

**Title 47 RCW  
PUBLIC HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION**

**Chapters**

- 47.01 Department of transportation.
- 47.02 Department buildings.
- 47.04 General provisions.
- 47.05 Priority programming for highway development.
- 47.06 Statewide transportation planning.
- 47.06A Freight mobility.
- 47.08 Highway funds.
- 47.10 Highway construction bonds.
- 47.12 Acquisition and disposition of state highway property.
- 47.14 Right-of-way donations.
- 47.17 State highway routes.
- 47.20 Miscellaneous projects.
- 47.22 Combination highway routes.
- 47.24 City streets as part of state highways.
- 47.26 Development in urban areas—Urban arterials.
- 47.28 Construction and maintenance of highways.
- 47.29 Transportation innovative partnerships.
- 47.30 Trails and paths.
- 47.32 Obstructions on right-of-way.
- 47.36 Traffic control devices.
- 47.38 Roadside areas—Safety rest areas.
- 47.39 Scenic and recreational highway act of 1967.
- 47.40 Roadside improvement and beautification.
- 47.41 Junkyards adjacent to interstate and primary highways.
- 47.42 Highway advertising control act—Scenic vistas act.
- 47.44 Franchises on state highways.
- 47.46 Public-private transportation initiatives.
- 47.48 Closing highways and restricting traffic.
- 47.50 Highway access management.
- 47.52 Limited access facilities.
- 47.56 State toll bridges, tunnels, and ferries.
- 47.58 Existing and additional bridges.
- 47.60 Puget Sound ferry and toll bridge system.
- 47.64 Marine employees—Public employment relations.
- 47.66 Multimodal transportation programs.
- 47.68 Aeronautics.
- 47.72 Navigation canals.
- 47.76 Rail freight service.
- 47.79 High-speed ground transportation.
- 47.80 Regional transportation planning organizations.
- 47.82 Amtrak.
- 47.85 Transportation project delivery and review.
- 47.87 Interstate toll bridges owned by local governments.
- 47.98 Construction.

*Abandoned highways, transfer to counties, cities: RCW 36.75.090.*

*Accidents and reports: Chapter 46.52 RCW.*

*Annual report of street operations to secretary of transportation: RCW 35.21.260.*

Arterial highways, designation: RCW 46.61.195.

Bicycles, operation: Chapter 46.61 RCW.

City streets, sidewalks, etc.: Chapters 35.68 through 35.79 RCW.

Columbia Basin project road systems: RCW 36.81.140.

Contractor's bond: Chapter 39.08 RCW.

Contractors on highway projects prequalified under RCW 47.28.070  
exempted from contractor's registration requirement: RCW 18.27.090.

County highways in cities and towns: Chapter 36.89 RCW.

County road improvement districts: Chapter 36.88 RCW.

County roads and bridges: Chapters 36.75 through 36.88 RCW.

Dangerous substances or devices, placing on highway: RCW 9.66.050,  
70A.200.060.

Design standards committee  
arterial streets: Chapter 35.78 RCW.  
generally: Chapter 43.32 RCW.

Driving while intoxicated when engaged in discharge of business  
duties: RCW 9.91.020.

Electrical installations, applicability of statutes or rules: RCW  
19.28.141.

Fences: Chapter 16.60 RCW.

Fireworks, transportation, etc.: Chapter 70.77 RCW.

Flaggers—Safety standards: RCW 49.17.350.

Glass, tacks, rubbish, etc., throwing in highway: RCW 9.66.050,  
46.61.645.

Highway construction or improvement, validity of agreement to  
indemnify against liability for negligence relative to: RCW  
4.24.115.

Highway funds, constitutional limitations: State Constitution Art. 2 §  
40 (Amendment 18).

Hospitalization and medical aid for public employees and dependents—  
Premiums, governmental contributions authorized: RCW 41.04.180,  
41.04.190.

Jurisdiction over operation of motor vehicles by Indians: Chapter  
37.12 RCW.

Liens for labor, materials on public works: Chapter 60.28 RCW.

*Littering on public highway: RCW 70A.200.060.*

*Obstructing highway is public nuisance: RCW 9.66.010.*

*Off-street parking*

*cities: Chapter 35.86 RCW.*

*towns: RCW 35.27.550 through 35.27.590.*

*Platted streets as public highways: RCW 58.08.035, 58.08.050.*

*Port districts, toll facilities: Chapter 53.34 RCW.*

*Public lands, withdrawal of abutting: RCW 79A.05.105.*

*Range areas, road signs: RCW 16.24.060.*

*Real property conveyances by public bodies—Recording: RCW 65.08.095.*

*Rules of the road: Chapter 46.61 RCW.*

*Size, weight, load of vehicles: Chapter 46.44 RCW.*

*Speed limits: RCW 46.61.400 through 46.61.470.*

*State patrol: Chapter 43.43 RCW.*

*Traffic safety commission and program: Chapter 43.59 RCW.*

*Transit vehicles, unlawful conduct: RCW 9.91.025.*

*Viaducts, bridges, elevated roadways, tunnels, etc., authority of cities to construct: Chapter 35.85 RCW.*

*Waterways: Title 91 RCW.*

**Chapter 47.01 RCW**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Sections**

- 47.01.011 Legislative declaration.
- 47.01.021 Definitions.
- 47.01.031 Department created—Transfer of powers, duties, and functions.
- 47.01.041 Secretary of transportation—Appointment, salary, removal.
- 47.01.051 Commission created—Appointment of members—Terms—Qualifications—Removal.
- 47.01.061 Commission—Procedures and internal operations.
- 47.01.070 Director's and commissioner's prior assignments may be delegated.
- 47.01.071 Commission—Functions, powers, and duties.
- 47.01.075 Transportation policy development.
- 47.01.078 Transportation system policy goals—Duties.
- 47.01.081 Department—Organization—Management personnel.
- 47.01.091 Advisory councils.
- 47.01.101 Secretary—Authority and duties.
- 47.01.131 Continuation of state services to department.
- 47.01.170 Right of entry.
- 47.01.180 Roads and bridges in state parks.
- 47.01.190 State aid engineer.
- 47.01.210 Contract without bid or bond with public utilities and municipal corporations.
- 47.01.240 Coordination of long-range needs studies.
- 47.01.250 Consultation with designated state officials.
- 47.01.260 Authority of department.
- 47.01.270 Radioactive or hazardous cargo, notice of prohibition.
- 47.01.280 Application for improvements to existing highways.
- 47.01.290 Environmental review of transportation projects.
- 47.01.300 Environmental review of transportation projects—Cooperation with other environmental regulatory authorities.
- 47.01.305 Environmental mitigation in highway construction projects—Public lands first or other sites that avoid loss of long-term, commercially significant agricultural lands.
- 47.01.315 Work group on review processes under state and national environmental policy acts for state highway projects—Report.
- 47.01.330 Office of transit mobility.
- 47.01.340 Local and regional transportation goals.
- 47.01.380 State route No. 520 improvements—Exceptions.
- 47.01.390 Alaskan Way viaduct, Seattle Seawall, and state route No. 520 improvements—Requirements—Exceptions.
- 47.01.402 Alaskan Way viaduct replacement project—Deep bore tunnel option—Funding, accountability, and responsibility.
- 47.01.408 State route No. 520 improvements—Design requirements.
- 47.01.412 State route No. 520 improvements—Tax deferrals—Definition.
- 47.01.415 State route No. 520 improvements—Finance plan.
- 47.01.417 State route No. 520 improvements—Finance plan—Revenue sources and savings recognition.
- 47.01.420 Naming and renaming state transportation facilities.

- 47.01.425 Jurisdictional transfers.
- 47.01.430 Wounded combat veterans internship program.
- 47.01.435 Highway construction workforce development—Reports.
- 47.01.440 Adoption of statewide goals to reduce annual per capita vehicle miles traveled by 2050—Department's duties—Reports to the legislature.
- 47.01.450 Funding special needs transportation, application for—Deference to agency council on coordinated transportation recommendations.
- 47.01.460 Adjustments to recreational vehicle fees.
- 47.01.470 Transfer of ownership of department-owned vessel—Review of vessel's physical condition.
- 47.01.475 Transfer of ownership of department-owned vessel—Further requirements.
- 47.01.480 Connecting Washington project delivery—JUDY transportation future funding program—Report.
- 47.01.485 Final determination by local governments on department permit application for state highway projects less than five hundred million dollars, when due—Annual report.
- 47.01.490 Reporting engineering errors on highway construction projects—Requirements.
- 47.01.495 Construction program business plan—Requirements—Progress reports—Advisory group.
- 47.01.500 Design and construction of bridges across navigable rivers or waterways—Feasibility report on public access.
- 47.01.505 Interstate 5 Columbia river bridge project—Joint legislative action committee.
- 47.01.510 Autonomous vehicle executive and legislative work group.
- 47.01.515 Environmental justice obligations of the department of transportation.
- 47.01.520 Publicly available mapping and forecasting tool—Charging and refueling infrastructure locations and information.

*Collection agencies, use by public bodies to collect public debts—Fees: RCW 19.16.500.*

*Cross-state trail—Rail line franchise negotiations: RCW 79A.05.125.*

*Flaggers—Safety standards: RCW 49.17.350.*

*Grant administration from multiuse roadway safety account funds: RCW 46.09.540.*

*Mt. St. Helens eruption, facilitating recovery from—Scope of state agency action: RCW 43.01.210.*

*Secretary's duties*

*generally: RCW 46.68.120.*

*motor vehicle fund, distribution of amount to counties—Factors of distribution formula for RCW 46.68.120(4) funds: RCW 46.68.122.*

*population, road cost, money need, computed—Allocation percentage adjustment, when: RCW 46.68.124.*

*Traffic safety commission, secretary of transportation member of: RCW  
43.59.030.*

*Trails system, Washington state recreation, department of  
transportation participation: RCW 79A.35.120.*

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**RCW 47.01.011 Legislative declaration.** The legislature hereby recognizes the following imperative needs within the state: To create a statewide transportation development plan which identifies present status and sets goals for the future; to coordinate transportation modes; to promote and protect land use programs required in local, state, and federal law; to coordinate transportation with the economic development of the state; to supply a broad framework in which regional, metropolitan, and local transportation needs can be related; to facilitate the supply of federal and state aid to those areas which will most benefit the state as a whole; to provide for public involvement in the transportation planning and development process; to administer programs within the jurisdiction of this title relating to the safety of the state's transportation systems; and to coordinate and implement national transportation policy with the state transportation planning program.

The legislature finds and declares that placing all elements of transportation in a single department is fully consistent with and shall in no way impair the use of moneys in the motor vehicle fund exclusively for highway purposes.

Through this chapter, a unified department of transportation is created. To the jurisdiction of this department will be transferred the present powers, duties, and functions of the department of highways, the highway commission, the toll bridge authority, the aeronautics commission, and the canal commission, and the transportation related powers, duties, and functions of the \*planning and community affairs agency. The powers, duties, and functions of the department of transportation must be performed in a manner consistent with the policy goals set forth in RCW 47.04.280. [2007 c 516 § 2; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 1.]

**\*Reviser's note:** "Planning and community affairs agency" means "department of community, trade, and economic development," but the name is retained here for historical purposes. The "department of community, trade, and economic development" was renamed the "department of commerce" by 2009 c 565.

**Findings—Intent—2007 c 516:** "The legislature finds and declares that the citizens of the state expect clear and concise goals, objectives, and responsibilities regarding the operation of the statewide transportation system. Furthermore, the state's citizens expect that the state periodically receive clear and streamlined information that measures whether the goals and objectives are being satisfied. Therefore, it is the intent of the legislature that this act serve to clarify existing goals, objectives, and responsibilities related to the operation of an efficient statewide transportation system." [2007 c 516 § 1.]

**RCW 47.01.021 Definitions.** As used in this title unless the context indicates otherwise:

(1) "Department" means the department of transportation created in RCW 47.01.031;

(2) "Commission" means the transportation commission created in RCW 47.01.051;

(3) "Secretary" means the secretary of transportation as provided for in RCW 47.01.041. [1977 ex.s. c 151 § 2.]

*Additional definitions: RCW 47.04.010.*

**RCW 47.01.031 Department created—Transfer of powers, duties, and functions.** (1) There is created a department of state government to be known as the department of transportation.

(2) All powers, duties, and functions vested by law in the department of highways, the state highway commission, the director of highways, the Washington toll bridge authority, the aeronautics commission, the director of aeronautics, and the canal commission, and the transportation related powers, duties, and functions of the \*planning and community affairs agency, are transferred to the jurisdiction of the department, except those powers, duties, and functions which are expressly directed elsewhere in \*\*this or in any other act of the 1977 legislature.

(3) The board of pilotage commissioners is transferred to the jurisdiction of the department for its staff support and administration: PROVIDED, That nothing in this section shall be construed as transferring any policy making powers of the board of pilotage commissioners to the transportation commission or the department of transportation. [1988 c 167 § 11; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 3.]

**Reviser's note:** \*(1) The "planning and community affairs agency" has been renamed the "department of community, trade, and economic development." The "department of community, trade, and economic development" was renamed the "department of commerce" by 2009 c 565.

\*\* (2) For codification of "this . . . . act" [1977 ex.s. c 151], see Codification Tables.

**Savings—Severability—1988 c 167:** See notes following RCW 47.26.121.

**RCW 47.01.041 Secretary of transportation—Appointment, salary, removal.** The executive head of the department of transportation shall be the secretary of transportation, who shall be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate, and shall be paid a salary to be fixed by the governor in accordance with the provisions of RCW 43.03.040. The secretary shall be an ex officio member of the transportation commission without a vote. The secretary shall serve at the pleasure of the governor. [2005 c 319 § 3; 1983 1st ex.s. c 53 § 28; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 4.]

**Findings—Intent—Part headings—Effective dates—2005 c 319:** See notes following RCW 43.17.020.

**Severability—1983 1st ex.s. c 53:** See note following RCW 47.10.802.

**RCW 47.01.051 Commission created—Appointment of members—Terms—Qualifications—Removal.** There is hereby created a transportation commission, which shall consist of seven voting members appointed by the governor, with the consent of the senate. The present five members of the highway commission shall serve as five initial members of the transportation commission until their terms of office as highway commission members would have expired. The additional two members provided herein for the transportation commission shall be appointed for initial terms to expire on June 30, 1982, and June 30, 1983. Thereafter all terms shall be for six years. No elective state official, state officer, or state employee shall be a member of the commission. At the time of appointment or thereafter during their respective terms of office, four members of the commission shall reside in the western part of the state and three members shall reside in the eastern part of the state as divided north and south by the summit of the Cascade mountains. No more than two members of the commission shall reside in the same county; however, the governor, or his or her designee, shall serve as a nonvoting member of the commission. Commission appointments should reflect both a wide range of transportation interests and a balanced statewide geographic representation. Commissioners may be removed from office by the governor before the expiration of their terms for cause. No member shall be appointed for more than two consecutive terms. [2006 c 334 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 5.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** "This act takes effect July 1, 2006." [2006 c 334 § 52.]

**RCW 47.01.061 Commission—Procedures and internal operations.**

(1) The commission shall meet at such times as it deems advisable but at least on a quarterly basis with meetings to be held in different parts of the state. It may adopt its own rules and regulations and may establish its own procedure. It shall act collectively in harmony with recorded resolutions or motions adopted by majority vote of at least four members. The commission may appoint an executive director, and shall elect one of its members chair for a term of one year. The chair may vote on all matters before the commission. The commission may from time to time retain planners, consultants, and other technical personnel to advise it in the performance of its duties.

(2) The commission shall submit to each regular session of the legislature held in an odd-numbered year its own budget proposal necessary for the commission's operations separate from that proposed for the department.

(3) Each member of the commission shall be compensated in accordance with RCW 43.03.250 and shall be reimbursed for actual necessary traveling and other expenses in going to, attending, and returning from meetings of the commission, and actual and necessary traveling and other expenses incurred in the discharge of such duties as may be requested by a majority vote of the commission or by the secretary of transportation, but in no event shall the entire commission membership be compensated for more than one thousand two hundred thirty days combined. Service on the commission shall not be considered as service credit for the purposes of any public retirement system.

(4) Each member of the commission shall disclose any actual or potential conflict of interest, if applicable under the circumstance, regarding any commission business. [2006 c 334 § 2; 2005 c 319 § 4; 1987 c 364 § 2; 1984 c 287 § 94; 1983 1st ex.s. c 53 § 29; 1981 c 59 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 6.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**Findings—Intent—Part headings—Effective dates—2005 c 319:** See notes following RCW 43.17.020.

**Legislative findings—Severability—Effective date—1984 c 287:** See notes following RCW 43.03.220.

**Severability—1983 1st ex.s. c 53:** See note following RCW 47.10.802.

**RCW 47.01.070 Director's and commissioner's prior assignments may be delegated.** In all situations wherein the director of highways, the director of aeronautics, or any one of their designees, or any member of the highway commission, the toll bridge authority, the aeronautics commission, or the canal commission, or any one of their designees was on September 21, 1977, designated or serving as a member of any board, commission, committee, or authority, the chair of the transportation commission or the chair's designee who shall be an employee of the department of transportation, shall hereafter determine who shall serve as such member. [2010 c 8 § 10001; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 27; 1961 c 13 § 47.01.070. Prior: 1951 c 247 § 5. Formerly RCW 43.27.120.]

**RCW 47.01.071 Commission—Functions, powers, and duties.** The transportation commission shall have the following functions, powers, and duties:

(1) To propose policies to be adopted by the governor and the legislature designed to assure the development and maintenance of a comprehensive and balanced statewide transportation system which will meet the needs of the people of this state for safe and efficient transportation services. Wherever appropriate, the policies shall provide for the use of integrated, intermodal transportation systems. The policies must be aligned with the goals established in RCW 47.04.280. To this end the commission shall:

(a) Develop transportation policies which are based on the policies, goals, and objectives expressed and inherent in existing state laws;

(b) Inventory the adopted policies, goals, and objectives of the local and area-wide governmental bodies of the state and define the role of the state, regional, and local governments in determining transportation policies, in transportation planning, and in implementing the state transportation plan;

(c) Establish a procedure for review and revision of the state transportation policy and for submission of proposed changes to the governor and the legislature; and

(d) Integrate the statewide transportation plan with the needs of the elderly and persons with disabilities, and coordinate federal and

state programs directed at assisting local governments to answer such needs;

(2) To provide for the effective coordination of state transportation planning with national transportation policy, state and local land use policies, and local and regional transportation plans and programs;

(3) In conjunction with the provisions under RCW 47.01.075, to provide for public involvement in transportation designed to elicit the public's views both with respect to adequate transportation services and appropriate means of minimizing adverse social, economic, environmental, and energy impact of transportation programs;

(4) By December 2010, to prepare a comprehensive and balanced statewide transportation plan consistent with the state's growth management goals and based on the transportation policy goals provided under RCW 47.04.280 and applicable state and federal laws. The plan must reflect the priorities of government developed by the office of financial management and address regional needs, including multimodal transportation planning. The plan must, at a minimum: (a) Establish a vision for the development of the statewide transportation system; (b) identify significant statewide transportation policy issues; and (c) recommend statewide transportation policies and strategies to the legislature to fulfill the requirements of subsection (1) of this section. The plan must be the product of an ongoing process that involves representatives of significant transportation interests and the general public from across the state. Every four years, except during the 2021-2023 fiscal biennium, the plan shall be reviewed and revised, and submitted to the governor and the house of representatives and senate standing committees on transportation.

The plan shall take into account federal law and regulations relating to the planning, construction, and operation of transportation facilities;

(5) To propose to the governor and the legislature prior to the convening of each regular session held in an odd-numbered year a recommended budget for the operations of the commission as required by RCW 47.01.061;

(6) To adopt such rules as may be necessary to carry out reasonably and properly those functions expressly vested in the commission by statute;

(7) To contract with the office of financial management or other appropriate state agencies for administrative support, accounting services, computer services, and other support services necessary to carry out its other statutory duties;

(8) To conduct transportation-related studies and policy analysis to the extent directed by the legislature or governor in the biennial transportation budget act, or as otherwise provided in law, and subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose; and

(9) To exercise such other specific powers and duties as may be vested in the transportation commission by this or any other provision of law. [2022 c 186 § 702; 2016 c 35 § 1; 2007 c 516 § 4; 2006 c 334 § 3; 2005 c 319 § 5; 1981 c 59 § 2; 1980 c 87 § 45; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 7.]

**Effective date—2022 c 186:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or

support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [March 25, 2022]." [2022 c 186 § 802.]

**Findings—Intent—2007 c 516:** See note following RCW 47.01.011.

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**Findings—Intent—Part headings—Effective dates—2005 c 319:** See notes following RCW 43.17.020.

**RCW 47.01.075 Transportation policy development.** (1) The transportation commission shall provide a public forum for the development of transportation policy in Washington state to include coordination with regional transportation planning organizations, transportation stakeholders, counties, cities, and citizens. At least every five years, the commission shall convene regional forums to gather citizen input on transportation issues. The commission shall consider the input gathered at the forums as it establishes the statewide transportation plan under RCW 47.01.071(4).

(2) In fulfilling its responsibilities under this section, the commission may create ad hoc committees or other such committees of limited duration as necessary.

(3) In order to promote a better transportation system, the commission may offer policy guidance and make recommendations to the governor and the legislature in key issue areas, including but not limited to:

- (a) Transportation finance;
- (b) Preserving, maintaining, and operating the statewide transportation system;
- (c) Transportation infrastructure needs;
- (d) Promoting best practices for adoption and use by transportation-related agencies and programs;
- (e) Transportation efficiencies that will improve service delivery and/or coordination;
- (f) Improved planning and coordination among transportation agencies and providers; and
- (g) Use of intelligent transportation systems and other technology-based solutions. [2007 c 516 § 5; 2006 c 334 § 4; 2005 c 319 § 6.]

**Findings—Intent—2007 c 516:** See note following RCW 47.01.011.

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**Transfers—2005 c 319:** "(1)(a) All reports, documents, surveys, books, records, files, papers, or written material relating to the conduct of performance reviews and audits in the possession of the legislative transportation committee must be delivered to the custody of the transportation commission. Any remaining documents, books, records, files, papers, and written materials must be delivered to the custody of the joint transportation committee. All funds, credits, or other assets held by the legislative transportation committee for the purposes of staffing the transportation performance audit board are assigned to the transportation commission. Any remaining funds,

credits, or other assets held by the legislative transportation committee are assigned to the joint transportation committee.

(b) If any question arises as to the transfer of any funds, books, documents, records, papers, files, equipment, or other tangible property used or held in the exercise of the powers and the performance of the duties and functions transferred, the director of financial management shall make a determination as to the proper allocation and certify the same to the state agencies concerned.

(2) All employees of the legislative transportation committee are transferred to the jurisdiction of the transportation commission for the support of the transportation performance audit board. However, the commission may, if staffing needs warrant, assign the employees to other commission functions." [2005 c 319 § 15.]

**Findings—Intent—Part headings—Effective dates—2005 c 319:** See notes following RCW 43.17.020.

**RCW 47.01.078 Transportation system policy goals—Duties.** To support achievement of the policy goals described in RCW 47.04.280, the department shall:

(1) Maintain an inventory of the condition of structures and corridors in most urgent need of retrofit or rehabilitation;

(2) Develop long-term financing tools that reliably provide ongoing maintenance and preservation of the transportation infrastructure;

(3) Balance system safety and convenience through all phases of a project to accommodate all users of the transportation system to safely, reliably, and efficiently provide mobility to people and goods;

(4) Develop strategies to gradually reduce the per capita vehicle miles traveled based on consideration of a range of reduction methods;

(5) Consider efficiency tools, including high occupancy vehicle and high occupancy toll lanes, corridor-specific and systemwide pricing strategies, active traffic management, commute trip reduction, and other demand management tools;

(6) Promote integrated multimodal planning; and

(7) Consider engineers and architects to design environmentally sustainable, context-sensitive transportation systems. [2007 c 516 § 6.]

**Findings—Intent—2007 c 516:** See note following RCW 47.01.011.

**RCW 47.01.081 Department—Organization—Management personnel.**

(1) Initially the department shall be organized into divisions, including the division of highways, the division of public transportation, the division of aeronautics, the division of marine transportation, and the division of transportation planning and budget.

(2) The secretary may reorganize divisions in order to attain the maximum possible efficiency in the operation of the department. Each division shall be headed by an assistant secretary to be appointed by the secretary. The secretary may also appoint a deputy secretary as may be needed for the performance of the duties and functions vested in the department and may also appoint up to twelve ferry system

management positions as defined in RCW 47.64.011. The secretary may delegate to officers within the several divisions of the department authority to employ personnel necessary to discharge the responsibilities of the department.

(3) The officers appointed under this section shall be exempt from the provisions of the state civil service law and shall be paid salaries to be fixed by the governor in accordance with the procedure established by law for the fixing of salaries for officers exempt from the operation of the state civil service law. [1984 c 48 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 8.]

**RCW 47.01.091 Advisory councils.** The secretary shall establish such advisory councils as are necessary to carry out the purposes of this title, and to insure adequate public participation in the planning and development of transportation facilities. Members of such councils shall serve at the pleasure of the secretary and may receive per diem and necessary expenses, in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060, as now or hereafter amended. [2006 c 334 § 5; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 9.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**RCW 47.01.101 Secretary—Authority and duties.** The secretary shall have the authority and it shall be his or her duty:

(1) To serve as chief executive officer of the department with full administrative authority to direct all its activities;

(2) To organize the department as he or she may deem necessary to carry out the work and responsibilities of the department effectively;

(3) To designate and establish such transportation district, region, or branch offices as may be necessary or convenient, and to appoint assistants and delegate any powers, duties, and functions to them or any officer or employee of the department as deemed necessary to administer the department efficiently;

(4) To direct and coordinate the programs of the various divisions of the department to assure that they achieve the greatest possible mutual benefit, produce a balanced overall effort, and eliminate unnecessary duplication of activity;

(5) To adopt all department rules that are subject to the adoption procedures contained in the state administrative procedure act, except rules subject to adoption by the commission pursuant to statute;

(6) To maintain and safeguard the official records of the department, including the commission's recorded resolutions and orders;

(7) To provide, under contract or interagency agreement, staff support to the commission, including long-term technical and administrative support as needed, to assist it in carrying out its functions, powers, and duties;

(8) To execute and implement the biennial operating budget for the operation of the department in accordance with chapter 43.88 RCW and with legislative appropriation;

(9) To advise the governor and the legislature with respect to matters under the jurisdiction of the department; and



(10) To exercise all other powers and perform all other duties as are now or hereafter provided by law. [2006 c 334 § 6; 2005 c 319 § 7. Prior: 1987 c 505 § 48; 1987 c 179 § 1; 1983 1st ex.s. c 53 § 30; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 10.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**Findings—Intent—Part headings—Effective dates—2005 c 319:** See notes following RCW 43.17.020.

**Severability—1983 1st ex.s. c 53:** See note following RCW 47.10.802.

*Regulations governing parking facilities: RCW 46.61.577.*

**RCW 47.01.131 Continuation of state services to department.** All state officials required to maintain contact with or provide services for any of the departments or agencies whose functions are transferred by RCW 47.01.031 shall continue to perform such services for the department of transportation unless otherwise directed by this title. [1977 ex.s. c 151 § 18.]

**RCW 47.01.170 Right of entry.** The department or its duly authorized and acting assistants, agents, or appointees have the right to enter upon any land, real estate, or premises in this state, whether public or private, for purposes of making examinations, locations, surveys, and appraisals for highway purposes. The making of any such entry for those purposes does not constitute any trespass by the department or by its duly authorized and acting assistants, agents, or appointees. [1984 c 7 § 77; 1961 c 13 § 47.01.170. Prior: 1945 c 176 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6400-3f. Formerly RCW 43.27.030.]

**RCW 47.01.180 Roads and bridges in state parks.** The department is authorized at the request of, and upon plans approved by the state parks and recreation commission, to construct and maintain vehicular roads, highways, and bridges within the limits of the several state parks. [1984 c 7 § 78; 1961 c 13 § 47.01.180. Prior: 1943 c 253 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6402-35. Formerly RCW 43.27.040.]

**RCW 47.01.190 State aid engineer.** The secretary shall appoint, with the approval of the governor, a qualified assistant to be designated as "state aid engineer" whose duties shall consist of the administration of the program of state aid in the matter of county roads and city streets. [1984 c 7 § 79; 1961 c 13 § 47.01.190. Prior: 1949 c 220 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 4600-3g. Formerly RCW 43.27.050.]

**RCW 47.01.210 Contract without bid or bond with public utilities and municipal corporations.** It is lawful for the department to contract without advertising or bid, or performance bond, with any public utility, whether publicly or privately operated, or with any municipal corporation or political subdivision of the state, for the

performance of any work or the furnishing of any service of a type ordinarily performed or furnished by such utility, or by such municipal corporation or political subdivision, whenever, in the opinion of the department, the interest of the public will be best served. [1984 c 7 § 80; 1961 c 13 § 47.01.210. Prior: 1955 c 84 § 1; 1953 c 100 § 1. Formerly RCW 43.27.105.]

**RCW 47.01.240 Coordination of long-range needs studies.** The department and the transportation improvement board shall coordinate their activities relative to long-range needs studies, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 47.05 RCW and RCW 47.26.170, respectively, in order that long-range needs data may be developed and maintained on an integrated and comparable basis. Needs data for county roads and city streets in nonurban areas shall be provided by the counties and cities to the department in such form and extent as requested by the department, after consultation with the county road administration board and the association of Washington cities, in order that needs data may be obtained on a comparable basis for all highways, roads, and streets in Washington. [1988 c 167 § 12; 1984 c 7 § 82; 1971 ex.s. c 195 § 10.]

**Savings—Severability—1988 c 167:** See notes following RCW 47.26.121.

**Severability—1971 ex.s. c 195:** See note following RCW 43.88.125.

**RCW 47.01.250 Consultation with designated state officials.** The chief of the Washington state patrol, the director of the traffic safety commission, the executive director of the county road administration board, and the director of licensing are designated as official consultants to the transportation commission so that the goals and activities of their respective agencies which relate to transportation are fully coordinated with other related responsibilities of the department of transportation. In this capacity, the chief of the Washington state patrol, the director of the traffic safety commission, the executive director of the county road administration board, and the director of licensing shall consult with the transportation commission and the secretary of transportation on the implications and impacts on the transportation related functions and duties of their respective agencies of any proposed comprehensive transportation plan, program, or policy.

In order to develop fully integrated, balanced, and coordinated transportation plans, programs, and budgets the chief of the Washington state patrol, the director of the traffic safety commission, the executive director of the county road administration board, and the director of licensing shall consult with the secretary of transportation on the matter of relative priorities during the development of their respective agencies' plans, programs, and budgets as they pertain to transportation activities. [1998 c 245 § 92; 1990 c 266 § 5; 1979 c 158 § 204; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 26.]

**Identification of environmental costs of transportation projects—Pilot project—1993 c 59:** "Recognizing the importance of maintaining the quality of life in Washington state, the citizens of this state

demand protection and preservation of our scarce natural resources. Citizens also demand an efficient and effective transportation system. The departments of transportation, ecology, fisheries, and wildlife and the Puget Sound water quality authority have worked jointly to develop cooperative approaches for mitigating environmental impacts resulting from transportation projects. Nevertheless, many transportation projects are costing more than was budgeted due to unanticipated and extensive environmental considerations. It is the intent of the legislature to find a process for accessing, budgeting, and accounting for environmental costs related to significant transportation projects in order to determine whether the environmental costs exceed the transportation benefits of a project.

Therefore, the department of transportation shall undertake a pilot program in at least one transportation district that will serve as a case study for the entire department. The department shall identify and cost out the discrete environmental elements of a representative sampling of transportation projects. The environmental elements should include, but not necessarily be limited to, wetlands, stormwater, hazardous waste, noise, fish, and wildlife. The department shall also consider an assessment of the cost impacts resulting from delays associated with permitting requirements.

It is the intent of the legislature that the environmental cost estimates be developed during a detailed scoping process that will include preliminary engineering and design. After the detailed scoping process and design report is complete, the department shall submit project-specific recommendations and cost estimates to the transportation commission before approval is granted for the construction phase of the projects.

Based upon the findings of the pilot program the transportation commission shall recommend policies to the legislative transportation committee regarding: (1) The current practice of appropriating design and construction dollars simultaneously; (2) identification of reasonable thresholds for environmental costs; (3) budget and accounting modifications that may be warranted in order to accurately capture environmental costs associated with transportation projects; and (4) modification to the priority array statutes, chapter 47.05 RCW." [1993 c 59 § 1.]

**RCW 47.01.260 Authority of department.** (1) The department of transportation shall exercise all the powers and perform all the duties necessary, convenient, or incidental to the planning, locating, designing, constructing, improving, repairing, operating, and maintaining state highways, including bridges and other structures, culverts, and drainage facilities and channel changes necessary for the protection of state highways, and shall examine and allow or disallow bills, subject to the provisions of RCW 85.07.170, for any work or services performed or materials, equipment, or supplies furnished.

(2) Subject to the limitations of RCW 4.24.115, the department, in the exercise of any of its powers, may include in any authorized contract a provision for indemnifying the other contracting party against specific loss or damages arising out of the performance of the contract.

(3) The department is authorized to acquire property as provided by law and to construct and maintain thereon any buildings or structures necessary or convenient for the planning, design,

construction, operation, maintenance, and administration of the state highway system and to acquire property and to construct and maintain any buildings, structures, appurtenances, and facilities necessary or convenient to the health and safety and for the accommodation of persons traveling upon state highways.

(4) The department is authorized to engage in planning surveys and may collect, compile, and analyze statistics and other data relative to existing and future highways and highway needs throughout the state, and shall conduct research, investigations, and testing as it deems necessary to improve the methods of construction and maintenance of highways and bridges. [2006 c 368 § 2; 1983 c 29 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 58 § 1.]

**RCW 47.01.270 Radioactive or hazardous cargo, notice of prohibition.** The department of transportation shall adopt regulations to establish procedures for giving notice to transporters of placarded radioactive or hazardous cargo of times when transportation of such cargo is prohibited. [1983 c 205 § 2.]

*Transportation of radioactive or hazardous cargo, prohibited, when:*  
*RCW 47.48.050.*

**RCW 47.01.280 Application for improvements to existing highways.**  
(1) Upon receiving an application for improvements to an existing state highway or highways pursuant to RCW 43.160.074 from the community economic revitalization board, the department shall, in a timely manner, determine whether or not the proposed state highway improvements:

(a) Meet the safety and design criteria of the department of transportation;

(b) Will impair the operational integrity of the existing highway system; and

(c) Will affect any other improvements planned by the department.

(2) Upon completion of its determination of the factors contained in subsection (1) of this section and any other factors it deems pertinent, the department shall forward its approval, as submitted or amended or disapproval of the proposed improvements to the board, along with any recommendation it may wish to make concerning the desirability and feasibility of the proposed development. If the department disapproves any proposed improvements, it shall specify its reasons for disapproval.

(3) Upon notification from the board of an application's approval pursuant to RCW 43.160.074, the department shall carry out the improvements in coordination with the applicant. [2006 c 334 § 7; 2005 c 319 § 121; 1999 c 94 § 10; 1985 c 433 § 6.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**Findings—Intent—Part headings—Effective dates—2005 c 319:** See notes following RCW 43.17.020.

**Legislative finding—Effective dates—1999 c 94:** See notes following RCW 43.84.092.

**Nonseverability—1985 c 433:** See note following RCW 43.160.074.

**RCW 47.01.290 Environmental review of transportation projects.**

The legislature recognizes that environmental review of transportation projects is a continuous process that should begin at the earliest stages of planning and continue through final project construction. Early and extensive involvement of the relevant environmental regulatory authorities is critical in order to avoid significant changes in substantially completed project design and engineering. It is the expectation of the legislature that if a comprehensive environmental approach is integrated throughout various transportation processes, onerous, duplicative, and time-consuming permit processes will be minimized. [1994 c 258 § 3; 1993 c 55 § 1.]

**Captions not law—1994 c 258:** See note following RCW 36.70A.420.

*Statewide transportation planning: Chapter 47.06 RCW.*

**RCW 47.01.300 Environmental review of transportation projects—Cooperation with other environmental regulatory authorities.** The department shall, in cooperation with environmental regulatory authorities:

- (1) Identify and document environmental resources in the development of the statewide multimodal plan under RCW 47.06.040;
- (2) Allow for public comment regarding changes to the criteria used for prioritizing projects under chapter 47.05 RCW before final adoption of the changes by the commission;
- (3) Use an environmental review as part of the project prospectus identifying potential environmental impacts, mitigation, the utilization of the mitigation option available in RCW 90.74.040, and costs during the early project identification and selection phase, submit the prospectus to the relevant environmental regulatory authorities, and maintain a record of comments and proposed revisions received from the authorities;
- (4) Actively work with the relevant environmental regulatory authorities during the design alternative analysis process and seek written concurrence from the authorities that they agree with the preferred design alternative selected;
- (5) Develop a uniform methodology, in consultation with relevant environmental regulatory authorities, for submitting plans and specifications detailing project elements that impact environmental resources, and proposed mitigation measures including the mitigation option available in RCW 90.74.040, to the relevant environmental regulatory authorities during the preliminary specifications and engineering phase of project development;
- (6) Screen construction projects to determine which projects will require complex or multiple permits. The permitting authorities shall develop methods for initiating review of the permit applications for the projects before the final design of the projects;
- (7) Conduct special prebid meetings for those projects that are environmentally complex; and
- (8) Review environmental considerations related to particular projects during the preconstruction meeting held with the contractor who is awarded the bid. [2012 c 62 § 1; 1994 c 258 § 4.]

**Captions not law—1994 c 258:** See note following RCW 36.70A.420.

**RCW 47.01.305 Environmental mitigation in highway construction projects—Public lands first or other sites that avoid loss of long-term, commercially significant agricultural lands.** (1) For highway construction projects where the department considers agricultural lands of long-term commercial significance, as defined in RCW 36.70A.030, in reviewing and selecting sites to meet environmental mitigation requirements under the national environmental policy act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 4321 et seq.) and chapter 43.21C RCW, the department shall, to the greatest extent possible, consider using public land first.

(2) If public lands are not available that meet the required environmental mitigation needs, the department may use other sites while making every effort to avoid any net loss of agricultural lands that have a designation of long-term commercial significance. [2009 c 471 § 1.]

**RCW 47.01.315 Work group on review processes under state and national environmental policy acts for state highway projects—Report.** The department shall coordinate a state agency work group in 2016 that will identify issues, laws, and regulations relevant to consolidating and coordinating the review processes under the national environmental policy act, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 4321 et seq. and chapter 43.21C RCW to streamline the review of and avoid delays to projects on state highways as defined in RCW 46.04.560. The department must report the work group's findings to the joint transportation committee in compliance with RCW 43.01.036 by December 31, 2016. State agencies in the work group must include the department, the department of ecology, and any other relevant agencies. The report must include: An inventory of federal and state environmental regulatory authority; a discussion of the issues pertaining to the current process and timelines used by state and federal agencies for reviewing projects on state highways as defined in RCW 46.04.560; and recommendations for legislation or rules that would reduce delays and time associated with review by state and federal agencies, including suggestions for new categorical exemptions. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 15 § 6.]

**Effective date—Findings—Intent—2015 3rd sp.s. c 15:** See notes following RCW 47.01.485.

**RCW 47.01.330 Office of transit mobility.** (1) The secretary shall establish an office of transit mobility. The purpose of the office is to facilitate the integration of decentralized public transportation services with the state transportation system. The goals of the office of transit mobility are: (a) To facilitate connection and coordination of transit services and planning; and (b) maximizing opportunities to use public transportation to improve the efficiency of transportation corridors.

(2) The duties of the office include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (a) Developing a statewide strategic plan that creates common goals for transit agencies and reduces competing plans for cross-jurisdictional service;
  - (b) Developing a park and ride lot program;
  - (c) Encouraging long-range transit planning;
  - (d) Providing public transportation expertise to improve linkages between regional transportation planning organizations and transit agencies;
  - (e) Strengthening policies for inclusion of transit and transportation demand management strategies in route development, corridor plan standards, and budget proposals;
  - (f) Recommending best practices to integrate transit and demand management strategies with regional and local land use plans in order to reduce traffic and improve mobility and access;
  - (g) Producing recommendations for the public transportation section of the Washington transportation plan; and
  - (h) Participating in all aspects of corridor planning, including freight planning, ferry system planning, and passenger rail planning.
- (3) In forming the office, the secretary shall use existing resources to the greatest extent possible.
- (4) The office of transit mobility shall establish measurable performance objectives for evaluating the success of its initiatives and progress toward accomplishing the overall goals of the office.
- (5) The office of transit mobility must report quarterly to the secretary, and annually to the transportation committees of the legislature, on the progress of the office in meeting the goals and duties provided in this section. [2005 c 318 § 2.]

**Findings—Intent—2005 c 318:** "The legislature finds that the state needs to reestablish itself as a leader in public transportation.

The legislature also finds that increased demands on transportation resources require increased coordination among public transportation service providers.

The legislature also finds that the efficiency of transportation corridors would be enhanced by a more proactive and integrated approach to public transportation service delivery and planning.

The legislature also finds that the state department of transportation is in the unique position of being able to improve connectivity between service territories of transit agencies and modes of transportation.

The legislature also finds that the state should be a center of excellence in public transportation planning and research and providing technical assistance to transit agencies serving urban, suburban, and rural areas.

Therefore, it is the intent of the legislature that the state department of transportation be a leader in public transportation. The department shall play a guiding role in coordinating decentralized public transportation services, increasing connectivity between them, advocating for public transportation as a means to increase corridor efficiency, and increasing the integration of public transportation and the highway system." [2005 c 318 § 1.]

**RCW 47.01.340 Local and regional transportation goals.** Local and regional transportation agencies shall adopt common transportation

goals. The office of transit mobility shall review local and regional transportation plans, including plans required under RCW 35.58.2795, 36.70A.070(6), 36.70A.210, and 47.80.023, to provide for the efficient integration of multimodal and multijurisdictional transportation planning. [2005 c 318 § 3.]

**Findings—Intent—2005 c 318:** See note following RCW 47.01.330.

**RCW 47.01.380 State route No. 520 improvements—Exceptions.** The department shall not commence construction on any part of the state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV project until a record of decision has been reached providing reasonable assurance that project impacts will be avoided, minimized, or mitigated as much as practicable to protect against further adverse impacts on neighborhood environmental quality as a result of repairs and improvements made to the state route number 520 bridge and its connecting roadways, and that any such impacts will be addressed through engineering design choices, mitigation measures, or a combination of both. The requirements of this section shall not apply to off-site pontoon construction supporting the state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV project. The requirements of this section shall not apply during the 2009-2011 and 2011-2013 fiscal biennia. [2011 c 367 § 708; 2009 c 470 § 705; 2006 c 311 § 26.]

**Effective date—2011 c 367:** See note following RCW 47.29.170.

**Effective date—2009 c 470:** See note following RCW 46.68.170.

**Findings—2006 c 311:** See note following RCW 36.120.020.

**RCW 47.01.390 Alaskan Way viaduct, Seattle Seawall, and state route No. 520 improvements—Requirements—Exceptions.** (1) Prior to commencing construction on either project, the department of transportation must complete all of the following requirements for both the Alaskan Way viaduct and Seattle Seawall replacement project, and the state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV project: (a) In accordance with the national environmental policy act, the department must designate the preferred alternative, prepare a substantial project mitigation plan, and complete a comprehensive cost estimate review using the department's cost estimate validation process, for each project; (b) in accordance with all applicable federal highway administration planning and project management requirements, the department must prepare a project finance plan for each project that clearly identifies secured and anticipated fund sources, cash flow timing requirements, and project staging and phasing plans if applicable; and (c) the department must report these results for each project to the joint transportation committee.

(2) The requirements of this section shall not apply to (a) utility relocation work, and related activities, on the Alaskan Way viaduct and Seattle Seawall replacement project and (b) off-site pontoon construction supporting the state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV project.

(3) The requirements of subsection (1) of this section shall not apply during the 2007-2009 fiscal biennium.



(4) The requirements of subsection (1) of this section shall not apply during the 2009-2011 fiscal biennium. [2009 c 470 § 706; 2007 c 518 § 705; 2006 c 311 § 27.]

**Effective date—2009 c 470:** See note following RCW 46.68.170.

**Severability—Effective date—2007 c 518:** See notes following RCW 46.68.170.

**Findings—2006 c 311:** See note following RCW 36.120.020.

**RCW 47.01.402 Alaskan Way viaduct replacement project—Deep bore tunnel option—Funding, accountability, and responsibility.** (1) The legislature finds that the replacement of the vulnerable state route number 99 Alaskan Way viaduct is a matter of urgency for the safety of Washington's traveling public and the needs of the transportation system in central Puget Sound. The state route number 99 Alaskan Way viaduct is susceptible to damage, closure, or catastrophic failure from earthquakes and tsunamis. Additionally, the viaduct serves as a vital route for freight and passenger vehicles through downtown Seattle.

Since 2001, the department has undertaken an extensive evaluation of multiple options to replace the Alaskan Way viaduct, including an initial evaluation of seventy-six conceptual alternatives and a more detailed analysis of five alternatives in 2004. In addition to a substantial technical review, the department has also undertaken considerable public outreach, which included consultation with a stakeholder advisory committee that met sixteen times over a thirteen-month period.

Therefore, it is the conclusion of the legislature that time is of the essence, and that Washington state cannot wait for a disaster to make it fully appreciate the urgency of the need to replace this vulnerable structure. The state shall take the necessary steps to expedite the environmental review and design processes to replace the Alaskan Way viaduct with a deep bore tunnel under First Avenue from the vicinity of the sports stadiums in Seattle to Aurora Avenue north of the Battery Street tunnel. The tunnel must include four general purpose lanes in a stacked formation.

(2) The state route number 99 Alaskan Way viaduct replacement project finance plan must include state funding not to exceed two billion four hundred million dollars and must also include no more than four hundred million dollars in toll revenue. These funds must be used solely to build a replacement tunnel, as described in subsection (1) of this section, and to remove the existing state route number 99 Alaskan Way viaduct. All costs associated with city utility relocations for state work as described in this section must be borne by the city of Seattle and provided in a manner that meets project construction schedule requirements as determined by the department. State funding is not authorized for any utility relocation costs, or for central seawall or waterfront promenade improvements.

(3) The department shall provide updated cost estimates for construction of the bored tunnel and also for the full Alaskan Way viaduct replacement project to the legislature and governor by January 1, 2010. The department must also consult with independent tunnel engineering experts to review the estimates and risk assumptions. The

department shall not enter into a design-build contract for construction of the bored tunnel until the report in this section has been submitted.

(4) Any contract the department enters into related to construction of the deep bored tunnel must include incentives and penalties to encourage on-time completion of the project and to minimize the potential for cost overruns.

(5) It is important that the public and policymakers have accurate and timely access to information related to the Alaskan Way viaduct replacement project as it proceeds to, and during, construction of all aspects of the project, specifically including but not limited to information regarding costs, schedules, contracts, project status, and neighborhood impacts. Therefore it is the intent of the legislature that the state, city, and county departments of transportation establish a single source of accountability for integration, coordination, tracking, and information of all requisite components of the replacement project, which must include, at minimum:

(a) A master schedule of all subprojects included in the full replacement project or program; and

(b) A single point of contact for the public, media, stakeholders, and other interested parties.

(6) (a) The city and county departments of transportation shall be responsible for the cost, delivery, and associated risks of the project components for which each department is responsible, as outlined in the January 13, 2009, letter of agreement signed by the governor, city, and county.

(b) The state's contribution shall not exceed two billion four hundred million dollars. If costs exceed two billion four hundred million dollars, no more than four hundred million [dollars] of the additional costs shall be financed with toll revenue. Any costs in excess of two billion eight hundred million dollars shall be borne by property owners in the Seattle area who benefit from replacement of the existing viaduct with the deep bore tunnel.

(7) Compression brakes may be used by authorized motor vehicles in the deep bore tunnel in a manner consistent with the requirements of RCW 46.37.395. [2009 c 458 § 1.]

**Alaskan Way viaduct replacement project—Deep bore tunnel option—Traffic and revenue study—2009 c 458:** "The department of transportation must prepare a traffic and revenue study for a state route number 99 deep bore tunnel for the purpose of determining the facility's potential to generate toll revenue. The department shall regularly report to the transportation commission regarding the progress of the study for the purpose of guiding the commission's toll setting on the facility. The study must include the following information:

(1) An analysis of the potential diversion from state route number 99 to other parts of the transportation system resulting from tolls on the facility;

(2) An analysis of potential mitigation measures to offset or reduce diversion from state route number 99;

(3) A summary of the amount of revenue generated from tolling the deep bore tunnel; and

(4) An analysis of the impact of tolls on the performance of the facility.

The department must provide the results of the study to the governor and the legislature by January 2010." [2009 c 458 § 2.]

**Effective date—2009 c 458:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect July 1, 2009." [2009 c 458 § 3.]

**RCW 47.01.408 State route No. 520 improvements—Design requirements.** (1) The state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV project shall be designed to provide six total lanes, with two lanes that are for transit and high occupancy vehicle travel, and four general purpose lanes.

(2) The state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV project shall be designed to accommodate effective connections for transit, including high capacity transit, to the light rail station at the University of Washington. [2008 c 270 § 2.]

**Finding—2008 c 270:** "The legislature finds that the replacement of the vulnerable state route number 520 bridge is a matter of urgency for the safety of Washington's traveling public and the needs of the transportation system in central Puget Sound. The state route number 520 bridge is forty-four years old and has a useful remaining life of between thirteen and eighteen years. While one hundred fifteen thousand vehicles travel on the bridge each day, there is an ever present likelihood that wind or an earthquake could suddenly destroy the bridge or render it unusable. Therefore, the state must develop a comprehensive approach to fund a state route number 520 bridge replacement to be constructed by 2018." [2008 c 270 § 1.]

**RCW 47.01.412 State route No. 520 improvements—Tax deferrals—Definition.** (1) (a) Any person involved in the construction of the state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV project may apply for deferral of state and local sales and use taxes on the site preparation for, the construction of, the acquisition of any related machinery and equipment that will become a part of, and the rental of equipment for use in, the project.

(b) Application shall be made to the department of revenue in a form and manner prescribed by the department of revenue. The application must contain information regarding estimated or actual costs, time schedules for completion and operation, and other information required by the department of revenue. The department of revenue shall approve the application within 60 days if it meets the requirements of this section.

(2) The department of revenue shall issue a sales and use tax deferral certificate for state and local sales and use taxes imposed or authorized under chapters 82.08, 82.12, and 82.14 RCW and RCW 81.104.170 on the project.

(3) A person granted a tax deferral under this section shall begin paying the deferred taxes in the 24th year after the date certified by the department of revenue as the date on which the project is operationally complete. The project is operationally complete under this section when the replacement bridge is constructed and opened to traffic. The first payment is due on December 31st of

the 24th calendar year after the certified date, with subsequent annual payments due on December 31st of the following nine years. Each payment shall equal 10 percent of the deferred tax.

(4) The department of revenue may authorize an accelerated repayment schedule upon request of a person granted a deferral under this section.

(5) Interest shall not be charged on any taxes deferred under this section for the period of deferral, although all other penalties and interest applicable to delinquent excise taxes may be assessed and imposed for delinquent payments under this section. The debt for deferred taxes is not extinguished by insolvency or other failure of any private entity granted a deferral under this section.

(6) Applications and any other information received by the department of revenue under this section are not confidential and are subject to disclosure. Chapter 82.32 RCW applies to the administration of this section.

(7) For purposes of this section, "person" has the same meaning as in RCW 82.04.030 and also includes the department of transportation. [2022 c 144 § 1; 2008 c 270 § 7.]

**Application of RCW 82.32.805 and 82.32.808—2022 c 144:** "The provisions of RCW 82.32.805 and 82.32.808 do not apply to this act." [2022 c 144 § 2.]

**Effective date—2022 c 144:** "This act takes effect July 1, 2022." [2022 c 144 § 3.]

**Finding—2008 c 270:** See note following RCW 47.01.408.

**RCW 47.01.415 State route No. 520 improvements—Finance plan.**

The state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV project finance plan must include state funding, federal funding, at least one billion dollars in regional contributions, and revenue from tolling. The department must provide a proposed finance plan to be tied to the estimated cost of the recommended project solutions, as provided under \*RCW 47.01.406, to the governor and the joint transportation committee by January 1, 2008. [2007 c 517 § 7.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 47.01.406 was repealed by 2017 3rd sp.s. c 25 § 39.

**Finding—2007 c 517:** "The legislature finds that the replacement of the vulnerable state route number 520 corridor is a matter of urgency for the safety of Washington's traveling public and the needs of the transportation system in central Puget Sound. The state route number 520 floating bridge is susceptible to damage, closure, or even catastrophic failure from earthquakes, windstorms, and waves. Additionally, the bridge serves as a vital route for vehicles to cross Lake Washington, carrying over three times its design capacity in traffic, resulting in more than seven hours of congestion per day.

Therefore, it is the conclusion of the legislature that time is of the essence, and that Washington state cannot wait for a disaster to make it fully appreciate the urgency of the need to replace this vulnerable structure. The state must take the necessary steps to move forward with a state route number 520 bridge replacement project design that provides six total lanes, with four general purpose lanes

and two lanes that are for high occupancy vehicle travel that could also accommodate high capacity transportation, and the bridge shall also be designed to accommodate light rail in the future. High occupancy vehicle lanes in the state route 520 corridor must also be able to support a bus rapid transit system." [2007 c 517 § 1.]

**Effective date—2007 c 517:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [May 15, 2007]." [2007 c 517 § 9.]

**RCW 47.01.417 State route No. 520 improvements—Finance plan—Revenue sources and savings recognition.** The state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV project finance plan must include:

(1) Recognition of revenue sources that include: One billion seven hundred million dollars in state and federal funds allocated to the project; one billion five hundred million dollars to two billion dollars in tolling revenue, including early tolls that could begin in late 2009; eighty-five million dollars in federal urban partnership grant funds; and other contributions from private and other government sources; and

(2) Recognition of savings to be realized from:

(a) Potential early construction of traffic improvements from the eastern Lake Washington shoreline to 108th Avenue Northeast in Bellevue;

(b) Early construction of a single string of pontoons to support two lanes that are for transit and high occupancy vehicle travel and four general purpose lanes;

(c) Preconstruction tolling to reduce total financing costs; and

(d) A deferral of the sales taxes paid on construction costs.

[2008 c 270 § 3.]

**Finding—2008 c 270:** See note following RCW 47.01.408.

**RCW 47.01.420 Naming and renaming state transportation facilities.** (1) The commission may name or rename state transportation facilities including, but not limited to: State highways; state highway bridges, structures, and facilities; state rest areas; and state roadside facilities, such as viewpoints. The commission must consult with the department before taking final action to name or rename a state transportation facility.

(2) (a) The department, state and local governmental entities, citizen organizations, and any person may initiate the process to name or rename a state transportation facility.

(b) For the commission to consider a naming or renaming proposal, the requesting entity or person must provide sufficient evidence, as determined by the commission, indicating community support and acceptance of the proposal. Evidence may include the following:

(i) Letters of support from state and federal legislators representing the impacted area encompassing the state transportation facility;

(ii) Resolutions passed by local, publicly elected bodies in the impacted area encompassing the state transportation facility;

(iii) Department support; or

(iv) Supportive actions by or letters from local organizations including, but not limited to, local chambers of commerce and service clubs.

(3) After the commission takes final action in naming or renaming a state transportation facility, the department shall design and install the appropriate signs in accordance with state and federal standards. [2007 c 33 § 1.]

**RCW 47.01.425 Jurisdictional transfers.** The legislature recognizes the need for a multijurisdictional body to review future requests for jurisdictional transfers. The commission shall receive petitions from cities, counties, or the state requesting any addition or deletion from the state highway system. The commission must utilize the criteria established in RCW 47.17.001 in evaluating petitions and to adopt rules for implementation of this process. The commission shall forward to the senate and house transportation committees by November 15th each year any recommended jurisdictional transfers. [2009 c 260 § 1; 2005 c 319 § 130; 1991 c 342 § 62. Formerly RCW 47.26.167.]

**Findings—Intent—Part headings—Effective dates—2005 c 319:** See notes following RCW 43.17.020.

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** "(1) Sections 62 and 63 of this act are necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect June 1, 1991.

(2) The remainder of this act shall take effect April 1, 1992." [1991 c 342 § 68.]

**RCW 47.01.430 Wounded combat veterans internship program.** Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose, the department shall establish an internship program for returning wounded combat veterans. The purpose of the program is to assist returning wounded combat veterans by matching them with jobs within the department that require their military skill sets and would be of benefit to the department, or that would teach them new skills. The jobs may include, but are not limited to, the following classifications: Engineering; construction trades; logistics; and project planning. The emphasis of the program should be to assist veterans who served in southern or central Asia, Operation Enduring Freedom; and the Persian Gulf, Operation Iraqi Freedom. This program may assist with the placement of wounded combat veterans as apprentices under RCW 39.04.320. The department may adopt rules under chapter 34.05 RCW to implement the requirements of this section. For the purposes of this section, "veteran" has the same meaning as in RCW 41.04.005. [2007 c 92 § 1.]

**RCW 47.01.435 Highway construction workforce development—Reports.** (1) The department shall expend federal funds received by the department, and funds that may be available to the department, under 23 U.S.C. Sec. 140(b) to increase diversity in the highway construction workforce and prepare individuals interested in entering

the highway construction workforce by conducting activities in subsections (4) and (5) of this section.

(2) The requirements contained in subsection (1) of this section do not apply to or reduce the federal funds that would be otherwise allocated to local government agencies.

(3) The department shall, in coordination with the department of labor and industries, expend moneys for apprenticeship preparation and support services, including providing grants to local Indian tribes, churches, nonprofits, and other organizations. The department shall, to the greatest extent practicable, expend moneys from sources other than those specified in subsection (1) of this section for the activities in this subsection and subsections (4) and (5) of this section.

(4) The department shall coordinate with the department of labor and industries to provide any portion of the following services:

(a) Preapprenticeship programs approved by the apprenticeship and training council;

(b) Preemployment counseling;

(c) Orientations on the highway construction industry, including outreach to women, minorities, and other disadvantaged individuals;

(d) Basic skills improvement classes;

(e) Career counseling;

(f) Remedial training;

(g) Entry requirements for training programs;

(h) Supportive services and assistance with transportation;

(i) Child care and special needs;

(j) Jobsite mentoring and retention services;

(k) Assistance with tools, protective clothing, and other related support for employment costs; and

(l) The recruitment of women and persons of color to participate in the apprenticeship program at the department.

(5) The department must actively engage with communities with populations that are underrepresented in current transportation apprenticeship programs.

(6) The department, in coordination with the department of labor and industries, shall submit a report to the transportation committees of the legislature by December 1st of each year beginning in 2012. The report must contain:

(a) An analysis of the results of the activities in subsections (4) and (5) of this section;

(b) The amount available to the department from federal funds for the activities in subsections (4) and (5) of this section and the amount expended for those activities; and

(c) The performance outcomes achieved from each activity, including the number of persons receiving services, training, and employment.

(7) By December 31, 2020, the department must report to the legislature on the results of how the department's efforts to actively engage with communities with populations that are underrepresented in current transportation apprenticeship programs have resulted in an increased participation of underrepresented groups in the department's apprenticeship program over a five-year period. [2015 c 164 § 1; 2012 c 66 § 1.]

**RCW 47.01.440 Adoption of statewide goals to reduce annual per capita vehicle miles traveled by 2050—Department's duties—Reports to the legislature.** (1) To support the implementation of RCW 47.04.280 and 47.01.078(4), the department shall adopt broad statewide goals to reduce annual per capita vehicle miles traveled by 2050 consistent with the stated goals of executive order 07-02. Consistent with these goals, the department shall:

(a) Establish the following benchmarks using a statewide baseline of seventy-five billion vehicle miles traveled less the vehicle miles traveled attributable to vehicles licensed under RCW 46.16A.455 and weighing ten thousand pounds or more, which are exempt from this section:

(i) Decrease the annual per capita vehicle miles traveled by eighteen percent by 2020;

(ii) Decrease the annual per capita vehicle miles traveled by thirty percent by 2035; and

(iii) Decrease the annual per capita vehicle miles traveled by fifty percent by 2050;

(b) By July 1, 2008, establish and convene a collaborative process to develop a set of tools and best practices to assist state, regional, and local entities in making progress towards the benchmarks established in (a) of this subsection. The collaborative process must provide an opportunity for public review and comment and must:

(i) Be jointly facilitated by the department, the department of ecology, and the department of commerce;

(ii) Provide for participation from regional transportation planning organizations, the Washington state transit association, the Puget Sound clean air agency, a statewide business organization representing the sale of motor vehicles, at least one major private employer that participates in the commute trip reduction program, and other interested parties, including but not limited to parties representing diverse perspectives on issues relating to growth, development, and transportation;

(iii) Identify current strategies to reduce vehicle miles traveled in the state as well as successful strategies in other jurisdictions that may be applicable in the state;

(iv) Identify potential new revenue options for local and regional governments to authorize to finance vehicle miles traveled reduction efforts;

(v) Provide for the development of measurement tools that can, with a high level of confidence, measure annual progress toward the benchmarks at the local, regional, and state levels, measure the effects of strategies implemented to reduce vehicle miles traveled and adequately distinguish between common travel purposes, such as moving freight or commuting to work, and measure trends of vehicle miles traveled per capita on a five-year basis;

(vi) Establish a process for the department to periodically evaluate progress toward the vehicle miles traveled benchmarks, measure achieved and projected emissions reductions, and recommend whether the benchmarks should be adjusted to meet the state's overall goals for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions;

(vii) Estimate the projected reductions in greenhouse gas emissions if the benchmarks are achieved, taking into account the expected implementation of existing state and federal mandates for vehicle technology and fuels, as well as expected growth in population and vehicle travel;



(viii) Examine access to public transportation for people living in areas with affordable housing to and from employment centers, and make recommendations for steps necessary to ensure that areas with affordable housing are served by adequate levels of public transportation; and

(vix) [(ix)] By December 1, 2008, provide a report to the transportation committees of the legislature on the collaborative process and resulting recommended tools and best practices to achieve the reduction in annual per capita vehicle miles traveled goals.

(2) Included in the December 1, 2008, report to the transportation committees of the legislature, the department shall identify strategies to reduce vehicle miles traveled in the state as well as successful strategies in other jurisdictions that may be applicable in the state that recognize the differing urban and rural transportation requirements.

(3) Prior to implementation of the goals in this section, the department, in consultation with the department of commerce, cities, counties, local economic development organizations, and local and regional chambers of commerce, shall provide a report to the appropriate committees of the legislature on the anticipated impacts of the goals established in this section on the following:

(a) The economic hardship on small businesses as it relates to the ability to hire and retain workers who do not reside in the county in which they are employed;

(b) Impacts on low-income residents;

(c) Impacts on agricultural employers and their employees, especially on the migrant farmworker community;

(d) Impacts on distressed rural counties; and

(e) Impacts in counties with more than fifty percent of the land base of the county in public or tribal lands. [2023 c 470 § 2084; 2011 c 171 § 103; 2008 c 14 § 8.]

**Explanatory statement—2023 c 470:** See note following RCW 10.99.030.

**Intent—Effective date—2011 c 171:** See notes following RCW 4.24.210.

**Findings—Intent—Scope of chapter 14, Laws of 2008—2008 c 14:** See RCW 70A.45.005 and 70A.45.900.

**RCW 47.01.450 Funding special needs transportation, application for—Deference to agency council on coordinated transportation recommendations.** (1) To be eligible for funding on or after January 1, 2010, any organization applying for state paratransit/special needs grants, as described in section 223(1), chapter 121, Laws of 2008, or for other funding provided for persons with special transportation needs, as defined in \*RCW 47.06B.012, must include in its application, in addition to meeting other eligibility requirements provided in law, an explanation of how the requested funding will advance efficiencies in, accessibility to, or coordination of transportation services provided to persons with special transportation needs as defined in \*RCW 47.06B.012.

(2) Unless otherwise required by law, in administering federal funding provided for special needs transportation purposes, including

funding under SAFETEA-LU, the safe, accountable, flexible, efficient transportation equity act, P.L. 109-59, or its successor, the department shall give priority to projects that result in increased efficiencies in special needs transportation or improved coordination among special needs transportation service providers.

(3) In making final grant award determinations under subsection (1) of this section, the department shall seek input from the agency council on coordinated transportation, as provided in \*chapter 47.06B RCW, and shall give substantial deference to applications recommended by the council. [2009 c 515 § 16.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Chapter 47.06B RCW was repealed by 2011 c 60 § 51.

**RCW 47.01.460 Adjustments to recreational vehicle fees.** (1) The department of transportation may increase the recreational vehicle sanitary disposal fee charged under RCW 46.17.375 as authorized in RCW 43.135.055 by a percentage that exceeds the fiscal growth factor. After consultation with citizen representatives of the recreational vehicle user community, the department of transportation may implement RV account fee adjustments no more than once every four years. RV account fee adjustments must be preceded by an evaluation of the following factors:

- (a) Maintenance of a self-supporting program;
- (b) Levels of service at existing recreational vehicle sanitary disposal facilities;
- (c) Identified needs for improved recreational vehicle service at safety rest areas statewide;
- (d) Sewage treatment costs; and
- (e) Inflation.

(2) If the department of transportation chooses to adjust the RV account fee, it shall notify the department of licensing six months before implementation of the fee increase. Adjustments in the RV account fee must be in increments of no more than fifty cents per biennium. [2010 c 161 § 1145.]

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**RCW 47.01.470 Transfer of ownership of department-owned vessel—Review of vessel's physical condition.** (1) Prior to transferring ownership of a department-owned vessel, the department shall conduct a thorough review of the physical condition of the vessel, the vessel's operating capability, and any containers and other materials that are not fixed to the vessel.

(2) If the department determines that the vessel is in a state of advanced deterioration or poses a reasonably imminent threat to human health or safety, including a threat of environmental contamination, the department may: (a) Not transfer the vessel until the conditions identified under this subsection have been corrected; or (b) permanently dispose of the vessel by landfill, deconstruction, or other related method. [2013 c 291 § 13.]

**RCW 47.01.475 Transfer of ownership of department-owned vessel—Further requirements.** (1) Following the inspection required under RCW 47.01.470 and prior to transferring ownership of a department-owned vessel, the department shall obtain the following from the transferee:

(a) The purposes for which the transferee intends to use the vessel; and

(b) Information demonstrating the prospective owner's intent to obtain legal moorage following the transfer, in the manner determined by the department.

(2) (a) The department shall remove any containers or other materials that are not fixed to the vessel and contain hazardous substances, as defined under RCW 70A.305.020.

(b) However, the department may transfer a vessel with:

(i) Those containers or materials described under (a) of this subsection where the transferee demonstrates to the department's satisfaction that the container's or material's presence is consistent with the anticipated use of the vessel; and

(ii) A reasonable amount of fuel as determined by the department, based on factors including the vessel's size, condition, and anticipated use of the vessel, including initial destination following transfer.

(c) The department may consult with the department of ecology in carrying out the requirements of this subsection.

(3) Prior to sale, and unless the vessel has a title or valid marine document, the department is required to apply for a certificate of title for the vessel under RCW 88.02.510 and register the vessel under RCW 88.02.550. [2021 c 65 § 54; 2013 c 291 § 14.]

**Explanatory statement—2021 c 65:** See note following RCW 53.54.030.

**RCW 47.01.480 Connecting Washington project delivery—JUDY transportation future funding program—Report.** (1) (a) For projects identified as connecting Washington projects and supported by revenues under chapter 44, Laws of 2015 3rd sp. sess., it is the priority of the legislature that the department deliver the named projects. The legislature encourages the department to continue to institutionalize innovation and collaboration in design and project delivery with an eye toward the most efficient use of resources. In doing so, the legislature expects that, for some projects, costs will be reduced during the project design phase due to the application of practical design. However, significant changes to a project title or scope arising from the application of practical design requires legislative approval. The legislature will utilize existing mechanisms and processes to ensure timely and efficient approval. Practical design-related changes to the scope may be proposed by the department, for the legislature's approval, only if the project's intended performance is substantially unchanged and the local governments and interested stakeholders impacted by the project have been consulted and have reviewed the proposed changes.

(b) To the greatest extent practicable, a contract for the construction of a project with any change to the title or scope, whether significant or not, arising from the application of practical design must not be let until the department has provided a detailed notice describing the change to the chairs and ranking members of the

house of representatives and senate transportation committees or, if during the interim, to the joint transportation committee.

(c) To determine the savings attributable to practical design, each connecting Washington project must be evaluated. For design-bid-build projects, the evaluation must occur at the end of the project design phase. For design-build projects, the evaluation must occur at the completion of 30 percent design. Each year as a part of its annual budget submittal, the department must include a detailed summary of how practical design has been applied and the associated savings gained. The annual summary must also include for each project: Details regarding any savings gained specifically through changes in the cost of materials, changes in the scope of a project and associated impacts on risk, the retirement of any risk reserves, and unused contingency funds.

(2)(a) The transportation future funding program is intended to provide for future emergent transportation projects, accelerating the schedule for existing connecting Washington projects, and highway preservation investments, beginning in fiscal year 2024, based on savings accrued from the application of practical design and any retired risk or unused contingency funding on connecting Washington projects.

(b) Beginning July 1, 2016, the department must submit a report to the state treasurer and the transportation committees of the legislature once every six months identifying the amount of savings attributable to the application of practical design, retired risk, and unused contingency funding, and report when the savings become available. The state treasurer must transfer the available amounts identified in the report to the JUDY transportation future funding program account created in RCW 46.68.396.

(c) Beginning in fiscal year 2024, as a part of its budget submittal, the department may provide a list of highway improvement projects or preservation investments for potential legislative approval as part of the transportation future funding program. Highway improvement projects considered for inclusion under the transportation future funding program may include new connecting Washington projects, or accelerate the schedule for existing connecting Washington projects, and must: Address significant safety concerns; alleviate congestion and advance mobility; provide compelling economic development gains; leverage partnership funds from local, federal, or other sources; or require a next phase of funding to build upon initial investments provided by the legislature.

(d) It is the intent of the legislature that if savings attributable to the application of practical design are used to accelerate existing connecting Washington projects, savings must also be used for new connecting Washington projects of equal cost. [2022 c 182 § 436; 2015 3rd sp.s. c 12 § 1.]

**Intent—Effective date—2022 c 182:** See notes following RCW 70A.65.240.

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 12:** "Except for section 4 of this act, this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [July 6, 2015]." [2015 3rd sp.s. c 12 § 7.]

**RCW 47.01.485 Final determination by local governments on department permit application for state highway projects less than five hundred million dollars, when due—Annual report.** (1) To the greatest extent practicable, a city, town, code city, or county must make a final determination on all permits required for a project on a state highway as defined in RCW 46.04.560 no later than ninety days after the department's submission of a complete permit application for a project with an estimated cost of less than five hundred million dollars.

(2) The department must report annually to the governor and the transportation committees of the house of representatives and the senate in compliance with RCW 43.01.036 regarding any permit application that takes longer than the number of days identified in subsection (1) of this section to process. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 15 § 2.]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 15:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [July 6, 2015]." [2015 3rd sp.s. c 15 § 11.]

**Findings—Intent—2015 3rd sp.s. c 15:** "The legislature finds that in 2012 the legislature passed Second Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 6406 (chapter 1, Laws of 2012 1st sp. sess.), which updated statutory provisions relating to natural resource management and regulatory programs. The legislature finds that opportunities to build upon the updates made in 2012 and to further streamline regulatory processes and achieve program efficiencies while maintaining current levels of natural resource protection exist. The legislature intends to update provisions relating to the review, permitting, and approval of department of transportation projects, particularly those that occur on shorelines of the state, to achieve these opportunities.

The legislature further finds that the shoreline management act of 1971, codified in chapter 90.58 RCW, was approved and enacted by a vote of the people, and that the shoreline management act embodies a balance between the protection of state shorelines and development. Recognizing this balance, the legislature intends to facilitate transportation projects while ensuring accountability." [2015 3rd sp.s. c 15 § 1.]

**RCW 47.01.490 Reporting engineering errors on highway construction projects—Requirements.** (1) The department shall submit a report to the transportation committees of the legislature detailing engineering errors on highway construction projects resulting in project cost increases in excess of five hundred thousand dollars. The department must submit a full report within ninety days of the negotiated change order resulting from the engineering error.

(2) The department's full report must include an assessment and review of:

- (a) How the engineering error happened;
- (b) The department of the employee or employees responsible for the engineering error, without disclosing the name of the employee or employees;
- (c) What corrective action was taken;

(d) The estimated total cost of the engineering error and how the department plans to mitigate that cost;

(e) Whether the cost of the engineering error will impact the overall project financial plan; and

(f) What action the secretary has recommended to avoid similar engineering errors in the future. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 17 § 8.]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 17:** See note following RCW 47.85.005.

**RCW 47.01.495 Construction program business plan—Requirements—Progress reports—Advisory group.**

(1) The department must develop a construction program business plan that incorporates findings of the report required in section 3, chapter 18, Laws of 2015 3rd sp. sess. and also outlines a sustainable staffing level of state-employed engineering staff, adjusted as necessary by additional sustainable revenue and modeled and optimized to address long-term needs in preservation and improvement programs through multiple biennia.

(2) The sustainable staffing level recognizes that it is in the state's interest that periodic increases in workload due to increases in construction funding are best addressed through the use of contract engineering resources in conjunction with limited and flexible augmentations to department staffing levels as necessary for project oversight, accountability, and delivery.

(3) To provide the appropriate management oversight and accountability of the use of contracted services, the plan must also make recommendations on the development of a strong owner strategy that addresses state employee training, career development, and competitive compensation.

(4) The department must submit the plan to the office of financial management and appropriate committees of the legislature one hundred eighty days after the report in section 3, chapter 18, Laws of 2015 3rd sp. sess. is completed. The department must submit progress reports on implementation of the plan biennially beginning September 30, 2018, until September 30, 2030. The elements of the plan must include:

(a) Sustainable staffing levels to address long-term needs in preservation and improvement programs;

(b) Employee recruitment, retention, training, and compensation status;

(c) Project delivery methods for design and construction; and

(d) A comparison of Washington state to national trends and methods.

(5) To assist in the development of the plan, the department must convene an advisory group to be comprised of the following members:

(a) One representative of the professional and technical employees local 17 to represent the nonmanagement engineering and technical employees of the department;

(b) One member of the managerial engineering and technical staff of the department, who must serve as chair of the advisory group;

(c) One member appointed by the American council of engineering companies of Washington to represent the private design industry; and

(d) One member appointed by the associated general contractors of Washington to represent the private construction industry. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 18 § 4.]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 18:** See note following RCW 47.20.780.

**RCW 47.01.500 Design and construction of bridges across navigable rivers or waterways—Feasibility report on public access.**

(1) During the design process for state highway projects that include the construction of a new bridge or reconstruction of an existing bridge across a navigable river or waterway, excluding limited access highways and ferry terminals, the department must consider and report on the feasibility of providing a means of public access to the navigable river or waterway for public recreational purposes. The report must document whether the proposed project is in an area identified by state or local plans to be a priority for recreational access to waterways. If the proposed project is in an area identified by state or local plans to be a priority for recreational access to waterways, the department must coordinate with other relevant state agencies or local agencies to ensure consistency with the identified recreational plan.

(2) To the greatest extent practicable, when constructing a state highway project, including a major improvement project, the department must not adversely impact preexisting, lawful public access to a waterway.

(3) A consideration of feasibility must include a description of the suitability for public use, implications associated with potential access, and the availability of alternate public access within a reasonable distance, if present. A consideration of feasibility must not alter the purpose and need for the proposed transportation project or create any legal obligation to modify existing recreational access from state highway facilities. If public access to waterways is deemed feasible, any subsequent development must be conclusively deemed for recreational purposes notwithstanding such facilities' relationship to transportation facilities. Findings that improvements are not feasible do not require the alteration of any existing or historic access.

(4) This section must not be interpreted to: Delay decision making or approvals on proposed state transportation improvement projects, or limit the department's entitlement to recreational immunity consistent with chapter 4.24 RCW. [2016 c 34 § 2.]

**Legislative recognition, direction—2016 c 34:** "The legislature recognizes that the department of transportation considers public access, including recreational trails and paths, when planning and designing new highway facilities consistent with chapters 47.30 and 90.58 RCW and RCW 79A.35.120. The legislature directs the department of transportation to explore the feasibility of providing access for water-related recreation." [2016 c 34 § 1.]

**RCW 47.01.505 Interstate 5 Columbia river bridge project—Joint legislative action committee.** (1) On behalf of the state, the legislature of the state of Washington invites the legislature of the state of Oregon to participate in a joint legislative action committee regarding the construction of a new Interstate 5 bridge spanning the Columbia river that achieves the following purposes:

(a) Works with both states' departments of transportation and transportation commissions and stakeholders to begin a process toward

project development. It is assumed that the appropriate local and bistrate entities already tasked with related work will also be included when the legislative and interagency agreements are ready to move forward. The legislative action committee must convene its first meeting by December 15, 2017;

(b) Reviews and confirms lead roles related to permitting, construction, operation, and maintenance of a future Interstate 5 bridge project;

(c) Establishes a process to seek public comment on the Interstate 5 bridge project development plan selected and presents final recommendations for the process and financing to both states;

(d) Works to ensure that there are sufficient resources available to both states' departments of transportation to inventory and utilize existing data and any prior relevant work to allow for nonduplicative and efficient decision making regarding a new project;

(e) Examines all of the potential mass transit options available for a future Interstate 5 bridge project;

(f) Utilizes design-build procurement, or an equivalent or better innovation delivery method, and determines the least costly, most efficient project management and best practices tools consistent with work already completed including, but not limited to, height, navigation needs, transparency, economic development, and other critical elements, while minimizing the impacts of congestion during construction;

(g) Considers the creation of a Columbia river bridge authority to review bridge needs for possible repair, maintenance, or new construction, prioritizing those needs and making recommendations to both states with regard to financing specific projects, timing, authorities, and operations; and

(h) Provides a report to the legislatures of each state that details the findings and recommendations of the legislative action committee by December 15, 2018. The report must also contain a recommendation as to whether the Interstate 5 project should be designated by the legislature of the state of Washington as a project of statewide significance and by the state of Oregon with an equivalent designation.

(2) (a) The joint Oregon-Washington legislative action committee is established, with sixteen members as provided in this subsection:

(i) The speaker and minority leader of the house of representatives of each state shall jointly appoint four members, two from each of the two largest caucuses of their state's house of representatives.

(ii) The majority leader and minority leader of the senate of each state shall jointly appoint four members, two from each of the two largest caucuses of their state's senate.

(b) The legislative action committee shall choose its cochairs from among its membership, one each from the senate and the house of representatives of both states.

(c) Executive agencies, including the departments of transportation and the transportation commissions, shall cooperate with the committee and provide information and other assistance as the cochairs may reasonably request.

(d) Staff support for the legislative action committee must be provided by the Washington house of representatives office of program research, Washington senate committee services, and, contingent upon the acceptance by the legislature of the state of Oregon of the invitation in subsection (1) of this section to participate in the



legislative action committee, the Oregon legislative policy and research office.

(e) Legislative members of the legislative action committee are reimbursed for travel expenses. For Washington legislative members, this reimbursement must be in accordance with RCW 44.04.120.

(f) The expenses of the legislative action committee must be paid jointly by both states' senate and house of representatives. In Washington, committee expenditures are subject to approval by the senate facilities and operations committee and the house of representatives executive rules committee, or their successor committees.

(g) Each meeting of the legislative action committee must allow an opportunity for public comment. Legislative action committee meetings must be scheduled and conducted in accordance with the requirements of both the senate and the house of representatives of both states.

(h) The Washington members of the joint Oregon-Washington legislative action committee shall report back to the Washington state legislature, by August 1, 2022, regarding the progress of the committee and its work to advance the project to build a new Interstate 5 bridge spanning the Columbia river. The report must include a description of the locally preferred alternative ultimately identified as part of the interstate bridge replacement project. [2022 c 186 § 704; 2017 c 288 § 4.]

**Effective date—2022 c 186:** See note following RCW 47.01.071.

**Finding—2017 c 288:** See note following RCW 43.157.010.

**RCW 47.01.510 Autonomous vehicle executive and legislative work group. (Expires December 31, 2023.)** The commission must convene an executive and legislative work group to develop policy recommendations to address the operation of autonomous vehicles on public roadways in the state, subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose.

(1) (a) (i) Executive branch membership of the work group must include, but is not limited to: The governor or his or her designee or designees, the insurance commissioner or his or her designee or designees, the director of the department of licensing or his or her designee or designees, the secretary or his or her designee or designees, the chief of the Washington state patrol or his or her designee or designees, and the director of the traffic safety commission or his or her designee or designees.

(ii) Executive branch membership of the work group may also include: The assistant secretary of the department of social and health services aging and long-term support administration or his or her designee or designees and the deputy director of the department of enterprise services who oversees fleet operations or his or her designee or designees.

(b) The president of the senate shall appoint two interested members from each of the two largest caucuses of the senate. The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint two interested members from each of the two largest caucuses of the house of representatives.

(c) The commission may invite additional participation on an ongoing, recurring, or one-time basis from individuals representing additional state agencies, local and regional governments, local law enforcement agencies, transit authorities, state colleges and universities, autonomous vehicle technology developers, motor vehicle manufacturers, insurance associations, network providers, software development companies, and other relevant stakeholders as appropriate.

(2) To prepare for the use of autonomous vehicle technology in the state, the work group, while taking into account the transportation system policy goals established in RCW 47.04.280(1), must:

(a) Follow developments in autonomous vehicle technology, autonomous vehicle deployment, and federal, state, and local policies that relate to the operation of autonomous vehicles, including the federal government's recommendations related to vehicle performance guidance for autonomous vehicles, model state policy, and current and possible federal regulatory tools for the regulation of autonomous vehicles. The scope of the work must include autonomous commercial vehicles, in addition to autonomous passenger vehicles;

(b) Explore approaches to the modification of state policy, rules, and laws to further public safety and prepare the state for the emergence and deployment of autonomous vehicle technology. Areas for consideration may include, but are not limited to, manufacturer vehicle testing, vehicle registration and titling requirements, driver's license requirements, rules of the road, criminal law, roadway infrastructure, traffic management, transit, vehicle insurance, tort liability, cybersecurity, privacy, advertising, impacts to social services, and impacts to labor and small businesses;

(c) Disseminate information, as appropriate, to all interested stakeholders; and

(d) At the direction of the legislature, engage the public through surveys, focus groups, and other such means, in order to inform policymakers for the purposes of policy development.

(3)(a) The commission must develop and update recommendations annually based on the input provided by the work group. By November 15th of each year, the commission must provide a report to the governor and the relevant committees of the legislature that describes the progress made by the work group and the commission's recommendations.

(b) The recommendations made by the commission may include proposed modifications to state law and rules to address the emergence and deployment of autonomous vehicle technology in the state. [2018 c 180 § 1.]

**Expiration date—2018 c 180:** "Sections 1 and 3 of this act expire December 31, 2023." [2018 c 180 § 2.]

**Findings—Intent—2018 c 180:** "The legislature finds that autonomous vehicle technology is rapidly evolving and that the testing and deployment of this technology is advancing at a rapid pace. Washington state's policies, laws, and rules predate autonomous vehicle technology and largely have not been developed in consideration of the operation of this technology on roadways in the state. At both the federal and state level, efforts are underway to begin to establish a framework of policy guidance, laws, and rules that will organize and govern the use of autonomous vehicle technology

in the United States. The legislature finds that establishing an autonomous vehicle work group, to be convened by the transportation commission, will facilitate state efforts to address the emergence of autonomous vehicle technology. It is the intent of the legislature for the transportation commission to develop recommendations for policy, laws, and rules for the operation of autonomous vehicles, with input from the autonomous vehicle work group, that enable Washington state to address the public policy changes necessitated by the emergence of this technology in an informed, thorough, and deliberate manner. This effort is required because robot cars are coming, but robot policy makers are not." [2018 c 180 § 3.]

**RCW 47.01.515 Environmental justice obligations of the department of transportation.** The department must apply and comply with the substantive and procedural requirements of chapter 70A.02 RCW. [2021 c 314 § 9.]

**Conflict with federal requirements—2021 c 314:** See note following RCW 70A.02.005.

**RCW 47.01.520 Publicly available mapping and forecasting tool—Charging and refueling infrastructure locations and information.** (1) The department, through the department's public-private partnership office and in consultation with the department of ecology, the department of commerce, and the office of equity, must develop and maintain a publicly available mapping and forecasting tool that provides locations and essential information of charging and refueling infrastructure to support forecasted levels of electric vehicle adoption, travel, and usage across Washington state.

(2) (a) The publicly available mapping and forecasting tool must be designed to enable coordinated, effective, efficient, and timely deployment of charging and refueling infrastructure necessary to support statewide and local transportation electrification efforts that result in emissions reductions consistent with RCW 70A.45.020.

(b) The tool must:

(i) Initially prioritize on-road transportation;  
(ii) To the greatest extent possible, maintain the latest data;  
(iii) Model charging and refueling infrastructure that may be used by owners and operators of light, medium, and heavy duty vehicles; and

(iv) Incorporate the department's traffic data for passenger and freight vehicles.

(c) The tool must, if feasible:

(i) Provide the data necessary to support programs by state agencies that directly or indirectly support transportation electrification efforts;

(ii) Evolve over time to support future transportation electrification programs;

(iii) Provide data at a scale that supports electric utility planning for the impacts of transportation electrification both systemwide and on specific components of the distribution system; and

(iv) Forecast statewide zero emissions vehicle use that would achieve the emissions reductions consistent with RCW 70A.45.020. The

department may reference existing zero emissions vehicle use forecasts, such as that established in the state energy strategy.

(3) The department, in consultation with the department of commerce, the department of ecology, and the office of equity, may elect to include other transportation charging and refueling infrastructure, such as maritime, public transportation, and aviation in the mapping and forecasting tool.

(4) The tool must include, to the extent feasible, the following elements:

(a) The amount, type, location, and year of installation for electric vehicle supply equipment that is expected to be necessary to support forecasted electric vehicle penetration and usage within the state;

(b) Electric vehicle adoption, usage, technological profiles, and any other characteristics necessary to model future electric vehicle penetration levels and use cases that impact electric vehicle supply equipment needs within the state;

(c) The estimated energy and capacity demand based on inputs from (b) of this subsection;

(d) Boundaries of political subdivisions including, but not limited to:

(i) Retail electricity suppliers;

(ii) Public transportation agency boundaries;

(iii) Municipalities;

(iv) Counties; and

(v) Federally recognized tribal governments;

(e) Existing and known publicly or privately owned level 2, direct current fast charge, and refueling infrastructure. The department must identify gas stations, convenience stores, and other small retailers that are colocated with existing and known electric vehicle charging infrastructure identified under this subsection;

(f) A public interface designed to provide any user the ability to determine the forecasted charging and refueling infrastructure needs within a provided geographic boundary, including those listed under (d) of this subsection; and

(g) The ability for all data tracked within the tool to be downloadable or usable within a separate mapping and forecasting tool.

