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HOUSE BILL 3207

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State of Washington

59th Legislature

2006 Regular Session

By Representative Santos

Read first time 01/25/2006. Referred to Committee on Economic Development, Agriculture & Trade.

1 AN ACT Relating to community preservation; and adding a new chapter  
2 to Title 43 RCW.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) Public facilities, public works, and  
5 capital projects with significant public participation generally aim to  
6 accrue broad benefits to the people of Washington. However, frequently  
7 overlooked or inadequately addressed is the interest of the stakeholder  
8 community that bears the disproportionate cost of the broad public  
9 benefit by absorbing a deleterious impact upon itself. These impacts  
10 may include dislocation, displacement, and the overall disintegration  
11 of an identifiable existing community and its historical and cultural  
12 character. The legislature finds that the preservation and restoration  
13 of the character of such a community, and the community's historical  
14 and cultural character, are important public policy goals.

15 (2) For the purposes of this chapter, unless the context clearly  
16 requires otherwise, "community" means a group of people that has a  
17 distinct cultural identity located in a geographic area or well-defined  
18 neighborhood that currently contains, or historically contained, a high  
19 percentage of minority or low-income individuals.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    (1) The community preservation authority  
2 program is created. A community may form one community preservation  
3 authority. A community preservation authority must: (a) Develop a  
4 capital projects plan to restore or enhance the health, safety, and  
5 well-being of the impacted community and to preserve its cultural and  
6 historical identity. The plan must help mitigate the effects of  
7 several significant public facilities projects, public works projects,  
8 or a capital project with significant public participation; or a  
9 significant public facilities project, public works project, or a  
10 capital project with significant public participation and a secure  
11 community transition facility as defined in RCW 71.09.020(14); (b)  
12 restore a local area's sense of community; (c) reduce the displacement  
13 of community members and businesses; (d) enhance public service  
14 provisions; or (e) stimulate the community's economic vitality.

15        (2) A community preservation authority's membership must include:  
16 Each state representative and state senator who represents the  
17 legislative district in which the community is located; each county  
18 councilmember or commissioner who represents the county precinct or  
19 district in which the community is located; and each city councilmember  
20 who represents the city precinct or district in which the community is  
21 located. Together, these members must select the following: Two  
22 members who own or operate businesses within the community; two members  
23 who are involved in providing nonprofit community or social services  
24 within the community; two members who are involved in the arts and  
25 entertainment within the community; and two members with significant  
26 knowledge of the community's culture and history.

27        (3) Once constituted, the community preservation authority must  
28 register with the department of community, trade, and economic  
29 development.

30        (4) A community preservation authority registered with the  
31 department of community, trade, and economic development must be  
32 eligible to submit its plan for funding through any local, state, or  
33 federal grant or low-interest loan programs designed to help impacted  
34 communities.

35        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 3.**    The community preservation authority account  
36 is created in the state treasury. Moneys in the account may be spent

1 only after appropriation. Expenditures from the account may be used  
2 only for projects under this chapter.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Sections 1 through 3 of this act constitute  
4 a new chapter in Title 43 RCW.

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