

2 **SSB 6466 - H COMM AMD ADOPTED 3-4-94**

3 By Committee on Transportation

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5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
6 following:

7 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 36.70A  
8 RCW to read as follows:

9 The legislature recognizes that there are major transportation  
10 projects that affect multiple jurisdictions as to economic development,  
11 fiscal influence, environmental consequences, land use implications,  
12 and mobility of people and goods. The legislature further recognizes  
13 that affected jurisdictions have important interests that must be  
14 addressed, and that these jurisdictions' present environmental planning  
15 and permitting authority may result in multiple local permits and other  
16 requirements being specified for the projects.

17 The legislature finds that the present permitting system may result  
18 in segmented and sequential decisions by local governments that do not  
19 optimally serve all the parties with an interest in the decisions. The  
20 present system may also make more difficult achieving the consistency  
21 among plans and actions that is an important aspect of this chapter.

22 It is the intent of the legislature to provide for more efficiency  
23 and equity in the decisions of local governments regarding major  
24 transportation projects by encouraging coordination or consolidation of  
25 the processes for reviewing environmental planning and permitting  
26 requirements for those projects. The legislature intends that local  
27 governments coordinate their regulatory decisions by considering  
28 together the range of local, state, and federal requirements for major  
29 transportation projects. Nothing in section 1 or 2 of this act alters  
30 the authority of cities or counties under any other planning or  
31 permitting statute.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 36.70A RCW  
33 to read as follows:

34 **COLLABORATIVE TRANSPORTATION PROJECT REVIEW.** For counties engaged  
35 in planning under this chapter, there shall be established by December

1 31, 1994, a collaborative process to review and coordinate state and  
2 local permits for all transportation projects that cross more than one  
3 city or county boundary. This process shall at a minimum, establish a  
4 mechanism among affected cities and counties to designate a permit  
5 coordinating agency to facilitate multijurisdictional review and  
6 approval of such transportation projects.

7 **Sec. 3.** RCW 47.01.290 and 1993 c 55 s 1 are each amended to read  
8 as follows:

9 ~~((The state interest component of the state wide transportation  
10 plan must include a state public transportation plan that recognizes  
11 that while public transportation service is essentially a local  
12 responsibility in Washington, there is significant state interest in  
13 assuring that viable public transportation services are available  
14 throughout the state. The public transportation plan shall:~~

15 ~~(1) Articulate the state vision of and interest in public  
16 transportation and provide quantifiable objectives, including benefits  
17 indicators;~~

18 ~~(2) Identify the goals for public transportation and the roles of  
19 federal, state, regional, and local entities in achieving those goals;~~

20 ~~(3) Recommend mechanisms for coordinating federal, state, regional,  
21 and local planning for public transportation;~~

22 ~~(4) Recommend mechanisms for coordinating public transportation  
23 with other transportation services and modes;~~

24 ~~(5) Recommend criteria, consistent with the goals identified in  
25 subsection (2) of this section and with RCW 82.44.180 (2) and (3), for  
26 existing federal authorizations administered by the department to  
27 transit agencies; and~~

28 ~~(6) Recommend a state wide public transportation facilities and  
29 equipment management system as required by federal law.~~

30 ~~In developing the state public transportation plan, the department  
31 shall involve local jurisdictions, public and private providers of  
32 public transportation services, nonmotorized interests, and state  
33 agencies with an interest in public transportation, including but not  
34 limited to the departments of community development, social and health  
35 services, and ecology, the state energy office, the office of financial  
36 management, and the office of the governor.~~

37 ~~The department shall submit an initial report to the legislative  
38 transportation committee by December 1, 1993, and shall provide annual~~

1 ~~reports summarizing the plan's progress each year thereafter.))~~ The  
2 legislature recognizes that environmental review of transportation  
3 projects is a continuous process that should begin at the earliest  
4 stages of planning and continue through final project construction.  
5 Early and extensive involvement of the relevant environmental  
6 regulatory authorities is critical in order to avoid significant  
7 changes in substantially completed project design and engineering. It  
8 is the expectation of the legislature that if a comprehensive  
9 environmental approach is integrated throughout various transportation  
10 processes, onerous, duplicative, and time-consuming permit processes  
11 will be minimized.

