



MEMORANDUM

TO: Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council Board of Directors
FROM: Matt Ransom, Executive Director *MR*
DATE: March 3, 2015
SUBJECT: Legislative Session Update

AT A GLANCE – INFORMATION

The purpose of this memorandum is to keep the RTC Board apprised of proposed state legislation.

BACKGROUND

The Washington State Legislature convened for its 2015 session on January 12 and is scheduled to complete its regular session on April 26. At the outset of the legislative session, RTC staff began tracking various bills that would raise new transportation revenue or revise laws that govern transportation funding, planning, and RTC operations. In addition to monitoring proposed legislation, staff are also assisting Legislators and RTC Member agency staff (and their lobbyists) by providing current information in regards to RTC plans and recommended project packages.

CURRENT STATUS

As of this report, the following information is provided.

Transportation Revenue Bills

The Senate Transportation Committee has released and passed forward a series of transportation revenue bills, reforms, and a new-law revenue transportation project list. As of March 3 (noon), nearly all the related revenue bills, reform bills, and the new-law revenue project list passed the full Senate and are headed to the House of Representatives for further consideration. An RTC summary of the new-law revenue project list benefiting the RTC region is attached.

Bill #	Summary	Status
SB 5995	Makes “mobility” a statutory transportation goal	Passed Full Senate
SB 5997	Encourages WSDOT use of design/build contracting	Passed Full Senate
SB 5996	Permit Streamlining	Passed Full Senate
SB 5994	Permit Streamlining	Passed Full Senate
SB 5992	Ferry construction contracting provisions	Passed Full Senate
SB 5991	Funding accounts for storm-water projects	Passed Full Senate
SB 5993	Apprenticeship and prevailing wage provisions	Passed Full Senate
SB 5990	Sales tax on construction projects	Passed Full Senate

SB 5987	Transportation Revenue (new law revenue)	Passed Full Senate
SB 5988	Additive Transportation Appropriations	Passed Full Senate
SB 5999	Authorizing Bonds for Transportation Funding	<i>Pending</i>

RTPO/MPO Related Policy Bills

As of this report, RTC staff has been monitoring four bills introduced in the Senate and House, which do have a substantive impact on RTC operations, Board composition, and which could impact RTC's operating revenues. The proposed Bills and Status are summarized below.

Bill #	Summary	Perceived Impact	Status
SB 5196	Would restrict allocation of State funds for RTPO planning purposes to any RTPO that also receives Federal funds in the same biennium.	Reduced state operating grant to RTC of approximately \$345,000 (\$172,500 year) for the 16-17 Biennium.	Did not Advance
SB 5199	Would revise Statute to remove non-Washington Board members as Full Voting members of RTPO Policy Boards.	Directly affects RTC Board members voting privileges for RTPO purposes.	In Senate Rules Committee
SB 5200	Would add senior Legislator from each RTPO legislative district as Full Voting members of the RTPO Policy Board.	Would add 5 new Full Voting members to the RTPO Policy Board.	Did Not Advance
HB 2124	Would revise Statute to remove non-Washington Board members as Full Voting members of RTPO Policy Boards.	Directly affects RTC Board members voting privileges.	Did Not Advance

NEXT STEPS

RTC staff will continue to monitor proposed bills which are currently or may be introduced during this legislative session. In addition to monitoring, RTC staff will provide information and input to the Board, Legislators, and RTC Member agency staff as requested and will provide testimony as appropriate to legislative hearings which advance the interests of current RTC Board policy.

Attachments:

LEAP Transportation Document 2015 NL-1 (Project list summarized by RTC on March 3, 2015)

LEAP Transportation Document 2015 NL-2 as developed February 10, 2015

RTC Region Summary (as of March 3, 2015)

LEAP Transportation Document 2015 NL- 1 as developed February 23, 2015

Connecting Washington Projects

\$ in Thousands

Project Title	Total
SR 14/ Camas Slough Bridge	\$ 21,363
SR 14/Bingen Overpass	\$ 22,834
SR 14/164th and I-205 Widening	\$ 35,000
SR 502 Main Street Project/Widening	\$ 7,666
Ridgefield Rail Overpass	\$ 7,768
SR 14/Wind River Junction	\$ 5,143
SR 501/I-5 to Port of Vancouver	\$ 6,000
I-5/Mill Plain Boulevard	\$ 82,832
Fishers Landing Park & Ride Expansion (C-TRAN)	\$ 1,100
Vancouver Mall Transit Center Relocation & Upgrade (C-TRAN)	\$ 3,200
West Vancouver Freight Access	\$ 1,900
Brady Road	\$ 6,000
27th Street Extension and Rail Overpass	\$ 7,500
	\$ 208,306

LEAP Transportation Document 2015 NL-2 as developed February 10, 2015
Connecting Washington Projects
State \$ in Millions

	Estimated State Expenditures (through FY 2031)	Total Funding Through FY 2031
1	Maintenance	100
2	Traffic Operations	50
3	Ferry Operating Account Backfill	250
4	State Patrol Account Backfill	240
5	Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board (FMSIB)	125
6	Transportation Improvement Board (TIB)	54
7	County Road Administration Board (CRAB)	54
8	Cities and Counties Direct Distribution	375
9	Special Needs Transit Grants	160
10	Rural Mobility Grant Program	90
11	Regional Mobility Grant Program	140
12	Vanpool Grant Program	21
13	Culverts	280
14	Bicycle/Pedestrian Grant Program	50
15	Safe Routes to School Grant Program	56
16	Complete Streets Grant Program	160
17	Stormwater Retrofits	100
18	Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Bank Capitalization	6
19	Department of Licensing Implementation Costs	22
20	Marine/ORV/Snowmobile Fuel Tax Refunds	100
	<u>Total Spending</u>	<u>2,433</u>