



**Des Moines**  
WATERLAND CITY

**AGENDA**  
**DES MOINES CITY COUNCIL**  
**STUDY SESSION**  
**City Council Chambers**  
**21630 11th Avenue S, Suite C**  
**Des Moines, Washington**  
**Thursday, October 2, 2025 - 5:00 PM**

Members of the public who wish to provide comment during the meeting via Zoom must register in advance. To register, please email [cityclerk@desmoineswa.gov](mailto:cityclerk@desmoineswa.gov) by 12:00 p.m. (noon) on the Wednesday prior to the meeting. [Click Zoom Link Here.](#)

City Council meeting can be viewed live on the City's website, Comcast Channel 21/321, on the City's [YouTube](#) channel.

**CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**  
**5:00 p.m. - 5:50 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ITEMS**

- Item 1. PLANNING COMMISSION DISCUSSION  
Please refer to the September 25, 2026 Agenda Packet, New Business Item # 2 for more detail.  
[Planning Commission Discussion PowerPoint](#)

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

PERFORMANCE OF A PUBLIC EMPLOYEE UNDER RCW  
42.30.110(1)(g) - 15 Minutes

**CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION,**  
**6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

## COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

*Comments from the public must be limited to the items of business on the Study Session Agenda. Please sign in prior to the meeting and limit your comments to three (3) minutes.*

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Item 1. 2026 LEGISLATIVE DISCUSSION  
[Discussion of 2026 City Legislative Priorities](#)  
[2026 Des Moines Legislative Priorities Council Discussion](#)
- Item 2. COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT SERVICE (CES) DEPARTMENT UPDATE & STRATEGIC DIRECTION-INFORMATIONAL ONLY  
Staff Presentation by Assistant City Manager Adrienne Johnson-Newton  
[CES Department Update and Strategic Direction-Informational Only](#)  
[Community Enrichment Services Department Update](#)
- Item 3. PUBLIC SAFETY SALES TAX  
**Motion:** To pass Draft Ordinance 25-053 to a second reading at the October 9, 2025 regular Council meeting.  
[Public Safety Sales Tax](#)  
[Draft Ordinance 25-053 Public Safety Sales Tax PowerPoint](#)

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

## NEXT MEETING DATE

October 9, 2025 City Council Regular Meeting

## ADJOURNMENT

[Projected Future Agenda Items](#)



**Des Moines**  
WATERLAND CITY

# Mission & Vision

Des Moines is a waterfront community committed to maintaining a safe, sustainable environment, while ensuring a high quality of life for all to live, work and play.

## VISION

To be the premier waterfront destination in the Pacific Northwest.

## VALUES

Core Values of the City of Des Moines are:

- Safety
- Sustainability
- Integrity
- Transparency
- Innovation



# Planning Commission Discussion 10.2.25

# Planning Commission

*9/25 Council Discussion*

Number of Commissioners: 7

Term: 4 years

Appointment: City Council Appointment

Membership:

- 5 members with experience or interests in topics related to Land Use, Growth Management, Housing, etc.
- 2 general membership
- Commissioners shall not sit on any other City standing commissions or committees
- Undecided: May include one (1) business owner who may reside in a nearby community



# Duties & Responsibilities

The purpose:

- Provide guidance and direction

- Review staff proposals

- Hold Public Hearings

- Submit recommendations

- \*Review other matters directed by the City Council



# For Council consideration:

1. Should the Council permit members of the Planning Commission who have businesses in the city but do not reside here?
2. A PC typically reviews and makes recommendations on the following. Is Council comfortable with this?
  1. Development Code updates
  2. Comprehensive Plan Amendments
  3. Development Agreements
  4. Master Plan
  5. Zone Change
  6. Shoreline Management\*
3. PCs can also serve as an advisory group for land-use issues or special initiatives related to long-term planning. They can be tasked with this responsibility at the direction of the Council. Does the Council wish to include language that outlines this possibility?



# Duties & Responsibilities

*Draft language for Council consideration:*

The purpose of the Planning Commission is to provide guidance and direction for the City's future growth through continued review and improvement to the City's comprehensive land use plan, zoning code, shoreline management, environmental protection and related land use documents in compliance with Chapters 35A.63 and 36.70A RCW. At the direction or referral by the City Council, the Planning Commission shall review staff proposals, hold public hearings, and submit recommendations to the City Council per DMMC 18.20.080A Project Review Chart. The Planning Commission shall review such other matters and take such further action as the City Council may direct from time to time by motion, resolution, or ordinance.



# Next Steps

Draft Ordinance back to Council

Public Hearing

Second Reading

\*\*\*Applicant recruitment and selection\*\*\*

Start of Commission





# Des Moines

WATERLAND CITY

# Appendix



# Project Review Chart - Current

	<b>Decision Maker</b>	<b>Applicable Code Section</b>
Type I – Administrative land use decisions made without legal requirement for public comment	Planning, Building and Public Works Director	DMMC 18.20.150 and 18.20.160
Type II – Administrative land use decisions made after legally required opportunity for public comment	Planning, Building and Public Works Director	DMMC 18.20.170
Type III – Quasi-judicial and other decisions by the Hearing Examiner made after legally required opportunity for public comment	Hearing Examiner	DMMC 18.20.180
Type IV – Quasi-judicial and other nonlegislative decisions by the City Council made after legally required opportunity for public comment	City Council	DMMC 18.20.190
Type VI – Legislative decisions made by the City Council made after legally required opportunity for public comment (exempt pursuant to DMMC 18.20.060(1))	City Council	DMMC 18.20.210



# Project Review Chart - Proposed

Permit Type – I Administrative	Applicable Code Section	SEPA Review	Staff Recommend	Staff Decision	Open Record Hearing	Closed Record Hearing	Decision Body	Open Record Appeal	Closed Record Appeal	Court Appeal
Lot Line Adjustment		No	No	Yes	No	No	CD	No	No	Yes
Permit Type – II Quasi-Judicial	Applicable Code Section	SEPA Review	Staff Recommend	Staff Decision	Open Record Hearing	Closed Record Hearing	Decision Body	Open Record Appeal	Closed Record Appeal	Court Appeal
Development Agreement		E or NE	Yes	No	PC	No	CC	No	No	Yes
Shoreline Conditional Use		E or NE	PC	No	CC	No	CC	No	State Shoreline Board	Yes
Shoreline Variances		E or NE	PC	No	CC	No	CC	No	State Shoreline Board	Yes
Preliminary Planned Unit Development		E or NE	Yes	No	PC	No	CC	No	No	Yes
Preliminary Plat		E or NE	Yes	No	PC	No	CC	No	No	Yes
Special Districts and Master Plans		E or NE	Yes	No	PC	No	CC	No	No	Yes
Permit Type – III Legislative	Applicable Code Section	SEPA Review	Staff Recommend	Staff Decision	Open Record Hearing	Closed Record Hearing	Decision Body	Open Record Appeal	Closed Record Appeal	Court Appeal
Comprehensive Plan Amendments		E or NE	Yes	No	PC	No	CC	No	Growth Management Hearings Board	Yes
Development Regulation Amendments		E or NE	Yes	No	PC	No	CC	No	No	Yes
Zone Change		E or NE	Yes	No	PC	No	CC	No	No	Yes

CC – City Council CE – City Engineer CD – Community Development Director CM – City Manager

HE – Hearing Examiner DOE – Department of Ecology E or NE – Exempt or Nonexempt PC – Planning Commission

**AGENDA ITEM**

BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
City of Des Moines, WA

SUBJECT: Discussion of 2026 City Legislative  
Priorities

FOR AGENDA OF: October 2, 2025

DEPT. OF ORIGIN: Administration

ATTACHMENTS:

DATE SUBMITTED: September 24, 2025

- 1. 2025 City of Des Moines Legislative  
Priorities

CLEARANCES:

- City Clerk \_\_\_\_\_
- Community Development \_\_\_\_\_
- Courts \_\_\_\_\_
- Finance \_\_\_\_\_
- Human Resources \_\_\_\_\_
- Legal /TG/
- Marina \_\_\_\_\_
- Police \_\_\_\_\_
- Parks, Recreation & Senior Services \_\_\_\_\_
- Public Works \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED BY CITY MANAGER

FOR SUBMITTAL: *Katherine Coffey*

**Purpose and Recommendation**

The purpose of this agenda item is for the City Council to generally discuss potential 2026 City Council Legislative Priorities for the 2026 Legislative Session.

