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**SENATE BILL 5403**

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**State of Washington**

**67th Legislature**

**2021 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Wellman, Warnick, Hasegawa, Kuderer, Lovelett, Mullet, Saldaña, and Wilson, C.

Read first time 02/02/21. Referred to Committee on State Government & Elections.

1 AN ACT Relating to the interagency, multijurisdictional system  
2 improvement team; and reenacting and amending RCW 43.155.150.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.155.150 and 2017 3rd sp.s. c 10 s 11 are each  
5 reenacted and amended to read as follows:

6 (1) An interagency, multijurisdictional system improvement team  
7 must identify, implement, and report on system improvements that  
8 achieve the designated outcomes, including:

9 (a) Projects that maximize value, minimize overall costs and  
10 disturbance to the community, and ensure long-term durability and  
11 resilience;

12 (b) Projects that are designed to meet the unique needs of each  
13 community, rather than the needs of particular funding programs;

14 (c) Project designs that maximize long-term value by fully  
15 considering and responding to anticipated long-term environmental,  
16 technological, economic and population changes;

17 (d) The flexibility to innovate, including utilizing natural  
18 systems, addressing multiple regulatory drivers, and forming regional  
19 partnerships;

20 (e) The ability to plan and collaborate across programs and  
21 jurisdictions so that different investments are packaged to be

1 complementary, timely, and responsive to economic and community  
2 opportunities;

3 (f) The needed capacity for communities, appropriate to their  
4 unique financial, planning, and management capacities, so they can  
5 design, finance, and build projects that best meet their long-term  
6 needs and minimize costs;

7 (g) Optimal use and leveraging of federal and private  
8 infrastructure dollars; and

9 (h) Mechanisms to ensure periodic, system-wide review and ongoing  
10 achievement of the designated outcomes.

11 (2) The system improvement team must consist of representatives  
12 of state infrastructure programs that provide funding for drinking  
13 water, wastewater, and stormwater programs, including but not limited  
14 to representatives from the public works board, department of  
15 ecology, department of health, and the department of commerce. The  
16 system improvement team may invite representatives of other  
17 infrastructure programs, such as transportation and energy, as needed  
18 in order to achieve efficiency, minimize costs, and maximize value  
19 across infrastructure programs. The system improvement team shall  
20 also consist of representatives of users of those programs,  
21 representatives of infrastructure project builders, and other parties  
22 the system improvement team determines would contribute to achieving  
23 the desired outcomes, including but not limited to representatives  
24 from a state association of cities, a state association of counties,  
25 a state association of public utility districts, a state association  
26 of water and sewer districts, a state association of general  
27 contractors, and a state organization representing building trades.  
28 The public works board, a representative from the department of  
29 ecology, department of health, and department of commerce shall  
30 facilitate the work of the system improvement team.

31 (3) The system improvement team must focus on achieving the  
32 designated outcomes within existing program structures and  
33 authorities. The system improvement team shall use lean practices to  
34 achieve the designated outcomes.

35 (4) The system improvement team shall provide briefings as  
36 requested to the public works board on the current state of  
37 infrastructure programs to build an understanding of the  
38 infrastructure investment program landscape and the interplay of its  
39 component parts.

1           (5) If the system improvement team encounters statutory or  
2 regulatory barriers to system improvements, the system improvement  
3 team must inform the public works board and consult on possible  
4 solutions. When achieving the designated outcomes would be best  
5 served through changes in program structures or authorities, the  
6 system improvement team must report those findings to the public  
7 works board.

8           (~~(6) This section expires June 30, 2021.~~)

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