WA Cities Forms of Government

Cities 50,000 and above	*Form of government*
Auburn (73,235)	Mayor-Council
Bellevue (132,100)	Council-Manager
Bellingham (82,310)	Mayor-Council
Everett (104,200)	Mayor-Council
Federal Way (89,720)	Mayor-Council
Kennewick (76,410)	Council-Manager
Kent (120,500)	Mayor-Council
Kirkland (81,730)	Council-Manager
Lakewood (58,310)	Council-Manager
Marysville (62,100)	Mayor-Council
Pasco (65,600)	Council-Manager
Redmond (55,840)	Mayor-Council
Renton (95,540)	Mayor-Council
Seattle (626,600)	Mayor-Council
Shoreline (53,670)	Council-Manager
Spokane (211,300)	Mayor-Council
Spokane Valley (91,490)	Council-Manager
Tacoma (200,400)	Council-Manager
Vancouver (164,500)	Council-Manager
Yakima (92,620)	Council-Manager
Cities 30,000 to 49,999	
Bothell (34,460)	Council-Manager

Mayor-Council Form of Government
The mayor-council form consists of an elected mayor (elected at-large), who serves as the city's chief administrative officer, and a council (elected either at-large or from districts), which serves as the municipality's legislative body. The council has the authority to formulate and adopt city policies and the mayor is responsible for carrying them out. The mayor attends and presides over council meetings but does not vote, except in the case of a tie.

Mayoral veto authority is specified in the state laws relating to each city classification or is determined by local charter. In first class cities, the mayor's veto authority is specified in the city charter. In second class cities, the mayor may veto an ordinance, but the mayor's veto can be overridden by five members of the council. In code cities, the mayor may veto ordinances, but the mayor's veto can be overridden by a majority plus one of the entire council membership. Town mayors do not have a veto power.

Many mayor-council cities have hired professional city administrators to serve under the mayor and assist with administrative and policy-related duties. By doing so, these cities seek to gain the benefits of professional management, allowing the mayor to focus greater attention on policy development, political leadership roles or their own livelihood.

Council-Manager Form of Government
The council-manager form consists of an elected city council which is responsible for policy making, and a professional city manager, appointed by the council, who is responsible for administration. The city manager provides policy advice, directs the daily operations of city government, handles personnel functions (including the power to appoint and remove employees) and is responsible for preparing the city budget.

Under the council-manager statutes, the city council is prohibited from interfering with the manager's administration. The city manager, however, is directly accountable to and can be removed by a majority vote of the council at any time.

The mayor in council-manager cities is generally selected by the city council. The person selected must also be a councilmember. The charter of a first class city or the voters of an optional municipal code city, according to the provisions of RCW 35A.13.033, may provide for the mayor to be directly elected by the people. The mayor presides at council meetings and is recognized as the head of the city for ceremonial purposes, but has no regular administrative duties.

Source: MRSC http://www.mrsc.org/subjects/governance/formsweb.aspx

Bremerton (37,850)	Mayor-Council
Burien (48,030)	Council-Manager
Edmonds (39,950)	Mayor-Council
Issaquah (32,130)	Mayor-Council
Lacey (44,350)	Council-Manager
Longview (36,940)	Council-Manager
Lynnwood (35,960)	Mayor-Council
Mount Vernon (32,710)	Mayor-Council
Olympia (48,480)	Council-Manager
Pullman (30,990)	Mayor-Council
Puyallup (37,980)	Council-Manager
Richland (51,150)	Council-Manager
Sammamish (48,060)	Council-Manager
University Place (31,340)	Council-Manager
Walla Walla (31,930)	Council-Manager
Wenatchee (32,520)	Mayor-Council

Sources:
Municipal Research and Services Center of Washington (MRSC)
http://www.mrsc.org/cityprofiles/citylist.aspx
AWC 2013 Salaries Survey Full Report

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