(5) The tool must, if feasible, integrate scenarios including:

(a) Varying levels of public transportation utilization;

(b) Varying levels of active transportation usage, such as biking or walking;

(c) Vehicle miles traveled amounts above and below the baseline;

(d) Adoption of autonomous and shared mobility services; and

(e) Forecasts capturing each utility service area's relative level of zero emissions vehicle use that would achieve each utility service area's relative emissions reductions consistent with RCW 70A.45.020.

(6) To support highly impacted communities and vulnerable populations disproportionately burdened by transportation-related emissions and to ensure economic and mobility benefits flow to communities that have historically received less investment in infrastructure, the mapping and forecasting tool must integrate population, health, environmental, and socioeconomic data on a census tract basis. The department may use existing data used by other state or federal agencies. The department must consult with the department of health, the office of equity, the department of ecology, and other agencies as necessary in order to ensure the tool properly integrates

cumulative impact analyses best practices and to ensure that the tool is developed in coordination with other state government administrative efforts to identify disproportionately impacted communities.

(7) The mapping and forecasting tool must, to the extent appropriate, integrate related analyses, such as the department of commerce's state energy strategy, the joint transportation committee's public fleet electrification study, the west coast collaborative's alternative fuel infrastructure corridor coalition report, and other related electric vehicle supply equipment assessments as deemed appropriate. To the extent that the mapping and forecasting tool is used by the department as the basis for the identification of recommended future electric vehicle charging sites, the department must consider recommending sites that are colocated with small retailers, including gas stations and convenience stores, and other amenities.

(8) Where appropriate and feasible, the mapping and forecasting tool must incorporate infrastructure located at or near the border in neighboring state and provincial jurisdictions.

(9) In designing the mapping and forecasting tool, the department must coordinate with the department of commerce, the department of ecology, the utilities and transportation commission, and other state agencies as needed in order to ensure the mapping and forecasting tool is able to successfully facilitate other state agency programs that involve deployment of electric vehicle supply equipment.

(10) The department must conduct a stakeholder process in developing the mapping and forecasting tool to ensure the tool supports the needs of communities, public agencies, and relevant private organizations. The stakeholder process must involve stakeholders, including but not limited to electric utilities, early in the development of the tool.

(11) The department may contract with the department of commerce or consultants, or both, to develop and implement all or portions of the mapping and forecasting tool. The department may rely on or, to the extent necessary, contract for privately maintained data sufficient to develop the elements specified in subsection (4) of this section.

(12) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(a) "Charging infrastructure" means a unit of fueling infrastructure that supplies electric energy for the recharging of battery electric vehicles.

(b) "Direct current fast charger" means infrastructure that supplies electricity to battery electric vehicles at capacities no less than 50 kilowatts, typically using 208/408 volt three-phase direct current electricity.

(c) "Electric vehicle" means any craft, vessel, automobile, public transportation vehicle, or equipment that transports people or goods and operates, either partially or exclusively, on electrical energy from an off-board source that is stored onboard for motive purpose.

(d) "Electric vehicle supply equipment" means charging infrastructure and hydrogen refueling infrastructure.

(e) "Level 2 charger" means infrastructure that supplies electricity to battery electric vehicles at 240 volts and equal to or less than 80 amps.

(f) "Refueling infrastructure" means a unit of fueling infrastructure that supplies hydrogen for the resupply of hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicles. [2021 c 300 § 2.]

**Intent—2021 c 300:** "(1) Motor vehicles are a significant source of air pollution, including greenhouse gas emissions, in Washington. The transportation sector accounts for nearly one-half of greenhouse gas emissions in Washington, and on-road vehicle emissions are responsible for the vast majority of the transportation sector emissions.

(2) The widespread adoption of zero emissions vehicles is essential to the achievement of the state emissions limits established in RCW 70A.45.020, which, by 2050, requires a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions to 5,000,000 metric tons and the achievement of net zero greenhouse gas emissions. The rapid uptake of zero emissions vehicles is also an essential component of the state energy strategy, which calls for the phaseout of vehicles powered by gasoline or diesel by mid-century. To ensure that the necessary infrastructure is in place to facilitate zero emissions vehicle adoption, the state energy strategy calls for the establishment of building codes that require installation of the conduit, wiring, and panel capacity necessary to support electric vehicle charging in new and retrofitted buildings.

(3) In 2005, Washington first took action to adopt some of the motor vehicle emissions standards of the state of California, which are more protective of human health and the environment than federal motor vehicle emissions standards. In 2020, the legislature directed the department of ecology to adopt all of California's motor vehicle emissions standards, including California's zero emissions vehicles program.

(4) A Washington state transition to a zero emissions transportation future requires accurate forecasting of zero emissions vehicle adoption rates, comprehensive planning for the necessary electric vehicle charging and green hydrogen production infrastructure, including the siting of infrastructure in desirable locations with amenities, such as near convenience stores, gas stations, and other small retailers, and managing the load of charging and green hydrogen production and refueling infrastructure as a dynamic energy service to the electric grid.

(5) To ensure that the transition to a zero emissions transportation future proceeds efficiently and conveniently for users and operators of the multimodal transportation system, it is the intent of the legislature to:

(a) Require state government to provide resources that facilitate the planning and deployment of electric vehicle charging and refueling infrastructure in a transparent, effective, and equitable manner across the state;

(b) Ensure utility resource planning analyzes the impacts on electricity generation and delivery from growing adoption and usage of electric vehicles; and

(c) Require state building codes that support the anticipated levels of zero emissions vehicle use that result from the program requirements in chapter 70A.30 RCW and that achieve emissions reductions consistent with RCW 70A.45.020." [2021 c 300 § 1.]

**Chapter 47.02 RCW**  
**DEPARTMENT BUILDINGS**

**Sections**

- 47.02.010 Buildings on east capitol site authorized—Financing.
- 47.02.120 District 1 headquarters bonds—Issuance and sale.
- 47.02.130 District 1 headquarters bonds—Uses of proceeds.
- 47.02.140 District 1 headquarters bonds—Duties of state finance committee.
- 47.02.150 District 1 headquarters bonds—Proceeds, deposit and use.
- 47.02.160 District 1 headquarters bonds—Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.
- 47.02.170 District 1 headquarters bonds—Repayment procedure—Designated funds.
- 47.02.190 District 1 headquarters bonds—Equal charges against certain revenues and fees.

**Chapter 47.02 RCW  
DEPARTMENT BUILDINGS**

**Sections**

- 47.02.010 Buildings on east capitol site authorized—Financing.
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- 47.02.140 District 1 headquarters bonds—Duties of state finance committee.
- 47.02.150 District 1 headquarters bonds—Proceeds, deposit and use.
- 47.02.160 District 1 headquarters bonds—Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.
- 47.02.170 District 1 headquarters bonds—Repayment procedure—Designated funds.
- 47.02.190 District 1 headquarters bonds—Equal charges against certain revenues and fees.

**RCW 47.02.010 Buildings on east capitol site authorized—Financing.** The department is authorized in accordance with the provisions of this chapter and RCW 79.24.500 through 79.24.600 to provide for the acquisition of land and the construction of buildings, laboratories, and facilities on the east capitol site for the use of the commission and the department and to finance payment thereof by bonds payable out of special funds from the proceeds of state excise taxes on motor vehicle fuels, or by gifts, bequests, or grants or by such additional funds as the legislature may provide. [1984 c 7 § 83; 1977 ex.s. c 235 § 14; 1965 ex.s. c 167 § 1.]

**RCW 47.02.120 District 1 headquarters bonds—Issuance and sale.** For the purpose of providing funds for the acquisition of headquarters facilities for district 1 of the department of transportation and costs incidental thereto, together with all improvements and equipment required to make the facilities suitable for the department's use, there shall be issued and sold upon the request of the secretary of the department of transportation a total of fifteen million dollars of general obligation bonds of the state of Washington. [2006 c 334 § 39; 1990 c 293 § 1.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**Severability—1990 c 293:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1990 c 293 § 10.]

**RCW 47.02.130 District 1 headquarters bonds—Uses of proceeds.** Authorized uses of proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized in RCW 47.02.120 through 47.02.190 include but are not limited to repayment to the motor vehicle fund for the initial financing of the headquarters facilities. [1999 c 94 § 11; 1990 c 293 § 2.]



**Legislative finding—Effective dates—1999 c 94:** See notes following RCW 43.84.092.

**Severability—1990 c 293:** See note following RCW 47.02.120.

**RCW 47.02.140 District 1 headquarters bonds—Duties of state finance committee.** Upon the request of the secretary of the department of transportation, the state finance committee shall supervise and provide for the issuance, sale, and retirement of the bonds authorized by RCW 47.02.120 through 47.02.190 in accordance with chapter 39.42 RCW. Bonds authorized by RCW 47.02.120 through 47.02.190 shall be sold in such manner, at such time or times, in such amounts, and at such price as the state finance committee shall determine. Except for the purpose of repaying the loan from the motor vehicle fund, no such bonds may be offered for sale without prior legislative appropriation of the net proceeds of the sale of the bonds.

The state finance committee shall consider the issuance of short-term obligations in lieu of long-term obligations for the purposes of more favorable interest rates, lower total interest costs, and increased marketability and for the purpose of retiring the bonds during the life of the project for which they were issued. [2006 c 334 § 40; 1990 c 293 § 3.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**Severability—1990 c 293:** See note following RCW 47.02.120.

**RCW 47.02.150 District 1 headquarters bonds—Proceeds, deposit and use.** The proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by RCW 47.02.120 through 47.02.190 shall be available only for the purposes enumerated in RCW 47.02.120 and 47.02.130; for the payment of bond anticipation notes, if any; and for the payment of bond issuance costs, including the costs of underwriting. Proceeds shall be deposited in the motor vehicle fund. [1999 c 94 § 12; 1990 c 293 § 4.]

**Legislative finding—Effective dates—1999 c 94:** See notes following RCW 43.84.092.

**Severability—1990 c 293:** See note following RCW 47.02.120.

**RCW 47.02.160 District 1 headquarters bonds—Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.** Bonds issued under the authority of RCW 47.02.120 through 47.02.190 must distinctly state that they are a general obligation of the state of Washington, must pledge the full faith and credit of the state to the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon, and must contain an unconditional promise to pay such principal and interest as the same becomes due. The principal and interest on the bonds must be first payable in the manner provided in RCW 47.02.120 through 47.02.190 from the proceeds of the state excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels imposed by chapter 82.38 RCW and vehicle-related fees. Proceeds of such excise taxes and vehicle-related fees

are hereby pledged to the payment of any bonds and the interest thereon issued under the authority of RCW 47.02.120 through 47.02.190, and the legislature agrees to continue to impose these excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees in amounts sufficient to pay, when due, the principal and interest on all bonds issued under the authority of RCW 47.02.120 through 47.02.190. [2022 c 103 § 26; 2013 c 225 § 611; 1995 c 274 § 5; 1990 c 293 § 5.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

**Effective date—2013 c 225:** See note following RCW 82.38.010.

**Severability—1990 c 293:** See note following RCW 47.02.120.

**RCW 47.02.170 District 1 headquarters bonds—Repayment procedure—Designated funds.** Both principal and interest on the bonds issued for the purposes of RCW 47.02.120 through 47.02.190 shall be payable from the highway bond retirement fund. The state finance committee may provide that a special account be created in the fund to facilitate payment of the principal and interest. The state finance committee shall, on or before June 30th of each year, certify to the state treasurer the amount required for principal and interest on the bonds in accordance with the bond proceedings. The state treasurer shall withdraw revenues from the motor vehicle fund and deposit in the highway bond retirement fund, or a special account in the fund, such amounts, and at such times, as are required by the bond proceedings.

Any funds required for bond retirement or interest on the bonds authorized by RCW 47.02.120 through 47.02.190 shall be taken from that portion of the motor vehicle fund that results from the imposition of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees and that is distributed to the state under RCW 46.68.130. Funds required shall never constitute a charge against any other allocations of motor vehicle fuel and special fuel tax revenues and vehicle-related fees to the state, counties, cities, and towns unless the amount arising from excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees distributed to the state under RCW 46.68.130 proves insufficient to meet the requirements for bond retirement or interest on any such bonds. [2022 c 103 § 27; 1990 c 293 § 6.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

**Severability—1990 c 293:** See note following RCW 47.02.120.

**RCW 47.02.190 District 1 headquarters bonds—Equal charges against certain revenues and fees.** Bonds issued under the authority of RCW 47.02.120 through \*47.02.180 and this section and any other general obligation bonds of the state of Washington that have been or that may be authorized and that pledge motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees for the payment of principal and interest thereon shall be an equal charge against the revenues from

such motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees. [2022 c 103 § 28; 1990 c 293 § 8.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 47.02.180 was repealed by 1999 c 94 § 33, effective July 1, 1999.

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

**Severability—1990 c 293:** See note following RCW 47.02.120.

**Chapter 47.04 RCW**  
**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**Sections**

- 47.04.010 Definitions.
- 47.04.015 Change of meaning, certain terms.
- 47.04.020 Classification of highways.
- 47.04.035 Street access—Principles of complete streets—Requirements.
- 47.04.040 Title to rights-of-way vested in state.
- 47.04.045 Wireless service facilities—Right-of-way leases—Rules.
- 47.04.046 Wireless site leases—Pending applications.
- 47.04.047 Personal wireless service facilities.
- 47.04.050 Acceptance of federal acts.
- 47.04.060 Administration of federal grants.
- 47.04.070 Conformity with federal requirements.
- 47.04.080 Joint action with other governments and agencies.
- 47.04.081 Urban public transportation systems—Participation in planning, development, and establishment.
- 47.04.082 Urban public transportation systems—Defined.
- 47.04.083 Urban public transportation systems—Declaration of public policy—Use of motor vehicle, city street, or county road funds.
- 47.04.090 Penalty.
- 47.04.095 Bridge jumping hazard signs.
- 47.04.100 Temporary route pending construction of new highway—Streets, roads not to be maintained as.
- 47.04.125 Collection of preservation rating information for highways.
- 47.04.140 Counties obtaining federal aid for construction, reconstruction, etc., of ferry boats or approaches.
- 47.04.150 Outstanding bonds—Savings.
- 47.04.160 Lewis and Clark bridge.
- 47.04.170 Federal agreements for public transportation, rail transportation.
- 47.04.180 Twenty-four hour headlight policy.
- 47.04.190 Bicycle transportation management program.
- 47.04.200 Bicycle program manager.
- 47.04.210 Reimbursable transportation expenditures—Processing and accounting.
- 47.04.220 Miscellaneous transportation programs account.
- 47.04.230 Dredge spoils—Cowlitz County.
- 47.04.235 Dredge spoils—Castle Rock.
- 47.04.240 Public transportation information—Confidentiality.
- 47.04.250 Assaults by motorists on department employees.
- 47.04.260 Latecomer fees.
- 47.04.270 Tire chain installation and removal.
- 47.04.280 Transportation system policy goals.
- 47.04.285 Review of and comment on state transportation policy goals by office of financial management—Biennial report.
- 47.04.290 Park and ride lot accommodation—Definitions.
- 47.04.295 Park and ride lots—Leases with private entities authorized—Rules.
- 47.04.300 Safe routes to school program.

- 47.04.310 Rental car company fees—Child restraint system availability.
- 47.04.320 Complete streets grant program—Purpose—Goals—Awards—Report.
- 47.04.325 Complete streets grant program—Account—Solicitation and receipt of gifts.
- 47.04.330 Street projects—Consultation with local jurisdictions—Context sensitive design solutions.
- 47.04.340 Accommodation of private transportation vehicle use of high occupancy vehicle lanes in highway design.
- 47.04.350 Alternative fuel vehicle charging and refueling infrastructure program—Bid proposal requirements, evaluation, financing—Workshops—Rules.
- 47.04.355 Clean alternative fuel car sharing pilot program.
- 47.04.360 Commercial advertising on websites and social media.
- 47.04.370 Purple heart state—Signage—Account.
- 47.04.380 Sandy Williams connecting communities program.
- 47.04.390 Statewide school-based bicycle education grant program.
- 47.04.400 Amtrak fare policy change request—Report.
- 47.04.410 Reducing rural roadway departures program.
- 47.04.420 Railroad crossing grant program.
- 47.04.430 Bicyclist and pedestrian grant program.

*Mobile home or park model trailer movement permits and decals: RCW 46.44.170, 46.44.175.*

**Chapter 47.04 RCW**  
**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

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- 47.04.070 Conformity with federal requirements.
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- 47.04.420 Railroad crossing grant program.
- 47.04.430 Bicyclist and pedestrian grant program.

*Mobile home or park model trailer movement permits and decals: RCW 46.44.170, 46.44.175.*

**RCW 47.04.010 Definitions.** The following words and phrases, wherever used in this title, shall have the meaning as in this section ascribed to them, unless where used the context thereof shall clearly indicate to the contrary or unless otherwise defined in the chapter of which they are a part:

(1) "Active transportation" includes forms of pedestrian mobility including walking or running, the use of a mobility assistive device such as a wheelchair, bicycling and cycling irrespective of the number of wheels, and the use of small personal devices such as foot scooters or skateboards. Active transportation includes both traditional and electric-assisted bicycles and other devices. Planning for active transportation must consider and address accommodation pursuant to the Americans with disabilities act and the distinct needs of each form of active transportation;

(2) "Alley." A highway within the ordinary meaning of alley not designated for general travel and primarily used as a means of access to the rear of residences and business establishments;

(3) "Arterial highway." Every highway, as herein defined, or portion thereof designated as such by proper authority;

(4) "Business district." The territory contiguous to and including a highway, as herein defined, when within any 600 feet along such highway there are buildings in use for business or industrial purposes including, but not limited to, hotels, banks, or office buildings, railroad stations, and public buildings which occupy at least 300 feet of frontage on one side or 300 feet collectively on both sides of the highway;

(5) "Center line." The line, marked or unmarked parallel to and equidistant from the sides of a two-way traffic roadway of a highway except where otherwise indicated by painted lines or markers;

- (6) "Center of intersection." The point of intersection of the center lines of the roadways of intersecting highways;
- (7) "City street." Every highway as herein defined, or part thereof located within the limits of incorporated cities and towns, except alleys;
- (8) "Combination of vehicles." Every combination of motor vehicle and motor vehicle, motor vehicle and trailer, or motor vehicle and semitrailer;
- (9) "Commercial vehicle." Any vehicle the principal use of which is the transportation of commodities, merchandise, produce, freight, animals, or passengers for hire;
- (10) "Complete streets" means an approach to planning, designing, building, operating, and maintaining streets that enable safe access along and across the street for all people, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and transit riders of all ages and abilities. It incorporates principles of a safe system approach;
- (11) "County road." Every highway as herein defined, or part thereof, outside the limits of incorporated cities and towns and which has not been designated as a state highway, or branch thereof;
- (12) "Crosswalk." The portion of the roadway between the intersection area and a prolongation or connection of the farthest sidewalk line or in the event there are no sidewalks then between the intersection area and a line ten feet therefrom, except as modified by a marked crosswalk;
- (13) "Highway." Every way, lane, road, street, boulevard, and every way or place in the state of Washington open as a matter of right to public vehicular travel both inside and outside the limits of incorporated cities and towns;
- (14) "Intersection area." (a) The area embraced within the prolongation or connection of the lateral curb lines, or, if none, then the lateral boundary lines of the roadways of two or more highways which join one another at, or approximately at, right angles, or the area within which vehicles traveling upon different highways joining at any other angle may come in conflict;
- (b) Where a highway includes two roadways 30 feet or more apart, then every crossing of each roadway of such divided highway by an intersecting highway shall be regarded as a separate intersection. In the event such intersecting highway also includes two roadways 30 feet or more apart, then every crossing of two roadways of such highways shall be regarded as a separate intersection;
- (c) The junction of an alley with a street or highway shall not constitute an intersection;
- (15) "Intersection control area." The intersection area as herein defined, together with such modification of the adjacent roadway area as results from the arc or curb corners and together with any marked or unmarked crosswalks adjacent to the intersection;
- (16) "Laned highway." A highway the roadway of which is divided into clearly marked lanes for vehicular traffic;
- (17) "Local authorities." Every county, municipal, or other local public board or body having authority to adopt local police regulations under the Constitution and laws of this state;
- (18) "Marked crosswalk." Any portion of a roadway distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines or other markings on the surface thereof;
- (19) "Metal tire." Every tire, the bearing surface of which in contact with the highway is wholly or partly of metal or other hard, nonresilient material;



- (20) "Motor truck." Any motor vehicle, as herein defined, designed or used for the transportation of commodities, merchandise, produce, freight, or animals;
- (21) "Motor vehicle." Every vehicle, as herein defined, which is in itself a self-propelled unit;
- (22) "Multiple lane highway." Any highway the roadway of which is of sufficient width to reasonably accommodate two or more separate lanes of vehicular traffic in the same direction, each lane of which shall be not less than the maximum legal vehicle width, and whether or not such lanes are marked;
- (23) "Operator." Every person who drives or is in actual physical control of a vehicle as herein defined;
- (24) "Peace officer." Any officer authorized by law to execute criminal process or to make arrests for the violation of the statutes generally or of any particular statute or statutes relative to the highways of this state;
- (25) "Pedestrian." Any person afoot or who is using a wheelchair, power wheelchair as defined in RCW 46.04.415, or a means of conveyance propelled by human power other than a bicycle;
- (26) "Person." Every natural person, firm, copartnership, corporation, association, or organization;
- (27) "Personal wireless service." Any federally licensed personal wireless service;
- (28) "Personal wireless service facilities." Unstaffed facilities that are used for the transmission or reception, or both, of personal wireless services including, but not necessarily limited to, antenna arrays, transmission cables, equipment shelters, and support structures;
- (29) "Pneumatic tires." Every tire of rubber or other resilient material designed to be inflated with compressed air to support the load thereon;
- (30) "Population center" includes incorporated cities and towns, including their urban growth areas, and census-designated places;
- (31) "Private road or driveway." Every way or place in private ownership and used for travel of vehicles by the owner or those having express or implied permission from the owner, but not by other persons;
- (32) "Railroad." A carrier of persons or property upon vehicles, other than streetcars, operated upon stationary rails, the route of which is principally outside incorporated cities and towns;
- (33) "Railroad sign or signal." Any sign, signal, or device erected by authority of a public body or official or by a railroad and intended to give notice of the presence of railroad tracks or the approach of a railroad train;
- (34) "Residence district." The territory contiguous to and including the highway, as herein defined, not comprising a business district, as herein defined, when the property on such highway for a continuous distance of 300 feet or more on either side thereof is in the main improved with residences or residences and buildings in use for business;
- (35) "Roadway." The paved, improved, or proper driving portion of a highway designed, or ordinarily used for vehicular travel;
- (36) "Safe system approach" means an internationally recognized holistic and proactive approach to road safety intended to systematically reduce fatal and serious injury crash potential; as described by the federal highway administration, the approach is based on the following elements: Safe roads, safe speeds, safe vehicles,

safe road users, and postcrash care. The safe system approach is incorporated through policies and practices of state agencies and local governments with appropriate jurisdiction;

(37) "Safety zone." The area or space officially set apart within a roadway for the exclusive use of pedestrians and which is protected or is marked or indicated by painted marks, signs, buttons, standards, or otherwise so as to be plainly discernible;

(38) "Shared-use path," also known as a "multiuse path," means a facility designed for active transportation use and physically separated from motorized vehicular traffic within the highway right-of-way or on an exclusive right-of-way with minimal crossflow by motor vehicles. Shared-use paths are primarily used by pedestrians and people using bicycles or micromobility devices, including those who use nonmotorized or motorized wheeled mobility or assistive devices. With appropriate design considerations, equestrians may also be accommodated by a shared-use path facility;

(39) "Sidewalk." That property between the curb lines or the lateral lines of a roadway, as herein defined, and the adjacent property, set aside and intended for the use of pedestrians or such portion of private property parallel and in proximity to a highway and dedicated to use by pedestrians;

(40) "Solid tire." Every tire of rubber or other resilient material which does not depend upon inflation with compressed air for the support of the load thereon;

(41) "State highway." Every highway as herein defined, or part thereof, which has been designated as a state highway, or branch thereof, by legislative enactment;

(42) "Streetcar." A vehicle other than a train, as herein defined, for the transporting of persons or property and operated upon stationary rails principally within incorporated cities and towns;

(43) "Structurally deficient." A state bridge that is classified as in poor condition under the state bridge condition rating system and is reported by the state to the national bridge inventory as having a deck, superstructure, or substructure rating of four or below. Structurally deficient bridges are characterized by deteriorated conditions of significant bridge elements and potentially reduced load carrying capacity. Bridges deemed structurally deficient typically require significant maintenance and repair to remain in service, and require major rehabilitation or replacement to address the underlying deficiency;

(44) "Traffic." Pedestrians, ridden or herded animals, vehicles, streetcars, and other conveyances either singly or together while using any highways for purposes of travel;

(45) "Traffic control signal." Any traffic device, as herein defined, whether manually, electrically, or mechanically operated, by which traffic alternately is directed to stop or proceed or otherwise controlled;

(46) "Traffic devices." All signs, signals, markings, and devices not inconsistent with this title placed or erected by authority of a public body or official having jurisdiction, for the purpose of regulating, warning, or guiding traffic;

(47) "Train." A vehicle propelled by steam, electricity, or other motive power with or without cars coupled thereto, operated upon stationary rails, except streetcars;

(48) "Vehicle." Every device capable of being moved upon a highway and in, upon, or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a highway, excepting power wheelchairs, as

defined in RCW 46.04.415, or devices moved by human or animal power or used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks.

Words and phrases used herein in the past, present, or future tense shall include the past, present, and future tenses; words and phrases used herein in the masculine, feminine, or neuter gender shall include the masculine, feminine, and neuter genders; and words and phrases used herein in the singular or plural shall include the singular and plural; unless the context thereof shall indicate to the contrary. [2023 c 431 § 11. Prior: 2015 3rd sp.s. c 10 § 3; prior: 2003 c 244 § 2; 2003 c 141 § 8; 1975 c 62 § 50; 1967 ex.s. c 145 § 42; 1961 c 13 § 47.04.010; prior: 1937 c 53 § 1; RRS § 6400-1.]

**Reviser's note:** The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k).

**Intent—2023 c 431:** See note following RCW 46.17.015.

**Effective date—Findings—Intent—2015 3rd sp.s. c 10:** See notes following RCW 43.21C.480.

**Severability—1975 c 62:** See note following RCW 36.75.010.

*Aeronautics, definitions relating to: RCW 47.68.020.*

*Canal, defined: RCW 47.72.060.*

*Department, commission, secretary—Defined: RCW 47.01.021.*

*Ferry workers, marine employees, definitions relating to: RCW 47.64.011.*

*Junkyards, definitions relating to: RCW 47.41.020.*

*Limited access facilities, definitions relating to: RCW 47.52.010.*

*Signs and scenic vistas, definitions relating to: RCW 47.42.020.*

*Toll bridges, roads, definitions relating to: RCW 47.56.010.*

*Urban arterials, definitions relating to: RCW 47.26.040, 47.26.090, 47.26.100, 47.26.110.*

*Urban public transportation systems—Defined: RCW 47.04.082.*

**RCW 47.04.015 Change of meaning, certain terms.** Unless the language specifically indicates otherwise, or unless the context plainly requires a different interpretation:

Wherever in Title 47 RCW or in any provision in the Revised Code of Washington the term "Washington state highway commission", "the state highway commission", "the highway commission", "the commission" (when referring to the Washington state highway commission), "the department of highways", "Washington toll bridge authority", or "the authority" (when referring to the Washington toll bridge authority) is used, it shall mean the department of transportation created in RCW 47.01.031.

Wherever in Title 47 RCW or in any provision in the Revised Code of Washington the term "director of highways" is used, it shall mean the secretary of transportation, whose office is created in RCW 47.01.041. [1977 ex.s. c 151 § 23.]

**RCW 47.04.020 Classification of highways.** All public highways in the state of Washington, or portions thereof, outside incorporated cities and towns shall be divided and classified as state highways and county roads. All state highways and branches thereof shall be established by the legislature of the state of Washington by appropriate general location and termini. Any prior distinctions between highways as primary or secondary are hereby abolished. All powers granted to, or duties imposed upon, the department with regard to either primary or secondary state highways shall be construed to relate to all state highways. Whenever these terms are used, either jointly or independently, each shall be construed to include all state highways. All public highways in the state of Washington, or portions thereof, outside incorporated cities and towns, not established as state highways, are hereby declared to be county roads. [1984 c 7 § 85; 1967 ex.s. c 145 § 41; 1963 c 24 § 3; 1961 c 13 § 47.04.020. Prior: 1937 c 207 § 1; RRS § 6402-1; 1937 c 53 § 5; RRS § 6400-5; 1913 c 65 § 1; RRS § 6790.]

*Highway designation system—Signs: RCW 47.36.095.*

**RCW 47.04.035 Street access—Principles of complete streets—Requirements.** (1) In order to improve the safety, mobility, and accessibility of state highways, it is the intent of the legislature that the department must incorporate the principles of complete streets with facilities that provide street access with all users in mind, including pedestrians, bicyclists, and public transportation users, notwithstanding the provisions of RCW 47.24.020 concerning responsibility beyond the curb of state rights-of-way. As such, state transportation projects starting design on or after July 1, 2022, and that are \$500,000 or more, must:

(a) Identify those locations on state rights-of-way that do not have a complete and Americans with disabilities act accessible sidewalk or shared-use path, that do not have bicycle facilities in the form of a bike lane or adjacent parallel trail or shared-use path, that have such facilities on a state route within a population center that has a posted speed in excess of 30 miles per hour and no buffer or physical separation from vehicular traffic for pedestrians and bicyclists, and/or that have a design that hampers the ability of motorists to see a crossing pedestrian with sufficient time to stop given posted speed limits and roadway configuration;

(b) Consult with local jurisdictions to confirm existing and planned active transportation connections along or across the location; identification of connections to existing and planned public transportation services, ferry landings, commuter and passenger rail, and airports; the existing and planned facility type(s) within the local jurisdiction that connect to the location; and the potential use of speed management techniques to minimize crash exposure and severity;

(c) Adjust the speed limit to a lower speed with appropriate modifications to roadway design and operations to achieve the desired operating speed in those locations where this speed management approach aligns with local plans or ordinances, particularly in those contexts that present a higher possibility of serious injury or fatal crashes occurring based on land use context, observed crash data, crash potential, roadway characteristics that are likely to increase exposure, or a combination thereof, in keeping with a safe system approach and with the intention of ultimately eliminating serious and fatal crashes; and

(d) Plan, design, and construct facilities providing context-sensitive solutions that contribute to network connectivity and safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, and people accessing public transportation and other modal connections, such facilities to include Americans with disabilities act accessible sidewalks or shared-use paths, bicyclist facilities, and crossings as needed to integrate the state route into the local network.

(2) Projects undertaken for emergent work required to reopen a state highway in the event of a natural disaster or other emergency repair are not required to comply with the provisions of this section.

(3) Maintenance of facilities constructed under this provision shall be as provided under existing law.

(4) This section does not create a private right of action.

[2022 c 182 § 418. Formerly RCW 47.24.060.]

**Intent—Effective date—2022 c 182:** See notes following RCW 70A.65.240.

**RCW 47.04.040 Title to rights-of-way vested in state.** Upon and after April 1, 1937, all rights-of-way of any primary state highways, together with all appurtenances thereto, the right or interest in or to which was, or is, in any county, road district, township, local improvement district, or other highway or road district or political subdivision of the state of Washington shall be and the same is hereby transferred to and vested in the state of Washington for use in conjunction with such primary state highways under the department of transportation.

All public highways in the state of Washington which have been designated to be primary state highways or secondary state highways or classified as primary roads and which have been constructed and improved and maintained for a period of seven years prior to April 1, 1937, at the expense of the state shall operate to vest in the state of Washington all right, title, and interest to the right-of-ways [rights-of-way] thereof, including the roadway and ditches and existing drainage facilities, together with all appurtenances thereto and no informalities in the records of title to such public highways shall be construed to invalidate or vacate such public highways or to divest the state of Washington of any right, title and interest in the right-of-way thereof. [1979 ex.s. c 30 § 7; 1961 c 13 § 47.04.040. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 29; RRS § 6400-29.]

**RCW 47.04.045 Wireless service facilities—Right-of-way leases—Rules.** (1) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Right-of-way" means all state-owned land within a state highway corridor.

(b) "Service provider" means every corporation, company, association, joint stock association, firm, partnership, or person that owns, operates, or manages any personal wireless service facility. "Service provider" includes a service provider's contractors, subcontractors, and legal successors.

(2) The department shall establish a process for issuing a lease for the use of the right-of-way by a service provider and shall require that telecommunications equipment be colocated on the same structure whenever practicable. Consistent with federal highway administration approval, the lease must include the right of direct ingress and egress from the highway for construction and maintenance of the personal wireless service facility during nonpeak hours if public safety is not adversely affected. Direct ingress and egress may be allowed at any time for the construction of the facility if public safety is not adversely affected and if construction will not substantially interfere with traffic flow during peak traffic periods. The lease may specify an indirect ingress and egress to the facility if it is reasonable and available for the particular location.

(3) The cost of the lease must be limited to the fair market value of the portion of the right-of-way being used by the service provider and the direct administrative expenses incurred by the department in processing the lease application.

If the department and the service provider are unable to agree on the cost of the lease, the service provider may submit the cost of the lease to binding arbitration by serving written notice on the department. Within thirty days of receiving the notice, each party shall furnish a list of acceptable arbitrators. The parties shall select an arbitrator; failing to agree on an arbitrator, each party shall select one arbitrator and the two arbitrators shall select a third arbitrator for an arbitration panel. The arbitrator or panel shall determine the cost of the lease based on comparable siting agreements. Costs of the arbitration, including compensation for the arbitrator's services, must be borne equally by the parties participating in the arbitration and each party shall bear its own costs and expenses, including legal fees and witness expenses, in connection with the arbitration proceeding.

(4) The department shall act on an application for a lease within sixty days of receiving a completed application, unless a service provider consents to a different time period.

(5) The reasons for a denial of a lease application must be supported by substantial evidence contained in a written record.

(6) The department may adopt rules to implement this section.

(7) All lease money paid to the department under this section shall be deposited in the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070. [2003 c 244 § 5.]

#### **RCW 47.04.046 Wireless site leases—Pending applications.**

Applications for wireless site leases pending on July 27, 2003, must be treated as applications under RCW 47.04.045 with the consent of the applicant. [2003 c 244 § 8.]

**RCW 47.04.047 Personal wireless service facilities.** Personal wireless service is a critical part of the state's infrastructure. The rapid deployment of personal wireless service facilities is critical to ensure public safety, network access, quality of service, and rural economic development.

It is the declared policy of this state to assure that the use of rights-of-way of state highways accommodate the deployment of personal wireless service facilities consistent with highway safety and the preservation of the public investment in state highway facilities. [2004 c 131 § 2.]

**RCW 47.04.050 Acceptance of federal acts.** The state of Washington hereby assents to the purposes, provisions, terms and conditions of the grant of money provided in an act of congress entitled: "An act to provide that the United States shall aid the states in the construction of rural post roads, and for other purposes," approved July 11, 1916, and all acts, grants and appropriations amendatory and supplementary thereto and affecting the state of Washington. [1961 c 13 § 47.04.050. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 43; RRS § 6400-43; 1917 c 76 § 1; RRS § 6844.]

**RCW 47.04.060 Administration of federal grants.** The department is authorized and directed to act for and on behalf of the state of Washington, and any political subdivision of the state, in all things pertaining to the selection, construction, and maintenance of highways and roads under the provisions of the act of congress approved July 11, 1916, and any and all acts amendatory thereto; and to enter into such agreement with the secretary of transportation or other duly authorized agent of the United States as may from time to time be desirable or necessary to secure the money or aid for any section of state highway, county road, or city or town street selected by law for construction or improvement through an appropriation for the period in which the construction or improvement is to be made. The money shall be added to and expended in connection with the appropriation aforesaid; and shall apply thereto, as may be required, cooperative expenditures from the motor vehicle fund, which may have been appropriated by the state legislature, and from any highway, road, or street fund of any political subdivision, and which are available for the construction and maintenance of any section of state highway, county road, or city or town street selected as aforesaid for such aid and improvement. [1984 c 7 § 86; 1961 c 13 § 47.04.060. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 47; RRS § 6400-47; 1917 c 76 § 5, part; RRS § 6848, part.]

**RCW 47.04.070 Conformity with federal requirements.** In all matters relating to the cooperative construction or improvement of any state highway, county road, or city or town street for which federal funds or aid is secured under any act of congress, the department shall act in the manner provided by state law relating to state highway construction from the motor vehicle fund, so far as the same may be consistent with the provisions of such act of congress and the rules and regulations made by the secretary of transportation or other authorized agent of the United States government pursuant to such act, to which the procedure shall be adapted by the department as may be

necessary. [1984 c 7 § 87; 1961 c 13 § 47.04.070. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 44; RRS § 6400-44; 1917 c 76 § 5, part; RRS § 6848, part.]

**RCW 47.04.080 Joint action with other governments and agencies.**

The department is empowered to join financially or otherwise with any other state or any county, city, or town of any other state, or with any foreign country, or any province or district of any foreign country, or with the federal government or any agency thereof, or with any or all thereof, for the erecting, constructing, operating, or maintaining of any bridge, trestle, or any other structure, for the continuation or connection of any state highway across any stream, body of water, gulch, navigable water, swamp, or other topographical formation requiring any such structure and forming a boundary between the state of Washington and any other state or foreign country, and for the purchase or condemnation of right-of-way therefor. [1984 c 7 § 88; 1973 1st ex.s. c 151 § 11; 1961 c 13 § 47.04.080. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 47 1/2; RRS § 6400-47 1/2.]

**RCW 47.04.081 Urban public transportation systems—Participation in planning, development, and establishment.** The department is empowered to join financially or otherwise with any public agency or any county, city, or town in the state of Washington or any other state, or with the federal government or any agency thereof, or with any or all thereof for the planning, development, and establishment of urban public transportation systems in conjunction with new or existing highway facilities. [1984 c 7 § 89; 1967 c 108 § 13; 1965 ex.s. c 170 § 63.]

*Urban public transportation system defined: RCW 47.04.082.*

**RCW 47.04.082 Urban public transportation systems—Defined.** As used in chapter 108, Laws of 1967, "urban public transportation system" means a system for the public transportation of persons or property by buses, streetcars, trains, electric trolley coaches, other public transit vehicles, or any combination thereof operating in or through predominantly urban areas and owned and operated by the state, any public agency, any city or county or any municipal corporation of the state, including all structures, facilities, vehicles and other property rights and interest forming a part of such a system. [2013 c 113 § 6; 1967 c 108 § 1.]

**RCW 47.04.083 Urban public transportation systems—Declaration of public policy—Use of motor vehicle, city street, or county road funds.** The separate and uncoordinated development of public highways and urban public transportation systems is wasteful of this state's natural and financial resources. It is the public policy of this state to encourage wherever feasible the joint planning, construction and maintenance of public highways and urban public transportation systems serving common geographical areas as joint use facilities. To this end the legislature declares it to be a highway purpose to use motor vehicle funds, city and town street funds or county road funds to pay the full proportionate highway, street or road share of the costs of



design, right-of-way acquisition, construction and maintenance of any highway, street or road to be used jointly with an urban public transportation system. [1967 c 108 § 2.]

**RCW 47.04.090 Penalty.** It is a misdemeanor for any person to violate any of the provisions of this title unless specifically provided otherwise by this title or other law of this state.

Unless another penalty is provided in this title, every person convicted of a misdemeanor for violation of any provisions of this title shall be punished in accordance with chapter 9A.20 RCW. [1989 c 224 § 2; 1961 c 13 § 47.04.090. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 95; RRS § 6400-95.]

**RCW 47.04.095 Bridge jumping hazard signs.** (1) Before entering into any contract for the construction of or replacement of any bridge, excluding bridges that are replacing culverts that are barriers to fish passage, the secretary, or a designated employee, must consider whether to require the installation of informational signs that address the hazards of diving or jumping off the bridge as part of the contract. These signs are meant to provide more information than just a "no jumping" sign so that people can better understand the hazards related to a particular location. Signs with information on the hazards of cold-water shock that leads to drowning are encouraged to be installed in locations where people might otherwise think a location is safe for swimming. Signs under this section may include the statewide 988 suicide prevention hotline.

(2) Signs created under this section for placement within the right-of-way of the state highway system may not conflict with provisions of the manual on uniform traffic control devices or existing state laws related to placement and design of signs that are placed along transportation corridors.

(3) This section does not create a private right of action by, or a legal duty to, any party, and may not be used to impose liability on the department if a sign has or has not been erected on its property. The state of Washington, including all of its agencies, subdivisions, employees, and agents, shall not be liable in tort for any violation of chapter 54, Laws of 2023, notwithstanding any other provision of law. [2023 c 54 § 6.]

**Short title—Intent—Finding—2023 c 54:** See notes following RCW 35.21.095.

**RCW 47.04.100 Temporary route pending construction of new highway—Streets, roads not to be maintained as.** Unless otherwise provided, whenever by statute a new highway or extension is added to the state highway system, no existing city street or county road may be maintained or improved by the department as a temporary route of such new highway or extension pending the construction of the new highway or extension on the location adopted by the department. [1984 c 7 § 90; 1973 1st ex.s. c 151 § 12; 1965 ex.s. c 170 § 34.]

**RCW 47.04.125 Collection of preservation rating information for highways.** Given the importance of cost-effective asset management and

maintaining a state of good repair, the department shall continue to collect preservation rating information for all types of highways for which it collects this information as of July 28, 2019. [2019 c 36 § 2.]

**RCW 47.04.140 Counties obtaining federal aid for construction, reconstruction, etc., of ferry boats or approaches.** Whenever a county that operates or proposes to operate ferries obtains federal aid for the construction, reconstruction, or modification of any ferry boat or approaches thereto under Title 23, United States Code, the following provisions apply to the county's operation of its ferries:

(1) The county shall obtain from the department a franchise authorizing the ferry operations. The county's application for a franchise or amended franchise shall designate all ferry routes it proposes to operate. The department shall issue the franchise or amended franchise for the operation of each route that it finds is not otherwise served by adequate transportation facilities. A county may terminate any ferry route without approval of the department.

(2) At least ninety days before applying for federal aid for the construction, reconstruction, or modification of any of its ferries or approaches thereto, and thereafter whenever new tolls or charges are proposed for use of its ferries, the county shall file with the department, the current or proposed schedule of tolls and charges for use of its ferries. Such tolls and charges shall be deemed approved by the department unless it finds that the aggregate revenues to be derived from the county's ferry operations will exceed the amount required to pay the actual and necessary costs of operation, maintenance, administration, and repair of the county's ferries and their appurtenances. [1989 c 62 § 1; 1984 c 7 § 91; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 65 § 1.]

**RCW 47.04.150 Outstanding bonds—Savings.** While any bonds, whether definitive, temporary, or interim, or warrants, certificates, or receipts of any denomination, with or without coupons attached heretofore issued by the state aeronautics commission, the toll bridge authority, the highway commission, or any of the other agencies whose functions are transferred to the department of transportation by RCW 47.01.031, remain outstanding, the powers and duties relating thereto of such agencies or of any official or employee thereof transferred by \*RCW 47.01.111 to the department of transportation, or any powers and duties of any other state official or state agency with respect to such bonds, warrants, certificates, or receipts shall not be diminished or impaired in any manner that will adversely affect the interests and rights of the holders of such bonds, warrants, certificates, or receipts. The holder of any such bond, warrant, certificate, or receipt may by mandamus or other appropriate proceeding require the performance by the department of transportation, or other appropriate state official or agency, of any of the duties heretofore imposed upon any state department, official, or employee under the terms of any such prior bond, warrant, certificate, or receipt agreement or sale: PROVIDED, That the enumeration of such rights and remedies herein shall not be deemed to exclude the exercise or prosecution of any other rights or remedies by

the holders of such bonds, warrants, certificates, or receipts. [1977 ex.s. c 151 § 19.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 47.01.111 was decodified pursuant to 1985 c 6 § 26.

**RCW 47.04.160 Lewis and Clark bridge.** In commemoration of the 175th anniversary of captains Meriwether Lewis and William Clark's epic journey from Wood River, Illinois, to Cape Disappointment, Washington, and to fully honor the expedition's passing the present location of the city of Longview, Washington, in November, 1805, and to couple this commemoration with the dedication of the bridge from Longview, Washington, to Rainier, Oregon, on March 29, 1930, the official name of this bridge is changed from the Longview-Columbia bridge to the Lewis and Clark bridge. [1980 c 5 § 1.]

**RCW 47.04.170 Federal agreements for public transportation, rail transportation.** The department of transportation is authorized to enter into and perform agreements with federal agencies as may be necessary to secure federal grants, loans, or other assistance on its own behalf or on behalf of other public or private recipients for:

(1) Public transportation purposes, including but not limited to, bus transportation, specialized transportation services for individuals who are aging or persons with a disability, and ride-sharing activities; and

(2) Rail transportation. [2020 c 274 § 29; 1985 c 20 § 1.]

**RCW 47.04.180 Twenty-four hour headlight policy.** On the recommendation of their public works departments or designees, counties or cities can petition the department of transportation to create a "twenty-four hour headlight policy" on state highways in their respective jurisdictions. The department shall develop criteria for approval or disapproval, such as traffic volume, accident statistics, and costs of signs. The department shall notify all counties about this program.

A jurisdiction requesting such a policy shall periodically report to the department regarding its educational efforts. A jurisdiction may petition the department to remove such a policy.

The jurisdiction shall educate its citizens on the "twenty-four hour headlight policy." The department shall place and maintain appropriate signs along the designated highway. Participating jurisdictions shall share in the cost of signing in an amount as determined by the department. [1998 c 245 § 94; 1989 c 195 § 1.]

**RCW 47.04.190 Bicycle transportation management program.** (1) The department of transportation is responsible for the initiation, coordination, and operation of a bicycle transportation management program.

(2) To assist in the operation of the bicycle transportation management program, a full-time staff position of state bicycle program manager is established within the department of transportation. [1991 c 214 § 5.]

*Bicycle awareness program: RCW 43.43.390.*

*Pavement marking standards: RCW 47.36.280.*

**RCW 47.04.200 Bicycle program manager.** The state bicycle program manager shall:

(1) Design programs that encourage the use of bicycling for transportation;

(2) Coordinate bicycle safety related programs and bicycle tourism programs in all state agencies;

(3) Assist the department of transportation and the cities and counties of the state in assigning priorities to, programming, and developing bicycle-related projects;

(4) Serve as a clearinghouse for bicycle program information and resources;

(5) Provide assistance in revising and updating bicycle material of the superintendent of public instruction and the state patrol;

(6) Promote the use of bicycle helmets of a type certified to meet the requirements of standard Z-90.4 of the American national standards institute or such subsequent nationally recognized standard for bicycle helmet performance; and

(7) Promote bicycle safety equipment. [1991 c 214 § 6.]

**RCW 47.04.210 Reimbursable transportation expenditures— Processing and accounting.** Federal funds that are administered by the department of transportation and are passed through to municipal corporations or political subdivisions of the state and moneys that are received as total reimbursement for goods, services, or projects constructed by the department of transportation are removed from the transportation budget. To process and account for these expenditures a new treasury trust account is created to be used for all department of transportation one hundred percent federal and local reimbursable transportation expenditures. This new account is nonbudgeted and nonappropriated. At the same time, federal and private local appropriations and full-time equivalents in subprograms R2, R3, T6, Y6, and Z2 processed through this new account are removed from the department of transportation's 1997-99 budget.

The department of transportation may make expenditures from the account before receiving federal and local reimbursements. However, at the end of each biennium, the account must maintain a zero or positive cash balance. In the twenty-fourth month of each biennium the department of transportation shall calculate and transfer sufficient cash from either the motor vehicle fund or the multimodal transportation account to cover any negative cash balances. The amount transferred is calculated based on expenditures from each fund. In addition, any interest charges accruing to the new account must be distributed to the motor vehicle fund and the multimodal transportation account.

The department of transportation shall provide an annual report to the senate and house transportation committees and the office of financial management on expenditures and full-time equivalents processed through the new account. The report must also include recommendations for process changes, if needed. [2005 c 319 § 122; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 14 § 601; 1997 c 94 § 1.]

**Findings—Intent—Part headings—Effective dates—2005 c 319:** See notes following RCW 43.17.020.

**Severability—2001 2nd sp.s. c 14:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [2001 2nd sp.s. c 14 § 612.]

**Effective date—2001 2nd sp.s. c 14:** "Except for section 608 of this act, this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [June 26, 2001]." [2001 2nd sp.s. c 14 § 613.]

**Effective date—1997 c 94:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect July 1, 1997." [1997 c 94 § 4.]

**RCW 47.04.220 Miscellaneous transportation programs account.**

(1) The miscellaneous transportation programs account is created in the custody of the state treasurer.

(2) Moneys from the account may be used only for the costs of:

(a) Miscellaneous transportation services provided by the department that are reimbursed by other public and private entities;

(b) Local transportation projects for which the department is a conduit for federal reimbursement to a municipal corporation or political subdivision; or

(c) Other reimbursable activities as recommended by the senate and house transportation committees and approved by the office of financial management.

(3) Moneys received as reimbursement for expenditures under subsection (2) of this section must be deposited into the account.

(4) No appropriation is required for expenditures from this account. This fund is not subject to allotment procedures provided under chapter 43.88 RCW.

(5) Only the secretary of transportation or the secretary's designee may authorize expenditures from the account.

(6) It is the intent of the legislature that this account maintain a zero or positive cash balance at the end of each biennium. Toward this purpose the department may make expenditures from the account before receiving reimbursements under subsection (2) of this section. Before the end of the biennium, the department shall transfer sufficient cash to cover any negative cash balances from the motor vehicle fund and the multimodal transportation account to the miscellaneous transportation programs account for unrecovered reimbursements. The department shall calculate the distribution of this transfer based on expenditures. In the ensuing biennium the department shall transfer the reimbursements received in the miscellaneous transportation programs account back to the motor vehicle fund and the multimodal transportation account to the extent of the cash transferred at biennium end. The department shall also distribute any interest charges accruing to the miscellaneous transportation programs account to the motor vehicle fund and the

multimodal transportation account. Adjustments for any indirect cost recoveries may also be made at this time.

(7) The department shall provide an annual report to the senate and house transportation committees and the office of financial management on the expenditures and full-time equivalents processed through the miscellaneous transportation programs account. The report must also include recommendations for changes to the process, if needed. [2005 c 319 § 123; 2001 2nd sp.s. c 14 § 602; 1997 c 94 § 2.]

**Findings—Intent—Part headings—Effective dates—2005 c 319:** See notes following RCW 43.17.020.

**Severability—Effective date—2001 2nd sp.s. c 14:** See notes following RCW 47.04.210.

**Effective date—1997 c 94:** See note following RCW 47.04.210.

**RCW 47.04.230 Dredge spoils—Cowlitz County.** The legislature finds and declares that the December 19, 1991, Washington state conveyance of the Mt. St. Helens Recovery Program, LT-1 and Cook Ferry Road Sites, to Cowlitz County, should be amended to enable Cowlitz County to use dredge spoils revenues for recreational purposes throughout the county.

The legislature further declares that the department of transportation shall execute sufficient legal release to accomplish the following:

(1) Dredge spoil revenues from either the LT-1 or Cook Ferry Road Site must be dedicated for recreational facilities and recreational administration costs throughout the county;

(2) Any mining excavation must meet the requirements of the Shoreline Management Act of 1971 as identified in chapter 90.58 RCW;

(3) Both the LT-1 and Cook Ferry Road Site must be preserved as a long-term dredging facility;

(4) All other requirements in the December 19, 1991, conveyance between the state of Washington and Cowlitz County will remain in effect; and

(5) The LT-1 and Cook Ferry Road Site remains subject to any agreements with the United States Army Corps of Engineers and other agencies of the federal government. [1999 c 63 § 1.]

**RCW 47.04.235 Dredge spoils—Castle Rock.** The legislature finds and declares that the December 20, 1993, Washington state conveyance of the Mt. St. Helens recovery program, CR601F site, to the city of Castle Rock, should be amended to enable the city to use dredge spoil revenues for recreational purposes adjacent to the Cowlitz river in the city limits of Castle Rock, and also those other properties owned by the city of Castle Rock that are adjacent to the Cowlitz river.

The legislature further declares that the department of transportation shall execute sufficient legal release to accomplish the following:

(1) Dredge spoil revenues from the CR601F site must be dedicated for recreational facilities and recreational administration cost throughout the defined area listed above;

(2) Any mining excavation must meet the requirements of the Shoreline Management Act of 1971 as identified in chapter 90.58 RCW;

(3) All other requirements in the December 20, 1993, conveyance between the state of Washington and the city of Castle Rock will remain in effect; and

(4) The CR601F site remains subject to any agreements with the United States Army Corps of Engineers and other agencies of the federal government. [2000 c 13 § 1.]

**RCW 47.04.240 Public transportation information—**

**Confidentiality.** The department, a county, city, town, any other public entity, and any private entity under the public-private transportation initiatives authorized under chapter 47.46 RCW, that provides transit, high-speed ground transportation, high capacity transportation service, ferry service, toll facilities, or other public transportation service or facilities may only use personally identifiable information obtained from the use of electronic toll payments, transit passes, or other fare media such as magnetic strip cards or stored value cards for billing purposes. This information may not be used to track or monitor individual use of the public transportation facilities or service, except for billing purposes and to provide statistical compilations and reports that do not identify an individual. [1999 c 215 § 2.]

*Public records: Chapter 42.56 RCW.*

**RCW 47.04.250 Assaults by motorists on department employees.**

(1) For the purposes of this section only, "assault" means an act by a motorist that results in physical injury to an employee of the department while engaged in highway construction or maintenance activities along a roadway right-of-way (fence line to fence line, landscaped areas) or in the loading and unloading of passenger vehicles in service of the vessel as a maritime employee not covered under chapter 51.32 RCW or engaged in those work activities as a Washington state ferries terminal employee covered under chapter 51.32 RCW.

(2) In recognition of the nature of employment in departmental highway construction or maintenance activities and by the Washington state ferries, this section provides a supplementary program to reimburse employees of the department for some of their costs attributable to their being the victims of assault by motorists. This program is limited to the reimbursement provided in this section.

(3) An employee is entitled to receive the reimbursement provided in this section only if the secretary finds that each of the following has occurred:

(a) A motorist has assaulted the employee who is engaged in highway construction or maintenance along a roadway right-of-way (fence line to fence line, landscaped areas) or service of the vessel as a maritime employee or terminal employee engaged in the loading or unloading of passenger vehicles and as a result the employee has sustained demonstrated physical injuries that have required the employee to miss one or more days of work;

(b) The assault is not attributable to any extent to the employee's negligence, misconduct, or failure to comply with any rules or conditions of employment; and

(c) The department of labor and industries has approved the employee's workers' compensation application under chapter 51.32 RCW, or for maritime employees the department of transportation risk management office has approved maintenance and cure benefits under 46 U.S.C. Sec. 688 et seq.

(4) The reimbursement authorized under this section is as follows:

(a) The employee's accumulated sick leave days will not be reduced for the workdays missed. The injured worker who qualifies for and receives assault benefits will also receive full standard benefits (vacation leave, sick leave, health insurance, etc.) as if uninjured;

(b) For an employee covered by chapter 51.32 RCW, for each workday missed for which the employee is not eligible to receive compensation under chapter 51.32 RCW, the employee will receive the full amount of the injured worker's net pay at the time of injury; and

(c) In respect to workdays missed for which the employee will receive or has received compensation under chapter 51.32 RCW, or under federal maritime law benefits, including the Jones Act, for an employee deemed a maritime employee assigned to work in service of the vessel or a nonmaritime terminal employee covered under chapter 51.32 RCW, the employee will be reimbursed in an amount that, when added to that compensation, will result in the employee receiving no more than full net pay (gross pay less mandatory and voluntary deductions) for the workdays missed.

(5) Reimbursement under this section may not last longer than three hundred sixty-five consecutive days after the date of the injury. No application for assault benefits is valid nor may a claim be enforced unless it was made within one year after the day upon which the injury occurred.

(6) The employee is not entitled to the reimbursement provided in subsection (4) of this section for a workday for which the secretary or an applicable designee finds that the employee has not diligently pursued his or her compensation remedies under chapter 51.32 RCW or federal maritime law, including the Jones Act.

(7) The reimbursement may be made only for absences that the secretary or an applicable designee believes are justified.

(8) While the employee is receiving reimbursement under this section, he or she will continue to be classified as a state employee, and the reimbursement amount is considered as salary or wages.

(9) The department shall make all reimbursement payments required to be made to employees under this section. The payments are considered as a salary or wage expense and must be paid by the department in the same manner and from the same appropriations as other salary and wage expenses for the department.

(10) Nothing in this section precludes the department from recovering the supplemental payments authorized by this section from the assaulting motorist, and that recovery is considered exclusive of recovery under chapter 51.24 RCW.

(11) If the legislature revokes the reimbursement authorized under this section or repeals this section, no affected employee is entitled after that to receive the reimbursement as a matter of contractual right. [2002 c 355 § 1.]



**RCW 47.04.260 Latecomer fees.** The department of transportation may impose and collect latecomer fees on behalf of another entity for infrastructure improvement projects initially funded partially or entirely by private sources. However, there must be an agreement in place between the department of transportation and the entity, before the imposition and collection of any such fees, that specifies (1) the collection process, (2) the maximum amount that may be collected, and (3) the period of time during which the collection may occur. [2005 c 317 § 30.]

**RCW 47.04.270 Tire chain installation and removal.** The department may issue written permits authorizing permittees to install or remove tire chains on motor vehicles with the following conditions:

- (1) Chains may only be installed or removed at locations designated in the permit;
- (2) Permittees must comply with terms and conditions in the permit relating to the safe and orderly movement of traffic; and
- (3) Permittees may charge a fee to drivers for their services.

The department may issue sufficient permits for the installation or removal of tire chains that it finds necessary or desirable to accommodate the demand for those services consistent with the maximum convenience and safety to traffic. In issuing the permits, the department shall insure that the maximum practicable number of different individuals and entities receive permits, and that no one entity, to the extent practicable, is the sole permit holder for a particular location. The department may charge a fee no greater than fifty dollars to permittees for the issuance of permits. The department, in issuing a permit for the installation or removal of tire chains, assumes no responsibility for the actions, inactions, competence, or reliability of the permittee in performing those services and shall not be liable for the damages relating to acts or omissions of the permittees. The department shall adopt rules to implement this section, including requiring permittees to wear reflective clothing and use appropriate signage. [2006 c 324 § 1.]

**RCW 47.04.280 Transportation system policy goals.** (1) It is the intent of the legislature to establish policy goals for the planning, operation, performance of, and investment in, the state's transportation system. Public investments in transportation should support achievement of these policy goals:

- (a) Preservation: To maintain, preserve, and extend the life and utility of prior investments in transportation systems and services, including the state ferry system;
- (b) Safety: To provide for and improve the safety and security of transportation customers and the transportation system;
- (c) Stewardship: To continuously improve the quality, effectiveness, resilience, and efficiency of the transportation system;
- (d) Mobility: To improve the predictable movement of goods and people throughout Washington state, including congestion relief and improved freight mobility;
- (e) Economic vitality: To promote and develop transportation systems that stimulate, support, and enhance the movement of people and goods to ensure a prosperous economy; and

(f) Environment: To enhance Washington's quality of life through transportation investments that promote energy conservation, enhance healthy communities, and protect the environment.

(2) The powers, duties, and functions of state transportation agencies must be performed in a manner consistent with the policy goals set forth in subsection (1) of this section with preservation and safety being priorities.

(3) These policy goals are intended to be the basis for establishing detailed and measurable objectives and related performance measures.

(4) It is the intent of the legislature that the office of financial management, in consultation with the transportation commission, establish objectives and performance measures for the department and other state agencies with transportation-related responsibilities to ensure transportation system performance at local, regional, and state government levels progresses toward the attainment of the policy goals set forth in subsection (1) of this section. The office of financial management shall submit objectives and performance measures to the legislature for its review and shall provide copies of the same to the commission during each regular session of the legislature during an even-numbered year thereafter.

(5) A local or regional agency engaging in transportation planning may voluntarily establish objectives and performance measures to demonstrate progress toward the attainment of the policy goals set forth in subsection (1) of this section or any other transportation policy goals established by the local or regional agency. A local or regional agency engaging in transportation planning is encouraged to provide local and regional objectives and performance measures to be included with the objectives and performance measures submitted to the legislature pursuant to subsection (4) of this section.

(6) This section does not create a private right of action.  
[2021 c 153 § 1; 2016 c 35 § 3. Prior: 2015 3rd sp.s. c 16 § 1; 2015 3rd sp.s. c 1 § 304; 2013 c 199 § 1; 2010 c 74 § 1; 2007 c 516 § 3; 2002 c 5 § 101. Formerly RCW 47.01.012.]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 16:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [July 6, 2015]." [2015 3rd sp.s. c 16 § 2.]

**Findings—Intent—2007 c 516:** See note following RCW 47.01.011.

**Effective date—2002 c 5 § 101:** "Section 101 of this act takes effect July 1, 2002." [2002 c 5 § 102.]

**Captions not law—2002 c 5:** "Captions and part headings used in this act are not part of the law." [2002 c 5 § 419.]

**Severability—2002 c 5:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [2002 c 5 § 420.]

**RCW 47.04.285 Review of and comment on state transportation policy goals by office of financial management—Biennial report.** By October 1, 2016, and by October 1st biennially thereafter, the office of financial management shall review and comment prior to the department of transportation submitting to the legislature and the governor a report on the progress toward the attainment by state transportation agencies of the state transportation policy goals and objectives prescribed by statute, appropriation, and governor directive. The report must, at a minimum, include the degree to which state transportation programs have progressed toward the attainment of the policy goals established under RCW 47.04.280, as measured by the objectives and performance measures established under RCW 47.04.280. [2016 c 35 § 2.]

**RCW 47.04.290 Park and ride lot accommodation—Definitions.** (1) Any local transit agency that has received state funding for a park and ride lot shall make reasonable accommodation for use of that lot by: Auto transportation companies regulated under chapter 81.68 RCW; passenger charter carriers regulated under chapter 81.70 RCW, except marked or unmarked stretch limousines and stretch sport utility vehicles as defined under department of licensing rules; private, nonprofit transportation providers regulated under chapter 81.66 RCW; and private employer transportation service vehicles, provided that such use does not interfere with the efficiency, reliability, and safety of public transportation operations. The accommodation must be in the form of an agreement between the applicable local transit agency and the private transportation provider. The transit agency may require that the agreement include provisions to recover actual costs and fair market value for the use of the lot and its related facilities and to provide adequate insurance and indemnification of the transit agency, and other reasonable provisions to ensure that the private transportation provider's use does not unduly burden the transit agency. The transit agency may consider benefits to its public transportation system when establishing an amount to charge for the use of the park and ride lot and its related facilities. If the agreement includes provisions to recover actual costs, the private transportation provider is responsible to remit the full actual costs of park and ride lot use to the appropriate transit agency. No accommodation is required, and any agreement may be terminated, if the park and ride lot is at or exceeds ninety percent capacity between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday for two consecutive months. Additionally, any agreement may be terminated if the private transportation provider violates any policies guiding the terms of use of the park and ride lot. The transit agency may reserve the authority to designate which pickup and drop-off zones of the park and ride lot may be used by the private transportation provider.

(2) A local transit agency described under subsection (1) of this section may enter into a cooperative agreement with a taxicab company regulated under chapter 81.72 RCW in order to accommodate the taxicab company at the agency's park and ride lot, provided the taxicab company must agree to provide service with reasonable availability, subject to schedule coordination provisions as agreed to by the parties.

(3) For the purposes of this section, "private employer transportation service" means regularly scheduled, fixed-route

transportation service that is similarly marked or identified to display the business name or logo on the driver and passenger sides of the vehicle, meets the annual certification requirements of the department, and is offered by an employer for the benefit of its employees.

(4) For the purposes of this section, "private transportation provider" means:

(a) A company regulated under chapter 81.68 RCW; chapter 81.70 RCW, except marked or unmarked stretch limousines and stretch sport utility vehicles as defined under department of licensing rules; and chapter 81.66 RCW; and

(b) An entity providing private employer transportation service.

(5) (a) Local authorities are encouraged to establish a process for private transportation providers, described under subsections (1) and (4) of this section, to apply for the use of park and ride facilities.

(b) The process must provide a list of facilities that the local authority determines to be unavailable for use by the private transportation provider and must provide the criteria used to reach that determination.

(c) The application and review processes must be uniform and should provide for an expeditious response by the authority.

(6) The department must convene a stakeholder process that includes interested public and private transportation providers, which must develop standard permit forms, clear explanations of permit rate calculations, and standard indemnification provisions that may be used by all local authorities. [2011 c 379 § 2; 2008 c 257 § 1.]

**Conflict with state and federal environmental mitigation requirements—2011 c 379:** See note following RCW 46.61.165.

**RCW 47.04.295 Park and ride lots—Leases with private entities authorized—Rules.** (1) The department, or any local transit agency that has received state funding for a park and ride lot, may enter into a lease with private entities allowing them to operate food or beverage retailers, restaurants, grocery and convenience stores, or other private enterprises that are of benefit to the traveling public at park and ride lots owned by the department or local transit agency.

(2) The department or local transit agency must take all necessary action to ensure the most favorable lease rates for the state or local transit agency, whether by bid or other reasonable manner, and to require the lessee to enter into any other contract or agreement to protect the state and its citizens or the local transit agency from commercial harm or other type of harm. Any lease entered into under this section must ensure that the lease payments are at fair market value and comparable to market rates in the area of the park and ride lot. Lease payments must first be applied towards maintenance and operations of the applicable park and ride lot and the remainder must be deposited into the multimodal transportation account created under RCW 47.66.070.

(3) The department must adopt and enforce such reasonable rules that are consistent with and necessary to carry out this section, including a flexible process to prioritize local business interests when entering into lease agreements. [2011 c 378 § 1.]

**RCW 47.04.300 Safe routes to school program.** Concurrent with the federal safe, accountable, flexible, efficient transportation equity act of 2005, a safe routes to school program is established within the department. The purpose of the program is to:

- (1) Enable and encourage children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school;
- (2) Make bicycling and walking to school a safer and more appealing transportation alternative, encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age; and
- (3) Facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity of schools. [2009 c 392 § 1.]

**RCW 47.04.310 Rental car company fees—Child restraint system availability.** (1) A rental car company may include separately stated surcharges, fees, or charges in a rental agreement, which may include, but may not be in any way limited to, vehicle license cost recovery fees, child restraint system rental fees, airport-related recovery fees, all applicable taxes, and government surcharges.

(2) If a rental car company includes a vehicle license cost recovery fee as a separately stated charge in a rental transaction, the amount of the fee must represent the rental car company's good faith estimate of the rental car company's average daily charge as calculated by the rental car company to recover its actual total annual rental car titling, registration, plating, and inspection costs in the state of Washington.

(3) If the total amount of the vehicle license cost recovery fees collected by a rental car company under this section in any calendar year exceeds the rental car company's actual costs in the state of Washington to license, title, register, and plate rental cars and to have such rental cars inspected for that calendar year, the rental car company shall do both of the following:

- (a) Retain the excess amount; and
- (b) Adjust the estimated average per vehicle titling, licensing, plating, inspecting, and registration charge for the following calendar year by a corresponding amount.

(4) Nothing in this section prevents a rental car company from making adjustments to the vehicle license cost recovery fee during the calendar year.

(5) The following definitions apply to this section unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

(a) "Child restraint system rental fee" means a charge that may be separately stated and charged on the rental contract in a car rental transaction originating in Washington state to recover the costs associated with providing child restraint systems;

(b) "Rental car" has the same meaning as defined in RCW 48.115.005;

(c) "Rental car company" has the same meaning as defined in RCW 48.115.005; and

(d) "Vehicle license cost recovery fee" means a charge that may be separately stated and charged on the rental contract for a rental car transaction originating in Washington state to recover costs incurred in the state of Washington by a rental car company to license, title, register, plate, and inspect rental cars.

(6) (a) If a rental car company includes a child restraint system rental fee as a separately stated charge in a rental transaction, the amount of the fee must represent no more than the rental car company's good faith estimate of the rental car company's costs to provide a child restraint system.

(b) If a rental car customer pays a child restraint system rental fee and the child restraint system is not available in a timely manner, as determined by the rental car customer, but in no case less than one hour after the arrival of the customer at the location where the customer receives the vehicle or vehicles, (i) the customer may cancel any reservation or other agreement for the rental of the vehicle or vehicles, (ii) any costs or penalties associated with the cancellation are void, and (iii) the customer is entitled to a full refund of any costs associated with the rental of the vehicle or vehicles. [2016 c 18 § 1. Prior: 2009 c 346 § 2.]

**Finding—Intent—2009 c 346:** "The legislature finds that there are car rental agreements entered into between car rental companies and their customers that include fees in addition to the rental rate and taxes. It is the intent of the legislature that such fees be clearly and separately stated in such agreements." [2009 c 346 § 1.]

**RCW 47.04.320 Complete streets grant program—Purpose—Goals—Awards—Report.** (1) The transportation improvement board shall establish a complete streets grant program within the department's highways and local programs division, or its successor. During program development, the board shall include, at a minimum, the department of archaeology and historic preservation, local governments, and other organizations or groups that are interested in the complete streets grant program. The purpose of the grant program is to encourage local governments to adopt urban arterial retrofit street ordinances designed to provide safe access to all users, including bicyclists, pedestrians, motorists, and public transportation users, with the goals of:

(a) Promoting healthy communities by encouraging walking, bicycling, and using public transportation;

(b) Improving safety by designing major arterials to include features such as wider sidewalks, dedicated bicycle facilities, medians, and pedestrian streetscape features, including trees where appropriate;

(c) Protecting the environment and reducing congestion by providing safe alternatives to single-occupancy driving; and

(d) Preserving community character by involving local citizens and stakeholders to participate in planning and design decisions.

(2) For purposes of this section:

(a) "Eligible project" means (i) a local government street or road retrofit project that includes the addition of, or significant repair to, facilities that provide street access with all users in mind, including pedestrians, bicyclists, and public transportation users; or (ii) a retrofit project on city streets or county roads that are part of a state highway that include the addition of, or significant repair to, facilities that provide access with all users in mind, including pedestrians, bicyclists, and public transportation users.

(b) "Local government" means incorporated cities and towns and counties that have adopted a jurisdiction-wide complete streets ordinance that plans for the needs of all users and is consistent with sound engineering principles.

(c) "Sound engineering principles" means peer-reviewed, context sensitive solutions guides, reports, and publications, consistent with the purposes of this section.

(3) In carrying out the purposes of this section, the transportation improvement board may award funding, subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose, only to eligible projects that are designed consistent with sound engineering principles.

(4) The transportation improvement board must report annually to the transportation committees of the legislature on the status of any grant projects funded by the program created under this section. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 44 § 401; 2011 c 257 § 2.]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 44:** See note following RCW 46.68.395.

**Intent—2011 c 257:** "Urban main streets should be designed to provide safe access to all users, including bicyclists, pedestrians, motorists, and public transportation users. Context sensitive design and engineering principles allow for flexible solutions depending on a community's needs, and result in many positive outcomes for cities and towns, including improving the health and safety of a community. It is the intent of the legislature to encourage street designs that safely meet the needs of all users and also protect and preserve a community's environment and character." [2011 c 257 § 1.]

**RCW 47.04.325 Complete streets grant program—Account—Solicitation and receipt of gifts.** (1) The complete streets grant program account is created in the state treasury. Moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation. Only the transportation improvement board may authorize expenditures from the account. The board may use complete streets grant program funds for city streets, county roads, and city streets and county roads that are part of a state highway. Expenditures from the account may be used solely for the grants provided under RCW 47.04.320.

(2) The transportation improvement board may solicit and receive gifts, grants, or endowments from private and other sources that are made, in trust or otherwise, for the use and benefit of the purposes of the complete streets grant program as provided in RCW 47.04.320. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 44 § 402; 2011 c 257 § 3.]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 44:** See note following RCW 46.68.395.

**Intent—2011 c 257:** See note following RCW 47.04.320.

**RCW 47.04.330 Street projects—Consultation with local jurisdictions—Context sensitive design solutions.** When constructing, reconstructing, or making major improvements to streets described in

RCW 47.24.010, the department must, for street projects initially planned or scoped after July 1, 2011:

(1) Consult with local jurisdictions in the design and planning phases. Consultation with local jurisdictions must include public outreach and meetings with interested stakeholders in the predesign phase for the purpose of clarifying community goals and priorities through community design exercises prior to developing any designs or visualizations; and

(2) Consider the needs of all users by applying context sensitive design solutions consistent with peer-reviewed, context sensitive solutions guides, reports, and publications, consistent with the purposes of this section. [2011 c 257 § 4.]

**Intent—2011 c 257:** See note following RCW 47.04.320.

**RCW 47.04.340 Accommodation of private transportation vehicle use of high occupancy vehicle lanes in highway design.** When designing portions of a highway that are intended to be used as portions reserved for the exclusive or preferential use of public transportation vehicles, state and local jurisdictions shall consider whether the design will safely accommodate private transportation provider vehicles that may be authorized to use the reserved portions under RCW 46.61.165 and 47.52.025 without interfering with the efficiency, reliability, and safety of public transportation operations. [2011 c 379 § 4.]

**Conflict with state and federal environmental mitigation requirements—2011 c 379:** See note following RCW 46.61.165.

**RCW 47.04.350 Alternative fuel vehicle charging and refueling infrastructure program—Bid proposal requirements, evaluation, financing—Workshops—Rules.** (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose through the 2023-2025 biennium, the department's public-private partnership office must develop and maintain a program to support the deployment of clean alternative fuel vehicle charging and refueling infrastructure that is supported by private financing.

(2) The department must define corridors in which bidders may propose to install electric vehicle charging infrastructure or hydrogen fueling stations, and may update these corridors over time as needed. Alternatively, a bidder may propose a corridor in which the bidder proposes to install electric vehicle infrastructure or hydrogen fueling stations if the department has adopted rules allowing such a proposal and establishing guidelines for how such a proposal will be considered.

(3) (a) For bid proposals under this section, the department must require the following:

(i) Bidders must have private sector partners contributing to the project who stand to gain indirect value from development of the project, such as motor vehicle manufacturers, retail stores, or tourism stakeholders;

(ii) Bidders must demonstrate that the proposed project will be valuable to clean alternative fuel vehicle drivers and will address an existing gap in the state's low carbon transportation infrastructure;



(iii) Projects must be expected to be profitable and sustainable for the owner-operator and the private partner; and

(iv) Bidders must specify how the project captures the indirect value of charging or refueling station deployment to the private partner.

(b) The department may adopt rules that require any other criteria for a successful project.

(4) In evaluating proposals under this section, the department may use the electric vehicle financial analysis tool that was developed in the joint transportation committee's study into financing electric vehicle charging station infrastructure.

(5) (a) After selecting a successful proposer under this section, the department may provide a loan or grant to the proposer.

(b) Grants and loans issued under this subsection must be funded from the electric vehicle account created in RCW 82.44.200.

(c) Any project selected for support under this section is eligible for only one grant or loan as a part of the program.

(6) The department may conduct preliminary workshops with potential bidders and other potential private sector partners to determine the best method of designing and maintaining the program, discuss how to develop and maintain the partnerships among the private sector partners that may receive indirect value, and any other issues relating to the implementation and administration of this section. The department should consider regional workshops to engage potential business partners from across the state.

(7) The department must adopt rules to implement and administer this section. [2019 c 287 § 3; 2015 3rd sp.s. c 44 § 403.]

**Effective date—2019 c 287:** See note following RCW 82.29A.125.

**Findings—Intent—2019 c 287:** See note following RCW 28B.30.903.

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 44:** See note following RCW 46.68.395.

**RCW 47.04.355 Clean alternative fuel car sharing pilot program.**

(1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose through the 2023-2025 biennium, the department's public-private partnership office must develop a pilot program to support clean alternative fuel car sharing programs to provide clean alternative fuel vehicle use opportunities to underserved communities and low to moderate income members of the workforce not readily served by transit or located in transportation corridors with emissions that exceed federal or state emissions standards. Nonprofit organizations or local governments, including housing authorities, with a demonstrated history of managing or implementing low-income transportation clean alternative fuel and shared mobility pilot programs are eligible to participate in this program.

(2) The department must determine specific eligibility criteria, based on the requirements of this section, the report submitted to the legislature by the Puget Sound clean air agency entitled facilitating low-income utilization of electric vehicles, and other factors relevant to increasing clean alternative fuel vehicle use in underserved and low to moderate income communities. The department may adopt rules specifying the eligibility criteria it selects.

(3) The department may conduct preliminary workshops with potential bidders and other potential partners to determine the best method of designing the pilot program.

(4) The department must include the following elements in its proposal evaluation and scoring methodology: History of successful management of equity focused clean alternative fuel vehicle projects; substantial level of involvement from community-based, equity focused organizations in the project; plan for long-term financial sustainability of the work beyond the duration of the grant period; matching resources leveraged for the project; and geographical diversity of the projects selected.

(5) After selecting successful proposals under this section, the department may provide grant funding to them. The total grant amount available per project may range from fifty thousand to two hundred thousand dollars. The grant opportunity must include possible funding of vehicles, charging or refueling station infrastructure, staff time, and any other expenses required to implement the project. No more than ten percent of grant funds may be used for administrative expenses.

(6) (a) Any property acquired with state grant funding under this section by nongovernmental participants must be used solely for program purposes and, if sold, the proceeds of the sale must be used solely for program purposes.

(b) At the termination of a program for providing alternative fuel car sharing services, the state must be reimbursed for any property acquired with state grant funding under this section that nongovernmental participants in the program retain at the time of program termination. The amount of reimbursement may under no circumstances be less than the fair market value of the property at the time of the termination of the program. [2019 c 287 § 16.]

**Electric vehicle battery and fuel cell adoption study—Lower income residents—2019 c 287:** "(1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose, the department of commerce must conduct a study to identify opportunities to reduce barriers to battery and fuel cell electric vehicle adoption by lower income residents of the state through the use of vehicle and infrastructure financing assistance. The study must include an assessment of opportunities to work with nonprofit lenders to facilitate vehicle purchases through the use of loan-loss reserves and rate buy downs by qualified borrowers purchasing battery and fuel cell electric vehicles that are eligible for the tax exemptions under RCW 82.08.9999 and 82.12.9999, and may address additional financing assistance opportunities identified. The study must focus on potential borrowers who are at or below eighty percent of the state median household income. The study may also address any additional opportunities identified to increase electric vehicle adoption by lower income residents of the state.

(2) The department of commerce must provide a report detailing the findings of this study to the transportation committees of the legislature by June 30, 2020, and may contract with a consultant on all or a portion of the study." [2019 c 287 § 17.]

**Effective date—2019 c 287:** See note following RCW 82.29A.125.

**Findings—Intent—2019 c 287:** See note following RCW 28B.30.903.

**RCW 47.04.360 Commercial advertising on websites and social media.** (1) The department is authorized to sell commercial advertising, including product placement, on department websites and social media. In addition, the department is authorized to sell a version of its mobile application(s) to users who desire to have access to application(s) without advertising. The authority granted in this section does not affect the department's advertising authority provided in RCW 47.60.140.

(2) The department shall deposit all moneys received from the sale of advertisements on website and mobile applications as authorized in this section into the motor vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070.

(3) The department shall adopt standards for advertising, product placement, and other forms of commercial recognition that require the department to define and prohibit, at minimum, the content containing any of the following characteristics, which is not permitted:

(a) Obscene, indecent, or discriminatory content;

(b) Political or public issue advocacy content;

(c) Products, services, or other materials that are offensive, insulting, disparaging, or degrading; or

(d) Products, services, or messages that are contrary to the public interest, including any advertisement that encourages or depicts unsafe behaviors or encourages unsafe or prohibited driving activities. Alcohol, tobacco, and cannabis are included among the products prohibited. [2017 c 157 § 1.]

**Effective date—2017 c 157:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect July 1, 2017." [2017 c 157 § 2.]

**RCW 47.04.370 Purple heart state—Signage—Account.** (1) The department is authorized to erect signs as part of the transportation system recognizing that Washington state is a purple heart state as designated in RCW 1.20.190, especially at entry points to the state. The department is authorized to accept gifts or donations to assist efforts related to Washington state being a purple heart state.

(2) The department of transportation purple heart state account is created in the custody of the state treasurer. All receipts from gifts and donations received pursuant to this section must be deposited into the account. Expenditures from the account may only be used to erect signs or other activities that assist efforts related to Washington state being a purple heart state, as authorized under this section. Only the secretary of the department of transportation or the secretary's designee may authorize expenditures from the account. The account is subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is not required for expenditures. [2021 c 213 § 5.]

**Findings—2021 c 213:** See note following RCW 1.20.190.

**RCW 47.04.380 Sandy Williams connecting communities program. (Expires July 1, 2027.)** (1) The legislature finds that many communities across Washington state have not equitably benefited from

investments in the active transportation network. The legislature also finds that legacy state transportation facilities designed primarily for vehicle use caused disconnections in safe routes for people who walk, bike, and roll to work and to carry out other daily activities.

(2) To address these investment gaps, and to honor the legacy of community advocacy of Sandy Williams, the Sandy Williams connecting communities program is established within the department. The purpose of the program is to improve active transportation connectivity in communities by:

(a) Providing safe, continuous routes for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other nonvehicle users carrying out their daily activities;

(b) Mitigating for the health, safety, and access impacts of transportation infrastructure that bisects communities and creates obstacles in the local active transportation network;

(c) Investing in greenways providing protected routes for a wide variety of nonvehicular users; and

(d) Facilitating the planning, development, and implementation of projects and activities that will improve the connectivity and safety of the active transportation network.

(3) The department must select projects to propose to the legislature for funding. In selecting projects, the department must consider, at a minimum, the following criteria:

(a) Access to a transit facility, community facility, commercial center, or community-identified assets;

(b) The use of minority and women-owned businesses and community-based organizations in planning, community engagement, design, and construction of the project;

(c) Whether the project will serve:

(i) Overburdened communities as defined in RCW 70A.02.010 to mean a geographic area where vulnerable populations face combined, multiple environmental harms and health impacts, and includes, but is not limited to, highly impacted communities as defined in RCW 19.405.020;

(ii) Vulnerable populations as defined in RCW 70A.02.010 to mean population groups that are more likely to be at higher risk for poor health outcomes in response to environmental harms, due to adverse socioeconomic factors, such as unemployment, high housing, and transportation costs relative to income, limited access to nutritious food and adequate health care, linguistic isolation, and other factors that negatively affect health outcomes and increase vulnerability to the effects of environmental harms; and sensitivity factors, such as low birth weight and higher rates of hospitalization. Vulnerable populations include, but are not limited to: Racial or ethnic minorities, low-income populations, populations disproportionately impacted by environmental harms, and populations of workers experiencing environmental harms;

(iii) Household incomes at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level; and

(iv) People with disabilities;

(d) Environmental health disparities, such as those indicated by the diesel pollution burden portion of the Washington environmental health disparities map developed by the department of health, or other similar indicators;

(e) Location on or adjacent to tribal lands or locations providing essential services to tribal members;

(f) Crash experience involving pedestrians and bicyclists; and

(g) Identified need by the community, for example in the state active transportation plan or a regional, county, or community plan.

(4) It is the intent of the legislature that the Sandy Williams connecting communities program comply with the requirements of chapter 314, Laws of 2021.

(5) The department shall submit a report to the transportation committees of the legislature by December 1, 2022, and each December 1st thereafter identifying the selected connecting communities projects for funding by the legislature. The report must also include the status of previously funded projects.

(6) This section expires July 1, 2027. [2023 c 431 § 6; 2022 c 182 § 417.]

**Intent—2023 c 431:** See note following RCW 46.17.015.

**Intent—Effective date—2022 c 182:** See notes following RCW 70A.65.240.

**RCW 47.04.390 Statewide school-based bicycle education grant program.** (1) The department shall establish a statewide school-based bicycle education grant program. The grant will support two programs: One for elementary and middle school; and one for junior high and high school aged youth to develop the skills and street safety knowledge to be more confident bicyclists for transportation and/or recreation. In development of the grant program, the department is encouraged to consult with the environmental justice council and the office of equity.

(2) (a) For the elementary and middle school program, the department shall contract with a nonprofit organization with relevant reach and experience, including a statewide footprint and demonstrable experience deploying bicycling and road safety education curriculum via a train the trainer model in schools. The selected nonprofit shall identify partner schools that serve target populations, based on the criteria in subsection (3) of this section. Partner schools shall receive from the nonprofit: In-school bike and pedestrian safety education curriculum, materials, equipment guidance and consultation, and physical education teacher trainings. Youth grades three through eight are eligible for the program.

(b) Selected school districts shall receive and maintain a fleet of bicycles for the youth in the program. Youth and families participating in the school-base bicycle education grant program shall have an opportunity to receive a bike, lock, helmet, and lights free of cost.

(3) For the junior high and high school program, the department shall contract with a nonprofit organization with relevant reach and experience, including a statewide footprint; demonstrable experience developing and managing youth-based programming serving youth of color in an after-school and/or community setting; and deploying bicycling and road safety education curriculum via a train the trainer model. The selected nonprofit shall use the equity-based criteria in subsection (4) of this section to identify target populations and partner organizations including, but not limited to, schools, community-based organizations, housing authorities, and parks and recreation departments, that work with the eligible populations of youth ages 14 to 18. Partner organizations shall receive from the

nonprofit: Education curriculum, materials, equipment including, but not limited to, bicycles, helmets, locks, and lights, guidance and consultation, and initial instructor/volunteer training, as well as ongoing support.

(4) In selecting schools and partner organizations for the school-based bicycle education grant program, the department and nonprofit must consider, at a minimum, the following criteria:

(a) Population impacted by poverty, as measured by free and reduced lunch population or 200 percent federal poverty level;

(b) People of color;

(c) People of Hispanic heritage;

(d) People with disabilities;

(e) Environmental health disparities, such as those indicated by the diesel pollution burden portion of the Washington environmental health disparities map developed by the department of health, or other similar indicators;

(f) Location on or adjacent to an Indian reservation;

(g) Geographic location throughout the state;

(h) Crash experience involving pedestrians and bicyclists;

(i) Access to a community facility or commercial center; and

(j) Identified need in the state active transportation plan or a regional, county, or community plan.

(5) The department shall submit a report for both programs to the transportation committees of the legislature by December 1, 2022, and each December 1st thereafter identifying the selected programs and school districts for funding by the legislature. The report must also include the status of previously funded programs. [2023 c 431 § 7; 2022 c 182 § 419.]

