal contract lobbyist

Notable accomplishments of current session of the US Congress that support City strategic priorities

- American Rescue Plan Act (2021)
- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (2021)
- Inflation Reduction Act (2022)
- CHIPS and Science Act (2022)
- Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (2022)

Two-year session will be finished in late December

November 8 General Election

New Congress will convene in early January

Infrastructure & Community Needs

Continue working with the Congress and Administration to secure federal resources to advance local and regional infrastructure needs related to aviation, surface transportation, rail, environmental, sustainability and resiliency, cybersecurity, digital inclusion, affordable housing, workforce development, community development and public safety

- Airfield Improvement Projects
- Earmark pending for Alternatives to Violence program
- Federal FY 2023 Appropriations

Comprehensive Immigration Reform

Support the continuation of the H-1B Visa program and changes to the program that streamline processing times and allow spouses of Visa holders to work and volunteer, and support a path to citizenship for those in Temporary Protected Status and Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals programs and asylum seekers

- House passed:
 - American Dream and Promise Act of 2021, which addresses permanent residency status for those participating in the temporary protected status and deferred action for childhood arrivals programs
 - House-passed version of the Build Back Better Act contained various immigration-related provisions, which were later considered to be inconsistent with Senate procedures
- Current effort ongoing to find areas of agreement led by Thom Tillis (R-NC), John Cornyn (R-TX), Richard Durbin (D-IL), and Alex Padilla (D-CA)

NC General Assembly

KTS Strategies is our state contract lobbyist

Notable accomplishments of current session of NC General Assembly that support City strategic priorities

- Enacted police reform measures (2021)
- Required carbon neutrality in electric generation by 2050 (2021)
- Increased funding for NCDOT construction and operations (2022)
- Increased capital funding for commercial service airports (2022)
- Continued strong support for economic development incentive programs

NC General Assembly finished the bulk of its work in June

- Monthly two- or three-day sessions for issues needing immediate attention

November 8 General Election

2023 long session will start January 11

Mobility

Continue working with key stakeholders to support legislation that provides dedicated, stable and permanent sources of revenues for State, regional and local public transportation, roadway, bicycle, pedestrian, passenger rail, greenway and safety capital improvement projects

- FY 2023 State Budget redirects portion of State General Fund sales tax revenues to the Transportation funds for both operations and construction; when fully implemented, results in approximately \$500 to \$600 million more per year for the State Highway Trust Fund
- Legislation to provide for the equitable distribution of Powell Bill funds to all municipalities was not considered

Infrastructure & Community Needs

Work with the Governor and General Assembly to allocate federal resources received by the State to advance needs related to aviation and surface transportation, housing, environmental, digital inclusion, workforce development, climate change, and resiliency and sustainability issues

- Increased funding for NC Airport Improvement Program resulting in increase of capital funding for CLT from \$26.5 million to \$35.4 million
- FY 2023 State Budget appropriated \$10 million for the construction of the new Carolina Aviation Museum
- Cooper Administration launched Digital Equity Grant Program addressing broadband affordability, securing digital devices, and accessing digital literacy resources where \$14 million in competitive grants to be opened to applications from municipalities and nonprofits, community-based organizations, and key stakeholder groups for local digital inclusion projects and device distribution

Adoption of 2023 Federal & State Legislative Agendas

Targeting January 23 for adoption of the legislative agendas

January 23 allows time for Committee and City Council to thoughtfully consider legislative requests

Provides time for the Committee to develop an Engagement Strategy with General Assembly

Engagement with General Assembly

Councilmember Ajmera will be leading the Committee in developing a Plan for City Council engagement with state legislators

- Allows legislators and council members to build bridges
- Gain better understanding and appreciation for the challenges facing other regions of our State
- Broader relationships for deeper discussions ...

State legislators actively encourage local elected officials to forge stronger relationships with members of the General Assembly

Continue this discussion in November

Calendar

Date	Event
November 7	Staff presents emerging federal and state issues (i.e., legislative radar) to Committee Continue discussion on Engagement with General Assembly
TBD	Post-Election Briefings
December 5	Committee hears legislative requests Continue discussion on Engagement with General Assembly
January 3	Committee proposes legislative agendas at Committee meeting followed that same evening by Council Committee Discussion
January 9	Staff presents proposed legislative agendas to City Council at Action Review
January 23	City Council consideration of legislative agendas
January 30 – February 10	State Delegation Briefing
March 26 - 29	Congressional Briefings

Questions and Answers