**Background**

The State Legislative Session convenes in January 2026 for a “short” sixty-day session and will end in March. It is anticipated that the session will focus on difficult budget issues.

The City’s Legislative Advocate, Anthony Hemstad, will lead the City Council in an initial discussion about the upcoming session and what the City Council’s legislative priorities may be in the coming year.

A copy of the 2025 Legislative Priorities is attached to this item for reference.



## 2025 City of Des Moines City Council State Legislative Priorities

### Public Safety

Collaborate with AWC, WASPC and other groups in efforts to secure more public safety (in particular behavioral health) funding for local governments, including:

- Amending existing local option Public Safety Sales Tax to allow councilmanic implementation and greater flexibility for using the funds.
- Supporting Governor Ferguson’s initiative to get more funding to public safety – and ensure that those funds are shared with local governments.

### Funding Requests

**Enhancing Local Government Financial Resources.** Support lifting the 1% property tax cap and allowing further local government financing tools to address the crisis many local governments have with general government funding.

**Redondo Fishing Pier.** The Redondo Fishing Pier is a regional attraction that was very popular when it was open. It needs to be replaced this biennium and can be if funding is available. **Capital Budget request: \$2 million.**

### Airport Issues

Support locating a permanent air quality monitor in Des Moines, including needed budget allocation.

Support State funding for a City-led, independent airport community impacts study to evaluate the ongoing impacts of the SAMP.

Support further enhancements to SB5955 and RCW53 to provide more opportunities for sound insulation repair and replacement, and to also allow unconstrained funding for mitigation of the public health impacts of airport operations.

Support the joint StART Airport Community Legislative Agenda.

### Historic Preservation

Support historic preservation funding opportunities in Des Moines.

### Ferry Development

Electric passenger-only ferries have the potential to improve connectivity and mobility around Puget Sound. Foil ferries are much quieter, faster and reduce impacts to marine life in Puget Sound. *Des Moines supports new grant funding to spur the return of Mosquito Fleet passenger-only ferries that will include routes connecting Des Moines.*

*For information, please contact City of Des Moines Legislative Advocate  
Anthony Hemstad, 253.335.9163, [anthony@hemstad.us](mailto:anthony@hemstad.us)*

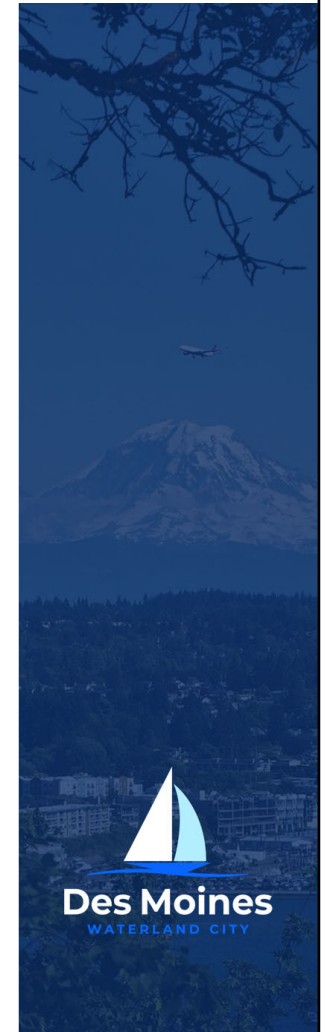
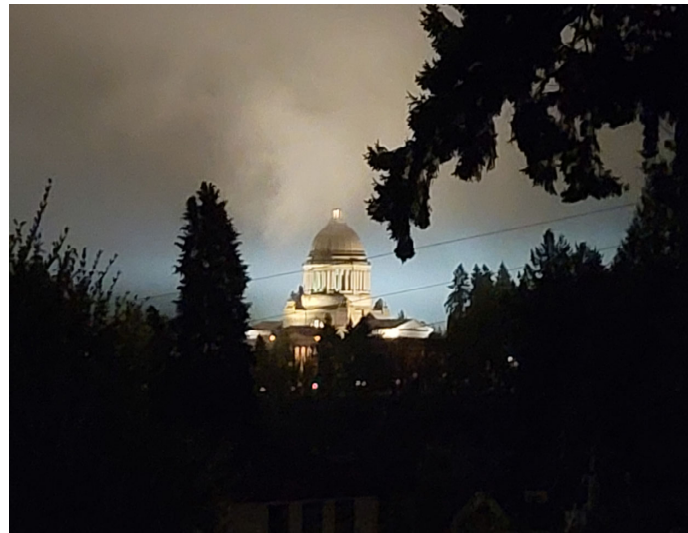
# 2026 Des Moines Legislative Priorities Council Discussion

2 October 2025  
Des Moines City Council  
Anthony Hemstad, Legislative Advocate



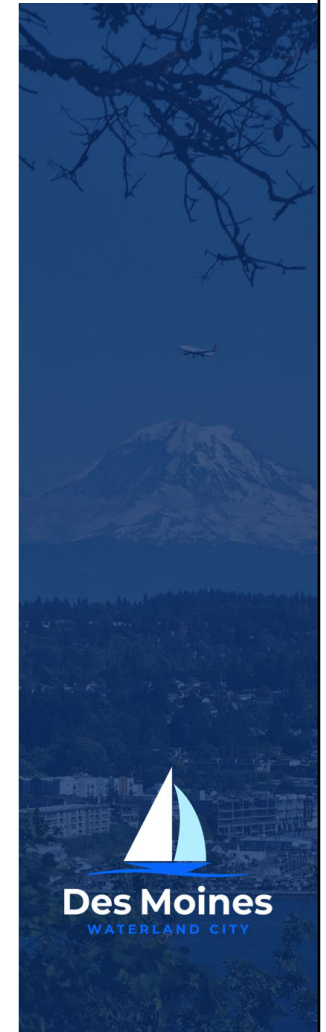
# Contents

- Review of current Legislative biennium
- Overview of 2025 environment & initial 2026 outlook
- Des Moines 2026 opportunity discussion



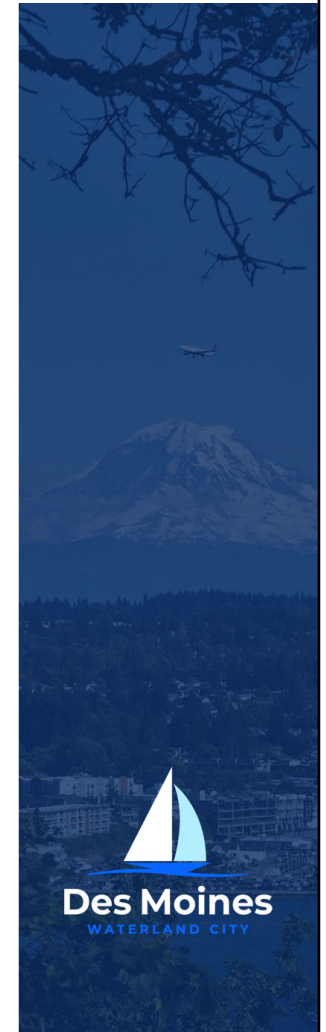
# Des Moines – Bienium to date: 2025 Earmarks + Policy bills

- **Capital Budget** received \$1 million for Marina Steps. \$440K air-quality monitoring (UW for project in Des Moines)
- **Policy** several policy bills passed in public safety and local funding