**Intent—2023 c 431:** See note following RCW 46.17.015.

**Intent—Effective date—2022 c 182:** See notes following RCW 70A.65.240.

**RCW 47.04.400 Amtrak fare policy change request—Report.** For the purposes of submitting a request by October 1, 2022, to Amtrak to adopt a fare policy change, the department shall negotiate with the Oregon department of transportation to determine ridership, revenue, and policy impacts relating to elimination of fares for Amtrak Cascades passengers 18 years of age and younger. It is the intent of the legislature that fares for passengers 18 years of age and younger for service on the Amtrak Cascades corridor be eliminated. The department shall report back to the transportation committees of the legislature with results of negotiations with the Oregon department of transportation and the status of fare policy requests submitted to Amtrak by December 1, 2022. [2022 c 182 § 420.]

**Intent—Effective date—2022 c 182:** See notes following RCW 70A.65.240.

**RCW 47.04.410 Reducing rural roadway departures program.** (1) (a) When an appropriation is made for this purpose, the department shall establish a reducing rural roadway departures program to provide funding for safety improvements specific to preventing lane departures

in areas where the departure is likely to cause serious injuries or death. The program must use data driven methods to determine potential projects, and associated ranking methods for prioritization of funding consistent with chapter 47.05 RCW. Funding under this program may be used to:

(i) Widen roadway shoulders or modify roadway design to improve visibility or reduce lane departure risks;

(ii) Improve markings and paint on roadways, including making markings on roads more visible for vehicles with lane departure technology;

(iii) Apply high friction surface treatments;

(iv) Install rumble strips, signage, lighting, raised barriers, medians, guardrails, cable barriers, or other safety equipment, including deployment of innovative technology and connected infrastructure devices;

(v) Remove or relocate fixed objects from rights-of-way that pose a significant risk of serious injury or death if a vehicle were to collide with the object due to a lane departure;

(vi) Repair or replace existing barriers that are damaged or nonfunctional; or

(vii) Take other reasonable actions that are deemed likely to address or prevent vehicle lane departures in specific areas of concern.

(b) The department must create a program whereby it can distribute funding or install safety improvements based on the prioritization process established under (a) of this subsection. Any installation of safety measures that are not under the jurisdiction of the department must be done with permission from the entity that is responsible for operation and maintenance of the roadway.

(c) The department's program must create a form and application process whereby towns, small cities, counties, and transportation benefit districts may apply for program funding for high risk areas in their jurisdictions in need of safety improvements.

(d) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose, the department must issue program funding for purposes defined in (a) and (b) of this subsection in a geographically diverse manner throughout the state. Criteria used to assess a location can include the communities inability or lack of resources to make the corrections themselves and to make corrections where there has been historic disparate impacts.

(e) By December 31st of each year when there is funding distributed in accordance with this program, the department must provide the transportation committees of the legislature and the traffic safety commission with a list of locations that received funding and a description of the safety improvements installed there.

(2) During the first five years of the program, the department must track incidence of lane departures at the locations where the new infrastructure is installed and evaluate the effectiveness of the safety improvements. [2022 c 182 § 433.]

**Target zero program—2022 c 182:** "Washington state's target zero program envisions Washington having policies that will lead to zero deaths of people using the transportation system. For almost two decades more than 200 people have lost their lives annually in circumstances where a vehicle unintentionally left its lane of travel. Such fatalities made up 48 percent of all traffic-related fatalities

in 2019. There are multiple ways to make improvements on the highway system that have been proven in other locations to help reduce lane departures and fatalities. RCW 47.04.410 and 46.68.060 are intended to direct resources towards deploying such improvements by requiring the Washington state department of transportation to create a program that is focused on addressing this specific safety concern." [2022 c 182 § 432.]

**Intent—Effective date—2022 c 182:** See notes following RCW 70A.65.240.

**RCW 47.04.420 Railroad crossing grant program.** A railroad crossing grant program is hereby created in the department, local programs division. The department shall develop a prioritization process to make awards for cities and counties with projects that eliminate at grade highway-rail crossings, improving safety and expediting the movement of vehicles. Awards must be made for matching funds to federal grants. [2022 c 182 § 437. Formerly RCW 47.06A.090.]

**Intent—Effective date—2022 c 182:** See notes following RCW 70A.65.240.

**RCW 47.04.430 Bicyclist and pedestrian grant program.** (1) The department shall create a bicyclist and pedestrian grant program to improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety and mobility and increase active transportation trips.

(2) Project types may include, but are not limited to, bicycle facilities such as buffered bike lanes, pedestrian facilities such as sidewalks, crossing improvements for people who walk and roll, and speed management.

(3) The department shall report on an annual basis the status of projects funded as part of the bicyclist and pedestrian grant and safe routes to school grant programs. The report must include, but is not limited to, a list of projects selected and a brief description of each project's status. [2023 c 447 § 5.]



**Chapter 47.05 RCW**  
**PRIORITY PROGRAMMING FOR HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT**

**Sections**

- 47.05.010 Declaration of purpose.
- 47.05.021 Functional classification of highways.
- 47.05.022 Highways of statewide significance.
- 47.05.025 Highways of regional significance.
- 47.05.030 Ten-year programs—Investments, improvements,  
preservation.
- 47.05.035 Demand modeling tools.
- 47.05.195 Highways of statewide significance—State route No. 164.
- 47.05.200 Highways of statewide significance—State route No. 169.
- 47.05.205 Transportation project of statewide significance—  
Qualifying factors.
- 47.05.210 Transportation project of statewide significance—Duties  
of the department.

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- 47.05.195 Highways of statewide significance—State route No. 164.
- 47.05.200 Highways of statewide significance—State route No. 169.
- 47.05.205 Transportation project of statewide significance—Qualifying factors.
- 47.05.210 Transportation project of statewide significance—Duties of the department.

**RCW 47.05.010 Declaration of purpose.** The legislature finds that solutions to state highway deficiencies have become increasingly complex and diverse and that anticipated transportation revenues will fall substantially short of the amount required to satisfy all transportation needs. Difficult investment trade-offs will be required.

It is the intent of the legislature that investment of state transportation funds to address deficiencies on the state highway system be based on a policy of priority programming having as its basis the rational selection of projects and services according to factual need and an evaluation of life-cycle costs and benefits that are systematically scheduled to carry out defined objectives within available revenue. The state must develop analytic tools to use a common methodology to measure benefits and costs for all modes.

The priority programming system must ensure preservation of the existing state highway system, relieve congestion, provide mobility for people and goods, support the state's economy, and promote environmental protection and energy conservation.

The priority programming system must implement the state-owned highway component of the statewide transportation plan, consistent with local and regional transportation plans, by targeting state transportation investment to appropriate multimodal solutions that address identified state highway system deficiencies.

The priority programming system for improvements must incorporate a broad range of solutions that are identified in the statewide transportation plan as appropriate to address state highway system deficiencies, including but not limited to highway expansion, efficiency improvements, nonmotorized transportation facilities, high occupancy vehicle facilities, transit facilities and services, rail facilities and services, and transportation demand management programs. [2002 c 5 § 401; 1993 c 490 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 39 § 1; 1963 c 173 § 1.]

**Effective date—2002 c 5 §§ 401-404:** "Sections 401 through 404 of this act take effect July 1, 2002." [2002 c 5 § 417.]

**Captions not law—Severability—2002 c 5:** See notes following RCW 47.04.280.

**RCW 47.05.021 Functional classification of highways.** (1) The department shall conduct periodic analyses of the entire state highway system and report to the office of financial management and the chairs of the transportation committees of the senate and house of representatives, any subsequent recommendations to subdivide, classify, and subclassify all designated state highways into the following three functional classes:

(a) The "principal arterial system" shall consist of a connected network of rural arterial routes with appropriate extensions into and through urban areas, including all routes designated as part of the interstate system, which serve corridor movements having travel characteristics indicative of substantial statewide and interstate travel;

(b) The "minor arterial system" shall, in conjunction with the principal arterial system, form a rural network of arterial routes linking cities and other activity centers which generate long distance travel, and, with appropriate extensions into and through urban areas, form an integrated network providing interstate and interregional service; and

(c) The "collector system" shall consist of routes which primarily serve the more important intercounty, intracounty, and intraurban travel corridors, collect traffic from the system of local access roads and convey it to the arterial system, and on which, regardless of traffic volume, the predominant travel distances are shorter than on arterial routes.

(2) The department shall adopt a functional classification of highways. The department shall consider comments from the public and local municipalities. The department shall give consideration to criteria consistent with this section and federal regulations relating to the functional classification of highways, including but not limited to the following:

(a) Urban population centers within and without the state stratified and ranked according to size;

(b) Important traffic generating economic activities, including but not limited to recreation, agriculture, government, business, and industry;

(c) Feasibility of the route, including availability of alternate routes within and without the state;

(d) Directness of travel and distance between points of economic importance;

(e) Length of trips;

(f) Character and volume of traffic;

(g) Preferential consideration for multiple service which shall include public transportation;

(h) Reasonable spacing depending upon population density; and

(i) System continuity.

(3) The department or the legislature shall designate state highways of statewide significance under RCW 47.06.140. If the department designates a state highway of statewide significance, it shall submit a list of such facilities for adoption by the legislature. This statewide system shall include at a minimum interstate highways and other statewide principal arterials that are

needed to connect major communities across the state and support the state's economy.

(4) The department shall designate a freight and goods transportation system. This statewide system shall include state highways, county roads, and city streets. The department, in cooperation with cities and counties, shall review and make recommendations to the legislature regarding policies governing weight restrictions and road closures which affect the transportation of freight and goods. [2006 c 334 § 8; 2005 c 319 § 8; 2002 c 56 § 301. Prior: 1998 c 245 § 95; 1998 c 171 § 5; 1993 c 490 § 2; 1987 c 505 § 50; 1979 ex.s. c 122 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 130 § 1.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**Findings—Intent—Part headings—Effective dates—2005 c 319:** See notes following RCW 43.17.020.

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 122:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1979 ex.s. c 122 § 10.]

**Effective dates—1977 ex.s. c 130:** "Section 1 of this 1977 act modifying the functional classification of state highways shall apply to the long range plan for highway improvements and to the six year program for highway construction commencing July 1, 1979 and to the preparation thereof and shall take effect July 1, 1977. Section 2 of this 1977 act shall take effect July 1, 1979." [1977 ex.s. c 130 § 3.]

**RCW 47.05.022 Highways of statewide significance.** The legislature designates as highways of statewide significance those highways so designated by transportation commission resolution number 660 as adopted on January 21, 2004. [2004 c 232 § 1; 2002 c 56 § 302.]

**RCW 47.05.025 Highways of regional significance.** Highways of regional significance may receive funding under the conditions of RCW 36.120.020(8)(c). The following highways are of regional significance:

- (1) That portion of state route number 9 that runs from state route number 522 in the south to state route number 531 in the north;
- (2) That portion of state route number 524 that runs from state route number 5 easterly to state route number 522;
- (3) That portion of state route number 704 from state route number 5 to state route number 7. [2002 c 56 § 303.]

**RCW 47.05.030 Ten-year programs—Investments, improvements, preservation.** (1) The office of financial management shall propose a comprehensive ten-year investment program for the preservation and improvement programs defined in this section, consistent with the policy goals described under RCW 47.04.280. The proposed ten-year investment program must be forwarded as a recommendation by the office of financial management to the legislature, and must be based upon the

needs identified in the statewide transportation plan established under RCW 47.01.071(4).

(2) The preservation program consists of those investments necessary to preserve the existing state highway system and to restore existing safety features, giving consideration to lowest life-cycle costing.

(3) The improvement program consists of investments needed to address identified deficiencies on the state highway system to meet the goals established in RCW 47.04.280. [2007 c 516 § 7; 2006 c 334 § 45; 2005 c 319 § 9; 2002 c 5 § 402; 1998 c 171 § 6; 1993 c 490 § 3; 1987 c 179 § 2; 1979 ex.s. c 122 § 2; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 44; 1975 1st ex.s. c 143 § 1; 1973 2nd ex.s. c 12 § 4; 1969 ex.s. c 39 § 3; 1965 ex.s. c 170 § 33; 1963 c 173 § 3.]

**Findings—Intent—2007 c 516:** See note following RCW 47.01.011.

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**Findings—Intent—Part headings—Effective dates—2005 c 319:** See notes following RCW 43.17.020.

**Effective date—2002 c 5 §§ 401-404:** See note following RCW 47.05.010.

**Captions not law—Severability—2002 c 5:** See notes following RCW 47.04.280.

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 122:** See note following RCW 47.05.021.

**RCW 47.05.035 Demand modeling tools.** (1) The department shall use the transportation demand modeling tools developed under subsection (2) of this section to evaluate investments based on the best mode or improvement, or mix of modes and improvements, to meet current and future long-term demand within a corridor or system for the lowest cost. The end result of these demand modeling tools is to provide a cost-benefit analysis by which the department can determine the relative mobility improvement and congestion relief each mode or improvement under consideration will provide and the relative investment each mode or improvement under consideration will need to achieve that relief.

(2) The department will participate in the refinement, enhancement, and application of existing transportation demand modeling tools to be used to evaluate investments. This participation and use of transportation demand modeling tools will be phased in. [2007 c 516 § 8; 2006 c 334 § 46; 2005 c 319 § 10; 2002 c 5 § 403; 1993 c 490 § 4; 1987 c 179 § 3; 1979 ex.s. c 122 § 3; 1975 1st ex.s. c 143 § 2.]

**Findings—Intent—2007 c 516:** See note following RCW 47.01.011.

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**Findings—Intent—Part headings—Effective dates—2005 c 319:** See notes following RCW 43.17.020.

**Effective date—2002 c 5 §§ 401-404:** See note following RCW 47.05.010.

**Captions not law—Severability—2002 c 5:** See notes following RCW 47.04.280.

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 122:** See note following RCW 47.05.021.

**RCW 47.05.195 Highways of statewide significance—State route No. 164.** The legislature designates state route number 164, as defined in RCW 47.17.320, as a highway of statewide significance. [2009 c 262 § 1.]

**RCW 47.05.200 Highways of statewide significance—State route No. 169.** The legislature designates state route number 169, as defined in RCW 47.17.340, as a highway of statewide significance. [2006 c 83 § 1.]

*See also: RCW 47.05.022.*

**RCW 47.05.205 Transportation project of statewide significance—Qualifying factors.** (1) A transportation project of statewide significance means a project that will:

- (a) Improve accessibility for a significant number of Washington residents;
- (b) Alleviate congestion and improve the reliability of travel times for Washington residents and other users of the transportation system;
- (c) Improve the movement of freight through the corridor;
- (d) Provide safety improvements and contribute to a reduction in injuries and fatalities;
- (e) Maximize opportunities for economic development in the region and the state;
- (f) Make improvement to transit, pedestrian, and bike access; and
- (g) Serve as a critical route for both national and state defense.

(2) (a) In order to qualify as a transportation project of statewide significance, the reasonable cost estimate to construct the project must be at least one billion dollars. Similarly, if a project is to be constructed in phases, in order to qualify as a transportation project of statewide significance, the total reasonable cost estimate to construct all the phases must be at least one billion dollars. For purposes of this subsection, "cost estimate to construct" includes costs associated with design, preliminary engineering, right-of-way acquisition, and construction.

(b) In order to qualify as a transportation project of statewide significance, the project must also contain a bridge that connects two states that has a reasonable cost estimate to construct of at least five hundred million dollars and would benefit from an expedited permitting process due to preexisting permits. [2019 c 137 § 2.]

**Finding—Intent—2019 c 137:** "The legislature finds that Washington's transportation needs are increasing as both a surge in

trade and population create demand on the system. Large transportation projects that provide improvements in accessibility, freight mobility, and safety, as well as maximize economic development, are critical to Washington's future. It is the intent of the legislature to recognize transportation projects of statewide significance, and to expedite their completion through the establishment of a formal process of coordination." [2019 c 137 § 1.]

**RCW 47.05.210 Transportation project of statewide significance—Duties of the department.** (1) The department shall:

(a) Develop an application for designation of transportation projects as transportation projects of statewide significance. The application must be accompanied by a letter of approval from the legislative authority of at least one jurisdiction that will have the proposed transportation project of statewide significance within its boundaries. No designation of a project as a transportation project of statewide significance shall be made without the letter of approval, except as provided in subsection (2) of this section. The letter of approval must state that the jurisdiction joins in the request for the designation of the transportation project as one of statewide significance and has or will hire the professional staff that will be required to expedite the processes necessary to the completion of a transportation project of statewide significance. The transportation project proponents may provide the funding necessary for the jurisdiction to hire the professional staff that will be required to so expedite. The application must contain information regarding the location of the project, how the project meets the criteria specified in RCW 47.05.205, and other information required by the department; and

(b) Designate a transportation project as a transportation project of statewide significance if the department determines, after review of the application under criteria adopted by rule, the transportation project will meet the criteria listed in RCW 47.05.205 (1) and (2).

(2) Any project designated by the legislature and codified in this chapter is not subject to the application requirements set out in subsection (1) of this section. However, the project is subject to the coordination process in subsection (3) of this section.

(3) The department shall assign a project facilitator or coordinator to each transportation project of statewide significance to:

(a) Assemble a team of state and local government and private officials to help meet the planning, permitting, and development needs of each project. The team must include those responsible for planning, permitting, and licensing, infrastructure development, workforce development services, transportation services, and the provision of utilities; and

(b) Work with each team member to expedite their actions in furtherance of the project and coordinate any cross-border communications, if applicable. [2019 c 137 § 3.]

**Finding—Intent—2019 c 137:** See note following RCW 47.05.205.

**Chapter 47.06 RCW**  
**STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING**

**Sections**

- 47.06.010 Findings.
- 47.06.020 Role of department.
- 47.06.040 Statewide multimodal transportation plan.
- 47.06.043 Technical workers—Skill enhancement.
- 47.06.045 Freight mobility plan.
- 47.06.050 State-owned facilities component.
- 47.06.060 Aviation plan.
- 47.06.070 Marine ports and navigation plan.
- 47.06.080 Freight rail plan.
- 47.06.090 Intercity passenger rail plan.
- 47.06.100 Bicycle transportation and pedestrian walkways plan.
- 47.06.110 Public transportation plan.
- 47.06.120 High capacity transportation planning and regional  
transportation planning—Role of department.
- 47.06.130 Special planning studies—Cost-benefit analysis.
- 47.06.140 Transportation facilities and services of statewide  
significance—Level of service standards.

*Environmental review of transportation projects: RCW 47.01.290.*



**Chapter 47.06 RCW**  
**STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING**

**Sections**

- 47.06.010 Findings.
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- 47.06.090 Intercity passenger rail plan.
- 47.06.100 Bicycle transportation and pedestrian walkways plan.
- 47.06.110 Public transportation plan.
- 47.06.120 High capacity transportation planning and regional transportation planning—Role of department.
- 47.06.130 Special planning studies—Cost-benefit analysis.
- 47.06.140 Transportation facilities and services of statewide significance—Level of service standards.

*Environmental review of transportation projects: RCW 47.01.290.*

**RCW 47.06.010 Findings.** The legislature recognizes that the ownership and operation of Washington's transportation system is spread among federal, state, and local government agencies, regional transit agencies, port districts, and the private sector. The legislature also recognizes that transportation planning authority is shared on the local, regional, and state levels, and that this planning must be a comprehensive and coordinated effort. While significant authority for transportation planning is vested with local agencies and regional transportation planning organizations under the growth management act, the legislature recognizes that certain transportation issues and facilities cross local and regional boundaries and are vital to the statewide economy and the cross-state mobility of people and goods. Therefore, the state has an appropriate role in developing statewide transportation plans that address state jurisdiction facilities and services as well as transportation facilities and services of state interest. These plans shall serve as a guide for short-term investment needs and provide a long-range vision for transportation system development. [1993 c 446 § 1.]

**RCW 47.06.020 Role of department.** The specific role of the department in transportation planning must be, consistent with the policy goals described under RCW 47.04.280: (1) Ongoing coordination and development of statewide transportation policies that guide all Washington transportation providers; (2) ongoing development of a statewide multimodal transportation plan that includes both state-owned and state-interest facilities and services; (3) coordinating the state high capacity transportation planning and regional transportation planning programs; (4) conducting special transportation planning studies that impact state transportation facilities or relate to transportation facilities and services of

statewide significance; and (5) assisting the transportation commission in the development of the statewide transportation plan required under RCW 47.01.071(4). Specific requirements for each of these state transportation planning components are described in this chapter. [2007 c 516 § 9; 1993 c 446 § 2.]

**Findings—Intent—2007 c 516:** See note following RCW 47.01.011.

**RCW 47.06.040 Statewide multimodal transportation plan.** The department shall develop a statewide multimodal transportation plan under \*RCW 47.01.071(3) and in conformance with federal requirements, to ensure the continued mobility of people and goods within regions and across the state in a safe, cost-effective manner. The statewide multimodal transportation plan shall consist of:

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

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

The plans developed under each component must be consistent with the state transportation policy plan and with each other, reflect public involvement, be consistent with regional transportation planning, high capacity transportation planning, and local comprehensive plans prepared under chapter 36.70A RCW, and include analysis of intermodal connections and choices. A primary emphasis for these plans shall be the relief of congestion, the preservation of existing investments and downtowns, ability to attract or accommodate planned population, and employment growth, the improvement of traveler safety, the efficient movement of freight and goods, and the improvement and integration of all transportation modes to create a seamless intermodal transportation system for people and goods.

In the development of the statewide multimodal transportation plan, the department shall identify and document potential affected environmental resources, including, but not limited to, wetlands, stormwater runoff, flooding, air quality, fish passage, and wildlife habitat. The department shall conduct its environmental identification and documentation in coordination with all relevant environmental regulatory authorities, including, but not limited to, local governments. The department shall give the relevant environmental regulatory authorities an opportunity to review the department's environmental plans. The relevant environmental regulatory authorities shall provide comments on the department's environmental plans in a timely manner. Environmental identification and documentation as provided for in RCW 47.01.300 and this section is not intended to create a private right of action or require an environmental impact statement as provided in chapter 43.21C RCW. [2002 c 189 § 4; 1998 c 199 § 1; 1994 c 258 § 5; 1993 c 446 § 4.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 47.01.071 was amended by 2005 c 319 § 5, changing subsection (3) to subsection (4).

**Captions not law—1994 c 258:** See note following RCW 36.70A.420.

**RCW 47.06.043 Technical workers—Skill enhancement.** The state interest component of the statewide multimodal transportation plan must include a plan for enhancing the skills of the existing technical transportation workforce. [2003 c 363 § 204.]

**Findings—Intent—2003 c 363 §§ 201-206:** See note following RCW 49.04.141.

**Part headings not law—Severability—2003 c 363:** See notes following RCW 47.28.241.

**RCW 47.06.045 Freight mobility plan.** The state-interest component of the statewide multimodal transportation plan shall include a freight mobility plan which shall assess the transportation needs to ensure the safe, reliable, and efficient movement of goods within and through the state and to ensure the state's economic vitality. The department shall coordinate with the freight mobility strategic investment board throughout the process of the department's periodic update of the state's freight mobility plan and provide opportunities for the board to review and provide feedback on the plan. [2023 c 167 § 6; 1998 c 175 § 10.]

**RCW 47.06.050 State-owned facilities component.** The state-owned facilities component of the statewide multimodal transportation plan shall consist of:

(1) The state highway system plan, which identifies program and financing needs and recommends specific and financially realistic improvements to preserve the structural integrity of the state highway system, ensure acceptable operating conditions, and provide for enhanced access to scenic, recreational, and cultural resources. The state highway system plan shall contain the following elements:

(a) A system preservation element, which shall establish structural preservation objectives for the state highway system including bridges, identify current and future structural deficiencies based upon analysis of current conditions and projected future deterioration, and recommend program funding levels and specific actions necessary to preserve the structural integrity of the state highway system consistent with adopted objectives. Lowest life-cycle cost methodologies must be used in developing a pavement management system. This element shall serve as the basis for the preservation component of the six-year highway program and the two-year biennial budget request to the legislature;

(b) A highway maintenance element, establishing service levels for highway maintenance on state-owned highways. The highway maintenance element must include an estimate of costs for achieving those service levels over twenty years. This element will serve as the basis for the maintenance component of the six-year highway program and the two-year biennial budget request to the legislature;

(c) A capacity and operational improvement element, which shall establish operational objectives, including safety considerations, for moving people and goods on the state highway system, identify current

and future capacity, operational, and safety deficiencies, and recommend program funding levels and specific improvements and strategies necessary to achieve the operational objectives. In developing capacity and operational improvement plans the department shall first assess strategies to enhance the operational efficiency of the existing system before recommending system expansion. Strategies to enhance the operational efficiencies include but are not limited to access management, transportation system management, demand management, and high occupancy vehicle facilities. The capacity and operational improvement element must conform to the state implementation plan for air quality and be consistent with regional transportation plans adopted under chapter 47.80 RCW, and shall serve as the basis for the capacity and operational improvement portions of the six-year highway program and the two-year biennial budget request to the legislature;

(d) A scenic and recreational highways element, which shall identify and recommend designation of scenic and recreational highways, provide for enhanced access to scenic, recreational, and cultural resources associated with designated routes, and recommend a variety of management strategies to protect, preserve, and enhance these resources. The department, affected counties, cities, and towns, regional transportation planning organizations, and other state or federal agencies shall jointly develop this element;

(e) A paths and trails element, which shall identify the needs of nonmotorized transportation modes on the state transportation systems and provide the basis for the investment of state transportation funds in paths and trails, including funding provided under chapter 47.30 RCW.

(2) The state ferry system plan, which shall guide capital and operating investments in the state ferry system. The plan shall establish service objectives for state ferry routes, forecast travel demand for the various markets served in the system, develop strategies for ferry system investment that consider regional and statewide vehicle and passenger needs, support local land use plans, and assure that ferry services are fully integrated with other transportation services. The plan must provide for maintenance of capital assets. The plan must also provide for preservation of capital assets based on lowest life-cycle cost methodologies. The plan shall assess the role of private ferries operating under the authority of the utilities and transportation commission and shall coordinate ferry system capital and operational plans with these private operations. The ferry system plan must be consistent with the regional transportation plans for areas served by the state ferry system, and shall be developed in conjunction with the ferry advisory committees. [2007 c 516 § 10; 2002 c 5 § 413; 1993 c 446 § 5.]

**Findings—Intent—2007 c 516:** See note following RCW 47.01.011.

**Finding—Intent—2002 c 5:** "The legislature finds that roads, streets, bridges, and highways in the state represent public assets worth over one hundred billion dollars. These investments require regular maintenance and preservation, or rehabilitation, to provide cost-effective transportation services. Many of these facilities are in poor condition. Given the magnitude of public investment and the importance of safe, reliable roadways to the motoring public, the legislature intends to create stronger accountability to ensure that

cost-effective maintenance and preservation is provided for these transportation facilities." [2002 c 5 § 408.]

**Captions not law—Severability—2002 c 5:** See notes following RCW 47.04.280.

**RCW 47.06.060 Aviation plan.** The state-interest component of the statewide multimodal transportation plan shall include an aviation plan, which shall fulfill the statewide aviation planning requirements of the federal government, coordinate statewide aviation planning, and identify the program needs for public use and state airports. [1993 c 446 § 6.]

**RCW 47.06.070 Marine ports and navigation plan.** The state-interest component of the statewide multimodal transportation plan shall include a state marine ports and navigation plan, which shall assess the transportation needs of Washington's marine ports, including navigation, and identify transportation system improvements needed to support the international trade and economic development role of Washington's marine ports. The department shall coordinate with the freight mobility strategic investment board throughout the process of the department's periodic update of the state marine ports and navigation plan and provide opportunities for the board to review and provide feedback on the plan. [2023 c 167 § 7; 1993 c 446 § 7.]

**RCW 47.06.080 Freight rail plan.** The state-interest component of the statewide multimodal transportation plan shall include a state freight rail plan, which shall fulfill the statewide freight rail planning requirements of the federal government, identify freight rail mainline issues, identify light-density freight rail lines threatened with abandonment, establish criteria for determining the importance of preserving the service or line, and recommend priorities for the use of state rail assistance and state rail banking program funds, as well as other available sources of funds. The plan shall also identify existing intercity rail rights-of-way that should be preserved for future transportation use. [1993 c 446 § 8.]

**RCW 47.06.090 Intercity passenger rail plan.** The state-interest component of the statewide multimodal transportation plan shall include an intercity passenger rail plan, which shall analyze existing intercity passenger rail service and recommend improvements to that service under the state passenger rail service program including depot improvements, potential service extensions, and ways to achieve higher train speeds.

For purposes of maintaining and preserving any state-owned component of the state's passenger rail program, the statewide multimodal transportation plan must identify all such assets and provide a preservation plan based on lowest life-cycle cost methodologies. [2002 c 5 § 414; 1993 c 446 § 9.]

**Finding—Intent—2002 c 5:** See note following RCW 47.06.050.

**Captions not law—Severability—2002 c 5:** See notes following RCW 47.04.280.

**RCW 47.06.100 Bicycle transportation and pedestrian walkways plan.** The state-interest component of the statewide multimodal transportation plan shall include a bicycle transportation and pedestrian walkways plan, which shall propose a statewide strategy for addressing bicycle and pedestrian transportation, including the integration of bicycle and pedestrian pathways with other transportation modes; the coordination between local governments, regional agencies, and the state in the provision of such facilities; the role of such facilities in reducing traffic congestion; and an assessment of statewide bicycle and pedestrian transportation needs. This plan shall satisfy the federal requirement for a long-range bicycle transportation and pedestrian walkways plan. [1993 c 446 § 10.]

**RCW 47.06.110 Public transportation plan.** The state-interest component of the statewide multimodal transportation plan shall include a state public transportation plan that:

- (1) Articulates the state vision of an interest in public transportation and provides quantifiable objectives, including benefits indicators;
- (2) Identifies the goals for public transit and the roles of federal, state, regional, and local entities in achieving those goals;
- (3) Recommends mechanisms for coordinating state, regional, and local planning for public transportation;
- (4) Recommends mechanisms for coordinating public transportation with other transportation services and modes;
- (5) Recommends criteria, consistent with the goals identified in subsection (2) of this section, for existing federal authorizations administered by the department to transit agencies; and
- (6) Recommends a statewide public transportation facilities and equipment management system as required by federal law.

In developing the state public transportation plan, the department shall involve local jurisdictions, public and private providers of transportation services, nonmotorized interests, and state agencies with an interest in public transportation, including but not limited to the departments of commerce, social and health services, and ecology, the office of the superintendent of public instruction, the office of the governor, and the office of financial management.

The department shall submit to the senate and house transportation committees by December 1st of each year, reports summarizing the plan's progress. [2017 3rd sp.s. c 25 § 41; 2005 c 319 § 124; 1996 c 186 § 512; 1995 c 399 § 120; 1993 c 446 § 11.]

**Findings—Intent—Part headings—Effective dates—2005 c 319:** See notes following RCW 43.17.020.

**Findings—Intent—Part headings not law—Effective date—1996 c 186:** See notes following RCW 43.330.904.

*Environmental review of transportation projects: RCW 47.01.290.*

**RCW 47.06.120 High capacity transportation planning and regional transportation planning—Role of department.** The department's role in high capacity transportation planning and regional transportation planning is to administer state planning grants for these purposes, represent the interests of the state in these regional planning processes, and coordinate other department planning with these regional efforts, including those under RCW 81.104.060. [1993 c 446 § 12.]

**RCW 47.06.130 Special planning studies—Cost-benefit analysis.**

(1) The department may carry out special transportation planning studies to resolve specific issues with the development of the state transportation system or other statewide transportation issues.

(2) The department shall conduct multimodal corridor analyses on major congested corridors where needed improvements are likely to cost in excess of one hundred million dollars. Analysis will include the cost-effectiveness of all feasible strategies in addressing congestion or improving mobility within the corridor, and must recommend the most effective strategy or mix of strategies to address identified deficiencies. A long-term view of corridors must be employed to determine whether an existing corridor should be expanded, a city or county road should become a state route, and whether a new corridor is needed to alleviate congestion and enhance mobility based on travel demand. To the extent practicable, full costs of all strategies must be reflected in the analysis. At a minimum, this analysis must include:

(a) The current and projected future demand for total person trips on that corridor;

(b) The impact of making no improvements to that corridor;

(c) The daily cost per added person served for each mode or improvement proposed to meet demand;

(d) The cost per hour of travel time saved per day for each mode or improvement proposed to meet demand; and

(e) How much of the current and anticipated future demand will be met and left unmet for each mode or improvement proposed to meet demand.

The end result of this analysis will be to provide a cost-benefit analysis by which policymakers can determine the most cost-effective improvement or mode, or mix of improvements and modes, for increasing mobility and reducing congestion. [2002 c 5 § 404; 1993 c 446 § 13.]

**Effective date—2002 c 5 §§ 401-404:** See note following RCW 47.05.010.

**Captions not law—Severability—2002 c 5:** See notes following RCW 47.04.280.

**RCW 47.06.140 Transportation facilities and services of statewide significance—Level of service standards.** (1) The legislature declares the following transportation facilities and services to be of statewide significance: Highways of statewide significance as designated by the legislature under chapter 47.05 RCW, the interstate highway system, interregional state principal arterials including ferry connections that serve statewide travel, intercity

passenger rail services, intercity high-speed ground transportation, major passenger intermodal terminals excluding all airport facilities and services, the freight railroad system, the Columbia/Snake navigable river system, marine port facilities and services that are related solely to marine activities affecting international and interstate trade, key freight transportation corridors serving these marine port facilities, and high capacity transportation systems serving regions as defined in RCW 81.104.015. The department, in cooperation with regional transportation planning organizations, counties, cities, transit agencies, public ports, private railroad operators, and private transportation providers, as appropriate, shall plan for improvements to transportation facilities and services of statewide significance in the statewide multimodal transportation plan. Improvements to facilities and services of statewide significance identified in the statewide multimodal transportation plan, or to highways of statewide significance designated by the legislature under chapter 47.05 RCW, are essential state public facilities under RCW 36.70A.200.

(2) The department of transportation, in consultation with local governments, shall set level of service standards for state highways and state ferry routes of statewide significance. Although the department shall consult with local governments when setting level of service standards, the department retains authority to make final decisions regarding level of service standards for state highways and state ferry routes of statewide significance. In establishing level of service standards for state highways and state ferry routes of statewide significance, the department shall consider the necessary balance between providing for the free interjurisdictional movement of people and goods and the needs of local communities using these facilities. When setting the level of service standards under this section for state ferry routes, the department may allow for a standard that is adjustable for seasonality. [2009 c 514 § 3. Prior: 2007 c 516 § 11; 2007 c 512 § 2; 1998 c 171 § 7.]

**Findings—Intent—2009 c 514:** See note following RCW 36.70A.085.

**Findings—Intent—2007 c 516:** See note following RCW 47.01.011.

**Finding—Intent—2007 c 512:** "The legislature finds from the 2006 Washington state ferries financing study that the state has limited information on state ferry users and markets. Accurate user and market information is vital in order to find ways to maximize the ferry systems' current capacity and to make the most efficient use of citizens' tax dollars. Therefore, it is the intent of the legislature that Washington state ferries be given the tools necessary to maximize the utilization of existing capacity and to make the most efficient use of existing assets and tax dollars. Furthermore, it is the intent of the legislature that the department of transportation adopt adaptive management practices in its operating and capital programs so as to keep the costs of the Washington state ferries system as low as possible while continuously improving the quality and timeliness of service." [2007 c 512 § 1.]

*Highways of statewide significance: RCW 47.05.022.*



**Chapter 47.06A RCW  
FREIGHT MOBILITY**

**Sections**

- 47.06A.001 Findings.
- 47.06A.010 Definitions.
- 47.06A.020 Board—Purpose—Duties.
- 47.06A.030 Board—Creation—Membership.
- 47.06A.040 Board—Administration and staffing.
- 47.06A.070 Records.

**Chapter 47.06A RCW  
FREIGHT MOBILITY**

**Sections**

47.06A.001	Findings.
47.06A.010	Definitions.
47.06A.020	Board—Purpose—Duties.
47.06A.030	Board—Creation—Membership.
47.06A.040	Board—Administration and staffing.
47.06A.070	Records.

**RCW 47.06A.001 Findings.** The legislature finds that:

(1) Washington state is uniquely positioned as a gateway to the global economy. As the most trade-dependent state in the nation, per capita, Washington's economy is highly dependent on an efficient multimodal transportation network in order to remain competitive.

(2) The vitality of the state's economy is placed at risk by growing traffic congestion that impedes the safe and efficient movement of goods. The absence of a comprehensive and coordinated state policy that facilitates freight movements to local, national, and international markets limits trade opportunities.

(3) Freight corridors that serve international and domestic interstate and intrastate trade, and those freight corridors that enhance the state's competitive position through regional and global gateways are strategically important. In many instances, movement of freight on these corridors is diminished by: Barriers that block or delay access to intermodal facilities where freight is transferred from one mode of transport to another; conflicts between rail and road traffic; constraints on rail capacity; highway capacity constraints, congestion, and condition; waterway system depths that affect capacity; and institutional, regulatory, and operational barriers.

(4) The negative impacts of freight transportation do not fall equally on all residents of Washington, and historically the negative impacts have been concentrated or felt most acutely within overburdened communities. Overburdened communities and vulnerable populations tend to be disproportionately located next to industrial areas and freight facilities such as ports, rail yards, highways, and truck stops. As such, the incidence of many health conditions, traffic accidents involving nondrivers, and highways dividing communities are among the highest in these communities. Freight mobility improvement efforts must prevent or minimize community impacts in areas of high freight movements and must encourage the active participation of communities in the early stages of proposed public and private infrastructure investments.

(5) Greenhouse gas emissions from freight transportation contribute to global climate change. In keeping with RCW 70A.45.020, freight mobility efforts must facilitate a transition to zero-emissions technology and proposed public and private infrastructure investments must align with this transition. Projects that invest in zero-emissions vehicle refueling and transportation patterns and zero-emissions freight movement corridors should be included within the investment program.

(6) Ownership of the freight mobility network is fragmented and spread across various public jurisdictions, private companies, and state and national borders. Transportation projects have grown in

complexity and size, requiring more resources and longer implementation time frames. Currently, there is no comprehensive and integrated framework for planning the freight mobility needs of public and private stakeholders in the freight transportation system. A coordinated planning process should identify new infrastructure investments that are integrated by public and private planning bodies into a multimodal and multijurisdictional network in all areas of the state, urban and rural, east and west. The state should integrate freight mobility goals with state policy on related issues such as economic development, growth management, and environmental management.

(7) State investment in projects that enhance or mitigate freight movements, should pay special attention to solutions that utilize a corridor solution to address freight mobility issues with important transportation and economic impacts beyond any local area. The corridor approach builds partnerships and fosters coordinated planning among jurisdictions and the public and private sectors.

(8) It is the policy of the state of Washington that limited public transportation funding and competition between freight and general mobility improvements for the same fund sources require strategic, prioritized freight investments that reduce barriers to freight movement, maximize cost-effectiveness, yield a return on the state's investment, require complementary investments by public and private interests, and solve regional freight mobility problems. State financial assistance for freight mobility projects must leverage other funds from all potential partners and sources, including federal, county, city, port district, and private capital. [2023 c 167 § 2; 1998 c 175 § 1.]

**RCW 47.06A.010 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Board" means the freight mobility strategic investment board created in RCW 47.06A.030.

(2) "Department" means the department of transportation.

(3) "Freight mobility" means the safe, reliable, and efficient movement of goods within and through the state to ensure the state's economic vitality.

(4) "Indian tribe" has the same meaning as provided in RCW 43.376.010.

(5) "Local governments" means cities, towns, counties, special purpose districts, port districts, and any other municipal corporations or quasi-municipal corporations in the state excluding school districts.

(6) "Overburdened community" has the same meaning as provided in RCW 70A.02.010.

(7) "Public entity" means a state agency, city, town, county, port district, or municipal or regional planning organization.

(8) "Strategic freight corridor" means a transportation corridor of great economic importance within an integrated freight system that:

(a) Serves international and domestic interstate and intrastate trade;

(b) Enhances the state's competitive position through regional and global gateways;

(c) Carries freight tonnages of at least:

(i) Four million gross tons annually on state highways, city streets, and county roads;

(ii) Five million gross tons annually on railroads; or  
(iii) Two and one-half million net tons on waterways; and  
(d) Has been designated a strategic corridor by the board under RCW 47.06A.020(4). However, new alignments to, realignments of, and new links to strategic corridors that enhance freight movement may qualify, even though no tonnage data exists for facilities to be built in the future. [2023 c 167 § 1; 1998 c 175 § 2.]

**RCW 47.06A.020 Board—Purpose—Duties.** (1) The purpose of the board is to:

(a) Provide strategic guidance to the governor and the legislature regarding the highest priority freight mobility needs in the state;

(b) Identify and recommend a program of high-priority strategic freight mobility investments;

(c) Encourage policies that support a competitive, resilient, sustainable, and equitable freight system; and

(d) Serve as a forum for discussion of state transportation decisions affecting freight mobility.

(2) The board shall:

(a) Adopt rules and procedures necessary to implement the freight mobility strategic investment program;

(b) After seeking input from local governments, transportation planning organizations, other public entities, and Indian tribes[,] recommend a six-year investment program of the highest priority freight mobility projects for the state across freight modes, jurisdictions, and the regions of the state;

(c) Ensure that the program provides statewide inclusion and maximum federal funding options, projects recommended as a part of the six-year investment program that intend to leverage federal funds must be developed consistent with planning requirements for inclusion in the federally recognized state freight plan;

(d) Monitor the implementation of projects included in the six-year investment program on an ongoing basis;

(e) Identify critical emerging freight mobility issues not yet addressed by investments considered for inclusion in the six-year investment program of the highest priority freight mobility investments required in (a) of this subsection; and

(f) Submit an initial full report meeting the requirements of this subsection to the governor and the transportation committees of the legislature by December 1, 2024. Updated reports may be submitted annually to the transportation committees of the legislature and governor by December 1st of each year; however, a full update must be provided every two years.

(3) The board may:

(a) Provide technical assistance to project sponsors;

(b) Accept any gifts, grants, or loans of funds, property, or financial, or other aid in any form from any other source on any terms and conditions which are not in conflict with this chapter;

(c) Adopt rules under chapter 34.05 RCW as necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter;

(d) Do all things necessary or convenient to carry out the powers expressly granted or implied under this chapter;

(e) Evaluate and recommend for state sponsorship priority projects eligible for federal grant funding under the nationally

significant multimodal freight and highway projects program, also known as the infrastructure for rebuilding America program, established in 23 U.S.C. Sec. 117 and the railroad crossing elimination program established in 49 U.S.C. Sec. 22909; and

(f) For critical emerging freight issues identified under subsection (2)(e) of this section, proactively work with potential project sponsors, impacted communities, and other interested parties to facilitate project development to address these critical issues.

(4) The board shall:

(a) Designate strategic freight corridors within the state. The board shall update the list of designated strategic corridors not less than every two years, and shall establish a method of collecting and verifying data, including information on city and county-owned roadways;

(b) Coordinate with the department of transportation throughout the process of its periodic update of the state's freight mobility plan and review and provide feedback on the plan;

(c) For the purposes of developing the six-year program of highest priority freight mobility investments, utilize threshold project eligibility criteria that, at a minimum, includes the following:

(i) The project must be on a strategic freight corridor;

(ii) The project sponsor must demonstrate a plan for:

(A) Sufficient engagement with overburdened communities impacted by the project; and

(B) The evaluation of project alternatives and mitigation measures addressing the impacts on these communities to the greatest extent possible;

(d) Adopt other evaluation criteria for the six-year program of highest priority freight mobility investments to include, but not be limited to, benefits to the state's freight system, how much funding has already been secured for a project, project readiness for construction, and the regional distribution of projects;

(e) For the six-year investment program, solicit from public entities proposed projects that meet threshold criteria established in accordance with this subsection. The procedures for collecting and validating project information must rely on information project sponsors have already developed to the greatest extent possible; and

(f) Develop and recommend policies that address operational improvements that primarily benefit and enhance freight movement including, but not limited to, policies that reduce congestion in truck lanes at border crossings and weigh stations and provide for access to ports during nonpeak hours. [2023 c 167 § 3; 2013 c 104 § 1; 2005 c 319 § 125; 1999 c 216 § 1; 1998 c 175 § 3.]

**Findings—Intent—Part headings—Effective dates—2005 c 319:** See notes following RCW 43.17.020.

**RCW 47.06A.030 Board—Creation—Membership.** (1) The freight mobility strategic investment board is created. The board shall convene by July 1, 1998.

(2) The board is composed of 17 members. The following members are appointed by the governor for terms of four years, except that five members initially are appointed for terms of two years: (a) Two members, one of whom is from a city located within or along a

strategic freight corridor, appointed from a list of at least four persons nominated by the association of Washington cities or its successor; (b) two members, one of whom is from a county having a strategic freight corridor within its boundaries, appointed from a list of at least four persons nominated by the Washington state association of counties or its successor; (c) two members, one of whom is from a port district located within or along a strategic freight corridor, appointed from a list of at least four persons nominated by the Washington public ports association or its successor; (d) one member representing the office of financial management; (e) one member appointed as a representative of the trucking industry; (f) one member appointed as a representative of the railroads; (g) the secretary of the department of transportation or the secretary's designee; (h) one member representing the steamship industry; (i) one member representing the package delivery industry; (j) one labor member representing the freight sector; (k) one member representing the heavy highway construction industry; (l) one member representing environmental protection interests; (m) one member representing the interests of overburdened communities; and (n) one member of the general public. In appointing the general public member, the governor shall endeavor to appoint a member with special expertise in relevant fields such as public finance, freight transportation, or public works construction. The governor shall appoint the general public member as chair of the board. In making appointments to the board, the governor shall ensure that each geographic region of the state is represented.

(3) Members of the board shall be reimbursed for reasonable and customary travel expenses as provided in RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060.

(4) If a vacancy on the board occurs by death, resignation, or otherwise, the governor shall fill the vacant position for the unexpired term. Each vacancy in a position appointed from lists provided by the associations and departments under subsection (2) of this section must be filled from a list of at least four persons nominated by the relevant association or associations.

(5) The appointments made in subsection (2) of this section are not subject to confirmation. [2023 c 167 § 5; 1999 c 216 § 2; 1998 c 175 § 4.]

**RCW 47.06A.040 Board—Administration and staffing.** The board, at its option, may either appoint an executive director, who shall serve at its pleasure and whose salary shall be set by the board or make provisions ensuring the responsibilities of the executive director are carried out by an existing transportation-related state agency or by private contract. Staff support to the board shall be provided by the department of transportation, the transportation improvement board, and the county road administration board, or their successor agencies. [1999 c 216 § 3; 1998 c 175 § 5.]

**RCW 47.06A.070 Records.** The board shall keep proper records and shall be subject to audit by the state auditor. [1998 c 175 § 8.]

**Chapter 47.08 RCW  
HIGHWAY FUNDS**

**Sections**

- 47.08.010 Control of allocated funds.
- 47.08.020 State to match federal funds.
- 47.08.040 Contracts with United States as to state highway property.
- 47.08.050 Contracts with United States—Governor to execute instrument to the United States.
- 47.08.060 Contracts with United States—Disposal of funds from the United States.
- 47.08.070 Cooperation in public works projects, urban public transportation systems.
- 47.08.080 Funds when department is in charge of county road improvements.
- 47.08.090 Funds when department is in charge of city street improvements.
- 47.08.100 Illegal use of county or city road funds—Procedure to correct.
- 47.08.110 Misuse of county or city road funds—General penalty.
- 47.08.120 Transportation equipment fund.
- 47.08.121 Transportation equipment fund declared revolving fund of proprietary nature—Use.
- 47.08.130 Custody of federal funds—Disbursement.

*Highway funds, constitutional limitations: State Constitution Art. 2 § 40 (Amendment 18).*

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**RCW 47.08.010 Control of allocated funds.** Whenever there is provided an allocation for the construction or improvement of state highways, the allocation shall be under the sole charge and direct control of the department. [1984 c 7 § 92; 1961 c 13 § 47.08.010. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 32, part; RRS § 6400-32, part.]

**RCW 47.08.020 State to match federal funds.** For the construction, alteration, repair and improvement of state highways, county roads, or city and town streets in the state of Washington which are part of the public highway system, the good faith of the state of Washington is hereby pledged to make available funds sufficient to equal the sums appropriated to the state by or under the United States government during succeeding fiscal years and to use and expend the same within one year after the fiscal year for which appropriated, and in the manner and under the rules and regulations imposed by the secretary of commerce and to maintain, or cause to be maintained, the highways or roads constructed or improved with the aid of funds so appropriated, and to make adequate provisions for carrying out such maintenance. [1961 c 13 § 47.08.020. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 46; RRS § 6400-46; 1917 c 76 § 3; RRS § 6846.]

**RCW 47.08.040 Contracts with United States as to state highway property.** Whenever it is necessary or desirable for the federal government or any agency thereof to acquire an interest in or in any way damage any property or interest therein owned by the state of



Washington and used in connection with any highway in the state of Washington in connection with any federal project for the development of any river within or partially within the state of Washington, the department is authorized, empowered, and directed to negotiate and enter into an agreement with the proper agency of the federal government as to the rights which shall be acquired, the compensation which shall be made therefor and the character of instruments by which the rights shall be conveyed, and as to any other matters which may be necessary in order to satisfy the requirements of the federal government. If the agreement is required to be reduced to writing, the writing shall be approved as to form by the attorney general of the state of Washington. [1984 c 7 § 93; 1961 c 13 § 47.08.040. Prior: 1937 c 113 § 1; RRS § 6450-91.]

**RCW 47.08.050 Contracts with United States—Governor to execute instrument to the United States.** Whenever the department has entered into an agreement under RCW 47.08.040 with the federal government or any agency thereof requiring the execution of any deed, flowage easement, or instrument of any nature, to the federal government or agency, and the instrument is approved as to form by the attorney general of the state of Washington, the governor of the state of Washington is authorized and directed without further authority and in the name of the state of Washington to execute and deliver to the proper agency of the federal government any such instrument or instruments which shall be, when attested by the secretary of state, binding upon the state of Washington. [1984 c 7 § 94; 1961 c 13 § 47.08.050. Prior: 1937 c 113 § 2; RRS § 6450-92.]

**RCW 47.08.060 Contracts with United States—Disposal of funds from the United States.** Whenever any moneys shall be realized by the state of Washington as a result of any agreement authorized by RCW 47.08.040, the same shall be deposited in the treasury of the state of Washington to the credit of the motor vehicle fund, and shall be available for highway purposes only. [1967 ex.s. c 145 § 45; 1961 c 13 § 47.08.060. Prior: 1937 c 113 § 3; RRS § 6450-93.]

**RCW 47.08.070 Cooperation in public works projects, urban public transportation systems.** When it appears to the department that any state highway will be benefited or improved by the construction of any public works project, including any urban public transportation system, within the state of Washington by any of the departments of the state of Washington, by the federal government, or by any agency, instrumentality, or municipal corporation of either the state of Washington or the United States, the department is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with any such state department, with the United States, or with any agency, instrumentality, or municipal corporation of either the state of Washington or the United States, wherein the state of Washington, acting through the department, will participate in the cost of the public works project in such amount as may be determined by the department to be the value of the benefits or improvements to the particular state highway derived from the construction of the public works project. Under any such agreement the department may contribute to the cost of the public works project by

making direct payment to the particular state department, federal government, or to any agency, instrumentality, or municipal corporation of either the state or the United States, or any combination thereof, which may be involved in the project, from any funds appropriated to the department and available for highway purposes, or by doing a portion of the project either by day labor or by contract, or in any other manner as may be deemed advisable and necessary by the department. [1984 c 7 § 95; 1967 c 108 § 3; 1961 c 13 § 47.08.070. Prior: 1945 c 127 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6400-121.]

*Urban public transportation system defined: RCW 47.04.082.*

**RCW 47.08.080 Funds when department is in charge of county road improvements.** If any funds become available from the federal government or otherwise for expenditure in conjunction with county funds for the construction, alteration, repair, or improvement of any county road and the work is to be performed by the department, the state treasurer shall, upon notice from the department, set aside from any moneys in the motor vehicle fund credited to any such county, the cost thereof, together with the cost of engineering, supervision, and other proper items, or so much of the money in the state treasury to the credit of the county as may be necessary for use in conjunction with funds from the federal government to accomplish the work. The work shall then be performed by the department and paid from the money so set aside upon vouchers approved and submitted by the department in the same manner as payment is made for such work on state highways: PROVIDED, That the legislative authority of any such county shall have, by proper resolution, filed in duplicate in the office of the department and approved by it, determined the county road construction, alteration, repair, or improvement to be performed in such county and the same is found to conform in all respects to the requirements necessary for the use of such funds of the federal government. [1984 c 7 § 96; 1973 c 106 § 22; 1961 c 13 § 47.08.080. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 59; RRS § 6450-59.]

**RCW 47.08.090 Funds when department is in charge of city street improvements.** If any funds become available from the federal government or otherwise for expenditure in conjunction with funds accruing to any incorporated city or town for the construction, alteration, repair, or improvement of its city streets designated as forming a part of the route of any state highway through the incorporated city or town and the work is to be performed by the department, the state treasurer shall, upon notice from the department, set aside from any moneys in the motor vehicle fund credited to the incorporated city or town, the cost thereof or so much money in the state treasury to the credit of the incorporated city or town as may be necessary in conjunction with the funds from the federal government or otherwise to accomplish the work, the cost to be paid by the state treasurer from the money so set aside upon vouchers approved and submitted by the department in the same manner as payment is made for work on state highways. If any such incorporated city or town has agreed with the state of Washington or the federal government as a condition precedent to the acquiring of federal funds for construction on any city street of the incorporated city or town designated as forming a part of the route of any state highways, that

the street will be maintained to a standard and the incorporated city or town fails to so maintain the city street, then the department may perform the maintenance, and the state treasurer is authorized to deduct the cost thereof from any funds credited or to be credited to the incorporated city or town and pay the same on vouchers approved and submitted by the department in the same manner as payment is made for work performed on state highways. [1984 c 7 § 97; 1973 c 106 § 23; 1961 c 13 § 47.08.090. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 65; RRS § 6450-65.]

**RCW 47.08.100 Illegal use of county or city road funds—**

**Procedure to correct.** The department is authorized from time to time to investigate expenditures from the county road fund and the city street fund; and if it determines that unauthorized, illegal, or wrongful expenditures are being or have been made from the fund it is authorized to proceed as follows: If the county road fund is involved it shall notify in writing the county legislative authority and the county treasurer of its determination; and if the city street fund is involved it shall notify the city council or commission and the mayor and city treasurer of the city or town of its determination. In its determination the department is authorized to demand of those officials that the wrongful or illegal expenditures shall be stopped, adjusted, or remedied and that restitution of any wrongful or illegal diversion or use shall be made; and it may notify the officials that if the wrong is not stopped, remedied, or adjusted, or restitution made to its satisfaction within a specified period fixed by it, it will direct the withholding of further payments to the county or city from the motor vehicle fund. The county or city shall have ten days after the notice is given within which to correct or remedy the wrong, or wrongful and illegal practices, to make restitution, or to adjust the matter to the satisfaction of the department.

If no correction, remedy, adjustment, or restitution is made within ten days to the satisfaction of the department, it has power to request in writing that the state treasurer withhold further payments from the motor vehicle fund to the county or city; and it is the duty of the state treasurer upon being so notified to withhold further payments from the motor vehicle fund to the county or city involved until the officials are notified in writing by the department that payments may be resumed.

The department is also authorized to notify in writing the prosecuting attorney of the county in which the violation occurs of the facts, and it is the duty of the prosecuting attorney to file charges and to criminally prosecute any and all persons guilty of any such violation. [1984 c 7 § 98; 1973 c 106 § 24; 1961 c 13 § 47.08.100. Prior: 1943 c 82 § 13, part; 1937 c 187 § 66, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6450-66, part.]

**RCW 47.08.110 Misuse of county or city road funds—General penalty.** It shall be unlawful and a misdemeanor, unless the same is by this title or other law of this state declared to be a felony or gross misdemeanor, to divert or use, or authorize, permit or participate in the diversion or use of any moneys in the county road fund or in the city street fund for any other purpose or in any other manner than that authorized by law. [1961 c 13 § 47.08.110. Prior:

1943 c 82 § 13, part; 1937 c 187 § 66, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6450-66, part.]

**RCW 47.08.120 Transportation equipment fund.** There is hereby created in the state treasury a state fund to be known as the "transportation equipment fund," the same to be used by the department of transportation as a revolving fund to be expended for salaries, wages and operations required for the repair, replacement, purchase and operation of equipment and for purchase of equipment, materials and supplies to be used as follows: (1) In the administration and operation of this fund; and (2) in the administration, maintenance and construction of highways and transportation facilities.

The transportation equipment fund shall be credited, in the case of equipment, with a reasonable rental assessed upon the use of such equipment by the various state departments, and in the case of materials and supplies, with a reasonable charge for such materials and supplies. Such credit for rental and charges for materials and supplies shall be charged against the proper appropriation therefor.

Equipment may be rented and materials and supplies may be sold out of this fund to any federal, state, county or city political subdivision or governmental agency. The terms and charges for such rental and the prices for such sale shall be solely within the discretion of the department of transportation and its determination of the charge for rental or sale price shall be considered a reasonable rental charge or a reasonable sale price. Any political subdivision or governmental agency shall make payment for such rental or for purchase of such materials or supplies directly to the transportation equipment fund at the office of the department of transportation at Olympia. [1979 c 39 § 1; 1961 c 13 § 47.08.120. Prior: 1943 c 135 § 1; 1935 c 144 § 10; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6600-1c.]

**RCW 47.08.121 Transportation equipment fund declared revolving fund of proprietary nature—Use.** The "highway equipment fund" as established by RCW 47.08.120 is declared to be a revolving fund of a proprietary nature and moneys that are or will be deposited in this fund are hereby authorized for expenditures for the purposes provided by law. [1961 c 13 § 47.08.121. Prior: 1959 c 326 § 3.]

**RCW 47.08.130 Custody of federal funds—Disbursement.** The state treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to receive and have custody of such funds and warrants drawn by the secretary of transportation or other authorized agent of the United States as are made available for payment by the secretary of the treasury of the United States under the provisions of the federal aid road act approved July 11, 1916, and all acts amendatory or supplementary thereto, disbursing the same under such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the secretary of transportation or by the secretary of the treasury or other authorized agent of the United States. The state treasurer is further authorized and directed to pay from the motor vehicle fund for the use of the department such funds as may be necessary upon any project in anticipation of reimbursement by the government of the United States. [1984 c 7 § 99; 1961 c 13 § 47.08.130. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 45; RRS § 6400-45; 1931 c 129 § 1; 1929

c 146 § 1; 1927 c 214 § 1; 1925 c 4 § 1; 1923 c 41 § 1; 1921 c 89 § 1;  
1919 c 56 § 1; RRS § 6850.]

**Chapter 47.10 RCW**  
**HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION BONDS**

**Sections**

STATE HIGHWAYS IN URBAN AREAS

47.10.775 Issuance and sale of limited obligation bonds, terms, conditions, retirement, use of proceeds, etc.

COUNTY AND CITY ARTERIALS IN URBAN AREAS

47.10.777 Issuance and sale of limited obligation bonds, terms, conditions, retirement, use of proceeds, etc.

INTERSTATE 90 COMPLETION—1979 ACT

47.10.790 Issuance and sale of general obligation bonds—State route 90 improvements.

47.10.791 Administration and amount of bond sales.

47.10.792 Bond proceeds—Deposit and use.

47.10.793 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes.

47.10.794 Designation of funds to repay bonds and interest.

47.10.795 Repayment procedure—Bond retirement fund.

47.10.796 Sums in excess of retirement requirements—Use.

47.10.797 Bonds legal investment for state funds.

47.10.798 Bonds equal charge against fuel tax revenues.

47.10.799 Appropriation—Expenditure limited to bond sale proceeds.

INTERSTATE HIGHWAY, CATEGORY A,  
CATEGORY C IMPROVEMENTS—1981 ACT

47.10.801 Issuance and sale of general obligation bonds.

47.10.802 Administration and amount of bond sales.

47.10.803 Bond proceeds—Deposit and use.

47.10.804 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes.

47.10.805 Designation of funds to repay bonds and interest.

47.10.806 Repayment procedure—Bond retirement fund.

47.10.807 Sums in excess of retirement requirements—Use.

47.10.808 Bonds legal investment for state funds.

47.10.809 Bonds equal charge against fuel tax revenues.

CATEGORY C IMPROVEMENTS—1993 ACT

47.10.812 Issuance and sale of general obligation bonds.

47.10.813 Administration and amount of sale.

47.10.814 Proceeds—Deposit and use.

47.10.815 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.

47.10.816 Designation of funds to repay bonds and interest.

47.10.817 Equal charge against motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.

INTERSTATE, OTHER HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS—1993 ACT

47.10.819 Issuance and sale of general obligation bonds.

47.10.820 Administration and amount of sale.

47.10.821 Proceeds—Deposit and use.

47.10.822 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.

47.10.823 Designation of funds to repay bonds and interest.

47.10.824 Equal charge against motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.

PUBLIC-PRIVATE TRANSPORTATION INITIATIVES—1994 ACT

47.10.834 Issuance and sale of general obligation bonds.  
47.10.835 Administration and amount of sale.  
47.10.836 Proceeds—Deposit and use.  
47.10.837 Designation of funds to repay bonds and interest.  
47.10.838 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.  
47.10.839 Repayment procedure—Bond retirement fund.  
47.10.841 Equal charge against motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.

STATE AND LOCAL HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS—1998 ACT

47.10.843 Bond issue authorized.  
47.10.844 Administration and amount of sale.  
47.10.845 Proceeds—Deposit and use.  
47.10.846 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.  
47.10.847 Repayment procedure—Bond retirement fund.  
47.10.848 Equal charge against motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.

2003 TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS—NICKEL ACCOUNT

47.10.861 Bond issue authorized.  
47.10.862 Administration and amount of sale.  
47.10.863 Proceeds—Deposit and use.  
47.10.864 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.  
47.10.865 Repayment procedure—Bond retirement fund.  
47.10.866 Equal charge against motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.

MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS—2003 ACT

47.10.867 Bond issue authorized—Appropriation of proceeds.  
47.10.868 Proceeds—Deposit and use.  
47.10.869 Repayment procedure.  
47.10.870 Statement of general obligation—Transfer and payment of funds.  
47.10.871 Additional repayment means.  
47.10.872 Legal investment.

SELECTED PROJECTS AND IMPROVEMENTS—2005 ACT

47.10.873 Bond issue authorized.  
47.10.874 Administration and amount of sale.  
47.10.875 Proceeds—Deposit and use.  
47.10.876 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.  
47.10.877 Repayment procedure—Bond retirement fund.  
47.10.878 Equal charge against motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.

STATE ROUTE NO. 520 CORRIDOR PROJECTS—2009 ACT

47.10.879 Bond issue authorized.  
47.10.880 Administration and amount of sale.

- 47.10.881 Proceeds—Deposit and use.
- 47.10.883 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of toll revenue and excise taxes.
- 47.10.884 Repayment procedure.
- 47.10.885 Equal charge against motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.
- 47.10.886 Toll revenue bonds.

CONNECTING WASHINGTON PROJECTS AND IMPROVEMENTS—2015 ACT

- 47.10.889 Bond issue authorized.
- 47.10.890 Administration and amount of sale.
- 47.10.891 Proceeds—Deposit and use.
- 47.10.892 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.
- 47.10.893 Repayment procedure—Bond retirement fund.
- 47.10.894 Equal charge against fuel excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.
- 47.10.895 Definition.

INTERSTATE 405, STATE ROUTE NO. 167, AND STATE ROUTE NO. 509 PROJECTS  
—2019 ACT

- 47.10.896 Bond issue authorized.
- 47.10.897 Administration and amount of sale.
- 47.10.898 Proceeds—Deposit and use.
- 47.10.899 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of toll revenue and excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.
- 47.10.900 Repayment procedure.
- 47.10.901 Equal charge against fuel excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

- 47.10.905 Toll facility bond retirement account.
- 47.10.906 State finance committee authority—Department of transportation approval of actions—Bond owners' rights.
- 47.10.907 Definitions.
- 47.10.908 Definitions applicable to chapter 103, Laws of 2022.



**Chapter 47.10 RCW**  
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**Sections**

STATE HIGHWAYS IN URBAN AREAS

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INTERSTATE 90 COMPLETION—1979 ACT

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47.10.791 Administration and amount of bond sales.

47.10.792 Bond proceeds—Deposit and use.

47.10.793 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes.

47.10.794 Designation of funds to repay bonds and interest.

47.10.795 Repayment procedure—Bond retirement fund.

47.10.796 Sums in excess of retirement requirements—Use.

47.10.797 Bonds legal investment for state funds.

47.10.798 Bonds equal charge against fuel tax revenues.

47.10.799 Appropriation—Expenditure limited to bond sale proceeds.

INTERSTATE HIGHWAY, CATEGORY A,  
CATEGORY C IMPROVEMENTS—1981 ACT

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47.10.802 Administration and amount of bond sales.

47.10.803 Bond proceeds—Deposit and use.

47.10.804 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes.

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47.10.812 Issuance and sale of general obligation bonds.

47.10.813 Administration and amount of sale.

47.10.814 Proceeds—Deposit and use.

47.10.815 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.

47.10.816 Designation of funds to repay bonds and interest.

47.10.817 Equal charge against motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.

INTERSTATE, OTHER HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS—1993 ACT

47.10.819 Issuance and sale of general obligation bonds.

47.10.820 Administration and amount of sale.

47.10.821 Proceeds—Deposit and use.

47.10.822 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.

47.10.823 Designation of funds to repay bonds and interest.

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47.10.837 Designation of funds to repay bonds and interest.  
47.10.838 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.  
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47.10.847 Repayment procedure—Bond retirement fund.  
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47.10.861 Bond issue authorized.  
47.10.862 Administration and amount of sale.  
47.10.863 Proceeds—Deposit and use.  
47.10.864 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.  
47.10.865 Repayment procedure—Bond retirement fund.  
47.10.866 Equal charge against motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.

MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS—2003 ACT

47.10.867 Bond issue authorized—Appropriation of proceeds.  
47.10.868 Proceeds—Deposit and use.  
47.10.869 Repayment procedure.  
47.10.870 Statement of general obligation—Transfer and payment of funds.  
47.10.871 Additional repayment means.  
47.10.872 Legal investment.

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47.10.873 Bond issue authorized.  
47.10.874 Administration and amount of sale.  
47.10.875 Proceeds—Deposit and use.  
47.10.876 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.  
47.10.877 Repayment procedure—Bond retirement fund.  
47.10.878 Equal charge against motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.

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47.10.879 Bond issue authorized.  
47.10.880 Administration and amount of sale.

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- 47.10.898 Proceeds—Deposit and use.
- 47.10.899 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of toll revenue and excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.
- 47.10.900 Repayment procedure.
- 47.10.901 Equal charge against fuel excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

- 47.10.905 Toll facility bond retirement account.
- 47.10.906 State finance committee authority—Department of transportation approval of actions—Bond owners' rights.
- 47.10.907 Definitions.
- 47.10.908 Definitions applicable to chapter 103, Laws of 2022.

STATE HIGHWAYS IN URBAN AREAS

**RCW 47.10.775 Issuance and sale of limited obligation bonds, terms, conditions, retirement, use of proceeds, etc.** See RCW 47.26.400 through 47.26.407.

COUNTY AND CITY ARTERIALS IN URBAN AREAS

**RCW 47.10.777 Issuance and sale of limited obligation bonds, terms, conditions, retirement, use of proceeds, etc.** See RCW 47.26.420 through 47.26.460.

INTERSTATE 90 COMPLETION—1979 ACT

**RCW 47.10.790 Issuance and sale of general obligation bonds—State route 90 improvements.** (1) In order to provide funds for the location, design, right-of-way, and construction of selected interstate highway improvements, there shall be issued and sold upon the request of the Washington state transportation commission, a total of one hundred million dollars of general obligation bonds of the state of Washington to pay the state's share of costs for completion of state route 90 (state route 5 to state route 405) and other related state highway projects eligible for regular federal interstate funding and until December 31, 1989, to temporarily pay the regular federal share of construction of completion projects on state route 90 (state route 5 to state route 405) and other related state highway projects eligible for regular interstate funding in advance of federal-aid apportionments under the provisions of 23 U.S.C. Secs. 115 or 122: PROVIDED, That the total amount of bonds issued to temporarily pay the regular federal share of construction of federal-aid interstate highways in advance of federal-aid apportionments as authorized by this section and RCW 47.10.801 shall not exceed one hundred twenty million dollars: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the transportation commission shall adopt plans for the obligation of federal-aid apportionments received in federal fiscal year 1985 and subsequent years to pay the regular federal share of federal-aid interstate highway construction projects or to convert such apportionments under the provisions of 23 U.S.C. Secs. 115 or 122.

(2) The transportation commission may at any time find and determine that any amount of the bonds authorized in subsection (1) of this section, and not then sold, are no longer required to be issued and sold for the purposes described in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) Any bonds authorized by subsection (1) of this section that the transportation commission determines are no longer required for the purpose of paying the cost of the designated interstate highway improvements described therein shall be issued and sold, upon the request of the Washington state transportation commission, to provide funds for the location, design, right-of-way, and construction of major transportation improvements throughout the state. [2005 c 319 § 126; 1985 c 406 § 1; 1982 c 19 § 3; 1981 c 316 § 10; 1979 ex.s. c 180 § 1.]

**Findings—Intent—Part headings—Effective dates—2005 c 319:** See notes following RCW 43.17.020.

**Severability—1982 c 19:** See note following RCW 47.10.801.

**RCW 47.10.791 Administration and amount of bond sales.** Upon request being made by the transportation commission, the state finance committee shall supervise and provide for the issuance, sale, and retirement of the bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.790 in accordance with the provisions of chapter 39.42 RCW. The amount of such bonds issued and sold under the provisions of RCW 47.10.790 through 47.10.798 in any biennium may not exceed the amount of a specific appropriation

therefor. Such bonds may be sold from time to time in such amounts as may be necessary for the orderly progress of the state highway improvements specified in RCW 47.10.790. The bonds shall be sold in such manner, at such time or times, in such amounts, and at such price or prices as the state finance committee shall determine. The state finance committee may obtain insurance, letters of credit, or other credit facility devices with respect to the bonds and may authorize the execution and delivery of agreements, promissory notes, and other obligations for the purpose of insuring the payment or enhancing the marketability of the bonds. Promissory notes or other obligations issued under this section shall not constitute a debt or the contracting of indebtedness under any constitutional or statutory indebtedness limitation if their payment is conditioned upon the failure of the state to pay the principal of or interest on the bonds with respect to which the promissory notes or other obligations relate. The state finance committee may authorize the issuance of short-term obligations in lieu of long-term obligations for the purposes of more favorable interest rates, lower total interest costs, and increased marketability and for the purposes of retiring the bonds during the life of the project for which they were issued. [1986 c 290 § 6; 1979 ex.s. c 180 § 2.]

**RCW 47.10.792 Bond proceeds—Deposit and use.** The proceeds from the sale of the bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.790 shall be deposited in the motor vehicle fund and such proceeds shall be available only for the purposes enumerated in RCW 47.10.790, for the payment of bond anticipation notes, if any, and for the payment of the expense incurred in the drafting, printing, issuance, and sale of such bonds. The costs of obtaining insurance, letters of credit, or other credit enhancement devices with respect to the bonds shall be considered to be expenses incurred in the issuance and sale of the bonds. [1986 c 290 § 7; 1979 ex.s. c 180 § 3.]

**RCW 47.10.793 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes.** Bonds issued under the provisions of RCW 47.10.790 must distinctly state that they are a general obligation of the state of Washington, must pledge the full faith and credit of the state to the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon, and must contain an unconditional promise to pay such principal and interest as the same becomes due. The principal of and interest on such bonds must be first payable in the manner provided in RCW 47.10.790 through 47.10.798 from the proceeds of the state excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels imposed by chapter 82.38 RCW. Proceeds of such excise taxes are hereby pledged to the payment of any bonds and the interest thereon issued under the provisions of RCW 47.10.790 through 47.10.798, and the legislature hereby agrees to continue to impose the same excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels in amounts sufficient to pay, when due, the principal and interest on all bonds issued under the provisions of RCW 47.10.790 through 47.10.798. [2013 c 225 § 620; 1995 c 274 § 6; 1979 ex.s. c 180 § 4.]

**Effective date—2013 c 225:** See note following RCW 82.38.010.

**RCW 47.10.794 Designation of funds to repay bonds and interest.**

Any funds required to repay the bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.790 or the interest thereon when due shall be taken from that portion of the motor vehicle fund which results from the imposition of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and which is distributed to the state for expenditure pursuant to RCW 46.68.130 and shall never constitute a charge against any allocations of such funds to counties, cities, and towns unless and until the amount of the motor vehicle fund arising from the excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and available for state highway purposes proves insufficient to meet the requirements for bond retirement or interest on any such bonds. [1979 ex.s. c 180 § 5.]

**RCW 47.10.795 Repayment procedure—Bond retirement fund.**

At least one year prior to the date any interest is due and payable on such bonds or before the maturity date of such bonds, the state finance committee shall estimate, subject to the provisions of RCW 47.10.794, the percentage of the receipts in money of the motor vehicle fund resulting from collection of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels, for each month of the year which shall be required to meet interest or bond payments when due and shall notify the treasurer of such estimated requirement. The state treasurer shall thereafter from time to time each month as such funds are paid into the motor vehicle fund, transfer such percentage of the monthly receipts from excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels of the motor vehicle fund to the highway bond retirement fund heretofore created in the state treasury, which funds shall be available solely for payment of the principal of and interest on the bonds when due. If in any month it shall appear that the estimated percentage of moneys so made is insufficient to meet the requirements for payment of the principal thereof or interest thereon, the treasurer shall notify the state finance committee forthwith, and such committee shall adjust its estimates so that all requirements for the interest on and principal of all bonds issued shall be fully met at all times. [1979 ex.s. c 180 § 6.]

**RCW 47.10.796 Sums in excess of retirement requirements—Use.**

Whenever the percentage of the motor vehicle fund arising from excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels payable into the highway bond retirement fund shall prove more than is required for the payment of interest on bonds when due, or current retirement of bonds, any excess may, in the discretion of the state finance committee, be available for the prior redemption of any bonds pursuant to applicable bond covenants or remain available in the fund to reduce requirements upon the fuel excise tax portion of the motor vehicle fund. [1979 ex.s. c 180 § 7.]

**RCW 47.10.797 Bonds legal investment for state funds.**

The bonds authorized in RCW 47.10.790 through 47.10.798 constitute a legal investment for all state funds or for funds under state control and all funds of municipal corporations. [1979 ex.s. c 180 § 8.]

**RCW 47.10.798 Bonds equal charge against fuel tax revenues.**

Except as otherwise provided by statute, general obligation bonds issued under authority of legislation enacted during the 45th session of the legislature and thereafter and which pledge motor vehicle and special fuel excise taxes for the payment of principal and interest thereon shall be an equal charge against the revenues from such motor vehicle and special fuel excise taxes. [1979 ex.s. c 180 § 9.]

**RCW 47.10.799 Appropriation—Expenditure limited to bond sale proceeds.** There is hereby appropriated from the motor vehicle fund to the department of transportation for the biennium ending June 30, 1981, the sum of ten million dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to carry out the provisions of RCW 47.10.790: PROVIDED, That the money available for expenditure under this appropriation may not exceed the amount of money derived from the sale of ten million dollars of bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.790 and deposited to the credit of the motor vehicle fund. [1979 ex.s. c 180 § 10.]

INTERSTATE HIGHWAY, CATEGORY A, CATEGORY C IMPROVEMENTS—1981 ACT

**RCW 47.10.801 Issuance and sale of general obligation bonds.**

(1) In order to provide funds necessary for the location, design, right-of-way, and construction of selected interstate and other state highway improvements, there shall be issued and sold, subject to subsections (2), (3), and (4) of this section, upon the request of the Washington state transportation commission a total of four hundred sixty million dollars of general obligation bonds of the state of Washington for the following purposes and specified sums:

(a) Not to exceed two hundred twenty-five million dollars to pay the state's share of costs for federal-aid interstate highway improvements and until December 31, 1989, to temporarily pay the regular federal share of construction of federal-aid interstate highway improvements to complete state routes 82, 90, 182, and 705 in advance of federal-aid apportionments under the provisions of 23 U.S.C. Secs. 115 or 122: PROVIDED, That the total amount of bonds issued to temporarily pay the regular federal share of construction of federal-aid interstate highways in advance of federal-aid apportionments as authorized by this section and RCW 47.10.790 shall not exceed one hundred twenty million dollars: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the transportation commission shall adopt plans for the obligation of federal-aid apportionments received in federal fiscal year 1985 and subsequent years to pay the regular federal share of federal-aid interstate highway construction projects or to convert such apportionments under the provisions of 23 U.S.C. Secs. 115 or 122;

(b) Two hundred twenty-five million dollars for major transportation improvements throughout the state that are identified as category C improvements and for selected major noninterstate construction and reconstruction projects that are included as Category A Improvements;

(c) Ten million dollars for state highway improvements necessitated by planned economic development, as determined through the procedures set forth in RCW 43.160.074 and 47.01.280.

(2) The amount of bonds authorized in subsection (1)(a) of this section shall be reduced if the transportation commission determines that any of the bonds that have not been sold are no longer required.

(3) The amount of bonds authorized in subsection (1)(b) of this section shall be increased by an amount not to exceed, and concurrent with, any reduction of bonds authorized under subsection (1)(a) of this section in the manner prescribed in subsection (2) of this section.

(4) The transportation commission may decrease the amount of bonds authorized in subsection (1)(c) of this section and increase the amount of bonds authorized in subsection (1)(a) or (b) of this section, or both by an amount equal to the decrease in subsection (1)(c) of this section. The transportation commission may decrease the amount of bonds authorized in subsection (1)(c) of this section only if the legislature appropriates an equal amount of funds from the motor vehicle fund - basic account for the purposes enumerated in subsection (1)(c) of this section. [2005 c 319 § 127; 1999 c 94 § 13; 1994 c 173 § 1. Prior: 1985 c 433 § 7; 1985 c 406 § 2; 1982 c 19 § 1; 1981 c 316 § 1.]

**Findings—Intent—Part headings—Effective dates—2005 c 319:** See notes following RCW 43.17.020.

**Legislative finding—Effective dates—1999 c 94:** See notes following RCW 43.84.092.

**Effective date—1994 c 173:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately [March 30, 1994]." [1994 c 173 § 2.]

**Nonseverability—1985 c 433:** See note following RCW 43.160.074.

**Severability—1982 c 19:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1982 c 19 § 5.]

**RCW 47.10.802 Administration and amount of bond sales.** Upon request being made by the transportation commission, the state finance committee shall supervise and provide for the issuance, sale, and retirement of the bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.801 in accordance with chapter 39.42 RCW. The amount of such bonds issued and sold under RCW 47.10.801 through 47.10.809 in any biennium may not exceed the amount of a specific appropriation therefor. Such bonds may be sold from time to time in such amounts as may be necessary for the orderly progress of the state highway improvements specified in RCW 47.10.801. The amount of bonds issued and sold under RCW 47.10.801(1)(a) in any biennium shall not, except as provided in that section, exceed the amount required to match federal-aid interstate funds available to the state of Washington. The bonds shall be sold in such manner, at such time or times, in such amounts, and at such price or prices as the state finance committee shall determine. The state finance committee may obtain insurance, letters of credit, or other credit facility devices with respect to the bonds and may authorize the execution and



delivery of agreements, promissory notes, and other obligations for the purpose of insuring the payment or enhancing the marketability of the bonds. Promissory notes or other obligations issued under this section shall not constitute a debt or the contracting of indebtedness under any constitutional or statutory indebtedness limitation if their payment is conditioned upon the failure of the state to pay the principal of or interest on the bonds with respect to which the promissory notes or other obligations relate. The state finance committee may authorize the issuance of short-term obligations in lieu of long-term obligations for the purposes of more favorable interest rates, lower total interest costs, and increased marketability and for the purposes of retiring the bonds during the life of the project for which they were issued. [2005 c 319 § 128; 1986 c 290 § 1; 1983 1st ex.s. c 53 § 23; 1982 c 19 § 2; 1981 c 316 § 2.]

**Findings—Intent—Part headings—Effective dates—2005 c 319:** See notes following RCW 43.17.020.

**Severability—1983 1st ex.s. c 53:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1983 1st ex.s. c 53 § 36.]

**Severability—1982 c 19:** See note following RCW 47.10.801.

**RCW 47.10.803 Bond proceeds—Deposit and use.** The proceeds from the sale of the bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.801(1) shall be deposited in the motor vehicle fund. All such proceeds shall be available only for the purposes enumerated in RCW 47.10.801, for the payment of bond anticipation notes, if any, and for the payment of the expense incurred in the drafting, printing, issuance, and sale of such bonds. The costs of obtaining insurance, letters of credit, or other credit enhancement devices with respect to the bonds shall be considered to be expenses incurred in the issuance and sale of the bonds. [1999 c 94 § 14; 1986 c 290 § 2; 1985 c 433 § 8; 1981 c 316 § 3.]

**Legislative finding—Effective dates—1999 c 94:** See notes following RCW 43.84.092.

**Nonseverability—1985 c 433:** See note following RCW 43.160.074.

**RCW 47.10.804 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes.** Bonds issued under RCW 47.10.801 must distinctly state that they are a general obligation of the state of Washington, must pledge the full faith and credit of the state to the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon, and must contain an unconditional promise to pay such principal and interest as the same becomes due. The principal of and interest on such bonds must be first payable in the manner provided in RCW 47.10.801 through 47.10.809 from the proceeds of the state excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels imposed by chapter 82.38 RCW. Proceeds of such excise taxes are hereby pledged to the payment of any bonds and the interest thereon issued under RCW 47.10.801 through 47.10.809, and the legislature hereby

agrees to continue to impose these excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels in amounts sufficient to pay, when due, the principal and interest on all bonds issued under RCW 47.10.801 through 47.10.809. [2013 c 225 § 621; 1995 c 274 § 7; 1981 c 316 § 4.]

**Effective date—2013 c 225:** See note following RCW 82.38.010.

**RCW 47.10.805 Designation of funds to repay bonds and interest.**

Any funds required to repay the bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.801 or the interest thereon when due shall be taken from that portion of the motor vehicle fund which results from the imposition of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and which is distributed to the state for expenditure pursuant to RCW 46.68.130 and shall never constitute a charge against any allocations of such funds to counties, cities, and towns unless the amount of the motor vehicle fund arising from the excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and available for state highway purposes proves insufficient to meet the requirements for bond retirement or interest on any such bonds. [1981 c 316 § 5.]

**RCW 47.10.806 Repayment procedure—Bond retirement fund.**

At least one year prior to the date any interest is due and payable on such bonds or before the maturity date of such bonds, the state finance committee shall estimate, subject to RCW 47.10.805, the percentage of the receipts in money of the motor vehicle fund resulting from collection of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels, for each month of the year which shall be required to meet interest or bond payments when due and shall notify the treasurer of such estimated requirement. The state treasurer shall thereafter from time to time each month as such funds are paid into the motor vehicle fund, transfer such percentage of the monthly receipts from excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels of the motor vehicle fund to the highway bond retirement fund heretofore created in the state treasury, which funds shall be available solely for payment of the principal of and interest on the bonds when due. If in any month it shall appear that the estimated percentage of moneys so made is insufficient to meet the requirements for payment of the principal thereof or interest thereon, the treasurer shall notify the state finance committee forthwith, and the committee shall adjust its estimates so that all requirements for the interest on and principal of all bonds issued shall be fully met at all times. [1981 c 316 § 6.]

**RCW 47.10.807 Sums in excess of retirement requirements—Use.**

Whenever the percentage of the motor vehicle fund arising from excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels payable into the highway bond retirement fund shall prove more than is required for the payment of interest on bonds when due, or current retirement bonds, any excess may, in the discretion of the state finance committee, be available for the prior redemption of any bonds or remain available in the fund to reduce requirements upon the fuel excise tax portion of the motor vehicle fund at the next interest or bond payment period. [1981 c 316 § 7.]

**RCW 47.10.808 Bonds legal investment for state funds.** The bonds authorized in RCW 47.10.801 through 47.10.809 constitute a legal investment for all state funds or for funds under state control and all funds of municipal corporations. [1981 c 316 § 8.]

**RCW 47.10.809 Bonds equal charge against fuel tax revenues.** Bonds issued under authority of RCW 47.10.801 through 47.10.809 and any subsequent general obligation bonds of the state of Washington which may be authorized and which pledge motor vehicle and special fuel excise taxes for the payment of principal and interest thereon shall be an equal charge against the revenues from such motor vehicle and special fuel excise taxes. [1981 c 316 § 9.]

CATEGORY C IMPROVEMENTS—1993 ACT

**RCW 47.10.812 Issuance and sale of general obligation bonds.** In order to provide funds necessary for the location, design, right-of-way, and construction of state highway improvements that are identified as special category C improvements, there shall be issued and sold upon the request of the Washington state secretary of transportation a total of six hundred million dollars of general obligation bonds of the state of Washington. [2007 c 519 § 1; 1999 sp.s. c 2 § 1; 1993 c 431 § 1.]

**RCW 47.10.813 Administration and amount of sale.** Upon the request of the secretary of transportation, the state finance committee shall supervise and provide for the issuance, sale, and retirement of the bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.812 through 47.10.817 in accordance with chapter 39.42 RCW. Bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.812 through 47.10.817 shall be sold in such manner, at such time or times, in such amounts, and at such price as the state finance committee shall determine. No such bonds may be offered for sale without prior legislative appropriation of the net proceeds of the sale of the bonds.

The state finance committee shall consider the issuance of short-term obligations in lieu of long-term obligations for the purposes of more favorable interest rates, lower total interest costs, and increased marketability and for the purpose of retiring the bonds during the life of the project for which they were issued. [2007 c 519 § 2; 1993 c 431 § 2.]

**RCW 47.10.814 Proceeds—Deposit and use.** The proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.812 through 47.10.817 shall be deposited in the special category C account in the motor vehicle fund. The proceeds shall be available only for the purposes enumerated in RCW 47.10.812, for the payment of bond anticipation notes, if any, and for the payment of bond issuance costs, including the costs of underwriting. [1993 c 431 § 3.]

