



AGC

INLAND NORTHWEST CHAPTER
THE CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION

2025 LEGISLATIVE GUIDE



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“WE IN AMERICA DO NOT HAVE GOVERNMENT BY THE MAJORITY. WE HAVE GOVERNMENT BY THE MAJORITY WHO PARTICIPATE” - THOMAS JEFFERSON

As Eastern WA's leading construction industry association Inland Northwest AGC is committed to ensuring that it's members are well-represented at all levels of government. By maintaining a visible and active presence with both elected officials and policy makers we are able to effectively advocate for the best interests of our members and the industry.



WHAT WE DO?

This is one of the biggest benefits of being an AGC member : knowing that you have an experienced team looking out for your best interests while you are busy growing your company.

The combined advocacy efforts by AGC at the local, state and national levels ensure a strong, influential, and collective voices for our members and the industry, allowing us to achieve greater impact.

The AGC serves as a collective voice for our industry and together we can help build a stronger and more prosperous industry in Washington State.

FOCUS

Our continuing focus this legislative season will be ensuring that our members are protected against an increasing onslaught of business and industry regulations that make it hard to remain competitive, or to grow our workforce.

DEDICATION

We are also dedicated to encouraging smart public spending that keeps our economy vibrant, our vital infrastructure funded, and our industry working. We work for policy that promotes entrepreneurialism, functional pathways to market entry, and gives the next generation of workers and owners a promising future.

BUILD EAST PAC



ABOUT US

BUILD East (Builders United in Legislative Development) is the AGC's Political Action Committee. Through Build East, the AGC plays an active role in Washington State elections, investing time, energy, and money into ensuring the election of pro-business candidates that support the construction industry and the economic growth of the state.

HOW YOU IMPACT THE PAC

- All PAC funding comes directly from AGC member donations.
- Every year is an election year. From State to Local or Special elections your contributions ensure BUILD East is able to be there providing the necessary financial support.
- Donations as small as \$5 and as large as \$10,000 all play a role in making sure BUILD East PAC is ready to respond at a moment's notice.
- Contributions to BUILD East can be made by companies as well as individuals.
- AGC members serve on the BUILD East committee to ensure proper stewardship of your contributions. If you are interested in participating contact Cheryl Stewart at cstewart@nwgac.org.



\$51,800
CONTRIBUTIONS
MADE TO
CANDIDATES AND
ISSUES IN 2024

24
CANDIDATES
DIRECTLY
RECEIVED PAC
SUPPORT IN
2024

94
INDIVIDUAL 2024
PAC DONATIONS
\$87,900
RAISED IN 2024

CONSTRUCTION IMPACT ON WA STATE

What impact does the construction industry have on the state of Washington?

Great Jobs | Excellent Wages | More Opportunities

- Construction employment peaked at just over 239,000 people (not including services and suppliers) in 2023. This was 16.3% of the nonfarm state workforce.
- Construction worker pay averages \$80,758 in 2023.
- 3 of the 5 largest construction occupations had higher median annual pay than the median for all occupations in the state (2021).
- In a 2022 survey 93% of all construction firms, and 100% of Washington's construction firms reported difficulty in attracting craft workers.

Construction's Positive Multiplier Effect

- Private nonresidential spending in Washington totaled \$9.3 billion in 2022. State and local spending totaled \$12 billion.
- For every \$1 invested in construction in the coming decade it is estimated that an additional \$0.95 will be added through indirect and induced spending in our local communities.

Construction's Tax Contributions

- Construction businesses paid 20% (\$2.8 billion) of all state sales and B&O taxes in 2017.
- Construction businesses paid \$2.24 billion in state sales taxes - nearly 25% of the state total - a greater share than manufacturing (2%), services (23%), transportation/information/utilities (5%) and wholesale trade (6%).
- Construction businesses paid nearly \$405 million in state B&O taxes - 10% of the state's total.
- Construction firms paid \$1 billion in local sales taxes.

Sources: University of Washington, Employment Security Department, Census Bureau, Bureau of Labor Statistics, AGC of America survey



INDUSTRY
IMPACT

20%
OF ALL
STATE SALES &
B&O TAXES
(2017)

\$80K
AVERAGE
CONSTRUCTION
WORKER
INCOME (2023)

100%
CONSTRUCTION
FIRMS
RESPONDING
RECRUITMENT
CHALLENGES

WE WILL WORK FOR:

- Ensure the transportation investments, included in the Move Ahead Washington and Connecting Washington packages, are realized.
 - This includes commitments from the general fund.
 - Work to ensure that long-term investments in transportation meet the state's needs, particularly as gas tax revenues decline .
 - Advocate for additional funding, including short and long-term, for maintenance and preservation.
- Changes to the prevailing wage statute that says in counties where two CBAs exist, the one with the highest wage prevails such that the language says that the CBA representing the most workers or hours prevails.
- Proposals to increase investments in capital construction, including the State Capital Budget, Public Works Trust Fund, Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA), and efforts to increase school construction funding such as reduction in the 60% threshold to approve school bond measures.
- Programs and opportunities that increase and improve the construction-industry workforce include funding for:
 - Core Plus Construction
 - Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs in middle and high school, and enhancements to STEM programs.
 - Also promote apprenticeship programs, inclusive of state and/or federally approved programs, while bringing awareness to and encouraging people to enroll in the training who are entering the construction industry.
 - Support proposals that make the process of approving construction apprenticeship training programs fairer and more open.

