
SENATE BILL 6229

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2024 Regular Session

By Senators Shewmake, Cleveland, King, Holy, Lias, Lovick, and Nobles

Read first time 01/15/24. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to modifying match requirements for the green
2 transportation capital grant program; and amending RCW 47.66.120.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 47.66.120 and 2023 c 472 s 717 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1)(a) The department's public transportation division shall
7 establish a green transportation capital grant program. The purpose
8 of the grant program is to aid any transit authority in funding cost-
9 effective capital projects to reduce the carbon intensity of the
10 Washington transportation system, examples of which include:
11 Electrification of vehicle fleets, including battery and fuel cell
12 electric vehicles; modification or replacement of capital facilities
13 in order to facilitate fleet electrification and/or hydrogen
14 refueling; necessary upgrades to electrical transmission and
15 distribution systems; and construction of charging and fueling
16 stations. The department's public transportation division shall
17 identify projects and shall submit a prioritized list of all projects
18 requesting funding to the legislature by December 1st of each even-
19 numbered year.

1 (b) The department's public transportation division shall select
2 projects based on a competitive process that considers the following
3 criteria:

4 (i) The cost-effectiveness of the reductions in carbon emissions
5 provided by the project; and

6 (ii) The benefit provided to transitioning the entire state to a
7 transportation system with lower carbon intensity.

8 (c) During the 2023-2025 fiscal biennium, the department must
9 incorporate principles into the grant selection process with the goal
10 of increasing the distribution of funding to communities based on
11 addressing environmental harms and providing environmental benefits
12 for overburdened communities, as defined in RCW 70A.02.010, and
13 vulnerable populations.

14 (2) The department's public transportation division must
15 establish an advisory committee to assist in identifying projects
16 under subsection (1) of this section. The advisory committee must
17 include representatives from the department of ecology, the
18 department of commerce, the utilities and transportation commission,
19 and at least one transit authority.

20 (3) In order to receive green transportation capital grant
21 program funding for a project, a transit authority must provide
22 matching funding (~~for that project that is at least equal to 20~~
23 ~~percent of the total cost of the project~~) at the level deemed
24 appropriate by the department.

25 (4) The department's public transportation division must report
26 annually to the transportation committees of the legislature on the
27 status of any grant projects funded by the program created under this
28 section.

29 (5) For purposes of this section, "transit authority" means a
30 city transit system under RCW 35.58.2721 or chapter 35.95A RCW, a
31 county public transportation authority under chapter 36.57 RCW, a
32 metropolitan municipal corporation transit system under chapter 36.56
33 RCW, a public transportation benefit area under chapter 36.57A RCW,
34 an unincorporated transportation benefit area under RCW 36.57.100, a
35 regional transit authority under chapter 81.112 RCW, or any special
36 purpose district formed to operate a public transportation system.

37 (6) During the 2021-2023 fiscal biennium, the department may
38 provide up to 20 percent of the total green transportation capital
39 grant program funding for zero emissions capital transition planning
40 projects. During the 2023-2025 fiscal biennium, the department may

1 provide up to 10 percent of the total green transportation capital
2 grant program funding for zero emissions capital transition planning
3 projects.

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