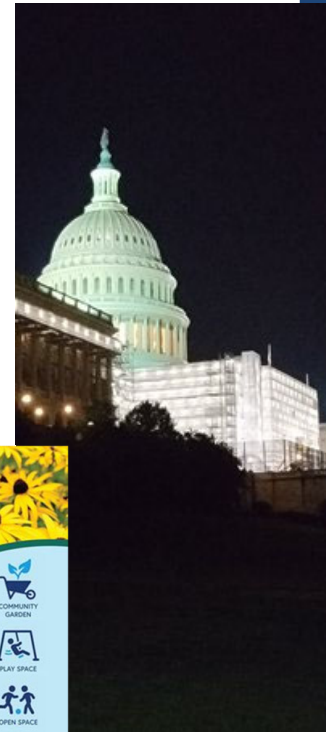
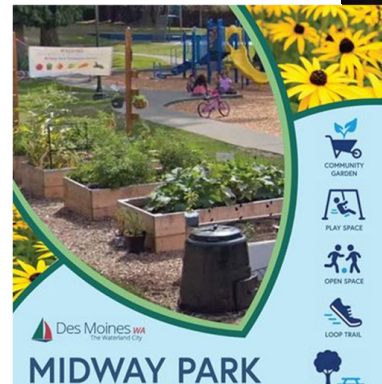
# Political Environment Outlook – Election Year

- 2025 special election in 33<sup>rd</sup>. Several other districts
- Washington State – 2026 election year
- All 98 House Seats
- 25 of 49 Senate seats up for election (both 30<sup>th</sup> & 33<sup>rd</sup>)
- Likely include initiatives
- All US House Members (incl. Adam Smith), neither WA US Senators - Murray/Cantwell - up in 2026



# Policy Environment Outlook – Federal

- **Federal** currently have \$850k in Federal House Budget for Midway Park Construction. TBD
- Unusually high uncertainty on all Federal issues. Esp. Budget
- TBD on if earmarks continue in 2026 & what rules
- Fed cuts could have major State budget hit
- 2026 election year.



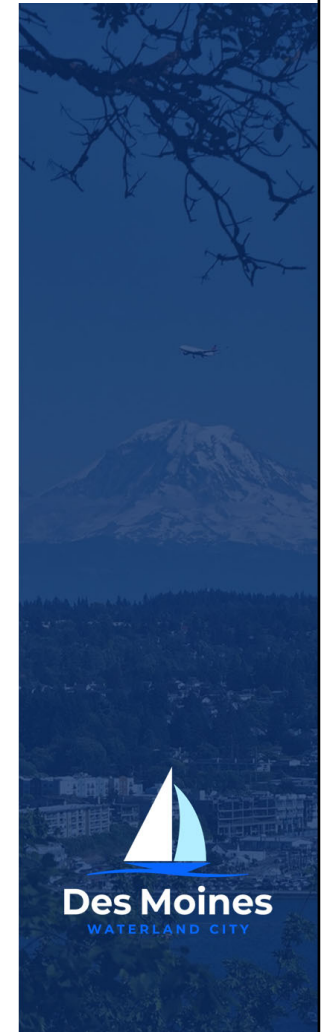
# Legislative Session - Outlook

Legislature Convenes January 12<sup>th</sup> for 60 days (March 13<sup>th</sup>)

- Senate 30 D – 19 R currently
- House 60 D – 38 R currently
- Second year of biennial budget
- Expected to be unusually bad year for budget requests
- Budget forecasts very negative. Already \$1.6 billion (4 year) below what budgets expected when passed in April '25
- Major new taxes introduced last in '25, might be more in '26

## Opportunity?

- Many local governments facing budget shortfalls. Growing pressure to provide more opportunities for structural revenue and local revenue options. Also, major pushback and initiative threat.



# 2026 Agenda City of Des Moines Capital Budget

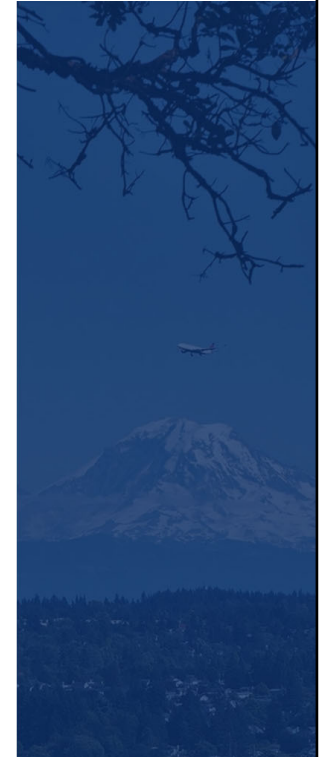
- Secured capital budget funding every year that we've worked together. **Suggest no ask this year.** Execute on past funding secured.



# Policy Issues

There will many issues DM will engage on, but on some we could play a larger role:

- Public Safety: HB-2015 implementation/funding + any additional local funding options
- Airport: Continue working to minimize and mitigate SEA's health and environmental impact on Des Moines residents
- Work to get line-item in Operating Budget for SAMP Impact Study controlled by Des Moines and other near-airport jurisdictions
- Ferries – support passage of Mosquito Fleet Restoration Act to spur more opportunities for passenger ferries that could connect with Des Moines



# 2025 Legislative Agenda

## 2025 City of Des Moines City Council State Legislative Priorities

### Public Safety

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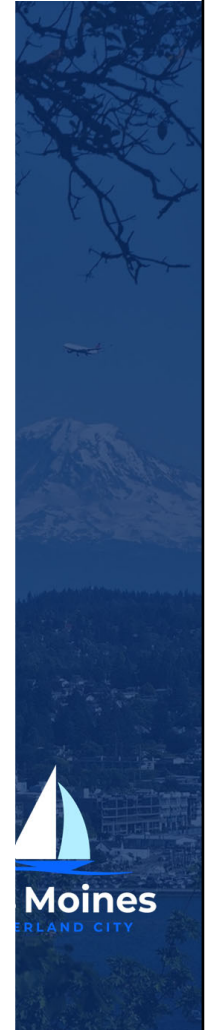
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Thank You!

Discussion &  
Questions



**A G E N D A I T E M**

BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
City of Des Moines, WA

SUBJECT: CES Department Update & Strategic  
Direction-Informational Only

FOR AGENDA OF: October 2, 2025

DEPT. OF ORIGIN: City Manager's Office

ATTACHMENTS:

DATE SUBMITTED: September 23, 2025

CLEARANCES:

- Community Development \_\_\_\_\_
- Marina \_\_\_\_\_
- Community Enrichment Services *AJ*
- Public Works \_\_\_\_\_
- Legal s/TG
- Finance \_\_\_\_\_
- Human Resources \_\_\_\_\_
- Courts \_\_\_\_\_
- Police \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED BY CITY MANAGER

FOR SUBMITTAL: *Katherine Coffey*

**Purpose and Recommendation**

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide Council with an overview of Community Enrichment Services (CES), the City's newly unified department that combines Parks, Recreation, Senior Services, Events, and Facility Rentals. The presentation will highlight the department's transition, introduce the operational model now in place, and outline the strategic direction that will guide CES moving forward. This item is presented for Council information and discussion. No formal action is requested at this time; however, staff welcomes Council's feedback and thoughts to ensure our planning efforts remain aligned with Council's vision and priorities.

**Background**

The City formally consolidated Parks, Recreation, Senior Services, Events, and Facility Rentals into a single department in 2025. Previously, these program areas operated independently, with each managing its own services and activities. The consolidation has since progressed into the formation of Community Enrichment Services (CES), with the goal of ensuring that, regardless of whether a resident is participating in recreation, senior services, events, or rentals, they are recognized as a CES customer. This unified approach allows the City to think about programs and services more holistically, work in

tandem across functions, and align resources to better serve the community as a whole.

**Discussion**

This presentation will provide Council with an overview of Community Enrichment Services (CES) and its recent transition from separately managed program areas, Parks & Recreation, Senior Services, Events, and Facility Rentals into a coordinated department. It will introduce the CES organizational structure and staff, outline the operational model now in place, and describe how CES is using data, resident input, and peer city comparisons to guide programming and budget decisions.

As part of this work, CES conducted a community survey from August 22 through September 15, 2025, promoted through social media, email signatures, bilingual flyers, paper copies at City facilities, and outreach at events such as the Farmers Market and Blues & Brews. These efforts resulted in 328 responses, providing valuable insight into resident priorities. Results showed strong engagement with City events, high overall satisfaction with CES programs, and clear priorities for the future: events, fitness and wellness, arts and culture, family activities, and senior services. Demographic data also highlighted the importance of accessibility and inclusion, with nearly one-third of respondents identifying as disabled.