“AGC IS THE VOICE OF THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY AT THE LOCAL, STATE, AND NATIONAL LEVEL. WHETHER IT IS SUPPORTING FUNDING FOR HIGHWAY AND CAPITAL PROJECTS, OR OPPOSING BURDENSOME REGULATIONS, AGC IS OUR CONDUIT TO INFLUENCE THE DECISION MAKERS. TOGETHER OUR VOICES HAVE VASTLY MORE INFLUENCE THAN INDIVIDUALLY, ALLOWING US TO EXPONENTIALLY EFFECT POSITIVE CHANGE FOR OUR INDUSTRY. SUPPORTING THE AGC PAC LOCALLY AND NATIONALLY MEANS ELECTING LEGISLATORS WHO SUPPORT OUR ISSUES AND WILL REDUCE THE COST OF DOING BUSINESS.”

-MAX KUNEY | PRESIDENT | MAX J. KUNEY CONSTRUCTION , AGC GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS CHAIR



WE WILL WORK FOR:

- Proposals that fairly allocate risk in construction contracts.
- Proposals that support fair, competitive, and open access to public works construction contracts.
- Achievable efforts to increase the diversity of the construction industry that include measurable metrics to success.
- Workers' Compensation system improvements.
- Rational and reasonable business regulation reforms.
- Rational and reasonable permit and growth management act reforms that allow needed expansion of residential and commercial construction.
- Rational and reasonable prevailing wage reforms.
- Rational and reasonable approaches to support the Unemployment Insurance trust fund.
- Legislation to make the 15% apprenticeship utilization requirement more attainable, and legislation that would streamline the objection process for new apprenticeship programs.
- Legislation to improve the timeliness of payments from public owners



WE WILL WORK AGAINST:

- Proposals that unreasonably increase taxes, business costs, or regulations. This includes:
 - Expanded payroll taxes
 - Capital gains tax expansion
 - Establishment of a wealth tax
 - Any property tax increases or changes to the real estate excise tax (REET)
 - Unemployment benefits for striking workers and other impacts to the UI fund.
- Proposals that divert funds from dedicated construction programs or other dedicated programs to other unrelated purposes that were not the original intent.
- Unreasonable natural gas restrictions or outright immediate ban, either through legislation or building code requirements.
- Any legislative proposals that seek to divert 18th amendment-protected transportation revenues to other government programs.
- EV truck and heavy equipment mandates that are overly burdensome and that are costly to the construction industry.
- Public construction procurement methods that carry undue risk and which are not well vetted or do not have a consensus of support within the affected AGC contractor membership.
- Government-mandated, or government-negotiated Project Labor Agreements, Community Workforce Agreements.
- Environmental proposals that impose unnecessary burdens and undue risk on contractors and are not practical or are not economically and technically feasible.
- Detrimental land use laws which make development efforts unreasonably difficult or costly.
- Proposals that would expand prevailing wage to private projects.

FEDERALLY ELECTED OFFICIALS

REPRESENTING E. WA

SENATORS:

Maria Cantwell (D)
Spokane Office
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Patty Murray (D)
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Richland Office
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Richland, WA 99352
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REPRESENTATIVES:

4th District:
Dan Newhouse (R)
Tri-Cities Office
3100 George Washington Way #130
Richland, WA 99354
Phone: (509) 713-7374

5th District:
Michael Baumgartner (R)
PO Box 8508
Spokane, WA 99203

STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS

KEY LEG. LEADERSHIP

Senate

Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education Committee
Chair: Sen. Lisa Wellman
Ranking Minority: Sen. Paul Harris

Senate Environment, Energy & Technology Committee
Chair: Sen. Joe Nguyen
Ranking Minority: Sen. Matt Boehnke

Senate Labor & Commerce Committee
Chair: Sen. Rebecca Saldana
Ranking Minority: Sen. Curtis King

Senate Local Gov, Land Use & Tribal Affairs Committee
Chair: Sen. Liz Lovelett
Ranking Minority: Sen. Nikki Torres

State Government & Elections Committee
Chair: Sen. Javier Valdez
Ranking Minority: Sen. Jeff Wilson

