



CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

2026 General Assembly Legislative Package

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Legislative Director





2026 General Assembly Legislative Package:

Why Alexandria needs a Legislative Package

- ▶ Dillon Rule limits the governing authority of localities
- ▶ Localities request legislation to grant them new authority and to influence the appropriation of State funds
- ▶ The Legislative Package communicates the City's legislative and budget priorities



2026 General Assembly:

What We're Expecting in Richmond

- ▶ **New Administration**— A newly elected governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Attorney General.
- ▶ **Long Session** – 2026 is a 60-day-long session and a budget year.
- ▶ **Federal Funding & Budget Pressures** – a strain on Commonwealth resources.
- ▶ **Constitutional Amendments** –
 - ▶ reproductive freedom,
 - ▶ affirming same-sex marriage,
 - ▶ restoring political rights of formerly incarcerated individuals,
 - ▶ and mid-decade redistricting.



2026 General Assembly Legislative Package:

Development of the Legislative Package



Form Open:

August 8 –
October 3



**Total Individual
Policy
Submissions:**

130+



**Submissions from
Boards, Commissions,
Departments, City
Council**

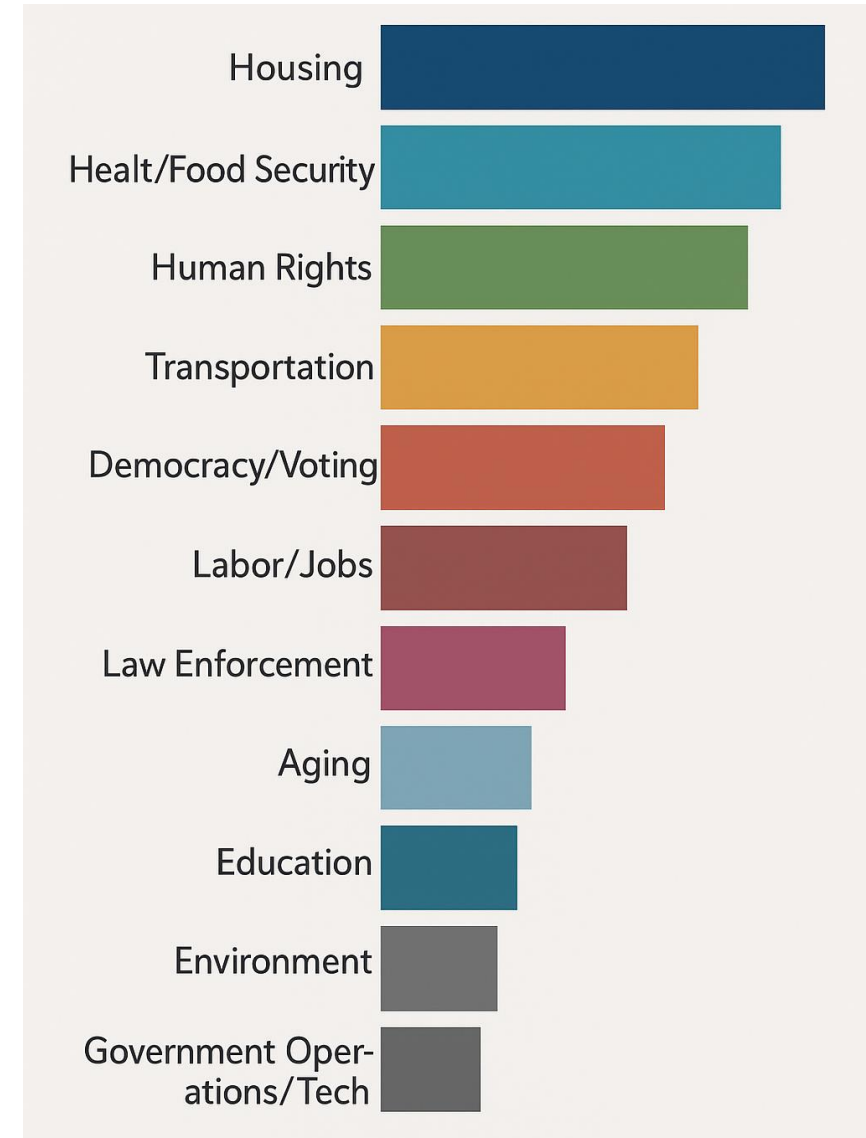


2026 General Assembly Legislative Package: *Legislative Proposals by Policy Area*

► Most Common Policy Areas

- Housing
- Health/Food Security
- Human rights

► Strong emphasis on policies that support housing, health, food security, and overall well-being.





2026 General Assembly Legislative Package:

Legislative Subcommittee

▶ **Development of the Legislative Package**

- ▶ Led by the Legislative Subcommittee: Mayor Gaskins and Councilman McPike, City subject matter experts, and residents.
- ▶ Subcommittee refined legislative proposals into a tailored package to ensure strategic and effective advocacy.

▶ **Collaboration during General Assembly**

- ▶ Subcommittee will meet weekly to provide input engagement with bills as they move through the Assembly.

▶ **Advocacy in Richmond**

- ▶ **January 29:** Alexandria City Council meeting with state lawmakers
- ▶ **February 5:** Virginia Municipal League Day.



2026 General Assembly Legislative Package:

Guiding Advocacy for the Alexandria of Today and Tomorrow

- ▶ At the center of Alexandria's 2026 Legislative Package are **seven legislative policies** that guide how we advocate for the Alexandria we want: a city that is **resilient, equitable, and thriving**.





2026 Legislative Package Proposals:

Seven Legislative Policies



Address Impacts
of Federal
Workforce and
Funding
Reductions



Address Mental
Health, Public
Health and
Safety, and
Community Well-
Being



Advance Housing
Affordability and
Economic
Opportunity



Advance
Opportunity for
All Alexandrians



Promote Civic
Engagement and
Election
Integrity



Rebuild Critical
School
Infrastructure



Strengthen
Transit,
Infrastructure,
Resilience, and
Clean Energy
Transition



2026 Legislative Package Proposals:



Address Impacts of Federal Workforce and Funding Reductions

Investment to backfill lost benefits, modernize systems, and support impacted workers and local businesses.



Advance Housing Affordability and Economic Opportunity

New tools and authorities to preserve affordability, protect tenants, and expand local zoning and financing options.



Rebuild Critical School Infrastructure

Modernize school facilities and update Virginia's education funding formula to accurately reflect student needs across Virginia.



2026 Legislative Package Proposals:



Address Mental Health, Public Health and Safety, and Community Well-Being

Strengthen Alexandria's workforce, expand local public health and safety authority, and invest in community well-being.



Advance Opportunity for All Alexandrians

Modernize state laws to expand rights and strengthen community trust statewide.



Strengthen Transit, Infrastructure, Resilience, and Clean Energy Transition

Invest in strong transit systems, safer multimodal travels, and historic sites.



Promote Civic Engagement and Election Integrity

Modernize election administration, expand voter access, and automatically restore civil rights upon release from incarceration.



2026 General Assembly Timeline

Outgoing Governor's
Budget Announced

December 17, 2025

General Assembly
Convenes

January 14, 2026

Crossover Day

February 12, 2026

Last Day for
Committee Action
on Bills

To Be Determined

Reconvene to Act on
Governor's
Amendments

April 22, 2026

January 2, 2026

House and Senate
Budget Hearings Begin

January 16, 2026

Deadline for
Submission of Budget
Amendments

March 1, 2026

Budget Sunday

March 14, 2026

Session Adjourns Sine
Die

July 1, 2026

Legislation Enacted



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