The presentation will highlight these findings, share recent programmatic successes, and outline focus areas for 2026, including facility rentals, events, and expanded partnerships.

**Alternatives**

N/A

**Recommendation or Conclusion**

N/A



# COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT SERVICES

Creating Community and Connection

10.02.2025



# Department Background

- ❖ Services managed separately under Parks & Recreation, Senior Services, Events and Facility Rentals
- ❖ Exited on-site, school-based childcare → major revenue shift
- ❖ COVID disruptions: delayed reopening, new rules, changing needs → some families moved on
- ❖ Inflation and job market shifts added further pressure

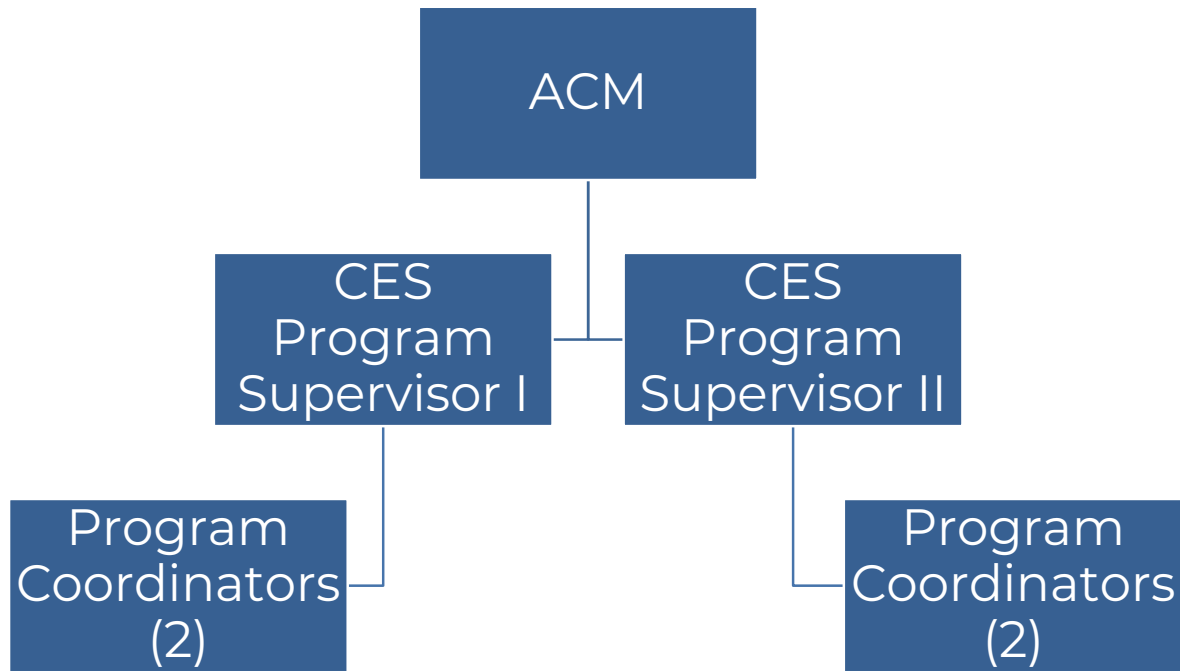


# Current State

- ❖ Day to day management of the Activity Center returned to the City from Wesley
- ❖ Brought Parks, Recreation, Senior Services, Events, and Facility Rentals under one umbrella → created stability and a foundation for growth
- ❖ Formally adopted the name Community Enrichment Services (CES) → reflects our mission to enrich lives and enhance community



# CES Department Structure



# Defining CES Programs and Services

Our impact extends beyond dollars — value is also measured in community outcomes.

Priority: qualify + quantify our programming choices

If programs do not meet cost recovery goals, this will allow us to evaluate “why” and “where.”



# Defining CES Programs and Services

## Anchors

Programming & activities such as camps, youth sports, and rentals that provide consistent participation, use and financial support

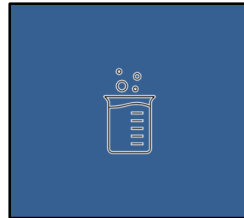


## Access & Equity Programs

These programs are designed to expand participation by reducing barriers to entry, ensuring access to recreational opportunities

## Exploratory Programs

Opportunities to test new programs designed to explore community demand before committing long-term



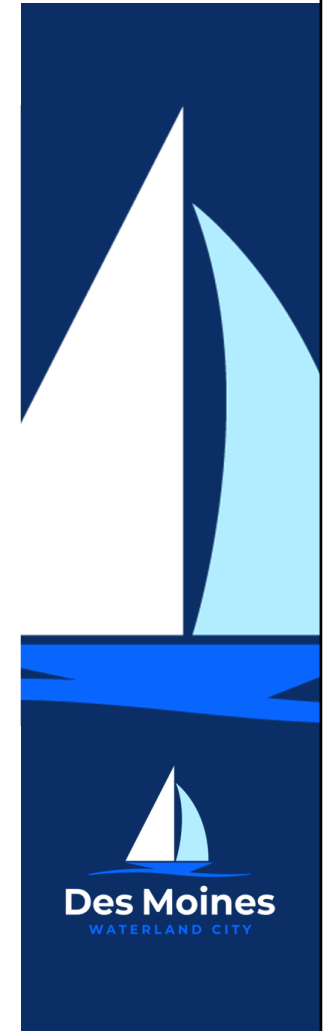
## Special Events

Festivals, concerts, special events and celebrations central to community life



# Shaping Services with Data

- ❖ **Resident Survey:** Gathered input on facilities, programs, events and what the community values most
- ❖ **Peer City Survey:** Compared our recreation fees and services to neighboring cities
- ❖ **Operational Tracking:** Monitoring participation, peak use, and staffing to manage programs across our multiple facilities



# Resident Survey-Demographics

Total Responses  
**334**

Age Groups

- 65 yrs. + and older
- 35yrs. – 64yrs.

Languages

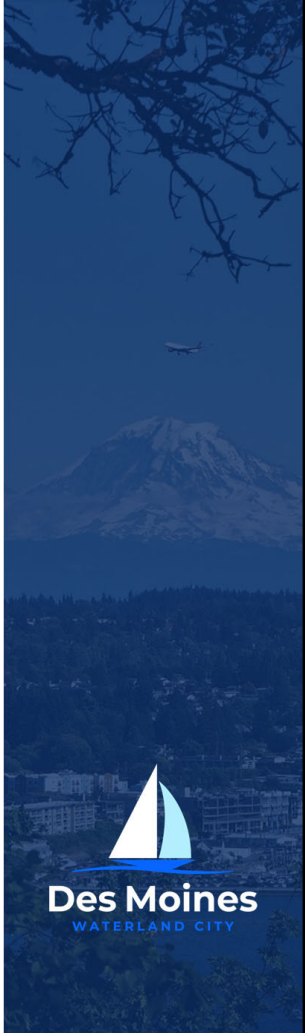
- Spanish
- Tagalog
- Russian

Households

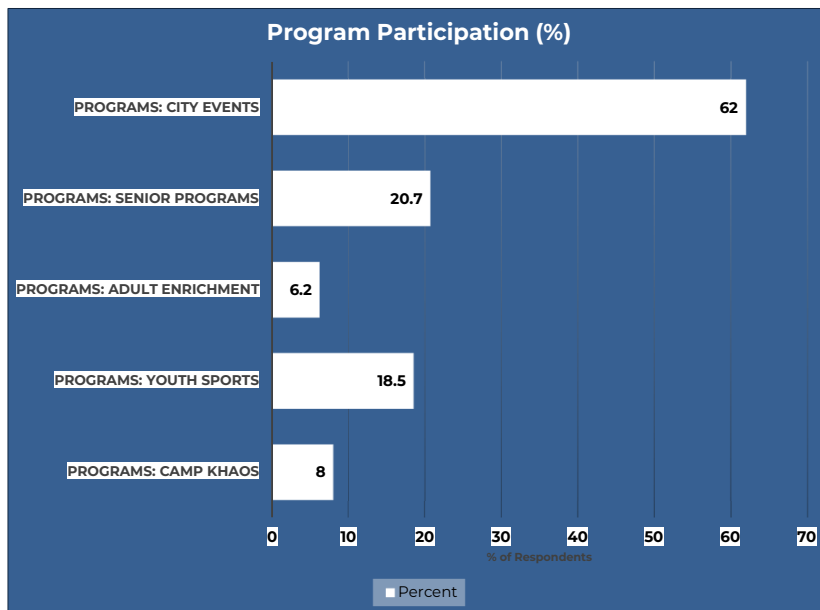
- 30% include children
- 12% report a disability