Senate Transportation Committee
Chair: Sen. Marko Lias
Ranking Minority: Sen. Curtis King

Senate Ways & Means Committee
Chair: Sen. June Robinson
Ranking Minority: Sen. Chris Gildon

House

House Appropriations Committee
Chair: Rep. Timm Ormsby
Ranking Minority: Rep. Travis Couture

House Education Committee
Chair: Rep. Sharon Santos
Ranking Minority: Rep. Skyler Rude

House Environment & Energy Committee
Chair: Rep. Beth Doglio
Ranking Minority: Rep. Mary Dye

House Finance Committee
Chair: Rep. April Berg
Ranking Minority: Rep. Ed Orcutt

House Labor & Workplace Standards Committee
Chair: Rep. Liz Berry
Ranking Minority: Rep. Suzanne Schmidt

House Local Government Committee
Chair: Rep. Davina Duerr
Ranking Minority: Rep Mark Klicker

House State Gov & Tribal Relations Committee
Chair: Rep. Bill Ramos
Ranking Minority: Rep. Kevin Waters

House Transportation Committee
Chair: Rep. Jake Fey
Ranking Minority: Rep Andrew Barkis

STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS

REPRESENTING E. WA

District 3:

Senate

Marcus Riccelli (D)

(360)786-7888

Marcus.Riccelli@leg.wa.gov

House, Position 1

Natasha Hill (D)

(206) 321-9890

Natasha.Hill@leg.wa.gov

House, Position 2

Timm Ormsby (D)

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Timm.Ormsby@leg.wa.gov

District 4:

Senate

Leonard Christian (R)

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House, Position 1

Suzanne Schmidt (R)

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House, Position 2

Rob Chase (R)

(509) 954-3829

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District 6:

Senate

Jeff Holy

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House, Position 1

Mike Volz (R)

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District 7:

Senate

Shelly Short (R)

(360)786-7612

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Position 1

Andrew Engell

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House, Position 2

Jenny Graham (R)

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House, Position 2

Hunter Abell (R)

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STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS

REPRESENTING E. WA

District 8:

Senate

Matt Boehnke (R)

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House, Position 1

Stephanie Barnard (R)

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House, Position 2

April Connors(R)

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District 14:

Senate

Curtis King (R)

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House, Position 1

Gloria Mendoza (R)

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House, Position 2

Deb Manjarrez (R)

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District 9:

Senate

Mark Schoesler (R)

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House, Position 1

Mary Dye (R)

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House, Position 2

Joe Schmick (R)

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District 16:

Senate

Perry Dozier (R)

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House, Position 1

Mark Klicker (R)

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Mark.Klicker@leg.wa.gov

House, Position 2

Skyler Rude (R)

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skyler.rude@leg.wa.gov

LOCALLY ELECTED OFFICIALS

SPOKANE REGION

CITY OF SPOKANE

Lisa Brown

Mayor lbrown@spokancity.org

Betsy Wilkerson

Council President

bwilkerson@spokanecity.org

Jonathan Bingle

Council Member, District 1

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Michael Cathcart

Council Member, District 1

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Paul Dillon

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Lili Navarrete

Council Member, District 2

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Zack Zappone

Council Member, District 3

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Kitty Klitzke

Council Member, District 3

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SPOKANE VALLEY

Rod Higgins

Deputy Mayor, Position 1

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Jessica Yaeger

Council Member, Position 2

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Al Merkel

Council Member, Position 3

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Ben Wick

Council Member, Position 4

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Pam Haley

Mayor, Position 5

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Tim Hattenburg

Council Member, Position 6

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Laura Padden

Council Member, Position 7

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SPOKANE COUNTY

Chris Jordan

District 1

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Amber Waldref

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Josh Kerns

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Mary Kuney

District 4

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509-477-2265

Al French

District 5

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509-477-2265

LOCALLY ELECTED OFFICIALS

TRI-CITIES REGION

CITY OF RICHLAND

Theresa Richardson

Mayor

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Jon Amundson

City Manager

jamundson@ci.richland.wa.us

Carlo D'Alessandro

Public Works Director

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CITY OF KENNEWICK

Gretl Crawford

Mayor

gretl.crawford@ci.kennewick.wa.us

Erin Erdman

City Manager

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Cary M. Roe

Public Works Director

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CITY OF PASCO

Pete Serrano

Mayor

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Adam Lincoln

City Manager

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Maria Serra

Public Works Director

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BENTON COUNTY

Jerome Delvin

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Michael Alvarez

District 2

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Will McKay

District 3

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FRANKLIN COUNTY

Steve Bauman

District 1

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Rocky Mullen

District 2

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Clint Didier

District 3

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AGC

INLAND NORTHWEST CHAPTER
THE CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION

CONSTRUCTION VOTES



Learn more at nwagc.org/vote