**RCW 47.10.815 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.** Bonds issued under the authority of RCW 47.10.812 through 47.10.817 must distinctly state that they are a general obligation of the state of Washington, must pledge the full faith and credit of the state to the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon, and must contain an unconditional promise to pay such principal and interest as the same becomes due. The principal and interest on the bonds must be first payable in the manner provided in RCW 47.10.812 through 47.10.817 from the proceeds of the state excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels imposed by chapter 82.38 RCW and vehicle-related fees. Proceeds of such excise taxes and vehicle-related fees are hereby pledged to the payment of any bonds and the interest thereon issued under the authority of RCW 47.10.812 through 47.10.817, and the legislature agrees to continue to impose these excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees in amounts sufficient to pay, when due, the principal and interest on all bonds issued under the authority of RCW 47.10.812 through 47.10.817. [2022 c 103 § 23; 2013 c 225 § 622; 1995 c 274 § 8; 1993 c 431 § 4.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

**Effective date—2013 c 225:** See note following RCW 82.38.010.

**RCW 47.10.816 Designation of funds to repay bonds and interest.** Both principal and interest on the bonds issued for the purposes of RCW 47.10.812 through 47.10.817 shall be payable from the highway bond retirement fund. The state finance committee may provide that a special account be created in the fund to facilitate payment of the principal and interest. The state finance committee shall, on or before June 30th of each year, certify to the state treasurer the amount required for principal and interest on the bonds in accordance with the bond proceedings. The state treasurer shall withdraw revenues from the special category C account in the motor vehicle fund and deposit in the highway bond retirement fund, or a special account in the fund, such amounts, and at such times, as are required by the bond proceedings.

Any funds required for bond retirement or interest on the bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.812 through 47.10.817 shall be taken from that portion of the motor vehicle fund that results from the imposition of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and that is distributed to the special category C account in the motor vehicle fund and vehicle-related fees in the motor vehicle fund. Funds required shall never constitute a charge against any other allocations of vehicle-related fees and motor vehicle fuel and special fuel tax revenues to the state, counties, cities and towns unless the amount arising from vehicle-related fees and excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels distributed to the special category C account proves insufficient to meet the requirements for bond retirement or interest on any such bonds.

Any payments for bond retirement or interest on the bonds taken from other revenues from the vehicle-related fees or motor vehicle fuel or special fuel taxes that are distributable to the state,

counties, cities and towns, shall be repaid from the first revenues from the motor vehicle fuel or special fuel taxes distributed to the special category C account or vehicle-related fees not required for bond retirement or interest on the bonds. [2022 c 103 § 24; 1993 c 431 § 5.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

**RCW 47.10.817 Equal charge against motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.** Bonds issued under the authority of RCW 47.10.812 through 47.10.816 and this section and any other general obligation bonds of the state of Washington that have been or that may be authorized and that pledge motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees for the payment of principal and interest thereon shall be an equal charge against the revenues from such motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees. [2022 c 103 § 25; 1993 c 431 § 6.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

#### INTERSTATE, OTHER HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS—1993 ACT

**RCW 47.10.819 Issuance and sale of general obligation bonds.** In order to provide funds necessary for the location, design, right-of-way, and construction of selected interstate and other highway improvements, there shall be issued and sold upon the request of the secretary of the department of transportation a total of one hundred million dollars of general obligation bonds of the state of Washington for the following purposes and specified sums:

(1) Not to exceed twenty-five million dollars to pay the state's and local governments' share of matching funds for the ten demonstration projects identified in the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991.

(2) Not to exceed fifty million dollars to temporarily pay the regular federal share of construction in advance of federal-aid apportionments as authorized by this section.

(3) Not to exceed twenty-five million dollars for loans to local governments to provide the required matching funds to take advantage of available federal funds. These loans shall be on such terms and conditions as determined by the secretary of the department of transportation, but in no event may the loans be for a period of more than ten years. The interest rate on the loans authorized under this subsection shall be equal to the interest rate on the bonds sold for such purposes. [2006 c 334 § 37; 1993 c 432 § 1.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**RCW 47.10.820 Administration and amount of sale.** Upon the request of the secretary of the department of transportation, the state finance committee shall supervise and provide for the issuance, sale, and retirement of the bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.819 through 47.10.824 in accordance with chapter 39.42 RCW. Bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.819 through 47.10.824 shall be sold in such manner, at such time or times, in such amounts, and at such price as the state finance committee shall determine. No such bonds may be offered for sale without prior legislative appropriation of the net proceeds of the sale of the bonds.

The state finance committee shall consider the issuance of short-term obligations in lieu of long-term obligations for the purposes of more favorable interest rates, lower total interest costs, and increased marketability and for the purpose of retiring the bonds during the life of the project for which they were issued. [2006 c 334 § 38; 1993 c 432 § 2.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**RCW 47.10.821 Proceeds—Deposit and use.** The proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.819 through 47.10.824 shall be deposited in the motor vehicle fund. The proceeds shall be available only for the purposes enumerated in RCW 47.10.819, for the payment of bond anticipation notes, if any, and for the payment of bond issuance costs, including the costs of underwriting. [1993 c 432 § 3.]

**RCW 47.10.822 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.** Bonds issued under the authority of RCW 47.10.819 through 47.10.824 must distinctly state that they are a general obligation of the state of Washington, must pledge the full faith and credit of the state to the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon, and must contain an unconditional promise to pay such principal and interest as the same becomes due. The principal and interest on the bonds must be first payable in the manner provided in RCW 47.10.819 through 47.10.824 from the proceeds of the state excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels imposed by chapter 82.38 RCW and vehicle-related fees. Proceeds of such excise taxes and vehicle-related fees are hereby pledged to the payment of any bonds and the interest thereon issued under the authority of RCW 47.10.819 through 47.10.824, and the legislature agrees to continue to impose these excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees in amounts sufficient to pay, when due, the principal and interest on all bonds issued under the authority of RCW 47.10.819 through 47.10.824. [2022 c 103 § 20; 2013 c 225 § 623; 1995 c 274 § 9; 1993 c 432 § 4.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

**Effective date—2013 c 225:** See note following RCW 82.38.010.

**RCW 47.10.823 Designation of funds to repay bonds and interest.**

Both principal and interest on the bonds issued for the purposes of RCW 47.10.819 through 47.10.824 shall be payable from the highway bond retirement fund. The state finance committee may provide that a special account be created in the fund to facilitate payment of the principal and interest. The state finance committee shall, on or before June 30th of each year, certify to the state treasurer the amount required for principal and interest on the bonds in accordance with the bond proceedings. The state treasurer shall withdraw revenues from the motor vehicle fund and deposit in the highway bond retirement fund, or a special account in the fund, such amounts, and at such times, as are required by the bond proceedings.

Any funds required for bond retirement or interest on the bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.819 through 47.10.824 shall be taken from that portion of the motor vehicle fund that results from the imposition of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees and which is, or may be appropriated to the department of transportation for state highway purposes. Funds required shall never constitute a charge against any other allocations of motor vehicle fuel and special fuel tax revenues and vehicle-related fees to the state, counties, cities, and towns unless the amount arising from excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees distributed to the state in the motor vehicle fund proves insufficient to meet the requirements for bond retirement or interest on any such bonds.

Any payments for bond retirement or interest on the bonds taken from other revenues from the motor vehicle fuel or special fuel taxes and vehicle-related fees that are distributed to the state, counties, cities, and towns, shall be repaid from the first revenues from the motor vehicle fuel or special fuel taxes or vehicle-related fees distributed to the motor vehicle fund not required for bond retirement or interest on the bonds. [2022 c 103 § 21; 1993 c 432 § 5.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

**RCW 47.10.824 Equal charge against motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.** Bonds issued under the authority of RCW 47.10.819 through 47.10.823 and this section and any other general obligation bonds of the state of Washington that have been or that may be authorized and that pledge motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees for the payment of principal and interest thereon shall be an equal charge against the revenues from such motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees. [2022 c 103 § 22; 1993 c 432 § 6.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

PUBLIC-PRIVATE TRANSPORTATION INITIATIVES—1994 ACT

**RCW 47.10.834 Issuance and sale of general obligation bonds.** In order to provide funds necessary to implement the public-private transportation initiatives authorized by chapter 47.46 RCW, there shall be issued and sold upon the request of the secretary of the department of transportation a total of twenty-five million six hundred twenty-five thousand dollars of general obligation bonds of the state of Washington. [2006 c 334 § 35; 1995 2nd sp.s. c 15 § 2; 1994 c 183 § 2.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**Severability—1995 2nd sp.s. c 15:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1995 2nd sp.s. c 15 § 9.]

**Effective date—1995 2nd sp.s. c 15:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately [June 16, 1995]." [1995 2nd sp.s. c 15 § 10.]

**Finding—1994 c 183:** "The legislature finds and declares: Successful implementation of the public-private transportation initiatives program authorized in chapter 47.46 RCW may require the financial participation of the state in projects authorized in that chapter.

The participation may take the form of loans, loan guarantees, user charge guarantees, including incidental costs incurred by the department in direct support of activities required under chapter 47.46 RCW, or such other cash contribution arrangements as may improve the ability of the private entities sponsoring the projects to obtain financing.

It is in the best interests of the people of the state that state funding of possible financial participation in the projects authorized under chapter 47.46 RCW be in the form of long-term bonds. In order to repay expenditures incurred in the 1993-1995 biennium, up to two million two hundred thousand dollars of these bonds may be expended on highway improvement projects, under chapter 47.05 RCW." [1995 2nd sp.s. c 15 § 1; 1994 c 183 § 1.]

**RCW 47.10.835 Administration and amount of sale.** Upon the request of the secretary of the department of transportation, the state finance committee shall supervise and provide for the issuance, sale, and retirement of the bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.834 through 47.10.841 in accordance with chapter 39.42 RCW. Bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.834 through 47.10.841 shall be sold in such manner, at such time or times, in such amounts, and at such price as the state finance committee shall determine. No such bonds may be offered for sale without prior legislative appropriation of the net proceeds of the sale of the bonds. In making such appropriation of the net proceeds of the sale of the bonds, the legislature shall specify what portion of the appropriation is provided for possible loans and what portion of the appropriation is provided for other forms of cash contributions to projects.



The state finance committee shall consider the issuance of short-term obligations in lieu of long-term obligations for the purposes of more favorable interest rates, lower total interest costs, and increased marketability and for the purpose of retiring the bonds during the life of the project for which they were issued. [2006 c 334 § 36; 1994 c 183 § 3.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**RCW 47.10.836 Proceeds—Deposit and use.** (1) The proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.834 through 47.10.841 that are in support of possible loans as specified under RCW 47.10.835 shall be deposited into the motor vehicle fund. The proceeds shall be available only for the purposes of making loans to entities authorized to undertake projects selected under chapter 47.46 RCW as enumerated in RCW 47.10.835, including incidental costs incurred by the department in direct support of activities required under chapter 47.46 RCW, for the payment of bond anticipation notes, if any, and for the payment of bond issuance costs, including the costs of underwriting.

(2) The proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.834 through 47.10.841 that are in support of all forms of cash contributions to projects selected under chapter 47.46 RCW, including incidental costs incurred by the department in direct support of activities required under chapter 47.46 RCW, except loans shall be deposited into the motor vehicle fund. The proceeds shall be available only for the purposes of making any contributions except loans to projects selected under chapter 47.46 RCW, for the payment of bond anticipation notes, if any, and for the payment of bond issuance costs, including the costs of underwriting.

(3) Up to two million two hundred thousand dollars of the proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.834 through 47.10.841 may be expended on highway improvement projects under chapter 47.05 RCW and for the payment of bond issuance cost, including the cost of underwriting. Such proceeds shall be deposited into the motor vehicle fund. [1995 2nd sp.s. c 15 § 3; 1994 c 183 § 4.]

**Severability—Effective date—1995 2nd sp.s. c 15:** See notes following RCW 47.10.834.

**RCW 47.10.837 Designation of funds to repay bonds and interest.** Principal and interest payments made on loans authorized by chapter 47.46 RCW shall be deposited into the motor vehicle fund and shall be available for the payment of principal and interest on bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.834 through 47.10.841 and for such other purposes as may be specified by law. [1995 2nd sp.s. c 15 § 4; 1994 c 183 § 5.]

**Severability—Effective date—1995 2nd sp.s. c 15:** See notes following RCW 47.10.834.

**RCW 47.10.838 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.** (1) Bonds issued under the authority

of RCW 47.10.834 through 47.10.841 must distinctly state that they are a general obligation of the state of Washington, must pledge the full faith and credit of the state to the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon, and must contain an unconditional promise to pay such principal and interest as the same becomes due.

(2) The principal and interest on the bonds issued for the purposes enumerated in RCW 47.10.836 must be first payable in the manner provided in RCW 47.10.834 through 47.10.841 from the proceeds of the state excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels imposed by chapter 82.38 RCW and vehicle-related fees. Proceeds of those excise taxes and vehicle-related fees are pledged to the payment of any bonds and the interest thereon issued under the authority of RCW 47.10.834 through 47.10.841, and the legislature agrees to continue to impose these excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees in amounts sufficient to pay, when due, the principal and interest on all bonds issued under the authority of RCW 47.10.834 through 47.10.841. [2022 c 103 § 15; 2013 c 225 § 624; 1995 2nd sp.s. c 15 § 5; 1994 c 183 § 6.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

**Effective date—2013 c 225:** See note following RCW 82.38.010.

**Severability—Effective date—1995 2nd sp.s. c 15:** See notes following RCW 47.10.834.

**RCW 47.10.839 Repayment procedure—Bond retirement fund.** (1) Both principal and interest on the bonds issued for the purposes of RCW 47.10.834 through 47.10.841 are payable from the highway bond retirement fund.

(2) The state finance committee shall, on or before June 30th of each year certify to the state treasurer the amount required for principal and interest on the bonds issued for the purposes specified in RCW 47.10.836 in accordance with the bond proceedings. The state treasurer shall withdraw revenues from the motor vehicle fund and deposit into the highway bond retirement fund such amounts, and at such times, as are required by the bond proceedings.

(3) Any funds required for bond retirement or interest on the bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.834 through 47.10.841 shall be taken from that portion of the motor vehicle fund that results from the imposition of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees which is, or may be appropriated to the department of transportation for state highway purposes. Funds required shall never constitute a charge against any other allocations of motor vehicle fuel and special fuel tax revenues and vehicle-related fees to the state, counties, cities, or towns unless the amount arising from excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees distributed to the state in the motor vehicle fund proves insufficient to meet the requirements for bond retirement or interest on any such bonds.

(4) Any payments for bond retirement or interest on the bonds taken from other revenues from the motor vehicle fuel and special fuel taxes and vehicle-related fees that are distributable to the state,

counties, cities, or towns shall be repaid from the first revenues from the motor vehicle fuel or special fuel taxes or vehicle-related fees distributed to the motor vehicle fund not required for bond retirement or interest on the bonds. [2022 c 103 § 16; 1995 2nd sp.s. c 15 § 6; 1994 c 183 § 7.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

**Severability—Effective date—1995 2nd sp.s. c 15:** See notes following RCW 47.10.834.

**RCW 47.10.841 Equal charge against motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.** Bonds issued under the authority of RCW 47.10.834 through 47.10.839 and this section and any other general obligation bonds of the state of Washington that have been or that may be authorized and that pledge motor vehicle and special fuels taxes and vehicle-related fees for the payment of principal and interest thereon are an equal charge against the revenues from the motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees. [2022 c 103 § 17; 1995 2nd sp.s. c 15 § 7; 1994 c 183 § 9.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

**Severability—Effective date—1995 2nd sp.s. c 15:** See notes following RCW 47.10.834.

#### STATE AND LOCAL HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS—1998 ACT

**RCW 47.10.843 Bond issue authorized.** In order to provide funds necessary for the location, design, right-of-way, and construction of state and local highway improvements, there shall be issued and sold upon the request of the secretary of the department of transportation a maximum of one billion nine hundred million dollars of general obligation bonds of the state of Washington. [2006 c 334 § 33; 1998 c 321 § 16 (Referendum Bill No. 49, approved November 3, 1998).]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**Purpose—Severability—1998 c 321:** See notes following RCW 82.14.045.

**Effective dates—Application—1998 c 321 §§ 1-21, 44, and 45:** See note following RCW 82.14.045.

**Referral to electorate—1998 c 321 §§ 1-21 and 44-46:** See note following RCW 82.14.045.

**RCW 47.10.844 Administration and amount of sale.** Upon the request of the secretary of the department of transportation, the state finance committee shall supervise and provide for the issuance, sale, and retirement of the bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.843 through 47.10.848 in accordance with chapter 39.42 RCW. Bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.843 through 47.10.848 shall be sold in such manner, at such time or times, in such amounts, and at such price as the state finance committee shall determine. No such bonds may be offered for sale without prior legislative appropriation of the net proceeds of the sale of the bonds.

The state finance committee shall consider the issuance of short-term obligations in lieu of long-term obligations for the purposes of more favorable interest rates, lower total interest costs, and increased marketability and for the purpose of retiring the bonds during the life of the project for which they were issued. [2006 c 334 § 34; 1998 c 321 § 17 (Referendum Bill No. 49, approved November 3, 1998).]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**Purpose—Severability—1998 c 321:** See notes following RCW 82.14.045.

**Effective dates—Application—1998 c 321 §§ 1-21, 44, and 45:** See note following RCW 82.14.045.

**Referral to electorate—1998 c 321 §§ 1-21 and 44-46:** See note following RCW 82.14.045.

**RCW 47.10.845 Proceeds—Deposit and use.** The proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.843 through 47.10.848 shall be deposited in the motor vehicle fund. The proceeds shall be available only for the purposes enumerated in RCW 47.10.843, for the payment of bond anticipation notes, if any, and for the payment of bond issuance costs, including the costs of underwriting. [1998 c 321 § 18 (Referendum Bill No. 49, approved November 3, 1998).]

**Purpose—Severability—1998 c 321:** See notes following RCW 82.14.045.

**Effective dates—Application—1998 c 321 §§ 1-21, 44, and 45:** See note following RCW 82.14.045.

**Referral to electorate—1998 c 321 §§ 1-21 and 44-46:** See note following RCW 82.14.045.

**RCW 47.10.846 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.** Bonds issued under the authority of RCW 47.10.843 through 47.10.848 must distinctly state that they are a general obligation of the state of Washington, must pledge the full faith and credit of the state to the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon, and must contain an unconditional promise to pay such principal and interest as the same becomes due. The principal and interest on the bonds must be first payable in the manner provided

in RCW 47.10.843 through 47.10.848 from the proceeds of the state excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels imposed by chapter 82.38 RCW and vehicle-related fees. Proceeds of such excise taxes and vehicle-related fees are hereby pledged to the payment of any bonds and the interest thereon issued under the authority of RCW 47.10.843 through 47.10.848, and the legislature agrees to continue to impose these excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees in amounts sufficient to pay, when due, the principal and interest on all bonds issued under the authority of RCW 47.10.843 through 47.10.848. [2022 c 103 § 12; 2013 c 225 § 625; 1998 c 321 § 19 (Referendum Bill No. 49, approved November 3, 1998).]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

**Effective date—2013 c 225:** See note following RCW 82.38.010.

**Purpose—Severability—1998 c 321:** See notes following RCW 82.14.045.

**Effective dates—Application—1998 c 321 §§ 1-21, 44, and 45:** See note following RCW 82.14.045.

**Referral to electorate—1998 c 321 §§ 1-21 and 44-46:** See note following RCW 82.14.045.

**RCW 47.10.847 Repayment procedure—Bond retirement fund.** Both principal and interest on the bonds issued for the purposes of RCW 47.10.843 through 47.10.848 shall be payable from the highway bond retirement fund. The state finance committee may provide that a special account be created in the fund to facilitate payment of the principal and interest. The state finance committee shall, on or before June 30th of each year, certify to the state treasurer the amount required for principal and interest on the bonds in accordance with the bond proceedings. The state treasurer shall withdraw revenues from the motor vehicle fund and deposit in the highway bond retirement fund, or a special account in the fund, such amounts, and at such times, as are required by the bond proceedings.

Any funds required for bond retirement or interest on the bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.843 through 47.10.848 shall be taken from that portion of the motor vehicle fund that results from the imposition of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees and which is, or may be, appropriated to the department of transportation for state highway purposes. Funds required shall never constitute a charge against any other allocations of motor vehicle fuel and special fuel tax revenues and vehicle-related fees to the state, counties, cities and towns unless the amount arising from excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees distributed to the state in the motor vehicle fund proves insufficient to meet the requirements for bond retirement or interest on any such bonds.

Any payments for bond retirement or interest on the bonds taken from other revenues from the motor vehicle fuel or special fuel taxes and vehicle-related fees that are distributable to the state,

counties, cities, and towns, shall be repaid from the first revenues from the motor vehicle fuel or special fuel taxes or vehicle-related fees distributed to the motor vehicle fund not required for bond retirement or interest on the bonds. [2022 c 103 § 13; 1998 c 321 § 20 (Referendum Bill No. 49, approved November 3, 1998).]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

**Purpose—Severability—1998 c 321:** See notes following RCW 82.14.045.

**Effective dates—Application—1998 c 321 §§ 1-21, 44, and 45:** See note following RCW 82.14.045.

**Referral to electorate—1998 c 321 §§ 1-21 and 44-46:** See note following RCW 82.14.045.

**RCW 47.10.848 Equal charge against motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.** Bonds issued under the authority of RCW 47.10.843 through 47.10.847 and this section and any other general obligation bonds of the state of Washington that have been or that may be authorized and that pledge motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees for the payment of principal and interest thereon shall be an equal charge against the revenues from such motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees. [2022 c 103 § 14; 1998 c 321 § 21 (Referendum Bill No. 49, approved November 3, 1998).]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

**Purpose—Severability—1998 c 321:** See notes following RCW 82.14.045.

**Effective dates—Application—1998 c 321 §§ 1-21, 44, and 45:** See note following RCW 82.14.045.

**Referral to electorate—1998 c 321 §§ 1-21 and 44-46:** See note following RCW 82.14.045.

#### 2003 TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS—NICKEL ACCOUNT

**RCW 47.10.861 Bond issue authorized.** In order to provide funds necessary for the location, design, right-of-way, and construction of selected projects or improvements that are identified as transportation 2003 projects or improvements in the omnibus transportation budget, there shall be issued and sold upon the request of the secretary of the department of transportation a total of three billion two hundred million dollars of general obligation bonds of the

state of Washington. [2007 c 519 § 3; 2006 c 334 § 31; 2003 c 147 § 1.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**Effective date—2003 c 147:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect July 1, 2003." [2003 c 147 § 16.]

**RCW 47.10.862 Administration and amount of sale.** Upon the request of the secretary of the department of transportation, as appropriate, the state finance committee shall supervise and provide for the issuance, sale, and retirement of the bonds in RCW 47.10.861 through 47.10.866 in accordance with chapter 39.42 RCW. Bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.861 through 47.10.866 shall be sold in the manner, at time or times, in amounts, and at the price as the state finance committee shall determine. No bonds may be offered for sale without prior legislative appropriation of the net proceeds of the sale of the bonds.

The state finance committee shall consider the issuance of short-term obligations in lieu of long-term obligations for the purposes of more favorable interest rates, lower total interest costs, and increased marketability and for the purpose of retiring the bonds during the life of the project for which they were issued. [2006 c 334 § 32; 2003 c 147 § 2.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**Effective date—2003 c 147:** See note following RCW 47.10.861.

**RCW 47.10.863 Proceeds—Deposit and use.** The proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.861 shall be deposited in the transportation 2003 account (nickel account) in the motor vehicle fund. The proceeds shall be available only for the purposes enumerated in RCW 47.10.861, for the payment of bond anticipation notes, if any, and for the payment of bond issuance costs, including the costs of underwriting. [2003 c 147 § 3.]

**Effective date—2003 c 147:** See note following RCW 47.10.861.

**RCW 47.10.864 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.** Bonds issued under the authority of RCW 47.10.861 through 47.10.866 must distinctly state that they are a general obligation of the state of Washington, must pledge the full faith and credit of the state to the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon, and must contain an unconditional promise to pay such principal and interest as the same becomes due. The principal and interest on the bonds must be first payable in the manner provided in RCW 47.10.861 through 47.10.866 from the proceeds of the state excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels imposed by chapter 82.38 RCW and vehicle-related fees. Proceeds of these excise taxes and vehicle-related fees are hereby pledged to the payment of any bonds

and the interest thereon issued under the authority of RCW 47.10.861 through 47.10.866, and the legislature agrees to continue to impose these excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees in amounts sufficient to pay, when due, the principal and interest on all bonds issued under the authority of RCW 47.10.861 through 47.10.866. [2022 c 103 § 9; 2013 c 225 § 626; 2003 c 147 § 4.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

**Effective date—2013 c 225:** See note following RCW 82.38.010.

**Effective date—2003 c 147:** See note following RCW 47.10.861.

**RCW 47.10.865 Repayment procedure—Bond retirement fund.** Both principal and interest on the bonds issued for the purposes of RCW 47.10.861 through 47.10.866 shall be payable from the highway bond retirement fund. The state finance committee may provide that a special account be created in the fund to facilitate payment of the principal and interest. The state finance committee shall, on or before June 30th of each year, certify to the state treasurer the amount required for principal and interest on the bonds in accordance with the bond proceedings. The state treasurer shall withdraw revenues from the transportation 2003 account (nickel account) in the motor vehicle fund and deposit in the highway bond retirement fund, or a special account in the fund, such amounts, and at such times, as are required by the bond proceedings.

Any funds required for bond retirement or interest on the bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.861 through 47.10.866 shall be taken from that portion of the motor vehicle fund that results from the imposition of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees and that is distributed to the transportation 2003 account (nickel account) in the motor vehicle fund. Funds required shall never constitute a charge against any other allocations of motor vehicle fuel and special fuel tax revenues and vehicle-related fees to the state, counties, cities, and towns unless the amount arising from excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees distributed to the transportation 2003 account (nickel account) proves insufficient to meet the requirements for bond retirement or interest on any such bonds.

Any payments for bond retirement or interest on the bonds taken from other revenues from the motor vehicle fuel or special fuel taxes and vehicle-related fees that are distributable to the state, counties, cities, and towns shall be repaid from the first revenues from the motor vehicle fuel or special fuel taxes or vehicle-related fees distributed to the transportation 2003 account (nickel account) not required for bond retirement or interest on the bonds. [2022 c 103 § 10; 2003 c 147 § 5.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.



**Effective date—2003 c 147:** See note following RCW 47.10.861.

**RCW 47.10.866 Equal charge against motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.** Bonds issued under the authority of RCW 47.10.861 through 47.10.865 and this section and any other general obligation bonds of the state of Washington that have been or that may be authorized and that pledge motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees for the payment of principal and interest thereon shall be an equal charge against the revenues from such motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees. [2022 c 103 § 11; 2003 c 147 § 6.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

**Effective date—2003 c 147:** See note following RCW 47.10.861.

#### MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS—2003 ACT

**RCW 47.10.867 Bond issue authorized—Appropriation of proceeds.** For the purpose of providing funds for the planning, design, construction, reconstruction, and other necessary costs for transportation projects, the state finance committee is authorized to issue general obligation bonds of the state of Washington in the sum of two hundred forty-nine million five hundred thousand dollars, or as much thereof as may be required, to finance these projects and all costs incidental thereto. Bonds authorized in this section may be sold at such price as the state finance committee shall determine. No bonds authorized in this section may be offered for sale without prior legislative appropriation of the net proceeds of the sale of the bonds. [2009 c 498 § 6; 2003 c 147 § 7.]

**Effective date—2003 c 147:** See note following RCW 47.10.861.

**RCW 47.10.868 Proceeds—Deposit and use.** The proceeds of the sale of the bonds authorized in RCW 47.10.867 must be deposited in the multimodal transportation account and must be used exclusively for the purposes specified in RCW 47.10.867 and for the payment of expenses incurred in the issuance and sale of the bonds. [2003 c 147 § 8.]

**Effective date—2003 c 147:** See note following RCW 47.10.861.

**RCW 47.10.869 Repayment procedure.** (1) The nondebt-limit reimbursable bond retirement account must be used for the payment of the principal and interest on the bonds authorized in RCW 47.10.867. (2) (a) The state finance committee must, on or before June 30th of each year, certify to the state treasurer the amount needed in the ensuing twelve months to meet the bond retirement and interest requirements on the bonds authorized in RCW 47.10.867.

(b) On or before the date on which any interest or principal and interest is due, the state treasurer shall transfer from the multimodal transportation account for deposit into the nondebt-limit reimbursable bond retirement account the amount computed in (a) of this subsection for bonds issued for the purposes of RCW 47.10.867.

(3) If the multimodal transportation account has insufficient revenues to pay the principal and interest computed in subsection (2)(a) of this section, then the debt-limit reimbursable bond retirement account must be used for the payment of the principal and interest on the bonds authorized in RCW 47.10.867 from any additional means provided by the legislature.

(4) If at any time the multimodal transportation account has insufficient revenues to repay the bonds, the legislature may provide additional means for the payment of the bonds. [2003 c 147 § 9.]

**Effective date—2003 c 147:** See note following RCW 47.10.861.

**RCW 47.10.870 Statement of general obligation—Transfer and payment of funds.** (1) Bonds issued under RCW 47.10.867 must state that they are a general obligation of the state of Washington, must pledge the full faith and credit of the state to the payment of the principal and interest, and must contain an unconditional promise to pay the principal and interest as it becomes due.

(2) The owner and holder of each of the bonds or the trustee for the owner and holder of any of the bonds may by mandamus or other appropriate proceeding require the transfer and payment of funds as directed in this section. [2003 c 147 § 10.]

**Effective date—2003 c 147:** See note following RCW 47.10.861.

**RCW 47.10.871 Additional repayment means.** The legislature may provide additional means for raising moneys for the payment of the principal and interest on the bonds authorized in RCW 47.10.867, and RCW 47.10.869 and 47.10.870 are not deemed to provide an exclusive method for their payment. [2003 c 147 § 11.]

**Effective date—2003 c 147:** See note following RCW 47.10.861.

**RCW 47.10.872 Legal investment.** The bonds authorized in RCW 47.10.867 are a legal investment for all state funds or funds under state control and for all funds of any other public body. [2003 c 147 § 12.]

**Effective date—2003 c 147:** See note following RCW 47.10.861.

#### SELECTED PROJECTS AND IMPROVEMENTS—2005 ACT

**RCW 47.10.873 Bond issue authorized.** In order to provide funds necessary for the location, design, right-of-way, and construction of selected projects or improvements that are identified as 2005 transportation partnership projects or improvements in an omnibus

transportation appropriations act, there shall be issued and sold upon the request of the department of transportation a total of five billion three hundred million dollars of general obligation bonds of the state of Washington. [2020 c 24 § 1; 2007 c 519 § 4; 2005 c 315 § 1.]

**Effective date—2005 c 315:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect July 1, 2005." [2005 c 315 § 8.]

**RCW 47.10.874 Administration and amount of sale.** Upon the request of the department of transportation, as appropriate, the state finance committee shall supervise and provide for the issuance, sale, and retirement of the bonds in RCW 47.10.873 through 47.10.878 in accordance with chapter 39.42 RCW. Bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.873 through 47.10.878 shall be sold in the manner, at time or times, in amounts, and at the price as the state finance committee shall determine. No bonds may be offered for sale without prior legislative appropriation of the net proceeds of the sale of the bonds.

The state finance committee shall consider the issuance of short-term obligations in lieu of long-term obligations for the purposes of more favorable interest rates, lower total interest costs, and increased marketability and for the purpose of retiring the bonds during the life of the project for which they were issued. [2005 c 315 § 2.]

**Effective date—2005 c 315:** See note following RCW 47.10.873.

**RCW 47.10.875 Proceeds—Deposit and use.** The proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.873 shall be deposited in the transportation partnership account in the motor vehicle fund. The proceeds shall be available only for the purposes enumerated in RCW 47.10.873, for the payment of bond anticipation notes, if any, and for the payment of bond issuance costs, including the costs of underwriting. [2005 c 315 § 3.]

**Effective date—2005 c 315:** See note following RCW 47.10.873.

**RCW 47.10.876 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.** Bonds issued under the authority of RCW 47.10.873 through 47.10.878 must distinctly state that they are a general obligation of the state of Washington, must pledge the full faith and credit of the state to the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon, and must contain an unconditional promise to pay such principal and interest as the same becomes due. The principal and interest on the bonds must be first payable in the manner provided in RCW 47.10.873 through 47.10.878 from the proceeds of the state excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels imposed by chapter 82.38 RCW and vehicle-related fees. Proceeds of these excise taxes and vehicle-related fees are hereby pledged to the payment of any bonds and the interest thereon issued under the authority of RCW 47.10.873 through 47.10.878, and the legislature agrees to continue to impose

these excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees in amounts sufficient to pay, when due, the principal and interest on all bonds issued under the authority of RCW 47.10.873 through 47.10.878. [2022 c 103 § 6; 2013 c 225 § 627; 2005 c 315 § 4.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

**Effective date—2013 c 225:** See note following RCW 82.38.010.

**Effective date—2005 c 315:** See note following RCW 47.10.873.

**RCW 47.10.877 Repayment procedure—Bond retirement fund.** Both principal and interest on the bonds issued for the purposes of RCW 47.10.873 through 47.10.878 shall be payable from the highway bond retirement fund. The state finance committee may provide that a special account be created in the fund to facilitate payment of the principal and interest. The state finance committee shall, on or before June 30th of each year, certify to the state treasurer the amount required for principal and interest on the bonds in accordance with the bond proceedings. The state treasurer shall withdraw revenues from the transportation partnership account in the motor vehicle fund and deposit in the highway bond retirement fund, or a special account in the fund, such amounts, and at such times, as are required by the bond proceedings.

Any funds required for bond retirement or interest on the bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.873 through 47.10.878 shall be taken from that portion of the motor vehicle fund that results from the imposition of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees and that is distributed to the transportation partnership account in the motor vehicle fund. Funds required shall never constitute a charge against any other allocations of motor vehicle fuel and special fuel tax revenues and vehicle-related fees to the state, counties, cities, and towns unless the amount arising from excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees distributed to the transportation partnership account proves insufficient to meet the requirements for bond retirement or interest on any such bonds.

Any payments for bond retirement or interest on the bonds taken from other revenues from the motor vehicle fuel or special fuel taxes and vehicle-related fees that are distributable to the state, counties, cities, and towns shall be repaid from the first revenues from the motor vehicle fuel or special fuel taxes or vehicle-related fees distributed to the transportation partnership account not required for bond retirement or interest on the bonds. [2022 c 103 § 7; 2007 c 519 § 5; 2005 c 315 § 5.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

**Effective date—2005 c 315:** See note following RCW 47.10.873.

**RCW 47.10.878 Equal charge against motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.** Bonds issued under the authority of RCW 47.10.873 through 47.10.877 and this section and any other general obligation bonds of the state of Washington that have been or that may be authorized and that pledge motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees for the payment of principal and interest thereon shall be an equal charge against the revenues from such motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees. [2022 c 103 § 8; 2005 c 315 § 6.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

**Effective date—2005 c 315:** See note following RCW 47.10.873.

#### STATE ROUTE NO. 520 CORRIDOR PROJECTS—2009 ACT

**RCW 47.10.879 Bond issue authorized.** In order to provide funds necessary for the location, design, right-of-way, and construction of the state route number 520 corridor projects, as allowed in section 2, chapter 472, Laws of 2009, there shall be issued and sold upon the request of the department of transportation a total of one billion nine hundred fifty million dollars of general obligation bonds of the state of Washington first payable from toll revenue and excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels in accordance with RCW 47.10.883. [2009 c 498 § 8.]

**RCW 47.10.880 Administration and amount of sale.** Upon the request of the department of transportation, the state finance committee shall supervise and provide for the issuance, sale, and retirement of the bonds authorized by chapter 498, Laws of 2009 in accordance with chapter 39.42 RCW. Bonds authorized by chapter 498, Laws of 2009 shall be sold in the manner, at time or times, in amounts, and at the price as the state finance committee shall determine. No bonds may be offered for sale without prior legislative appropriation of the net proceeds of the sale of the bonds. [2009 c 498 § 9.]

**RCW 47.10.881 Proceeds—Deposit and use.** The proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by chapter 498, Laws of 2009 shall be deposited in the state route number 520 corridor account created under chapter 472, Laws of 2009, and shall be available only for the purposes enumerated in RCW 47.10.879, for the payment of bond anticipation notes or other interim financing, if any, capitalizing interest on the bonds, and for the payment of bond issuance costs, including the costs of underwriting. [2009 c 498 § 10.]

**RCW 47.10.883 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of toll revenue and excise taxes.** Bonds issued under the authority of this section and RCW 47.10.879, 47.10.884, and 47.10.885 must distinctly

state that they are a general obligation of the state of Washington, must pledge the full faith and credit of the state to the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon, and must contain an unconditional promise to pay such principal and interest as the same becomes due. The principal of and interest on the bonds must be first payable in the manner provided in this section and RCW 47.10.879, 47.10.884, and 47.10.885 from toll revenue and then from proceeds of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees to the extent toll revenue is not available for that purpose. Toll revenue and the state excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels imposed by chapter 82.38 RCW and vehicle-related fees are hereby pledged to the payment of any bonds and the interest thereon issued under the authority of this section and RCW 47.10.879, 47.10.884, and 47.10.885, and the legislature agrees to continue to impose these toll charges on the state route number 520 corridor, and on any other eligible toll facility designated by the legislature and on which the imposition of tolls is authorized by the legislature in respect of the bonds, and excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees in amounts sufficient to pay, when due, the principal and interest on all bonds issued under the authority of this section and RCW 47.10.879, 47.10.884, and 47.10.885. [2022 c 103 § 3; 2013 c 225 § 628; 2009 c 498 § 12.]

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** "The amendments made in sections 3 through 32 of this act to any highway bond act shall apply only to the highway bonds that have been authorized to be issued but that have not yet been issued and are not outstanding on June 9, 2022, and are issued after June 9, 2022." [2022 c 103 § 33.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Effective date—2013 c 225:** See note following RCW 82.38.010.

**RCW 47.10.884 Repayment procedure.** For bonds issued under the authority of this section and RCW 47.10.879, 47.10.883, and 47.10.885, the state treasurer shall first withdraw toll revenue from the state route number 520 corridor account created under chapter 472, Laws of 2009, and, to the extent toll revenue is not available, excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees in the motor vehicle fund and deposit in the toll facility bond retirement account, or a special subaccount in the account, such amounts, and at such times, as are required by the bond proceedings.

Any excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees required for bond retirement or interest on the bonds authorized by this section and RCW 47.10.879, 47.10.883, and 47.10.885 shall be taken from that portion of the motor vehicle fund that results from the imposition of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees and which is, or may be, appropriated to the department for state highway purposes. Funds required shall never constitute a charge against any other allocations of motor vehicle fuel and special fuel tax revenues and vehicle-related fees to the state, counties, cities, and towns unless the amount arising from excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees distributed to the state in the motor vehicle

fund proves insufficient to meet the requirements for bond retirement or interest on any such bonds.

Any payments for bond retirement or interest on the bonds taken from other revenues from the motor vehicle fuel or special fuel taxes or vehicle-related fees that are distributable to the state, counties, cities, and towns shall be repaid from available toll revenue in the manner provided in the bond proceedings or, if toll revenue is not available for that purpose, from the first excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees distributed to the motor vehicle fund not required for bond retirement or interest on the bonds. Any excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees required for bond retirement or interest on the bonds authorized by this section and RCW 47.10.879, 47.10.883, and 47.10.885 shall be reimbursed to the motor vehicle fund from toll revenue in the manner and with the priority specified in the bond proceedings. [2022 c 103 § 4; 2009 c 498 § 13.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

**RCW 47.10.885 Equal charge against motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.** Bonds issued under the authority of RCW 47.10.879, 47.10.883, and 47.10.884 and this section and any other general obligation bonds of the state of Washington that have been or that may be authorized and that pledge motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees for the payment of principal and interest thereon shall be an equal charge against the revenues from such motor vehicle and special fuels excise taxes and vehicle-related fees. [2022 c 103 § 5; 2009 c 498 § 14.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

**RCW 47.10.886 Toll revenue bonds.** If and to the extent that the state finance committee determines, in consultation with the department of transportation and the tolling authority, that it will be beneficial for the state to issue any bonds authorized in RCW 47.10.879 and 47.10.883 through 47.10.885 as toll revenue bonds rather than as general obligation bonds, the state finance committee is authorized to issue and sell, upon the request of the department of transportation, such bonds as toll revenue bonds and not as general obligation bonds. Notwithstanding RCW 47.10.883, each such bond shall contain a recital that payment or redemption of the bond and payment of the interest and any premium thereon is payable solely from and secured solely by a direct pledge, charge, and lien upon toll revenue and is not a general obligation of the state to which the full faith and credit of the state is pledged.

Toll revenue is hereby pledged to the payment of any bonds and the interest thereon issued under the authority of this section, and the legislature agrees to continue to impose these toll charges on the state route number 520 corridor, and on any other eligible toll facility designated by the legislature and on which the imposition of

tolls is authorized by the legislature in respect of the bonds, in amounts sufficient to pay, when due, the principal and interest on all bonds issued under the authority of this section. [2011 c 377 § 4. Prior: 2009 c 498 § 16.]

**Effective date—2011 c 377:** See note following RCW 47.56.796.

CONNECTING WASHINGTON PROJECTS AND IMPROVEMENTS—2015 ACT

**RCW 47.10.889 Bond issue authorized.** In order to provide funds necessary for the location, design, right-of-way, and construction of selected projects or improvements that are identified as connecting Washington projects or improvements in an omnibus transportation appropriations act, there shall be issued and sold upon the request of the department of transportation a total of five billion three hundred million dollars of general obligation bonds of the state of Washington. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 45 § 1.]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 45:** "Except for sections 8 through 10 of this act, this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [July 15, 2015]." [2015 3rd sp.s. c 45 § 12.]

**RCW 47.10.890 Administration and amount of sale.** Upon the request of the department of transportation, as appropriate, the state finance committee shall supervise and provide for the issuance, sale, and retirement of the bonds in chapter 45, Laws of 2015 3rd sp. sess. in accordance with chapter 39.42 RCW. Bonds authorized by chapter 45, Laws of 2015 3rd sp. sess. shall be sold in the manner, at time or times, in amounts, and at the price as the state finance committee shall determine. No bonds may be offered for sale without prior legislative appropriation of the net proceeds of the sale of the bonds.

The state finance committee shall consider the issuance of short-term obligations in lieu of long-term obligations for the purposes of more favorable interest rates, lower total interest costs, and increased marketability and for the purpose of retiring the bonds during the life of the project for which they were issued. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 45 § 2.]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 45:** See note following RCW 47.10.889.

**RCW 47.10.891 Proceeds—Deposit and use.** The proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by RCW 47.10.889 shall be deposited in the connecting Washington account in the motor vehicle fund. The proceeds shall be available only for the purposes enumerated in RCW 47.10.889, for the payment of bond anticipation notes, if any, and for the payment of bond issuance costs, including the costs of underwriting. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 45 § 3.]



**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 45:** See note following RCW 47.10.889.

**RCW 47.10.892 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.** Bonds issued under the authority of this section and RCW 47.10.889 through 47.10.891, 47.10.893, and 47.10.894 shall distinctly state that they are a general obligation of the state of Washington, shall pledge the full faith and credit of the state to the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon, and shall contain an unconditional promise to pay such principal and interest as the same shall become due. The principal and interest on the bonds shall be first payable in the manner provided in this section and RCW 47.10.889 through 47.10.891, 47.10.893, and 47.10.894 from the proceeds of the state excise taxes on fuel imposed by chapter 82.38 RCW and vehicle-related fees imposed under Title 46 RCW that constitute license fees for motor vehicles required to be used for highway purposes. Proceeds of these excise taxes and vehicle-related fees are hereby pledged to the payment of any bonds and the interest thereon issued under the authority of this section and RCW 47.10.889 through 47.10.891, 47.10.893, and 47.10.894, and the legislature agrees to continue to impose these excise taxes on fuel and vehicle-related fees in amounts from such sources sufficient to pay, when due, the principal and interest on all bonds issued under the authority of this section and RCW 47.10.889 through 47.10.891, 47.10.893, and 47.10.894. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 45 § 8; (2015 3rd sp.s. c 45 § 4 expired July 1, 2016).]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 45 §§ 8-10:** "Sections 8 through 10 of this act take effect July 1, 2016." [2015 3rd sp.s. c 45 § 14.]

**Expiration date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 45 §§ 4-6:** "Sections 4 through 6 of this act expire July 1, 2016." [2015 3rd sp.s. c 45 § 13.]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 45:** See note following RCW 47.10.889.

**RCW 47.10.893 Repayment procedure—Bond retirement fund.** (1) Both principal and interest on the bonds issued for the purposes of this section and RCW 47.10.889 through 47.10.892 and 47.10.894 shall be payable from the highway bond retirement fund. The state finance committee may provide that a special account be created in the fund to facilitate payment of the principal and interest. The state finance committee shall, on or before June 30th of each year, certify to the state treasurer the amount required for principal and interest on the bonds in accordance with the bond proceedings. The state treasurer shall withdraw revenues from the connecting Washington account in the motor vehicle fund and deposit in the highway bond retirement fund, or a special account in the fund, such amounts, and at such times, as are required by the bond proceedings.

(2) (a) Any funds required for bond retirement or interest on the bonds authorized by this section and RCW 47.10.889 through 47.10.892 and 47.10.894 shall be taken from that portion of the motor vehicle fund that results from the imposition of excise taxes on fuel and

vehicle-related fees, and that is distributed to the connecting Washington account in the motor vehicle fund.

(b) Funds required shall never constitute a charge against any other allocations of fuel tax and vehicle-related fee revenues to the state, counties, cities, and towns unless the amount arising from excise taxes on fuel and vehicle-related fees distributed to the connecting Washington account described in (a) of this subsection proves insufficient to meet the requirements for bond retirement or interest on any such bonds.

(c) Any payments for bond retirement or interest on the bonds taken from other revenues from the fuel taxes and vehicle-related fees that are distributable to the state, counties, cities, and towns shall be repaid from the first revenues from the fuel taxes and vehicle-related fees distributed to the connecting Washington account described in (a) of this subsection not required for bond retirement or interest on the bonds. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 45 § 9; (2015 3rd sp.s. c 45 § 5 expired July 1, 2016).]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 45 §§ 8-10:** See note following RCW 47.10.892.

**Expiration date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 45 §§ 4-6:** See note following RCW 47.10.892.

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 45:** See note following RCW 47.10.889.

**RCW 47.10.894 Equal charge against fuel excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.** Bonds issued under the authority of RCW 47.10.889 through 47.10.893 and this section and any other general obligation bonds of the state of Washington that have been or that may be authorized and that pledge fuel excise taxes and vehicle-related fees for the payment of principal and interest thereon shall be an equal charge against the revenues from such fuel excise taxes and vehicle-related fees. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 45 § 10; (2015 3rd sp.s. c 45 § 6 expired July 1, 2016).]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 45 §§ 8-10:** See note following RCW 47.10.892.

**Expiration date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 45 §§ 4-6:** See note following RCW 47.10.892.

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 45:** See note following RCW 47.10.889.

**RCW 47.10.895 Definition.** For purposes of RCW 47.10.889 through 47.10.894, "vehicle-related fees" means vehicle-related fees imposed under Title 46 RCW that constitute license fees for motor vehicles required to be used for highway purposes. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 45 § 7.]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 45:** See note following RCW 47.10.889.

INTERSTATE 405, STATE ROUTE NO. 167, AND STATE ROUTE NO. 509 PROJECTS  
—2019 ACT

**RCW 47.10.896 Bond issue authorized.** (1) In order to provide funds necessary for the design, right-of-way, and construction of projects as allowed in RCW 47.56.880, 47.56.884, 47.56.895, and 47.56.897, there shall be issued and sold upon the request of the department of transportation up to the following amounts of general obligation bonds of the state of Washington first payable from toll revenue and excise taxes on fuel and vehicle-related fees in accordance with RCW 47.10.899:

(a) One billion one hundred sixty million dollars for the Interstate 405 and state route number 167 express toll lanes; and

(b) Three hundred forty million dollars for the Puget Sound Gateway facility.

(2) For purposes of chapter 421, Laws of 2019, "vehicle-related fees" means vehicle-related fees imposed under Title 46 RCW that constitute license fees for motor vehicles to be used for highway purposes. [2019 c 421 § 2.]

**Intent—2019 c 421:** "(1) The legislature recognizes that the Puget Sound region is faced with growing traffic congestion and must improve mobility for people and goods by maximizing the effectiveness of the freeway system. Investments in the Interstate 405, state route number 167, and state route number 509 corridors are essential for providing benefits for the movement of vehicles and people. Further, the legislature recognizes that in 2015, the passage of the connecting Washington transportation revenue proposal assumed that tolling would be a component of projects on these corridors.

(2) The legislature recognizes that completion of state route number 167 in Pierce county and completion of state route number 509 in King county provide essential connections to the Port of Tacoma and the Port of Seattle and will help ensure people and goods move more reliably through the Puget Sound region. The completion of these corridors, known as the Gateway project, will play an essential role in enhancing the state's economic competitiveness, both nationally and globally.

(3) The legislature acknowledges that as one of the most congested freeway sections in the state, the combined Interstate 405 and state route number 167 corridor in King county serves as an ideal candidate for an express toll lanes network. The express toll lanes network provides a tool for managing the use of high occupancy vehicle lanes while generating funds to improve projects in the corridor.

(4) Therefore, it is the intent of this act to expedite the delivery of the Puget Sound Gateway facility, designate the Puget Sound Gateway project as an eligible toll facility, and authorize the imposition of tolls on the Puget Sound Gateway facility. It is further the intent of this act to direct the department of transportation to develop and operate an express toll lanes network on Interstate 405 from the city of Lynnwood on the north end to the intersection of state route number 167 and state route number 512 on the south end." [2019 c 421 § 1.]

**Effective date—2019 c 421:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect June 30, 2019." [2019 c 421 § 20.]

**RCW 47.10.897 Administration and amount of sale.** Upon the request of the department, the state finance committee shall supervise and provide for the issuance, sale, and retirement of bonds authorized by chapter 421, Laws of 2019 in accordance with chapter 39.42 RCW. Bonds authorized by chapter 421, Laws of 2019 shall be sold in the manner, at time or times, in amounts, and at the price as the state finance committee shall determine. No bonds may be offered for sale without prior legislative appropriation of the net proceeds of the sale of the bonds. [2019 c 421 § 3.]

**Intent—Effective date—2019 c 421:** See notes following RCW 47.10.896.

**RCW 47.10.898 Proceeds—Deposit and use.** (1) The proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by:

(a) RCW 47.10.896(1)(a) shall be deposited in the Interstate 405 and state route number 167 express toll lanes account created in RCW 47.56.884; and

(b) RCW 47.10.896(1)(b) shall be deposited in the Puget Sound Gateway facility account created in RCW 47.56.897.

(2) The bond proceeds shall be available only for the purposes enumerated in section 2, chapter 421, Laws of 2019 [RCW 47.10.896], for the payment of bond anticipation notes or other interim financing, if any, capitalizing interest on the bonds, funding a debt service reserve fund, if any, and for the payment of bond issuance costs, including the costs of underwriting. [2019 c 421 § 4.]

**Intent—Effective date—2019 c 421:** See notes following RCW 47.10.896.

**RCW 47.10.899 Statement of general obligation—Pledge of toll revenue and excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.** Bonds issued under the authority of this section and RCW 47.10.896, 47.10.900, and 47.10.901 shall distinctly state that they are a general obligation of the state of Washington, shall pledge the full faith and credit of the state to the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon, and shall contain an unconditional promise to pay such principal and interest as the same shall become due. The principal of and interest on the bonds shall be first payable in the manner provided in this section and RCW 47.10.896, 47.10.900, and 47.10.901 from toll revenue and then from proceeds of excise taxes on fuel and vehicle-related fees to the extent toll revenue is not available for that purpose. Toll revenue and the state excise taxes on fuel imposed by chapter 82.38 RCW and vehicle-related fees are hereby pledged to the payment of any bonds and the interest thereon issued under the authority of this section and RCW 47.10.896, 47.10.900, and 47.10.901, and the legislature agrees to continue to impose these toll charges on the Interstate 405 and state route number 167 express toll lanes, and

on the Puget Sound Gateway facility, and on any other eligible toll facility designated by the legislature and on which the imposition of tolls is authorized by the legislature in respect of the bonds, and excise taxes on fuel and vehicle-related fees in amounts sufficient to pay, when due, the principal and interest on all bonds issued under the authority of this section and RCW 47.10.896, 47.10.900, and 47.10.901. [2019 c 421 § 5.]

**Intent—Effective date—2019 c 421:** See notes following RCW 47.10.896.

**RCW 47.10.900 Repayment procedure.** For bonds issued under the authority of this section and RCW 47.10.896, 47.10.899, and 47.10.901, the state treasurer shall first withdraw toll revenue from the appropriate toll account for the facility for which the bonds are issued and sold, and, to the extent toll revenue is not available, excise taxes on fuel and vehicle-related fees and deposit in the toll facility bond retirement account, or a special subaccount in the account, such amounts, and at such times, as are required by the bond proceedings.

Any excise taxes on fuel and vehicle-related fees required for bond retirement or interest on the bonds authorized by this section and RCW 47.10.896, 47.10.899, and 47.10.901 shall be taken from that portion of the motor vehicle fund that results from the imposition of excise taxes on fuel and vehicle-related fees and which is, or may be, appropriated to the department for state highway purposes. Funds required shall never constitute a charge against any other allocations of fuel tax and vehicle-related fee revenues to the state, counties, cities, and towns unless the amount arising from excise taxes on fuel and vehicle-related fees distributed to the state in the motor vehicle fund proves insufficient to meet the requirements for bond retirement or interest on any such bonds.

Any payments for bond retirement or interest on the bonds taken from other revenues from the fuel taxes and vehicle-related fees that are distributable to the state, counties, cities, and towns shall be repaid from available toll revenue in the manner provided in the bond proceedings or, if toll revenue is not available for that purpose, from the first revenues from the excise taxes on fuel and vehicle-related fees distributed to the motor vehicle fund not required for bond retirement or interest on the bonds. Any excise taxes on fuel and vehicle-related fees required for bond retirement or interest on the bonds authorized by this section and RCW 47.10.896, 47.10.899, and 47.10.901 shall be reimbursed to the motor vehicle fund from toll revenue in the manner and with the priority specified in the bond proceedings. [2019 c 421 § 6.]

**Intent—Effective date—2019 c 421:** See notes following RCW 47.10.896.

**RCW 47.10.901 Equal charge against fuel excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.** Bonds issued under the authority of RCW 47.10.896, 47.10.899, and 47.10.900 and this section and any other general obligation bonds of the state of Washington that have been or that may be authorized and that pledge excise taxes on fuel and

vehicle-related fees for the payment of principal and interest thereon shall be an equal charge against the revenues from such excise taxes on fuel and vehicle-related fees. [2019 c 421 § 7.]

**Intent—Effective date—2019 c 421:** See notes following RCW 47.10.896.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

**RCW 47.10.905 Toll facility bond retirement account.** The toll facility bond retirement account is created in the state treasury for the purpose of payment of the principal of and interest and premium on bonds. Both principal of and interest on the bonds issued for the purposes of chapter 498, Laws of 2009, chapter 377, Laws of 2011, and chapter 421, Laws of 2019 shall be payable from the toll facility bond retirement account. The state finance committee may provide that special subaccounts be created in the account to facilitate payment of the principal of and interest on the bonds. The state finance committee shall, on or before June 30th of each year, certify to the state treasurer the amount required for principal and interest on the bonds in accordance with the bond proceedings. [2019 c 421 § 8; 2011 c 377 § 3; 2009 c 498 § 11. Formerly RCW 47.10.882.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was recodified by the code reviser.

**Intent—Effective date—2019 c 421:** See notes following RCW 47.10.896.

**Effective date—2011 c 377:** See note following RCW 47.56.796.

**RCW 47.10.906 State finance committee authority—Department of transportation approval of actions—Bond owners' rights.** The state finance committee may determine and include in any resolution authorizing the issuance of any bonds under chapter 498, Laws of 2009, chapter 377, Laws of 2011, and chapter 421, Laws of 2019, such terms, provisions, covenants, and conditions as it may deem appropriate in order to assist with the marketing and sale of the bonds, confer rights upon the owners of bonds, and safeguard rights of the owners of bonds including, among other things:

(1) Provisions regarding the maintenance and operation of eligible toll facilities;

(2) The pledges, uses, and priorities of application of toll revenue;

(3) Provisions that bonds shall be payable from and secured solely by toll revenue as provided by RCW 47.10.886, or shall be payable from and secured by both toll revenue and by a pledge of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and the full faith and credit of the state as provided in RCW 47.10.879 and 47.10.883 through 47.10.885;

(4) Provisions that bonds shall be payable from and secured by both toll revenue and by a pledge of excise taxes on fuel and vehicle-related fees and the full faith and credit of the state as provided in RCW 47.10.896 and 47.10.899 through 47.10.901;

(5) In consultation with the department of transportation and the tolling authority, financial covenants requiring that the eligible toll facilities must produce specified coverage ratios of toll revenue to debt service on bonds;

(6) The purposes and conditions that must be satisfied prior to the issuance of any additional bonds that are to be payable from and secured by any toll revenue on an equal basis with previously issued and outstanding bonds payable from and secured by toll revenue;

(7) Provisions that bonds for which any toll revenue are pledged, or for which a pledge of any toll revenue may be reserved, may be structured on a senior, parity, subordinate, or special lien basis in relation to any other bonds for which toll revenue is pledged, with respect to toll revenue only; and

(8) Provisions regarding reserves, credit enhancement, liquidity facilities, and payment agreements with respect to bonds.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, covenants and conditions detailing the character of management, maintenance, and operation of eligible toll facilities, insurance for eligible toll facilities, financial management of toll revenue, and disposition of eligible toll facilities must first be approved by the department of transportation.

The owner of any bond may by mandamus or other appropriate proceeding require and compel performance of any duties imposed upon the tolling authority and the department of transportation and their respective officials, including any duties imposed upon or undertaken by them or by their respective officers, agents, and employees, in connection with the construction, maintenance, and operation of eligible toll facilities and in connection with the collection, deposit, investment, application, and disbursement of the proceeds of the bonds and toll revenue. [2019 c 421 § 9; 2011 c 377 § 5; 2009 c 498 § 17. Formerly RCW 47.10.887.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was recodified by the code reviser.

**Intent—Effective date—2019 c 421:** See notes following RCW 47.10.896.

**Effective date—2011 c 377:** See note following RCW 47.56.796.

**RCW 47.10.907 Definitions.** (1) For the purposes of chapter 498, Laws of 2009, chapter 377, Laws of 2011, and chapter 421, Laws of 2019, "toll revenue" means all toll receipts, all interest income derived from the investment of toll receipts, and any gifts, grants, or other funds received for the benefit of transportation facilities in the state, including eligible toll facilities. However, for the purpose of any pledge of toll revenue to the payment of particular bonds issued under chapter 498, Laws of 2009, chapter 377, Laws of 2011, and chapter 421, Laws of 2019, "toll revenue" means and includes only such toll revenue or portion thereof that is pledged to the payment of those bonds in the resolution authorizing the issuance of such bonds. Toll revenue constitutes "fees and revenues derived from the ownership or operation of any undertaking, facility, or project" as that phrase is used in Article VIII, section 1(c)(1) of the state Constitution.

(2) For the purposes of chapter 498, Laws of 2009, chapter 377, Laws of 2011, and chapter 421, Laws of 2019, "tolling authority" has

the same meaning as in RCW 47.56.810. [2019 c 421 § 10; 2011 c 377 § 6; 2009 c 498 § 18. Formerly RCW 47.10.888.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was recodified by the code reviser.

**Intent—Effective date—2019 c 421:** See notes following RCW 47.10.896.

**Effective date—2011 c 377:** See note following RCW 47.56.796.

**RCW 47.10.908 Definitions applicable to chapter 103, Laws of 2022.** For the purposes of chapter 103, Laws of 2022, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Highway bond act" means any of the following bond authorization acts that authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds of the state of Washington for highway purposes the principal of and interest on which are first payable from state excise taxes on fuel imposed by chapter 82.38 RCW: Chapter 83, Laws of 1967, 1st ex. sess.; chapter 293, Laws of 1990; chapter 431, Laws of 1993; chapter 432, Laws of 1993; chapter 440, Laws of 1993; chapter 15, Laws of 1995, 2nd sp. sess.; chapter 321, Laws of 1998; chapter 147, Laws of 2003; chapter 315, Laws of 2005; and chapter 498, Laws of 2009.

(2) "Highway bonds" means any bonds issued by the state of Washington pursuant to a highway bond act.

(3) "Vehicle-related fees" means vehicle-related fees imposed under Title 46 RCW that constitute license fees for motor vehicles required to be used for highway purposes. [2022 c 103 § 2.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** "The legislature recognizes the importance of transportation electrification and the need to maintain stable funding for highway bonds as the use of carbon intensive motor fuels within the state is reduced. Therefore, it is the intent of the legislature to supplement certain existing highway bond authorization acts to prepare for and respond to changes in revenue derived from state excise taxes on fuel by providing an additional pledge of vehicle-related fees for highway bonds issued or refunded subsequent to June 9, 2022, and providing funding from vehicle-related fees for bond retirement and interest on such highway bonds." [2022 c 103 § 1.]



**Chapter 47.12 RCW**  
**ACQUISITION AND DISPOSITION OF STATE HIGHWAY PROPERTY**

**Sections**

- 47.12.010 Acquisition of property authorized—Condemnation actions—  
Cost.
- 47.12.011 Purchase options authorized.
- 47.12.015 "Reservation boundary" defined.
- 47.12.023 Acquisition of state lands or interests or rights therein  
—Procedures—Compensation—Reacquisition by department  
of natural resources.
- 47.12.026 Acquisition of state lands or interests or rights therein  
—Easements—Removal of materials—Relocation of  
railroad tracks.
- 47.12.029 Acquisition of state lands or interests or rights therein  
—Certain purposes prohibited.
- 47.12.040 Acquisition of property from a political subdivision.
- 47.12.044 Proceedings to acquire property or rights for highway  
purposes—Precedence.
- 47.12.050 Work on remaining land as payment.
- 47.12.055 Notification requirements.
- 47.12.063 Surplus real property program.
- 47.12.064 Affordable housing—Inventory of suitable property.
- 47.12.066 Sale or lease of personal property—Provision of services  
—Proceeds.
- 47.12.080 Sale or exchange of unused land.
- 47.12.120 Lease of unused highway land or air space.
- 47.12.125 Lease of unused highway land or air space—Disposition of  
proceeds.
- 47.12.140 Severance and sale of timber and other personalty—Removal  
of nonmarketable materials.
- 47.12.150 Acquisition, exchange of property to relocate displaced  
facility.
- 47.12.160 Acquisition of land outside highway right-of-way to  
minimize damage.
- 47.12.180 Additional financing methods for property and engineering  
costs—Formal declarations.
- 47.12.190 Additional financing methods for property and engineering  
costs—Purchase or condemnation.
- 47.12.200 Additional financing methods for property and engineering  
costs—Agreements with state finance committee.
- 47.12.210 Additional financing methods for property and engineering  
costs—Warrants on motor vehicle fund.
- 47.12.220 Additional financing methods for property and engineering  
costs—Provisions in agreement.
- 47.12.230 Additional financing methods for property and engineering  
costs—Warrant form and procedure.
- 47.12.240 Additional financing methods for property and engineering  
costs—Payment procedure—Prior charge.
- 47.12.242 "Advance right-of-way acquisition" defined.
- 47.12.244 Advance right-of-way revolving fund.
- 47.12.246 Reimbursement to advance right-of-way revolving fund.
- 47.12.248 Structures acquired in advance of programmed construction  
—Maintenance.

- 47.12.250 Acquisition of property for preservation, safety, buffer purposes.
- 47.12.270 Acquisition of property for park and ride lots.
- 47.12.283 Sale of real property authorized—Procedure—Disposition of proceeds.
- 47.12.287 Exchange of real property authorized—Conveyance by deed.
- 47.12.290 Sale of real property—Execution, acknowledgment, and delivery of deed.
- 47.12.320 Sale of property—Listing with broker.
- 47.12.330 Advanced environmental mitigation—Authorized.
- 47.12.340 Advanced environmental mitigation revolving account.
- 47.12.350 Advanced environmental mitigation—Site management—Reimbursement of account.
- 47.12.370 Environmental mitigation—Exchange agreements.
- 47.12.380 Limited project, department may establish—Lease of property.

*Acquisition of real property subject to local improvement assessments:  
RCW 79.44.190.*

*Acquisition of rights-of-way, city streets: RCW 47.24.030.*

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*Acquisition of real property subject to local improvement assessments: RCW 79.44.190.*

*Acquisition of rights-of-way, city streets: RCW 47.24.030.*

**RCW 47.12.010 Acquisition of property authorized—Condemnation actions—Cost.** Whenever it is necessary to secure any lands or interests in land for a right-of-way for any state highway, or for the drainage thereof or construction of a protection therefor or so as to afford unobstructed vision therefor toward any railroad crossing or another public highway crossing or any point of danger to public travel or to provide a visual or sound buffer between highways and adjacent properties or for the purpose of acquiring sand pits, gravel pits, borrow pits, stone quarries, or any other land for the extraction of materials for construction or maintenance or both, or for any site for the erection upon and use as a maintenance camp, of any state highway, or any site for other necessary structures or for structures for the health and accommodation of persons traveling or stopping upon the state highways of this state, or any site for the construction and maintenance of structures and facilities adjacent to, under, upon, within, or above the right-of-way of any state highway for exclusive or nonexclusive use by an urban public transportation system, or for any other highway purpose, together with right-of-way to reach such property and gain access thereto, the department of transportation is authorized to acquire such lands or interests in land in behalf of the state by gift, purchase, or condemnation. In case of condemnation to secure such lands or interests in land, the action shall be brought in the name of the state of Washington in the manner provided for the acquiring of property for the public uses of the state, and in such action the selection of the lands or interests in land by the secretary of transportation shall, in the absence of bad faith, arbitrary, capricious, or fraudulent action, be conclusive upon the court and judge before which the action is brought that said lands or interests in land are necessary for public use for the purposes sought. The cost and expense of such lands or interests in land may be paid as a part of the cost of the state highway for which such right-of-way, drainage, unobstructed vision, sand pits, gravel pits, borrow pits, stone quarries, maintenance camp sites, and

structure sites or other lands are acquired. [1977 ex.s. c 151 § 46; 1967 c 108 § 4; 1961 c 13 § 47.12.010. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 25, part; RRS § 6400-25, part.]

*Urban public transportation system defined: RCW 47.04.082.*

*Right-of-way donations: Chapter 47.14 RCW.*

**RCW 47.12.011 Purchase options authorized.** Whenever it becomes necessary or feasible to purchase rights-of-way for state highways, and the department deems it to be in the best interest of the general public, the department may secure options for purchase of property needed or proposed for any entire project or section thereof or proposed alignment for the location or relocation of any highway. [1984 c 7 § 114; 1961 c 13 § 47.12.011. Prior: 1955 c 49 § 1.]

**RCW 47.12.015 "Reservation boundary" defined.** For the purposes of this chapter "reservation boundary" means the boundary of the reservation as established by federal law or under the authority of the United States Secretary of the Interior. [2002 c 255 § 2.]

**RCW 47.12.023 Acquisition of state lands or interests or rights therein—Procedures—Compensation—Reacquisition by department of natural resources.** (1) Except as provided in RCW 47.12.026 and 47.12.029, whenever it is necessary to secure any lands or interests in lands for any highway purpose mentioned in RCW 47.12.010, or for the construction of any toll facility or ferry terminal or docking facility, the title to which is in the state of Washington and under the jurisdiction of the department of natural resources, the department of transportation may acquire jurisdiction over the lands or interests in lands, or acquire rights to remove materials from the lands in the manner set forth in this section.

(2) At any time after the final adoption of a right-of-way plan or other plan requiring the acquisition of lands or interests in lands for any purpose as authorized in subsection (1) of this section, the department of transportation may file with the department of natural resources a notice setting forth its intent to acquire jurisdiction of the lands or interests in lands under the jurisdiction of the department of natural resources required for right-of-way or other highway purposes related to the construction or improvement of such state highway, toll facility, or ferry terminal or docking facility.

(3) The department of transportation at the time of filing its notice of intent as provided in subsection (2) of this section shall file therewith a written statement showing the total amount of just compensation to be paid for the property in the event of settlement. The offer shall be based upon the department of transportation approved appraisal of the fair market value of the property to be acquired. In no event may the offer of settlement be referred to or used during any arbitration proceeding or trial conducted for the purpose of determining the amount of just compensation.

(4) Just compensation and/or fair market value for the purposes of this section shall be determined in accordance with applicable

federal and state constitutional, statutory, and case law relating to the condemnation of private and public property for public purposes.

(5) If the department of natural resources does not accept the offer of the department of transportation, the department of transportation may nonetheless pay to the department of natural resources the amount of its offer and obtain immediate possession and use of the property pending the determination of just compensation in the manner hereinafter provided.

(6) If the amount of just compensation is not agreed to, either the department of natural resources or the department of transportation may request in writing the appointment of an arbitrator for the purpose of determining the amount of compensation to be paid by the department of transportation for the acquisition of jurisdiction over the lands or interests in lands or rights therein. In that event the department of natural resources and the department of transportation may jointly agree on an arbitrator to determine the compensation, and his or her determination shall be final and conclusive upon both departments. The costs of the arbitrator shall be borne equally by the parties. If the department of natural resources and the department of transportation are unable to agree on the selection of an arbitrator within thirty days after a request therefor is made, either the department of transportation or the department of natural resources may file a petition with the superior court for Thurston county for the purpose of determining the amount of just compensation to be paid. The matter shall be tried by the court pursuant to the procedures set forth in RCW 8.04.080.

(7) Whenever the department of transportation has acquired immediate possession and use of property by payment of the amount of its offer to the department of natural resources, and the arbitration award or judgment of the court for the acquisition exceeds the payment for immediate possession and use, the department of transportation shall forthwith pay the amount of such excess to the department of natural resources with interest thereon from the date it obtained immediate possession. If the arbitration or court award is less than the amount previously paid by the department of transportation for immediate possession and use, the department of natural resources shall forthwith pay the amount of the difference to the department of transportation.

(8) Upon the payment of just compensation, as agreed to by the department of transportation and the department of natural resources, or as determined by arbitration or by judgment of the court, and other costs or fees as provided by statute, the department of natural resources shall cause to be executed and delivered to the department of transportation an instrument transferring jurisdiction over the lands or interests in lands, or rights to remove material from the lands, to the department of transportation.

(9) Except as provided in RCW 47.12.026, whenever the department of transportation ceases to use any lands or interests in lands acquired in the manner set forth in this section for the purposes mentioned herein, the department of natural resources may reacquire jurisdiction over the lands or interests in land by paying the fair market value thereof to the department of transportation. If the two departments are unable to agree on the fair market value of the lands or interests in lands, the market value shall be determined and the interests therein shall be transferred in accordance with the provisions and procedures set forth in subsections (4) through (8) of

this section. [2010 c 8 § 10003; 1984 c 7 § 115; 1977 ex.s. c 103 § 1.]

**RCW 47.12.026 Acquisition of state lands or interests or rights therein—Easements—Removal of materials—Relocation of railroad tracks.**

(1) The department of transportation may acquire an easement for highway or toll facilities right-of-way or for ferry terminal or docking facilities, including the right to make necessary fills, on, over, or across the beds of navigable waters which are under the jurisdiction of the department of natural resources, in accordance with the provisions of RCW 47.12.023, except that no charge may be made to the department of transportation for such an easement.

(2) The department of transportation may obtain an easement for highway or toll facilities purposes or for ferry terminal or docking facilities on, over, or across harbor areas in accordance with RCW 47.12.023 but only when the areas are approved by the harbor line commission as a public place for public landings, wharves, or other public conveniences of commerce or navigation. No charge may be made to the department of transportation for such an easement.

(3) Upon the selection by the department of transportation of an easement for highway or toll facilities right-of-way or for ferry terminal or docking facilities, as authorized in subsections (1) and (2) of this section, the department of natural resources shall cause to be executed and delivered to the department of transportation an instrument transferring the easement. Whenever the state no longer requires the easement for highway or toll facilities right-of-way or for ferry terminal or docking facilities, the easement shall automatically terminate and the department of transportation shall, upon request, cause to be executed an instrument relinquishing to the department of natural resources all of its interest in the lands.

(4) The department of transportation, pursuant to the procedures set forth in RCW 47.12.023, may remove sand and gravel and borrow materials and stone from the beds of navigable waters under the jurisdiction of the department of natural resources which lie below the line of ordinary high water upon the payment of fair market value per cubic yard for such materials to be determined in the manner set forth in RCW 47.12.023.

(5) The department of transportation may acquire full jurisdiction over lands under the jurisdiction of the department of natural resources including the beds of navigable waters that are required for the relocation of the operating tracks of any railroad that will be displaced by the acquisition of such railroad property for state highway purposes. The department of transportation may exchange lands so acquired in consideration or partial consideration for the land or property rights needed for highway purposes and may cause to be executed a conveyance of the lands in the manner prescribed in RCW 47.12.150. In that event the department of transportation shall pay to the department of natural resources, as just compensation for the acquisition, the fair market value of the property, including the beds of any navigable waters, to be determined in accordance with procedures set forth in RCW 47.12.023. [1984 c 7 § 116; 1977 ex.s. c 103 § 2.]

**RCW 47.12.029 Acquisition of state lands or interests or rights therein—Certain purposes prohibited.** The department of transportation shall not acquire jurisdiction of any lands or interest in lands under the jurisdiction of the department of natural resources for any of the purposes set forth in RCW 47.12.150, 47.12.160, 47.12.180, 47.12.250, and 47.12.270. [1984 c 7 § 117; 1977 ex.s. c 103 § 3.]

**RCW 47.12.040 Acquisition of property from a political subdivision.** Whenever it is necessary to secure any lands for primary or secondary state highway right-of-way or other state highway purposes, the title to which is in any county of the state or in any political or municipal subdivision of the state, which land is not at the time being used as a public highway, the county legislative authority or the board of directors or governing body of any such political or municipal subdivision are authorized to directly lease, sell, or convey by gift the land or any interest therein to the state of Washington, without requiring competitive bids or notice to the public, and at such price as the legislative authority, directors, or governing body may deem for the best interests of the county or for the best interests of the political or municipal subdivision of the state. The county legislative authority or the directors or governing body of any political or municipal subdivision are empowered to execute a deed or other proper instrument to the land, passing title to the state of Washington, and the instrument need not require consideration other than the benefit which may be derived by the grantor on account of the use thereof. Whenever any state highway is established by legislative enactment and the state highway is upon the former route of a county road, the county legislative authority shall cause the title to the existing right-of-way or so much thereof as the department requires to be transferred to the state of Washington by proper instrument. [1984 c 7 § 118; 1961 c 13 § 47.12.040. Prior: 1943 c 266 § 1; 1937 c 53 § 26; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6400-26.]

**RCW 47.12.044 Proceedings to acquire property or rights for highway purposes—Precedence.** Court proceedings necessary to acquire property or property rights for highway purposes pursuant to RCW 47.12.010 take precedence over all other causes not involving the public interest in all courts in cases where the state is unable to secure an order granting it immediate possession and use of the property or property rights pursuant to RCW 8.04.090 through 8.04.094. [1983 c 140 § 2.]

**RCW 47.12.050 Work on remaining land as payment.** Whenever it is considered in the securing of any lands for state highway purpose, whether by condemnation or otherwise, that it is for the best interest of the state, for specific constructural items of damage claimed, the court or judge may order or the person whose lands are sought may agree that a portion or all work or labor necessary to the land or remaining land by reason of the taking by way of damage, be performed by the state through the department as all or a part of the consideration or satisfaction of the judgment therefor, in which event the department may perform the work as a portion of the right-of-way



cost of the state highway. [1984 c 7 § 119; 1961 c 13 § 47.12.050. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 27; RRS § 6400-27.]

**RCW 47.12.055 Notification requirements.** Actions under this chapter are subject to the notification requirements of RCW 43.17.400. [2007 c 62 § 9.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—2007 c 62:** See notes following RCW 43.17.400.

**RCW 47.12.063 Surplus real property program.** (1) It is the intent of the legislature to continue the department's policy giving priority consideration to abutting property owners in agricultural areas when disposing of property through its surplus property program under this section.

(2) Whenever the department determines that any real property owned by the state of Washington and under the jurisdiction of the department is no longer required for transportation purposes and that it is in the public interest to do so, the department may sell the property or exchange it in full or part consideration for land or building improvements or for construction of highway improvements at fair market value to any person through the solicitation of written bids through public advertising in the manner prescribed under RCW 47.28.050 or in the manner prescribed under RCW 47.12.283.

(3) The department may forego the processes prescribed by RCW 47.28.050 and 47.12.283 and sell the real property to any of the following entities or persons at fair market value:

- (a) Any other state agency;
- (b) The city or county in which the property is situated;
- (c) Any other municipal corporation;
- (d) Regional transit authorities created under chapter 81.112

RCW;

(e) The former owner of the property from whom the state acquired title;

(f) In the case of residentially improved property, a tenant of the department who has resided thereon for not less than six months and who is not delinquent in paying rent to the state;

(g) Any abutting private owner but only after each other abutting private owner (if any), as shown in the records of the county assessor, is notified in writing of the proposed sale. If more than one abutting private owner requests in writing the right to purchase the property within 15 days after receiving notice of the proposed sale, the property shall be sold at public auction in the manner provided in RCW 47.12.283;

(h) To any other owner of real property required for transportation purposes;

(i) In the case of property suitable for residential use, any nonprofit organization dedicated to providing affordable housing to very low-income, low-income, and moderate-income households as defined in RCW 43.63A.510 and is eligible to receive assistance through the Washington housing trust fund created in chapter 43.185A RCW;

(j) During the 2021-2023 fiscal biennium, any nonprofit organization that identifies real property to be sold or conveyed as a

substitute for real property owned by the nonprofit within the city of Seattle to be redeveloped for the purpose of affordable housing; or

(k) A federally recognized Indian tribe within whose reservation boundary the property is located.

(4) When selling real property pursuant to RCW 47.12.283, the department may withhold or withdraw the property from an auction when requested by one of the entities or persons listed in subsection (3) of this section and only after the receipt of a nonrefundable deposit equal to 10 percent of the fair market value of the real property or \$5,000, whichever is less. This subsection does not prohibit the department from exercising its discretion to withhold or withdraw the real property from an auction if the department determines that the property is no longer surplus or chooses to sell the property through one of the other means listed in subsection (2) of this section. If a transaction under this subsection is not completed within 60 days, the real property must be put back up for sale.

(5) Sales to purchasers may, at the department's option, be for cash, by real estate contract, or exchange of land or highway improvements. Transactions involving the construction of improvements must be conducted pursuant to chapter 47.28 RCW and Title 39 RCW, as applicable, and must comply with all other applicable laws and rules.

(6) Conveyances made pursuant to this section shall be by deed executed by the secretary of transportation and shall be duly acknowledged.

(7) Unless otherwise provided, all moneys received pursuant to the provisions of this section less any real estate broker commissions paid pursuant to RCW 47.12.320 shall be deposited in the motor vehicle fund.

(8) The department may not enter into equal value exchanges or property acquisitions for building improvements without first consulting with the office of financial management and the joint transportation committee. [2023 c 275 § 21; 2022 c 186 § 710; 2015 3rd sp.s. c 13 § 2; 2011 c 376 § 2; (2011 c 376 § 1 expired June 30, 2012); (2010 c 157 § 1 expired June 30, 2012); 2006 c 17 § 2; 2002 c 255 § 1; 1999 c 210 § 1; 1993 c 461 § 11; 1988 c 135 § 1; 1983 c 3 § 125; 1977 ex.s. c 78 § 1.]

**Effective date—2022 c 186:** See note following RCW 47.01.071.

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 13:** See note following RCW 47.12.283.

**Effective date—2011 c 376 § 2:** "Section 2 of this act takes effect June 30, 2012." [2011 c 376 § 4.]

**Expiration date—2011 c 376 § 1:** "Section 1 of this act expires June 30, 2012." [2011 c 376 § 3.]

**Expiration date—2010 c 157 § 1:** "Section 1 of this act expires June 30, 2012." [2010 c 157 § 2.]

**Finding—1993 c 461:** See note following RCW 43.63A.510.

*Proceeds from the sale of surplus real property for construction of second Tacoma Narrows bridge deposited in Tacoma Narrows toll bridge account: RCW 47.56.165.*

**RCW 47.12.064 Affordable housing—Inventory of suitable property.** (1) The department shall identify and catalog real property that is no longer required for department purposes and is suitable for the development of affordable housing for very low-income, low-income, and moderate-income households as defined in RCW 43.63A.510. The inventory shall include the location, approximate size, and current zoning classification of the property. The department shall provide a copy of the inventory to the department of commerce by November 1, 1993, and every November 1 thereafter.

(2) By November 1 of each year, beginning in 1994, the department shall purge the inventory of real property of sites that are no longer available for the development of affordable housing. The department shall include an updated listing of real property that has become available since the last update. As used in this section, "real property" means buildings, land, or buildings and land. [2023 c 470 § 2085; 1995 c 399 § 121; 1993 c 461 § 10.]

**Explanatory statement—2023 c 470:** See note following RCW 10.99.030.

**Finding—1993 c 461:** See note following RCW 43.63A.510.

**RCW 47.12.066 Sale or lease of personal property—Provision of services—Proceeds.** (1) The department may sell at fair market value, or lease at rental value (economic rent), materials or other personal property to any United States agency or to any municipal corporation, political subdivision, or another agency of the state and may provide services to any United States agency or to any municipal corporation, political subdivision, or another agency of the state at actual cost, including a reasonable amount for indirect costs.

(2) The department may sell at fair market value materials or other personal property to any private utility company regulated by the utilities and transportation commission for the purpose of making emergency repairs to utility facilities or to protect such facilities from imminent damage upon a finding in writing by the secretary that an emergency exists.

(3) The proceeds of all sales and leases under this section shall be placed in the motor vehicle fund. [1984 c 7 § 120; 1977 ex.s. c 78 § 2.]

**RCW 47.12.080 Sale or exchange of unused land.** The secretary of transportation may transfer and convey to the United States, its agencies or instrumentalities, to any other state agency, to any county or city or port district of this state, or to any public utility company, any unused state-owned real property under the jurisdiction of the department of transportation when, in the judgment of the secretary of transportation and the attorney general, the transfer and conveyance is consistent with public interest. Whenever the secretary makes an agreement for any such transfer or conveyance, and the attorney general concurs therein, the secretary shall execute and deliver unto the grantee a deed of conveyance, easement, or other instrument, duly acknowledged, as shall be necessary to fulfill the terms of the aforesaid agreement. All moneys paid to the state of Washington under any of the provisions hereof shall be deposited in

the motor vehicle fund. [1984 c 7 § 121. Prior: 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 49; 1977 ex.s. c 78 § 5; 1975 1st ex.s. c 96 § 3; 1961 c 13 § 47.12.080; prior: 1945 c 127 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6400-120.]

**RCW 47.12.120 Lease of unused highway land or air space.** The department may rent or lease any lands, improvements, or air space above or below any lands that are held for highway purposes but are not presently needed. The rental or lease:

(1) Must be upon such terms and conditions as the department may determine;

(2) Is subject to the provisions and requirements of zoning ordinances of political subdivisions of government;

(3) Includes lands used or to be used for both limited access and conventional highways that otherwise meet the requirements of this section;

(4) In the case of bus shelters provided by a local transit authority that include commercial advertising, may charge the transit authority only for commercial space; and

(5) In the case of the project for community purposes established in RCW 47.12.380, must be consistent with the provisions of that section. [2022 c 59 § 1; 2003 c 198 § 2; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 50; 1969 c 91 § 1; 1961 c 13 § 47.12.120. Prior: 1949 c 162 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6400-122.]

**RCW 47.12.125 Lease of unused highway land or air space—Disposition of proceeds.** All moneys paid to the state of Washington under any of the provisions of RCW 47.12.120 shall be deposited in the department's advance right-of-way revolving fund, except moneys that are subject to federal aid reimbursement and moneys received from rental of capital facilities properties, which shall be deposited in the motor vehicle fund. However, moneys paid under RCW 47.12.120(5) shall be deposited into the motor vehicle fund to be used solely within the corridors described in RCW 47.12.380(2)(b). [2022 c 59 § 3; 1999 c 94 § 15; 1991 c 291 § 3; 1961 c 13 § 47.12.125. Prior: 1949 c 162 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6400-123.]

**Legislative finding—Effective dates—1999 c 94:** See notes following RCW 43.84.092.

**RCW 47.12.140 Severance and sale of timber and other personalty—Removal of nonmarketable materials.** Whenever the department has acquired any lands for transportation purposes, except state granted lands, upon which are located any structures, timber, or other thing of value attached to the land that the department deems it best to sever from the land and sell as personal property, the same may be disposed of by one of the following means:

(1) The department may sell the personal property at public auction after due notice has been given in accordance with general rules adopted by the secretary. The department may set minimum prices that will be accepted for any item offered for sale at public auction as provided in this section and may prescribe terms or conditions of sale. If an item is offered for sale at the auction and no satisfactory bids are received or the amount bid is less than the

minimum set by the department, the department may sell the item at private sale for the best price that it deems obtainable, but not less than the highest price bid at the public auction. The proceeds of all sales under this section must be placed in the motor vehicle fund.

(2) The department may issue permits to residents of this state to remove specified quantities of standing or downed trees and shrubs, rock, sand, gravel, or soils that have no market value in place and that the department desires to be removed from state-owned lands that are under the jurisdiction of the department. An applicant for a permit must certify that the materials so removed are to be used by the applicant and that they will not be disposed of to any other person. Removal of materials under the permit must be in accordance with rules adopted by the department. The fee for a permit is two dollars and fifty cents, which fee must be deposited in the motor vehicle fund. The department may adopt rules providing for special access to limited access facilities for the purpose of removal of materials under permits authorized in this section.

(3) The department may sell timber or logs to an abutting landowner for cash at full appraised value, but only after each other abutting owner (if any), as shown in the records of the county assessor, is notified in writing of the proposed sale. If more than one abutting owner requests in writing the right to purchase the timber within fifteen days after receiving notice of the proposed sale, the timber must be sold in accordance with subsection (1) of this section.

(4) The department may sell timber or logs having an appraised value of one thousand dollars or less directly to interested parties for cash at the full appraised value without notice or advertising. If the timber is attached to state-owned land, the department shall issue a permit to the purchaser of the timber to allow for the removal of the materials from state land. The permit fee is two dollars and fifty cents. [1997 c 240 § 1; 1981 c 260 § 12. Prior: 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 52; 1977 ex.s. c 78 § 6; 1961 c 13 § 47.12.140; prior: 1953 c 42 § 1.]

**RCW 47.12.150 Acquisition, exchange of property to relocate displaced facility.** Whenever the department shall need for highway purposes land or property rights belonging to the United States government or any municipality or political subdivision of the state, or which shall be a part of the right-of-way of any public utility having authority to exercise powers of eminent domain, when the acquisition of such property by the state will result in the displacement of any existing right-of-way or facility, the department is authorized to acquire by condemnation or otherwise such lands and property rights as shall be needed to relocate such right-of-way or facilities so displaced and to exchange lands or property rights so acquired in consideration or partial consideration for the land or property rights needed for highway purposes. The secretary of transportation shall execute each conveyance, which shall be duly acknowledged, necessary to accomplish such exchange. [1977 ex.s. c 151 § 53; 1975 1st ex.s. c 96 § 5; 1961 c 13 § 47.12.150. Prior: 1953 c 55 § 1.]