Neighborhood

- Central Des Moines
- Zenith
- North Hill



# Resident Survey – Program Participation

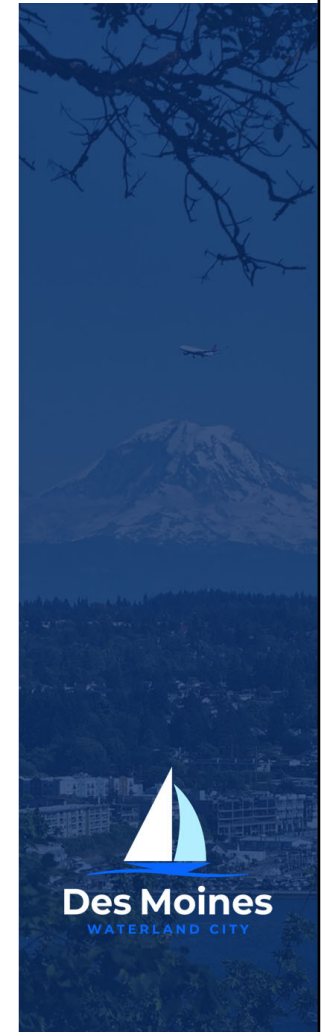


## Strong Satisfaction

- 69% Satisfied Overall
- 83% Rated Events Positively

## Key Insights

CES Programs enjoy strong satisfaction, especially events



# Resident Survey- Priorities and Access

## ❖ Future Priorities

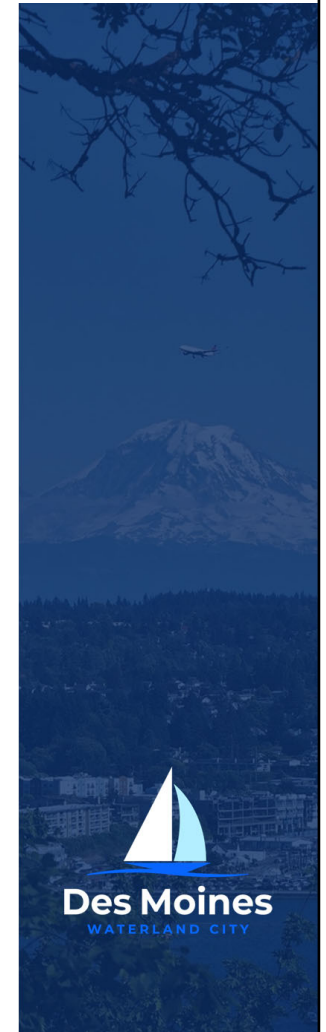
- ❖ More youth, senior and intergenerational programs
- ❖ More cultural events
- ❖ More recreation opportunities

## ❖ Barriers to Participation

- ❖ Cost and affordability remain challenges
- ❖ Program timings and offerings can create conflicts
- ❖ Language and disability access needs to be identified

## ❖ Support for Fees & Scholarships

- ❖ Residents open to modest fees if paired with scholarships
- ❖ Strong support to keep programs affordable and accessible
- ❖ Community willing to share costs to expand opportunities



# Programming and Budget Strategy

- ❖ **Balanced Approach:** Every program is evaluated for both its community value and its financial impact
- ❖ **Accountable Use of Funds:** Some programs generate revenue others require General Fund support — all are intentional choices
- ❖ **Nuanced Portfolio:** Not every program is designed for cost recovery. Some provide essential access, inclusion, or cultural benefit
- ❖ **Future Direction:** By aligning programming wins with financial strategy, we strengthen CES for the long term while keeping services accessible



# Early Wins and Progress

## ❖ Anchor Program Participant Numbers Continue to Grow

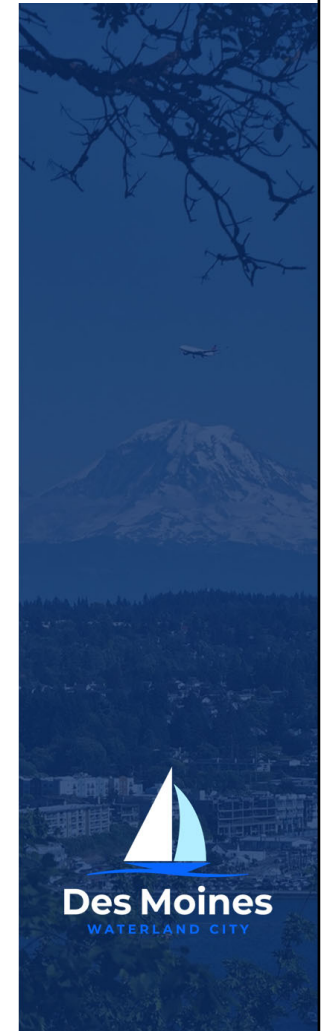
- ❖ Camp KHAOS
- ❖ Break Camps
- ❖ Youth Sports
- ❖ Specialized Camps

## ❖ Continued Development of Partnerships & Funding Opportunities

- ❖ Neighboring City Partnerships
- ❖ Local & Corporate Sponsorships

## ❖ Program & Special Event Expansion

- ❖ Additional Facility Access = Exploratory program offerings
- ❖ Adaptive Recreation & Intergenerational programs
- ❖ Yearly Schedule of Special Events carefully developed to celebrate all areas of resident interest



# Early Wins and Progress

## ❖ Activity Center

- ❖ (446) lunches served in the month of September with the average of (30) people Monday-Thursday.
- ❖ In the month of September, we had (23) new seniors attend lunch
- ❖ Participants are coming from Des Moines, Burien, SeaTac, Tukwila, and Kent
- ❖ Fall currents offers (18) new programs in addition to regular scheduled programs
- ❖ Trip/lunch outings have doubled, and participation has increases by 35%
- ❖ Over (100) seniors attended the senior BBQ at the BPEC

446

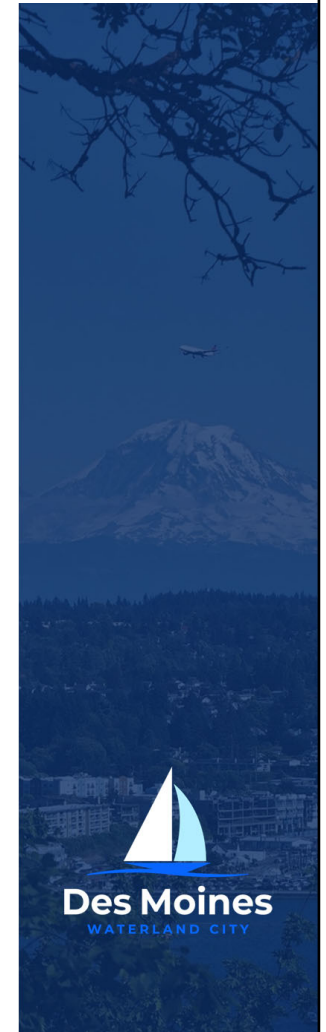
35%

## ❖ Beach Park Event Center

- ❖ (87) events held in 2024; (101) events held at the Beach Park in 2025
- ❖ Biggest attended summer concert series with a huge crowd of (1300) people
- ❖ New paint on the Dining Hall and Founders Lodge
- ❖ Updated Wi-Fi