12 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 47.01 RCW  
13 to read as follows:

14 The department shall, in cooperation with environmental regulatory  
15 authorities:

16 (1) Identify and document environmental resources in the  
17 development of the state-wide multimodal plan under RCW 47.06.040;

18 (2) Allow for public comment regarding changes to the criteria used  
19 for prioritizing projects under chapter 47.05 RCW before final adoption  
20 of the changes by the commission;

21 (3) Use an environmental review as part of the project prospectus  
22 identifying potential environmental impacts, mitigation, and costs  
23 during the early project identification and selection phase, submit the  
24 prospectus to the relevant environmental regulatory authorities, and  
25 maintain a record of comments and proposed revisions received from the  
26 authorities;

27 (4) Actively work with the relevant environmental regulatory  
28 authorities during the design alternative analysis process and seek  
29 written concurrence from the authorities that they agree with the  
30 preferred design alternative selected;

31 (5) Develop a uniform methodology, in consultation with relevant  
32 environmental regulatory authorities, for submitting plans and  
33 specifications detailing project elements that impact environmental  
34 resources, and proposed mitigation measures, to the relevant  
35 environmental regulatory authorities during the preliminary  
36 specifications and engineering phase of project development;

37 (6) Screen construction projects to determine which projects will  
38 require complex or multiple permits. The permitting authorities shall

1 develop methods for initiating review of the permit applications for  
2 the projects before the final design of the projects;

3 (7) Conduct special prebid meetings for those projects that are  
4 environmentally complex; and

5 (8) Review environmental considerations related to particular  
6 projects during the preconstruction meeting held with the contractor  
7 who is awarded the bid.

8 **Sec. 5.** RCW 47.06.040 and 1993 c 446 s 4 are each amended to read  
9 as follows:

10 The department shall develop a state-wide multimodal transportation  
11 plan under RCW 47.01.071(3) and in conformance with federal  
12 requirements, to ensure the continued mobility of people and goods  
13 within regions and across the state in a safe, cost-effective manner.  
14 The state-wide multimodal transportation plan shall consist of:

15 (1) A state-owned facilities component, which shall guide state  
16 investment for state highways including bicycle and pedestrian  
17 facilities, and state ferries; and

18 (2) A state-interest component, which shall define the state  
19 interest in aviation, marine ports and navigation, freight rail,  
20 intercity passenger rail, bicycle transportation and pedestrian  
21 walkways, and public transportation, and recommend actions in  
22 coordination with appropriate public and private transportation  
23 providers to ensure that the state interest in these transportation  
24 modes is met.

25 The plans developed under each component must be consistent with  
26 the state transportation policy plan and with each other, reflect  
27 public involvement, be consistent with regional transportation  
28 planning, high-capacity transportation planning, and local  
29 comprehensive plans prepared under chapter 36.70A RCW, and include  
30 analysis of intermodal connections and choices. A primary emphasis for  
31 these plans shall be the improvement and integration of all  
32 transportation modes to create a seamless intermodal transportation  
33 system for people and goods.

34 In the development of the state-wide multimodal transportation  
35 plan, the department shall identify and document potential affected  
36 environmental resources, including, but not limited to, wetlands, storm  
37 water runoff, flooding, air quality, fish passage, and wildlife  
38 habitat. The department shall conduct its environmental identification

1 and documentation in coordination with all relevant environmental  
2 regulatory authorities, including, but not limited to, local  
3 governments. The department shall give the relevant environmental  
4 regulatory authorities an opportunity to review the department's  
5 environmental plans. The relevant environmental regulatory authorities  
6 shall provide comments on the department's environmental plans in a  
7 timely manner. Environmental identification and documentation as  
8 provided for in section 4 of this act and this section is not intended  
9 to create a private right of action or require an environmental impact  
10 statement as provided in chapter 43.21C RCW.

11 NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. Section captions used in this act constitute  
12 no part of the law."

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