**RCW 47.12.160 Acquisition of land outside highway right-of-way to minimize damage.** Whenever a part of a parcel of land is to be acquired for state highway purposes and the remainder lying outside of

the right-of-way is to be left in such shape or condition as to be of little value to its owner or to give rise to claims or litigation concerning severance or other damage, and its value does not exceed the probable amount of the severance claims or damages, the department may acquire by gift, purchase, or condemnation the whole parcel and may sell that portion lying outside of the highway right-of-way or may exchange the same for other property needed for highway purposes. The provisions of this section do not apply if the taking of that portion of the land lying outside of the highway right-of-way would deprive any adjacent owner of an existing right of ingress and egress to his or her property. [2010 c 8 § 10004; 1984 c 7 § 122; 1961 c 13 § 47.12.160. Prior: 1953 c 131 § 1.]

**RCW 47.12.180 Additional financing methods for property and engineering costs—Formal declarations.** It is declared to be the public policy of the state of Washington to provide for the acquisition of real property and engineering costs necessary for the improvement of the state highway system, in advance of actual construction, for the purposes of eliminating costly delays in construction, reducing hardship to owners of the property, and eliminating economic waste occasioned by the improvement of such property immediately prior to its acquisition for highway uses.

The legislature therefore finds and declares that purchase and condemnation of real property necessary for the state highway system and engineering costs, reasonably in advance of programmed construction, is a public use and purpose and a highway purpose.

The department is hereby authorized to purchase or condemn any real property or property rights therein which it deems will be necessary for the improvement of routes on the state highway system by the method provided in RCW 47.12.180 through 47.12.240 or alternatively by the method provided in RCW 47.12.242 through 47.12.246. Neither method may be used to condemn property or property rights in advance of programmed construction until the department has complied with hearing procedures required for the location or relocation of the type of highway for which the property is to be condemned. [1984 c 7 § 123; 1969 ex.s. c 197 § 1; 1961 c 281 § 1.]

**Severability—1961 c 281:** "If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1961 c 281 § 12.]

**RCW 47.12.190 Additional financing methods for property and engineering costs—Purchase or condemnation.** The department, in addition to its other powers and duties as provided by law, is authorized to purchase or condemn any real property or property rights therein which it deems will be necessary for the improvements of routes on the state highway system by the method provided in RCW 47.12.180 through 47.12.240. Condemnation actions brought hereunder shall be brought in the name of the state as provided for acquiring property for the public uses of the state, and in such actions selection of the property and property rights by the secretary of transportation is conclusive that they are necessary for the purposes

sought, in the absence of bad faith, or arbitrary, capricious, or fraudulent action. [1977 ex.s. c 151 § 54; 1961 c 281 § 2.]

**Severability—1961 c 281:** See note following RCW 47.12.180.

**RCW 47.12.200 Additional financing methods for property and engineering costs—Agreements with state finance committee.** The transportation commission may enter into agreements with the state finance committee for financing the acquisition, by purchase or condemnation, of real property together with engineering costs that the transportation commission deems will be necessary for the improvement of the state highway system. Such agreements may provide for the acquisition of an individual parcel or for the acquisition of any number of parcels within the limits of a contemplated highway project. [1977 ex.s. c 151 § 55; 1969 ex.s. c 197 § 2; 1961 c 281 § 3.]

**Severability—1961 c 281:** See note following RCW 47.12.180.

**RCW 47.12.210 Additional financing methods for property and engineering costs—Warrants on motor vehicle fund.** Such an agreement shall provide that the state finance committee shall purchase, at par, warrants drawn upon the motor vehicle fund in payment for the property covered by the agreement and the engineering costs necessary for such advance purchase or condemnation. Such warrants shall be purchased by the state finance committee, upon the presentation by the holders thereof to the state treasurer, from any moneys available for investment in the state treasury as provided in RCW 43.84.080: PROVIDED, That in no event shall more than ten percent of the assets of any fund be used for the purpose of acquiring property as authorized herein, except in the case of current state funds in the state treasury, twenty percent of the balance therein available for investment may be invested as provided in RCW 47.12.180 through 47.12.240. [1981 c 3 § 38; 1969 ex.s. c 197 § 3; 1961 c 281 § 4.]

**Effective dates—Severability—1981 c 3:** See notes following RCW 43.33A.010.

**Severability—1961 c 281:** See note following RCW 47.12.180.

*Authorization that certain funds may be invested in motor vehicle fund warrants: RCW 43.84.080.*

**RCW 47.12.220 Additional financing methods for property and engineering costs—Provisions in agreement.** Each such agreement shall include, but shall not be limited to the following:

- (1) A provision stating the term of the agreement which shall not extend more than seven years from the effective date of the agreement;
- (2) A designation of the specific fund or funds to be used to carry out such agreement;
- (3) A provision that the department of transportation may redeem warrants purchased by the state finance committee at any time prior to the letting of a highway improvement contract utilizing the property;

and further, during the effective period of each such agreement the department of transportation shall redeem such warrants whenever such a highway improvement contract is let, or upon the expiration of such agreement, whichever date is earlier;

(4) A provision stating the rate of interest such warrants shall bear commencing at the time of purchase by the state finance committee;

(5) Any additional provisions agreed upon by the transportation commission and the state finance committee which are necessary to carry out the purposes of such agreement as indicated by RCW 47.12.180 through 47.12.240, as now or hereafter amended. [1977 ex.s. c 151 § 56; 1969 ex.s. c 197 § 4; 1961 c 281 § 5.]

**Severability—1961 c 281:** See note following RCW 47.12.180.

**RCW 47.12.230 Additional financing methods for property and engineering costs—Warrant form and procedure.** Warrants issued for payment of property and engineering costs as provided herein shall be of a distinctive design and shall contain the words "for purchase by the state finance committee from . . . fund" (indicating the proper investing fund as provided by the agreement). Such warrants shall be approved by the secretary of the state finance committee prior to their issuance by the state treasurer. Upon presentation of such warrants to the state treasurer for payment, he or she shall pay the par value thereof from the fund for which the state finance committee agreed to purchase such warrants whether or not there are then funds in the motor vehicle fund. The state treasurer shall deposit such warrants in the treasury for the investing fund. [2010 c 8 § 10005; 1969 ex.s. c 197 § 5; 1961 c 281 § 6.]

**Severability—1961 c 281:** See note following RCW 47.12.180.

**RCW 47.12.240 Additional financing methods for property and engineering costs—Payment procedure—Prior charge.** The state treasurer shall transfer from the motor vehicle fund to the credit of the fund purchasing such warrants interest at the rate and at the times provided for in the agreement. The state treasurer shall pay the warrants at the time provided for in the agreement. The obligations coming due are a prior charge against any funds in the motor vehicle fund available to the department for construction of state highways. [1984 c 7 § 124; 1961 c 281 § 7.]

**Severability—1961 c 281:** See note following RCW 47.12.180.

**RCW 47.12.242 "Advance right-of-way acquisition" defined.** The term "advance right-of-way acquisition" means the acquisition of property and property rights, generally not more than ten years in advance of programmed highway construction projects, together with the engineering costs necessary for such advance right-of-way acquisition. Any property or property rights purchased must be in designated highway transportation corridors and be for projects approved by the commission as part of the state's six-year plan or included in the



state's route development planning effort. [1991 c 291 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 197 § 6.]

**RCW 47.12.244 Advance right-of-way revolving fund.** There is created the "advance right-of-way revolving fund" in the custody of the treasurer, into which the department is authorized to deposit directly and expend without appropriation:

(1) An initial deposit of ten million dollars from the motor vehicle fund included in the department of transportation's 1991-93 budget;

(2) All moneys received by the department as rental income from real properties that are not subject to federal aid reimbursement, except moneys received from rental of capital facilities properties as defined in \*chapter 47.13 RCW; and

(3) Any federal moneys available for acquisition of right-of-way for future construction under the provisions of section 108 of Title 23, United States Code.

During the 2011-2013 and 2013-2015 fiscal biennia, the legislature may transfer from the advance right-of-way revolving fund to the motor vehicle account [fund] amounts as reflect the excess fund balance of the advance right-of-way revolving fund. [2013 c 306 § 714; 2011 c 367 § 717; 2009 c 470 § 709; 2007 c 518 § 707; 1991 c 291 § 2; 1984 c 7 § 125; 1969 ex.s. c 197 § 7.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Chapter 47.13 RCW was repealed by 1999 c 94 § 33, effective July 1, 1999.

**Effective date—2013 c 306:** See note following RCW 47.64.170.

**Effective date—2011 c 367:** See note following RCW 47.29.170.

**Effective date—2009 c 470:** See note following RCW 46.68.170.

**Severability—Effective date—2007 c 518:** See notes following RCW 46.68.170.

**RCW 47.12.246 Reimbursement to advance right-of-way revolving fund.** (1) After any properties or property rights are acquired from funds in the advance right-of-way revolving fund, the department shall manage the properties in accordance with sound business practices. Funds received from interim management of the properties shall be deposited in the advance right-of-way revolving fund.

(2) When the department proceeds with the construction of a highway which will require the use of any of the property so acquired, the department shall reimburse the advance right-of-way revolving fund, from other funds available to it, the current appraised value of the property or property rights required for the project together with damages caused to the remainder by the acquisition after offsetting against all such compensation and damages the special benefits, if any, accruing to the remainder by reason of the state highway being constructed.

(3) When the department determines that any properties or property rights acquired from funds in the advance right-of-way revolving fund will not be required for a highway construction project the department may sell the property at fair market value in

accordance with requirements of RCW 47.12.063. All proceeds of such sales shall be deposited in the advance right-of-way revolving fund.

(4) Deposits in the fund may be reexpended as provided in RCW 47.12.180, 47.12.200 through 47.12.230, and 47.12.242 through 47.12.248 without further or additional appropriations. [1991 c 291 § 4; 1984 c 7 § 126; 1969 ex.s. c 197 § 9.]

**RCW 47.12.248 Structures acquired in advance of programmed construction—Maintenance.** Whenever the department purchases or condemns any property under RCW 47.12.180 through 47.12.240 or 47.12.242 through 47.12.246, the department shall cause any structures so acquired and not removed within a reasonable time to be maintained in good appearance. [1984 c 7 § 127; 1969 ex.s. c 197 § 10.]

**RCW 47.12.250 Acquisition of property for preservation, safety, buffer purposes.** The department is authorized to acquire by purchase, lease, condemnation, gift, devise, bequest, grant, or exchange, title to or any interests or rights in real property adjacent to state highways for the preservation of natural beauty, historic sites or viewpoints or for safety rest areas or to provide a visual or sound buffer between highways and adjacent properties. However, the department shall not acquire, by condemnation, less than an owner's entire interest for providing a visual or sound buffer between highways and adjacent properties under RCW 47.12.010 and 47.12.250 if the owner objects to the taking of a lesser interest or right. [1984 c 7 § 128; 1967 c 108 § 5; 1965 ex.s. c 170 § 62.]

*Roadside areas—Safety rest areas: Chapter 47.38 RCW.*

*Scenic and Recreational Highway Act: Chapter 47.39 RCW.*

**RCW 47.12.270 Acquisition of property for park and ride lots.** The department may acquire real property or interests in real property by gift, purchase, lease, or condemnation and may construct and maintain thereon fringe and transportation corridor parking facilities to serve motorists transferring to or from urban public transportation vehicles or private carpool vehicles. The department may obtain and exercise options for the purchase of property to be used for purposes described in this section. The department shall not expend any funds for acquisition or construction costs of any parking facility to be operated as a part of a transit system by a metropolitan municipal corporation unless the facility has been approved by the department in advance of its acquisition or construction. [1984 c 7 § 129; 1973 2nd ex.s. c 18 § 1.]

**RCW 47.12.283 Sale of real property authorized—Procedure—Disposition of proceeds.** (1) Whenever the department of transportation determines that any real property owned by the state of Washington and under the jurisdiction of the department is no longer required for highway purposes and that it is in the public interest to do so, the department may, in its discretion, sell the property under RCW 47.12.063 or under subsections (2) through (6) of this section.

(2) Whenever the department determines to sell real property under its jurisdiction at public auction, the department shall first give notice thereof by the most appropriate method as determined by the department. The notice shall contain a description of the property, the time and place of the auction, and the terms of the sale. The sale may be for cash or by real estate contract.

(3) The department shall sell the property at the public auction, in accordance with the terms set forth in the notice, to the highest and best bidder providing the bid is equal to or higher than the appraised fair market value of the property.

(4) If no bids are received at the auction or if all bids are rejected, the department may, in its discretion, enter into negotiations for the sale of the property or may list the property with a licensed real estate broker. No property shall be sold by negotiations or through a broker for less than the property's appraised fair market value. Any offer to purchase real property pursuant to this subsection shall be in writing and may be rejected at any time prior to written acceptance by the department.

(5) All moneys received pursuant to this section, less any real estate broker's commissions paid pursuant to RCW 47.12.320, shall be deposited in the motor vehicle fund. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 13 § 1; 2010 c 8 § 10006; 1979 ex.s. c 189 § 1.]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 13:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [July 6, 2015]." [2015 3rd sp.s. c 13 § 3.]

**Effective date—1979 ex.s. c 189:** "This 1979 act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect July 1, 1979." [1979 ex.s. c 189 § 8.]

**RCW 47.12.287 Exchange of real property authorized—Conveyance by deed.** The department of transportation is hereby authorized to enter into an exchange agreement with the owner of real property required for highway purposes to convey to such owner real property, owned by the state and under the department's jurisdiction, as full or part consideration for property to be acquired for highway purposes. Such an exchange agreement may relate back and apply to any exchange of property previously agreed to and partially executed (pursuant to an earlier exchange agreement found to be void for want of a governor's deed as required by prior law), and shall be subject to such agreed terms and conditions as are authorized by \*RCW 47.12.063(3) as now existing or hereafter amended. Any conveyance from the state of Washington made pursuant to this section shall be by deed executed by the secretary of transportation, which shall be duly acknowledged. [1979 ex.s. c 189 § 2.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 47.12.063 was amended by 2011 c 376 § 1, changing subsection (3) to subsection (5).

**Effective date—1979 ex.s. c 189:** See note following RCW 47.12.283.

**RCW 47.12.290 Sale of real property—Execution, acknowledgment, and delivery of deed.** When full payment for real property agreed to be sold as authorized by RCW 47.12.283 has been received, the secretary of transportation shall execute the deed which shall be duly acknowledged and deliver it to the grantee. [1979 ex.s. c 189 § 3; 1975 1st ex.s. c 96 § 6; 1973 1st ex.s. c 177 § 2.]

**Effective date—1979 ex.s. c 189:** See note following RCW 47.12.283.

**RCW 47.12.320 Sale of property—Listing with broker.** The department may list any available properties with any licensed real estate broker at a commission rate otherwise charged in the geographic area for such services. [1984 c 7 § 130; 1973 1st ex.s. c 177 § 7.]

**RCW 47.12.330 Advanced environmental mitigation—Authorized.** For the purpose of environmental mitigation of transportation projects, the department may acquire or develop, or both acquire and develop, environmental mitigation sites in advance of the construction of programmed projects. The term "advanced environmental mitigation" means mitigation of adverse impacts upon the environment from transportation projects before their design and construction. Advanced environmental mitigation consists of the acquisition of property; the acquisition of property, water, or air rights; the development of property for the purposes of improved environmental management; engineering costs necessary for such purchase and development; and the use of advanced environmental mitigation sites to fulfill project environmental permit requirements. Advanced environmental mitigation must be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the definition of mitigation found in the council of environmental quality regulations (40 C.F.R. Sec. 1508.20) and the governor's executive order on wetlands (EO 90-04). Advanced environmental mitigation is for projects approved by the transportation commission as part of the state's six-year plan or included in the state highway system plan. Advanced environmental mitigation must give consideration to activities related to fish passage, fish habitat, wetlands, and flood management. Advanced environmental mitigation may also be conducted in partnership with federal, state, or local government agencies, tribal governments, interest groups, or private parties. Partnership arrangements may include joint acquisition and development of mitigation sites, purchasing and selling mitigation bank credits among participants, and transfer of mitigation site title from one party to another. Specific conditions of partnership arrangements will be developed in written agreements for each applicable environmental mitigation site. [1998 c 181 § 2; 1997 c 140 § 2.]

**Findings—1998 c 181:** "The legislature finds that fish passage, fish habitat, wetlands, and flood management are critical issues in the effective management of watersheds in Washington. The legislature also finds that the state of Washington invests a considerable amount of resources on environmental mitigation activities related to fish passage, fish habitat, wetlands, and flood management. The department of transportation's advanced environmental mitigation revolving account established under RCW 47.12.340, is a key funding component in

bringing environmental mitigation together with comprehensive watershed management." [1998 c 181 § 1.]

**Intent—1997 c 140:** "It is the intent of chapter 140, Laws of 1997 to provide environmental mitigation in advance of the construction of programmed projects where desirable and feasible, [which] will provide a more efficient and predictable environmental permit process, increased benefits to environmental resources, and a key tool in using the watershed approach for environmental impact mitigation. The legislative transportation committee, through its adoption of the December 1994 report "Environmental Cost Savings and Permit Coordination Study," encourages state agencies to use a watershed approach based on a water resource inventory area in an improved environmental mitigation and permitting process. Establishment of an advanced transportation environmental mitigation revolving account would help the state to improve permit processes and environmental protection when providing transportation services." [1997 c 140 § 1.]

**RCW 47.12.340 Advanced environmental mitigation revolving account.** (1) The advanced environmental mitigation revolving account is created in the custody of the treasurer, into which the department shall deposit directly and may expend without appropriation:

- (a) An initial appropriation included in the department of transportation's 1997-99 budget, and deposits from other identified sources;
- (b) All moneys received by the department from internal and external sources for the purposes of conducting advanced environmental mitigation; and
- (c) Interest gained from the management of the advanced environmental mitigation revolving account.

(2) During the 2011-2013 and 2013-2015 fiscal biennia, the legislature may transfer from the advanced environmental mitigation revolving account to the motor vehicle account [fund] such amounts as reflect the excess fund balance of the advanced environmental mitigation revolving account.

(3) During the 2019-2021 fiscal biennium, the legislature may direct the state treasurer to make transfers of moneys in the advanced environmental mitigation revolving account to the motor vehicle fund. [2019 c 416 § 715; 2013 c 306 § 715; 2010 c 247 § 703; 1997 c 140 § 3.]

**Effective date—2019 c 416:** See note following RCW 43.19.642.

**Effective date—2013 c 306:** See note following RCW 47.64.170.

**Effective date—2010 c 247:** See note following RCW 43.19.642.

**Intent—1997 c 140:** See note following RCW 47.12.330.

**RCW 47.12.350 Advanced environmental mitigation—Site management—Reimbursement of account.** (1) After advanced environmental mitigation is conducted from funds in the advanced environmental mitigation revolving account, the advanced environmental mitigation

sites must be managed in accordance with any permits, agreements, or other legal documents under which the subject advanced environmental mitigation is conducted.

(2) When the department or any of its transportation partners proceeds with the construction of a transportation project that will use advanced environmental mitigation sites to meet the environmental mitigation needs of a project, the advanced environmental mitigation revolving account shall be reimbursed from those transportation project funds appropriated for the use of the advanced environmental mitigation sites. Reimbursements to the advanced environmental mitigation revolving account must be paid at a rate that captures:

(a) Projected land acquisition costs for environmental mitigation for the subject transportation project;

(b) Advanced environmental mitigation site development costs;

(c) Advanced environmental mitigation site operational costs (e.g., site monitoring);

(d) Administrative costs for the management of the advanced environmental revolving account.

These costs must be adjusted based on inflation, as appropriate.

When only a portion of an advanced environmental mitigation site is used, the reimbursement rate charged to the purchasing party will be prorated for the portion used. [1997 c 140 § 4.]

**Intent—1997 c 140:** See note following RCW 47.12.330.

**RCW 47.12.370 Environmental mitigation—Exchange agreements.**

(1) The department may enter into exchange agreements with local, state, or federal agencies, tribal governments, or private nonprofit nature conservancy corporations as defined in RCW 64.04.130, to convey properties under the jurisdiction of the department that serve as environmental mitigation sites, as full or part consideration for the grantee assuming all future maintenance and operation obligations and costs required to maintain and operate the environmental mitigation site in perpetuity.

(2) The conveyances must be by quitclaim deed, or other form of conveyance, executed by the secretary of transportation, and must expressly restrict the use of the property to a mitigation site consistent with preservation of the functions and values of the site, and must provide for the automatic reversion to the department if the property is not used as a mitigation site or is not maintained in a manner that complies with applicable permits, laws, and regulations pertaining to the maintenance and operation of the mitigation site. [2022 c 184 § 1; 2021 c 333 § 707; 2003 c 187 § 1; 2002 c 188 § 1.]

**Effective date—2021 c 333:** See note following RCW 43.19.642.

**RCW 47.12.380 Limited project, department may establish—Lease of property.** (1) In order to remedy past impacts to historically marginalized populations within impacted local communities resulting from the construction of Interstate 90 and the US 395 North Spokane Corridor project, the department may establish a limited project for community purposes under the provisions of this section. It is the intent of the legislature that the department establish the project to allow the affected property to be used for community purposes made

unavailable due to the placement of the highway, and therefore the department is strongly encouraged to establish the project. However, the very limited project under this section shall not be construed as precedent for future lease agreements concerning department property in other areas of the state, and nothing under this section precludes the department from leasing property in other areas of the state for economic rent. Additionally, the legislature finds that the limited project under this section is in the overall public interest based on social, environmental, or economic benefits, as those terms are construed under 23 C.F.R. Sec. 710.403(e).

(2)(a) Pursuant to RCW 47.12.120, the department may lease the property described in (b) of this subsection to a community-based nonprofit corporation or the department of commerce, to be used for the following community purposes made unavailable due to the placement of the highway projects described in subsection (1) of this section:

- (i) Housing and ancillary improvements;
- (ii) Parks;
- (iii) Community revitalization projects;
- (iv) Enhanced public spaces, such as trails and public plazas;

and

(v) Projects that provide enhanced economic development in the impacted community.

(b) The property eligible for lease under this section includes property that was purchased as part of the Interstate 90 corridor project and the US 395 North Spokane Corridor.

(c) A lease for the purposes described in (a)(i) and (ii) of this subsection may be for less than economic rent. However, the lease agreement must then require the lessee to maintain the premises as part of the consideration to the department.

(d) The parties identified in (a) of this subsection must provide updates, to the extent practicable, to the city of Spokane and the city of Spokane Valley when any significant actions are taken related to the agreements and activities authorized under this section.

(3) Any sublease resulting from this section is not intended to generate exorbitant profits.

(4) As used in this section, "economic rent" is defined as fair market rent, as established by an appraisal or other accepted valuation method. [2022 c 59 § 2.]

**Chapter 47.14 RCW**  
**RIGHT-OF-WAY DONATIONS**

**Sections**

- 47.14.010 Legislative finding, intent.
- 47.14.020 Definitions.
- 47.14.030 Credit against transportation benefit district assessment.
- 47.14.040 Advertising signs on donated parcel.
- 47.14.050 Department's duties.
- 47.14.900 Construction.



**Chapter 47.14 RCW  
RIGHT-OF-WAY DONATIONS**

**Sections**

47.14.010	Legislative finding, intent.
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47.14.050	Department's duties.
47.14.900	Construction.

**RCW 47.14.010 Legislative finding, intent.** The legislature finds that in numerous areas throughout the state, rapid expansion of residential, commercial, industrial, and business activities is producing increased traffic levels. The legislature further finds that many property owners have exhibited a willingness to donate real property or property rights for transportation improvements to accommodate such increases in traffic. The legislature recognizes that the cost of right-of-way acquisition is often a significant, and even a prohibitive cost element in many transportation improvement projects.

The legislature seeks to encourage the voluntary donation of right-of-way to the state, counties, cities, and towns for transportation improvements recognizing that such donations can result in direct benefits to property owners, developers, and the community at large.

It is the intent of the legislature to further facilitate the department of transportation's authority under RCW 47.12.010, 47.24.030, and 47.52.050 to accept donations of right-of-way for state transportation purposes. The legislature further intends to facilitate the authority of a city, town, or county to accept donations of right-of-way for other transportation purposes.

The legislature therefore declares it to be in the best interest and welfare of the citizens of Washington for the state department of transportation, and for counties, cities, and towns to actively foster and encourage donations of right-of-way by willing donors in all areas where transportation improvements are to be made. In addition, and in lieu of monetary compensation for property needed for right-of-way purposes, the legislature seeks to provide incentives to potential donors such as are set forth in RCW 47.14.030 and 47.14.040. [1987 c 267 § 1.]

**RCW 47.14.020 Definitions.** The definitions set forth in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Right-of-way" means the area of land designated for transportation purposes.

(2) "Airspace" means the space above and below the gradeline of all highways, roads, and streets, and the area alongside the traveled way and within approved right-of-way lines. [1987 c 267 § 2.]

**RCW 47.14.030 Credit against transportation benefit district assessment.** The governing body of a transportation benefit district may give credit for all or any portion of any real property donation

against an assessment, charge, or other required financial contribution for transportation improvements within a transportation benefit district established under RCW 36.73.020 or 35.21.225. The credit granted shall be available against any assessment, charge or other required financial contribution for any transportation purpose which utilizes the donated property. [1987 c 267 § 3.]

**RCW 47.14.040 Advertising signs on donated parcel.** The department or the county, city, or town to which the right-of-way is donated shall, upon request, grant the donor an airspace lease or a permit for the purpose of erecting or maintaining, or both, one or more signs advertising a business of the donor that is conducted on premises adjacent to the donated parcel unless the sign or signs would be detrimental to the safety and operation of the highway, road, or street. This provision applies to all highways, roads, and streets other than limited access highways and streets, where it applies only until the donated parcel becomes part of a completed operating facility. Except as provided in this section, any such sign shall conform to the requirements of all other applicable federal, state, and local laws and ordinances. The lease agreement or permit shall take into consideration applicable county and city zoning ordinances and may provide for compensation for removal of the sign in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local laws and ordinances. The lease agreement or permit shall specify the conditions for signage. [1987 c 267 § 4.]

**RCW 47.14.050 Department's duties.** The department shall:

- (1) Give priority to the refinement and modification of right-of-way procedures and policies dealing with donation;
- (2) Reduce or simplify paperwork requirements resulting from right-of-way procurement;
- (3) Increase communication and education efforts as a means to solicit and encourage voluntary right-of-way donations;
- (4) Enhance communication and coordination with local governments through agreements of understanding that address state acceptance of right-of-way donations secured under zoning, use permits, subdivision, and associated police power authority of local government. [1998 c 245 § 96; 1987 c 267 § 5.]

**RCW 47.14.900 Construction.** Nothing in this chapter may be construed to contravene the requirements of chapter 8.26 RCW. [1987 c 267 § 6.]

**Chapter 47.17 RCW**  
**STATE HIGHWAY ROUTES**

**Sections**

47.17.001 Criteria for changes to system.  
47.17.005 State route No. 2.  
47.17.010 State route No. 3.  
47.17.015 State route No. 4.  
47.17.020 State route No. 5—Washington green highway.  
47.17.025 State route No. 6.  
47.17.030 State route No. 7.  
47.17.035 State route No. 8.  
47.17.040 State route No. 9.  
47.17.045 State route No. 10.  
47.17.050 State route No. 11.  
47.17.055 State route No. 12.  
47.17.060 State route No. 14.  
47.17.065 State route No. 16.  
47.17.070 State route No. 17.  
47.17.075 State route No. 18.  
47.17.077 State route No. 19.  
47.17.080 State route No. 20.  
47.17.081 State route No. 20 north.  
47.17.085 State route No. 21.  
47.17.090 State route No. 22.  
47.17.095 State route No. 23.  
47.17.100 State route No. 24.  
47.17.105 State route No. 25.  
47.17.110 State route No. 26.  
47.17.115 State route No. 27.  
47.17.120 State route No. 28.  
47.17.130 State route No. 31.  
47.17.132 State route No. 35.  
47.17.133 State route No. 41.  
47.17.135 State route No. 82—Washington green highway.  
47.17.140 State route No. 90—American Veterans Memorial Highway—  
Washington green highway.  
47.17.145 State route No. 92.  
47.17.153 State route No. 96.  
47.17.155 State route No. 97.  
47.17.157 State route No. 97-alternate.  
47.17.160 State route No. 99.  
47.17.163 State route No. 100.  
47.17.165 State route No. 101.  
47.17.168 State route No. 102.  
47.17.170 State route No. 103.  
47.17.175 State route No. 104.  
47.17.180 State route No. 105.  
47.17.185 State route No. 106.  
47.17.190 State route No. 107.  
47.17.195 State route No. 108.  
47.17.200 State route No. 109.  
47.17.212 State route No. 110.  
47.17.215 State route No. 112.  
47.17.216 State route No. 113.  
47.17.217 State route No. 115.

47.17.219 State route No. 116.  
47.17.221 State route No. 117.  
47.17.223 State route No. 119.  
47.17.225 State route No. 121.  
47.17.227 State route No. 122.  
47.17.230 State route No. 123.  
47.17.235 State route No. 124.  
47.17.240 State route No. 125.  
47.17.250 State route No. 127.  
47.17.255 State route No. 128.  
47.17.260 State route No. 129.  
47.17.262 State route No. 131.  
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47.17.280 State route No. 142.  
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47.17.295 State route No. 153.  
47.17.300 State route No. 155.  
47.17.305 State route No. 160.  
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47.17.315 State route No. 162.  
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47.17.320 State route No. 164.  
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47.17.417 State route No. 213.  
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47.17.435 State route No. 224.  
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47.17.615 State route No. 411.  
47.17.625 State route No. 432.  
47.17.630 State route No. 433.  
47.17.635 State route No. 500.  
47.17.640 State route No. 501—Erwin O. Rieger Memorial Highway.  
47.17.645 State route No. 502.  
47.17.650 State route No. 503.  
47.17.655 State route No. 504—Spirit Lake Memorial Highway.  
47.17.660 State route No. 505.  
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47.17.805 State route No. 546.  
47.17.806 State route No. 547.  
47.17.807 State route No. 548.  
47.17.808 State route No. 599.  
47.17.815 State route No. 702.  
47.17.818 State route No. 704.  
47.17.819 State route No. 705.  
47.17.820 State route No. 706—Road to Paradise.  
47.17.821 State route No. 730.  
47.17.823 State route No. 821.  
47.17.824 State route No. 823.  
47.17.825 State route No. 900.  
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47.17.840 State route No. 903.  
47.17.845 State route No. 904.  
47.17.850 State route No. 906.  
47.17.917 State route No. 970.  
47.17.919 State route No. 971.  
47.17.960 Local bridges—Department responsibility.  
47.17.990 Construction—Refunds to counties composed of islands.

*Latitude in selecting route: RCW 47.28.010.*

**Chapter 47.17 RCW**  
**STATE HIGHWAY ROUTES**

**Sections**

47.17.001 Criteria for changes to system.  
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47.17.010 State route No. 3.  
47.17.015 State route No. 4.  
47.17.020 State route No. 5—Washington green highway.  
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47.17.610 State route No. 410.  
47.17.615 State route No. 411.  
47.17.625 State route No. 432.  
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 47.17.825 State route No. 900.  
 47.17.835 State route No. 902.  
 47.17.840 State route No. 903.  
 47.17.845 State route No. 904.  
 47.17.850 State route No. 906.  
 47.17.917 State route No. 970.  
 47.17.919 State route No. 971.  
 47.17.960 Local bridges—Department responsibility.  
 47.17.990 Construction—Refunds to counties composed of islands.

*Latitude in selecting route: RCW 47.28.010.*

**RCW 47.17.001 Criteria for changes to system.** In considering whether to make additions, deletions, or other changes to the state highway system, the legislature shall be guided by the following criteria as contained in the Road Jurisdiction Committee Phase I report to the legislature dated January 1987:

(1) A rural highway route should be designated as a state highway if it meets any of the following criteria:

(a) Is designated as part of the national system of interstate and defense highways (popularly called the interstate system); or

(b) Is designated as part of the system of numbered United States routes; or

(c) Contains an international border crossing that is open twelve or more hours each day.

(2) A rural highway route may be designated as a state highway if it is part of an integrated system of roads and:

(a) Carries in excess of three hundred thousand tons annually and provides primary access to a rural port or intermodal freight terminal;

(b) Provides a major cross-connection between existing state highways;

(c) Connects places exhibiting one or more of the following characteristics:

(i) A population center of one thousand or greater;

(ii) An area or aggregation of areas having a population equivalency of one thousand or more, such as, but not limited to, recreation areas, military installations, and so forth;

(iii) A county seat;

(iv) A major commercial-industrial terminal in a rural area with a population equivalency of one thousand or greater; or

(d) Is designated as a scenic and recreational highway.

(3) An urban highway route that meets any of the following criteria should be designated as part of the state highway system:

(a) Is designated as part of the interstate system;

(b) Is designated as part of the system of numbered United States routes;

(c) Is an urban extension of a rural state highway into or through an urban area and is necessary to form an integrated system of state highways;

(d) Is a principal arterial that is a connecting link between two state highways and serves regionally oriented through traffic in urbanized areas with a population of fifty thousand or greater, or is a spur that serves regionally oriented traffic in urbanized areas.

(4) The following guidelines are intended to be used as a basis for interpreting and applying the criteria to specific routes:

(a) For any route wholly within one or more contiguous jurisdictions which would be proposed for transfer to the state highway system under these criteria, if local officials prefer, responsibility will remain at the local level.

(b) State highway routes maintain continuity of the system by being composed of routes that join other state routes at both ends or to arterial routes in the states of Oregon and Idaho and the Province of British Columbia.

(c) Public facilities may be considered to be served if they are within approximately two miles of a state highway.

(d) Exceptions may be made to include:

(i) Rural spurs as state highways if they meet the criteria relative to serving population centers of one thousand or greater population or activity centers with population equivalencies or an aggregated population of one thousand or greater;

(ii) Urban spurs as state highways that provide needed access to Washington state ferry terminals, state parks, major seaports, and trunk airports; and

(iii) Urban connecting links as state highways that function as needed bypass routing of regionally oriented through traffic and benefit truck routing, capacity alternative, business congestion, and geometric deficiencies.

(e) In urban and urbanized areas:

(i) Unless they are significant regional traffic generators, public facilities such as state hospitals, state correction centers, state universities, ferry terminals, and military bases do not constitute a criteria for establishment of a state highway; and

(ii) There may be no more than one parallel nonaccess controlled facility in the same corridor as a freeway or limited access facility as designated by the metropolitan planning organization.

(f) When there is a choice of two or more routes between population centers, the state route designation shall normally be based on the following considerations:

- (i) The ability to handle higher traffic volumes;
- (ii) The higher ability to accommodate further development or expansion along the existing alignment;
- (iii) The most direct route and the lowest travel time;
- (iv) The route that serves traffic with the most interstate, statewide, and interregional significance;
- (v) The route that provides the optimal spacing between other state routes; and
- (vi) The route that best serves the comprehensive plan for community development in those areas where such a plan has been developed and adopted.

(g) A route designated in chapter 47.39 RCW as a scenic and recreational highway may be designated as a state highway in addition to a parallel state highway route. [1993 c 430 § 1; 1990 c 233 § 1.]

**RCW 47.17.005 State route No. 2.** A state highway to be known as state route number 2 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 in Everett, thence easterly by way of Monroe, Stevens Pass, and Leavenworth to a junction with state route number 97 in the vicinity of Peshastin; also

From a junction with state route number 97 in the vicinity of Peshastin, thence easterly by way of Wenatchee, to a junction with state route number 97 in the vicinity of Orondo, thence easterly by way of Waterville, Wilbur, and Davenport to a junction with state route number 90 in the vicinity west of Spokane; also

Beginning at a junction with state route number 90 at Spokane, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 395 in the vicinity north of Spokane; also

From a junction with state route number 395 in the vicinity north of Spokane, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 20 at Newport; also

From a junction with state route number 20 at Newport, thence easterly to the Washington-Idaho boundary line. [1997 c 155 § 1; 1987 c 199 § 1; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 2.]

**Purpose—1970 ex.s. c 51:** "This act is intended to assign state route numbers to existing state highways duly established by prior legislative act in lieu of primary state highway numbers and secondary state highway numbers. Nothing contained herein is intended to add any new section of highway to the state highway system or delete any section of highway from the state highway system." [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 179.]

**RCW 47.17.010 State route No. 3.** A state highway to be known as state route number 3 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 101 at Shelton, thence northeasterly to a junction with state route number 302 at Allyn; also

From that junction with state route number 302 at Allyn, thence northeasterly to a junction with state route number 106 in the vicinity of Belfair; also

From that junction with state route number 106 in the vicinity of Belfair, thence northeasterly by the most feasible route to Bremerton, thence northerly and easterly by the most feasible route in the vicinity of Poulsbo to a junction with state route number 104 in the vicinity of Port Gamble. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 3.]

**RCW 47.17.015 State route No. 4.** A state highway to be known as state route number 4 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 101 in the vicinity of a location known as Johnson's Landing, in Pacific county, thence southeasterly by the most feasible route by way of Kelso to a junction with state route number 5. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 4.]

**RCW 47.17.020 State route No. 5—Washington green highway.** A state highway to be known as state route number 5, and designated as a Washington green highway, is established as follows:

Beginning at the Washington-Oregon boundary line on the interstate bridge over the Columbia river at Vancouver, thence northerly by way of Kelso, Chehalis, Centralia, Olympia, Tacoma, Seattle, Everett and Mt. Vernon, thence northwesterly to the east of Lake Samish, thence northeasterly and northerly by way of Bellingham to the international boundary line in the vicinity of Blaine in Whatcom county. [2007 c 348 § 405; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 5.]

**Findings—2007 c 348:** See RCW 43.325.005.

**RCW 47.17.025 State route No. 6.** A state highway to be known as state route number 6 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 101 at Raymond, thence easterly by the most feasible route to a junction with state route number 5 at Chehalis. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 6.]

**RCW 47.17.030 State route No. 7.** A state highway to be known as state route number 7 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 12 in the vicinity of Morton, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 706 at Elbe; also

From that junction with state route number 706 at Elbe, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 5 at Tacoma. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 7.]

**RCW 47.17.035 State route No. 8.** A state highway to be known as state route number 8 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 12 in the vicinity of Elma, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 101 west of Olympia. [1987 c 199 § 2; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 8.]

**RCW 47.17.040 State route No. 9.** A state highway to be known as state route number 9 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 522 north of Woodinville, thence northerly by way of Snohomish, Arlington and Sedro Woolley to a junction with state route number 542, in the vicinity of Deming; also

Beginning at a junction with state route number 542, in the vicinity of Lawrence, thence northerly to the international boundary at Sumas. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 9.]

**RCW 47.17.045 State route No. 10.** A state highway to be known as state route number 10 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 970 at Teanaway junction thence easterly to a junction with state route number 97 west of Ellensburg. [1987 c 199 § 3; 1975 c 63 § 14; 1971 ex.s. c 73 § 1; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 10.]

**RCW 47.17.050 State route No. 11.** A state highway to be known as state route number 11 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 in the vicinity of Burlington, thence northerly by way of Blanchard to a junction with state route number 5 at Bellingham. [1987 c 199 § 4; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 11.]

**RCW 47.17.055 State route No. 12.** A state highway to be known as state route number 12 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 101 at Aberdeen, thence easterly by way of Montesano and Elma to a junction with state route number 8 in the vicinity of Elma; also

From that junction with state route number 8 in the vicinity of Elma, thence southeasterly to a junction with state route number 5 in the vicinity north of Centralia; also

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 in the vicinity south of Chehalis, thence easterly by way of Morton and White Pass to a junction with state route number 410 northwest of Yakima; also

From that junction with state route number 410 northwest of Yakima, thence southeasterly to a junction with state route number 82 at Yakima; also

Beginning at a junction with state route number 182 near Pasco, thence southeasterly by the most feasible route by way of Wallula to Walla Walla, thence northerly by way of Dayton to a junction with state route number 127 at Dodge; also

From that junction with state route number 127 in the vicinity of Dodge, thence easterly by the most feasible route by way of Pomeroy and Clarkston to the Washington-Idaho boundary line. [1985 c 177 § 1; 1983 c 180 § 1; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 12.]

**RCW 47.17.060 State route No. 14.** A state highway to be known as state route number 14 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 at Vancouver, thence easterly by way of Stevenson to a junction with state route number 97 in the vicinity of Maryhill; also

Beginning at a junction with state route number 97 in the vicinity of Maryhill, thence easterly along the north bank of the

Columbia river to a junction with state route number 82 in the vicinity of Plymouth. [1985 c 177 § 2; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 13.]

**RCW 47.17.065 State route No. 16.** A state highway to be known as state route number 16 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 at Tacoma, thence northwesterly by way of the Tacoma Narrows Bridge to a junction with state route number 3 in the vicinity of Gorst. [1987 c 199 § 5; 1973 1st ex.s. c 151 § 1; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 14.]

**RCW 47.17.070 State route No. 17.** A state highway to be known as state route number 17 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 395 in the vicinity of Mesa, thence northwesterly by way of the vicinity of Moses Lake, and Soap Lake, to a junction with state route number 2 west of Coulee City; also

From a junction with state route number 2 in the vicinity west of Coulee City, thence northerly by way of the vicinity of Leahy, crossing the Columbia river in the vicinity of Bridgeport, thence northwesterly to a junction with state route number 97 east of Brewster. [1979 ex.s. c 33 § 1; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 15.]

**RCW 47.17.075 State route No. 18.** A state highway to be known as state route number 18 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 99 in the vicinity of northeast Tacoma, thence northeasterly by way of Auburn to a junction with state route number 90 west of North Bend. [1987 c 199 § 6; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 16.]

**RCW 47.17.077 State route No. 19.** A state highway to be known as state route number 19 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 104, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 20 near Old Fort Townsend state park. [1991 c 342 § 1.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.080 State route No. 20.** A state highway to be known as state route number 20 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 101 in the vicinity of Discovery Bay, thence northeasterly via the most feasible route to Port Townsend; also

From the state ferry terminal at Port Townsend via the state ferry system northeasterly to the state ferry terminal at Keystone; also

From the Keystone ferry dock on Whidbey Island, thence northeasterly by the most feasible route by way of Deception Pass, Burlington, Sedro Woolley, Concrete, Newhalem, Winthrop, Twisp, Okanogan, Tonasket, Republic, Kettle Falls, Colville, and Tiger; thence southerly and southeasterly to a junction with state route

number 2 at Newport. [1994 c 209 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 151 § 13; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 17.]

**RCW 47.17.081 State route No. 20 north.** A state highway to be known as state route number 20 north is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 20 in the vicinity southeast of Anacortes, thence northwesterly to the state ferry terminal at Anacortes; also

From the state ferry terminal at Anacortes via the state ferry system to the state ferry terminals at Lopez Island, Shaw Island, Orcas Island, and Friday Harbor. [1994 c 209 § 2; 1973 1st ex.s. c 151 § 17.]

**RCW 47.17.085 State route No. 21.** A state highway to be known as state route number 21 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 260 in Kahlotus, thence northerly by the most feasible route, crossing state route number 26, and continuing northerly to a junction with state route number 395 in the vicinity of Lind; also

Beginning at a junction with state route number 395 in the vicinity of Lind, thence northerly by the most feasible route by way of Odessa to a junction with state route number 2 in the vicinity west of Wilbur; also

Beginning at a junction with state route number 2 at Wilbur, thence northerly by the most feasible route to a junction with state route number 20 at Republic; also

Beginning at a junction with state route number 20 east of Republic, thence northeasterly by the most feasible route to the east of Curlew lake by way of Curlew to the international boundary line in the vicinity of Danville. [1983 c 79 § 1; 1975 c 63 § 1; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 18.]

**RCW 47.17.090 State route No. 22.** A state highway to be known as state route number 22 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 82, thence southerly to a junction of state route number 97 in the vicinity of Toppenish; also

From a junction with state route number 97 at Toppenish, thence southeasterly by way of Mabton to a junction with state route number 82 at Prosser. [1987 c 199 § 7; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 19.]

**RCW 47.17.095 State route No. 23.** A state highway to be known as state route number 23 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 195 in the vicinity north of Colfax, thence northwesterly to a junction with state route number 90 at Sprague; also

From that junction with state route number 90 at Sprague, thence northwesterly to a junction with state route number 28 at Harrington. [1987 c 199 § 8; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 20.]

**RCW 47.17.100 State route No. 24.** A state highway to be known as state route number 24 is established as follows:



Beginning at a junction with state route number 82 at Yakima, thence easterly and northerly via Cold Creek and Vernita to a junction with state route number 26 in the vicinity of Othello. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 21.]

**RCW 47.17.105 State route No. 25.** A state highway to be known as state route number 25 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 2 at Davenport, thence northerly by the most feasible route to a junction with state route number 395 in the vicinity of Kettle Falls, thence northeasterly by the most feasible route to international boundary line. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 22.]

**RCW 47.17.110 State route No. 26.** A state highway to be known as state route number 26 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 90 in the vicinity of the east end of the Vantage bridge, thence southerly, parallel to the east bank of the Columbia river for a distance of approximately two and one-half miles, thence southeasterly to the vicinity of Othello, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 395, thence easterly by way of the vicinity of Washtucna and Dusty to a junction with state route number 195 in the vicinity of Colfax. [1979 ex.s. c 33 § 2; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 23.]

**RCW 47.17.115 State route No. 27.** A state highway to be known as state route number 27 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 195 in the vicinity of Pullman, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 271 in the vicinity of Oakesdale; also

From a junction with state route number 271 at Oakesdale, thence northerly by way of Tekoa, Latah, Fairfield, and Rockford to a junction with state route number 290 in the vicinity of Millwood. [1991 c 342 § 2; 1979 ex.s. c 195 § 1; 1975 c 63 § 2; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 24.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.120 State route No. 28.** A state highway to be known as state route number 28 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 2 in the vicinity east of Wenatchee, thence southeasterly to a junction with state route number 281 at Quincy; also

From that junction with state route number 281 at Quincy, thence easterly by way of Ephrata and Odessa to a junction with state route number 2 at Davenport. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 25.]

**RCW 47.17.130 State route No. 31.** A state highway to be known as state route number 31 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 20 at Tiger, thence northerly by way of Metaline Falls to the international boundary. [1973 1st ex.s. c 151 § 14; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 27.]

**RCW 47.17.132 State route No. 35.** A state highway to be known as state route number 35 is established as follows:

Beginning at the Washington-Oregon boundary line thence northerly to a junction with state route number 14 in the vicinity of White Salmon. [2006 c 334 § 41; 1997 c 308 § 1.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**RCW 47.17.133 State route No. 41.** A state highway to be known as state route number 41 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 2 in Newport, thence southerly along the Washington-Idaho boundary line to Fourth Street in Newport. [1997 c 155 § 2.]

**RCW 47.17.135 State route No. 82—Washington green highway.** A state highway to be known as state route number 82, and designated as a Washington green highway, is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 90 in the vicinity of Ellensburg, thence southerly and easterly by way of Yakima, Union Gap, Sunnyside, Prosser, Kiona, and Goose Gap west of Richland, thence southeasterly near Kennewick and southwesterly by way of the vicinity of Plymouth to a crossing of the Columbia river at the Washington-Oregon boundary line. [2007 c 348 § 406; 1979 ex.s. c 33 § 3; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 28.]

**Findings—2007 c 348:** See RCW 43.325.005.

**RCW 47.17.140 State route No. 90—American Veterans Memorial Highway—Washington green highway.** A state highway to be known as state route number 90, and designated as the American Veterans Memorial Highway as well as a Washington green highway, is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5, thence, via the west approach to the Lake Washington bridge in Seattle, in an easterly direction by way of Mercer Island, North Bend, Snoqualmie pass, Ellensburg, Vantage, Moses Lake, Ritzville, Sprague and Spokane to the Washington-Idaho boundary line. [2007 c 348 § 407; 1991 c 56 § 2; 1971 ex.s. c 73 § 2; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 29.]

**Findings—2007 c 348:** See RCW 43.325.005.

**Purpose—1991 c 56:** "In order to create a great memorial and tribute to American veterans, it is proposed that the Washington state portion of Interstate 90 be renamed in their honor, to become the westernmost portion of a memorial highway reaching across the United States." [1991 c 56 § 1.]

**RCW 47.17.145 State route No. 92.** A state highway to be known as state route number 92 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 9 northeast of Everett, thence northeasterly by the most feasible route to Granite Falls. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 30.]

**RCW 47.17.153 State route No. 96.** A state highway to be known as state route number 96 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 in the vicinity south of Everett, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 9 in the vicinity of Ree's Corner. [1991 c 342 § 3.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.155 State route No. 97.** A state highway to be known as state route number 97 is established as follows:

Beginning at the Washington-Oregon boundary on the interstate bridge across the Columbia river at Biggs Rapids, thence in a northerly direction to the junction with state route number 14 in the vicinity of Maryhill, thence in a northerly direction by way of Goldendale, thence northeasterly by way of Satus Pass to a junction with state route number 22 at Toppenish, thence northwesterly south of the Yakima river to a junction with state route number 82 at Union Gap; also

Beginning at a junction with state route number 90 in the vicinity of Ellensburg, thence northeasterly by way of Swauk Pass to a junction with state route number 2 in the vicinity of Peshastin; also

Beginning at a junction with state route number 2 in the vicinity north of Orondo, thence northerly by way of the vicinities of Chelan, Pateros, Brewster, Okanogan, and Oroville to the international boundary line. [1987 c 199 § 9; 1984 c 7 § 131; 1975 c 63 § 3; 1973 1st ex.s. c 151 § 2; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 32.]

**RCW 47.17.157 State route No. 97-alternate.** A state highway to be known as state route number 97-alternate is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 2 in the vicinity of Olds, thence northerly by way of Entiat to a junction with state route number 97 in the vicinity east of Chelan. [1987 c 199 § 10.]

**RCW 47.17.160 State route No. 99.** A state highway to be known as state route number 99 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 18 in the vicinity of Federal Way, thence northerly by way of Midway, to a junction with state route 518 in Tukwila; also

Beginning at a junction with state route number 599 in the vicinity of Tukwila, thence northerly by way of Seattle, Edmonds, and Lynnwood to a junction with state route number 5 in Everett: PROVIDED, That until state route number 509 is constructed and opened to traffic on an anticipated ultimate alignment from a junction with state route number 705 in Tacoma via the Port of Tacoma industrial area to a junction with state route number 18 in the vicinity of Federal Way that portion of state route number 99 between state route number 5 at Fife and state route number 18 in the vicinity of Federal Way shall remain on the state highway system. [2004 c 205 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 33 § 4; 1971 ex.s. c 73 § 3; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 33.]

**RCW 47.17.163 State route No. 100.** A state highway to be known as state route number 100 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 101 in Ilwaco, thence westerly and southerly to Fort Canby state park; also

Beginning at a junction with state route number 100 in Ilwaco, thence southerly to Fort Canby state park. [1991 c 342 § 4.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.165 State route No. 101.** A state highway to be known as state route number 101 is established as follows:

Beginning at the Oregon boundary on the interstate bridge at Point Ellis, thence northwesterly by way of Ilwaco to a junction with state route number 4 in the vicinity of a location known as Johnson's Landing in Pacific county; also

From that junction with state route number 4 in the vicinity of a location known as Johnson's Landing, in Pacific county, thence northerly by way of South Bend to a junction with state route number 6 at Raymond; also

From that junction with state route number 6 at Raymond, thence northerly by way of Cosmopolis to a junction with state route number 12 at Aberdeen; also

From that junction with state route number 12 at Aberdeen, thence westerly to Hoquiam, thence northwesterly by way of Lake Quinault to Forks, thence easterly by way of Port Angeles to the vicinity of Discovery Bay, thence southerly by way of Shelton to a junction with state route number 5 in the vicinity west of Olympia; also

Beginning at a junction with state route number 101 in the vicinity east of Ilwaco, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 101 in the vicinity northeast of Ilwaco. [1987 c 199 § 11; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 34.]

**RCW 47.17.168 State route No. 102.** A state highway to be known as state route number 102 is established as follows:

Beginning at the Washington Corrections Center, thence northeasterly to a junction of state route number 101 north of Shelton.

Before award of any construction contract for improvements to state route number 102 under either program A or program C, the department of transportation shall secure a portion of the construction cost from Mason county. [1984 c 197 § 1.]

**RCW 47.17.170 State route No. 103.** A state highway to be known as state route number 103 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 101 at Seaview, thence northerly by way of Long Beach to Leadbetter Point state park. [1991 c 342 § 5; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 35.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.175 State route No. 104.** A state highway to be known as state route number 104 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 101 in the vicinity south of Discovery Bay, thence southeasterly to the vicinity

of Shine on Hood Canal, thence crossing Hood Canal to a junction with state route number 3 in the vicinity of Port Gamble; also

From that junction with state route number 3 in the vicinity of Port Gamble, thence to Port Gamble, thence southerly and easterly to the state ferry terminal at Kingston; also

From the state ferry terminal at Kingston via the state ferry system easterly to the state ferry terminal at Edmonds; also

From the state ferry terminal at Edmonds, thence southeasterly to a junction with state route number 99 in the vicinity of the Snohomish-King county line; also

Beginning at a junction with state route number 99 in the vicinity of the Snohomish-King county line, thence southeasterly to a junction with state route number 522 in the vicinity of Lake Forest Park. [1994 c 209 § 3; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 36.]

**RCW 47.17.180 State route No. 105.** A state highway to be known as state route number 105 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 101 at Raymond, thence westerly by way of Tokeland and North Cove to the shore of Grays Harbor north of Westport; also

Beginning at a junction with state route number 105 in the vicinity south of Westport, thence northeasterly to a junction with state route number 101 at Aberdeen. [1987 c 199 § 12; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 37.]

**RCW 47.17.185 State route No. 106.** A state highway to be known as state route number 106 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 101 near the mouth of the Skokomish river, thence northeasterly along the southeast shore of Hood Canal to a junction with state route number 3 in the vicinity of Belfair. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 38.]

**RCW 47.17.190 State route No. 107.** A state highway to be known as state route number 107 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 101 north of Artic, thence northeasterly to a junction with state route number 12 at Montesano. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 39.]

**RCW 47.17.195 State route No. 108.** A state highway to be known as state route number 108 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 8 in the vicinity west of McCleary, thence northeasterly to a junction with state route number 101 south of Shelton. [1973 1st ex.s. c 151 § 3; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 40.]

**RCW 47.17.200 State route No. 109.** A state highway to be known as state route number 109 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 101 in Hoquiam, thence northwesterly by way of Ocean City, Copalis, Pacific Beach, and Moclips to a junction with state route number 101 in the vicinity of Queets; also a bypass beginning at a junction with state route number 101 in the vicinity of the north city limits of Hoquiam, thence

southerly to a junction with state route number 109 in the vicinity of the west city limits of Hoquiam. [1983 c 180 § 2; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 41.]

*Quinault Tribal Highway: RCW 47.20.710.*

**RCW 47.17.212 State route No. 110.** A state highway to be known as state route number 110 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 101 in the vicinity north of Forks, thence westerly to the Olympic national park boundary in the vicinity of La Push; also

Beginning at a junction with state route number 110 near the Quillayute river, thence westerly to the Olympic national park boundary in the vicinity of Moro. [1991 c 342 § 6.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.215 State route No. 112.** A state highway to be known as state route number 112 is established as follows:

Beginning at the easterly boundary of the Makah Indian Reservation, thence easterly by way of Clallam Bay and Pysht to a junction with state route number 101 in or near Port Angeles. [1971 ex.s. c 73 § 5; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 44.]

**RCW 47.17.216 State route No. 113.** A state highway to be known as state route number 113 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 101 in the vicinity of Sappho, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 112 in the vicinity of the Pysht River. [1991 c 342 § 7.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.217 State route No. 115.** A state highway to be known as state route number 115 is established as follows:

Beginning at Ocean Shores thence in an easterly and northerly direction by the most feasible route to a junction with state route number 109 in the vicinity south of Ocean City. [1973 c 60 § 1.]

**RCW 47.17.219 State route No. 116.** A state highway to be known as state route number 116 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 19 in the vicinity of Irondale, thence easterly and northerly to Fort Flagler state park. [1991 c 342 § 8.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.221 State route No. 117.** A state highway to be known as state route number 117 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 101 in Port Angeles, thence northerly to the port of Port Angeles at Marine Drive. [1991 c 342 § 9.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.223 State route No. 119.** A state highway to be known as state route number 119 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 101 near Hoodspport, thence northwesterly to the Mount Rose development intersection. [1991 c 342 § 10.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.225 State route No. 121.** A state highway to be known as state route number 121 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 in the vicinity of Maytown, thence easterly, northerly, and westerly by way of Millersylvania state park to a junction with state route number 5 south of Tumwater. [1991 c 342 § 11; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 46.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.227 State route No. 122.** A state highway to be known as state route number 122 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 12 near Mayfield dam, thence northeasterly and southerly by way of Mayfield to a junction with state route number 12 in Mossyrock. [1991 c 342 § 12.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.230 State route No. 123.** A state highway to be known as state route number 123 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 12 in the vicinity west of White Pass, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 410 in the vicinity west of Chinook Pass. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 47.]

**RCW 47.17.235 State route No. 124.** A state highway to be known as state route number 124 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 12 in the vicinity of Burbank, thence northeasterly by the most feasible route to a point in the vicinity of Eureka, thence easterly by the most feasible route to a junction with state route number 125 in the vicinity of Prescott, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 12 in the vicinity northeast of Waitsburg.

That portion of state route number 124 lying between the junction with state route number 12 and the county road to Ice Harbor Dam to be known as "Ice Harbor Drive". [1973 1st ex.s. c 151 § 4; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 48.]

**RCW 47.17.240 State route No. 125.** A state highway to be known as state route number 125 is established as follows:

Beginning at the Washington-Oregon boundary line south of Walla Walla, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 12 at Walla Walla; also

From a junction with state route number 12 at Walla Walla, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 124 at Prescott. [1979 ex.s. c 33 § 5; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 49.]

**RCW 47.17.250 State route No. 127.** A state highway to be known as state route number 127 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 12 in the vicinity of Dodge, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 26 in the vicinity of Dusty. [1979 ex.s. c 33 § 6; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 51.]

**RCW 47.17.255 State route No. 128.** A state highway to be known as state route number 128 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 12 in Clarkston, thence northeasterly and easterly by way of the Red Wolf crossing to the Idaho state line. [1991 c 342 § 13; 1990 c 108 § 1; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 52.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.260 State route No. 129.** A state highway to be known as state route number 129 is established as follows:

Beginning at the Washington-Oregon boundary line in Asotin county, thence northerly by the most feasible route by way of Asotin to a junction with state route number 12 at Clarkston. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 53.]

**RCW 47.17.262 State route No. 131.** A state highway to be known as state route number 131 is established as follows:

Beginning at the Gifford Pinchot national forest boundary south of Randle, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 12 in Randle. [1991 c 342 § 14.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.275 State route No. 141.** A state highway to be known as state route number 141 is established as follows:

Beginning at a wye junction with state route number 14, the west branch in the vicinity east of Underwood and the east branch in the vicinity of White Salmon, thence northerly to the boundary of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 56.]

**RCW 47.17.280 State route No. 142.** A state highway to be known as state route number 142 is established as follows:



Beginning at a junction with state route number 14 in the vicinity of Lyle, thence northeasterly by way of Klickitat to a junction with state route number 97 in the vicinity of Goldendale. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 57.]

**RCW 47.17.285 State route No. 150.** A state highway to be known as state route number 150 is established as follows:

Beginning at Manson, thence southeasterly to the north of Lake Chelan to a junction with state route number 97-alternate at Chelan.

Also beginning at a junction with state route number 97-alternate at Chelan southerly to a junction with state route number 97 in the vicinity of Chelan Station. [1987 c 199 § 13; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 58.]

**RCW 47.17.295 State route No. 153.** A state highway to be known as state route number 153 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 97 in the vicinity of Pateros, thence northerly and westerly by the most feasible route to a junction with state route number 20 in the vicinity south of Twisp. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 60.]

**RCW 47.17.300 State route No. 155.** A state highway to be known as state route number 155 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 2 in the vicinity north of Coulee City, thence northeasterly to the boundary of the federal reservation at the Grand Coulee dam; also

Beginning at the boundary of the federal reservation at the Grand Coulee dam, thence northwesterly by the most feasible route by way of Nespelem and Disautel to a junction with state route number 97 at Omak; also

Beginning at a junction with state route number 155 at Omak, thence northwesterly crossing the Okanogan river to a junction with state route number 215 at Omak. [1975 c 63 § 4; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 61.]

**RCW 47.17.305 State route No. 160.** A state highway to be known as state route number 160 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 16 in the vicinity south of Port Orchard, thence easterly on Sedgwick Road to the Washington state ferry dock at Point Southworth; also

From the state ferry terminal at Point Southworth via the state ferry system easterly to the state ferry terminal at Vashon Heights; also

From the state ferry terminal at Vashon Heights easterly via the state ferry system to the state ferry terminal at Fauntleroy. [1994 c 209 § 4; 1993 c 430 § 2; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 62; (1991 c 342 § 15 repealed by 1992 c 166 § 31).]

**RCW 47.17.310 State route No. 161.** A state highway to be known as state route number 161 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 7 in the vicinity of La Grande, thence northeasterly via Eatonville to Puyallup, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 18.

That portion of state route 161 within King county shall be designated Enchanted Parkway. [1987 c 520 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 73 § 6; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 63.]

**RCW 47.17.315 State route No. 162.** A state highway to be known as state route number 162 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 410 at Sumner, thence southerly to Orting, thence northeasterly to a junction with state route number 165 in the vicinity south of Buckley. [1975 c 63 § 5; 1971 ex.s. c 73 § 7; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 64.]

**RCW 47.17.317 State route No. 163.** A state highway to be known as state route number 163 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 16 in Tacoma, thence northerly to the Point Defiance ferry terminal; also

From the state ferry terminal at Point Defiance via the state ferry system northerly to the state ferry terminal at Tahlequah. [1994 c 209 § 5; 1991 c 342 § 16.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.320 State route No. 164.** A state highway to be known as state route number 164 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 18 in the vicinity of Auburn, thence southeasterly to a junction with state route number 410 at Enumclaw. [1987 c 199 § 14; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 65.]

**RCW 47.17.325 State route No. 165.** A state highway to be known as state route number 165 is established as follows:

Beginning at the northwest entrance to Mt. Rainier National Park, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 410 at Buckley. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 66.]

**RCW 47.17.328 State route No. 166.** A state highway to be known as state route number 166 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 16 in the vicinity west of Port Orchard, thence northeasterly to the eastern Port Orchard city limits as they exist on June 10, 2010. [2010 c 77 § 2; 1993 c 430 § 3.]

**Intent—2010 c 77:** "It is the intent of the legislature that the state route number 166 description be updated to reflect the current city limits of Port Orchard." [2010 c 77 § 1.]

**RCW 47.17.330 State route No. 167.** A state highway to be known as state route number 167 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 in the vicinity of Tacoma, thence easterly by way of the vicinity of Puyallup and Sumner, thence northerly by way of the vicinity of Auburn and Kent to

a junction with state route number 900 in the vicinity of Renton.  
[1991 c 342 § 17; 1979 ex.s. c 33 § 8; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 67.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.335 State route No. 168.** A state highway to be known as state route number 168 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 410 in the vicinity of the junction of the Greenwater and White rivers, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 410 in the vicinity north of Cliffdell. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 68.]

**RCW 47.17.340 State route No. 169.** A state highway to be known as state route number 169 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 164 at Enumclaw, thence northwesterly by way of Summit to a junction with state route number 900 in the vicinity of Renton. [1971 ex.s. c 73 § 8; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 69.]

**RCW 47.17.345 State route No. 170.** A state highway to be known as state route number 170 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 17 west of Warden, thence easterly to Warden. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 70.]

**RCW 47.17.350 State route No. 171.** A state highway to be known as state route number 171 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 90 west of Moses Lake, thence northeasterly by way of Moses Lake to a junction with state route number 28 in the vicinity west of Odessa. Until such time as state route number 171 is actually constructed on the location adopted by the department, no existing county roads may be maintained or improved by the department as a temporary route of state route number 171. [1984 c 7 § 132; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 71.]

**RCW 47.17.355 State route No. 172.** A state highway to be known as state route number 172 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 2 in the vicinity of Waterville, thence northerly and easterly by the most feasible route by way of Mansfield to a junction with state route number 17 in the vicinity of Leahy. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 72.]

**RCW 47.17.360 State route No. 173.** A state highway to be known as state route number 173 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 17 at Bridgeport thence northwesterly on the south side of the Columbia river to a junction with state route number 97 in the vicinity of Brewster. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 73.]

**RCW 47.17.365 State route No. 174.** A state highway to be known as state route number 174 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 17 east of Bridgeport, thence easterly to the boundary of the federal reservation at Grand Coulee dam; also

Beginning at a junction with state route number 155 at Grand Coulee, thence southeasterly to a junction with state route number 21 in the vicinity north of Wilbur; also

A spur beginning at a junction with state route number 174 in the vicinity of the boundary of the federal reservation at the Grand Coulee dam and extending to Crown Point. [1987 c 199 § 15; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 74.]

**RCW 47.17.370 State route No. 181.** A state highway to be known as state route number 181 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 516 in the vicinity of Kent, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 405 in the vicinity of Tukwila. [1991 c 342 § 18; 1979 ex.s. c 192 § 4; 1971 ex.s. c 73 § 9; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 75.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**Effective dates—1979 ex.s. c 192:** "Section 6 of this 1979 act shall take effect July 1, 1980. Sections 1 through 5 of this 1979 act are necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect on July 1, 1979." [1979 ex.s. c 192 § 7.]

**RCW 47.17.372 State route No. 182.** A state highway to be known as state route number 182 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 82 in the vicinity of Goose Gap, thence easterly via Richland to a junction with state route number 395 in the vicinity of Pasco. [1979 ex.s. c 33 § 9; 1971 ex.s. c 73 § 10.]

**RCW 47.17.375 State route No. 193.** A state highway to be known as state route number 193 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 128 in the vicinity of the Red Wolf crossing, thence westerly to the port of Wilma. [1991 c 342 § 19; 1990 c 108 § 2; 1984 c 7 § 133; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 76.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.377 State route No. 194.** A state highway to be known as state route number 194 is established as follows:

Beginning at the port of Almota, thence northerly and easterly to a junction with state route number 195 in the vicinity of Pullman. [1991 c 342 § 20.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.380 State route No. 195.** A state highway to be known as state route number 195 is established as follows:

Beginning at the Washington-Idaho boundary line southeast of Uniontown, thence northwesterly and northerly by way of the vicinity of Pullman, Colfax, and Rosalia to a junction with state route number 90 at Spokane. [1979 ex.s. c 33 § 10; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 77.]

**RCW 47.17.382 State route No. 197.** A state highway to be known as state route number 197 is established as follows:

Beginning at the Washington-Oregon boundary on the interstate bridge across the Columbia river in the vicinity of The Dalles, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 14. [1979 ex.s. c 33 § 11; 1973 1st ex.s. c 151 § 6.]

**RCW 47.17.385 State route No. 202.** A state highway to be known as state route number 202 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 522 near Bothell, thence southeasterly to a junction with state route number 90 in the vicinity of North Bend. [1987 c 199 § 16; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 78.]

**RCW 47.17.390 State route No. 203.** A state highway to be known as state route number 203 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 202 at Fall City, thence northerly by the most feasible route by way of Duvall to a junction with state route number 2 at Monroe. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 79.]

**RCW 47.17.395 State route No. 204.** A state highway to be known as state route number 204 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 2 in the vicinity east of Everett, thence northeasterly to a junction with state route number 9. [1987 c 199 § 17; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 80.]

**RCW 47.17.400 State route No. 205.** A state highway to be known as state route number 205 is established as follows:

Beginning at the Washington-Oregon boundary line in the vicinity east of Vancouver, thence northwesterly to a junction with state route number 5 in the vicinity of Salmon Creek, north of Vancouver. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 81.]

**RCW 47.17.405 State route No. 206.** A state highway to be known as state route number 206 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 2 in the vicinity north of Mead, thence northeasterly to the entrance to Mt. Spokane State Park. [1987 c 199 § 18; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 82.]

**RCW 47.17.410 State route No. 207.** A state highway to be known as state route number 207 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 2 in the vicinity north of Winton, thence northerly to Lake Wenatchee state park. [1991 c 342 § 21; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 83.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.416 State route No. 211.** A state highway to be known as state route number 211 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 2 southwest of Newport, thence northerly by the most feasible route by way of Sacheen Lake to a junction with state route number 20 at Usk. [1975 c 63 § 10.]

**RCW 47.17.417 State route No. 213.** A state highway to be known as state route number 213 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 97 in the vicinity of Malott, thence northeasterly to a junction with state route number 20 southwest of Okanogan. Until such time as this route is actually constructed on the location adopted by the department, no county roads may be maintained or improved by the department as a temporary route. [1984 c 7 § 134; 1973 1st ex.s. c 151 § 18.]

**RCW 47.17.419 State route No. 215.** A state highway to be known as state route number 215 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 20 in the vicinity of Okanogan, thence northeasterly on the west side of the Okanogan river to a junction with state route number 97 north of Omak. [1973 1st ex.s. c 151 § 19.]

**RCW 47.17.425 State route No. 221.** A state highway to be known as state route number 221 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 14 in the vicinity of Patterson, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 22 in the vicinity of Prosser. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 86.]

**RCW 47.17.430 State route No. 223.** A state highway to be known as state route number 223 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 22 in the vicinity southeast of Toppenish, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 12 in the vicinity of Granger. The establishment of state route number 223 as defined in this section shall be effective July 1, 1965. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 87.]

**RCW 47.17.435 State route No. 224.** A state highway to be known as state route number 224 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 82 at Kiona, thence northeasterly to a junction with state route number 240 at Richland. [1987 c 199 § 19; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 88.]

**RCW 47.17.436 State route No. 225.** A state highway to be known as state route number 225 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 224 in Kiona, thence northeasterly by way of Benton City to a junction with state route number 240 near Horn Rapids dam. [1991 c 342 § 22.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.440 State route No. 230.** A state highway to be known as state route number 230 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 90 in the vicinity of Ritzville, thence easterly by the most feasible route to a junction with state route number 23 in the vicinity of Ewan. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 89.]

**RCW 47.17.445 State route No. 231.** A state highway to be known as state route number 231 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 23 in the vicinity northwest of Sprague, thence northerly by way of Edwall to a junction with state route number 2 in the vicinity west of Reardan; also

Beginning at a junction with state route number 2 in the vicinity of Reardan, thence northerly by way of Long Lake across the Spokane river, thence northeasterly by way of Springdale to a junction with state route number 395 in the vicinity of Chewelah. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 90.]

**RCW 47.17.455 State route No. 240.** A state highway to be known as state route number 240 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 24 in the vicinity east of Cold Creek, thence southeasterly by the most feasible route across the Atomic Energy Commission Reservation to a junction with state route number 224 at Richland; also

From that junction with state route number 224 at Richland, thence southerly to a junction with state route number 182 at Richland; also

From a junction with state route number 182 at Richland southeasterly to a junction with state route number 395 at Kennewick. The secretary may enter into negotiations with appropriate federal agencies to secure right-of-way for the highway over and across the Atomic Energy Commission Reservation. [1985 c 177 § 3; 1984 c 7 § 135; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 92.]

**RCW 47.17.460 State route No. 241.** A state highway to be known as state route number 241 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 22 in Mabton, thence northerly and northeasterly by way of Sunnyside to a junction with state route number 24. [1991 c 342 § 23; 1987 c 199 § 20; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 93.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.465 State route No. 243.** A state highway to be known as state route number 243 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 24 north of its crossing of the Columbia river, thence westerly and northerly by way of Arrowsmith and Beverly to a junction with state route number 26 south of the Columbia river bridge at Vantage. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 94.]

**RCW 47.17.475 State route No. 260.** A state highway to be known as state route number 260 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 17 west of Connell, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 395 in the vicinity of Connell, thence northeasterly by way of Kahlotus to a junction with state route number 26 at Washtucna. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 96.]

**RCW 47.17.480 State route No. 261.** A state highway to be known as state route number 261 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 12 at Delaney, thence northwesterly to a junction with state route number 260 in the vicinity of McAdam; also

Beginning at a junction with state route number 26 at Washtucna, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 90 at Ritzville. [1987 c 199 § 21; 1971 ex.s. c 73 § 12; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 97.]

**RCW 47.17.481 State route No. 262.** A state highway to be known as state route number 262 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 26 east of Royal City, thence northerly and easterly to a junction with state route number 17 west of Warden. [1991 c 342 § 24.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.482 State route No. 263.** A state highway to be known as state route number 263 is established as follows:

Beginning at the port of Windust, thence easterly and northerly to a junction with state route number 260 in Kahlotus. [1991 c 342 § 25.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.485 State route No. 270.** A state highway to be known as state route number 270 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 195 at Pullman, thence easterly by the most feasible route to a point on the Washington-Idaho boundary line. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 98.]

**RCW 47.17.490 State route No. 271.** A state highway to be known as state route number 271 is established as follows:



Beginning at a junction with state route number 27 in the vicinity of Oakesdale, thence northwesterly to a junction with state route number 195 in the vicinity south of Rosalia. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 99.]

**RCW 47.17.495 State route No. 272.** A state highway to be known as state route number 272 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 195 at Colfax, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 27 at Palouse; also

Beginning at a junction with state route number 27 at Palouse, thence northeasterly by the most feasible route to a point on the Washington-Idaho boundary line. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 100.]

**RCW 47.17.500 State route No. 274.** A state highway to be known as state route number 274 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 27 at Tekoa, thence easterly to the Washington-Idaho boundary line. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 101.]

**RCW 47.17.503 State route No. 278.** A state highway to be known as state route number 278 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 27 in Rockford, thence easterly and southerly to the Washington-Idaho boundary. [1991 c 342 § 26.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.505 State route No. 281.** A state highway to be known as state route number 281 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 90 in the vicinity of George, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 28 at Quincy; also

Beginning at a junction with state route number 281 at a point north of the above described junction on state route number 90, thence in a southeasterly direction to a junction with state route number 90 in the vicinity east of George, some 1.6 miles more or less, resulting in a wye connection between state route number 281 and state route number 90. [1971 ex.s. c 73 § 13; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 102.]

**RCW 47.17.510 State route No. 282.** A state highway to be known as state route number 282 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 28 in the vicinity of Ephrata, thence southeasterly to a junction with state route number 17 in the vicinity of Rocky Ford creek. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 103.]

**RCW 47.17.515 State route No. 283.** A state highway to be known as state route number 283 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 281 in the vicinity of Burke Junction, thence northeasterly by the most feasible route to a junction with state route number 28 in the vicinity west of Ephrata. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 104.]

**RCW 47.17.517 State route No. 285.** A state highway to be known as state route number 285 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 28 in East Wenatchee, thence westerly across the Columbia river and northwesterly to a junction with state route number 2 in Wenatchee. [1991 c 342 § 27; 1977 ex.s. c 224 § 1.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.520 State route No. 290.** A state highway to be known as state route number 290 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 90 in Spokane, thence northeasterly by way of Millwood, Trentwood, and Newman Lake to the termination of Idaho state highway number 53 at the Washington-Idaho boundary line. [2005 c 14 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 6 § 1; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 105.]

**RCW 47.17.525 State route No. 291.** A state highway to be known as state route number 291 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 2 in Spokane, thence northwesterly along the north bank of the Spokane river to the vicinity of Tumtum; and thence southwesterly along the north shore of Long Lake to a junction with state route number 231 in the vicinity of the Little Falls Dam. [1983 c 180 § 4; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 106.]

**RCW 47.17.530 State route No. 292.** A state highway to be known as state route number 292 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 231 at Springdale, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 395 in the vicinity of Loon Lake. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 107.]

**RCW 47.17.540 State route No. 300.** A state highway to be known as state route number 300 is established as follows:

Beginning at the western boundary of the Belfair State Park, thence generally easterly to a junction with state route number 3 at Belfair. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 109.]

**RCW 47.17.545 State route No. 302.** A state highway to be known as state route number 302 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 3 in the vicinity of Allyn, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 16 in the vicinity of Purdy. [1987 c 199 § 22; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 110.]

**RCW 47.17.550 State route No. 303.** A state highway to be known as state route number 303 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 304 at Bremerton, thence by way of the Warren Avenue bridge across the Port Washington Narrows northerly to a junction with state route number 3 in the vicinity north of Silverdale. [1991 c 342 § 28; 1971 ex.s. c 73 § 14; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 111.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.556 State route No. 304.** A state highway to be known as state route number 304 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 3 in Bremerton, thence easterly to the ferry terminal in Bremerton; also

From the state ferry terminal at Bremerton via the state ferry system easterly to the junction with state route number 519 at the state ferry terminal in Seattle. [1994 c 209 § 6; 1993 c 430 § 4.]

**RCW 47.17.560 State route No. 305.** A state highway to be known as state route number 305 is established as follows:

Beginning at the junction with state route number 519 at the state ferry terminal in Seattle, thence via the state ferry system northwesterly to the state ferry terminal at Bainbridge Island; also

From the state ferry terminal at Bainbridge Island, thence northerly by the most feasible route to the north end of Bainbridge Island, across Agate Pass, thence northwesterly by the most feasible route to a junction with state route number 3 in the vicinity north of Poulsbo. [1994 c 209 § 7; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 113.]

**RCW 47.17.566 State route No. 307.** A state highway to be known as state route number 307 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 305 at Poulsbo, thence northeasterly to a junction with state route number 104 near Miller Lake. [1991 c 342 § 29.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.567 State route No. 308.** A state highway to be known as state route number 308 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 3, thence easterly to Keyport. [1987 c 199 § 23; 1971 ex.s. c 73 § 15.]

**RCW 47.17.569 State route No. 310.** A state highway to be known as state route number 310 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 3 near Oyster Bay, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 304 in Bremerton. [1991 c 342 § 30.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.571 State route No. 339.** A state highway to be known as state route number 339 is established as follows:

Beginning at the junction of state route number 160 at the state ferry terminal at Vashon Heights, thence via the state ferry system northeasterly to the junction with state route number 519 at the state ferry terminal in Seattle. [1994 c 209 § 9.]

**RCW 47.17.575 State route No. 395.** A state highway to be known as state route number 395 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 82 at Kennewick, northerly to a junction with state route number 182 at Pasco; also

From a junction with state route number 182 at Pasco, thence northeasterly by way of the vicinity of Mesa and Connell to a junction with state route number 90 at Ritzville; also

From a junction with state route number 2 in the vicinity north of Spokane, thence northerly by way of the vicinity of Colville and Kettle Falls to the international boundary line in the vicinity of Laurier. [1985 c 177 § 4; 1979 ex.s. c 33 § 13; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 116.]

**RCW 47.17.577 State route No. 397.** A state highway to be known as state route number 397 is established as follows:

Beginning at state route number 82 at exit 114, thence easterly, northwesterly, and northerly across the Columbia River, thence easterly and northerly to a junction with state route number 395 in Pasco. [2009 c 184 § 1; 1993 c 430 § 5; 1991 c 342 § 31.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.580 State route No. 401.** A state highway to be known as state route number 401 is established as follows:

Beginning at Point Ellice on state route number 101, thence easterly and northerly to a junction with state route number 4 in the vicinity north of Naselle. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 117.]

**RCW 47.17.595 State route No. 405.** A state highway to be known as state route number 405 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 in the vicinity south of Seattle, thence northeasterly to Renton, thence northerly east of Lake Washington to a junction with state route number 5 north of Seattle. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 120.]

**RCW 47.17.605 State route No. 409.** A state highway to be known as state route number 409 is established as follows:

Beginning at the South Ferry landing, as now located, or as it may be relocated, on the south side of Puget Island, thence generally northerly by the most feasible route to the Puget Island bridge, thence crossing said bridge to a junction with state route number 4 at the north approach of said bridge at the town of Cathlamet: PROVIDED, That the state of Washington shall not assume or pay any bond or bonds outstanding against said bridge, or interest on said bonds, but said

bond or bonds, and interest thereon, shall remain the sole obligation of the obligors named on said bonds. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 122.]

**RCW 47.17.610 State route No. 410.** A state highway to be known as state route number 410 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 167 at Sumner, thence easterly by way of Buckley, Enumclaw, and Chinook Pass, to a junction with state route number 12 northwest of Yakima: PROVIDED, That until such time as state route number 167 is constructed and opened to traffic on an anticipated ultimate alignment from a junction with state route number 5 near Tacoma easterly to Sumner on the north side of the Puyallup river, the public highway between state route number 5 in Tacoma and state route number 161 in Sumner, on the south side of the Puyallup river, shall remain on the state highway system. [1987 c 199 § 24; 1973 1st ex.s. c 151 § 8; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 123.]

**RCW 47.17.615 State route No. 411.** A state highway to be known as state route number 411 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 432 in Longview, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 5 at Castle Rock. [1991 c 342 § 32; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 124.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.625 State route No. 432.** A state highway to be known as state route number 432 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 4 in the vicinity west of Longview, thence southeasterly to a junction with state route number 5 south of Kelso. [1991 c 342 § 33; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 126.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.630 State route No. 433.** A state highway to be known as state route number 433 is established as follows:

Beginning at the Washington-Oregon boundary on the interstate bridge at Longview, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 432 in Longview. [1991 c 342 § 34; 1987 c 199 § 25; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 127.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.635 State route No. 500.** A state highway to be known as state route number 500 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 at Vancouver, thence northeasterly to Orchards, thence southeasterly to a junction with state route number 14 at Camas. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 128.]

**RCW 47.17.640 State route No. 501—Erwin O. Rieger Memorial Highway.** A state highway to be known as state route number 501 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 at Vancouver, thence northerly by way of Lower River Road and an extension thereof to Ridgefield, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 5 in the vicinity south of La Center. That portion of state route number 501 from the northerly junction of N.W. Lower River Road to the Ridgefield city limits is designated "the Erwin O. Rieger Memorial Highway." The department may enter into an agreement with the Port of Vancouver, Clark county, or the United States Army Engineers, or any combination thereof, to obtain material dredged from the Columbia river and have it stockpiled at no expense to the state. [1991 c 78 § 1; 1984 c 7 § 136; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 129.]

**RCW 47.17.645 State route No. 502.** A state highway to be known as state route number 502 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 in the vicinity north of Vancouver, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 503 at Battle Ground. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 130.]

**RCW 47.17.650 State route No. 503.** A state highway to be known as state route number 503 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 500 at Orchards, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 502 at Battle Ground, thence northerly to Amboy, thence northeasterly by way of Cougar to the Cowlitz-Skamania county line; also

Beginning at a junction with state route number 503 in the vicinity of Yale, thence westerly to a junction with state route number 5 in the vicinity of Woodland. [1991 c 342 § 35; 1975 c 63 § 6; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 131.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.655 State route No. 504—Spirit Lake Memorial Highway.** A state highway to be known as state route number 504, hereby designated the Spirit Lake Memorial Highway, dedicated to the memory of those who lost their lives in the 1980 eruption of Mt. St. Helens, is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 in the vicinity north of Castle Rock, thence easterly along the north shore of Silver Lake by way of Silverlake and Toutle, past a junction with state route number 505, thence by way of Kid Valley and St. Helens to the former Spirit Lake. [1982 c 82 § 1; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 132.]

**RCW 47.17.660 State route No. 505.** A state highway to be known as state route number 505 is established as follows:

Beginning in Winlock, thence via Toledo, easterly and southerly to a junction with state route number 504 in the vicinity north of Toutle. [1991 c 342 § 36; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 133.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.665 State route No. 506.** A state highway to be known as state route number 506 is established as follows:

Beginning at Ryderwood, thence by way of Vader northeasterly to a junction with state route number 5 west of Toledo. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 134.]

**RCW 47.17.670 State route No. 507.** A state highway to be known as state route number 507 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 in Centralia, thence northerly by the most feasible route by way of Bucoda to Tenino, thence northeasterly by way of Rainier, Yelm and McKenna to a junction with state route number 7 in the vicinity south of Tacoma. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 135.]

**RCW 47.17.675 State route No. 508.** A state highway to be known as state route number 508 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 south of Chehalis, thence easterly by way of Onalaska to a junction with state route number 7 at Morton. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 136.]

**RCW 47.17.680 State route No. 509.** A state highway to be known as state route number 509 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 705 at Tacoma, thence northeasterly to a junction with state route number 99 in the vicinity of Redondo; also

From a junction with state route number 516 at Des Moines, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 99 in Seattle. [1991 c 342 § 37; 1979 ex.s. c 33 § 14; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 137.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.685 State route No. 510.** A state highway to be known as state route number 510 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5, thence southeasterly via St. Clair to a junction with state route number 507 at Yelm. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 138.]

**RCW 47.17.690 State route No. 512.** A state highway to be known as state route number 512 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 south of Tacoma, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 7 south of Tacoma, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 167 in the vicinity of Puyallup. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 139.]

**RCW 47.17.695 State route No. 513.** A state highway to be known as state route number 513 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 520 in Seattle, thence northerly and easterly to the vicinity of Sand Point. [1991 c 342 § 38; 1971 ex.s. c 73 § 16; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 140.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.705 State route No. 515.** A state highway to be known as state route number 515 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 516 in the vicinity east of Kent, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 900 in Renton. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 142.]

**RCW 47.17.710 State route No. 516.** A state highway to be known as state route number 516 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 509 in the vicinity south of Des Moines, thence southeasterly to a junction with state route number 5; also

From that junction with state route number 5, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 167 in Kent, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 169 south of Maple Valley. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 143.]

**RCW 47.17.715 State route No. 518.** A state highway to be known as state route number 518 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 509 near Sunnydale, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 5 in the vicinity of Seattle. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 144.]

**RCW 47.17.717 State route No. 519.** A state highway to be known as state route number 519 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 90 in Seattle, thence westerly, and northerly to the Washington state ferry terminal. [1991 c 342 § 39.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.720 State route No. 520.** A state highway to be known as state route number 520 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 in Seattle, thence easterly via the Evergreen Point bridge to a junction with state route number 202 in the vicinity of Redmond. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 145.]

**RCW 47.17.725 State route No. 522.** A state highway to be known as state route number 522 is established as follows:

Beginning at Seattle in King county, thence easterly by the most feasible route to the north of Lake Washington by way of Bothell to a junction with state route number 202 near Bothell; also

From that junction with state route number 202 near Bothell, thence northeasterly by the most feasible route to a junction with state route number 2 in the vicinity of Monroe. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 146.]