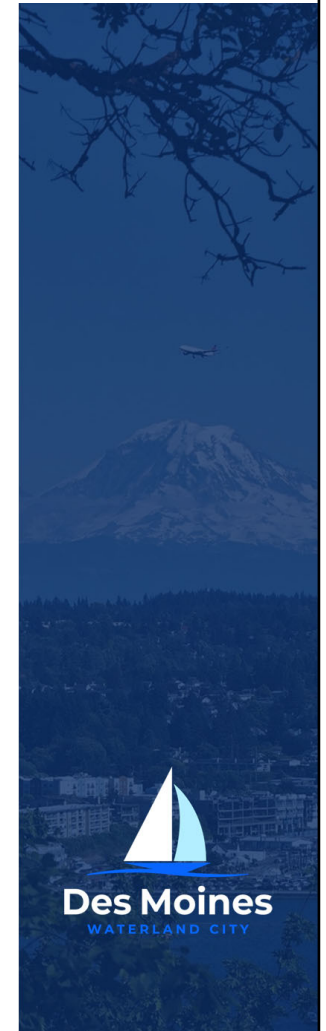
87

1300



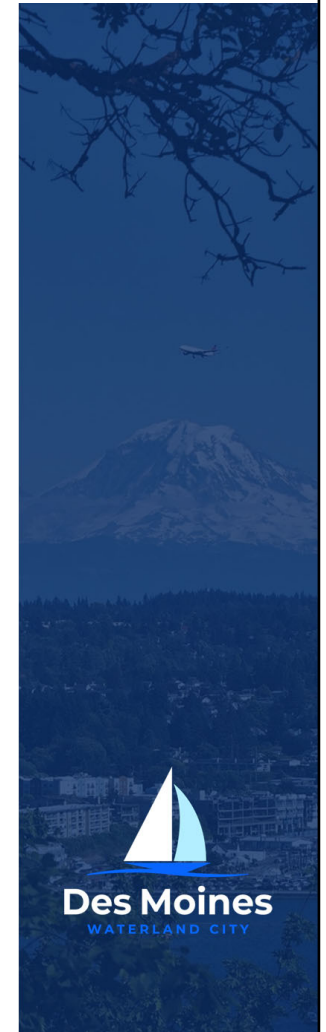
# CES's Path Forward

- ❖ **Community Driven:** Grounded in resident input and survey data
- ❖ **Balanced Approach:** Cost-recovering programs alongside those intentionally supported for community benefit
- ❖ **Program Framework:** Clear visibility into where dollars come from and where they go
- ❖ **Inclusive Outcomes:** Events, recreation, and equity programs remain accessible and valued
- ❖ **Sustainable Direction:** Tracking cost recovery vs. General Fund support to guide future adjustments



# Council Feedback

- ❖ Does this programming mix help show the balance of CES activities?
- ❖ As we refine priorities for 2026, are there areas where CES should place greater or lesser emphasis?
- ❖ What outcomes do you most want CES to deliver for the community?



**AGENDA ITEM**

BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
City of Des Moines, WA

SUBJECT: Public Safety Sales Tax

FOR AGENDA OF: October 2, 2025

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Draft Ordinance no. 25-053

DEPT. OF ORIGIN: Legal

DATE SUBMITTED: September 22, 2025

CLEARANCES:

- City Clerk \_\_\_\_\_
- Community Development \_\_\_\_\_
- Courts \_\_\_\_\_
- Finance *ML*
- Human Resources \_\_\_\_\_
- Legal */s/TG*
- Marina \_\_\_\_\_
- Police *MB*
- Parks, Recreation & Senior Services \_\_\_\_\_
- Public Works \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED BY CITY MANAGER

FOR SUBMITTAL: *Katherine Coffey*

**Purpose and Recommendation**

The purpose of this agenda item is for the Council to consider on first reading Draft Ordinance 25-053 which would enact a 0.1% additional sales and use tax for criminal justice purposes.

**Suggested Motion**

**Motion 1:** "I move to pass Draft Ordinance 25-053 to a second reading at the October 9, 2025 regular Council meeting."

### **Background**

On May 19, 2025, the Governor signed into law Engrossed Substitute House Bill 2015. The law, which took effect July 27, 2025, creates two new sources of revenue for local jurisdictions to help fund criminal justice activities in order to promote public safety. The first source of revenue was through the creation of a new local law enforcement grant program to provide direct support to local and tribal law enforcement agencies in hiring, retaining, and training law enforcement officers, peer counselors, and behavioral health personnel working in co-response to increase community policing and public safety.

The second new source of revenue, relevant to this item, was the creation of a new sales and use tax available to cities and counties additional to, and not subject to any offset from, any other sales and use tax imposed. The amount of the tax equals 0.1% of the selling price in the case of a sales tax, or value of the article used in the case of a use tax.

To be eligible to impose the tax, a city's law enforcement agency must meet the requirements to be eligible to receive grant funds under ESHB 2015. These requirements include:

- Issue and implement policies and practices consistent with RCW 43.17.425 and 10.93.160, and the office of the attorney general's keep Washington working act guide, model policies, and training recommendations for state and local law enforcement agencies;
- Participate in Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) training as required by RCW 43.101.455 and 36.28A.445;
- Issue and implement policies and practices regarding use of force and de-escalation tactics, including, but not limited to, duty to intervene and training and use of canine teams;
- Implement use of force data collection and reporting when the program is operational;
- Issue and implement policies and practices addressing firearm relinquishment pursuant to court orders;
- 25% officer completion rate with the commission's 40-hour crisis intervention team training;
- 100% officer compliance rate for those officers required to complete trauma-informed, gender-based violence interviewing, investigation, response, and case review training developed or approved by the CJTC, and if requested by the commission, participated in agency case reviews;
- Received funding from a sales and use tax authorized pursuant to RCW 82.14.340 or 82.14.450, or authorized pursuant to RCW 82.14.345 before the awarding of the grant;
- A chief of police, marshal, or sheriff who is certified by the criminal justice training commission pursuant to this chapter and who has not been convicted of a felony or a gross misdemeanor involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, or corruption; and
- Issue and implement policies and practices that prohibit volunteers who assist with agency work from enforcing criminal laws, including that they must be clearly identifiable by the public as distinguishable from peace officers and any identifying insignia must be officially issued by the agency and used only when on duty.

The agency is required to submit documentation to CJTC establishing that the agency meets all of the requirements in order to collect the tax.

Additionally, a city is not eligible to impose the tax if the voters have within the last year either rejected a ballot proposition to impose a criminal justice sales and use tax authorized under RCW 82.14.450 or repealed a council-imposed criminal justice sales and use tax authorized under RCW 82.14.340.

Monies received from the tax can only be used for criminal justice purposes. This is defined as “activities that substantially assist the criminal justice system, which may include circumstances where ancillary benefit to the civil justice and behavioral health systems occurs.” This would include traditionally understood criminal justice purposes such as police recruitment and retention or courts, as well as the following examples specified in ESHB 2015:

- Domestic violence services, such as those provided by domestic violence programs, community advocates, and legal advocates;
- Staffing adequate public defenders to provide appropriate defense for individuals;
- Diversion programs;
- Reentry work for inmates;
- Local government programs that have a reasonable relationship to reducing the numbers of people interacting with the criminal justice system including, but not limited to, reducing homelessness or improving behavioral health;
- Community placements for juvenile offenders; and
- Community outreach and assistance programs, alternative response programs, and mental health crisis response including, but not limited to, the recovery navigator program.

### **Discussion**

After making one minor clarification to policy, Des Moines Police believes they meet the policy, practice, and training requirements to be eligible for either a grant or to impose the sales and use tax under the new law. The Department has developed policies on use of force and the Keeping Washington Working Act which has been reviewed by the Attorney General’s office. The City receives proceeds from King County’s public safety sales tax, satisfying that requirement.

The final outstanding requirement related to participation is a use of force data collection and reporting program. At the time ESHB 2015 passed, the referenced program was not yet finalized. Recently, DMPD has signed a data sharing agreement with WSU and worked with Lexipol to put a new database in place that is WADEPS compliant for use of force investigations, which should put the Department in compliance with this requirement.

