

HOUSE BILL REPORT

ESSB 5748

As Passed House - Amended:

March 8, 2002

Title: An act relating to integration of transportation and land use planning.

Brief Description: Integrating transportation and land use planning.

Sponsors: By Senate Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators McAuliffe, Horn, Shin, Winsley, Oke, Haugen, Kohl-Welles and Kastama; by request of The Blue Ribbon Commission on Transportation).

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

Transportation: 2/27/02, 3/4/02 [DP].

Floor Activity:

Passed House - Amended: 3/8/02, 71-25.

Brief Summary of Engrossed Substitute Bill (As Amended by House)

- Sets forth legislative intent that cities should integrate development, land use planning, and transportation planning.
- Directs the Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Transportation Improvement Board for cities 5,000 and over, when prioritizing projects, to address urban densities and downtown revitalization, and integration of land use and transportation planning.
- Deletes requirement that state projects in cities under 5,000 be synchronized with other projects including transit and multimodal projects.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Majority Report: Do pass. Signed by 15 members: Representatives Fisher, Chair; Cooper, Vice Chair; Lovick, Vice Chair; Haigh, Hatfield, Jackley, Jarrett, Murray, Ogden, Reardon, Rockefeller, Romero, Simpson, Sullivan and Wood.

Minority Report: Do not pass. Signed by 10 members: Representatives Mitchell, Ranking Minority Member; Anderson, Ericksen, Hankins, Holmquist, Mielke, Morell,

Schindler, Skinner and Woods.

Staff: Gene Baxstrom (786-7303).

Background:

The Governor and the Legislature created the Blue Ribbon Commission on Transportation (BRCT) in 1998 to do the following: assess the local, regional and state transportation system; ensure that current and future money is spent wisely; make the system more accountable and predictable; and prepare a 20-year plan for funding and investing in the transportation system.

In recommendation five, the BRCT recommended that the state invest in maintenance, preservation and improvement of the entire transportation system so that transportation benchmarks can be achieved. Specifically, the commission recommended that jurisdictions integrate transportation and land use planning by developing a long-term and effective strategy to reduce both traffic and investment costs by focusing new commercial and multi-family growth in existing downtown, pedestrian and transit-friendly neighborhoods.

Summary of Amended Bill:

City and county planning commissions, in carrying out their duties, should demonstrate how land use planning is integrated with transportation planning. City comprehensive plans should integrate transportation and land use planning.

Priority programming criteria for the highway improvement program are expanded to include: support for development in and revitalization of existing downtowns; the extent that development implements local comprehensive plans; the extent of compact, transit-oriented development at appropriate residential and nonresidential densities; opportunities for multimodal transportation, and the extent to which the project accommodates planned growth and economic development. The requirement that transportation projects be synchronized with other transportation projects, including transit and multimodal projects, is removed for cities having a population under 5,000 persons. The statewide transportation plan must also take into account downtown preservation, population accommodation, and employment growth.

Except for cities under 5,000 persons, the Transportation Improvement Board is to add the following criteria it considers when funding projects: downtown support; implementation of rural and urban densities; whether agencies have land use planning that encourages compact development and multimodal transportation; and whether they promote use of multimodal transportation.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date of Amended Bill: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Testimony For: None.

Testimony Against: None.

Testified: None.