Mount Vernon supports legislation & shared revenue to acknowledge that Cities and Towns are where most residents live, work and play in our State.

CITY/ STATE PARTNERSHIP SUCCESS STORY! COLLABORATION ENSURES SOLUTIONS FOR ALL

COMPLETED!

Thanks to a strong state partnership the Downtown Mount Vernon Flood Protection and Revitalization Project will protect Mount Vernon's historic downtown from flooding with FEMA certified flood protection and serve to revitalize the historic downtown area.

We are now moving into the economic development phase of our master plan with an infrastructure project:

Current Project!

View of 3rd and Kincaid looking West

MIXED USE Library/Community Center/Parking Structure – a partnership project with Skagit County
After extensive community outreach and planning efforts, our city requires a facility that will serve as social infrastructure for early learning, computer literacy, after school learning, Meals on Wheels and senior lunch program, and community events that build resiliency as a small city.

As our historic core realizes more dense housing development (to include bona-fide affordable units), hotel development, business development we have determined the need for 300+ parking spaces, and plan to achieve as many spaces as possible within this project.

We request a State Capital budget allocation of $4 million to assist our City and Skagit County in achieving this partner project.

FUND CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRAINING CENTER (CJTC)

We support funding for at least 19 Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA) classes per year. **New officers are waiting months for a slot** – delaying them being used in the community as commissioned officers with ability to enforce.

RESERVE STATE-SHARED REVENUES WITH CITIES

Mount Vernon uses $1.2 million in state shared revenue for public safety services including the enforcement of State DUI laws and ensuring compliance with State liquor and cannabis regulation.

Support "infill" development solutions and address condominium liabiltiy to expand housing choices and affordability.

We strongly oppose State mandates of density. This directly undermines the Growth Management Act and every jurisdictions requirement to produce Comprehensive Plans. These plans account for growth by data driven research and significant public process.

Cities take care of 65% of the State population and shoulder the burden of homelessness on our streets. **Strengthen city decision-making role in allocating resources provided to counties to address housing and homelessness in cities.**

We support:

- $200 million funding to the **Housing Trust Fund**
- **Fund permanent supportive housing projects at a higher rate to address homeless crisis**
- **Increase funding for mental health services**- specifically intensive treatment for indigent individuals
- Invest $20 million per year in a new local government revenue sharing proposal (like HB 2437 in 2018 session)

Behavior Health Services Funding
Homeless, Mental Health, Substance Abuse

- Invest $1.5 million per year for a pilot to allow for reinvestment of the sales tax from the construction of multifamily development modeled on HB 1797 (2018 session)

ADDRESS A FAILING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYSTEM WITH PRACTICAL PROGRAMS

Cities take care of 65% of the State population and shoulder the burden of homelessness on our streets.

The City of Mount Vernon would like to partner with the State for 'pilot' opportunities for mental health urgent care centers or other innovative and flexible programs. We are small enough to enact programs quickly and committed to creative solutions.

We support:

Mental health co-responder programs

Permanent Supportive Housing priority: Cities face significant challenges in trying to address chronically ill individuals for whom long-term care services simply do not exist. As a result, these individuals end up on our streets and often cycle in and out of contact with local law enforcement and the criminal justice system.

Cities need a **mental health system that provides regional equity** so that all areas of the state have access to good quality mental health facilities.