**RCW 47.17.727 State route No. 523.** A state highway to be known as state route number 523 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 99 and Northeast 145th Street in Seattle, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 522. [1991 c 342 § 40.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.730 State route No. 524.** A state highway to be known as state route number 524 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 104 at Edmonds, thence northeasterly to a junction with state route number 5 in the vicinity of Lynnwood, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 522 near Maltby. [1991 c 342 § 41; 1984 c 7 § 137; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 147.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.735 State route No. 525.** A state highway to be known as state route number 525 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 in the vicinity south of Everett, thence northwesterly to the state ferry terminal at Mukilteo; also

From the junction with state route number 526 at Mukilteo, thence southerly to a junction with state route number 525; also

From the state ferry terminal at Mukilteo via the state ferry system northerly to the state ferry terminal at Clinton; also

From the state ferry terminal at Clinton, thence northwesterly to a junction with state route number 20 in the vicinity east of Keystone. [2001 c 130 § 1; 1994 c 209 § 8; 1973 1st ex.s. c 151 § 15; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 148.]

**RCW 47.17.740 State route No. 526.** A state highway to be known as state route number 526 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 525 at Mukilteo, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 5 in the vicinity of its junction with state route number 527. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 149.]

**RCW 47.17.745 State route No. 527.** A state highway to be known as state route number 527 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 405 in the vicinity of Bothell, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 5 in Everett. [2011 c 201 § 1; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 150.]

**RCW 47.17.750 State route No. 528.** A state highway to be known as state route number 528 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 near Marysville, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 9. Until such time as state route number 528 from Marysville to a junction with state route number 9 is actually constructed on the

location adopted by the department, no existing city streets or county roads may be maintained or improved by the department as a temporary route of state route number 528. [1984 c 7 § 138; 1971 ex.s. c 73 § 18; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 151.]

**RCW 47.17.752 State route No. 529.** A state highway to be known as state route number 529 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 in Everett, thence westerly and northerly through Everett to a junction with state route number 528 in Marysville. [1991 c 342 § 42; 1971 ex.s. c 73 § 19.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.755 State route No. 530.** A state highway to be known as state route number 530 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 in the vicinity west of Arlington, thence easterly and northerly by way of Darrington to a junction with state route number 20 in the vicinity of Rockport. [1991 c 342 § 43; 1983 c 131 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 73 § 20; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 152.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.757 State route No. 531.** A state highway to be known as state route number 531 is established as follows:

Beginning at Wenberg state park, thence northerly and easterly to a junction with state route number 9 in the vicinity north of Marysville. [1991 c 342 § 44.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.760 State route No. 532.** A state highway to be known as state route number 532 is established as follows:

Beginning at a point on Camano Island known as McEacherns Corner, thence easterly over a bridge and by way of Stanwood to a junction with state route number 530 in the vicinity of Stanwood, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 5 in the vicinity east of Stanwood. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 153.]

**RCW 47.17.765 State route No. 534.** A state highway to be known as state route number 534 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 at Conway, thence southeasterly to a junction with state route number 9 at McMurray. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 154.]

**RCW 47.17.770 State route No. 536.** A state highway to be known as state route number 536 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 20 at Fredonia, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 5 at Mt. Vernon. [1973 1st ex.s. c 151 § 16; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 155.]

**RCW 47.17.780 State route No. 538.** A state highway to be known as state route number 538 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 at Mt. Vernon, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 9. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 157.]

**RCW 47.17.785 State route No. 539.** A state highway to be known as state route number 539 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 at Bellingham, thence northerly to the international boundary in the vicinity east of Delta. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 158.]

**RCW 47.17.795 State route No. 542.** A state highway to be known as state route number 542 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 at Bellingham, thence easterly to a point in the vicinity of Austin Pass in Whatcom county. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 160.]

**RCW 47.17.797 State route No. 543.** A state highway to be known as state route number 543 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 in the vicinity of Blaine, thence northerly to the international boundary. [1971 ex.s. c 73 § 22.]

**RCW 47.17.800 State route No. 544.** A state highway to be known as state route number 544 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 539 in the vicinity of Wiser lake, thence northeasterly by way of Everson to a junction with state route number 9 in the vicinity of Nooksack. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 161.]

**RCW 47.17.805 State route No. 546.** A state highway to be known as state route number 546 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 539 approximately 2.7 miles south of the international boundary, thence easterly by way of Van Buren to a junction with state route number 9. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 162.]

**RCW 47.17.806 State route No. 547.** A state highway to be known as state route number 547 is established as follows:

Beginning at the junction of state route number 542 in the vicinity of Kendall, thence northwesterly to a junction with state route number 9 at Sumas. [1984 c 197 § 2.]

**RCW 47.17.807 State route No. 548.** A state highway to be known as state route number 548 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 in the vicinity north of Ferndale, thence westerly and northerly to a junction with state route number 5 in Blaine. [1991 c 342 § 45.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.808 State route No. 599.** A state highway to be known as state route number 599 is established as follows:

Beginning in the vicinity south of Seattle at a junction with state route number 5, thence in a northwesterly direction west of the Duwamish river to a junction with state route number 99 in the vicinity of South 118 street south of Seattle. [1971 ex.s. c 73 § 23.]

**RCW 47.17.815 State route No. 702.** A state highway to be known as state route number 702 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 507 at McKenna, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 7. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 164.]

**RCW 47.17.818 State route No. 704.** A state highway to be known as state route number 704 is established as follows: Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 in south Pierce county, thence easterly across Fort Lewis to a junction with state route number 7. [2002 c 56 § 304.]

**RCW 47.17.819 State route No. 705.** A state highway to be known as state route number 705 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 in Tacoma, thence northerly to a junction with Schuster Parkway in the Tacoma central business district. [1979 ex.s. c 33 § 15.]

**RCW 47.17.820 State route No. 706—Road to Paradise.** A state highway to be known as state route number 706, designated the Road to Paradise, is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 7 at Elbe, thence easterly to a southwest entrance to Mt. Rainier National Park. [1990 c 97 § 1; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 165.]

**RCW 47.17.821 State route No. 730.** A state highway to be known as state route number 730 is established as follows:

Beginning at the Washington-Oregon boundary line, thence northeasterly to a junction with state route number 12 south of Wallula. [1985 c 177 § 5.]

**RCW 47.17.823 State route No. 821.** A state highway to be known as state route number 821 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 82 in the vicinity north of Yakima, thence northerly to a junction with state route number 82 south of Ellensburg. [1973 1st ex.s. c 151 § 9.]

**RCW 47.17.824 State route No. 823.** A state highway to be known as state route number 823 is established as follows:

Beginning at the junction of state route number 82 in the vicinity of Selah northerly by way of Selah and easterly to a junction with state route number 821 in the vicinity of the firing center interchange.

Before award of any construction contract for improvements to state route number 823 under either program A or program C, the department of transportation shall secure a portion of the construction cost from the city of Selah or Yakima county, or both. [1991 c 342 § 46; 1984 c 197 § 3.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.825 State route No. 900.** A state highway to be known as state route number 900 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5 in Seattle near the Duwamish River, thence southerly by way of Renton to a junction with state route number 90 in the vicinity of Issaquah. [1991 c 342 § 47; 1979 ex.s. c 33 § 16; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 166.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.835 State route No. 902.** A state highway to be known as state route number 902 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 90, thence northwesterly, northerly, northeasterly, and easterly, via the town of Medical Lake, to a junction with state route number 90 at a point approximately three miles northeast of Four Lakes. [1991 c 342 § 49; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 168.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.840 State route No. 903.** A state highway to be known as state route number 903 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 970 in the vicinity of Cle Elum, thence northwesterly by way of Cle Elum and Roslyn to the National Forest boundary in the vicinity of Lake Cle Elum. [1975 c 63 § 7; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 169.]

**RCW 47.17.845 State route No. 904.** A state highway to be known as state route number 904 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 90 in the vicinity of Tyler, thence northeasterly via Cheney to a junction with state route number 90 in the vicinity of Four Lakes. [1971 ex.s. c 73 § 25; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 170.]

**RCW 47.17.850 State route No. 906.** A state highway to be known as state route number 906 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 90 at the West Summit interchange of Snoqualmie Pass, thence along the alignment of the state route number 90 as it existed on May 11, 1967, in a southeasterly direction to a junction with state route number 90 at the Hyak interchange. [2005 c 319 § 129; 1984 c 7 § 139; 1977 ex.s. c 235 § 16; 1971 ex.s. c 73 § 26; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 171.]

**Findings—Intent—Part headings—Effective dates—2005 c 319:** See notes following RCW 43.17.020.

**RCW 47.17.917 State route No. 970.** A state highway to be known as state route number 970 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 90 in the vicinity of Cle Elum, thence northeasterly by way of Teanaway to a junction with state route number 97 in the vicinity of Virden. [1975 c 63 § 12.]

**RCW 47.17.919 State route No. 971.** A state highway to be known as state route number 971 is established as follows:

Beginning at a junction with state route number 97-alternate in the vicinity of Winesap, thence northerly to Lake Chelan state park, thence southeasterly to a junction with state route number 97-alternate west of Chelan. [1991 c 342 § 51.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.960 Local bridges—Department responsibility.**

Although not part of the state highway system, the bridges designated in this section shall remain the continuing responsibility of the Washington state department of transportation. Continuing responsibility includes all structural maintenance, repair, and replacement of the substructure, superstructure, and roadway deck. Local agencies are responsible for snow and ice control, sweeping, striping, lane marking, and channelization.

Facility	State of Washington Inventory of Bridges and Structures (SWIBS) Number
S. Fork Skykomish River Bridge	WN-002000487032
Manette Bridge	WN-303250032700
Grays River Bridge (Rosburg)	WN-403000064300
Elochoman Bridge	WN-407000023300

[1991 c 342 § 55.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.17.990 Construction—Refunds to counties composed of islands.** Nothing in this chapter precludes the refund of all vehicle license fees and motor vehicle fuel tax directly or indirectly paid by the residents of those counties composed entirely of islands and that have neither a fixed physical connection with the mainland nor any

state highways on any of the islands of which they are composed, as authorized under RCW 46.68.080. [1994 c 209 § 10.]

**Chapter 47.20 RCW**  
**MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS**

**Sections**

- 47.20.570 Manette bridge authorized.
- 47.20.580 Washington State University highway authorized.
- 47.20.590 University of Washington approach authorized.
- 47.20.600 Washington State University highway, University of Washington approach—Acquisition of property.
- 47.20.605 Washington State University highway, University of Washington approach—Public use.
- 47.20.610 Washington State University highway, University of Washington approach—Condemnation.
- 47.20.620 Washington State University highway, University of Washington approach—Measure of damage to buildings.
- 47.20.630 Washington State University highway, University of Washington approach—Sale of buildings, personalty, acquired in acquisition of land.
- 47.20.635 University of Washington approach—Ordinance requisite—Construction and maintenance.
- 47.20.640 Reestablishment and redesignation of intersections when highway relocated.
- 47.20.645 Interstate 90 corridor—Legislative finding.
- 47.20.647 Interstate 90 corridor—Withdrawal of local governments from project—Effect on use of state funds.
- 47.20.653 Interstate 90 corridor—Court proceedings, priority.
- 47.20.700 State route No. 504 (Spirit Lake Memorial Highway)—Extension and parking facilities.
- 47.20.710 Quinault Tribal Highway—Agreement authorized—Route.
- 47.20.715 Quinault Tribal Highway—Maintenance, operation, improvements—Intersections, access.
- 47.20.720 Quinault Tribal Highway—Certain portion as limited access.
- 47.20.725 Quinault Tribal Highway—Acquisition of remaining right-of-way.
- 47.20.730 Quinault Tribal Highway—Department as agent.
- 47.20.735 Quinault Tribal Highway—Authority to seek federal funding.
- 47.20.740 Lummi Nation public road—Agreement authorized—Route.
- 47.20.743 Lummi Nation roadway—Department may proceed with design and construction.
- 47.20.746 Lummi Nation roadway—Temporary easement—Governing authority of Lummi Nation.
- 47.20.780 Design-build—Competitive bidding.
- 47.20.785 Design-build—Qualified projects.
- 47.20.900 Severability—1975 1st ex.s. c 272.



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MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS**

**Sections**

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- 47.20.580 Washington State University highway authorized.
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- 47.20.600 Washington State University highway, University of Washington approach—Acquisition of property.
- 47.20.605 Washington State University highway, University of Washington approach—Public use.
- 47.20.610 Washington State University highway, University of Washington approach—Condemnation.
- 47.20.620 Washington State University highway, University of Washington approach—Measure of damage to buildings.
- 47.20.630 Washington State University highway, University of Washington approach—Sale of buildings, personalty, acquired in acquisition of land.
- 47.20.635 University of Washington approach—Ordinance requisite—Construction and maintenance.
- 47.20.640 Reestablishment and redesignation of intersections when highway relocated.
- 47.20.645 Interstate 90 corridor—Legislative finding.
- 47.20.647 Interstate 90 corridor—Withdrawal of local governments from project—Effect on use of state funds.
- 47.20.653 Interstate 90 corridor—Court proceedings, priority.
- 47.20.700 State route No. 504 (Spirit Lake Memorial Highway)—Extension and parking facilities.
- 47.20.710 Quinault Tribal Highway—Agreement authorized—Route.
- 47.20.715 Quinault Tribal Highway—Maintenance, operation, improvements—Intersections, access.
- 47.20.720 Quinault Tribal Highway—Certain portion as limited access.
- 47.20.725 Quinault Tribal Highway—Acquisition of remaining right-of-way.
- 47.20.730 Quinault Tribal Highway—Department as agent.
- 47.20.735 Quinault Tribal Highway—Authority to seek federal funding.
- 47.20.740 Lummi Nation public road—Agreement authorized—Route.
- 47.20.743 Lummi Nation roadway—Department may proceed with design and construction.
- 47.20.746 Lummi Nation roadway—Temporary easement—Governing authority of Lummi Nation.
- 47.20.780 Design-build—Competitive bidding.
- 47.20.785 Design-build—Qualified projects.
- 47.20.900 Severability—1975 1st ex.s. c 272.

**RCW 47.20.570 Manette bridge authorized.** The department is authorized and directed to construct a bridge across Port Washington Narrows connecting state route number 304 at or near Bremerton with state route number 303 on the Manette Peninsula; to make surveys and plans; and to condemn or otherwise acquire such lands as are necessary or proper for approaches to the bridge or for the relocation of any

portion of the highway to locate the bridge at the most feasible place. The bridge shall become and be maintained as a part of the state highway system. [1984 c 7 § 140; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 173; 1961 c 13 § 47.20.570. Prior: 1947 c 4 p 6 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6584a-1.]

**RCW 47.20.580 Washington State University highway authorized.**

The department is hereby authorized and directed to locate, construct, pave, and maintain a suitable highway on the most feasible route beginning in the vicinity of the stadium of the Washington State University and extending in a northwesterly direction to a connection with state route number 27, near the north boundary of the city of Pullman. [1984 c 7 § 141; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 174; 1961 c 13 § 47.20.580. Prior: 1945 c 27 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6402-40.]

**RCW 47.20.590 University of Washington approach authorized.**

The department is hereby authorized and directed to select and locate a suitable and fitting street and highway approach to the University of Washington campus in the city of Seattle, from Roosevelt Way to Fifteenth Avenue northeast, including an underpass beneath the surface of Roosevelt Way, and necessary approaches to the underpass. [1984 c 7 § 142; 1961 c 13 § 47.20.590. Prior: 1945 c 27 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6402-41.]

**RCW 47.20.600 Washington State University highway, University of Washington approach—Acquisition of property.**

The department is hereby authorized and directed in the name of the state of Washington to acquire by purchase, gift, or condemnation, any and all private real estate, rights, and interests necessary to locate, construct, and maintain the Washington State University highway and the University of Washington approach provided for herein. [1984 c 7 § 143; 1961 c 13 § 47.20.600. Prior: 1945 c 27 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6402-42.]

**RCW 47.20.605 Washington State University highway, University of Washington approach—Public use.**

The use of the private real estate, rights, and interests, selected by the department as necessary for the approach, underpass, and highway is declared to be a public use. [1984 c 7 § 144; 1961 c 13 § 47.20.605. Prior: 1945 c 27 § 4; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6402-43. Formerly RCW 47.20.600, part.]

**RCW 47.20.610 Washington State University highway, University of Washington approach—Condemnation.**

In case of condemnation to secure any real estate, rights, or interests authorized under this chapter, the court actions shall be brought in the name of the state of Washington in the respective counties in which the real estate is located and in the manner provided by law for acquiring property for public uses for the state. In such actions the selection of the real estate, rights, and interests by the department is, in the absence of bad faith, arbitrary, capricious, or fraudulent action, conclusive upon the court and judge before which the action is brought that the real estate, rights, and interests are necessary for public use for

the purposes sought. [1984 c 7 § 145; 1961 c 13 § 47.20.610. Prior: 1945 c 27 § 5; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6402-44.]

**RCW 47.20.620 Washington State University highway, University of Washington approach—Measure of damage to buildings.** If, in any condemnation proceeding authorized herein, it appears that there is any building wholly or partially upon any of the real estate to be taken, the jury, or the court, if the jury be waived, shall add to the value of the land taken the amount of damages to the building. If the entire building is taken, or if the building is damaged so that it cannot be readjusted to the real estate not taken, then the measure of damages shall be the fair cash value of the building. If part of a building is taken or damaged and the building can be readjusted or replaced on the real estate remaining, then the measure of damages shall be the cost of readjusting or moving the building, or part thereof left, together with the depreciation in the market value of said building by reason of said readjustment or moving. [1961 c 13 § 47.20.620. Prior: 1945 c 27 § 6; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6402-45.]

**RCW 47.20.630 Washington State University highway, University of Washington approach—Sale of buildings, personalty, acquired in acquisition of land.** The department shall have power to sell at public or private sale any building, equipment, or fixtures acquired in the acquisition of the real estate for such price as it shall fix and to execute to the purchaser upon payment of the purchase price a bill of sale in the name of the state. Proceeds of the sale shall be placed in the motor vehicle fund of the state treasury. The department shall have power to permit occupation of buildings on real estate so acquired for such specified limited time as it deems will lapse before construction of the approach, underpass, and highway can be undertaken; and in behalf of the state it may be shown in any condemnation proceeding the period during which such occupancy will be permitted for the purpose of mitigating damages. [1984 c 7 § 146; 1961 c 13 § 47.20.630. Prior: 1945 c 27 § 7; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6402-46.]

**RCW 47.20.635 University of Washington approach—Ordinance requisite—Construction and maintenance.** No action may be taken by the department for the acquisition of real estate, rights, and interests for the approach and underpass to the University of Washington unless and until the city of Seattle, through its legislative authority, enacts an ordinance providing that the city of Seattle will, within three months after the necessary real estate, rights, and interests have been secured by the state as provided in this chapter, begin the work of grading, paving, and such other work as is necessary to complete and render available for use of the public, the approach and underpass and approaches to the underpass; and further providing that the city of Seattle shall thereafter keep and maintain the approach and underpass and approach to the underpass in a good state of repair and suitable for public travel and use, which construction and maintenance work the city of Seattle is hereby authorized and empowered to do and perform. [1984 c 7 § 147; 1961 c 13 § 47.20.635. Prior: 1945 c 27 § 8; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6402-47.]

**RCW 47.20.640 Reestablishment and redesignation of intersections when highway relocated.** In any case where a state highway is relocated in such manner that it ceases to intersect another state highway, the department is authorized to extend and designate either of the state highways to reestablish an appropriate intersection. [1984 c 7 § 148; 1967 ex.s. c 145 § 44; 1961 c 13 § 47.20.640. Prior: 1953 c 82 § 1.]

**RCW 47.20.645 Interstate 90 corridor—Legislative finding.** The legislature finds that the department initiated route studies for the location of that segment of the national system of interstate and defense highways (interstate system) between south Bellevue and state route No. 5 in Seattle in 1957 culminating in a corridor public hearing and adoption of a corridor in 1963; that thereafter the department, utilizing a multidisciplinary design team and soliciting the broadest public participation, developed a series of designs culminating in a public design hearing in 1970, a public limited access hearing in 1971, and adoption of a design and limited access plan for the facility in 1971; that commencing in 1970 the proposed facility has been the subject of numerous lawsuits and administrative proceedings that have prevented advancement of the project to construction; that since further development of the project was enjoined by federal courts in 1971 the cost of constructing the project has increased by more than one hundred million dollars; that the traffic congestion and traffic hazards existing in the existing highway corridor between south Bellevue, Mercer Island, and the city of Seattle are no longer tolerable; that after more than seventeen years of studies the public interest now requires that final decisions regarding the appropriate system for meeting the transportation requirements between south Bellevue and the city of Seattle be made promptly and in accordance with a prescribed schedule.

It is therefore the sense of the legislature that further protracted delay in establishing the transportation system to be constructed between south Bellevue and state route No. 5 in the city of Seattle is contrary to the interest of the people of this state and can no longer be tolerated as acceptable public administration. Accordingly the schedule for finally determining the character of transportation modes between south Bellevue and state route No. 5 in the city of Seattle as set forth in RCW 47.20.645 through 47.20.653 and 47.20.900 is adopted as the public policy of this state. [1984 c 7 § 149; 1975 1st ex.s. c 272 § 1.]

**RCW 47.20.647 Interstate 90 corridor—Withdrawal of local governments from project—Effect on use of state funds.** (1) The Puget Sound council of governments (until July 1, 1975, known as the Puget Sound governmental conference) now engaged in a study of the withdrawal from the interstate system of that segment of state route No. 90 between the south Bellevue interchange and the Connecticut street interchange on state route No. 5 and the substitution of public mass transit projects in lieu thereof as authorized by section 103(e)(4) of Title 23, United States Code, is directed to complete all phases of the study by November 1, 1975.

(2) No later than January 15, 1976, the city councils of Seattle, Mercer Island and Bellevue and the county council of King County shall

each by resolution either approve or disapprove a request to withdraw from the interstate system the segment of state route No. 90 between south Bellevue interchange and the Connecticut street interchange on state route No. 5. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as requiring the city or county councils to adopt by January 15, 1976 any proposal for substitute mass transit projects.

(3) If at least three of the four city and county councils request withdrawal from the interstate system of the designated segment of state route No. 90 by January 15, 1976, and such request is thereafter concurred in by the governor and the Puget Sound council of governments, such determination shall be final as it relates to the state of Washington and except as may be required to terminate the project in an orderly manner, no moneys shall thereafter be expended from the motor vehicle fund for further development of the designated section of highway as an interstate highway without further express authorization of the legislature.

(4) If fewer than three of the four city and county councils request withdrawal from the interstate system of the designated segment of state route No. 90 by January 15, 1976, or if the governor does not concur in the withdrawal request, then no tax revenues collected by the state of Washington shall thereafter be expended for the construction of substitute public mass transit projects in the Seattle metropolitan area pursuant to section 103(e)(4) of Title 23, United States Code, without further express authorization of the legislature. [1975 1st ex.s. c 272 § 2.]

**RCW 47.20.653 Interstate 90 corridor—Court proceedings, priority.** State court proceedings instituted to challenge the validity of any steps taken in pursuance of the construction of the segment of the interstate system between south Bellevue and state route No. 5 in Seattle, or the construction of substitute public mass transit projects in lieu thereof, shall take precedence over all other causes not involving the public interest in all courts of this state to the end construction of such facilities may be expedited to the fullest. The legislature of the state of Washington respectfully requests of the federal judiciary that challenges instituted in the federal courts relating to the validity of steps leading to the construction of the designated interstate highway or substitute public mass transit projects in lieu thereof be expedited to the fullest. [1975 1st ex.s. c 272 § 5.]

**RCW 47.20.700 State route No. 504 (Spirit Lake Memorial Highway)—Extension and parking facilities.** The department of transportation may provide for the construction of an extension of state route number 504 from the vicinity of Maple Flats to the vicinity of the United States Corps of Engineers debris dam on the north fork of the Toutle river on an alignment to be approved by the department of transportation. The department may enter into an agreement with the principal owner of the necessary right-of-way providing as follows:

(1) The owner of the right-of-way shall construct the highway extension and public parking facilities as specified by the department of transportation.

(2) The owner of the right-of-way shall convey to the state, right-of-way for the highway extension a minimum of one hundred fifty

feet in width (except right-of-way presently under the control of the department of natural resources), together with areas for public parking facilities as designated by the department of transportation.

(3) The department of transportation shall reimburse the present owner of the right-of-way for the actual cost of construction of the highway extension and the public parking facilities.

(4) The construction of the highway extension and public parking facilities shall be completed within one year after March 27, 1982.

The department of transportation may acquire that part of the right-of-way necessary for the highway extension that is now under the control of the department of natural resources in the manner provided in RCW 47.12.023 through 47.12.029.

All expenditures by the department of transportation pursuant to this section shall be from appropriations for the construction of category A projects. [1982 c 82 § 2.]

**RCW 47.20.710 Quinault Tribal Highway—Agreement authorized—**

**Route.** The department of transportation is authorized to enter into a cooperative agreement with the governing authority for the Indian peoples of the Quinault Indian Reservation and appropriate agencies of the United States for the location, design, right-of-way acquisition, construction, and maintenance of a highway beginning at the south boundary of the Quinault Indian reservation on state route number 109, thence northerly along the present right-of-way of state route number 109 to the township line, thence inland and northerly across the Raft river to an intersection with state route number 101 south of Queets. The highway shall be known as the "Tribal Highway" and may also be designated by the department as state route number 109. It is anticipated that this highway construction will be funded from federal sources other than normal federal aid highway allocations. [1985 c 228 § 1.]

*State route number 109: RCW 47.17.200.*

**RCW 47.20.715 Quinault Tribal Highway—Maintenance, operation, improvements—Intersections, access.** As a part of the agreement, the department may assume responsibility for the operation and maintenance and future improvement of the highway. The agreement may also reserve to the governing authority for the Indian peoples of the Quinault Indian Reservation authority to construct public road intersections or grade separation crossings of the highway. Existing rights of access from adjoining property to existing state route number 109 from the south reservation boundary to the township line shall not be affected by RCW 47.20.710 through 47.20.735 or the agreement authorized by RCW 47.20.710. [1985 c 228 § 2.]

**RCW 47.20.720 Quinault Tribal Highway—Certain portion as limited access.** The department is authorized to determine the location of the highway from the township line to a junction with state route number 101 after consultations with the governing authority for the Indian peoples of the Quinault Indian Reservation and the bureau of Indian affairs. The department may then proceed with the establishment of this section of the highway as a limited access

facility in the manner prescribed in RCW 47.52.131 through 47.52.137 and 47.52.195 (and the administrative rules adopted by the department to implement those sections), subject, however, to the following conditions: (1) The access report required by RCW 47.52.131 shall be approved by the governing authority for the Indian peoples of the Quinault Indian Reservation before public hearings; and (2) the final limited access plan adopted pursuant to RCW 47.52.137 at the conclusion of the public hearing, or after any appeal from it has been decided, shall be approved by the governing authority for the Indian peoples of the Quinault Indian Reservation and the bureau of Indian affairs before right-of-way is acquired for this section of highway. [1985 c 228 § 3.]

**RCW 47.20.725 Quinault Tribal Highway—Acquisition of remaining right-of-way.** The department is authorized to acquire the remaining right-of-way for the Tribal Highway by purchase or by condemnation under state or federal eminent domain statutes. The secretary of transportation pursuant to the agreement is authorized to convey by deed to the governing authority for the Indian peoples of the Quinault Indian Reservation the right-of-way to the entire highway when fully acquired in return for a conveyance by the governing authority for the Indian peoples of the Quinault Indian Reservation to the state of Washington of a perpetual easement for public travel on the through lanes and shoulders of the highway when constructed. The agreement may also authorize the governing authority for the Indian peoples of the Quinault Indian Reservation to convey to the United States an easement to construct, maintain, and repair the highway improvements if such an easement is required by regulations of the bureau of Indian affairs. [1985 c 228 § 4.]

**RCW 47.20.730 Quinault Tribal Highway—Department as agent.** Except as otherwise provided by RCW 47.20.710 through 47.20.735 or by the agreement authorized by RCW 47.20.710, the department may proceed with the location, design, acquisition of right-of-way, construction, and maintenance of the highway as an agent of the governing authority for the Indian peoples of the Quinault Indian Reservation in accordance with applicable state or federal law. [1985 c 228 § 5.]

**RCW 47.20.735 Quinault Tribal Highway—Authority to seek federal funding.** The department is authorized to join with the governing authority for the Indian peoples of the Quinault Indian Reservation to seek federal funding for the construction of the Tribal Highway. [1985 c 228 § 6.]

**RCW 47.20.740 Lummi Nation public road—Agreement authorized—Route.** (1) The department is authorized to enter into a cooperative agreement with the governing authority of the Lummi Nation and appropriate agencies of the United States for the location, design, construction, and maintenance of a public road beginning on Rural Avenue at the southern boundary of the Ferndale city limits, traveling across the property held in tribal trust status by the United States for the Lummi Nation, and connect to the approximate location of where

the Ferndale city limits intersect Kope Road. The new road segment shall be named after construction is concluded.

(2) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this section and RCW 47.20.743 and 47.20.746 unless [the] context clearly requires otherwise.

(a) "Agreement" means the cooperative agreement between the department, the governing authority of the Lummi Nation, and agencies of the United States, as authorized by subsection (1) of this section.

(b) "Roadway" means the public road segment constructed pursuant to the agreement authorized by subsection (1) of this section. [2023 c 448 § 1.]

**RCW 47.20.743 Lummi Nation roadway—Department may proceed with design and construction.** The department is authorized to determine the location of the roadway in consultation with and approval by the governing authority of the Lummi Nation. The department may then proceed with the design and construction of the roadway. After construction of the roadway is complete, the Lummi Nation shall be responsible for the operation and maintenance and future improvement of the roadway as a public road. [2023 c 448 § 2.]

**RCW 47.20.746 Lummi Nation roadway—Temporary easement—Governing authority of Lummi Nation.** The cooperative agreement shall allow the department to request a temporary construction easement from the Lummi Nation for the purpose of constructing the new road. The cooperative agreement shall also reserve to the governing authority of the Lummi Nation authority to construct road intersections or grade separation crossings of the roadway, in accordance with applicable laws. The agreement may also authorize the governing authority of the Lummi Nation to convey to the United States an easement to construct, maintain, and repair roadway improvements if such an easement is required by regulations of the bureau of Indian affairs. [2023 c 448 § 3.]

**RCW 47.20.780 Design-build—Competitive bidding.** The department of transportation shall develop a process for awarding competitively bid highway construction contracts for projects over two million dollars that may be constructed using a design-build procedure. As used in this section and RCW 47.20.785, "design-build procedure" means a method of contracting under which the department of transportation contracts with another party for the party to both design and build the structures, facilities, and other items specified in the contract.

The process developed by the department must, at a minimum, include the scope of services required under the design-build procedure, contractor prequalification requirements, criteria for evaluating technical information and project costs, contractor selection criteria, and issue resolution procedures. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 18 § 1; 2007 c 152 § 1; 2001 c 226 § 2.]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 18:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions,



and takes effect immediately [July 6, 2015]." [2015 3rd sp.s. c 18 § 5.]

**Findings—Purpose—2001 c 226:** "The legislature finds and declares that a contracting procedure that facilitates construction of transportation facilities in a more timely manner may occasionally be necessary to ensure that construction can proceed simultaneously with the design of the facility. The legislature further finds that the design-build process and other alternative project delivery concepts achieve the goals of time savings and avoidance of costly change orders.

The legislature finds and declares that a 2001 audit, conducted by Talbot, Korvola & Warwick, examining the Washington state ferries' capital program resulted in a recommendation for improvements and changes in auto ferry procurement processes. The auditors recommended that auto ferries be procured through use of a modified request for proposals process whereby the prevailing shipbuilder and Washington state ferries engage in a design and build partnership. This process promotes ownership of the design by the shipbuilder while using the department of transportation's expertise in ferry design and operations. Alternative processes like design-build partnerships can promote innovation and create competitive incentives that increase the likelihood of finishing projects on time and within the budget.

The purpose of this act is to authorize the department's use of a modified request for proposals process for procurement of auto ferries, and to prescribe appropriate requirements and criteria to ensure that contracting procedures for this procurement process serve the public interest." [2001 c 226 § 1.]

**RCW 47.20.785 Design-build—Qualified projects.** The department of transportation is authorized and strongly encouraged to use the design-build procedure for public works projects over two million dollars when:

(1) The construction activities are highly specialized and a design-build approach is critical in developing the construction methodology; or

(2) The projects selected provide opportunity for greater innovation and efficiencies between the designer and the builder; or

(3) Significant savings in project delivery time would be realized. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 18 § 2; 2006 c 37 § 1; 2001 c 226 § 3.]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 18:** See note following RCW 47.20.780.

**Findings—Purpose—2001 c 226:** See note following RCW 47.20.780.

**RCW 47.20.900 Severability—1975 1st ex.s. c 272.** If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1975 1st ex.s. c 272 § 6.]

**Chapter 47.22 RCW  
COMBINATION HIGHWAY ROUTES**

**Sections**

- 47.22.010 East Pacific highway.
- 47.22.020 Lewis and Clark Highway.

**Chapter 47.22 RCW  
COMBINATION HIGHWAY ROUTES**

**Sections**

- 47.22.010 East Pacific highway.  
47.22.020 Lewis and Clark Highway.

**RCW 47.22.010 East Pacific highway.** There is hereby established the east Pacific highway which shall be composed of the following existing highway routes: Beginning on state route number 5 at or near Centralia; thence by way of state route number 5 to its junction with state route number 12 or by way of state route number 507 between Centralia and Tenino; thence on state route number 507 to Roy junction with state route number 7; thence on state route number 7 to a junction with state route number 512; thence on state route number 512 to Puyallup; thence on state route numbers 410 and 167 to Sumner, Auburn, Kent and Renton; thence on state route number 405 to Kirkland; thence on state route number 405 north to a junction with state route number 522; thence on state route number 522 to a junction with state route number 9 northeast of Woodinville; and thence on state route number 9 to Snohomish, Arlington, Sedro Woolley, and to a junction with state route number 542 at Deming; thence westerly on state route 542 to a junction with state route number 9 at Lawrence; thence on state route number 9 via Sumas, to the Canadian international boundary. [1970 ex.s. c 51 § 175; 1961 c 13 § 47.22.010. Prior: 1951 c 273 § 1.]

**RCW 47.22.020 Lewis and Clark Highway.** There is established the Lewis and Clark Highway, which shall be composed of the following existing routes: State route 193 from the junction of state route 12 at Clarkston to Wawawai River Road; state route 12 from Clarkston to Waitsburg; state route 124 from Waitsburg to Pasco (west); state route 12 from Pasco to Waitsburg via Wallula and Walla Walla (east); state routes 395 and 82 from state route 12, through the Tri-Cities region, to the junction at state route 14; state route 14 from the junction of state routes 395 and 82 to Maryhill; state routes 14 and 5 from Maryhill to state route 432 through Longview to state route 4; state route 4 from Longview to the junction with state route 101 near the vicinity of Johnson's landing; state route 401 from Naselle junction to Megler; state route 101 from Megler through Ilwaco and Seaview to the junction with state route 4; state route spur/alternate state route 101; state route loop 100; state route spur 100; and state route 103. [1999 c 57 § 1; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 176; 1967 ex.s. c 145 § 13; 1961 c 13 § 47.22.020. Prior: 1955 c 178 § 1.]

**Chapter 47.24 RCW**  
**CITY STREETS AS PART OF STATE HIGHWAYS**

**Sections**

- 47.24.010 Designation—Construction, maintenance—Return to city or town.
- 47.24.020 Jurisdiction, control—Exception.
- 47.24.030 Acquisition of rights-of-way—Condemnation proceedings.
- 47.24.040 Street fund—Expenditures on streets forming part of state highway.
- 47.24.050 Aid on streets by state or county—Payment.

*City streets*

*parkways, boulevards, generally: Title 35 RCW.  
sidewalks, etc.: Chapters 35.68 through 35.79 RCW.*

*Design standards committee for city streets: Chapter 35.78 RCW.*

*Off-street parking*

*cities: Chapter 35.86 RCW.  
towns: RCW 35.27.550 through 35.27.590.*

*Platted streets as public highways: RCW 58.08.035, 58.08.050.*

*Speed limits in cities: RCW 46.61.415, 46.61.430, 46.61.440.*

*Viaducts, bridges, elevated roadways, tunnels, etc., in cities:  
Chapter 35.85 RCW.*

**Chapter 47.24 RCW**  
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*Speed limits in cities: RCW 46.61.415, 46.61.430, 46.61.440.*

*Viaducts, bridges, elevated roadways, tunnels, etc., in cities:  
Chapter 35.85 RCW.*

**RCW 47.24.010 Designation—Construction, maintenance—Return to city or town.** The department of transportation shall determine what streets, together with bridges thereon and wharves necessary for use for ferriage of motor vehicle traffic in connection with such streets, if any, in any incorporated cities and towns shall form a part of the route of state highways and between the first and fifteenth days of July of any year the department shall identify by brief description, the streets, together with the bridges thereon and wharves, if any, in such city or town which are designated as forming a part of the route of any state highway; and all such streets, including curbs and gutters and street intersections and such bridges and wharves, shall thereafter be a part of the state highway system and as such shall be constructed and maintained by the department from any state funds available therefor: PROVIDED, That the responsibility for the construction and maintenance of any such street together with its appurtenances may be returned to a city or a town upon certification by the department to the clerk of any city or town that such street, or portion thereof, is no longer required as a part of the state highway system: PROVIDED FURTHER, That any such certification that a street, or portion thereof, is no longer required as a part of the state highway system shall be made between the first and fifteenth of July following the determination by the department that such street or portion thereof is no longer required as a part of the state highway system, but this shall not prevent the department and any city or town from entering into an agreement that a city or town will accept responsibility for such a street or portion thereof at some time other

than between the first and fifteenth of July of any year. [2006 c 334 § 42; 1998 c 245 § 97; 1979 ex.s. c 86 § 2; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 57; 1973 c 95 § 3; 1961 c 13 § 47.24.010. Prior: 1959 c 160 § 1; 1957 c 83 § 2; 1955 c 179 § 2; 1949 c 220 § 5, part; 1945 c 250 § 1, part; 1943 c 82 § 10, part; 1937 c 187 § 61, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6450-61, part.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 86:** See note following RCW 13.24.040.

**RCW 47.24.020 Jurisdiction, control—Exception.** The jurisdiction, control, and duty of the state and city or town with respect to such streets is as follows:

(1) The department has no authority to change or establish any grade of any such street without approval of the governing body of such city or town, except with respect to limited access facilities established by the commission;

(2) The city or town shall exercise full responsibility for and control over any such street beyond the curbs and if no curb is installed, beyond that portion of the highway used for highway purposes. However, within incorporated cities and towns the title to a state limited access highway vests in the state, and, notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the department shall exercise full jurisdiction, responsibility, and control to and over such facility as provided in chapter 47.52 RCW;

(3) The department has authority to prohibit the suspension of signs, banners, or decorations above the portion of such street between the curbs or portion used for highway purposes up to a vertical height of twenty feet above the surface of the roadway;

(4) The city or town shall at its own expense maintain all underground facilities in such streets, and has the right to construct such additional underground facilities as may be necessary in such streets. However, pavement trenching and restoration performed as part of installation of such facilities must meet or exceed requirements established by the department;

(5) The city or town has the right to grant the privilege to open the surface of any such street, but all damage occasioned thereby shall promptly be repaired either by the city or town itself or at its direction. Pavement trenching and restoration performed under a privilege granted by the city under this subsection must meet or exceed requirements established by the department;

(6) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (17) of this section, the city or town at its own expense shall provide street illumination and shall clean all such streets, including storm sewer inlets and catch basins, and remove all snow, except that the state shall when necessary plow the snow on the roadway. In cities and towns having a population of twenty-seven thousand five hundred or less according to the latest determination of population by the office of financial management, the state, when necessary for public safety, shall assume, at its expense, responsibility for the stability of the slopes of cuts and fills and the embankments within the right-of-way to protect the roadway itself. When the population of a city or town first exceeds twenty-seven thousand five hundred according to the determination of population by the office of financial management, the

city or town shall have three years from the date of the determination to plan for additional staffing, budgetary, and equipment requirements before being required to assume the responsibilities under this subsection. The state shall install, maintain, and operate all illuminating facilities on any limited access facility, together with its interchanges, located within the corporate limits of any city or town, and shall assume and pay the costs of all such installation, maintenance, and operation incurred after November 1, 1954;

(7) The department has the right to use all storm sewers on such highways without cost; and if new storm sewer facilities are necessary in construction of new streets by the department, the cost of the facilities shall be borne by the state and/or city as may be mutually agreed upon between the department and the governing body of the city or town;

(8) Cities and towns have exclusive right to grant franchises not in conflict with state laws and rules, over, beneath, and upon such streets, but the department is authorized to enforce in an action brought in the name of the state any condition of any franchise which a city or town has granted on such street. No franchise for transportation of passengers in motor vehicles may be granted on such streets without the approval of the department, but the department shall not refuse to approve such franchise unless another street conveniently located and of strength of construction to sustain travel of such vehicles is accessible;

(9) Every franchise or permit granted any person by a city or town for use of any portion of such street by a public utility must require the grantee or permittee to restore, repair, and replace any portion of the street damaged or injured by it to conditions that meet or exceed requirements established by the department;

(10) The city or town has the right to issue overload or overwidth permits for vehicles to operate on such streets or roads subject to regulations printed and distributed to the cities and towns by the department;

(11) Cities and towns shall regulate and enforce all traffic and parking restrictions on such streets, but all regulations adopted by a city or town relating to speed, parking, and traffic control devices on such streets not identical to state law relating thereto are subject to the approval of the department before becoming effective. All regulations pertaining to speed, parking, and traffic control devices relating to such streets heretofore adopted by a city or town not identical with state laws shall become null and void unless approved by the department heretofore or within one year after March 21, 1963;

(12) The department shall erect, control, and maintain at state expense all route markers and directional signs, except street signs, on such streets;

(13) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (17) of this section, the department shall install, operate, maintain, and control at state expense all traffic control signals, signs, and traffic control devices for the purpose of regulating both pedestrian and motor vehicular traffic on, entering upon, or leaving state highways in cities and towns having a population of twenty-seven thousand five hundred or less according to the latest determination of population by the office of financial management. Such cities and towns may submit to the department a plan for traffic control signals, signs, and traffic control devices desired by them, indicating the location, nature of installation, or type thereof, or a proposed amendment to

such an existing plan or installation, and the department shall consult with the cities or towns concerning the plan before installing such signals, signs, or devices. Cities and towns having a population in excess of twenty-seven thousand five hundred according to the latest determination of population by the office of financial management shall install, maintain, operate, and control such signals, signs, and devices at their own expense, subject to approval of the department for the installation and type only. When the population of a city or town first exceeds twenty-seven thousand five hundred according to the determination of population by the office of financial management, the city or town shall have three years from the date of the determination to plan for additional staffing, budgetary, and equipment requirements before being required to assume the responsibilities under this subsection. For the purpose of this subsection, striping, lane marking, and channelization are considered traffic control devices;

(14) All revenue from parking meters placed on such streets belongs to the city or town;

(15) Rights-of-way for such streets shall be acquired by either the city or town or by the state as shall be mutually agreed upon. Costs of acquiring rights-of-way may be at the sole expense of the state or at the expense of the city or town or at the expense of the state and the city or town as may be mutually agreed upon. Title to all such rights-of-way so acquired shall vest in the city or town: PROVIDED, That no vacation, sale, rental, or any other nontransportation use of any unused portion of any such street may be made by the city or town without the prior written approval of the department; and all revenue derived from sale, vacation, rental, or any nontransportation use of such rights-of-way shall be shared by the city or town and the state in the same proportion as the purchase costs were shared;

(16) If any city or town fails to perform any of its obligations as set forth in this section or in any cooperative agreement entered into with the department for the maintenance of a city or town street forming part of the route of a state highway, the department may notify the mayor of the city or town to perform the necessary maintenance within thirty days. If the city or town within the thirty days fails to perform the maintenance or fails to authorize the department to perform the maintenance as provided by RCW 47.24.050, the department may perform the maintenance, the cost of which is to be deducted from any sums in the motor vehicle fund credited or to be credited to the city or town;

(17) The population thresholds identified in subsections (6) and (13) of this section shall be increased as follows:

(a) Thirty thousand on July 1, 2023;

(b) Thirty-two thousand five hundred on July 1, 2028; and

(c) Thirty-five thousand on July 1, 2033. [2018 c 100 § 1; 2007 c 84 § 1; 2001 c 201 § 8; 1993 c 126 § 1; 1991 c 342 § 52; 1987 c 68 § 1; 1984 c 7 § 150; 1977 ex.s. c 78 § 7; 1967 c 115 § 1; 1963 c 150 § 1; 1961 c 13 § 47.24.020. Prior: 1957 c 83 § 3; 1955 c 179 § 3; 1953 c 193 § 1; 1949 c 220 § 5, part; 1945 c 250 § 1, part; 1943 c 82 § 10, part; 1937 c 187 § 61, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6450-61, part.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.



**RCW 47.24.030 Acquisition of rights-of-way—Condemnation proceedings.** The department is authorized to acquire rights-of-way, by purchase, gift, or condemnation for any such streets, highways, bridges, and wharves. Any such condemnation proceedings shall be exercised in the manner provided by law for condemnation proceedings to acquire lands required for state highways. [1984 c 7 § 151; 1961 c 13 § 47.24.030. Prior: 1949 c 220 § 5, part; 1945 c 250 § 1, part; 1943 c 82 § 10, part; 1937 c 187 § 61, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6450-61, part.]

*Right-of-way donations: Chapter 47.14 RCW.*

**RCW 47.24.040 Street fund—Expenditures on streets forming part of state highway.** All funds accruing to the credit of incorporated cities and towns in the motor vehicle fund shall be paid monthly to such incorporated cities and towns and shall, by the respective cities and towns, be placed in a fund to be designated as "city street fund" and disbursed as authorized and directed by the legislative authority of the city or town, as agents of the state, for salaries and wages, material, supplies, equipment, purchase or condemnation of right-of-way, engineering or any other proper highway or street purpose in connection with the construction, alteration, repair, improvement or maintenance of any city street or bridge, or viaduct or underpassage along, upon or across such streets. Such expenditure may be made either independently or in conjunction with any federal, state or any county funds. [1961 c 13 § 47.24.040. Prior: 1949 c 220 § 4; 1947 c 96 § 1; 1943 c 82 § 9; 1939 c 181 § 8; 1937 c 187 § 60; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6450-60.]

**RCW 47.24.050 Aid on streets by state or county—Payment.** If a city or town, whether or not any of its streets are designated as forming a part of a state highway, is unable to construct, repair, or maintain its streets for good cause, or if it is in need of engineering assistance to construct, repair, or maintain any of its streets, it may authorize the department to perform such construction, repair, or maintenance, or it may secure necessary engineering assistance from the department, to the extent of the funds credited or to be credited in the motor vehicle fund for payment to the city or town. Any sums due from a city or town for such purposes shall be paid on vouchers approved and submitted by the department from moneys credited to the city or town in the motor vehicle fund, and the amount of the payments shall be deducted from funds which would otherwise be paid to the city or town from the motor vehicle fund. The department may in certain special cases, in its discretion, enter into an agreement with the governing officials of the city or town for the performance of such work or services, the terms of which shall provide for reimbursement of the motor vehicle fund for the benefit of the state's share of the fund by the city or town of the cost thereof from any funds of the city or town on hand and legally available for the work or services. The city or town may, by resolution, authorize the legislative authority of the county in which it is located, to perform any such construction, repair, or maintenance, and the work shall be paid for by the city or town at the actual cost thereof as provided for payment for work performed on city streets, and any payment

received therefor by a county shall be deposited in the county road fund to be expended under the same provisions as are imposed upon the funds used to perform the construction, repair, or maintenance. [1984 c 7 § 152; 1961 c 13 § 47.24.050. Prior: 1951 c 54 § 1; 1949 c 220 § 6; 1943 c 82 § 11; 1937 c 187 § 63; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6450-63.]

**Chapter 47.26 RCW**  
**DEVELOPMENT IN URBAN AREAS—URBAN ARTERIALS**

**Sections**

- 47.26.010 Declaration of intent.
- 47.26.040 "Urban area" defined.
- 47.26.044 "Board" defined.
- 47.26.050 Regional grouping for purpose of apportioning urban state highway funds.
- 47.26.084 Transportation improvement account—Intent of programs—Local agency certification of funds.
- 47.26.086 Transportation improvement account projects—Limitations.
- 47.26.090 "Arterial" defined.
- 47.26.100 "City" defined.
- 47.26.110 "Urban arterial" defined.
- 47.26.115 Small city program.
- 47.26.121 Transportation improvement board—Membership—Chair—Expenses.
- 47.26.130 Transportation improvement board—Travel expenses.
- 47.26.140 Transportation improvement board—Executive director, staff—Finances.
- 47.26.150 Transportation improvement board—Meetings.
- 47.26.160 Transportation improvement board—Powers and duties.
- 47.26.164 City hardship assistance program—Implementation.
- 47.26.170 Long-range arterial construction planning—Arterial inventory data.
- 47.26.185 Qualifications for administering and supervising projects—Rules.
- 47.26.190 Geographical diversity—Rules.
- 47.26.260 Payment of funds—Rules—Limitations.
- 47.26.270 Matching funds requirements.
- 47.26.282 Land use implications.
- 47.26.300 Bicycle routes—Legislative declaration.
- 47.26.305 Bicycle routes—Use of board funds.
- 47.26.320 Advance right-of-way acquisition—Definition.
- 47.26.340 Small city pavement and sidewalk account.
- 47.26.345 Small city pavement and sidewalk funding.

BOND ISSUE—STATE HIGHWAYS IN URBAN AREAS

- 47.26.400 Issuance and sale of general obligation bonds—Authorized—Amount—Declaration of purpose.
- 47.26.401 Bonds—Term—Terms and conditions—Signatures—Registration—Where payable—Negotiable instruments.
- 47.26.402 Bonds—Denominations—Manner and terms of sale—Legal investment for state funds.
- 47.26.403 Bonds—Bond proceeds—Deposit and use.
- 47.26.404 Bonds—Statement describing nature of obligation—Pledge of excise taxes.
- 47.26.405 Bonds—Designation of funds to repay bonds and interest.
- 47.26.406 Bonds—Repayment procedure—Bond retirement fund.
- 47.26.407 Bonds—Sums in excess of retirement requirements—Use.

BOND ISSUE—COUNTY AND CITY ARTERIALS  
IN URBAN AREAS

- 47.26.420 Issuance and sale of general obligation bonds—Authorized  
—Amount—Declaration of purpose.
- 47.26.421 Bonds—Term—Terms and conditions—Signatures—  
Registration—Where payable—Negotiable instruments.
- 47.26.422 Bonds—Denominations—Manner and terms of sale—Legal  
investment for state funds.
- 47.26.423 Bonds—Bond proceeds—Deposit and use.
- 47.26.424 Bonds—Statement describing nature of obligation—Pledge  
of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.
- 47.26.425 Bonds—Designation of funds to repay bonds and interest.
- 47.26.4252 Bonds—Series II bonds, 1979 reenactment—Designation of  
funds to repay bonds and interest.
- 47.26.4254 Bonds—Series III bonds—Designation of funds to repay  
bonds and interest.
- 47.26.4255 Bonds—Series II bonds, 1979 reenactment—Charge against  
fuel tax revenues and vehicle-related fees.
- 47.26.426 Bonds—Repayment procedure—Bond retirement account.
- 47.26.427 Bonds—Sums in excess of retirement requirements—Use.
- 47.26.440 Budget for expenditures from funds administered by board  
—Estimate of revenues.
- 47.26.450 Allocation of funds—Value engineering studies—Rules.
- 47.26.460 Increase in funds allocated to a project—Rules—Factors.

BOND ISSUE—TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS IN URBAN AREAS

- 47.26.500 Issuance authorized.
- 47.26.501 Term—Signatures—Registration—Negotiable instruments.
- 47.26.502 Denominations—Manner and terms of sale—State  
investment.
- 47.26.503 Use of proceeds.
- 47.26.504 Statement of obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and  
vehicle-related fees.
- 47.26.505 Funds for repayment.
- 47.26.506 Repayment procedure—Bond retirement account.
- 47.26.507 Sums in excess of retirement requirements—Use.
- 47.26.910 Effective dates—1967 ex.s. c 83.
- 47.26.930 Construction—1969 ex.s. c 171.

*Bicycle transportation management program: RCW 47.04.190.*

*Public-private transportation initiatives—1994 act: RCW 47.10.834  
through 47.10.839.*

**Chapter 47.26 RCW**  
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- 47.26.150 Transportation improvement board—Meetings.
- 47.26.160 Transportation improvement board—Powers and duties.
- 47.26.164 City hardship assistance program—Implementation.
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- 47.26.402 Bonds—Denominations—Manner and terms of sale—Legal investment for state funds.
- 47.26.403 Bonds—Bond proceeds—Deposit and use.
- 47.26.404 Bonds—Statement describing nature of obligation—Pledge of excise taxes.
- 47.26.405 Bonds—Designation of funds to repay bonds and interest.
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- 47.26.407 Bonds—Sums in excess of retirement requirements—Use.

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IN URBAN AREAS

- 47.26.420 Issuance and sale of general obligation bonds—Authorized—Amount—Declaration of purpose.
- 47.26.421 Bonds—Term—Terms and conditions—Signatures—Registration—Where payable—Negotiable instruments.
- 47.26.422 Bonds—Denominations—Manner and terms of sale—Legal investment for state funds.
- 47.26.423 Bonds—Bond proceeds—Deposit and use.
- 47.26.424 Bonds—Statement describing nature of obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.
- 47.26.425 Bonds—Designation of funds to repay bonds and interest.
- 47.26.4252 Bonds—Series II bonds, 1979 reenactment—Designation of funds to repay bonds and interest.
- 47.26.4254 Bonds—Series III bonds—Designation of funds to repay bonds and interest.
- 47.26.4255 Bonds—Series II bonds, 1979 reenactment—Charge against fuel tax revenues and vehicle-related fees.
- 47.26.426 Bonds—Repayment procedure—Bond retirement account.
- 47.26.427 Bonds—Sums in excess of retirement requirements—Use.
- 47.26.440 Budget for expenditures from funds administered by board—Estimate of revenues.
- 47.26.450 Allocation of funds—Value engineering studies—Rules.
- 47.26.460 Increase in funds allocated to a project—Rules—Factors.

BOND ISSUE—TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS IN URBAN AREAS

- 47.26.500 Issuance authorized.
- 47.26.501 Term—Signatures—Registration—Negotiable instruments.
- 47.26.502 Denominations—Manner and terms of sale—State investment.
- 47.26.503 Use of proceeds.
- 47.26.504 Statement of obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.
- 47.26.505 Funds for repayment.
- 47.26.506 Repayment procedure—Bond retirement account.
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*Bicycle transportation management program: RCW 47.04.190.*

*Public-private transportation initiatives—1994 act: RCW 47.10.834 through 47.10.839.*

**RCW 47.26.010 Declaration of intent.** Due to unprecedented industrial development and population increases, the state of Washington is confronted with emergency needs for improvement of state highways, county roads, and city streets in urban areas. It is the intent of the legislature to provide sufficient new highway revenues to alleviate and prevent intolerable traffic congestion in urban areas without the disruption of the long range statewide highway program essential to the economic well-being of the people of this state. [1967 ex.s. c 83 § 1.]

**Reviser's note:** Throughout chapter 47.26 RCW the term "this 1967 amendatory act" has been translated to "this chapter." For

codification of "this 1967 amendatory act" [1967 ex.s. c 83], see Codification Tables.

**RCW 47.26.040 "Urban area" defined.** The term "urban area" as used in this chapter means every area of this state designated as an urban area by the department in cooperation with the board and regional transportation planning organizations. [1994 c 179 § 7; 1984 c 7 § 153; 1977 ex.s. c 317 § 12; 1975 1st ex.s. c 253 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 10.]

**Effective dates—1977 ex.s. c 317:** See note following RCW 82.38.030.

**RCW 47.26.044 "Board" defined.** The term "board" as used in this chapter means the transportation improvement board. [1994 c 179 § 6.]

**RCW 47.26.050 Regional grouping for purpose of apportioning urban state highway funds.** For the purpose of apportioning urban state highway funds, the urban areas of the state are grouped within five regions of the state as follows:

(1) Puget Sound region shall include those urban areas within the counties of King, Pierce and Snohomish.

(2) Northwest region shall include those urban areas within the counties of Clallam, Jefferson, Island, Kitsap, San Juan, Skagit and Whatcom.

(3) Northeast region shall include those urban areas within the counties of Adams, Chelan, Douglas, Ferry, Grant, Lincoln, Okanogan, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens and Whitman.

(4) Southeast region shall include those urban areas within the counties of Asotin, Benton, Columbia, Franklin, Garfield, Kittitas, Klickitat, Walla Walla and Yakima.

(5) Southwest region shall include those urban areas within the counties of Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Skamania, Thurston and Wahkiakum. [1967 ex.s. c 83 § 11.]

**RCW 47.26.084 Transportation improvement account—Intent of programs—Local agency certification of funds.** (1) The transportation improvement account is hereby created in the motor vehicle fund. The intent of the program is to:

(a) Improve mobility of people and goods in Washington state by supporting economic development and environmentally responsive solutions to our statewide transportation system needs;

(b) Improve the arterial street system of the state by improving mobility and safety while supporting an environment essential to the quality of life of the citizens of the state; and

(c) Maintain, preserve, and extend the life and utility of prior investments in transportation systems and services.

(2) The small city program, as provided for in RCW 47.26.115, is implemented within the transportation improvement account.

(3) Within one year after board approval of an application for funding, a county, city, or transportation benefit district shall provide written certification to the board of the pledged local and/or

private funding. Funds allocated to an applicant that does not certify its funding within one year after approval may be reallocated by the board. [2011 c 120 § 6; 1999 c 94 § 17; 1994 c 179 § 10; 1988 c 167 § 2.]

**Legislative finding—Effective dates—1999 c 94:** See notes following RCW 43.84.092.

**Savings—Severability—1988 c 167:** See notes following RCW 47.26.121.

**RCW 47.26.086 Transportation improvement account projects—Limitations.** Transportation improvement account projects selected for funding programs after fiscal year 1995 are governed by the requirements of this section.

The board shall allocate funds from the account by June 30th of each year for the ensuing fiscal year to urban counties, cities with a population of five thousand and over, and to transportation benefit districts. Projects may include, but are not limited to, multiagency projects and arterial improvement projects in fast-growing areas. The board shall endeavor to provide geographical diversity in selecting improvement projects to be funded from the account.

To be eligible to receive these funds, a project must be consistent with the Growth Management Act, the Clean Air Act including conformity, and the Commute Trip Reduction Law and consideration must have been given to the project's relationship, both actual and potential, with the statewide rail passenger program and rapid mass transit. Projects must be consistent with any adopted high capacity transportation plan, must consider existing or reasonably foreseeable congestion levels attributable to economic development or growth and all modes of transportation and safety, and must be partially funded by local government or private contributions, or a combination of such contributions. Priority consideration shall be given to those projects with the greatest percentage of local or private contribution, or both.

Within one year after board approval of an application for funding, the lead agency shall provide written certification to the board of the pledged local and private funding for the phase of the project approved. Funds allocated to an applicant that does not certify its funding within one year after approval may be reallocated by the board. [2011 c 120 § 7; 1994 c 179 § 11.]

**RCW 47.26.090 "Arterial" defined.** The term "arterial" as used in this chapter means any state highway, county road, or city street, in an urban area, that is functionally classified as a principal arterial, minor arterial, or collector street by the department in cooperation with the board, regional transportation planning organizations, cities, and counties. The board shall develop criteria and procedures for designating arterials in the incorporated cities and towns lying outside urban areas. [1994 c 179 § 12; 1988 c 167 § 14. Prior: 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 15.]

**Savings—Severability—1988 c 167:** See notes following RCW 47.26.121.



**RCW 47.26.100 "City" defined.** The term "city" as used in \*this chapter shall include incorporated towns. [1967 ex.s. c 83 § 16.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The term "this chapter" has been substituted for "this 1967 amendatory act." See note following RCW 47.26.010 for codification of "this 1967 amendatory act" [1967 ex.s. c 83].

**RCW 47.26.110 "Urban arterial" defined.** The term "urban arterial" as used in \*this chapter means an arterial within an urban area. [1967 ex.s. c 83 § 17.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The term "this chapter" has been substituted for "this 1967 amendatory act." See note following RCW 47.26.010 for codification of "this 1967 amendatory act." [1967 ex.s. c 83.]

**RCW 47.26.115 Small city program.** The intent of the small city program is to preserve and improve the roadway system consistent with local needs of incorporated cities and towns with a population of less than five thousand. The board shall adopt rules and procedures to govern the allocation of funds distributed to the small city program. [1999 c 94 § 18; 1994 c 179 § 9.]

**Legislative finding—Effective dates—1999 c 94:** See notes following RCW 43.84.092.

**RCW 47.26.121 Transportation improvement board—Membership—Chair—Expenses.** (1) There is hereby created a transportation improvement board of twenty-one members, six of whom shall be county members and six of whom shall be city members. The remaining members shall be: (a) One representative appointed by the governor who shall be a state employee with responsibility for transportation policy, planning, or funding; (b) two representatives from the department of transportation; (c) two representatives of public transit systems; (d) a private sector representative; (e) a member representing the ports; (f) a member representing nonmotorized transportation; and (g) a member representing special needs transportation.

(2) Of the county members of the board, one shall be a county engineer or public works director; one shall be the executive director of the county road administration board; one shall be a county planning director or planning manager; one shall be a county executive, councilmember, or commissioner from a county with a population of one hundred twenty-five thousand or more; one shall be a county executive, councilmember, or commissioner of a county who serves on the board of a public transit system; and one shall be a county executive, councilmember, or commissioner from a county with a population of less than one hundred twenty-five thousand. All county members of the board, except the executive director of the county road administration board, shall be appointed. Not more than one county member of the board shall be from any one county. No more than two of the three county elected officials may represent counties located in either the eastern or western part of the state as divided north and south by the summit of the Cascade mountains.

(3) Of the city members of the board one shall be a chief city engineer, public works director, or other city employee with

responsibility for public works activities, of a city with a population of twenty thousand or more; one shall be a chief city engineer, public works director, or other city employee with responsibility for public works activities, of a city of less than twenty thousand population; one shall be a city planning director or planning manager; one shall be a mayor, commissioner, or city councilmember of a city with a population of twenty thousand or more; one shall be a mayor, commissioner, or city councilmember of a city who serves on the board of a public transit system; and one shall be a mayor, commissioner, or councilmember of a city of less than twenty thousand population. All of the city members shall be appointed. Not more than one city member of the board shall be from any one city. No more than two of the three city-elected officials may represent cities located in either the eastern or western part of the state as divided north and south by the summit of the Cascade mountains.

(4) Of the transit members, at least one shall be a general manager, executive director, or transit director of a public transit system in an urban area with a population over two hundred thousand and at least one representative from a rural or small urban transit system in an area with a population less than two hundred thousand.

(5) The private sector member shall be a citizen with business, management, and transportation related experience and shall be active in a business community-based transportation organization.

(6) The port member shall be a commissioner or senior staff person of a public port.

(7) The nonmotorized transportation member shall be a citizen with a demonstrated interest and involvement with a nonmotorized transportation group.

(8) The specialized transportation member shall be a citizen with a demonstrated interest and involvement with a statewide specialized needs transportation group.

(9) Appointments of county, city, Washington department of transportation, transit, port, nonmotorized transportation, special needs transportation, and private sector representatives shall be made by the secretary of the department of transportation. Appointees shall be chosen from a list of two persons for each position nominated by the Washington state association of counties for county members, the association of Washington cities for city members, the Washington state transit association for the transit members, and the Washington public ports association for the port member. The private sector, nonmotorized transportation, and special needs members shall be sought through classified advertisements in selected newspapers collectively serving all urban areas of the state, and other appropriate means. Persons applying for the private sector, nonmotorized transportation, or special needs transportation member position must provide a letter of interest and a resume to the secretary of the department of transportation. In the case of a vacancy, the appointment shall be only for the remainder of the unexpired term in which the vacancy has occurred. A vacancy shall be deemed to have occurred on the board when any member elected to public office completes that term of office or is removed therefrom for any reason or when any member employed by a political subdivision terminates such employment for whatsoever reason or when a private sector, nonmotorized transportation, or special needs transportation member resigns or is unable or unwilling to serve.

(10) Appointments shall be for terms of four years. Terms of all appointed members shall expire on June 30th of even-numbered years.

The initial term of appointed members may be for less than four years. No appointed member may serve more than two consecutive four-year terms.

(11) The board shall elect a chair from among its members for a two-year term.

(12) Expenses of the board shall be paid in accordance with RCW 47.26.140.

(13) For purposes of this section, "public transit system" means a city-owned transit system, county transportation authority, metropolitan municipal corporation, public transportation benefit area, or regional transit authority. [1996 c 49 § 1; 1995 c 269 § 2603; 1994 c 179 § 13; 1993 c 172 § 1. Prior: 1991 c 363 § 124; 1991 c 308 § 1; 1990 c 266 § 4; 1988 c 167 § 1.]

**Effective date—Part headings not law—Severability—1995 c 269:** See notes following RCW 18.16.050.

**Effective date—1993 c 172:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect July 1, 1993." [1993 c 172 § 2.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**Effective date—1991 c 308:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect July 1, 1991." [1991 c 308 § 2.]

**References to urban arterial board—1988 c 167:** "References in the Revised Code of Washington to the urban arterial board shall be construed to mean the transportation improvement board." [1988 c 167 § 35.]

**Savings—1988 c 167:** "All rules and all pending business before the urban arterial board shall be continued and acted upon by the transportation improvement board. All existing contracts and obligations of the urban arterial board shall remain in full force and shall be performed by the transportation improvement board." [1988 c 167 § 36.]

**Severability—1988 c 167:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1988 c 167 § 37.]

**RCW 47.26.130 Transportation improvement board—Travel expenses.** Members of the transportation improvement board shall receive no compensation for their services on the board, but shall be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred while attending meetings of the board or while engaged on other business of the board when authorized by the board in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060 as now existing or hereafter amended. [1988 c 167 § 15; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 34 §

139; 1975 1st ex.s. c 1 § 2; 1969 ex.s. c 171 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 19.]

**Savings—Severability—1988 c 167:** See notes following RCW 47.26.121.

**Effective date—Severability—1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 34:** See notes following RCW 2.08.115.

**RCW 47.26.140 Transportation improvement board—Executive director, staff—Finances.** The transportation improvement board shall appoint an executive director, who shall serve at its pleasure and whose salary shall be set by the board, and may employ additional staff as it deems appropriate. All costs associated with staff, together with travel expenses in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060, shall be paid from the public transportation systems account and the transportation improvement account in the motor vehicle fund as determined by the biennial appropriation. [2011 c 120 § 9; 1999 c 94 § 19; 1996 c 49 § 2; 1995 c 269 § 2605; 1994 c 179 § 14; 1988 c 167 § 16; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 58; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 34 § 140; 1969 ex.s. c 171 § 3; 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 20.]

**Legislative finding—Effective dates—1999 c 94:** See notes following RCW 43.84.092.

**Effective date—Part headings not law—Severability—1995 c 269:** See notes following RCW 18.16.050.

**Savings—Severability—1988 c 167:** See notes following RCW 47.26.121.

**Effective date—Severability—1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 34:** See notes following RCW 2.08.115.

**RCW 47.26.150 Transportation improvement board—Meetings.** The transportation improvement board shall meet at least once quarterly and upon the call of its chair and shall from time to time adopt rules and regulations for its own government and as may be necessary for it to discharge its duties and exercise its powers under this chapter. [2010 c 8 § 10007; 1988 c 167 § 17. Prior: 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 21.]

**Savings—Severability—1988 c 167:** See notes following RCW 47.26.121.

**RCW 47.26.160 Transportation improvement board—Powers and duties.** The transportation improvement board shall:

- (1) Adopt rules necessary to implement the provisions of chapter 47.66 RCW and this chapter relating to the allocation of funds;
- (2) Adopt reasonably uniform design standards for city and county arterials. [1995 c 269 § 2607; 1994 c 179 § 15; 1988 c 167 § 18; 1987 c 505 § 51; 1984 c 7 § 155; 1977 ex.s. c 235 § 17; 1971 ex.s. c 291 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 22.]

**Effective date—Part headings not law—Severability—1995 c 269:** See notes following RCW 18.16.050.

**Savings—Severability—1988 c 167:** See notes following RCW 47.26.121.

**RCW 47.26.164 City hardship assistance program—Implementation.** The board shall adopt reasonable rules necessary to implement the city hardship assistance program as recommended by the road jurisdiction study.

The following criteria shall be used to implement the program:

(1) Cities with a population of twenty thousand or less and a net gain in cost responsibility due to jurisdictional transfers in chapter 342, Laws of 1991, and thereafter under \*RCW 47.26.167, are eligible to receive money from the small city pavement and sidewalk account created in RCW 47.26.340;

(2) The board shall develop criteria and procedures under which eligible cities may receive funding for rehabilitation projects on transferred city streets; and

(3) The amount spent for the city hardship assistance program shall not exceed the amount deposited under RCW 46.68.110(3). [2007 c 148 § 3; 1999 c 94 § 20; 1991 c 342 § 60.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 47.26.167 was recodified as RCW 47.01.425 pursuant to 2009 c 260 § 2.

**Legislative finding—Effective dates—1999 c 94:** See notes following RCW 43.84.092.

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**RCW 47.26.170 Long-range arterial construction planning—Arterial inventory data.** Each county having within its boundaries an urban area and cities and towns shall prepare and submit to the transportation improvement board arterial inventory data required to determine the long-range arterial construction needs. The counties, cities, and towns shall revise the arterial inventory data every four years to show the current arterial construction needs through the advanced planning period, and as revised shall submit them to the transportation improvement board during the first week of January every four years beginning in 1996. The inventory data shall be prepared pursuant to guidelines established by the transportation improvement board. As information is updated, it shall be made available to the commission. [2005 c 319 § 131; 1994 c 179 § 16; 1988 c 167 § 19; 1984 c 7 § 156; 1971 ex.s. c 291 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 23.]

**Findings—Intent—Part headings—Effective dates—2005 c 319:** See notes following RCW 43.17.020.

**Savings—Severability—1988 c 167:** See notes following RCW 47.26.121.

**RCW 47.26.185 Qualifications for administering and supervising projects—Rules.** The transportation improvement board may adopt rules establishing qualifications for cities and counties administering and supervising the design and construction of projects financed in part from funds administered by the board. The rules establishing qualification shall take into account the resources and population of the city or county, its permanent engineering staff, its design and construction supervision experience, and other factors the board deems appropriate. Any city or county failing to meet the qualifications established by the board for administering and supervising a project shall contract with a qualified city or county or the department for the administration and supervision of the design and construction of any approved project as a condition for receiving funds for the project. [1994 c 179 § 17; 1988 c 167 § 21; 1984 c 7 § 157; 1975 1st ex.s. c 253 § 4.]

**Savings—Severability—1988 c 167:** See notes following RCW 47.26.121.

**RCW 47.26.190 Geographical diversity—Rules.** The board shall adopt rules that provide geographical diversity in selecting improvement projects to be funded from the transportation improvement account and small city program funds. [2011 c 120 § 8; 1994 c 179 § 18; 1988 c 167 § 22; 1987 c 360 § 1; 1981 c 315 § 4; 1979 c 151 § 162; 1977 ex.s. c 317 § 14; 1973 1st ex.s. c 126 § 2; 1971 ex.s. c 291 § 3; 1969 ex.s. c 171 § 4; 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 25.]

**Savings—Severability—1988 c 167:** See notes following RCW 47.26.121.

**Effective date—1981 c 315:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect July 1, 1981." [1981 c 315 § 14.]

**Effective dates—1977 ex.s. c 317:** See note following RCW 82.38.030.

*Population determinations, office of financial management: Chapter 43.62 RCW.*

**RCW 47.26.260 Payment of funds—Rules—Limitations.** The transportation improvement board shall adopt rules providing for the approval of payments of funds in the accounts to a county, city, town, or transportation benefit district for costs of predesign, design, engineering, and costs of construction of an approved project from time to time as work progresses. These payments shall at no time exceed the account share of the costs incurred to the date of the voucher covering such payment. [1994 c 179 § 19; 1988 c 167 § 26; 1973 1st ex.s. c 126 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 32.]

**Savings—Severability—1988 c 167:** See notes following RCW 47.26.121.

**RCW 47.26.270 Matching funds requirements.** Counties, cities, towns, and transportation benefit districts receiving funds from the board shall provide such matching funds as established by rules adopted by the transportation improvement board. When determining matching requirements, the board shall consider (1) financial resources available to counties and cities to meet arterial needs, (2) the amounts and percentages of funds available for road or street construction traditionally expended by counties and cities on arterials, (3) in the case of counties, the relative needs of arterials lying outside urban areas, and (4) the requirements necessary to avoid diversion of funds traditionally expended for arterial construction to other street or road purposes or to nonhighway purposes. [1994 c 179 § 20; 1988 c 167 § 27; 1983 1st ex.s. c 49 § 22; 1977 ex.s. c 317 § 16; 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 33.]

**Savings—Severability—1988 c 167:** See notes following RCW 47.26.121.

**Effective date—1983 1st ex.s. c 49:** See RCW 36.79.901.

**Effective dates—1977 ex.s. c 317:** See note following RCW 82.38.030.

**RCW 47.26.282 Land use implications.** In any project funded by the transportation improvement board, except for projects in cities having a population of less than five thousand persons, and in addition to any other items required to be considered by statute, the board also shall consider the land use implications of the project, such as whether the programs and projects:

(1) Support development in and revitalization of existing downtowns;

(2) Implement local comprehensive plans for rural and urban residential and nonresidential densities;

(3) Have land use planning and regulations encouraging compact development for rural and urban residential and nonresidential densities; and

(4) Promote the use of multimodal transportation. [2002 c 189 § 5.]

**RCW 47.26.300 Bicycle routes—Legislative declaration.** The state of Washington is confronted with emergency shortages of energy sources utilized for the transportation of its citizens and must seek alternative methods of providing public mobility.

Bicycles are suitable for many transportation purposes, and are pollution-free in addition to using a minimal amount of resources and energy. However, the increased use of bicycles for both transportation and recreation has led to an increase in both fatal and nonfatal injuries to bicyclists.

The legislature therefore finds that the establishment, improvement, and upgrading of bicycle routes is necessary to promote public mobility, conserve energy, and provide for the safety of the bicycling and motoring public. [1974 ex.s. c 141 § 1.]

**RCW 47.26.305 Bicycle routes—Use of board funds.** Bicycle routes shall, when established in accordance with RCW 47.06.100 be eligible for establishment, improvement, and upgrading with board funds. The board shall adopt rules and procedures that will encourage the development of a system of bicycle routes within counties, cities, and towns. [1994 c 179 § 21; 1988 c 167 § 28; 1974 ex.s. c 141 § 2.]

**Savings—Severability—1988 c 167:** See notes following RCW 47.26.121.

**RCW 47.26.320 Advance right-of-way acquisition—Definition.** The term "advance right-of-way acquisition" as used in this chapter means the acquisition of property and property rights, together with the engineering costs necessary for the advance right-of-way acquisition. Property or property rights purchased must be for projects approved by the transportation improvement board or the county road administration board as part of a city or county six-year plan or program. [2001 c 201 § 1.]

**RCW 47.26.340 Small city pavement and sidewalk account.** The small city pavement and sidewalk account is created in the state treasury. All state money allocated to the small city pavement and sidewalk account for the ongoing support of cities and towns must be deposited into the account. Money in the account may be spent only after appropriation. Expenditures from the account must be used for small city pavement and sidewalk projects or improvements selected by the board in accordance with RCW 47.26.164 or 47.26.345, to pay principal and interest on bonds authorized for these projects or improvements, to make grants or loans in accordance with this chapter, or to pay for engineering feasibility studies selected by the board. [2007 c 148 § 4; 2005 c 83 § 2.]

**Findings—2005 c 83:** "The state legislature finds that it is in the state's interest to support the economic vitality of all cities and towns and recognizes that those cities and towns with a population of less than five thousand are unable to fully maintain and preserve their street system. Therefore, the legislature finds it is necessary to create a small city pavement and sidewalk account." [2005 c 83 § 1.]

**Effective dates—2005 c 83:** "Except for section 5 of this act which takes effect July 1, 2006, this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect July 1, 2005." [2005 c 83 § 6.]

**RCW 47.26.345 Small city pavement and sidewalk funding.** All cities and towns with a population of less than five thousand are eligible to receive money from the small city pavement and sidewalk account created under RCW 47.26.340 for maintenance, repair, and resurfacing of city and town streets. For the purposes of determining population under this section, cities may include or exclude the



population of any state correctional facility located within the city. The board shall determine the allocation of money based on:

(1) The amount of available funds within the small city pavement and sidewalk account;

(2) Whether the city or town meets one or more of the following criteria:

(a) The city or town has identified a street in a six-year transportation improvement plan, as defined by RCW 35.77.010, or a project identified through the use of a pavement management system;

(b) The city or town has provided pavement rating information on the proposed street improvement or street network improvement;

(c) The city or town has provided sidewalk information on the proposed sidewalk system improvement;

(d) The city or town has provided information, where available, on traffic conditions for truck routes, bus routes, and traffic volumes;

(e) The city or town has the ability to provide a local match as demonstrated by one or more of the following:

(i) A funding match based upon a city's assessed valuation;

(ii) Community involvement and support, including volunteer participation, such as landscaping and maintaining landscaping along the street or sidewalk system; or

(iii) Partnership efforts with federal or other state programs, including the department of commerce mainstreet program. [2011 c 14 § 3; 2005 c 83 § 3.]

**Findings—Effective dates—2005 c 83:** See notes following RCW 47.26.340.

#### BOND ISSUE—STATE HIGHWAYS IN URBAN AREAS

**RCW 47.26.400 Issuance and sale of general obligation bonds—Authorized—Amount—Declaration of purpose.** In order to provide funds necessary to meet the urgent needs for highway construction on state highways within urban areas, there shall be issued and sold general obligation bonds of the state of Washington in the sum of two hundred million dollars or such amount thereof and at such times as determined to be necessary by the commission. The amount of the bonds issued and sold under the provisions of RCW 47.26.400 through 47.26.407 in any biennium shall not exceed the amount of a specific appropriation therefor from the proceeds of such bonds, for the construction of state highways in urban areas. The issuance, sale, and retirement of the bonds shall be under the supervision and control of the state finance committee which, upon request being made by the commission, shall provide for the issuance, sale, and retirement of coupon or registered bonds to be dated, issued, and sold from time to time in such amounts as shall be requested by the commission. [1984 c 7 § 161; 1973 1st ex.s. c 169 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 36.]

**RCW 47.26.401 Bonds—Term—Terms and conditions—Signatures—Registration—Where payable—Negotiable instruments.** Each of such bonds shall be made payable at any time not exceeding thirty years from the date of its issuance, with such reserved rights of prior

redemption, bearing such interest, and such terms and conditions, as the state finance committee may prescribe to be specified therein. The bonds shall be signed by the governor and the state treasurer under the seal of the state, one of which signatures shall be made manually and the other signature may be in printed facsimile, and any coupons attached to such bonds shall be signed by the same officers whose signatures thereon may be in printed facsimile. Any bonds may be registered in the name of the holder on presentation to the state treasurer or at the fiscal agency of the state of Washington in New York City, as to principal alone, or as to both principal and interest under such regulations as the state treasurer may prescribe. Such bonds shall be payable at such places as the state finance committee may provide. All bonds issued hereunder shall be fully negotiable instruments. [1973 1st ex.s. c 169 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 37.]

**RCW 47.26.402 Bonds—Denominations—Manner and terms of sale—Legal investment for state funds.** The bonds issued hereunder shall be in denominations to be prescribed by the state finance committee and may be sold in such manner and in such amounts and at such times and on such terms and conditions as the committee may prescribe. If the bonds are sold to any purchaser other than the state of Washington, they shall be sold at public sale, and it shall be the duty of the state finance committee to cause such sale to be advertised in such manner as it shall deem sufficient. Bonds issued under the provisions of RCW 47.26.400 through 47.26.407 shall be legal investment for any of the funds of the state, except the permanent school fund. [1967 ex.s. c 83 § 38.]

**RCW 47.26.403 Bonds—Bond proceeds—Deposit and use.** The money arising from the sale of said bonds shall be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the motor vehicle fund and such money shall be available only for the construction of state highways within the urban areas of the state, and for payment of the expenses incurred in the printing, issuance, and sale of any such bonds. [1967 ex.s. c 83 § 39.]

**RCW 47.26.404 Bonds—Statement describing nature of obligation—Pledge of excise taxes.** Bonds issued under the provisions of RCW 47.26.400 through 47.26.407 must distinctly state that they are a general obligation of the state of Washington, must pledge the full faith and credit of the state to the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon and must contain an unconditional promise to pay such principal and interest as the same becomes due. The principal of and interest on such bonds must be first payable in the manner provided in RCW 47.26.400 through 47.26.407 from the proceeds of state excise taxes on motor vehicle fuels imposed by chapter 82.38 RCW. The proceeds of such excise taxes are hereby pledged to the payment of any bonds and the interest thereon issued under the provisions of RCW 47.26.400 through 47.26.407, and the legislature hereby agrees to continue to impose the same excise taxes on motor vehicle fuels in amounts sufficient to pay, when due, the principal and interest on all bonds issued under the provisions of RCW 47.26.400 through 47.26.407. [2013 c 225 § 629; 1973 1st ex.s. c 169 § 3; 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 40.]

**Effective date—2013 c 225:** See note following RCW 82.38.010.

**RCW 47.26.405 Bonds—Designation of funds to repay bonds and interest.** Any funds required to repay such bonds, or the interest thereon when due shall be taken from that portion of the motor vehicle fund which results from the imposition of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and which is distributed to the state under the provisions of \*RCW 46.68.090(1)(c) for construction of state highways in urban areas, and shall never constitute a charge against any allocations of any other such funds to the state, counties, cities, and towns unless and until the amount of the motor vehicle fund arising from the excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and available to the state for construction of state highways in urban areas proves insufficient to meet the requirements for bond retirement or interest on any such bonds. [1999 c 269 § 5; 1977 ex.s. c 317 § 17; 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 41.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 46.68.090 was amended by 2003 c 361 § 403, changing subsection (1)(c) to subsection (2)(a).

**Effective date—1999 c 269:** See note following RCW 36.78.070.

**Effective dates—1977 ex.s. c 317:** See note following RCW 82.38.030.

**RCW 47.26.406 Bonds—Repayment procedure—Bond retirement fund.** At least one year prior to the date any interest is due and payable on such bonds or before the maturity date of any such bonds, the state finance committee shall estimate, subject to the provisions of RCW 47.26.405, the percentage of the receipts in money of the motor vehicle fund, resulting from collection of excise taxes on motor vehicle fuels, for each month of the year which shall be required to meet interest or bond payments hereunder when due, and shall notify the state treasurer of such estimated requirement. The state treasurer shall thereafter from time to time each month as such funds are paid into the motor vehicle fund, transfer such percentage of the monthly receipts from excise taxes on motor vehicle fuels of the motor vehicle fund to the bond retirement fund, hereby created, which fund shall be available solely for payment of interest or bonds when due. If in any month it shall appear that the estimated percentage of money so made is insufficient to meet the requirements for interest or bond retirement, the treasurer shall notify the state finance committee forthwith and such committee shall adjust its estimates so that all requirements for interest and principal of all bonds issued shall be fully met at all times. [1967 ex.s. c 83 § 42.]

**RCW 47.26.407 Bonds—Sums in excess of retirement requirements—Use.** Whenever the percentage of the motor vehicle fund arising from excise taxes on motor vehicle fuels payable into the bond retirement fund, shall prove more than is required for the payment of interest on bonds when due, or current retirement of bonds, any excess may, in the discretion of the state finance committee, be available for the prior redemption of any bonds or remain available in the fund to reduce the requirements upon the fuel excise tax portion of the motor vehicle

fund at the next interest or bond payment period. [1967 ex.s. c 83 § 43.]

BOND ISSUE—COUNTY AND CITY ARTERIALS  
IN URBAN AREAS

**RCW 47.26.420 Issuance and sale of general obligation bonds—Authorized—Amount—Declaration of purpose.** In order to provide funds necessary to meet the urgent construction needs on county and city arterials within urban areas, there are hereby authorized for issuance general obligation bonds of the state of Washington, the first authorization of which shall be in the sum of two hundred fifty million dollars, and the second authorization of which, to be known as series II bonds, shall be in the sum of sixty million dollars, and the third authorization of which, to be known as series III bonds, shall be in the sum of one hundred million dollars, which shall be issued and sold in such amounts and at such times as determined to be necessary by the transportation improvement board. The amount of such bonds issued and sold under the provisions of RCW 47.26.420 through 47.26.427 in any biennium shall not exceed the amount of a specific appropriation therefor, from the proceeds of such bonds, for the construction of county and city arterials in urban areas. The issuance, sale, and retirement of said bonds shall be under the supervision and control of the state finance committee which, upon request being made by the transportation improvement board, shall provide for the issuance, sale, and retirement of coupon or registered bonds to be dated, issued, and sold from time to time in such amounts as shall be requested by the transportation improvement board. [2007 c 519 § 6; 1981 c 315 § 5; 1979 c 5 § 3. Prior: 1977 ex.s. c 317 § 18; 1973 1st ex.s. c 169 § 4; 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 45.]

**Effective date—1981 c 315:** See note following RCW 47.26.190.

**Appropriation—Expenditure limited to bond sale proceeds—1981 c 315:** "There is appropriated from the urban arterial trust account in the motor vehicle fund to the urban arterial board for the biennium ending June 30, 1983, the sum of thirty-five million dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to carry out section 5 of this act: PROVIDED, That the money available for expenditure under this appropriation may not exceed the amount of money derived from the sale of bonds authorized by section 5 of this act and deposited to the credit of the urban arterial trust account in the motor vehicle fund." [1981 c 315 § 13.]

**Construction—1979 c 5:** "Nothing in this 1979 act shall be construed to impair the obligations of any first authorization bonds issued or to be issued under RCW 47.26.420 through 47.26.427, or to enlarge the original authorization thereof over two hundred million dollars, and the retirement of and issuance of the remainder of the authorized amount of such bonds shall proceed in accordance with law under the supervision of the state finance committee." [1979 c 5 § 12.]

**Effective dates—1977 ex.s. c 317:** See note following RCW 82.38.030.

**RCW 47.26.421 Bonds—Term—Terms and conditions—Signatures—Registration—Where payable—Negotiable instruments.** Each of such first authorization bonds, series II bonds, and series III bonds shall be made payable at any time not exceeding thirty years from the date of its issuance, with such reserved rights of prior redemption, bearing such interest, and such terms and conditions, as the state finance committee may prescribe to be specified therein. The bonds shall be signed by the governor and the state treasurer under the seal of the state, either or both of which signatures may be in printed facsimile, and any coupons attached to such bonds shall be signed by the same officers whose signatures thereon may be in printed facsimile. Any bonds may be registered in the name of the holder on presentation to the state treasurer or at the fiscal agency of the state of Washington in Seattle or New York City, as to principal alone, or as to both principal and interest under such regulations as the state treasurer may prescribe. Such bonds shall be payable at such places as the state finance committee may provide. All bonds issued hereunder shall be fully negotiable instruments. [1986 c 290 § 3; 1981 c 315 § 6; 1979 c 5 § 4; 1973 1st ex.s. c 169 § 5; 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 46.]

