



CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

# 2026 General Assembly Legislative Package

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# **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**



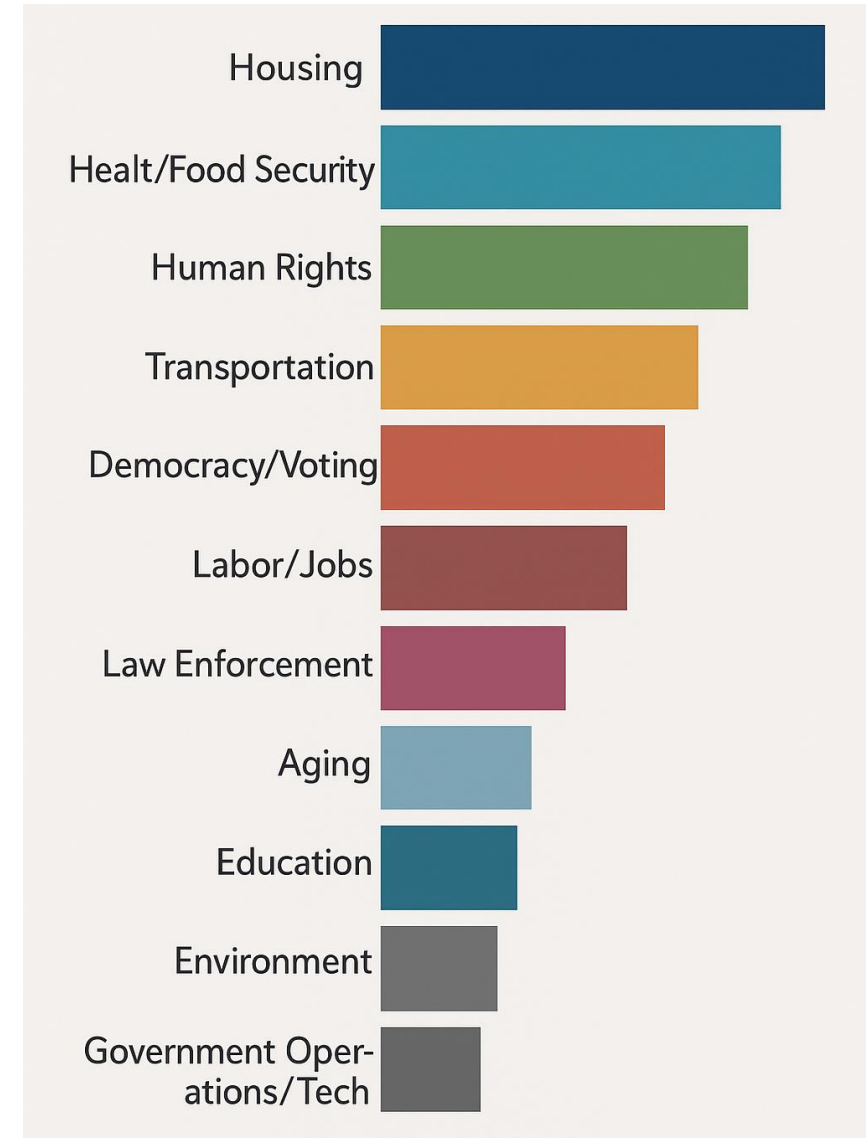
# 2026 General Assembly Legislative Package:

## *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.



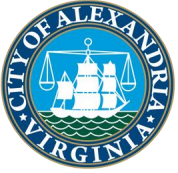
**Strengthen Transit, Infrastructure, Resilience, and Clean Energy Transition**

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



# CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

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