The Department is putting together the final submission for CJTC and anticipates being ready to submit by September 20. Once the submission is received, CJTC shall verify compliance within 45 days or notify the City of any deficiencies. If the deficiencies cannot be corrected, the proceeds of the tax will be withheld until CJTC can confirm compliance.

The proposed tax would be an additional one tenth of one cent per dollar on purchases of taxable goods and services in the City of Des Moines, bringing the total rate from 10.2% to 10.3%. Based on sales tax revenue over the past few years, the annual proceeds from the proposed tax would total approximately \$450,000 in the first years. These funds would be restricted by law to criminal justice purposes. Anticipated needs in this area that could be funded by the tax include police recruitment and retention, increased public defender costs, mental health crisis response, alternative response programs, or any other qualifying public safety priority the Council decides.

At the September 25, 2026 City Council Meeting, Council unanimously passed moving this Draft Ordinance to the October 2, 2025 Study Session for further discussion and consideration.

### **Alternatives**

The Council Rules do not permit the Council to enact an ordinance at Study Session and also requires two readings of an ordinance. Council may:

1. Pass the draft ordinance as presented to a future meeting
2. Pass the draft ordinance with changes to a future meeting
3. Decline to take action on the draft ordinance

**Financial Impact**

The proposed sales and use tax is projected to bring in approximately an additional \$450,000 per year for criminal justice purposes. Implementation of this tax or not will not affect the ability of DMPD to apply for grants from the new program.

**Recommendation**

Staff recommends the Council pass the draft ordinance for a second reading at the October 9, 2025 regular Council meeting.

CITY ATTORNEY'S FIRST DRAFT 09/22/2025

DRAFT ORDINANCE NO. 25-053

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DES MOINES, WASHINGTON** relating to finance, imposing a sales and use tax for public safety purposes as authorized by RCW 82.14.345, fixing the rate of the tax, defining the permissible uses of the proceeds of the tax, and adding and codifying a new chapter to Title 3 DMMC entitled "Additional Sales and Use Tax for Public Safety."

**WHEREAS**, the Washington State Legislature enacted Engrossed Substitute House Bill (ESHB) 2015 in the 2025 Regular Session, and

**WHEREAS**, ESHB 2015 is intended to improve public safety funding by providing resources to local governments through the creation of a grant program and enabling local governments to enact an additional public safety sales and use tax, and

**WHEREAS**, Section 201 of ESHB 2015, codified at RCW 82.14.345, permits cities and counties who meet certain requirements to enact a 0.1% sales and use tax by June 30, 2028, the proceeds of which can only be used for criminal justice purposes, and

**WHEREAS**, a dedicated additional sales and use tax for criminal justice purposes would provide much needed funding for the City of Des Moines to protect public safety in a time of scarce resources, and

**WHEREAS**, a city may not impose the public safety sales and use tax authorized under RCW 82.14.345 if the voters have repealed by referendum a tax imposed pursuant to RCW 82.14.340 or rejected a ballot proposition to impose a tax pursuant to RCW 82.14.450 in the previous 12 months, and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Des Moines has neither repealed by referendum a tax imposed pursuant to RCW 82.14.340 nor rejected a ballot proposition to impose a tax pursuant to RCW 82.14.450 in the previous 12 months, and

**WHEREAS**, RCW 82.14.345 requires that any city seeking to impose a sales and use tax for public safety purposes meet the requirements of RCW 43.101.540, and

Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_  
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**WHEREAS**, the City of Des Moines has issued and implemented policies and practices that meet the requirements of RCW 43.101.540, and

**WHEREAS**, on September 26, 2025 the City submitted documentation to the Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC), in the form and manner prescribed by the CJTC, demonstrating that the City meets the requirements as required by law, and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council finds that the City has met the requirements under RCW 82.14.345(1)(c), permitting the City to impose a sales and use tax for criminal justice purposes under RCW 82.14.345, and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council finds that implementation of a sales tax to fund public safety services is necessary and appropriate to protect public health, welfare, and the environment; now therefore,

**THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DES MOINES ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:**

**Sec. 1. Findings.** The City Council adopts all of the "whereas" sections of this Ordinance as findings to support this Ordinance.

**Sec. 2. Imposition.** Beginning January 1, 2026, there is imposed a sales or use tax, as the case may be as authorized by RCW 82.14.345, upon every taxable event, as defined in RCW 82.14.020, occurring within the city. The tax shall be imposed upon and collected from those persons from whom the state sales tax or use tax is collected pursuant to chapters 82.08 and 82.12 RCW. The tax shall be in addition to any other taxes imposed or levied under any existing law or ordinance.

**Sec. 3. Rate.** The rate of tax imposed by section 2 of this ordinance shall be one tenth of one percent (0.1%) of the selling price in the case of a sales tax, or value of the article used, in the case of a use tax.

**Sec. 4. Use of tax monies received.** When required by RCW 82.14.345(3), moneys received from the sales and use tax

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imposed by section 1 of this ordinance shall be used only for the purposes provided in RCW 82.14.350(3).

**Sec. 5. Administration - Collection.** The administration and collection of the tax imposed by this chapter shall be in accordance with the provisions of RCW 82.14.540.

**Sec. 6. Contract with Department of Revenue.** The City Manager or the City Manager's designee is authorized to enter into a contract with the Department of Revenue for the administration of this tax.

**Sec. 7. Reporting.** When required by RCW 82.14.345(4) the City shall, within one calendar year of imposition of the tax and annually thereafter, make a report to the Association of Washington Cities on how the moneys received from the tax were expended.

**Sec. 8. Codification.** Sections 2 through 7 of this ordinance shall be codified as a new chapter in Title 3 DMMC entitled "*Additional Sales and Use Tax for Public Safety Purposes.*"

**Sec. 9. Severability - Construction.**

(1) If a section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

(2) If the provisions of this Ordinance are found to be inconsistent with other provisions of the Des Moines Municipal Code, this Ordinance is deemed to control.

**Sec. 10. Effective date.** This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force five (5) days after its passage, approval, and publication in accordance with law.

**PASSED BY** the City Council of the City of Des Moines this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025 and signed in authentication thereof this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
M A Y O R

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Published:

Effective Date:

# Draft Ordinance 25-053 Public Safety Sales Tax



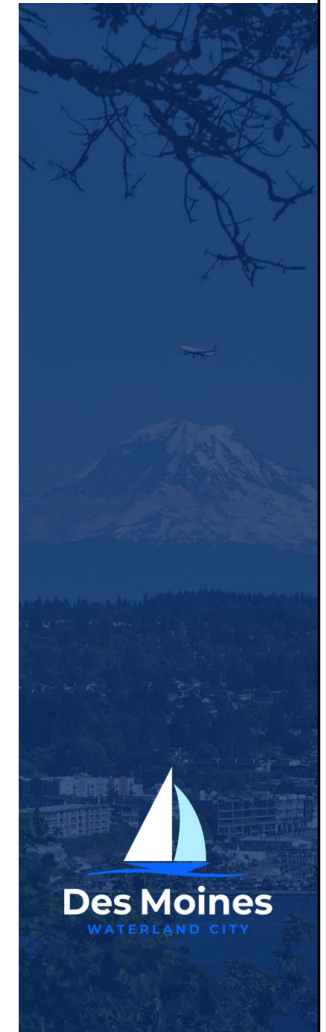
# Background

Legislature passes ESHB 2015 in 2025

Provides local criminal justice funding by:

- Creating local law enforcement grant program
- Creating councilmanic sales and use tax for criminal justice purposes

Council directed Staff to bring forward draft ordinance to implement tax at 9/25 Council meeting



# Requirements for Imposing Tax

Law enforcement agency must comply with policy and practice requirements related to:

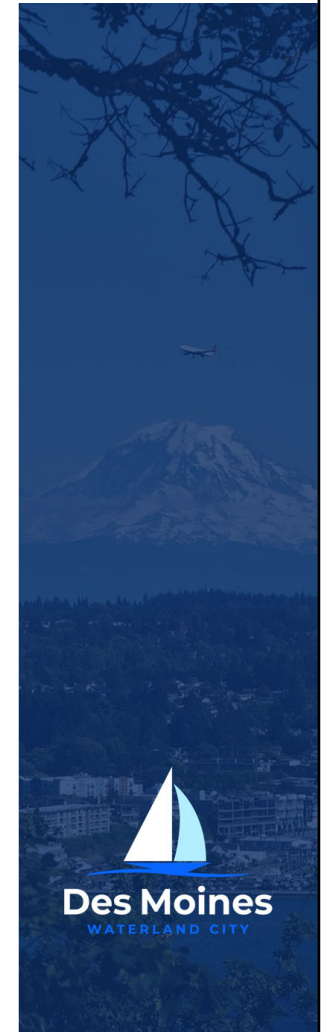
- Officer training
- Use of force reporting
- De-escalation
- Firearm relinquishment procedures

Submit proof to CJTC of compliance

Receive funding from criminal justice sales tax

Voters have not rejected a criminal justice sales tax in prior 12 months

*\*DMPD meets all requirements*

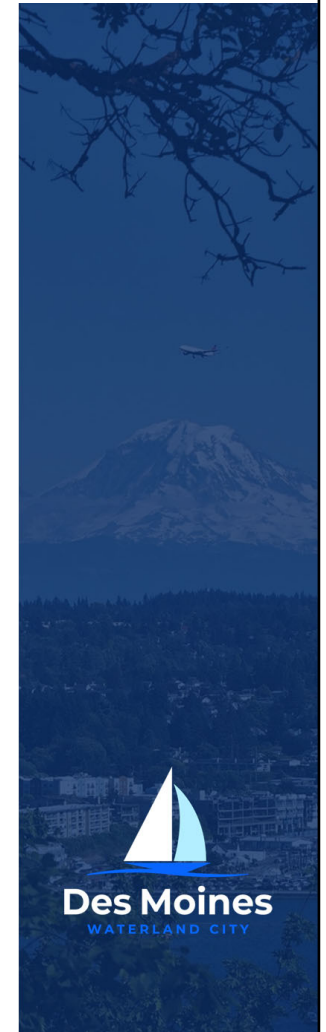


# Permissible Uses of Funds

Funds restricted to ‘criminal justice purposes’ - “activities that substantially assist the criminal justice system, which may include circumstances where ancillary benefit to the civil justice and behavioral health systems occurs.”

Includes:

- Domestic violence programs
- Public Defender staffing
- Diversion programs;
- Programs to reduce homelessness
- Community outreach and assistance programs
- Alternative response programs
- Mental health crisis response



# Financial Impact

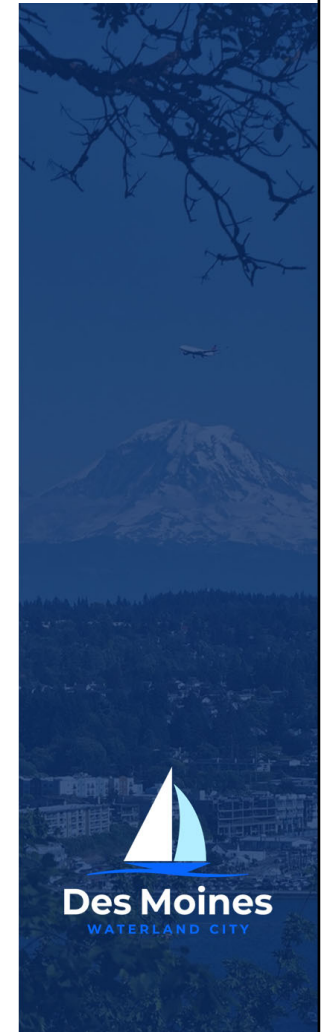
Sales tax rate increases from 10.2% to 10.3%

Annual proceeds estimated at \$450,000

Potential uses of funds include:

- police recruitment and retention
- increased public defender costs
- Increased jail costs
- mental health crisis response
- alternative response programs

DMPD will also be eligible to receive ESHB 2015 grants to fund hiring, retaining, and training law enforcement officers



# Timing

Department of Revenue will collect tax

DOR has certain start dates and notice deadlines for each date per RCW 82.14.055

Effective date

January 1, 2026

April 1, 2026

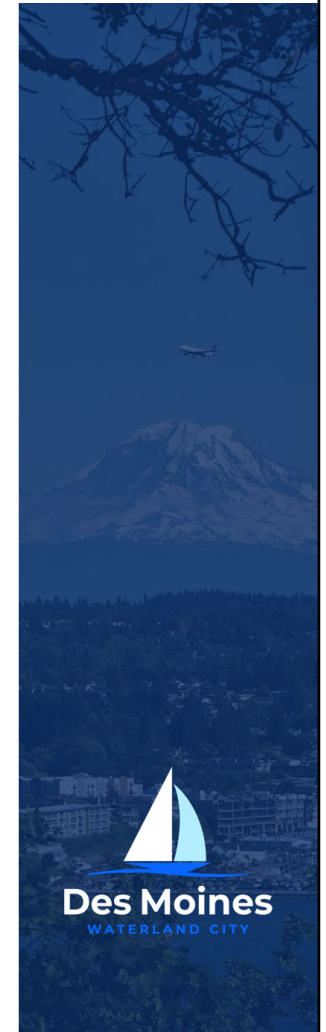
July 1, 2026

Deadline for notice

October 18, 2025

January 16, 2026

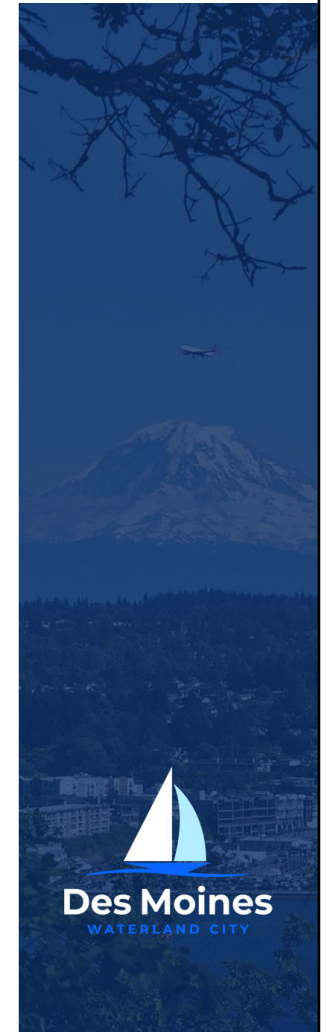
April 17, 2026



## Next Steps

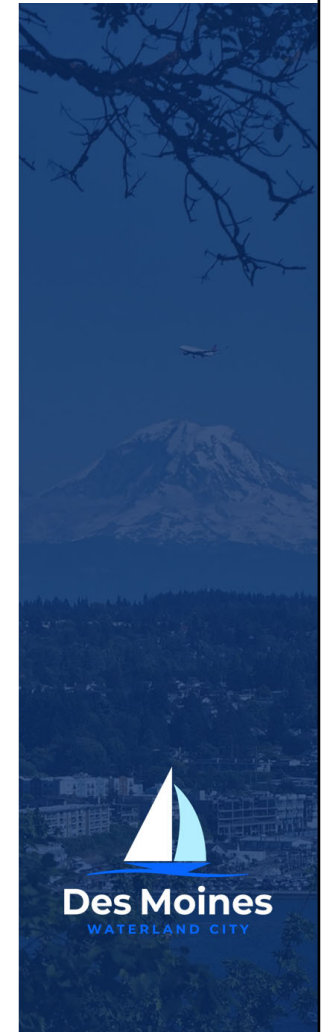
Should Council adopt the Ordinance establishing the tax, Staff will bring back a future item to establish the Special Revenue Fund

Council may choose to adopt the State legislation language or a narrower definition (assuming compliant with State legislation) for the use of funds



# Suggested Motion

“I move to pass Draft Ordinance 25-053 to a second reading at the October 9, 2025 regular Council meeting.”





**Des Moines**  
WATERLAND CITY