

Kickoff Discussion: 2026 State Legislative Priorities

September 16 Governance Committee



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Agenda

- 1) Review Existing Budget Goals
- 2) Discuss Additional Legislative Priorities and Legislative Policies to Pursue
- 3) Next Steps



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Budget Goals – Part 1

1) Increase Community Safety

Associated Committees of Reference: House and Senate Judiciary; House and Senate Health and Human Services

2) Empower Communities

Associated Committees of Reference: House and Senate State, Civic, Military, & Veterans Affairs Committees

3) Address Denver's Housing Needs

Associated Committees of Reference: House Transportation, Housing, & Local Government; Senate Local Government & Housing

4) Support Workers and Businesses

Associated Committees of Reference: House Business Affairs & Labor and Senate Business, Labor, & Technology



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Budget Goals – Part 2

5) Prioritize Climate Response

Associated Committees of Reference: House Energy & Environment and Senate Transportation & Energy

6) Build Healthy Communities

Associated Committees of Reference: House and Senate Health and Human Services

7) Strengthen Families, Youth, and Older Adults

Associated Committees of Reference: House and Senate Health and Human Services; House and Senate Education

8) Improve Denver's Infrastructure

Associated Committees of Reference: House Transportation, Housing, & Local Government and Senate Transportation & Energy



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Additional Legislative Priorities

What additional priorities should be considered beyond the current Council Budget Goals?

- Example: protect local control



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Specific Legislative Changes to Address

What specific policies or changes in state law should Council pursue?

- Example: legislative fix for accessory dwelling unit mandate
- Example: background check exemption for gun buyback programs



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Next Steps:

- Survey for members to express level of importance for each legislative priority
 - Sent out after this meeting
 - Responses due Monday, October 13th
- Discuss survey results at the November 18 Governance Committee



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Questions and discussion



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