**Effective date—1981 c 315:** See note following RCW 47.26.190.

**Construction—1979 c 5:** See note following RCW 47.26.420.

**RCW 47.26.422 Bonds—Denominations—Manner and terms of sale—Legal investment for state funds.** The first authorization bonds, series II bonds, and series III bonds issued hereunder shall be in denominations to be prescribed by the state finance committee and may be sold in such manner and in such amounts and at such times and on such terms and conditions as the committee may prescribe. The state finance committee may obtain insurance, letters of credit, or other credit facility devices with respect to the bonds and may authorize the execution and delivery of agreements, promissory notes, and other obligations for the purpose of insuring the payment or enhancing the marketability of the bonds. Promissory notes or other obligations issued pursuant to this section shall not constitute a debt or the contracting of indebtedness under any constitutional or statutory indebtedness limitation if their payment is conditioned upon the failure of the state to pay the principal of or interest on the bonds with respect to which the promissory notes or other obligations relate. The state finance committee may authorize the issuance of short-term obligations in lieu of long-term obligations for the purposes of more favorable interest rates, lower total interest costs, and increased marketability and for the purpose of retiring the bonds during the life of the project for which they were issued. Bonds issued under the provisions of RCW 47.26.420 through 47.26.427 and 47.26.425 shall be legal investment for any of the funds of the state, except the permanent school fund. [1986 c 290 § 4; 1981 c 315 § 7; 1979 c 5 § 5; 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 47.]

**Effective date—1981 c 315:** See note following RCW 47.26.190.

**Construction—1979 c 5:** See note following RCW 47.26.420.

**RCW 47.26.423 Bonds—Bond proceeds—Deposit and use.** The money arising from the sale of the first authorization bonds, series II bonds, and series III bonds shall be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the transportation improvement account in the motor vehicle fund, and such money shall be available only for the construction and improvement of county and city urban arterials, and for payment of the expense incurred in the printing, issuance, and sale of any such bonds. The costs of obtaining insurance, letters of credit, or other credit enhancement devices with respect to the bonds shall be considered to be expenses incurred in the issuance and sale of the bonds. [2011 c 120 § 10; 1986 c 290 § 5; 1981 c 315 § 8; 1979 c 5 § 6; 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 48.]

**Effective date—1981 c 315:** See note following RCW 47.26.190.

**Construction—1979 c 5:** See note following RCW 47.26.420.

**RCW 47.26.424 Bonds—Statement describing nature of obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.** The first authorization bonds, series II bonds, and series III bonds must distinctly state that they are a general obligation of the state of Washington, must pledge the full faith and credit of the state to the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon, and must contain an unconditional promise to pay such principal and interest as the same becomes due. The principal and interest on such bonds must be first payable in the manner provided in RCW 47.26.420 through 47.26.427, 47.26.425, and 47.26.4254 from the proceeds of state excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels imposed by chapter 82.38 RCW and vehicle-related fees. The proceeds of such excise taxes and vehicle-related fees are hereby pledged to the payment of any such bonds and the interest thereon, and the legislature hereby agrees to continue to impose the same excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees in amounts sufficient to pay, when due, the principal and interest on all such bonds. [2022 c 103 § 29; 2013 c 225 § 630; 1995 c 274 § 11; 1981 c 315 § 9; 1979 c 5 § 7; 1977 ex.s. c 317 § 19; 1973 1st ex.s. c 169 § 6; 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 49.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

**Effective date—2013 c 225:** See note following RCW 82.38.010.

**Effective date—1981 c 315:** See note following RCW 47.26.190.

**Construction—1979 c 5:** See note following RCW 47.26.420.

**Effective dates—1977 ex.s. c 317:** See note following RCW 82.38.030.

**RCW 47.26.425 Bonds—Designation of funds to repay bonds and interest.** Any funds required to repay the first authorization of two hundred fifty million dollars of bonds authorized by RCW 47.26.420, as amended by section 18, chapter 317, Laws of 1977 ex. sess. or the interest thereon when due, shall be taken from that portion of the motor vehicle fund which results from the imposition of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and which is distributed to the transportation improvement account in the motor vehicle fund pursuant to RCW 46.68.090(2)(e), and shall never constitute a charge against any allocations of any other such funds in the motor vehicle fund to the state, counties, cities, and towns unless and until the amount of the motor vehicle fund arising from the excise tax on motor vehicle and special fuels and distributed to the transportation improvement account proves insufficient to meet the requirements for bond retirement or interest on any such bonds. [2011 c 120 § 11; 2007 c 519 § 7; 1999 sp.s. c 1 § 609. Prior: 1999 c 269 § 6; 1999 c 94 § 21; 1994 c 179 § 22; 1977 ex.s. c 317 § 20; 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 50.]

**Effective date—1999 sp.s. c 1:** See note following RCW 88.16.090.

**Effective date—1999 c 269:** See note following RCW 36.78.070.

**Legislative finding—Effective dates—1999 c 94:** See notes following RCW 43.84.092.

**Effective dates—1977 ex.s. c 317:** See note following RCW 82.38.030.

**RCW 47.26.4252 Bonds—Series II bonds, 1979 reenactment—Designation of funds to repay bonds and interest.** Any funds required to repay the authorization of series II bonds authorized by RCW 47.26.420, as reenacted by section 3, chapter 5, Laws of 1979, or the interest thereon when due, must first be taken from that portion of the motor vehicle fund which results from the imposition of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels imposed by chapter 82.38 RCW and which is distributed to the transportation improvement account in the motor vehicle fund pursuant to RCW 46.68.090(2)(e), subject, however, to the prior lien of the first authorization of bonds authorized by RCW 47.26.420, as reenacted by section 3, chapter 5, Laws of 1979 and vehicle-related fees in the motor vehicle fund. If the moneys distributed to the transportation improvement account shall ever be insufficient to repay the first authorization bonds together with interest thereon, and the series II bonds or the interest thereon when due, the amount required to make such payments on such bonds or interest thereon must next be taken from vehicle-related fees and that portion of the motor vehicle fund which results from the imposition of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and which is distributed to the state, counties, cities, and towns. Any payments on such bonds or interest thereon taken from motor vehicle or special fuel tax revenues or vehicle-related fees which are distributable to the state, counties, cities, and towns, must be repaid from the first moneys distributed to the transportation improvement account not required for redemption of the first authorization bonds or series II and series III bonds or interest on those bond issues and vehicle-related fees in the motor vehicle fund. [2022 c 103 § 30; 2013 c 225

§ 631; 2011 c 120 § 12; 1999 sp.s. c 1 § 610. Prior: 1999 c 269 § 7; 1999 c 94 § 22; 1995 c 274 § 12; 1994 c 179 § 23; 1983 1st ex.s. c 49 § 23; 1979 c 5 § 8.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

**Effective date—2013 c 225:** See note following RCW 82.38.010.

**Effective date—1999 sp.s. c 1:** See note following RCW 88.16.090.

**Effective date—1999 c 269:** See note following RCW 36.78.070.

**Legislative finding—Effective dates—1999 c 94:** See notes following RCW 43.84.092.

**Effective date—1983 1st ex.s. c 49:** See RCW 36.79.901.

**Construction—1979 c 5:** See note following RCW 47.26.420.

**RCW 47.26.4254 Bonds—Series III bonds—Designation of funds to repay bonds and interest.** (1) Any funds required to repay series III bonds authorized by RCW 47.26.420, or the interest thereon, when due must first be taken from that portion of the motor vehicle fund that results from the imposition of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels imposed by chapter 82.38 RCW and that is distributed to the transportation improvement account in the motor vehicle fund pursuant to RCW 46.68.090(2)(e), subject, however, to the prior lien of the first authorization of bonds authorized by RCW 47.26.420 and vehicle-related fees in the motor vehicle fund. If the vehicle-related fees in the motor vehicle fund and moneys distributed to the transportation improvement account, after first being applied to administrative expenses of the transportation improvement board and to the requirements of bond retirement and payment of interest on first authorization bonds and series II bonds as provided in RCW 47.26.425 and 47.26.4252, are insufficient to meet the requirements for bond retirement or interest on any series III bonds, the amount required to make such payments on series III bonds or interest thereon must next be taken from that portion of the motor vehicle fund that results from the imposition of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees and that is distributed to the state, counties, cities, and towns, subject, however, to subsection (2) of this section.

(2) To the extent that vehicle-related fees in the motor vehicle fund and moneys distributed to the transportation improvement account are insufficient to meet the requirements for bond retirement or interest on any series III bonds, sixty percent of the amount required to make such payments when due must first be taken from that portion of the motor vehicle fund that results from the imposition of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees and that is distributed to the state. The remaining forty percent must first be taken from that portion of the motor vehicle fund that results from vehicle-related fees and the imposition of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and that is distributed to the



cities, towns, and counties. Of the counties', cities', and towns' share of any additional amounts required in each fiscal year, the percentage thereof to be taken from the counties' distributive share and from the cities' and towns' distributive share must correspond to the percentage of funds authorized for specific county projects and for specific city and town projects, respectively, from the proceeds of series III bonds, for the period through the first eleven months of the prior fiscal year as determined by the chair of the transportation improvement board and reported to the state finance committee and the state treasurer not later than the first working day of June.

(3) Any payments on such bonds or interest thereon taken from motor vehicle or special fuel tax revenues or vehicle-related fees that are distributable to the state, counties, cities, and towns must be repaid from the first moneys distributed to the transportation improvement account not required for redemption of the first authorization bonds, series II bonds, or series III bonds or interest on these bonds and vehicle-related fees in the motor vehicle fund. [2022 c 103 § 31; 2013 c 225 § 632; 2011 c 120 § 13; 2010 c 8 § 10008; 1999 sp.s. c 1 § 611. Prior: 1999 c 269 § 8; 1999 c 94 § 23; 1995 c 274 § 13; 1994 c 179 § 24; 1988 c 167 § 30; 1983 1st ex.s. c 49 § 24; 1981 c 315 § 10.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

**Effective date—2013 c 225:** See note following RCW 82.38.010.

**Effective date—1999 sp.s. c 1:** See note following RCW 88.16.090.

**Effective date—1999 c 269:** See note following RCW 36.78.070.

**Legislative finding—Effective dates—1999 c 94:** See notes following RCW 43.84.092.

**Savings—Severability—1988 c 167:** See notes following RCW 47.26.121.

**Effective date—1983 1st ex.s. c 49:** See RCW 36.79.901.

**Effective date—1981 c 315:** See note following RCW 47.26.190.

**RCW 47.26.4255 Bonds—Series II bonds, 1979 reenactment—Charge against fuel tax revenues and vehicle-related fees.** Except as otherwise provided by statute, the series II bonds issued under authority of RCW 47.26.420, as reenacted by section 3, chapter 5, Laws of 1979, the bonds authorized by RCW 47.60.560 through 47.60.640, and any general obligation bonds of the state of Washington which may be authorized by the forty-sixth legislature or thereafter and which pledge motor vehicle and special fuel excise taxes and vehicle-related fees for the payment of principal and interest thereon shall be an equal charge against the revenues from such motor vehicle and special fuel excise taxes and vehicle-related fees. [2022 c 103 § 32; 1979 c 5 § 9.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

**Construction—1979 c 5:** See note following RCW 47.26.420.

**RCW 47.26.426 Bonds—Repayment procedure—Bond retirement account.** At least one year prior to the date any interest is due and payable on such first authorization bonds, series II bonds, and series III bonds or before the maturity date of any such bonds, the state finance committee shall estimate, subject to the provisions of RCW 47.26.425, 47.26.4252, and 47.26.4254 the percentage of the receipts in money of the motor vehicle fund, resulting from collection of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels, for each month of the year which shall be required to meet interest or bond payments hereunder when due, and shall notify the state treasurer of such estimated requirement. The state treasurer, subject to RCW 47.26.425, 47.26.4252, and 47.26.4254, shall thereafter from time to time each month as such funds are paid into the motor vehicle fund, transfer such percentage of the monthly receipts from excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels of the motor vehicle fund to the transportation improvement board bond retirement account, maintained in the office of the state treasurer, which fund shall be available for payment of interest or bonds when due. If in any month it shall appear that the estimated percentage of money so made is insufficient to meet the requirements for interest or bond retirement, the treasurer shall notify the state finance committee forthwith and such committee shall adjust its estimates so that all requirements for interest and principal of all bonds issued shall be fully met at all times. [1999 c 268 § 1; 1981 c 315 § 11; 1979 c 5 § 10; 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 51.]

**Effective date—1981 c 315:** See note following RCW 47.26.190.

**Construction—1979 c 5:** See note following RCW 47.26.420.

**RCW 47.26.427 Bonds—Sums in excess of retirement requirements—Use.** Whenever the percentage of the motor vehicle fund arising from excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels payable into the transportation improvement board bond retirement account, shall prove more than is required for the payment of interest on bonds when due, or current retirement of bonds, any excess may, in the discretion of the state finance committee, be available for the prior redemption of any bonds or remain available in the fund [account] to reduce the requirements upon the fuel excise tax portion of the motor vehicle fund at the next interest or bond payment period. [1999 c 268 § 2; 1979 c 5 § 11; 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 52.]

**Construction—1979 c 5:** See note following RCW 47.26.420.

**RCW 47.26.440 Budget for expenditures from funds administered by board—Estimate of revenues.** Not later than November 1st of each even-numbered year the transportation improvement board shall prepare

and present to the commission for comment and recommendation an adopted budget for expenditures from funds administered by the board during the ensuing biennium. The budget shall contain an estimate of the revenues to be credited to the several accounts and the amount, if any, of bond proceeds which the board determines should be made available through the sale of bonds in the ensuing biennium. [1994 c 179 § 25; 1988 c 167 § 32; 1984 c 7 § 163; 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 54.]

**Savings—Severability—1988 c 167:** See notes following RCW 47.26.121.

**RCW 47.26.450 Allocation of funds—Value engineering studies—Rules.** The board shall adopt rules and procedures to govern the allocation of funds subject to the appropriations actually approved by the legislature.

The board shall develop rules and procedures to require value engineering studies performed by an interagency team for certain board funded projects. When determining the process, the board shall consider the project cost, length, and complexity. [1994 c 179 § 26; 1988 c 167 § 33; 1987 c 360 § 2; 1973 1st ex.s. c 126 § 3; 1969 ex.s. c 171 § 6.]

**Savings—Severability—1988 c 167:** See notes following RCW 47.26.121.

**RCW 47.26.460 Increase in funds allocated to a project—Rules—Factors.** The board shall adopt reasonable rules pursuant to which funds allocated to a project may be increased upon a subsequent application of the county, city, town, or transportation benefit district constructing the project. The rules adopted by the board shall consider the following factors: (1) The financial effect of increasing the original allocation for the project upon other urban arterial projects either approved or requested; (2) whether the project for which an additional authorization is requested can be reduced in scope while retaining a usable segment; (3) whether the cost of the project shown in the original application was based upon reasonable engineering estimates; and (4) whether the requested additional authorization is to pay for an expansion in the scope of work originally approved. [1994 c 179 § 27; 1969 ex.s. c 171 § 7.]

#### BOND ISSUE—TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS IN URBAN AREAS

**RCW 47.26.500 Issuance authorized.** In order to provide funds necessary to meet the urgent construction needs on state, county, and city transportation projects, there are hereby authorized for issuance general obligation bonds of the state of Washington in the sum of one hundred million dollars, which shall be issued and sold in such amounts and at such times as determined to be necessary by the state transportation improvement board. The amount of such bonds issued and sold under the provisions of RCW 47.26.500 through 47.26.507 in any biennium shall not exceed the amount of a specific appropriation therefor, from the proceeds of such bonds, for the construction of

state, county, and city transportation projects. The issuance, sale, and retirement of the bonds shall be under the supervision and control of the state finance committee which, upon request being made by the board, shall provide for the issuance, sale, and retirement of coupon or registered bonds to be dated, issued, and sold from time to time in such amounts as shall be requested by the board. [2000 2nd sp.s. c 6 § 1; 1994 c 179 § 28; 1993 c 440 § 1.]

**RCW 47.26.501 Term—Signatures—Registration—Negotiable instruments.** Each of such bonds shall be made payable at any time not exceeding thirty years from the date of its issuance, with such reserved rights of prior redemption, bearing such interest, and such terms and conditions, as the state finance committee may prescribe to be specified therein. The bonds shall be signed by the governor and the state treasurer under the seal of the state, either or both of which signatures may be in printed facsimile, and any coupons attached to such bonds shall be signed by the same officers whose signatures thereon may be in printed facsimile. Any bonds may be registered in the name of the holder on presentation to the state treasurer or at the fiscal agency of the state of Washington in Seattle or New York City, as to principal alone, or as to both principal and interest under such rules as the state treasurer may adopt. Such bonds shall be payable at such places as the state finance committee may provide. All bonds issued hereunder shall be fully negotiable instruments. [1993 c 440 § 2.]

**RCW 47.26.502 Denominations—Manner and terms of sale—State investment.** The bonds issued under RCW 47.26.500 through 47.26.507 shall be in denominations to be prescribed by the state finance committee and may be sold in such manner and in such amounts and at such times and on such terms and conditions as the committee may prescribe. The state finance committee may obtain insurance, letters of credit, or other credit facility devices with respect to the bonds and may authorize the execution and delivery of agreements, promissory notes, and other obligations for the purpose of insuring the payment or enhancing the marketability of the bonds. Promissory notes or other obligations issued pursuant to this section shall not constitute a debt or the contracting of indebtedness under any constitutional or statutory indebtedness limitation if their payment is conditioned upon the failure of the state to pay the principal of or interest on the bonds with respect to which the promissory notes or other obligations relate. The state finance committee may authorize the issuance of short-term obligations in lieu of long-term obligations for the purposes of more favorable interest rates, lower total interest costs, and increased marketability and for the purpose of retiring the bonds during the life of the project for which they were issued. Bonds issued under the provisions of RCW 47.26.500 through 47.26.507 shall be legal investment for any of the funds of the state, except the permanent school fund. [1993 c 440 § 3.]

**RCW 47.26.503 Use of proceeds.** The money arising from the sale of the bonds shall be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the transportation improvement account in the motor vehicle fund, and

such money shall be available only for the construction and improvement of state, county, and city transportation projects, and for payment of the expense incurred in the printing, issuance, and sale of any such bonds. The costs of obtaining insurance, letters of credit, or other credit enhancement devices with respect to the bonds shall be considered to be expenses incurred in the issuance and sale of the bonds. [1993 c 440 § 4.]

**RCW 47.26.504 Statement of obligation—Pledge of excise taxes and vehicle-related fees.** Bonds issued under the provisions of RCW 47.26.500 through 47.26.507 must distinctly state that they are a general obligation of the state of Washington, must pledge the full faith and credit of the state to the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon, and must contain an unconditional promise to pay such principal and interest as the same becomes due. The principal and interest on such bonds must be first payable in the manner provided in RCW 47.26.500 through 47.26.507 from the proceeds of state excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels imposed by chapter 82.38 RCW and vehicle-related fees. The proceeds of such excise taxes and vehicle-related fees are hereby pledged to the payment of any such bonds and the interest thereon, and the legislature hereby agrees to continue to impose the same excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and vehicle-related fees in amounts sufficient to pay, when due, the principal and interest on all such bonds. [2022 c 103 § 18; 2013 c 225 § 633; 1995 c 274 § 14; 1993 c 440 § 5.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

**Effective date—2013 c 225:** See note following RCW 82.38.010.

**RCW 47.26.505 Funds for repayment.** Any funds required to repay such bonds, or the interest thereon when due, shall be taken from that portion of the motor vehicle fund which results from the imposition of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and which is distributed to the transportation improvement account in the motor vehicle fund under RCW 46.68.090(2)(f) and vehicle-related fees in the motor vehicle fund, and shall never constitute a charge against any allocations of any other such funds in the motor vehicle fund to the state, counties, cities, and towns unless and until the amount of the motor vehicle fund arising from vehicle-related fees and the excise tax on motor vehicle and special fuels and distributed to the transportation improvement account proves insufficient to meet the requirements for bond retirement or interest on any such bonds. [2022 c 103 § 19; 1999 sp.s. c 1 § 612. Prior: 1999 c 269 § 9; 1999 c 94 § 24; 1994 c 179 § 29; 1993 c 440 § 6.]

**Intent—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.908.

**Applicability—2022 c 103:** See note following RCW 47.10.883.

**Effective date—1999 sp.s. c 1:** See note following RCW 88.16.090.

**Effective date—1999 c 269:** See note following RCW 36.78.070.

**Legislative finding—Effective dates—1999 c 94:** See notes following RCW 43.84.092.

**RCW 47.26.506 Repayment procedure—Bond retirement account.** At least one year prior to the date any interest is due and payable on such bonds or before the maturity date of any such bonds, the state finance committee shall estimate, subject to the provisions of RCW 47.26.505 the percentage of the receipts in money of the motor vehicle fund, resulting from collection of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels, for each month of the year which shall be required to meet interest or bond payments under RCW 47.26.500 through 47.26.507 when due, and shall notify the state treasurer of such estimated requirement. The state treasurer, subject to RCW 47.26.505, shall thereafter from time to time each month as such funds are paid into the motor vehicle fund, transfer such percentage of the monthly receipts from excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels of the motor vehicle fund to the transportation improvement board bond retirement account, maintained in the office of the state treasurer, which account shall be available for payment of principal and interest or bonds when due. If in any month it shall appear that the estimated percentage of money so made is insufficient to meet the requirements for interest or bond retirement, the treasurer shall notify the state finance committee forthwith and such committee shall adjust its estimates so that all requirements for interest and principal of all bonds issued shall be fully met at all times. [1997 c 456 § 24; 1993 c 440 § 7.]

**Effective date—1997 c 456 §§ 9-43:** See RCW 43.99M.901.

**RCW 47.26.507 Sums in excess of retirement requirements—Use.** Whenever the percentage of the motor vehicle fund arising from excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels payable into the transportation improvement board bond retirement account, shall prove more than is required for the payment of interest on bonds when due, or current retirement of bonds, any excess may, in the discretion of the state finance committee, be available for the prior redemption of any bonds or remain available in the fund [account] to reduce the requirements upon the fuel excise tax portion of the motor vehicle fund at the next interest or bond payment period. [1999 c 268 § 3; 1993 c 440 § 8.]

**RCW 47.26.910 Effective dates—1967 ex.s. c 83.** This 1967 amendatory act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions and sections 1 through 55 and section 56, renumbered "Sec. 62", shall take effect on the first day of the month following the approval of this act by the governor; sections 56 through 61 shall take effect on July 1, 1967 with respect to fees paid on or after July 1, 1967. Fees paid pursuant to RCW \*46.16.070, 46.16.072, 46.16.075 or 46.16.120 prior to July 1, 1967 shall not be affected by this act. [1967 ex.s. c 83 § 62.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 46.16.070 was recodified as RCW 46.16A.455 pursuant to 2010 c 161 § 1217, effective July 1, 2011.

**RCW 47.26.930 Construction—1969 ex.s. c 171.** The rule of strict construction shall have no application to this 1969 act or to the provisions of chapter 47.26 RCW, and they shall be liberally construed in order to carry out an effective, efficient and equitable program of financial assistance to urban area cities and counties for arterial roads and streets. [1969 ex.s. c 171 § 8.]

**Chapter 47.28 RCW**  
**CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF HIGHWAYS**

**Sections**

- 47.28.010 Latitude in selecting route.
- 47.28.020 Width of right-of-way.
- 47.28.025 Description and plan of new or limited access highway—  
Recording.
- 47.28.026 Description and plan of new or limited access highway—  
Buildings and improvements prohibited, when.
- 47.28.030 Contracts—State forces—Monetary limits—Small businesses,  
veteran, minority, and women contractors—Rules—Work on  
ferry vessels and terminals, ferry vessel program.
- 47.28.035 Cost of project, defined.
- 47.28.040 Precontract preparation of maps, plans, and specifications  
—Filing.
- 47.28.050 Call for bids.
- 47.28.060 Copy of map, plans, etc.—Charge.
- 47.28.070 Form of bid—Data required—Requirements—Refusal to  
furnish form—Appeal.
- 47.28.075 Financial information not open to public inspection.
- 47.28.080 Withdrawal of bids—New bids—Time fixed in call controls.
- 47.28.090 Opening of bids and award of contract—Deposit.
- 47.28.100 Failure or rejection of bidder.
- 47.28.110 Sureties—Qualifications—Additional sureties.
- 47.28.120 Actions for labor and materials—Limitation of action.
- 47.28.140 Highway, public transportation improvements, flood damage  
prevention—Cooperative agreements.
- 47.28.150 Underpasses, overpasses constructed with federal funds—  
Maintenance cost apportionment.
- 47.28.170 Emergency protection and restoration of highways and  
repair or replacement of structurally deficient state  
bridges.
- 47.28.220 Compost products.
- 47.28.241 Alternative delivery of construction services—  
Definitions.
- 47.28.251 Alternative delivery of construction services—Financial  
incentives—Private contracting—Reports.
- 47.28.260 Reciprocal agreement—Waiver of indirect costs.

*Contractor's bond to pay labor, etc.: Chapter 39.08 RCW.*

*County road improvement districts: Chapter 36.88 RCW.*

*Design standards committee for city streets: Chapter 35.78 RCW.*

*Liens for labor, materials on public works: Chapter 60.28 RCW.*

*Size, weight, load of vehicles: Chapter 46.44 RCW.*

*Viaducts, bridges, elevated roadways, etc., authority of cities to  
construct: Chapter 35.85 RCW.*



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- 47.28.010 Latitude in selecting route.
- 47.28.020 Width of right-of-way.
- 47.28.025 Description and plan of new or limited access highway—  
Recording.
- 47.28.026 Description and plan of new or limited access highway—  
Buildings and improvements prohibited, when.
- 47.28.030 Contracts—State forces—Monetary limits—Small businesses,  
veteran, minority, and women contractors—Rules—Work on  
ferry vessels and terminals, ferry vessel program.
- 47.28.035 Cost of project, defined.
- 47.28.040 Precontract preparation of maps, plans, and specifications  
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*Size, weight, load of vehicles: Chapter 46.44 RCW.*

*Viaducts, bridges, elevated roadways, etc., authority of cities to  
construct: Chapter 35.85 RCW.*

**RCW 47.28.010 Latitude in selecting route.** Whenever the general route of any state highway shall be designated and laid out as running to or by way of certain designated points, without specifying the particular route to be followed to or by way of such points, the department shall determine the particular route to be followed by said state highway to or by way of said designated points, and shall be at liberty to select and adopt as a part of such state highway, the whole or any part of any existing public highway previously designated as a county road, primary road, or secondary road or now or hereafter classified as a county road. The department need not select and adopt the entire routes for such state highways at one time, but may select and adopt parts of such routes from time to time as it deems advisable. Where a state highway is designated as passing by way of a certain point, this shall not require the department to cause such state highway to pass through or touch such point but such designation is directional only and may be complied with by location in the general vicinity. The department is empowered to construct as a part of any state highway as designated and in addition to any portion meeting the limits of any incorporated city or town a bypass section either through or around any such incorporated city or town. [2006 c 334 § 22; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 59; 1961 c 13 § 47.28.010. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 31; RRS § 6400-31.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**RCW 47.28.020 Width of right-of-way.** From and after April 1, 1937, the width of one hundred feet is the necessary and proper right-of-way width for state highways unless the department, for good cause, adopts and designates a different width. This section shall not be construed to require the department to acquire increased right-of-way for any state highway in existence on such date. [1984 c 7 § 164; 1961 c 13 § 47.28.020. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 30; RRS § 6400-30; 1913 c 65 § 8; RRS § 6831.]

**RCW 47.28.025 Description and plan of new or limited access highway—Recording.** Whenever the department establishes the location, width, and lines of any new highway, or declares any such new highway as a limited access facility and schedules the acquisition of the right-of-way for the highway or facility within the ensuing two years, it may cause the description and plan of any such highway to be made, showing the center line of the highway and the established width thereof, and attach thereto a certified copy of the resolution. Such description, plan, and resolution shall then be recorded in the office of the county auditor of the proper county. [1999 c 233 § 5; 1984 c 7 § 165; 1977 ex.s. c 225 § 1; 1961 c 13 § 47.28.025. Prior: 1955 c 161 § 1.]

**Effective date—1999 c 233:** See note following RCW 4.28.320.

**RCW 47.28.026 Description and plan of new or limited access highway—Buildings and improvements prohibited, when.** (1) No owner or occupier of lands, buildings, or improvements may erect any buildings or make any improvements within the limits of any such highway, the

location, width, and lines of which have been established and recorded as provided in RCW 47.28.025. If any such erection and improvements are made, no allowances may be had therefor by the assessment of damages. No permits for improvements within the limits may be issued by any authority. The establishment of any highway location as set forth in RCW 47.28.025 is ineffective after one year from the filing thereof if no action to condemn or acquire the property within the limits has been commenced within that time.

(2) Unless and until the department causes a plan of a proposed new highway or limited access facility to be recorded in the office of the county auditor as authorized in RCW 47.28.025, nothing contained in RCW 47.28.025 or 47.28.026 may be deemed to restrict or restrain in any manner the improvement, development, or other use by owners or occupiers of lands, buildings, or improvements within the limits of any proposed new or limited access highway or any proposed relocated or widened highway. Because of the uncertainties of federal aid and the state level of funding of proposed construction or improvement of state highways, plans for such improvements approved by the department shall be deemed tentative until filed with the county auditor as authorized in RCW 47.28.025 or until the department commences action to condemn or otherwise acquire the right-of-way for the highway improvements. [1984 c 7 § 166; 1977 ex.s. c 225 § 2; 1961 c 13 § 47.28.026. Prior: 1955 c 161 § 2.]

**RCW 47.28.030 Contracts—State forces—Monetary limits—Small businesses, veteran, minority, and women contractors—Rules—Work on ferry vessels and terminals, ferry vessel program.** (1) (a) A state highway shall be constructed, altered, repaired, or improved, and improvements located on property acquired for right-of-way purposes may be repaired or renovated pending the use of such right-of-way for highway purposes, by contract or state forces. The work or portions thereof may be done by state forces when the estimated costs thereof are less than fifty thousand dollars and effective July 1, 2005, sixty thousand dollars.

(b) When delay of performance of such work would jeopardize a state highway or constitute a danger to the traveling public, the work may be done by state forces when the estimated cost thereof is less than eighty thousand dollars and effective July 1, 2005, one hundred thousand dollars.

(c) When the department of transportation determines to do the work by state forces, it shall enter a statement upon its records to that effect, stating the reasons therefor.

(d) To enable a larger number of small businesses and veteran, minority, and women contractors to effectively compete for department of transportation contracts, the department may adopt rules providing for bids and award of contracts for the performance of work, or furnishing equipment, materials, supplies, or operating services whenever any work is to be performed and the engineer's estimate indicates the cost of the work would not exceed eighty thousand dollars and effective July 1, 2005, one hundred thousand dollars.

(2) The rules adopted under this section:

(a) Shall provide for competitive bids to the extent that competitive sources are available except when delay of performance would jeopardize life or property or inconvenience the traveling public; and

(b) Need not require the furnishing of a bid deposit nor a performance bond, but if a performance bond is not required then progress payments to the contractor may be required to be made based on submittal of paid invoices to substantiate proof that disbursements have been made to laborers, material suppliers, mechanics, and subcontractors from the previous partial payment; and

(c) May establish prequalification standards and procedures as an alternative to those set forth in RCW 47.28.070, but the prequalification standards and procedures under RCW 47.28.070 shall always be sufficient.

(3) The department of transportation shall comply with such goals and rules as may be adopted by the office of minority and women's business enterprises to implement chapter 39.19 RCW with respect to contracts entered into under this chapter. The department may adopt such rules as may be necessary to comply with the rules adopted by the office of minority and women's business enterprises under chapter 39.19 RCW.

(4) (a) Work for less than one hundred thousand dollars may be performed on ferry vessels and terminals by state forces.

(b) When the estimated cost of work to be performed on ferry vessels and terminals is between one hundred thousand dollars and two hundred thousand dollars, the department shall contact, by mail or electronic mail, contractors that appear on the department's small works roster as created pursuant to procedures in chapter 39.04 RCW to do specific work the contractors are qualified to do to determine if any contractor is interested and capable of doing the work. If there is a response of interest within seventy-two hours, the small works roster procedures commence. If no qualified contractors respond with interest and availability to do the work, the department may use its regular contracting procedures. If the secretary determines that the work to be completed is an emergency, procedures governing emergencies apply.

(c) The department shall hire a disinterested, third party to conduct an independent analysis to identify methods of reducing out-of-service times for vessel maintenance, preservation, and improvement projects. The analysis must include options that consider consolidating work while vessels are at shipyards by having state forces perform services traditionally performed at Eagle Harbor at the shipyard and decreasing the allowable time at shipyards. The analysis must also compare the out-of-service vessel times of performing services by state forces versus contracting out those services which in turn must be used to form a recommendation as to what the threshold of work performed on ferry vessels and terminals by state forces should be. This analysis must be presented to the transportation committees of the senate and house of representatives by December 1, 2010.

(d) The department shall develop a proposed ferry vessel maintenance, preservation, and improvement program and present it to the transportation committees of the senate and house of representatives by December 1, 2010. The proposed program must:

(i) Improve the basis for budgeting vessel maintenance, preservation, and improvement costs and for projecting those costs into a sixteen-year financial plan;

(ii) Limit the amount of planned out-of-service time to the greatest extent possible, including options associated with department staff as well as commercial shipyards; and

(iii) Be based on the service plan in the capital plan, recognizing that vessel preservation and improvement needs may vary by route.

(e) In developing the proposed ferry vessel maintenance, preservation, and improvement program, the department shall consider the following, related to reducing vessel out-of-service time:

(i) The costs compared to benefits of Eagle Harbor repair and maintenance facility operations options to include staffing costs and benefits in terms of reduced out-of-service time;

(ii) The maintenance requirements for on-vessel staff, including the benefits of a systemwide standard;

(iii) The costs compared to benefits of staff performing preservation or maintenance work, or both, while the vessel is underway, tied up between sailings, or not deployed;

(iv) A review of the department's vessel maintenance, preservation, and improvement program contracting process and contractual requirements;

(v) The costs compared to benefits of allowing for increased costs associated with expedited delivery;

(vi) A method for comparing the anticipated out-of-service time of proposed projects and other projects planned during the same construction period;

(vii) Coordination with required United States coast guard dry dockings;

(viii) A method for comparing how proposed projects relate to the service requirements of the route on which the vessel normally operates; and

(ix) A method for evaluating the ongoing maintenance and preservation costs associated with proposed improvement projects.

[2015 c 282 § 1; 2014 c 222 § 701; 2011 c 367 § 710. Prior: 2010 c 283 § 9; 2010 c 5 § 11; 2007 c 218 § 90; 1999 c 15 § 1; 1984 c 194 § 1; 1983 c 120 § 15; 1977 ex.s. c 225 § 3; 1973 c 116 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 78 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 180 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 145 § 40; 1961 c 233 § 1; 1961 c 13 § 47.28.030; prior: 1953 c 29 § 1; 1949 c 70 § 1, part; 1943 c 132 § 1, part; 1937 c 53 § 41, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6400-41, part.]

**Effective date—2015 c 282:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect July 1, 2015." [2015 c 282 § 2.]

**Contingent effective date—2014 c 222 § 701:** "Section 701 of this act takes effect if \*chapter . . . (Engrossed House Bill No. 2684), Laws of 2014 (ferry vessel and terminal work) is not enacted by April 15, 2014." [2014 c 222 § 802.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Engrossed House Bill No. 2684 was not enacted by April 15, 2014.

**Effective date—2014 c 222:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [April 4, 2014]." [2014 c 222 § 804.]

**Effective date—2011 c 367:** See note following RCW 47.29.170.

**Findings—Intent—Effective date—2010 c 283:** See notes following RCW 47.60.355.

**Purpose—Construction—2010 c 5:** See notes following RCW 43.60A.010.

**Intent—Finding—2007 c 218:** See note following RCW 41.08.020.

**Effective date—Applicability—Severability—Conflict with federal requirements—1983 c 120:** See RCW 39.19.910 and 39.19.920.

*Office of minority and women's business enterprises: Chapter 39.19 RCW.*

**RCW 47.28.035 Cost of project, defined.** The cost of any project for the purposes of RCW 47.28.030 shall be the aggregate of all amounts to be paid for labor, material, and equipment on one continuous or interrelated project where work is to be performed simultaneously. The department shall not permit the construction of any project by state forces by dividing a project into units of work or classes of work to give the appearance of compliance with RCW 47.28.030. [1984 c 194 § 2.]

**RCW 47.28.040 Precontract preparation of maps, plans, and specifications—Filing.** Before entering into any contract for the construction, alteration, repair, or improvement of any state highway the department shall cause the highway to be surveyed throughout the entire length of the proposed construction, alteration, repair, or improvement and cause to be prepared maps, plans, and specifications, together with an estimate of the cost of the proposed work, and such information and directions as will enable a contractor to carry them out. The maps, plans, specifications, and directions shall be approved by the department and a copy thereof filed permanently in the department's office. [1984 c 7 § 167; 1961 c 13 § 47.28.040. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 32, part; RRS § 6400-32, part.]

**RCW 47.28.050 Call for bids.** Except as may be provided by rules and regulations adopted under RCW 47.28.030 as now or hereafter amended the department of transportation shall publish a call for bids for the construction of the highway according to the maps, plans, and specifications, once a week for at least two consecutive weeks, next preceding the day set for receiving and opening the bids, in not less than one trade paper of general circulation in the state. The call shall state the time, place, and date for receiving and opening the bids, give a brief description of the location and extent of the work, and contain such special provisions or specifications as the department deems necessary. When necessary to implement chapter 39.19 RCW and the rules adopted to implement that chapter, the department shall include in its call for bids provisions or specifications requiring bidders to comply with chapter 39.19 RCW and the rules adopted to implement it: PROVIDED, That when the estimated cost of any contract to be awarded is less than fifty thousand dollars, the call for bids need only be published in at least one paper of general

circulation in the county where the major part of the work is to be performed: PROVIDED FURTHER, That when the estimated cost of a contract to be awarded is seven thousand five hundred dollars or less, including the cost of materials, supplies, engineering, and equipment, the department of transportation need not publish a call for bids: PROVIDED FURTHER, That after a bid call has been advertised for two consecutive weeks it may be postponed and the bids opened one week later. [1983 c 120 § 16; 1979 ex.s. c 69 § 1; 1977 c 65 § 1; 1973 c 116 § 2; 1969 ex.s. c 180 § 1; 1961 c 13 § 47.28.050. Prior: 1959 c 319 § 33; 1955 c 147 § 1; 1937 c 53 § 33; RRS § 6400-33.]

**Effective date—Applicability—Severability—Conflict with federal requirements—1983 c 120:** See RCW 39.19.910 and 39.19.920.

*Office of minority and women's business enterprises: Chapter 39.19 RCW.*

**RCW 47.28.060 Copy of map, plans, etc.—Charge.** Any person, firm, or corporation is entitled to receive copies of the maps, plans, specifications, and directions for any work upon which call for bids has been published, upon request therefor and subsequent payment to the department of a reasonable sum as required by the department in the call for bids for each copy of such maps, plans, and specifications. Any money so received shall be certified by the department to the state treasurer and deposited to the credit of the motor vehicle fund. The department may deliver with or without charge informational copies of maps, plans, specifications, and directions at such places as it may designate. [1985 c 242 § 1; 1984 c 7 § 168; 1971 c 36 § 1; 1965 ex.s. c 64 § 1; 1961 c 13 § 47.28.060. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 34; RRS § 6400-34.]

**RCW 47.28.070 Form of bid—Data required—Requirements—Refusal to furnish form—Appeal.** Bid proposals upon any construction or improvement of any state highway shall be made upon contract proposal form supplied by the department and in no other manner. The department shall, before furnishing any person, firm, or corporation desiring to bid upon any work for which a call for bid proposals has been published with a contract proposal form, require from the person, firm, or corporation, answers to questions contained in a standard form of questionnaire and financial statement, including a complete statement of the financial ability and experience of the person, firm, or corporation in performing state highway, road, or other public work. The questionnaire and financial statement shall be sworn to before a notary public or other person authorized to take acknowledgment of deeds, and shall be submitted once a year and at such other times as the department may require. Whenever the department is not satisfied with the sufficiency of the answers contained in the questionnaire and financial statement or whenever the department determines that the person, firm, or corporation does not meet all of the requirements set forth in this section it may refuse to furnish the person, firm, or corporation with a contract proposal form, and any bid proposal of the person, firm, or corporation must be disregarded. In order to obtain a contract proposal form, a person, firm, or corporation shall have all of the following requirements:

(1) Adequate financial resources or the ability to secure such resources;

(2) The necessary experience, organization, and technical qualifications to perform the proposed contract;

(3) The ability to comply with the required performance schedule taking into consideration all of its existing business commitments;

(4) A satisfactory record of performance, integrity, judgment, and skills; and

(5) Be otherwise qualified and eligible to receive an award under applicable laws and regulations.

The refusal is conclusive unless appeal therefrom to the superior court of Thurston county is taken within five days, which appeal shall be heard summarily within ten days after it is taken and on five days' notice thereof to the department. [1984 c 7 § 169; 1967 ex.s. c 145 § 39; 1961 c 13 § 47.28.070. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 35; RRS § 6400-35.]

**RCW 47.28.075 Financial information not open to public inspection.** The department of transportation shall not be required to make available for public inspection and copying financial information supplied by any person, firm, or corporation for the purpose of qualifying to submit a bid or proposal for highway construction or improvement as required by RCW 47.28.070. [1981 c 215 § 1.]

**RCW 47.28.080 Withdrawal of bids—New bids—Time fixed in call controls.** Any person, firm, or corporation proposing a bid for the construction or improvement of any state highway in response to a call for bids published therefor may withdraw the bid proposal without forfeiture and without prejudice to the right of the bidder to file a new bid proposal before the time fixed for the opening of the bid proposals. The request for the withdrawal shall be made in writing, signed by the person proposing the bid or his or her duly authorized agent, and filed at the place and before the time fixed in the call for bids for receipt of the bid proposals. No bid proposal may be considered that has not been filed with the department before the time fixed for the receipt of bid proposals. In any provisions regarding the filing or withdrawing of bid proposals the time fixed for the receipt of bid proposals in the call for bid proposals as published shall control without regard for the time when the bid proposals are actually opened. [2010 c 8 § 10009; 1985 c 242 § 2; 1984 c 7 § 170; 1961 c 13 § 47.28.080. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 36; RRS § 6400-36.]

**RCW 47.28.090 Opening of bids and award of contract—Deposit.** At the time and place named in the call for bids the department of transportation shall publicly open and read the final figure in each of the bid proposals that have been properly filed and read only the unit prices of the three lowest bids, and shall award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder unless the department has, for good cause, continued the date of opening bids to a day certain, or rejected that bid. Any bid may be rejected if the bidder has previously defaulted in the performance of and failed to complete a written public contract, or has been convicted of a crime arising from a previous public contract. If the lowest responsible bidder fails to meet the provisions or specifications requiring compliance with



chapter 39.19 RCW and the rules adopted to implement that chapter, the department may award the contract to the next lowest responsible bidder which does meet the provisions or specifications or may reject all bids and readvertise. All bids shall be under sealed cover and accompanied by deposit in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or surety bond in an amount equal to five percent of the amount of the bid, and a bid shall not be considered unless the deposit is enclosed with it. [1985 c 242 § 3; 1983 c 120 § 17; 1971 ex.s. c 21 § 2; 1961 c 13 § 47.28.090. Prior: 1955 c 83 § 1; 1949 c 64 § 1; 1937 c 53 § 37; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6400-37.]

**Effective date—Applicability—Severability—Conflict with federal requirements—1983 c 120:** See RCW 39.19.910 and 39.19.920.

*Office of minority and women's business enterprises: Chapter 39.19 RCW.*

**RCW 47.28.100 Failure or rejection of bidder.** If the successful bidder fails to enter into the contract and furnish satisfactory bond as provided by law within twenty days from the award, exclusive of the day of the award, his or her deposit shall be forfeited to the state and deposited by the state treasurer to the credit of the motor vehicle fund, and the department may award the contract to the second lowest responsible bidder. If the second lowest responsible bidder fails to enter into the contract and furnish bond within twenty days after award to him or her, forfeiture of his or her deposit shall also be made, and the contract may be awarded to the third lowest responsible bidder, and in like manner until the contract and bond are executed by a responsible bidder to whom award is made, or further bid proposals are rejected, or the number of bid proposals are exhausted. If the contract is not executed or no contractor's bond provided within the time required, and there appear circumstances that are deemed to warrant an extension of time, the department may extend the time for execution of the contract or furnishing bond for not to exceed twenty additional days. After awarding the contract the deposits of unsuccessful bidders shall be returned, but the department may retain the deposit of the next lowest responsible bidder or bidders as it desires until such time as the contract is entered into and satisfactory bond is provided by the bidder to whom the award is ultimately made. A low bidder who claims error and fails to enter into a contract is prohibited from bidding on the same project if a second or subsequent call for bids is made for the project.

If in the opinion of the department the acceptance of the bid of the lowest responsible bidder or bidders, or on prior failure of the lowest responsible bidder or bidders the acceptance of the bid of the remaining lowest responsible bidder or bidders, will not be for the best interest of the state, it may reject all bids or all remaining bids and republish a call for bids in the same manner as for an original publication thereof. [1996 c 18 § 8; 1984 c 7 § 171; 1961 c 13 § 47.28.100. Prior: 1953 c 53 § 1; 1937 c 53 § 38; RRS § 6400-38.]

**RCW 47.28.110 Sureties—Qualifications—Additional sureties.** At any time and as often as it may be deemed necessary, the department may require any or all sureties or any surety company to appear and

qualify themselves upon any contractor's bond. Whenever the surety or sureties upon any contractor's bond become insufficient or are deemed by the department to have become insufficient, the department may demand in writing that the contracting person, firm, or corporation furnish such further contractor's bond or bonds or additional surety in an amount not exceeding that originally required as may be deemed necessary considering the extent of the work remaining to be done upon the contract. No further payments may be made on the contract until such additional surety as is required is furnished. [1984 c 7 § 172; 1961 c 13 § 47.28.110. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 39; RRS § 6400-39.]

**RCW 47.28.120 Actions for labor and materials—Limitation of action.** Any contracting person, firm, or corporation performing any labor or furnishing any materials upon their contract or otherwise for public work or improvement under the direction of the department or any person claiming any right of action upon any such contract with the state of Washington or who claims a cause of action against the state of Washington arising out of any such contract must bring such suit in the proper court in Thurston county before the expiration of one hundred and eighty days from and after the final acceptance and the approval of the final estimate of such work by the department; otherwise the action is forever barred. [1984 c 7 § 173; 1961 c 13 § 47.28.120. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 40; RRS § 6400-40.]

**RCW 47.28.140 Highway, public transportation improvements, flood damage prevention—Cooperative agreements.** When in the opinion of the governing authorities representing the department and any public agency, instrumentality, municipal corporation, or political subdivision of the state of Washington, any highway, road, street, or urban public transportation system will be benefited or improved by constructing, reconstructing, locating, relocating, laying out, repairing, surveying, altering, improving, or maintaining, or by the establishment adjacent to, under, upon, within, or above any portion of any such highway, road, street, or urban public transportation system, by either the department or any public agency, instrumentality, municipal corporation, or political subdivision of the state, and it is in the public interest to do so, the authorities may enter into cooperative agreements wherein either agrees to perform the work and furnish the materials necessary and pay the cost thereof, including necessary engineering assistance, which costs and expenses must be reimbursed by the party whose responsibility it was to do or perform the work or improvement in the first instance. The work may be done by either day labor or contract, and the cooperative agreement between the parties must provide for the method of reimbursement. In the case of some special benefit or improvement to a state highway derived from any project that assists in preventing or minimizing flood damages as defined in RCW 86.16.120 or from the construction of any public works project, including any urban public transportation system, the department may contribute to the cost thereof by making direct payment to the particular state department, agency, instrumentality, municipal corporation, or political subdivision on the basis of benefits received, but such payment may be made only after a cooperative agreement has been entered into for a specified amount or on an actual cost basis prior to the commencement of the

particular public works project. [2013 c 113 § 7; 1991 c 322 § 29; 1984 c 7 § 174; 1967 c 108 § 6; 1961 c 13 § 47.28.140. Prior: 1955 c 384 § 8.]

**Findings—Intent—1991 c 322:** See note following RCW 86.12.200.

*Urban public transportation system defined: RCW 47.04.082.*

**RCW 47.28.150 Underpasses, overpasses constructed with federal funds—Maintenance cost apportionment.** Notwithstanding any of the provisions of RCW 81.53.090, where the cost of constructing an overpass or underpass which is part of the state highway system has been paid for in whole or in part by the use of federal funds, the state shall at its expense maintain the entire overpass structure and the approaches thereto, and the railroad company shall at its expense maintain the entire underpass structure, including the approaches thereto. The state shall at its expense maintain the roadway, and the railroad company shall at its expense maintain its roadbed and tracks on or under all such structures. [1961 c 13 § 47.28.150. Prior: 1959 c 319 § 34.]

**RCW 47.28.170 Emergency protection and restoration of highways and repair or replacement of structurally deficient state bridges.**

(1) Whenever the department finds that as a consequence of accident, natural disaster, or other emergency, an existing state highway is in jeopardy or is rendered impassible in one or both directions and the department further finds that prompt reconstruction, repair, or other work is needed to preserve or restore the highway for public travel, or when the department is preparing to conduct the repair or replacement of a state bridge deemed structurally deficient, as defined in RCW 47.04.010, by the department, the department may obtain at least three written bids for the work without publishing a call for bids, and the secretary of transportation may award a contract forthwith to the lowest responsible bidder.

The department shall notify any association or organization of contractors filing a request to regularly receive notification. Notification to an association or organization of contractors shall include: (a) The location of the work to be done; (b) the general anticipated nature of the work to be done; and (c) the date determined by the department as reasonable in view of the nature of the work and emergent nature of the problem after which the department will not receive bids.

(2) Whenever the department finds it necessary to protect a highway facility from imminent damage or to perform emergency work to reopen a highway facility, the department may contract for such work on a negotiated basis not to exceed force account rates for a period not to exceed thirty working days.

(3) The secretary shall review any contract exceeding seven hundred thousand dollars awarded under subsection (1) or (2) of this section with the office of financial management within thirty days of the contract award.

(4) Any person, firm, or corporation awarded a contract for work must be prequalified pursuant to RCW 47.28.070 and may be required to furnish a bid deposit or performance bond.

(5) A city, town, or county may use the contracting process available to the department under subsection (1) of this section for the repair or replacement of a bridge deemed structurally deficient, as defined in RCW 43.21C.470.

(6) This section does not prevent the department from notifying contractors, that are not otherwise notified pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, of the availability of work that the department intends to contract for under this section. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 10 § 4; 2015 c 144 § 2; 2006 c 334 § 23; 1990 c 265 § 1; 1984 c 7 § 175; 1971 ex.s. c 89 § 1.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2015 c 144 § 2 and by 2015 3rd sp.s. c 10 § 4, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Effective date—Findings—Intent—2015 3rd sp.s. c 10:** See notes following RCW 43.21C.480.

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**RCW 47.28.220 Compost products.** (1) A contract awarded in whole or in part for the purchase of compost products as a soil cover or soil amendment to state highway rights-of-way shall specify that compost products be purchased in accordance with the following schedule:

(a) For the period July 1, 1996, through June 30, 1997, twenty-five percent of the total dollar amount purchased;

(b) For the period July 1, 1998, through June 30, 1999, fifty percent of the total dollar amount purchased. The percentages in this subsection apply to the materials' value and include services or other materials.

(2) In order to carry out the provisions of this section, the department of transportation shall develop and adopt bid specifications for compost products used in state highway construction projects.

(3) (a) For purposes of this section, "compost products" means mulch, soil amendments, ground cover, or other landscaping material derived from the biological or mechanical conversion of biosolids or cellulose-containing waste materials.

(b) For purposes of this section, "biosolids" means municipal sewage sludge or septic tank septage sludge that meets the requirements of chapter 70A.226 RCW. [2021 c 65 § 55; 1996 c 198 § 4; 1992 c 174 § 14; 1991 c 297 § 14.]

**Explanatory statement—2021 c 65:** See note following RCW 53.54.030.

**RCW 47.28.241 Alternative delivery of construction services—Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout RCW 47.28.251 and \*41.06.380 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Construction services" means those services that aid in the delivery of the highway construction program and include, but are not

limited to, real estate services and construction engineering services.

(2) "Construction engineering services" include, but are not limited to, construction management, construction administration, materials testing, materials documentation, contractor payments and general administration, construction oversight, and inspection and surveying. [2003 c 363 § 102.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 41.06.380 was repealed by 2002 c 354 § 403, effective July 1, 2005.

**Part headings not law—2003 c 363:** "Part headings used in this act are not part of the law." [2003 c 363 § 308.]

**Severability—2003 c 363:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [2003 c 363 § 309.]

**RCW 47.28.251 Alternative delivery of construction services—Financial incentives—Private contracting—Reports.** (1) The department of transportation shall work with representatives of transportation labor groups to develop a financial incentive program to aid in retention and recruitment of employee classifications where problems exist and program delivery is negatively affected. The department's financial incentive program must be reviewed and approved by the legislature before it can be implemented. This program must support the goal of enhancing project delivery timelines as outlined in section 101, chapter 363, Laws of 2003. Upon receiving approval from the legislature, the office of financial management shall implement, as required, specific aspects of the financial incentive package, as developed by the department of transportation.

(2) Notwithstanding chapter 41.06 RCW, the department of transportation may acquire services from qualified private firms in order to deliver the transportation construction program to the public. Services may be acquired solely for augmenting the department's workforce capacity and only when the department's transportation construction program cannot be delivered through its existing or readily available workforce. The department of transportation shall work with representatives of transportation labor groups to develop and implement a program identifying those projects requiring contracted services while establishing a program as defined in subsection (1) of this section to provide the classified personnel necessary to deliver future construction programs. The procedures for acquiring construction engineering services from private firms may not be used to displace existing state employees nor diminish the number of existing classified positions in the present construction program. The acquisition procedures must be in accordance with chapter 39.80 RCW.

(3) Starting in December 2004, and biennially thereafter, the secretary shall report to the transportation committees of the legislature on the use of construction engineering services from private firms authorized under this section. The information provided to the committees must include an assessment of the benefits and costs associated with using construction engineering services, or other services, from private firms, and a comparison of public versus

private sector costs. The secretary may act on these findings to ensure the most cost-effective means of service delivery. [2011 1st sp.s. c 43 § 477; 2003 c 363 § 103.]

**Effective date—Purpose—2011 1st sp.s. c 43:** See notes following RCW 43.19.003.

**Finding—Intent—2003 c 363 §§ 103 and 104:** "The legislature finds that there is a pressing need for additional transportation projects to meet the mobility needs of Washington's citizens. With major new investments approved to meet these pressing needs, additional workforce assistance is necessary to ensure and enhance project delivery timelines. Recruiting and retaining a high quality workforce, and implementing new and innovative procedures for delivering these transportation projects, is required to accomplish them on a timely basis that best serves the public. It is the intent of sections 103 and 104 of this act that no state employees will lose their employment as a result of implementing new and innovative project delivery procedures." [2003 c 363 § 101.]

**Part headings not law—Severability—2003 c 363:** See notes following RCW 47.28.241.

**RCW 47.28.260 Reciprocal agreement—Waiver of indirect costs.** When the department plans to administer a contract to engineer or construct a project; or oversee or perform work for another public agency, instrumentality, municipal corporation, or political subdivision; and the public agency, instrumentality, municipal corporation, or political subdivision plans to administer a contract to engineer or construct a project; or oversee or perform work, for the department, the department may waive application of its indirect costs by entering into a reciprocal agreement with the public agency, instrumentality, municipal corporation, or political subdivision in which each party agrees to waive indirect costs related to a project or work that will be performed by the party for the other party's benefit. The reciprocal agreement must specify the project or work to be performed by each party and may be for a maximum term of ten years, unless amended by the parties. Each party's obligation for reimbursement of indirect costs under RCW 47.28.140, 39.34.130, and 43.09.210 is deemed to be satisfied by the execution of a reciprocal agreement. [2013 c 113 § 8.]

**Chapter 47.29 RCW**  
**TRANSPORTATION INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIPS**

**Sections**

- 47.29.010 Finding—Intent.
- 47.29.020 Definitions.
- 47.29.030 Transportation commission powers and duties.
- 47.29.040 Purpose.
- 47.29.050 Eligible projects.
- 47.29.060 Eligible financing.
- 47.29.070 Use of federal funds and similar revenues.
- 47.29.080 Other sources of funds or property.
- 47.29.090 Project review, evaluation, and selection.
- 47.29.100 Administrative fee.
- 47.29.110 Funds for proposal evaluation and negotiation.
- 47.29.120 Expert consultation.
- 47.29.130 Contracted studies.
- 47.29.140 Partnership agreements.
- 47.29.150 Public involvement and participation.
- 47.29.160 Approval and execution.
- 47.29.170 Unsolicited proposals.
- 47.29.180 Advisory committees.
- 47.29.190 Confidentiality.
- 47.29.200 Prevailing wages.
- 47.29.210 Government agreements.
- 47.29.220 Eminent domain.
- 47.29.230 Transportation innovative partnership account.
- 47.29.240 Use of account.
- 47.29.250 Issuing bonds and other obligations.
- 47.29.260 Study and report.
- 47.29.270 Federal laws.
- 47.29.280 Expert review panel on proposed project agreements—  
Creation—Authority.
- 47.29.290 Expert review panel on proposed project agreements—  
Execution of agreements.

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- 47.29.280 Expert review panel on proposed project agreements—  
Creation—Authority.
- 47.29.290 Expert review panel on proposed project agreements—  
Execution of agreements.

**RCW 47.29.010 Finding—Intent.** (1) The legislature finds that the public-private transportation initiatives act created under chapter 47.46 RCW has not met the needs and expectations of the public or private sectors for the development of transportation projects. The legislature intends to phase out chapter 47.46 RCW coincident with the completion of the Tacoma Narrows Bridge - SR 16 public-private partnership. From July 24, 2005, this chapter will provide a more desirable and effective approach to developing transportation projects in partnership with the private sector by applying lessons learned from other states and from this state's ten-year experience with chapter 47.46 RCW.

(2) It is the legislature's intent to achieve the following goals through the creation of this new approach to public-private partnerships:

(a) To provide a well-defined mechanism to facilitate the collaboration between public and private entities in transportation;

(b) To bring innovative thinking from the private sector and other states to bear on public projects within the state;



(c) To provide greater flexibility in achieving the transportation projects; and

(d) To allow for creative cost and risk sharing between the public and private partners.

(3) The legislature intends that the powers granted in this chapter to the commission or department are in addition to any powers granted under chapter 47.56 RCW.

(4) It is further the intent of the legislature that an expert review panel be established for each project developed under chapter 334, Laws of 2006. Expert review panels shall be responsible for reviewing selected proposals, analyzing and reviewing tentative agreements, and making recommendations to the governor and the transportation commission on the advisability of executing agreements under chapter 334, Laws of 2006. [2006 c 334 § 48; 2005 c 317 § 1.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**RCW 47.29.020 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Authority" means the transportation commission.

(2) "Commission" means the transportation commission.

(3) "Department" means the department of transportation.

(4) "Eligible project" means any project eligible for development under RCW 47.29.050.

(5) "Eligible public works project" means only a project that meets the criteria of either RCW 47.29.060 (3) or (4).

(6) "Private sector partner" and "private partner" means a person, entity, or organization that is not the federal government, a state, or a political subdivision of a state.

(7) "Public funds" means all moneys derived from taxes, fees, charges, tolls, etc.

(8) "Public sector partner" and "public partner" means any federal or state unit of government, bistate transportation organization, or any other political subdivision of any state.

(9) "Transportation innovative partnership program" or "program" means the program as outlined in RCW 47.29.040.

(10) "Transportation project" means a project, whether capital or operating, where the state's primary purpose for the project is to preserve or facilitate the safe transport of people or goods via any mode of travel. However, this does not include projects that are primarily for recreational purposes, such as parks, hiking trails, off-road vehicle trails, etc.

(11) "Unit of government" means any department or agency of the federal government, any state or agency, office, or department of a state, any city, county, district, commission, authority, entity, port, or other public corporation organized and existing under statutory law or under a voter-approved charter or initiative, and any intergovernmental entity created under chapter 39.34 RCW or this chapter. [2005 c 317 § 2.]

**RCW 47.29.030 Transportation commission powers and duties.** In addition to the powers it now possesses, the commission shall:

(1) Approve or review contracts or agreements authorized in this chapter;

(2) Adopt rules to carry out this chapter and govern the program, which at a minimum must address the following issues:

(a) The types of projects allowed; however, all allowed projects must be included in the Washington transportation plan or identified by the authority as being a priority need for the state;

(b) The types of contracts allowed, with consideration given to the best practices available;

(c) The composition of the team responsible for the evaluation of proposals to include:

(i) Washington state department of transportation staff;

(ii) An independent representative of a consulting or contracting field with no interests in the project that is prohibited from becoming a project manager for the project and bidding on any part of the project;

(iii) An observer from the state auditor's office or the joint legislative audit and review committee;

(iv) A person appointed by the commission, if the secretary of transportation is a cabinet member, or appointed by the governor if the secretary of transportation is not a cabinet member; and

(v) A financial expert;

(d) Minimum standards and criteria required of all proposals;

(e) Procedures for the proper solicitation, acceptance, review, and evaluation of projects;

(f) Criteria to be considered in the evaluation and selection of proposals that includes:

(i) Comparison with the department's internal ability to complete the project that documents the advantages of completing the project as a partnership versus solely as a public venture; and

(ii) Factors such as, but not limited to: Priority, cost, risk sharing, scheduling, and management conditions;

(g) The protection of confidential proprietary information while still meeting the need for public disclosure that is consistent with RCW 47.29.190;

(h) Protection for local contractors to participate in subcontracting opportunities;

(i) Specifying that maintenance issues must be resolved in a manner consistent with the personnel system reform act, chapter 41.80 RCW;

(j) Specifying that provisions regarding patrolling and law enforcement on a public facility are subject to approval by the Washington state patrol;

(3) Adopt guidelines to address security and performance issues.

Preliminary rules and guidelines developed under this section must be submitted to the chairs and ranking members of both transportation committees by November 30, 2005, for review and comment. All final rules and guidelines must be submitted to the full legislature during the 2006 session for review. [2005 c 317 § 3.]

**RCW 47.29.040 Purpose.** The Transportation Innovative Partnerships Act is created for the planning, acquisition, design, financing, management, development, construction, reconstruction, replacement, improvement, maintenance, preservation, repair, and operation of transportation projects. The goals of this chapter are to:

(1) Reduce the cost of transportation project delivery;

(2) Recover transportation investment costs;

- (3) Develop an expedited project delivery process;
  - (4) Encourage business investment in public infrastructure;
  - (5) Use any fund source outside the state treasury, where financially advantageous and in the public interest;
  - (6) Maximize innovation;
  - (7) Develop partnerships between and among private entities and the public sector for the advancement of public purposes on mutually beneficial terms;
  - (8) Create synergies between and among public sector entities to develop projects that serve both transportation and other important public purposes; and
  - (9) Access specialized construction management and project management services and techniques available in the private sector.
- [2005 c 317 § 4.]

**RCW 47.29.050 Eligible projects.** Projects eligible for development under this chapter include:

- (1) Transportation projects, whether capital or operating, where the state's primary purpose for the project is to facilitate the safe transport of people or goods via any mode of travel. However, this does not include projects that are primarily for recreational purposes, such as parks, hiking trails, off-road vehicle trails, etc.; and
- (2) Facilities, structures, operations, properties, vehicles, vessels, or the like that are developed concurrently with an eligible transportation project and that are capable of (a) providing revenues to support financing of an eligible transportation project, or (b) that are public projects that advance public purposes unrelated to transportation. [2005 c 317 § 5.]

**RCW 47.29.060 Eligible financing.** (1) Subject to the limitations in this section, the department may, in connection with the evaluation of eligible projects, consider any financing mechanisms identified under subsections (3) through (5) of this section or any other lawful source, either integrated as part of a project proposal or as a separate, stand-alone proposal to finance a project. Financing may be considered for all or part of a proposed project. A project may be financed in whole or in part with:

- (a) The proceeds of grant anticipation revenue bonds authorized by 23 U.S.C. Sec. 122 and applicable state law. Legislative authorization and appropriation is required in order to use this source of financing;
- (b) Grants, loans, loan guarantees, lines of credit, revolving lines of credit, or other financing arrangements available under the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act under 23 U.S.C. Sec. 181 et seq., or any other applicable federal law;
- (c) Infrastructure loans or assistance from the state infrastructure bank established by RCW 82.44.195;
- (d) Federal, state, or local revenues, subject to appropriation by the applicable legislative authority;
- (e) User fees, tolls, fares, lease proceeds, rents, gross or net receipts from sales, proceeds from the sale of development rights, franchise fees, or any other lawful form of consideration. However, projects financed by tolls or equivalent funding sources must first be authorized by the legislature under RCW 47.56.820.

(2) As security for the payment of financing described in this section, the revenues from the project may be pledged, but no such pledge of revenues constitutes in any manner or to any extent a general obligation of the state. Any financing described in this section may be structured on a senior, parity, or subordinate basis to any other financing.

(3) For any transportation project developed under this chapter that is owned, leased, used, or operated by the state, as a public facility, if indebtedness is issued, it must be issued by the state treasurer for the transportation project.

(4) For other public projects defined in RCW 47.29.050(2) that are developed in conjunction with a transportation project, financing necessary to develop, construct, or operate the public project must be approved by the state finance committee or by the governing board of a public benefit corporation as provided in the federal Internal Revenue Code section 63-20;

(5) For projects that are developed in conjunction with a transportation project but are not themselves a public facility or public project, any lawful means of financing may be used. [2008 c 122 § 18; 2005 c 317 § 6.]

**RCW 47.29.070 Use of federal funds and similar revenues.** The department may accept from the United States or any of its agencies such funds as are available to this state or to any other unit of government for carrying out the purposes of this chapter, whether the funds are made available by grant, loan, or other financing arrangement. The department may enter into such agreements and other arrangements with the United States or any of its agencies as may be necessary, proper, and convenient for carrying out the purposes of this chapter, subject to RCW 47.29.080. [2005 c 317 § 7.]

**RCW 47.29.080 Other sources of funds or property.** The department may accept from any source any grant, donation, gift, or other form of conveyance of land, money, other real or personal property, or other valuable thing made to the state of Washington, the department, or a local government for carrying out the purposes of this chapter.

Any eligible project may be financed in whole or in part by contribution of any funds or property made by any private entity or public sector partner that is a party to any agreement entered into under this chapter. [2005 c 317 § 8.]

**RCW 47.29.090 Project review, evaluation, and selection.** (1) Subject to subsection (2) of this section, the commission may:

(a) Solicit concepts or proposals for eligible projects from private entities and units of government;

(b) On or after January 1, 2007, accept unsolicited concepts or proposals for eligible projects from private entities and units of government, subject to RCW 47.29.170;

(c) Direct the department to evaluate projects for inclusion in the transportation innovative partnerships program that are already programmed or identified for traditional development by the state;

(d) Direct the department to evaluate the concepts or proposals received under this section; and

(e) Select potential projects based on the concepts or proposals. The evaluation under this subsection must include consultation with any appropriate unit of government.

(2) Before undertaking any of the activities contained in subsection (1) of this section, the commission must have:

(a) Completed the tolling feasibility study; and

(b) Adopted rules specifying procedures for the proper solicitation, acceptance, review, and evaluation of projects, which procedures must include:

(i) A comparison with the department's internal ability to complete the project that documents the advantages of completing the project as a partnership versus solely as a public venture; and

(ii) Factors such as priority, cost, risk sharing, scheduling, and management conditions. [2005 c 317 § 9.]

**RCW 47.29.100 Administrative fee.** The department may charge a reasonable administrative fee for the evaluation of an unsolicited project proposal. The amount of the fee will be established in rules of the commission. [2005 c 317 § 10.]

**RCW 47.29.110 Funds for proposal evaluation and negotiation.** The department may spend, out of any funds identified for the purpose, such moneys as may be necessary for the evaluation of concepts or proposals for eligible projects and for negotiating agreements for eligible projects authorized by this chapter. The department may employ engineers, consultants, or other experts the department determines are needed for the purposes of doing the evaluation and negotiation. Expenses incurred by the department under this section before the issuance of transportation project bonds or other financing must be paid by the department and charged to the appropriate project. The department shall keep records and accounts showing each amount so charged.

Unless otherwise provided in the omnibus transportation budget the funds spent by the department under this section in connection with the project must be repaid from the proceeds of the bonds or other financing upon the sale of transportation project bonds or upon obtaining other financing for an eligible project, as allowed by law or contract. [2005 c 317 § 11.]

**RCW 47.29.120 Expert consultation.** The commission and department may consult with legal, financial, and other experts inside and outside the public sector in the evaluation, negotiation, and development of projects under this chapter, consistent with RCW 43.10.040 where applicable. [2005 c 317 § 12.]

**RCW 47.29.130 Contracted studies.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and in the absence of any direct federal funding or direction, the department may contract with a private developer of a selected project proposal to conduct environmental impact studies and engineering and technical studies. [2005 c 317 § 13.]

**RCW 47.29.140 Partnership agreements.** (1) The following provisions must be included in any agreement to which the state is a party:

(a) For any project that proposes terms for stand-alone maintenance or asset management services for a public facility, those services must be provided in a manner consistent with any collective bargaining agreements, the personnel system reform act (chapter 41.80 RCW), and civil service laws that are in effect for the public facility;

(b) Transportation projects that are selected for development under this chapter must be identified in the Washington transportation plan or be identified by the authority as being a priority need for the state;

(c) If there is a tolling component to the project, then it must be specified that tolling technology used in the project must be consistent with tolling technology standards adopted by the department for transportation-related projects;

(d) Provisions for bonding, financial guarantees, deposits, or the posting of other security to secure the payment of laborers, subcontractors, and suppliers who perform work or provide materials as part of the project;

(e) All projects must be financed in a manner consistent with RCW 47.29.060. This chapter is null and void if this subsection or RCW 47.29.060 fails to become law or is held invalid by a court of final jurisdiction.

(2) Agreements between the state and private sector partners entered into under this section must specifically include the following contractual elements:

(a) The point in the project at which public and private sector partners will enter the project and which partners will assume responsibility for specific project elements;

(b) How the partners will share management of the risks of the project;

(c) How the partners will share the costs of development of the project;

(d) How the partners will allocate financial responsibility for cost overruns;

(e) The penalties for nonperformance;

(f) The incentives for performance;

(g) The accounting and auditing standards to be used to evaluate work on the project;

(h) For any project that reverts to public ownership, the responsibility for reconstruction or renovations that are required in order for a facility to meet all applicable government standards upon reversion of the facility to the state; and

(i) Provisions for patrolling and law enforcement on transportation projects that are public facilities. [2005 c 317 § 14.]

**RCW 47.29.150 Public involvement and participation.** (1) Before final approval, agreements entered into under this chapter must include a process that provides for public involvement and participation with respect to the development of the projects. This plan must be submitted along with the proposed agreement, and both must be approved under RCW 47.29.160 before the state may enter a binding agreement.

(2) All workshops, forums, open houses, meetings, public hearings, or similar public gatherings must be administered and attended by representatives of the state and any other public entities that are party to an agreement authorized by this chapter. [2005 c 317 § 15.]

**RCW 47.29.160 Approval and execution.** (1) Before approving an agreement under subsection (2) of this section, the commission, with the technical assistance of the department, must:

(a) Prepare a financial analysis that fully discloses all project costs, direct and indirect, including costs of any financing;

(b) Publish notice and make available the contents of the agreement, with the exception of patent information, at least twenty days before the public hearing required in (c) of this subsection; and

(c) Hold a public hearing on the proposed agreement, with proper notice provided at least twenty days before the hearing. The public hearing must be held within the boundaries of the county seat of the county containing the project.

(2) The commission must allow at least twenty days from the public hearing on the proposed agreement required under subsection (1)(c) of this section before approving and executing any agreements authorized under this chapter. [2005 c 317 § 16.]

**RCW 47.29.170 Unsolicited proposals.** Before accepting any unsolicited project proposals, the commission must adopt rules to facilitate the acceptance, review, evaluation, and selection of unsolicited project proposals. These rules must include the following:

(1) Provisions that specify unsolicited proposals must meet predetermined criteria;

(2) Provisions governing procedures for the cessation of negotiations and consideration;

(3) Provisions outlining that unsolicited proposals are subject to a two-step process that begins with concept proposals and would only advance to the second step, which are fully detailed proposals, if the commission so directed;

(4) Provisions that require concept proposals to include at least the following information: Proposers' qualifications and experience; description of the proposed project and impact; proposed project financing; and known public benefits and opposition; and

(5) Provisions that specify the process to be followed if the commission is interested in the concept proposal, which must include provisions:

(a) Requiring that information regarding the potential project would be published for a period of not less than thirty days, during which time entities could express interest in submitting a proposal;

(b) Specifying that if letters of interest were received during the thirty days, then an additional sixty days for submission of the fully detailed proposal would be allowed; and

(c) Procedures for what will happen if there are insufficient proposals submitted or if there are no letters of interest submitted in the appropriate time frame.

The commission may adopt other rules as necessary to avoid conflicts with existing laws, statutes, or contractual obligations of the state.

The commission may not accept or consider any unsolicited proposals before July 1, 2018. [2017 c 313 § 711; 2015 1st sp.s. c 10 § 704; 2013 c 306 § 708; 2011 c 367 § 701; 2009 c 470 § 702; 2007 c 518 § 702; 2006 c 370 § 604; 2005 c 317 § 17.]

**Effective date—2017 c 313:** See note following RCW 43.19.642.

**Effective date—2015 1st sp.s. c 10:** See note following RCW 43.19.642.

**Effective date—2013 c 306:** See note following RCW 47.64.170.

**Effective date—2011 c 367:** "Except for sections 703, 704, 705, 716, 719, and 722 of this act, this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [May 16, 2011]." [2011 c 367 § 1102.]

**Effective date—2009 c 470:** See note following RCW 46.68.170.

**Severability—Effective date—2007 c 518:** See notes following RCW 46.68.170.

**Severability—2006 c 370:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [2006 c 370 § 701.]

**Effective date—2006 c 370:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [March 31, 2006]." [2006 c 370 § 702.]

**RCW 47.29.180 Advisory committees.** For projects with costs, including financing costs, of three hundred million dollars or greater, advisory committees are required.

(1) The commission must establish an advisory committee to advise with respect to eligible projects. An advisory committee must consist of not fewer than five and not more than nine members, as determined by the public partners. Members must be appointed by the commission, or for projects with joint public sector participation, in a manner agreed to by the commission and any participating unit of government. In making appointments to the committee, the commission shall consider persons or organizations offering a diversity of viewpoints on the project.

(2) An advisory committee shall review concepts or proposals for eligible projects and submit comments to the public sector partners.

(3) An advisory committee shall meet as necessary at times and places fixed by the department, but not less than twice per year. The state shall provide personnel services to assist the advisory committee within the limits of available funds. An advisory committee may adopt rules to govern its proceedings and may select officers.

(4) An advisory committee must be dissolved once the project has been fully constructed and debt issued to pay for the project has been fully retired. [2005 c 317 § 18.]



**RCW 47.29.190 Confidentiality.** A proposer shall identify those portions of a proposal that the proposer considers to be confidential, proprietary information, or trade secrets and provide any justification as to why these materials, upon request, should not be disclosed by the authority. Patent information will be covered until the patent expires. Other information such as originality of design or records of negotiation may only be protected under this section until an agreement is reached. Disclosure must occur before final agreement and execution of the contract. Projects under federal jurisdiction or using federal funds must conform to federal regulations under the Freedom of Information Act. [2005 c 317 § 19.]

**RCW 47.29.200 Prevailing wages.** If public funds are used to pay any costs of construction of a public facility that is part of an eligible project, chapter 39.12 RCW applies to the entire eligible public works project. [2005 c 317 § 20.]

**RCW 47.29.210 Government agreements.** The state may, either separately or in combination with any other public sector partner, enter into working agreements, coordination agreements, or similar implementation agreements, including the formation of bistate transportation organizations, to carry out the joint implementation of a transportation project selected under this chapter. The state may enter into agreements with other units of government or Canadian provinces for transborder transportation projects. [2005 c 317 § 21.]

**RCW 47.29.220 Eminent domain.** The state may exercise the power of eminent domain to acquire property, rights-of-way, or other rights in property for projects that are necessary to implement an eligible project developed under this chapter, regardless of whether the property will be owned in fee simple by the state. [2005 c 317 § 22.]

**RCW 47.29.230 Transportation innovative partnership account.**

(1) The transportation innovative partnership account is established in the custody of the state treasurer separate and distinct from the state general fund. Interest earned by the transportation innovative partnership account must be credited to the account. The account is subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW.

(2) The following moneys must be deposited into the transportation innovative partnership account:

(a) Proceeds from bonds or other financing instruments issued under RCW 47.29.250;

(b) Revenues received from any transportation project developed under this chapter or developed under the general powers granted to the department; and

(c) Any other moneys that are by donation, grant, contract, law, or other means transferred, allocated, or appropriated to the account.

(3) Moneys in the transportation innovative partnership account may only be expended upon evidence of approval by the Washington state legislature, either upon appropriation of supporting state funds or by other statutory direction.

(4) The state treasurer shall serve as a fiduciary for the purpose of carrying out this chapter and implementing all or portions of any transportation project financed under this chapter.

(5) Moneys in the transportation innovative partnership account that were derived from revenue subject to Article II, section 40 (Amendment 18) of the Washington state Constitution, may be used only for purposes authorized by that provision of the state Constitution.

(6) The state treasurer shall establish separate subaccounts within the transportation innovative partnership account for each transportation project that is initiated under this chapter or under the general powers granted to the department. Except as provided in subsection (5) of this section, the state may pledge moneys in the transportation innovative partnership account to secure revenue bonds or any other debt obligations relating to the project for which the account is established. [2005 c 317 § 23.]

**RCW 47.29.240 Use of account.** (1) The state may use moneys in the transportation innovative partnership subaccount to ensure the repayment of loan guarantees or extensions of credit made to or on behalf of private entities engaged in the planning, acquisition, financing, development, design, construction, reconstruction, replacement, improvement, maintenance, preservation, management, repair, or operation of any eligible project that is related to a subaccount established under this chapter.

(2) The lien of a pledge made under this section is subordinate to the lien of a pledge securing bonds payable from moneys in the motor vehicle fund established in RCW 46.68.070, or the transportation innovative partnership account established in RCW 47.29.230. [2005 c 317 § 24.]

**RCW 47.29.250 Issuing bonds and other obligations.** (1) In addition to any authority the commission or department has to issue and sell bonds and other similar obligations, this section establishes continuing authority for the issuance and sale of bonds and other similar obligations in a manner consistent with this section. To finance a project in whole or in part, the commission may request that the state treasurer issue revenue bonds on behalf of the public sector partner. The bonds must be secured by a pledge of, and a lien on, and be payable only from moneys in the transportation innovative partnership account established in RCW 47.29.230, and any other revenues specifically pledged to repayment of the bonds. Such a pledge by the public partner creates a lien that is valid and binding from the time the pledge is made. Revenue bonds issued under this section are not general obligations of the state or local government and are not secured by or payable from any funds or assets of the state other than the moneys and revenues specifically pledged to the repayment of such revenue bonds.

(2) Moneys received from the issuance of revenue bonds or other debt obligations, including any investment earnings thereon, may be spent:

(a) For the purpose of financing the costs of the project for which the bonds are issued;

(b) To pay the costs and other administrative expenses of the bonds;

(c) To pay the costs of credit enhancement or to fund any reserves determined to be necessary or advantageous in connection with the revenue bonds; and

(d) To reimburse the public sector partners for any costs related to carrying out the projects authorized under this chapter. [2005 c 317 § 25.]

**RCW 47.29.260 Study and report.** The department shall conduct a study of:

(1) The contracting powers and project management authorities it currently possesses; those same powers and authorities authorized under this chapter; and those powers and authorities employed by other states or the private sector;

(2) Methods of encouraging competition for the development of transportation projects; and

(3) Any additional procedures that may be necessary or desirable for negotiating contracts in situations of a single qualified bidder, in either solicited or unsolicited proposals.

The department must submit its report, along with any recommended legislative changes, to the commission by November 1, 2005, and to the governor and the legislature for consideration in the 2006 legislative session. [2005 c 317 § 26.]

**RCW 47.29.270 Federal laws.** Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter, applicable federal laws, rules, and regulations govern in any situation that involves federal funds if the federal laws, rules, or regulations:

(1) Conflict with any provision of this chapter;

(2) Require procedures that are additional to or different from those provided in this chapter; or

(3) Require contract provisions not authorized in this chapter.

If no federal funds are provided, state laws, rates, and rules will govern. [2005 c 317 § 27.]

**RCW 47.29.280 Expert review panel on proposed project agreements**

**—Creation—Authority.** (1) The department shall establish an expert review panel to review, analyze, and make recommendations to the governor and the transportation commission on whether to approve, reject, or continue negotiations on a proposed project agreement under this chapter. The department shall provide staff to support the expert review panel, if requested by the panel. The expert review panel may utilize any of the consultants under contract for the department, and the expert review panel may contract for consulting expertise in specific areas as it deems necessary to ensure a thorough and critical review of any proposed project agreement.

(2) The governor shall appoint members of an expert review panel that have experience in large capital project delivery, public-private partnerships, public financing of infrastructure improvements, or other areas of expertise that will benefit the panel. The panel shall consist of no less than three, but no more than five members, as determined by the governor. [2006 c 334 § 49.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**RCW 47.29.290 Expert review panel on proposed project agreements**  
**—Execution of agreements.** Upon receiving the recommendations of the expert review panel as provided in RCW 47.29.280, and upon consultation with the governor, the transportation commission shall either execute the proposed project agreement, reject the proposed project agreement, or continue further negotiations between the state and a private partner. The execution of any agreement or the rejection of any agreement shall constitute a final action for legal or administrative purposes. [2006 c 334 § 50.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**Chapter 47.30 RCW**  
**TRAILS AND PATHS**

**Sections**

- 47.30.005 Definitions.
- 47.30.010 Recreational trail interference.
- 47.30.020 Facilities for nonmotorized traffic—Joint usage of rights-of-way.
- 47.30.030 Facilities for nonmotorized traffic—Expenditure of available funds.
- 47.30.040 Establishing paths and trails—Factors to be considered.
- 47.30.050 Expenditures for paths and trails—Minimum amount.
- 47.30.060 Expenditures deemed to be for highway purposes—Powers and duties of department—Restrictions on use of paths and trails.
- 47.30.070 Bicycle, equestrian, pedestrian paths as public highways.

*Recreation trails system: Chapter 79A.35 RCW.*

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- 47.30.070 Bicycle, equestrian, pedestrian paths as public highways.

*Recreation trails system: Chapter 79A.35 RCW.*

**RCW 47.30.005 Definitions.** For the purposes of this chapter, "trail" or "path" means a public way constructed primarily for and open to pedestrians, equestrians, or bicyclists, or any combination thereof, other than a sidewalk constructed as a part of a city street or county road for the exclusive use of pedestrians. The term "trail" or "path" also includes a widened shoulder of a highway, street, or road when the extra shoulder width is constructed to accommodate bicyclists consistent with a comprehensive plan or master plan for bicycle trails or paths adopted by a state or local governmental authority either prior to such construction or prior to January 1, 1980. [1979 ex.s. c 121 § 4.]

**RCW 47.30.010 Recreational trail interference.** (1) No limited access highway shall be constructed that will result in the severance or destruction of an existing recreational trail of substantial usage for pedestrians, equestrians or bicyclists unless an alternative recreational trail, satisfactory to the authority having jurisdiction over the trail being severed or destroyed, either exists or is reestablished at the time the limited access highway is constructed. If a proposed limited access highway will sever a planned recreational trail which is part of a comprehensive plan for trails adopted by a state or local governmental authority, and no alternative route for the planned trail exists which is satisfactory to the authority which adopted the comprehensive plan for trails, the state or local agency proposing to construct the limited access highway shall design the facility and acquire sufficient right-of-way to accommodate future construction of the portion of the trail which will properly lie within the highway right-of-way. Thereafter when such trail is developed and constructed by the authority having jurisdiction over the trail, the state or local agency which constructed the limited access highway shall develop and construct the portion of such trail lying within the right-of-way of the limited access highway.

(2) Where a highway other than a limited access highway crosses a recreational trail of substantial usage for pedestrians, equestrians, or bicyclists, signing sufficient to insure safety shall be provided.

(3) Where the construction or reconstruction of a highway other than a limited access highway would destroy the usefulness of an existing recreational trail of substantial usage for pedestrians, equestrians, or bicyclists or of a planned recreational trail for pedestrians, equestrians, or bicyclists incorporated into the comprehensive plans for trails of the state or any of its political subdivisions, replacement land, space, or facilities shall be provided and where such recreational trails exist at the time of taking, reconstruction of said recreational trails shall be undertaken. [1971 ex.s. c 130 § 1.]

**RCW 47.30.020 Facilities for nonmotorized traffic—Joint usage of rights-of-way.** Facilities for pedestrians, equestrians, or bicyclists shall be incorporated into the design of highways and freeways along corridors where such facilities do not exist upon a finding that such facilities would be of joint use and conform to the comprehensive plans of public agencies for the development of such facilities, will not duplicate existing or proposed routes, and that safety to both motorists and to pedestrians, equestrians, and bicyclists would be enhanced by the segregation of traffic.

In planning and design of all highways, every effort shall be made consistent with safety to promote joint usage of rights-of-way for trails and paths in accordance with the comprehensive plans of public agencies. [1971 ex.s. c 130 § 2.]

**RCW 47.30.030 Facilities for nonmotorized traffic—Expenditure of available funds.** Where an existing highway severs, or where the right-of-way of an existing highway accommodates a trail for pedestrians, equestrians, or bicyclists or where the separation of motor vehicle traffic from pedestrians, equestrians, or bicyclists will materially increase the motor vehicle safety, the provision of facilities for pedestrians, equestrians, or bicyclists which are a part of a comprehensive trail plan adopted by federal, state, or local governmental authority having jurisdiction over the trail is hereby authorized. The department of transportation, or the county or city having jurisdiction over the highway, road, or street, or facility is further authorized to expend reasonable amounts out of the funds made available to them, according to the provisions of RCW 46.68.090, as necessary for the planning, accommodation, establishment, and maintenance of such facilities. [1999 c 269 § 10; 1979 ex.s. c 121 § 1; 1974 ex.s. c 141 § 12; 1972 ex.s. c 103 § 2.]

**Effective date—1999 c 269:** See note following RCW 36.78.070.

**Severability—1972 ex.s. c 103:** "If any provision of this 1972 amendatory act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1972 ex.s. c 103 § 8.]

**RCW 47.30.040 Establishing paths and trails—Factors to be considered.** Before establishing paths and trails, the following factors shall be considered:

- (1) Public safety;
- (2) The cost of such paths and trails as compared to the need or probable use;
- (3) Inclusion of the trail in a plan for a comprehensive trail system adopted by a city or county in a state or federal trails plan. [1972 ex.s. c 103 § 3.]

**Severability—1972 ex.s. c 103:** See note following RCW 47.30.030.

**RCW 47.30.050 Expenditures for paths and trails—Minimum amount.**

(1) The amount expended by a city, town, or county as authorized by RCW 47.30.030 shall never in any one fiscal year be less than 0.42 percent of the total amount of funds received from the motor vehicle fund according to RCW 46.68.090. However, this section does not apply to a city or town in any year in which the 0.42 percent equals five hundred dollars or less, or to a county in any year in which the 0.42 percent equals three thousand dollars or less. Also, a city, town, or county in lieu of expending the funds each year may credit the funds to a financial reserve or special fund, to be held for not more than ten years, and to be expended for the purposes required or permitted by RCW 47.30.030.

(2) In each fiscal year the department of transportation shall expend, as a minimum, for the purposes mentioned in RCW 47.30.030 a sum equal to three-tenths of one percent of all funds, both state and federal, expended for the construction of state highways in such year, or in order to more efficiently program trail improvements the department may defer any part of such minimum trail or path expenditures for a fiscal year for a period not to exceed four years after the end of such fiscal year. Any fiscal year in which the department expends for trail or path purposes more than the minimum sum required by this subsection, the amount of such excess expenditure shall constitute a credit which may be carried forward and applied to the minimum trail and path expenditure requirements for any of the ensuing four fiscal years.

(3) The department of transportation, a city, or a county in computing the amount expended for trails or paths under their respective jurisdictions may include the cost of improvements consistent with a comprehensive plan or master plan for bicycle trails or paths adopted by a state or local governmental authority either prior to such construction or prior to January 1, 1980. [1999 c 269 § 11; 1979 ex.s. c 121 § 2; 1972 ex.s. c 103 § 4.]

**Effective date—1999 c 269:** See note following RCW 36.78.070.

**Severability—1972 ex.s. c 103:** See note following RCW 47.30.030.

*Perpetual advanced six-year plans for coordinated transportation program, expenditures—Nonmotorized transportation—Railroad right-of-way: RCW 36.81.121.*

**RCW 47.30.060 Expenditures deemed to be for highway purposes—Powers and duties of department—Restrictions on use of paths and trails.** For the purposes of this chapter, the establishment of paths and trails and the expenditure of funds as authorized by RCW



47.30.030, as now or hereafter amended, shall be deemed to be for highway, road, and street purposes. The department of transportation shall, when requested, and subject to reimbursement of costs, provide technical assistance and advice to cities, towns, and counties in carrying out the purposes of RCW 47.30.030, as now or hereafter amended. The department shall recommend construction standards for paths and trails. The department shall provide a uniform system of signing paths and trails which shall apply to paths and trails under the jurisdiction of the department and of cities, towns, and counties. The department and cities, towns, and counties may restrict the use of paths and trails under their respective jurisdictions to pedestrians, equestrians, and nonmotorized vehicles. [1979 ex.s. c 121 § 3; 1972 ex.s. c 103 § 5.]

**Severability—1972 ex.s. c 103:** See note following RCW 47.30.030.

**RCW 47.30.070 Bicycle, equestrian, pedestrian paths as public highways.** For purposes of 43 U.S.C. 912 and related provisions of federal law involving federally granted railroad rights-of-way, a bicycle, equestrian or pedestrian path shall be deemed to be a public highway under the laws of the state of Washington. [1993 c 224 § 14.]

**Chapter 47.32 RCW**  
**OBSTRUCTIONS ON RIGHT-OF-WAY**

**Sections**

- 47.32.010 Order to remove obstructions—Removal by state.
- 47.32.020 Notice of order, contents, posting—Return.
- 47.32.030 Proceedings in rem authorized—Records certified.
- 47.32.040 Complaint, contents.
- 47.32.050 Notice, action, service, contents—Proceedings void when.
- 47.32.060 Hearing—Findings—Order—Appellate review.
- 47.32.070 Writ, execution of—Return—Disposition of unsold property.
- 47.32.080 Property reclaimed—Bond.
- 47.32.090 Sureties on bond—Hearing on claim.
- 47.32.100 Procedure when claimant wins or loses.
- 47.32.110 Merchandising structures—Permit—Removal.
- 47.32.120 Business places along highway.
- 47.32.130 Dangerous objects and structures as nuisances—Logs—Abatement—Removal.
- 47.32.140 Railroad grade crossings, obstructions—Hearing.
- 47.32.150 Approach roads, other appurtenances—Permit.
- 47.32.160 Approach roads, other appurtenances—Rules—Construction, maintenance of approach roads.
- 47.32.170 Approach roads, other appurtenances—Removal of installations from right-of-way for default.

*Fences: Chapter 16.60 RCW.*

*Mobile home or park model trailer movement permits and decals: RCW 46.44.170 through 46.44.175.*

*Removal of disabled vehicle: RCW 46.55.113.*

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- 47.32.160 Approach roads, other appurtenances—Rules—Construction, maintenance of approach roads.
- 47.32.170 Approach roads, other appurtenances—Removal of installations from right-of-way for default.

*Fences: Chapter 16.60 RCW.*

*Mobile home or park model trailer movement permits and decals: RCW 46.44.170 through 46.44.175.*

*Removal of disabled vehicle: RCW 46.55.113.*

**RCW 47.32.010 Order to remove obstructions—Removal by state.**

Whenever the department determines and orders that it is necessary for the convenience and safety of public travel and the use of (or construction, alteration, repair, improvement, or maintenance of) any state highway to have the full width of right-of-way of any such state highway or of any portion of the right-of-way of any such state highway free from any and all obstructions, encroachments, and occupancy, other than pole lines, pipe lines, or other structures maintained thereon for public or quasi-public utilities by virtue of a valid franchise, and causes due notice of the order to be given as provided by law, the obstructions, encroachments, and means of occupancy, and any structure, building, improvement, or other means of occupancy of any of the right-of-way of the state highway not removed within the time allowed by law shall become an unlawful property and may be confiscated, removed, and sold or destroyed by the state of Washington according to procedure as provided in this chapter, without any right in anyone to make any claim therefor, either by reason of the removal thereof or otherwise. It is unlawful for any person to keep, maintain, or occupy any such unlawful structure. [1984 c 7 § 176; 1961 c 13 § 47.32.010. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 68; RRS § 6400-68.]

**RCW 47.32.020 Notice of order, contents, posting—Return.**

Whenever the department determines that the right-of-way of any state highway or any portion of the right-of-way of any state highway shall be made free from any and all obstructions, encroachments, and occupancy it shall forthwith cause to be posted, by a competent person eighteen years of age or over upon any and all structures, buildings, improvements, and other means of occupancy of the state highway or portion thereof, other than property of public or quasi-public utilities, by virtue of a valid franchise, a notice bearing a copy of the order and dated as of the date of posting, to all whom it may concern to vacate the right-of-way and to remove all property from the right-of-way within ten days after the posting of the notice, exclusive of the date of posting. The department shall also require the filing of duplicate affidavits in proof of the postings, showing upon what structures, buildings, improvements, or other means of occupancy of the state highway or portions thereof, respectively, copies of the notice were posted and the date of each such posting, sworn to by the person making the posting. [1984 c 7 § 177; 1971 ex.s. c 292 § 46; 1961 c 13 § 47.32.020. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 69; RRS § 6400-69.]

**Severability—1971 ex.s. c 292:** See note following RCW 26.28.010.

**RCW 47.32.030 Proceedings in rem authorized—Records certified.**

In case the property or any portion thereof described in the notice is not removed from the right-of-way within ten days after the date of the posting, exclusive of the date of posting, all such property upon the right-of-way of the state highway or portion thereof becomes unlawful, and the department shall commence proceedings in the name of the state of Washington for the removal thereof by court action. The department shall thereupon prepare two original copies of the order together with two copies each of the notice posted and of the affidavits in proof of posting thereof and duplicate copies of a certificate by the department describing with reasonable certainty and with due reference to the center line stationing of the state highway and to proper legal subdivisional points, each structure, building, improvement, encroachment, or other means of occupancy, other than pole lines, pipe lines, or other structures maintained for public and quasi-public utilities, on the state highway or portion thereof specified in the order that remain upon the right-of-way as aforesaid. Thereupon action shall be commenced in rem for the purpose of removal of all such unlawful property, in the superior court of the county in which the state highway or portion thereof containing the structures is situated, entitled and in the name of the state of Washington as plaintiff and describing each unlawful structure, building, improvement, encroachment, or other means of occupancy, which structures, buildings, improvements, encroachments, or other means of occupancy shall be briefly named as defendants. [1984 c 7 § 178; 1961 c 13 § 47.32.030. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 70; RRS § 6400-70; prior: 1925 ex.s. c 131 § 3; RRS § 6837-3.]

**RCW 47.32.040 Complaint, contents.** The complaint shall, in such action, describe the property unlawfully remaining upon the right-of-way of the state highway or portion thereof with reasonable certainty

by reference to the certificate of the department, which shall be attached to and filed with the complaint, and pray that an order be entered for the removal from the right-of-way of the state highway or portion thereof of all the described property unlawfully thereon and the disposal thereof. [1984 c 7 § 179; 1961 c 13 § 47.32.040. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 71; RRS § 6400-71; prior: 1925 ex.s. c 131 § 4; RRS § 6837-4.]

**RCW 47.32.050 Notice, action, service, contents—Proceedings void when.** Service of such complaint shall be given by publication of notice thereof once a week for two successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which such action is commenced, which notice shall briefly state the objects of the action and contain a brief description of each structure, building, improvement, encroachment or other means of occupancy sought to be removed from the right-of-way of the state highway, describe such state highway or portion thereof by number and location and state the time and place when and where the action will come before the court or judge thereof; and a copy of such notice shall also be posted at least ten days before the date of hearing of such action upon each such structure, building, improvement, encroachment or other means of occupancy described therein. Posting may be made by any person qualified to serve legal process. Want of posting upon, or failure to describe any such structure, building, improvement, encroachment or other means of occupancy shall render subsequent proceedings void as to those not posted upon or described but all others described and posted upon shall be bound by the subsequent proceedings. [1961 c 13 § 47.32.050. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 72; RRS 6400-72; prior: 1925 ex.s. c 131 § 5; RRS § 6837-5.]

**RCW 47.32.060 Hearing—Findings—Order—Appellate review.** At the time and place appointed for hearing upon the complaint, which hearing shall be by summary proceedings, if the court or judge thereof finds that due notice has been given by posting and publication and that the order of the department was duly made, and is further satisfied and finds that the state highway or portion thereof described is legally a state highway having the width of right-of-way specified in the order and that the structure, buildings, improvements, or other means of occupancy of the state highway or portion thereof as stated in the certificate of the department do in fact encroach, or that any portion thereof encroach, upon the state highway right-of-way, the court or judge thereof shall thereupon make and enter an order establishing that each of the structures, buildings, improvements, and other means of occupancy specified in the order is unlawfully maintained within the right-of-way and is subject to confiscation and sale and that they be forthwith confiscated, removed from the right-of-way, and sold, and providing that six days after the entry of the order, a writ shall issue from the court directed to the sheriff of the county, commanding the sheriff to seize and remove from the right-of-way of the state highway each such structure, building, improvement, or other means of occupancy specified in the order forthwith on receipt of a writ based on the order and to take and hold the property in his or her custody for a period of ten days, unless redelivered earlier as provided for by law, and if not then so redelivered to sell the property at public

or private sale and to pay the proceeds thereof into the registry of the court within sixty days after the issuance of the writ, and further in such action, including costs of posting original notices of the department, the costs of posting and publishing notices of hearing as part thereof and any cost of removal, be paid by the clerk to the state treasurer and credited to the motor vehicle fund. The order shall be filed with the clerk of the court and recorded in the minutes of the court, and is final unless appellate review thereof is sought within five days after filing of the order. [2010 c 8 § 10010; 1988 c 202 § 45; 1984 c 7 § 180; 1961 c 13 § 47.32.060. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 73; RRS § 6400-73; prior: 1925 ex.s. c 131 § 7; RRS § 6837-7.]

**Severability—1988 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.24.050.

**RCW 47.32.070 Writ, execution of—Return—Disposition of unsold property.** Six days after filing of the order above provided for, if no review thereof be taken to the supreme court or the court of appeals of the state, the clerk of the court shall issue under seal of such court a writ directed to the sheriff of the county in which such court is held commanding him or her to remove, take into custody and dispose of the property described in such order and make returns thereof as provided for such writ by said order. On receipt of such writ it shall be the duty of such sheriff to obey the command thereof, proceed as therein directed and make return within the time fixed by such writ; and said sheriff shall be liable upon his or her official bond for the faithful discharge of such duties. Upon filing of such return the clerk of court shall make payments as provided for in the order of court. If by the sheriff's return any of the property seized and removed pursuant to such writ is returned as unsold and as of no sale value, and if the court or judge thereof be satisfied that such is the fact, the court or judge thereof may make further order directing the destruction of such property, otherwise directing the sheriff to give new notice and again offer the same for sale, when, if not sold, the same may on order of court be destroyed. [2010 c 8 § 10011; 1971 c 81 § 115; 1961 c 13 § 47.32.070. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 74; RRS § 6400-74; prior: 1925 ex.s. c 131 § 8; RRS § 6837-8.]

**RCW 47.32.080 Property reclaimed—Bond.** At any time within ten days after the removal by virtue of such writ of any such property from the right-of-way of such state highway any person, firm, association or corporation claiming ownership or right of possession of any such property may have the right to demand and to receive the same from the sheriff upon making an affidavit that such claimant owns such property or is entitled to possession thereof, stating on oath the value thereof satisfactory to said sheriff, or which value shall be raised to a value satisfactory to said sheriff, which value shall be indorsed on said affidavit and signed both by said claimant and said sheriff before such sheriff shall be required to accept the bond hereinafter provided for, and deliver to the sheriff a bond with sureties in double the value of such property, conditioned that such claimant will appear in the superior court of such county within ten days after the bond is accepted by the sheriff and make good such claim of title thereto and pay all accrued costs of service of notice to remove, all costs and disbursements to be assessed to such property

and the costs of removal and custody thereof and will hold said sheriff and the state of Washington free from any and all claims on account of such property or will return such property or pay its value to said sheriff, and that such claimant will at all times thereafter keep such property off the right-of-way of the state highway in question. [1961 c 13 § 47.32.080. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 75; RRS § 6400-75; prior: 1925 ex.s. c 131 § 9; RRS § 6837-9.]

**RCW 47.32.090 Sureties on bond—Hearing on claim.** The sureties on such bond shall justify as in other cases if the sheriff requires it and in case they do not so justify when required, the sheriff shall retain and sell or dispose of the property; and if the sheriff does not require the sureties to justify, he or she shall stand good for their sufficiency. He or she shall date and indorse his or her acceptance upon the bond, and shall return the affidavit, bond and justification, if any, to the office of the clerk of such superior court, whereupon such clerk shall set the hearing thereof as a separate case for trial, in which such claimant shall be the plaintiff and the sheriff and the state of Washington defendants: PROVIDED, That no costs shall, in such case, be assessed against the sheriff or the state of Washington in the event the plaintiff should prevail. [2010 c 8 § 10012; 1961 c 13 § 47.32.090. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 76; RRS § 6400-76; prior: 1925 ex.s. c 131 § 10; RRS § 6837-10.]

**RCW 47.32.100 Procedure when claimant wins or loses.** If the claimant makes good the claimant's title to or right to possession of the property, upon payment into the registry of the court of the costs of service or posting of original notice issued by the department with respect to the property, the cost of posting notice of hearing in the court and such proportion of the cost of publication of the notice as the court may fix and direct to be entered and the clerk's fees of filing the affidavit and bond as a separate action and of entry of judgment therein at the amounts provided for in civil actions, judgment shall be entered restoring the property to the claimant without any confirmation of title as to any other claimant thereto, relieving the sheriff from necessity of selling the property and making return thereon, and continuing the effect of the bond for a period of six years thereafter for the benefit of such adverse claimants to the property, if any, as may thereafter make claim to the property. If the claimant does not make good such claim of title to or right to possession of the property, judgment shall be rendered against the claimant and the sureties of the claimant for the value of the property as finally shown by the affidavit as above provided for, together with such fees for filing the affidavit and bond as a separate action and for entry of judgment therein and other costs and disbursements as taxed in any civil action including the statutory attorney fee as part thereof, for all of which execution may accordingly issue, and relieving the sheriff from the necessity of selling the property or making return thereon. [1984 c 7 § 181; 1961 c 13 § 47.32.100. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 77; RRS § 6400-77; prior: 1925 ex.s. c 131 § 11; RRS § 6837-11.]

**RCW 47.32.110 Merchandising structures—Permit—Removal.** It is unlawful for any person to build, erect, establish, operate, maintain, or conduct along and upon the right-of-way of any state highway any platform, box, stand, or any other temporary or permanent device or structure used or to be used for the purpose of receiving, vending, or delivering any milk, milk cans, vegetables, fruits, merchandise, produce, or any other thing or commodity of any nature unless a permit therefor has first been obtained from the department. The department shall in each instance determine where any platform, box, stand, or any other temporary or permanent device or structure shall be permitted. Upon the existence of any such device or structure without a permit having been first obtained, it shall be considered an obstruction unlawfully upon the right-of-way of the state highway, and the department may proceed to effect its removal. [1984 c 7 § 182; 1961 c 13 § 47.32.110. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 78; RRS § 6400-78; 1927 c 309 § 48; RRS § 6362-48; 1923 c 181 § 10; RRS § 6358-1.]

**RCW 47.32.120 Business places along highway.** Except as provided in RCW 47.04.270, it is unlawful for any person to erect a structure or establishment or maintain a business, the nature of which requires the use by patrons or customers of property adjoining the structure or establishment unless the structure or establishment is located at a distance from the right-of-way of any state highway so that none of the right-of-way thereof is required for the use of the patrons or customers of the establishment. Any such structure erected or business maintained that makes use of or tends to invite patrons to use the right-of-way or any portion thereof of any state highway by occupying it while a patron is a public nuisance, and the department may fence the right-of-way of the state highway to prevent such unauthorized use thereof. [2006 c 324 § 2; 1984 c 7 § 183; 1961 c 13 § 47.32.120. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 79; RRS § 6400-79.]

**RCW 47.32.130 Dangerous objects and structures as nuisances—Logs—Abatement—Removal.** (1) Whenever there exists upon the right-of-way of any state highway or off the right-of-way thereof in sufficiently close proximity thereto, any structure, device, or natural or artificial thing that threatens or endangers the state highway or portion thereof, or that tends to endanger persons traveling thereon, or obstructs or tends to obstruct or constitutes a hazard to vehicles or persons traveling thereon, the structure, device, or natural or artificial thing is declared to be a public nuisance, and the department is empowered to take such action as may be necessary to effect its abatement. Any such structure, device, or natural or artificial thing considered by the department to be immediately or eminently dangerous to travel upon a state highway may be forthwith removed, and the removal in no event constitutes a breach of the peace or trespass.

(2) Logs dumped on any state highway roadway or in any state highway drainage ditch due to equipment failure or for any other reason shall be removed immediately. Logs remaining within the state highway right-of-way for a period of thirty days shall be confiscated and removed or disposed of as directed by the department. [1984 c 7 § 184; 1961 c 13 § 47.32.130. Prior: 1947 c 206 § 3; 1937 c 53 § 80; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6400-80.]



*Obstructing highway, public nuisance: RCW 9.66.010.*

*Placing dangerous substances or devices on highway: RCW 9.66.050, 46.61.645, 70A.200.060.*

**RCW 47.32.140 Railroad grade crossings, obstructions—Hearing.**

Each railroad company shall keep its right-of-way clear of all brush and timber in the vicinity of a railroad grade crossing with a state highway for a distance of one hundred feet from the crossing in such manner as to permit a person upon the highway to obtain an unobstructed view in both directions of an approaching train or other on-track equipment. The department shall cause brush and timber to be cleared from the right-of-way of a state highway in the proximity of a railroad grade crossing for a distance of one hundred feet from the crossing in such manner as to permit a person upon the highway to obtain an unobstructed view in both directions of an approaching train or other on-track equipment. It is unlawful to erect or maintain a sign, signboard, or billboard, except official highway signs and traffic devices and railroad warning or operating signs, outside the corporate limits of any city or town within a distance of one hundred feet from the point of intersection of the highway and railroad grade crossing unless, after thirty days notice to the Washington utilities and transportation commission and the railroad operating the crossing, the department determines that it does not obscure the sight distance of a person operating a vehicle or train approaching the grade crossing.

When a person who has erected or who maintains such a sign, signboard, or billboard or when a railroad company permits such brush or timber in the vicinity of a railroad grade crossing with a state highway or permits the surface of a grade crossing to become inconvenient or dangerous for passage and who has the duty to maintain it, fails, neglects, or refuses to remove or cause to be removed such brush, timber, sign, signboard, or billboard, or maintain the surface of the crossing, the utilities and transportation commission upon complaint of the department or upon complaint of any party interested, or upon its own motion, shall enter upon a hearing in the manner now provided for hearings with respect to railroad-highway grade crossings, and make and enforce proper orders for the removal of the brush, timber, sign, signboard or billboard, or maintenance of the crossing. However, nothing in this section prevents the posting or maintaining of any legal notice or sign, signal, or traffic device required or permitted to be posted or maintained, or the placing and maintaining thereon of highway or road signs or traffic devices giving directions or distances for the information of the public when the signs are approved by the department. The department shall inspect highway grade crossings and make complaint of the violation of any provisions of this section. [2017 c 87 § 6; 1983 c 19 § 2; 1961 c 13 § 47.32.140. Prior: 1955 c 310 § 7; 1937 c 53 § 81; RRS § 6400-81; prior: 1923 c 129 §§ 1-6; RRS §§ 10510-1—10510-6.]

*Railroad grade crossings, obstructions: RCW 36.86.100.*

**RCW 47.32.150 Approach roads, other appurtenances—Permit.** No person, firm, or corporation may be permitted to build or construct on

state highway rights-of-way any approach road or any other facility, thing, or appurtenance not heretofore permitted by law, without first obtaining written permission from the department. [1984 c 7 § 185; 1961 c 13 § 47.32.150. Prior: 1947 c 201 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6402-50.]

**RCW 47.32.160 Approach roads, other appurtenances—Rules—Construction, maintenance of approach roads.** The department is hereby authorized and empowered at its discretion to adopt reasonable rules governing the issuance of permits under RCW 47.32.150 for the construction of any approach road, facility, thing, or appurtenance, upon state highway rights-of-way. The rules shall be designed to achieve and preserve reasonable standards of highway safety and the operational integrity of the state highway facility. Any permit issued may contain such terms and conditions as may be prescribed. All such construction shall be under the supervision of the department and at the expense of the applicant. After completion of the construction of the particular approach road, facility, thing, or appurtenance, it shall be maintained at the expense of the applicant and in accordance with the directions of the department. [1987 c 227 § 1; 1984 c 7 § 186; 1961 c 13 § 47.32.160. Prior: 1947 c 201 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6402-51.]

**RCW 47.32.170 Approach roads, other appurtenances—Removal of installations from right-of-way for default.** Upon failure of the applicant to construct or maintain the particular approach road, facility, thing, or appurtenance in accordance with the conditions of the permit and in accordance with the rules of the department, the department may, after the expiration of thirty days following transmittal of a written notice to the applicant, remove all installations upon the right-of-way at the expense of the applicant, which expense may be recovered from the applicant by the department for the state in any court of competent jurisdiction. [1984 c 7 § 187; 1961 c 13 § 47.32.170. Prior: 1947 c 201 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6402-52.]

**Chapter 47.36 RCW**  
**TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES**

**Sections**

- 47.36.005 Definitions.
- 47.36.010 Restoration of United States survey markers.
- 47.36.020 Traffic control signals.
- 47.36.022 Traffic control signals—Duration of yellow change interval.
- 47.36.025 Vehicle-activated traffic control signals—Detection of motorcycles and bicycles.
- 47.36.030 Traffic control devices—Specifications to counties and cities—Signs, banners over highways.
- 47.36.040 Furnished by department, paid for by counties and cities.
- 47.36.050 Duty to erect traffic devices on state highways and railroad crossings.
- 47.36.053 General duty to place and maintain traffic devices on state highways and railroad crossings.
- 47.36.060 Traffic devices on county roads and city streets.
- 47.36.070 Failure to erect signs, procedure.
- 47.36.080 Signs at railroad crossings.
- 47.36.090 Cooperation with United States on road markers.
- 47.36.095 Highway designation system—Signs.
- 47.36.097 Highway designation system—Filing.
- 47.36.100 Directional, caution, and stop signs.
- 47.36.110 Stop signs, "Yield" signs—Duties of persons using highway.
- 47.36.120 City limit signs.
- 47.36.130 Meddling with signs prohibited.
- 47.36.141 Bus shelters—Advertising.
- 47.36.180 Forbidden devices—Penalty.
- 47.36.200 Signs or flaggers at thoroughfare work sites—Penalty.
- 47.36.250 Dangerous road conditions requiring special tires, chains, or traction equipment—Signs or devices—Penalty.
- 47.36.260 Signs indicating proper lane usage.
- 47.36.270 Regional shopping center directional signs.
- 47.36.280 Pavement marking standards.
- 47.36.290 State park directional signs.
- 47.36.300 Supplemental directional signs—Erection by local governments.
- 47.36.310 Motorist information signs—Interstate highways—Contents, placement, fees.
- 47.36.320 Motorist information signs, tourist-oriented directional signs—Primary and scenic roads—Contents, placement, fees.
- 47.36.330 Motorist information signs—Maximum number and distance.
- 47.36.340 Motorist information signs—Lodging.
- 47.36.350 Motorist information signs—Installation time.
- 47.36.360 Motorist information signs—"RV" logo.
- 47.36.400 Adopt-a-highway signs.
- 47.36.410 Bridge jumping hazard signs.

*County roads, signs, signals, guideposts—Standards: RCW 36.86.040.*

*Range areas, signs: RCW 16.24.060.*

*Rules of the road: Chapter 46.61 RCW.*

**Chapter 47.36 RCW**  
**TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES**

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- 47.36.250 Dangerous road conditions requiring special tires, chains, or traction equipment—Signs or devices—Penalty.
- 47.36.260 Signs indicating proper lane usage.
- 47.36.270 Regional shopping center directional signs.
- 47.36.280 Pavement marking standards.
- 47.36.290 State park directional signs.
- 47.36.300 Supplemental directional signs—Erection by local governments.
- 47.36.310 Motorist information signs—Interstate highways—Contents, placement, fees.
- 47.36.320 Motorist information signs, tourist-oriented directional signs—Primary and scenic roads—Contents, placement, fees.
- 47.36.330 Motorist information signs—Maximum number and distance.
- 47.36.340 Motorist information signs—Lodging.
- 47.36.350 Motorist information signs—Installation time.
- 47.36.360 Motorist information signs—"RV" logo.
- 47.36.400 Adopt-a-highway signs.
- 47.36.410 Bridge jumping hazard signs.

*County roads, signs, signals, guideposts—Standards: RCW 36.86.040.*

*Range areas, signs: RCW 16.24.060.*

**RCW 47.36.005 Definitions.** The definitions set forth in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Erect" means to construct, build, raise, assemble, place, affix, attach, create, paint, draw, or in any other way bring into being or establish.

(2) "Interstate system" means a state highway that is or becomes part of the national system of interstate and defense highways as described in section 103(d) of Title 23, United States Code.

(3) "Maintain" means to allow to exist.

(4) "Primary system" means a state highway that is or becomes part of the federal-aid primary system as described in section 103(b) of Title 23, United States Code.

(5) "Scenic system" means (a) a state highway within a public park, federal forest area, public beach, public recreation area, or national monument, (b) a state highway or portion of a highway outside the boundaries of an incorporated city or town designated by the legislature as a part of the scenic system, or (c) a state highway or portion of a highway outside the boundaries of an incorporated city or town designated by the legislature as a part of the scenic and recreational highway system except for the sections of highways specifically excluded in RCW 47.42.025.

(6) "Motorist information sign panel" means a panel, rectangular in shape, located in the same manner as other official traffic signs readable from the main traveled ways, and consisting of:

(a) The words "GAS," "FOOD," "LODGING," "CAMPING," "RECREATION," or "TOURIST ACTIVITIES" and directional information; and

(b) One or more individual business signs mounted on the panel.

(7) "Business sign" means a separately attached sign mounted on the motorist information sign panel or roadside area information panel to show the brand or trademark and name, or both, of the motorist service available on the crossroad at or near the interchange. Nationally, regionally, or locally known commercial symbols or trademarks for service stations, restaurants, and motels shall be used when applicable. The brand or trademark identification symbol used on the business sign shall be reproduced with the colors and general shape consistent with customary use. Messages, trademarks, or brand symbols that interfere with, imitate, or resemble an official warning or regulatory traffic sign, signal, or device are prohibited.

(8) "Roadside area information panel or display" means a panel or display located so as not to be readable from the main traveled way, erected in a safety rest area, scenic overlook, or similar roadside area, for providing motorists with information in the specific interest of the traveling public.

(9) "Tourist-oriented directional sign" means a sign on a motorist information sign panel on the state highway system to provide directional information to a qualified tourist-oriented business, service, or activity.

(10) "Qualified tourist-oriented business" means a lawful cultural, historical, recreational, educational, or entertaining activity or a unique or unusual commercial or nonprofit activity, the major portion of whose income or visitors are derived during its normal business season from motorists not residing in the immediate area of the activity.

(11) "Adopt-a-highway sign" means a sign on a state highway right-of-way referring to the departments' adopt-a-highway litter control program. [1999 c 201 § 1; 1991 c 94 § 3.]

**RCW 47.36.010 Restoration of United States survey markers.** The department shall fix permanent monuments at the original positions of all United States government monuments at township corners, section corners, quarter section corners, meander corners, and witness markers, as originally established by the United States government survey whenever any such original monuments or markers fall within the right-of-way of any state highway, and aid in the reestablishment of any such corners, monuments, or markers destroyed or obliterated by the construction of any state highway by permitting inspection of the records in the department's office. [1984 c 7 § 188; 1961 c 13 § 47.36.010. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 42; RRS § 6400-42; 1931 c 117 § 1; RRS § 6830-1.]

**RCW 47.36.020 Traffic control signals.** The secretary of transportation shall adopt specifications for a uniform system of traffic control signals consistent with the provisions of this title for use upon public highways within this state. Such uniform system shall correlate with and so far as possible conform to the system current as approved by the American Association of State Highway Officials and as set out in the manual of uniform traffic control devices for streets and highways. [1977 ex.s. c 151 § 60; 1961 c 13 § 47.36.020. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 50; RRS § 6400-50; prior: 1927 c 309 § 6; RRS § 6362-6.]

**RCW 47.36.022 Traffic control signals—Duration of yellow change interval.** The duration of a yellow change interval at any traffic control signal must be at least as long as the minimum yellow change interval identified in the manual of uniform traffic control devices for streets and highways as adopted by the department under this chapter. [2012 c 85 § 2.]

**Findings—Intent—2012 c 85:** See note following RCW 46.63.170.

**RCW 47.36.025 Vehicle-activated traffic control signals—Detection of motorcycles and bicycles.** (1) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Arterial" means a public road or highway that is designated or qualifies as a principal or minor arterial under a state or local law, ordinance, regulation, or plan.

(b) "Bicycle" means a human-powered vehicle with metallic wheels at least sixteen inches in diameter or with metallic braking strips and metallic components, not necessarily including the frame or fork, which may be lawfully ridden on a public road or highway.

(c) "Bicycle route" means a route (i) that is designated as a route for bicycle use in a state or local law, ordinance, rule, or plan, or (ii) that provides bicycle access to urban areas that are not reasonably and conveniently accessible through other bicycle routes. The level of existing or projected use by bicyclists is a factor to

consider in determining whether a bicycle route provides access that is not reasonably and conveniently available from other bicycle routes. An intersection that provides necessary linkages in a bicycle route or between routes is considered a part of the bicycle route or routes.

(d) "Design complete" means that all major design work for a new vehicle-activated traffic control signal has been completed and that the funding necessary for complete construction of the vehicle-activated traffic control signal has been firmly secured.

(e) "Existing vehicle-activated traffic control signal" means a vehicle-activated traffic control signal that is in use or design complete on or before July 26, 2009.

(f) (i) "Motorcycle" means a motor vehicle designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground, on which the driver:

(A) Rides on a seat or saddle and the motor vehicle is designed to be steered with a handle bar; or

(B) Rides on a seat in a partially or completely enclosed seating area that is equipped with safety belts and the motor vehicle is designed to be steered with a steering wheel.

(ii) "Motorcycle" excludes a farm tractor, a power wheelchair, an electric personal assistive mobility device, a motorized foot scooter, an electric-assisted bicycle, and a moped.

(g) "Restricted right turn lane" means a right turn only lane where a right turn is not allowed after stopping but only upon a green signal.

(h) "Routinely and reliably detect motorcycles and bicycles" means that the detection equipment at a vehicle-activated traffic control signal is capable of detecting and will reliably detect a motorcycle or bicycle (i) when the motorcycle or bicycle is present immediately before a stop line or crosswalk in the center of a lane at an intersection or road entrance to such an intersection, or (ii) when the motorcycle or bicycle is present at marked detection areas.

(i) "Vehicle-activated traffic control signal" means a traffic control signal on a public road or highway that detects the presence of a vehicle as a means to change a signal phase.

(2) During routine maintenance or monitoring activities, but subject to the availability of funds:

(a) All existing vehicle-activated traffic control signals that do not currently routinely and reliably detect motorcycles and bicycles must be adjusted to do so to the extent that the existing equipment is capable consistent with safe traffic control. Priority must be given to existing vehicle-activated traffic control signals for which complaints relating to motorcycle or bicycle detection have been received and existing vehicle-activated traffic control signals that are otherwise identified as a detection problem for motorcyclists or bicyclists, or both. Jurisdictions operating existing vehicle-activated traffic control signals shall establish and publicize a procedure for filing these complaints in writing or by email, and maintain a record of these complaints and responses; and

(b) Where motorcycle and bicycle detection is limited to certain areas other than immediately before the stop line or crosswalk in the center of a lane at an existing vehicle-activated traffic control signal, those detection areas must be clearly marked on the pavement at left turn lanes, through lanes, and limited right turn lanes. These detection areas must also be marked to allow a bicyclist to leave a bicycle lane to enter a detection area, if necessary, to cross an



intersection. Pavement markings must be consistent with the standards described in the state of Washington's "Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways" obtainable from the department of transportation.

(3) (a) If at least a substantial portion of detection equipment at an existing vehicle-activated traffic control signal on an arterial or bicycle route is scheduled to be replaced or upgraded, the replaced or upgraded detection equipment must routinely and reliably detect motorcycles and bicycles. For purposes of this subsection (3) (a), "substantial portion" means that the proposed replacement or upgrade will cost more than twenty percent of the cost of full replacement or upgraded detection equipment that would routinely and reliably detect motorcycles and bicycles.

(b) If at least a substantial portion of detection equipment at an existing vehicle-activated traffic control signal on a public road or highway that is not an arterial or bicycle route is scheduled to be replaced or upgraded, the replaced or upgraded detection equipment must routinely and reliably detect motorcycles and bicycles. For purposes of this subsection (3) (b), "substantial portion" means that the proposed replacement or upgrade will cost more than fifty percent of the cost of full replacement or upgraded detection equipment that would routinely and reliably detect motorcycles and bicycles.

(4) All vehicle-activated traffic control signals that are design complete and put in operation after July 26, 2009, must be designed and operated, when in use, to routinely and reliably detect motorcycles and bicycles, including the detection of bicycles in bicycle lanes that cross an intersection. [2009 c 275 § 10.]

**RCW 47.36.030 Traffic control devices—Specifications to counties and cities—Signs, banners over highways.** (1) The secretary of transportation shall have the power and it shall be its duty to adopt and designate a uniform state standard for the manufacture, display, erection, and location of all signs, signals, signboards, guideposts, and other traffic devices erected or to be erected upon the state highways of the state of Washington for the purpose of furnishing information to persons traveling upon such state highways regarding traffic regulations, directions, distances, points of danger, and conditions requiring caution, and for the purpose of imposing restrictions upon persons operating vehicles thereon. Such signs shall conform as nearly as practicable to the manual of specifications for the manufacture, display, and erection of uniform traffic control devices for streets and highways and all amendments, corrections, and additions thereto.

(2) The department of transportation shall prepare plans and specifications of the uniform state standard of traffic devices so adopted and designated, showing the materials, colors, and designs thereof, and shall upon the issuance of any such plans and specifications or revisions thereof and upon request, furnish to the boards of county commissioners and the governing body of any incorporated city or town, a copy thereof. Signs, signals, signboards, guideposts, and other traffic devices erected on county roads shall conform in all respects to the specifications of color, design, and location approved by the secretary. Traffic devices hereafter erected within incorporated cities and towns shall conform to such uniform state standard of traffic devices so far as is practicable. The

uniform system must allow local transit authority bus shelters located within the right-of-way of the state highway system to display and maintain commercial advertisements subject to applicable federal regulations, if any.

(3) The uniform system adopted by the secretary under this section may allow signs, banners, or decorations over a highway that:

(a) Are in unincorporated areas;

(b) Are at least 20 vertical feet above a highway; and

(c) Do not interfere with or obstruct the view of any traffic control device.

The department shall adopt rules regulating signs, banners, or decorations installed under this subsection (3).

(4) Cold water shock signs authorized in chapter 54, Laws of 2023 are subject to the provisions of this section. [2023 c 54 § 7; 2005 c 398 § 1; 2003 c 198 § 3; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 61; 1961 c 13 § 47.36.030. Prior: 1945 c 178 § 1, part; 1937 c 53 § 48, part; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6400-48, part; prior: 1931 c 118 § 1, part; RRS § 6308-1, part; 1923 c 102 § 1, part; 1917 c 78 § 1, part; RRS § 6303, part.]

**Short title—Intent—Finding—2023 c 54:** See notes following RCW 35.21.095.

**RCW 47.36.040 Furnished by department, paid for by counties and cities.** The department, upon written request, shall cause to be manufactured, painted, and printed, and shall furnish to any county legislative authority or the governing body of any incorporated city or town, directional signboards, guide boards, and posts of the uniform state standard of color, shape, and design for the erection and maintenance thereof by the county legislative authority or the governing body of any incorporated city or town upon the roads and streets within their respective jurisdictions. The directional signboards, guide boards, and posts shall be manufactured and furnished, as aforesaid, pursuant to written request showing the number of signs desired and the directional or guide information to be printed thereon. The department shall fix a charge for each signboard, guide board, and post manufactured and furnished as aforesaid, based upon the ultimate cost of the operations to the department, and the county legislative authority, from the county road fund, and the governing body of any incorporated city or town, from the street fund, shall pay the charges so fixed for all signboards, guide boards, and posts so received from the department. [1984 c 7 § 189; 1961 c 13 § 47.36.040. Prior: 1945 c 178 § 1, part; 1937 c 53 § 48, part; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6400-48, part; prior: 1931 c 118 § 1, part; RRS § 6308-1, part; 1923 c 102 § 1, part; 1917 c 78 § 1, part; RRS § 6303, part.]

**RCW 47.36.050 Duty to erect traffic devices on state highways and railroad crossings.** The department shall erect and maintain upon every state highway in the state of Washington suitable and proper signs, signals, signboards, guideposts, and other traffic devices according to the adopted and designated state standard of design, erection, and location, and in the manner required by law. The department shall erect and maintain upon all state highways appropriate stop signs, warning signs, and school signs. Any person, firm, corporation, or municipal corporation, building, owning,

controlling, or operating a railroad that crosses any state highway at grade shall construct, erect, and maintain at or near each point of crossing, or at such point or points as will meet the approval of the department, a sign of the type known as the saw buck crossing sign with the lettering "railroad crossing" inscribed thereon and also a suitable inscription indicating the number of tracks. The sign must be of standard design that will comply with the plans and specifications furnished by the department. Additional safety devices and signs may be installed at any time when required by the utilities and transportation commission as provided by laws regulating railroad-highway grade crossings. [1984 c 7 § 190; 1961 c 13 § 47.36.050. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 49; RRS § 6400-49; prior: 1931 c 118 § 1, part; RRS § 6308-1, part; 1923 c 102 § 1, part; RRS § 6303, part; 1919 c 146 § 1; 1917 c 78 § 2; RRS § 6304. FORMER PART OF SECTION: 1937 c 53 § 51 now in RCW 47.36.053.]

**RCW 47.36.053 General duty to place and maintain traffic devices on state highways and railroad crossings.** The department shall place and maintain such traffic devices conforming to the manual and specifications adopted upon all state highways as it deems necessary to carry out the provisions of this title or to regulate, warn, or guide traffic. [1984 c 7 § 191; 1961 c 13 § 47.36.053. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 51; RRS § 6400-51. Formerly RCW 47.36.050, part.]

**RCW 47.36.060 Traffic devices on county roads and city streets.** Local authorities in their respective jurisdictions shall place and maintain such traffic devices upon public highways under their jurisdiction as are necessary to carry out the provisions of the law or local traffic ordinances or to regulate, warn, or guide traffic. Cities and towns, which as used in this section mean cities and towns having a population of over fifteen thousand according to the latest federal census, shall adequately equip with traffic devices, streets that are designated as forming a part of the route of a primary or secondary state highway and streets which constitute connecting roads and secondary state highways to such cities and towns. The traffic devices, signs, signals, and markers shall comply with the uniform state standard for the manufacture, display, direction, and location thereof as designated by the department. The design, location, erection, and operation of traffic devices and traffic control signals upon such city or town streets constituting either the route of a primary or secondary state highway to the city or town or connecting streets to the primary or secondary state highways through the city or town shall be under the direction of the department, and if the city or town fails to comply with any such directions, the department shall provide for the design, location, erection, or operation thereof, and any cost incurred therefor shall be charged to and paid from any funds in the motor vehicle fund of the state that have accrued or may accrue to the credit of the city or town, and the state treasurer shall issue warrants therefor upon vouchers submitted and approved by the department. [1984 c 7 § 192; 1961 c 13 § 47.36.060. Prior: 1955 c 179 § 4; 1939 c 81 § 1; 1937 c 53 § 52; RRS § 6400-52.]

**RCW 47.36.070 Failure to erect signs, procedure.** Whenever any person, firm, corporation, municipal corporation, or local authorities

responsible for the erection and maintenance, or either, of signs at any railroad crossing or point of danger upon any state highway fails, neglects, or refuses to erect and maintain, or either, the sign or signs as required by law at highway-railroad grade crossings, the utilities and transportation commission shall upon complaint of the department or upon complaint of any party interested, or upon its own motion, enter upon a hearing in the manner provided by law for hearings with respect to railroad-highway grade crossings and make and enforce proper orders for the erection or maintenance of the signs, or both. [1984 c 7 § 193; 1961 c 13 § 47.36.070. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 54; RRS § 6400-54.]

**RCW 47.36.080 Signs at railroad crossings.** Wherever it is considered necessary or convenient the department may erect approach and warning signs upon the approach of any state highway to a highway-railroad grade crossing situated at a sufficient distance therefrom to make the warning effective. The department may further provide such additional or other highway-railroad grade crossing markings as may be considered to serve the interests of highway safety. [1984 c 7 § 194; 1961 c 13 § 47.36.080. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 57; RRS § 6400-57.]

**RCW 47.36.090 Cooperation with United States on road markers.** Standard federal road markers shall be placed on state highways in the manner requested by the department of transportation of the United States. The department of transportation of the state of Washington is authorized and empowered to cooperate with the several states and with the federal government in promoting, formulating, and adopting a standard and uniform system of numbering or designating state highways of an interstate character and in promoting, formulating, and adopting uniform and standard specifications for the manufacture, display, erection, and location of road markers and signs, for the information, direction, and control of persons traveling upon public highways. [1984 c 7 § 195; 1961 c 13 § 47.36.090. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 55; RRS § 6400-55; prior: 1925 c 24 § 1; RRS § 6303-1.]

**RCW 47.36.095 Highway designation system—Signs.** The department is hereby authorized to establish a continuing system for the designating of state highways and branches or portions thereof, heretofore established by the legislature of the state of Washington, to give designations to such state highways and branches, or portions thereof, in accord with that system, and to install signs in accord therewith on such state highways and branches, or portions thereof. The system may be changed from time to time and shall be extended to new state highways and branches, or portions thereof, as they are hereafter established by the legislature. [1984 c 7 § 196; 1967 ex.s. c 145 § 43; 1963 c 24 § 1.]

*Classification of highways: RCW 47.04.020.*

**RCW 47.36.097 Highway designation system—Filing.** Designations or redesignations assigned under the system by the department pursuant to RCW 47.36.095 as each is made, shall be filed with the secretary of

state and with the auditor of each county. Thereafter such highways shall be so designated for all purposes. [1984 c 7 § 197; 1967 ex.s. c 145 § 46.]

**RCW 47.36.100 Directional, caution, and stop signs.** Directional signs showing distance and direction to points of importance may be placed at all crossings and intersections of primary and secondary state highways. The department may place such directional signs as it deems necessary upon any city streets designated by it as forming a part of the route of any primary or secondary state highway through any incorporated city or town. Caution and warning signs or signals shall be placed wherever practicable on all primary and secondary state highways in a manner provided by law. Stop signs shall be placed, erected, and maintained by the department as follows: Upon all county roads at the point of intersection with any arterial primary or secondary state highway; upon all primary and secondary state highways at the point of intersection with any county road that has been designated by the department as an arterial having preference over the traffic on the state highway; and upon at least one state highway at the intersection of two state highways. [1984 c 7 § 198; 1967 ex.s. c 145 § 38; 1961 c 13 § 47.36.100. Prior: 1947 c 206 § 1; 1937 c 53 § 56; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6400-56.]

**RCW 47.36.110 Stop signs, "Yield" signs—Duties of persons using highway.** In order to provide safety at intersections on the state highway system, the department may require persons traveling upon any portion of such highway to stop before entering the intersection, except as provided in RCW 46.61.190. For this purpose there may be erected a standard stop sign as prescribed in the state department of transportation's "Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways." All persons traveling upon the highway shall come to a complete stop at such a sign, except as provided in RCW 46.61.190, and the appearance of any sign so located is sufficient warning to a person that he or she is required to stop. A person stopping at such a sign shall proceed through that portion of the highway in a careful manner and at a reasonable rate of speed not to exceed twenty miles per hour. It is unlawful to fail to comply with the directions of any such stop sign, except as provided in RCW 46.61.190. When the findings of a traffic engineering study show that the condition of an intersection is such that vehicles may safely enter the major artery without stopping, the department or local authorities in their respective jurisdictions shall install and maintain a "Yield" sign. [2020 c 66 § 5; 2010 c 8 § 10013; 1984 c 7 § 199; 1963 ex.s. c 3 § 49; 1961 c 13 § 47.36.110. Prior: 1955 c 146 § 6; 1937 c 53 § 59; RRS § 6400-59.]

**Effective date—2020 c 66:** See note following RCW 46.61.050.

*Arterial highways designated—Stopping on entering: RCW 46.61.195.*

**RCW 47.36.120 City limit signs.** The department shall erect wherever it deems necessary upon state highways at or near their point of entrance into cities and towns, signs of the standard design

designating the city or town limits of the cities or towns. [1984 c 7 § 200; 1961 c 13 § 47.36.120. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 58; RRS § 6400-58.]

**RCW 47.36.130 Meddling with signs prohibited.** No person shall without lawful authority attempt to or in fact alter, deface, injure, knock down, or remove any official traffic control signal, traffic device or railroad sign or signal, or any inscription, shield, or insignia thereon, or any other part thereof. [1961 c 13 § 47.36.130. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 53; RRS § 6400-53.]

*Defacing, injuring, or destroying signs: RCW 46.61.080.*

*Imitation of signs: RCW 46.61.075.*

*Structures concealing signs prohibited: RCW 46.61.075.*

*Unlawful erection of traffic devices: RCW 46.61.075.*

**RCW 47.36.141 Bus shelters—Advertising.** (1) Local transit authority bus shelters within the right-of-way of the state highway system may display and maintain commercial advertisements subject to applicable federal regulations, if any. Pursuant to RCW 47.12.120, the department may lease state right-of-way air space to local transit authorities for this purpose, unless there are significant safety concerns regarding the placement of certain advertisements.

(2) Advertisements posted on a local transit authority's bus shelter may not exceed twenty-four square feet on each side of the panel. Panels may not be placed on the roof of the shelter or on the forward side of the shelter facing oncoming traffic. [2003 c 198 § 1.]

**RCW 47.36.180 Forbidden devices—Penalty.** (1) It is unlawful to erect or maintain at or near a city street, county road, or state highway any structure, sign, or device:

(a) Visible from a city street, county road, or state highway and simulating any directional, warning, or danger sign or light likely to be mistaken for such a sign or bearing any such words as "danger," "stop," "slow," "turn," or similar words, figures, or directions likely to be construed as giving warning to traffic;

(b) Visible from a city street, county road, or state highway and displaying any red, green, blue, or yellow light or intermittent or blinking light or rotating light identical or similar in size, shape, and color to that used on any emergency vehicle or road equipment or any light otherwise likely to be mistaken for a warning, danger, directional, or traffic control signal or sign;

(c) Visible from a city street, county road, or state highway and displaying any lights tending to blind persons operating vehicles upon the highway, city street, or county road, or any glaring light, or any light likely to be mistaken for a vehicle upon the highway or otherwise to be so mistaken as to constitute a danger; or

(d) Visible from a city street, county road, or state highway and flooding or intending to flood or directed across the roadway of the highway with a directed beam or diffused light, whether or not the

flood light is shielded against directing its flood beam toward approaching traffic on the highway, city street, or county road.

(2) Any structure or device erected or maintained contrary to the provisions of this section is a public nuisance, and the department, the chief of the Washington state patrol, the county sheriff, or the chief of police of any city or town shall notify the owner thereof that it constitutes a public nuisance and must be removed, and if the owner fails to do so, the department, the chief of the Washington state patrol, the county sheriff, or the chief of police of any city or town may abate the nuisance.

(3) If the owner fails to remove any structure or device within fifteen days after being notified to remove the structure or device as provided in this section, he or she is guilty of a misdemeanor. [2003 c 53 § 257; 1984 c 7 § 201; 1961 c 13 § 47.36.180. Prior: 1957 c 204 § 1; 1937 c 53 § 62; RRS § 6400-62.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**RCW 47.36.200 Signs or flaggers at thoroughfare work sites—Penalty.** (1) When construction, repair, or maintenance work is conducted on or adjacent to a public highway, county road, street, bridge, or other thoroughfare commonly traveled and when the work interferes with the normal and established mode of travel on the highway, county road, street, bridge, or thoroughfare, the location shall be properly posted by prominently displayed signs or flaggers or both. Signs used for posting in such an area shall be consistent with the provisions found in the state of Washington "Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways" obtainable from the department of transportation.

(2) If the construction, repair, or maintenance work includes or uses grooved pavement, abrupt lane edges, steel plates, or gravel or earth surfaces, the construction, repair, or maintenance zone must be posted with signs stating the condition, as required by current law, and in addition, must warn motorcyclists of the potential hazard only if the hazard or condition exists on a paved public highway, county road, street, bridge, or other thoroughfare commonly traveled. For the purposes of this subsection, the department shall adopt by rule a uniform sign or signs for this purpose, including at least the following language, "MOTORCYCLES USE EXTREME CAUTION."

(3) Any contractor, firm, corporation, political subdivision, or other agency performing such work shall comply with this section.

(4) Each driver of a motor vehicle used in connection with such construction, repair, or maintenance work shall obey traffic signs posted for, and flaggers stationed at such location in the same manner and under the same restrictions as is required for the driver of any other vehicle.

(5) A violation of or a failure to comply with this section is a misdemeanor. Each day upon which there is a violation, or there is a failure to comply, constitutes a separate violation. [2010 c 8 § 10014; 2006 c 331 § 1. Prior: 2003 c 355 § 1; 2003 c 53 § 258; 1984 c 7 § 202; 1961 c 13 § 47.36.200; prior: 1957 c 95 § 1.]

**Effective date—2003 c 355:** "This act takes effect January 1, 2004." [2003 c 355 § 3.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**RCW 47.36.250 Dangerous road conditions requiring special tires, chains, or traction equipment—Signs or devices—Penalty.** (1) If the department or its delegate determines at any time for any part of the public highway system that the unsafe conditions of the roadway require particular tires, tire chains, or traction equipment in addition to or beyond the ordinary pneumatic rubber tires, the department may establish the following recommendations or requirements with respect to the use of such equipment for all persons using such public highway:

- (a) Traction advisory - oversize vehicles prohibited.
  - (b) Traction advisory - oversize vehicles prohibited. Vehicles over 10,000 GVW - chains required.
  - (c) Traction advisory - oversize vehicles prohibited. All vehicles - chains required, except all wheel drive.
- (2) Any equipment that may be required by this section shall be approved by the state patrol as authorized under RCW 46.37.420.
- (3) The department shall place and maintain signs and other traffic control devices on the public highways that indicate the tire, tire chain, or traction equipment recommendation or requirement determined under this section. Such signs or traffic control devices shall in no event prohibit the use of studded tires from November 1st to April 1st, but when the department determines that chains are required and that no other traction equipment will suffice, the requirement is applicable to all types of tires including studded tires. The Washington state patrol or the department may specify different recommendations or requirements for four wheel drive vehicles in gear.
- (4) Failure to obey a requirement indicated under this section is a traffic infraction under chapter 46.63 RCW subject to a penalty of five hundred dollars including all statutory assessments. [2003 c 356 § 1; 2003 c 53 § 259; 1987 c 330 § 747; 1984 c 7 § 203; 1975 1st ex.s. c 255 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 7 § 2.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2003 c 53 § 259 and by 2003 c 356 § 1, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Construction—Application of rules—Severability—1987 c 330:** See notes following RCW 28B.12.050.

*Restrictions as to tire equipment, metal studs: RCW 46.37.420.*

**RCW 47.36.260 Signs indicating proper lane usage.** The department shall erect signs on multilane highways indicating proper lane usage. [1986 c 93 § 6.]

*Keep right except when passing, etc: RCW 46.61.100.*



**RCW 47.36.270 Regional shopping center directional signs.**

Regional shopping center directional signs shall be erected and maintained on state highway right-of-way if they meet each of the following criteria:

- (1) There shall be at least five hundred thousand square feet of retail floor space available for lease at the regional shopping center;
- (2) The regional shopping center shall contain at least three major department stores that are owned by a national or regional retail chain organization;
- (3) The shopping center shall be located within one mile of the roadway;
- (4) The center shall generate at least nine thousand daily one-way vehicle trips to the center;
- (5) There is sufficient space available for installation of the directional sign as specified in the Manual On Uniform Traffic Control Devices;
- (6) Supplemental follow-through directional signing is required at key decision points to direct motorists to the shopping center if it is not clearly visible from the point of exit from the main traveled way.

The department shall collect from the regional shopping center a reasonable fee based upon the cost of erection and maintenance of the directional sign. [1987 c 469 § 1.]

**RCW 47.36.280 Pavement marking standards.** The department of transportation shall, by January 1, 1992, adopt minimum pavement marking standards for the area designating the limits of the vehicle driving lane along the right edge for arterials that do not have curbs or sidewalks and are inside urbanized areas. In preparing the standards, the department of transportation shall take into consideration all types of pavement markings, including flat, raised, and recessed markings, and their effect on pedestrians, bicycle, and motor vehicle safety.

The standards shall provide that a jurisdiction shall conform to these requirements, at such time thereafter that it undertakes to (1) renew or install permanent markings on the existing or new roadway, and (2) remove existing nonconforming raised pavement markers at the time the jurisdiction prepares to resurface the roadway, or earlier, at its option. These standards shall be in effect, as provided in this section, unless the legislative authority of the local governmental body finds that special circumstances exist affecting vehicle and pedestrian safety that warrant a variance to the standard.

For the purposes of this section, "urbanized area" means an area designated as such by the United States bureau of census and having a population of more than fifty thousand. Other jurisdictions that install pavement marking material on the right edge of the roadway shall do so in a manner not in conflict with the minimum state standard. [1991 c 214 § 4.]

**RCW 47.36.290 State park directional signs.** Directional signs for state parks within fifteen miles of an interstate highway shall be erected and maintained on the interstate highway by the department despite the existence of additional directional signs on primary or

scenic system highways in closer proximity to such state parks. [1985 c 376 § 7. Formerly RCW 47.42.160.]

**Legislative intent—1985 c 376:** See note following RCW 47.42.020.

**RCW 47.36.300 Supplemental directional signs—Erection by local governments.** (1) The legislative authority of any county, city, or town may erect, or permit the erection of, supplemental directional signs directing motorists to motorist service businesses qualified for motorist information sign panels pursuant to RCW 47.36.310 or 47.36.320 in any location on, or adjacent to, the right-of-way of any roads or streets within their jurisdiction.

(2) Appropriate fees may be charged to cover the cost of issuing permits, installation, or maintenance of such signs.

(3) Supplemental signs and their locations shall comply with all applicable provisions of this chapter, the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, and such rules as may be adopted by the department. [1999 c 201 § 2; 1986 c 114 § 3. Formerly RCW 47.42.052.]

**RCW 47.36.310 Motorist information signs—Interstate highways—Contents, placement, fees.** The department is authorized to erect and maintain motorist information sign panels within the right-of-way of the interstate highway system to give the traveling public specific information as to gas, food, lodging, camping, or tourist-oriented business available on a crossroad at or near an interchange. Motorist information sign panels shall include the words "GAS," "FOOD," "LODGING," "CAMPING," or "TOURIST ACTIVITIES" and the letters "RV" next to a gas, food, lodging, camping, or tourist activity sign if the business or destination accommodates recreational vehicles, and directional information. Directional information may contain one or more individual business signs maintained on the panel. The "RV" logo for businesses or destinations that accommodate recreational vehicles shall be placed in the lower right corner of the gas, food, lodging, camping, or tourist activity sign and shall be in the form of a small yellow circle with the letters "RV" in black. In managing the number of individual business signs to be displayed, the department must ensure the use of available space on a panel is maximized. Motorist information sign panels are authorized within the corporate limits of cities and towns and areas zoned for commercial or industrial uses at locations where there is adequate distance between interchanges to ensure compliance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. The erection and maintenance of motorist information sign panels shall also conform to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and rules adopted by the state department of transportation. A motorist service or tourist-oriented business located within one mile of an interstate highway shall not be permitted to display its name, brand, or trademark on a motorist information sign panel unless its owner has first entered into an agreement with the department limiting the height of its on-premise [on-premises] signs at the site of its service installation to not more than fifteen feet higher than the roof of its main building measured to the bottom of the on-premise [on-premises] sign. The restriction for on-premise [on-premises] signs does not apply if the sign is not visible from the highway. The department may, on a case-by-case basis, waive the height restriction

when an on-premise [on-premises] sign is visible from the rural interstate system. The department shall charge sufficient fees for the display of individual business signs to recover the costs of their installation and maintenance, and shall charge sufficient fees to recover costs for the erection and maintenance of the motorist information sign panels. [2005 c 407 § 1; 1999 c 201 § 3; 1987 c 469 § 3; 1986 c 114 § 1; 1985 c 142 § 1; 1984 c 7 § 223; 1974 ex.s. c 80 § 2. Formerly RCW 47.42.046.]

**RCW 47.36.320 Motorist information signs, tourist-oriented directional signs—Primary and scenic roads—Contents, placement, fees.**

The department is authorized to erect and maintain motorist information sign panels within the right-of-way of noninterstate highways to give the traveling public specific information as to gas, food, lodging, recreation, or tourist-oriented businesses accessible by way of highways intersecting the noninterstate highway. The motorist information sign panels are permitted only at locations within the corporate limits of cities and towns and areas zoned for commercial or industrial uses where there is adequate distance between interchanges to ensure compliance with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. Motorist information sign panels shall include the words "GAS," "FOOD," "LODGING," "RECREATION," or "TOURIST ACTIVITIES" and the letters "RV" next to a gas, food, lodging, camping, or tourist activity sign if the business or destination accommodates recreational vehicles, and directional information. Directional information may contain one or more individual business signs maintained on the panel. The "RV" logo for businesses or destinations that accommodate recreational vehicles shall be placed in the lower right corner of the gas, food, lodging, camping, or tourist activity sign and shall be in the form of a small yellow circle with the letters "RV" in black. In managing the number of individual business signs to be displayed, the department must ensure the use of available space on a panel is maximized. The erection and maintenance of motorist information sign panels along noninterstate highways shall also conform to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and rules adopted by the state department of transportation. A motorist service or tourist-oriented business located within one mile of a noninterstate highway shall not be permitted to display its name, brand, or trademark on a motorist information sign panel unless its owner has first entered into an agreement with the department limiting the height of its on-premise [on-premises] signs at the site of its service installation to not more than fifteen feet higher than the roof of its main building measured to the bottom of the on-premise [on-premises] sign.

The department shall adopt rules for the erection and maintenance of tourist-oriented directional signs with the following restrictions:

- (1) Where installed, they shall be placed in advance of the "GAS," "FOOD," "LODGING," "RECREATION," or "RV" motorist information sign panels previously described in this section;
- (2) Signs shall not be placed to direct a motorist to an activity visible from the main traveled roadway;
- (3) Premises on which the qualified tourist-oriented business is located must be within fifteen miles of the state highway except as provided in RCW 47.36.330(3) (b) and (c), and necessary supplemental signing on local roads must be provided before the installation of the signs on the state highway.

The department shall charge sufficient fees for the display of individual business signs to recover the costs of their installation and maintenance, and shall charge sufficient fees to recover the costs for the erection and maintenance of the motorist information sign panels. [2005 c 407 § 2. Prior: 1999 c 213 § 1; 1999 c 201 § 4; 1986 c 114 § 2; 1985 c 376 § 4; 1985 c 142 § 2; 1984 c 7 § 224; 1974 ex.s. c 80 § 4. Formerly RCW 47.42.047.]

**Legislative intent—1985 c 376:** See note following RCW 47.42.020.

**RCW 47.36.330 Motorist information signs—Maximum number and distance.** (1) Not more than six business signs may be permitted on motorist information sign panels authorized by RCW 47.36.310 and 47.36.320.

(2) The maximum distance that eligible service facilities may be located on either side of an interchange or intersection to qualify for a business sign are as follows:

(a) On interstate highways, gas, food, or lodging activities shall be located within three miles. Camping or tourist-oriented activities shall be within five miles.

(b) On noninterstate highways, gas, food, lodging, recreation, or tourist-oriented activities shall be located within five miles.

(3) (a) If no eligible services are located within the distance limits prescribed in subsection (2) of this section, the distance limits shall be increased until an eligible service of a type being considered is reached, up to a maximum of fifteen miles.

(b) The department may erect and maintain signs on an alternate route that is longer than fifteen miles if it is safer and still provides reasonable and convenient travel to an eligible service.

(c) The department may erect and maintain signs on a route up to a maximum of twenty miles if it qualifies as an eligible service and is within a distressed area as defined in RCW 43.168.020. [2005 c 136 § 16; 1999 c 213 § 2; 1999 c 201 § 5; 1985 c 142 § 3. Formerly RCW 47.42.0475.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 1999 c 201 § 5 and by 1999 c 213 § 2, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Savings—Effective date—2005 c 136:** See notes following RCW 43.168.020.

**RCW 47.36.340 Motorist information signs—Lodging.** To be eligible for placement of a business sign on a motorist information sign panel a lodging activity shall:

(1) Be licensed or approved by the department of social and health services or county health authority;

(2) Provide adequate sleeping and bathroom accommodations available for rental on a daily basis; and

(3) Provide public telephone facilities. [1999 c 201 § 6; 1985 c 376 § 8. Formerly RCW 47.42.170.]

**Legislative intent—1985 c 376:** See note following RCW 47.42.020.

**RCW 47.36.350 Motorist information signs—Installation time.**

The department shall ensure that motorist information sign panels are installed within nine months of receiving the request for installation. [1999 c 201 § 7; 1991 c 94 § 5.]

**RCW 47.36.360 Motorist information signs—"RV" logo.**

(1) The department of transportation shall not include the logo "RV" under RCW 47.36.310 and 47.36.320 unless a business or destination requests an "RV" logo and the department determines that the gas, food, or lodging business or the camping or tourist activity destination provides parking spaces, overhang clearances, and entrances and exits designed to accommodate recreational or other large vehicles.

(2) The department may charge a reasonable fee in accordance with RCW 47.36.310 or 47.36.320 to defray the costs associated with the installation and maintenance of signs with "RV" logos.

(3) The department may adopt rules necessary to administer this section. [2005 c 407 § 3.]

**RCW 47.36.400 Adopt-a-highway signs.**

The department may install adopt-a-highway signs, with the following restrictions:

(1) Signs shall be designed by the department and may only include the words "adopt-a-highway litter control facility" or "adopt-a-highway litter control next XX miles" and the name of the litter control area sponsor. The sponsor's name shall not be displayed more predominantly than the remainder of the sign message. Trademarks or business logos may be displayed;

(2) Signs may be placed along interstate, primary, and scenic system highways;

(3) Signs may be erected at other state-owned transportation facilities in accordance with RCW 47.40.100(1);

(4) For each litter control area designated by the department, one sign may be placed visible to traffic approaching from each direction;

(5) Signs shall be located so as not to detract from official traffic control signs installed pursuant to the manual on uniform traffic control devices adopted by the department;

(6) Signs shall be located so as not to restrict sight distance on approaches to intersections or interchanges;

(7) The department may charge reasonable fees to defray the cost of manufacture, installation, and maintenance of adopt-a-highway signs. [1998 c 180 § 1; 1991 c 94 § 4.]

**RCW 47.36.410 Bridge jumping hazard signs.**

(1)(a) The executive officer, or a designated employee, with control of operations and maintenance of a bridge of any county, city, town, or state agency, subject to approval by the department pursuant to (d) of this subsection, may erect informational signs near or attached to bridges providing location-specific information about the hazards of diving or jumping from the location with the goal of preventing future deaths. These signs are meant to provide more information than just a "no jumping" sign so that people can better understand the hazards related to a particular location. Signs providing information on the hazard of cold-water shock that leads to drowning may be erected in locations

where people might otherwise think a location is safe for swimming. Signs may include the statewide 988 suicide prevention hotline.

(b) Any county, city, town, or state agency responsible for the repair, replacement, and maintenance of bridges are encouraged to create a process where individuals may request the installation of an informational sign pursuant to this section in locations that do not have such signs erected.

(c) Signs created under this section may not conflict with provisions of the manual on uniform traffic control devices or existing state laws related to placement and design of signs that are placed along transportation corridors.

(d) If a sign is to be located along a state highway or the interstate system, the department must approve the sign and location prior to erecting the sign, but no permit or fee is necessary.

(e) State and local government agencies are authorized to accept gifts or donations to pay for the erection of signs under this section.

(2) This section applies prospectively.

(3) This section does not create a private right of action by, or a legal duty to, any party, and may not be used to impose liability on the owner of a government facility if a sign has or has not been erected on its property. The state of Washington, including all of its agencies, subdivisions, employees, and agents, shall not be liable in tort for any violation of chapter 54, Laws of 2023, notwithstanding any other provision of law. [2023 c 54 § 8.]

**Short title—Intent—Finding—2023 c 54:** See notes following RCW 35.21.095.

**Chapter 47.38 RCW**  
**ROADSIDE AREAS—SAFETY REST AREAS**

**Sections**

- 47.38.010 Rules governing use and control of rest areas, historic sites, viewpoints, etc.—Penalties.
- 47.38.020 Limitations on use of rest areas.
- 47.38.040 Information centers.
- 47.38.050 Recreational vehicle sanitary disposal systems.
- 47.38.060 Dedication of memorial signs at rest areas.
- 47.38.070 Electric vehicle infrastructure.
- 47.38.075 Electrical outlets for electric vehicles at rest areas—  
Battery exchange and charging station installation and operation.
- 47.38.080 Human trafficking informational posters at rest areas.
- 47.38.090 Reconfiguration of maintenance operations—Planning process—Report.

*Acquisition of property for safety rest areas, buffers, viewpoints, historic sites: RCW 47.12.250.*

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*Acquisition of property for safety rest areas, buffers, viewpoints, historic sites: RCW 47.12.250.*

**RCW 47.38.010 Rules governing use and control of rest areas, historic sites, viewpoints, etc.—Penalties.** (1) Pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW, the department and the Washington state patrol shall jointly adopt rules governing the conduct and the safety of the traveling public relating to the use and control of rest areas and other areas as designated in RCW 47.12.250. Nothing herein may be construed as limiting the powers of the department as provided by law.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, any person violating this section or any rule or regulation adopted pursuant to this section is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(3) (a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, violation of such a rule or regulation relating to traffic including parking, standing, stopping, and pedestrian offenses is a traffic infraction.

(b) Violation of such a rule or regulation equivalent to those provisions of Title 46 RCW set forth in RCW 46.63.020 remains a misdemeanor. [2003 c 53 § 260; 1993 c 116 § 1; 1984 c 7 § 204; 1967 ex.s. c 145 § 29.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

*Roadside areas—Safety rest areas, provisions of scenic and recreational highway act concerning: Chapter 47.39 RCW.*

**RCW 47.38.020 Limitations on use of rest areas.** (1) Except where specifically authorized by the department, it is unlawful for any person or persons to stop, stand, or park any vehicle, including but not limited to trailers, campers, and motorcycles, for more than eight hours within a twenty-four hour period, or for any person or persons to camp or to maintain a camp, tent, or other sleeping accommodation or facility, in any safety rest area within the limits of the right-of-way of interstate highways or other state highways or



in other areas of state or interstate highways as designated in RCW 47.12.250. The department may also designate zones within a safety rest area with shorter parking time limits for the purposes of maximum efficiency and safety. Commercial vehicles may park up to an hour beyond federally mandated rest periods.

(2) Except where specifically authorized by the department, it is unlawful for any person or persons to stop, stand, or park any disabled vehicle, including but not limited to trailers, campers, and motorcycles, in any safety rest area for more than forty-eight hours, after which time the vehicle is subject to mandatory impoundment under RCW 46.55.080(1).

(3) The department shall post appropriate signage consistent with RCW 46.55.070(1) at all safety rest areas regarding the parking time limits in this section.

(4) The Washington state patrol shall enforce this section consistent with RCW 46.55.080(1), and to the maximum extent practicable. [2019 c 436 § 1; 1984 c 7 § 205; 1967 ex.s. c 145 § 30.]

**RCW 47.38.040 Information centers.** In order to provide information in the specific interest of the traveling public, the department may establish information centers at safety rest areas and permit maps, informational directories, and advertising pamphlets to be made available there for the purpose of informing the public of places of interest within the state and providing such other information as the department deems desirable. [1984 c 7 § 206; 1967 ex.s. c 145 § 32.]

**RCW 47.38.050 Recreational vehicle sanitary disposal systems.** The department of transportation shall construct and maintain recreational vehicle sanitary disposal systems in the following safety rest areas lying along highways which are a part of the interstate highway system:

(1) Gee Creek safety rest area, northbound and southbound on Interstate 5 in Clark county;

(2) SeaTac safety rest area, northbound on Interstate 5 in King county;

(3) Silver Lake safety rest area, southbound on Interstate 5 in Snohomish county;

(4) Winchester Wasteway safety rest area, eastbound and westbound on Interstate 90 in Grant county;

(5) Sprague safety rest area, eastbound on Interstate 90 in Lincoln county;

(6) Selah Creek safety rest area, northbound and southbound on Interstate 82 in Yakima county;

(7) Indian John Hill safety rest area, eastbound and westbound on Interstate 90 in Kittitas county;

(8) Smokey Point safety rest area, northbound and southbound on Interstate 5 in Snohomish county;

(9) Schrag safety rest area, westbound on Interstate 90 in Adams county. [1996 c 237 § 3; 1980 c 60 § 1.]

**Effective date—1980 c 60:** "This act shall take effect July 1, 1980." [1980 c 60 § 4.]

**RCW 47.38.060 Dedication of memorial signs at rest areas.** The department may designate interstate safety rest areas, as appropriate, as locations for memorial signs to prisoners of war and those missing in action. The department shall adopt policies for the placement of memorial signs on interstate safety rest areas and may disapprove any memorial sign that it determines to be inappropriate or inconsistent with the policies. The policies shall include, but are not limited to, guidelines for the size and location of and inscriptions on memorial signs. The secretary shall adopt rules for administering this program. Nonprofit associations may have their name identified on a memorial sign if the association bears the cost of supplying and maintaining the memorial sign. [2006 c 334 § 24; 1996 c 172 § 1.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**RCW 47.38.070 Electric vehicle infrastructure.** (1) As a necessary and desirable step to spur public and private investment in electric vehicle infrastructure in accordance with section 1, chapter 459, Laws of 2009, and to begin implementing the provisions of RCW 43.19.648, the legislature authorizes an alternative fuels corridor pilot project capable of supporting electric vehicle charging and battery exchange technologies.

(2) To the extent permitted under federal programs, rules, or law, the department may enter into partnership agreements with other public and private entities for the use of land and facilities along state routes and within interstate highway rights-of-way for an alternative fuels corridor pilot project. At a minimum, the pilot project must:

(a) Limit renewable fuel and vehicle technology offerings to those with a forecasted demand over the next fifteen years and approved by the department;

(b) Ensure that a pilot project site does not compete with existing retail businesses in the same geographic area for the provision of the same refueling services, recharging technologies, or other retail commercial activities;

(c) Provide existing truck stop operators and retail truck refueling businesses with an absolute right of first refusal over the offering of refueling services to class six trucks with a maximum gross vehicle weight of twenty-six thousand pounds within the same geographic area identified for a possible pilot project site;

(d) Reach agreement with the department of services for the blind ensuring that any activities at host sites do not materially affect the revenues forecasted from their vending operations at each site;

(e) Regulate the internal rate of return from the partnership, including provisions to reduce or eliminate the level of state support once the partnership attains economic self-sufficiency;

(f) Be limited to not more than five locations on state-owned land within federal interstate rights-of-way or state highway rights-of-way in Washington; and

(g) Be limited in duration to a term of years reasonably necessary for the partnership to recover the cost of capital investments, plus the regulated internal rate of return.

(3) The department is not responsible for providing capital equipment nor operating refueling or recharging services. The department must provide periodic status reports on the pilot project

to the office of financial management and the relevant standing committees of the legislature not less than every biennium.

(4) The provisions of this section are subject to the availability of existing funds. However, capital improvements under this section must be funded with federal or private funds. [2009 c 459 § 14.]

**Finding—Purpose—2009 c 459:** See note following RCW 47.80.090.

*Regional transportation planning organizations—Electric vehicle infrastructure: RCW 47.80.090.*

**RCW 47.38.075 Electrical outlets for electric vehicles at rest areas—Battery exchange and charging station installation and operation.** (1) By December 31, 2015, the state must, to the extent practicable, install electrical outlets capable of charging electric vehicles in each state-operated highway rest stop.

(2) By December 31, 2015, the state must provide the opportunity to lease space for the limited purpose of installing and operating a battery exchange station or a battery charging station in appropriate state-owned highway rest stops.

(3) The department of transportation's obligations under this section are subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for the specific purpose identified in this section, unless the department receives federal or private funds for the specific purpose identified in this section.

(4) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(a) "Battery charging station" means an electrical component assembly or cluster of component assemblies designed specifically to charge batteries within electric vehicles, which meet or exceed any standards, codes, and regulations set forth by chapter 19.28 RCW and consistent with rules adopted under RCW 19.27.540.

(b) "Battery exchange station" means a fully automated facility that will enable an electric vehicle with a swappable battery to enter a drive lane and exchange the depleted battery with a fully charged battery through a fully automated process, which meets or exceeds any standards, codes, and regulations set forth by chapter 19.28 RCW and consistent with rules adopted under RCW 19.27.540. [2009 c 459 § 15.]

**Finding—Purpose—2009 c 459:** See note following RCW 47.80.090.

*Regional transportation planning organizations—Electric vehicle infrastructure: RCW 47.80.090.*

**RCW 47.38.080 Human trafficking informational posters at rest areas.** The department may work with human trafficking victim advocates in developing informational posters for placement in rest areas. The department may adopt policies for the placement of these posters in rest areas and these policies must address, at a minimum, placement of the posters in bathroom stalls. The posters may be in a variety of languages and include toll-free telephone numbers a person may call for assistance, including the number for the national human trafficking resource center at (888)373-7888 and the number for the

Washington state office of crime victims advocacy at (800)822-1067.  
[2010 c 48 § 1.]

*Model notice on human trafficking: RCW 43.280.110.*

**RCW 47.38.090 Reconfiguration of maintenance operations—**

**Planning process—Report.** (1) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose, the department is directed to reconfigure its maintenance operations to assure that its owned and operated safety rest areas are open for use except for seasonal closures or cleaning, maintenance, and repairs.

(2) The department may initiate a strategic planning process that addresses the maintenance, operation, and safety of its owned and operated safety rest areas. At a minimum, this plan shall evaluate operations, maintenance, safety, and commercial motor vehicle parking at safety rest areas. The department must engage members from the freight community and other stakeholders for recommendations and solutions. The department must also coordinate with the office of intergovernmental coordination on public right-of-way homeless encampments established in \*Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill No. 5662 (right-of-way camping/housing). The plan must identify strategies that the department can employ to ensure commercial motor vehicle parking is available at state-owned and operated safety rest areas. The department shall prioritize the planning effort to conclude by the end of the 2021-2023 biennium.

(3) The department must report to the transportation committees of the legislature the changes that have been made to or are planned to be made to operation of the safety rest areas by January 15, 2023, including recommendations related to commercial vehicle parking.  
[2022 c 262 § 2.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill No. 5662 was not enacted during the 2022 legislative session.

**Chapter 47.39 RCW**  
**SCENIC AND RECREATIONAL HIGHWAY ACT OF 1967**

**Sections**

- 47.39.010 System created—Standards.
- 47.39.020 Designation of portions of existing highways and ferry routes as part of system.
- 47.39.030 Development and maintenance of system by department of transportation and parks and recreation commission—Allocation of costs.
- 47.39.040 Planning and design standards established by department of commerce.
- 47.39.050 Planning and design standards—Facilities and factors considered.
- 47.39.060 Designation of system on maps or other descriptive material.
- 47.39.069 Designation and removal criteria.
- 47.39.075 Corridor management plan.
- 47.39.080 Funding priorities—Signage.
- 47.39.090 Consultation with other agencies and parties—Identification of tourist routes.
- 47.39.100 Removal of designation.
- 47.39.900 Short title.
- 47.39.910 Severability—1967 ex.s. c 85.

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**RCW 47.39.010 System created—Standards.** There is hereby created a scenic and recreational highway system. Highways in this system shall be developed and maintained in accordance with general standards for state highways of comparable classification and usage.

Recognizing that the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century establishes a national "scenic byway" program that could benefit state and local roadways, the Washington state scenic byway designation program is revised to address state and local transportation routes. Byways in this program must be designated and maintained in accordance with the criteria developed by the department under this chapter. However, a highway so designated under RCW 47.39.069 does not become part of the scenic and recreational highway system unless approved by the legislature. Corridors within the scenic and recreational highway system that showcase the state's historic agricultural areas and promote the maintenance and enhancement of agricultural areas may be designated as agricultural scenic corridors. [2010 c 14 § 1; 1999 c 218 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 85 § 1.]

**Effective date—1999 c 218:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [May 7, 1999]." [1999 c 218 § 9.]

**RCW 47.39.020 Designation of portions of existing highways and ferry routes as part of system.** The following portions of highways are designated as part of the scenic and recreational highway system:

- (1) State route number 2, beginning at the crossing of Woods creek at the east city limits of Monroe, thence in an easterly

direction by way of Stevens pass to a junction with state route number 97 in the vicinity of Peshastin; also

Beginning at the junction with state route number 17, in the vicinity of Coulee City, thence easterly to the junction with state route number 155;

(2) State route number 3, beginning at a junction with state route number 101 in the vicinity of Shelton, thence northeasterly and northerly to a junction with state route number 104 in the vicinity of Port Gamble;

(3) State route number 4, beginning at the junction with state route number 101, thence easterly through Cathlamet to Coal Creek road, approximately .5 miles west of the Longview city limits;

(4) State route number 5, beginning at the junction with Starbird Road in Snohomish county, thence northerly to the junction with Bow Hill Road in Skagit county, to be designated as an agricultural scenic corridor with appropriate signage;

(5) State route number 6, beginning at the junction with state route number 101 in Raymond, thence easterly to the junction with state route number 5, in the vicinity of Chehalis;

(6) State route number 7, beginning at the junction with state route number 12 in Morton, thence northerly to the junction with state route number 507;

(7) State route number 8, beginning at a junction with state route number 12 in the vicinity of Elma, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 101 near Tumwater;

(8) State route number 9, beginning at the junction with state route number 530 in Arlington, thence northerly to the end of the route at the Canadian border;

(9) State route number 10, beginning at Teanaway junction, thence easterly to a junction with state route number 97 west of Ellensburg;

(10) State route number 11, beginning at the junction with state route number 5 in the vicinity of Burlington, thence in a northerly direction to the junction with state route number 5;

(11) State route number 12, beginning at a junction with a county road approximately 2.8 miles west of the crossing of the Wynoochee river which is approximately 1.2 miles west of Montesano, thence in an easterly direction to a junction with state route number 8 in the vicinity of Elma; also

Beginning at a junction with state route number 5, thence easterly by way of Morton, Randle, and Packwood to the junction with state route number 410, approximately 3.5 miles west of Naches; also

Beginning at the junction with state route number 124 in the vicinity of the Tri-Cities, thence easterly through Wallula and Touchet to a junction with a county road approximately 2.4 miles west of a junction with state route number 129 at Clarkston;

(12) State route number 14, beginning at the crossing of Gibbons creek approximately 0.9 miles east of Washougal, thence easterly along the north bank of the Columbia river to a point in the vicinity of Plymouth;

(13) State route number 17, beginning at a junction with state route number 395 in the vicinity of Mesa, thence northerly to the junction with state route number 97 in the vicinity of Brewster;

(14) State route number 19, the Chimacum-Beaver Valley road, beginning at the junction with state route number 104, thence northerly to the junction with state route number 20;

(15) State route number 20, beginning at the junction with state route number 101 to the ferry zone in Port Townsend; also

Beginning at the Keystone ferry slip on Whidbey Island, thence northerly and easterly to a junction with state route number 153 southeast of Twisp; also

Beginning at the junction of state route number 97 in the vicinity of Okanogan, thence westerly across the Okanogan river to the junction with state route number 215; also

Beginning at a junction with state route number 97 near Tonasket, thence easterly and southerly to a junction with state route number 2 at Newport;

(16) State route number 25, beginning at the Spokane river bridge, thence northerly through Cedonia, Gifford, Kettle Falls, and Northport, to the Canadian border;

(17) State route number 26, beginning at the Whitman county boundary line, thence easterly by way of the vicinities of La Crosse and Dusty to a junction with state route number 195 in the vicinity of Colfax;

(18) State route number 27, beginning at a junction with state route number 195 in the vicinity of Pullman, thence northerly by way of the vicinities of Palouse and Garfield to a junction with state route number 271 in the vicinity of Oakesdale; also

From a junction with state route number 271 at Oakesdale, thence northerly to the vicinity of Rockford;

(19) State route number 31, beginning at the junction with state route number 20 in Tiger, thence northerly to the Canadian border;

(20) State route number 82, beginning at the junction with state route number 395 south of the Tri-Cities area, thence southerly to the end of the route at the Oregon border;

(21) State route number 90, beginning at the junction with East Sunset Way in the vicinity east of Issaquah, thence easterly to Thorp road 9.0 miles west of Ellensburg;

(22) State route number 97, beginning at the Oregon border, in a northerly direction through Toppenish and Wapato to the junction with state route number 82 at Union Gap; also

Beginning at the junction with state route number 10, 2.5 miles north of Ellensburg, in a northerly direction to the junction with state route number 2, 4.0 miles east of Leavenworth; also

Beginning at the junction of state route number 153 in the vicinity south of Pateros, thence northerly by way of the vicinities of Brewster, Okanogan, Omak, Riverside, Tonasket, and Oroville to the international boundary line;

(23) State route number 97 alternate, beginning at the junction with state route number 2 in the vicinity of Monitor, thence northerly to the junction with state route number 97, approximately 5.0 miles north of Chelan;

(24) State route number 101, beginning at the Astoria-Megler bridge, thence north to Fowler street in Raymond; also

Beginning at a junction with state route number 109 in the vicinity of Queets, thence in a northerly, northeasterly, and easterly direction by way of Forks to the junction with state route number 5 in the vicinity of Olympia;

(25) State route number 104, beginning at a junction with state route number 101 in the vicinity south of Discovery bay, thence in a southeasterly direction to the Kingston ferry crossing;

(26) State route number 105, beginning at a junction with state route number 101 at Raymond, thence westerly and northerly by way of Tokeland and North Cove to the shore of Grays Harbor north of Westport; also



Beginning at a junction with state route number 105 in the vicinity south of Westport, thence northeasterly to a junction with state route number 101 at Aberdeen;

(27) State route number 109, beginning at a junction with state route number 101 in Hoquiam to a junction with state route number 101 in the vicinity of Queets;

(28) State route number 112, beginning at the easterly boundary of the Makah Indian reservation, thence in an easterly direction to the vicinity of Laird's corner on state route number 101;

(29) State route number 116, beginning at the junction with the Chimacum-Beaver Valley road, thence in an easterly direction to Fort Flagler State Park;

(30) State route number 119, beginning at the junction with state route number 101 at Hoodspport, thence northwesterly to the Mount Rose development intersection;

(31) State route number 122, Harmony road, between the junction with state route number 12 near Mayfield dam and the junction with state route number 12 in Mossyrock;

(32) State route number 123, beginning at the junction with state route number 12 in the vicinity of Morton, thence northerly to the junction with state route number 410;

(33) State route number 129, beginning at the Oregon border, thence northerly to the junction with state route number 12 in Clarkston;

(34) State route number 141, beginning at the junction with state route number 14 in Bingen, thence northerly to the end of the route at the Skamania county line;

(35) State route number 142, beginning at the junction with state route number 14 in Lyle, thence northeasterly to the junction with state route number 97, .5 miles from Goldendale;

(36) State route number 153, beginning at a junction with state route number 97 in the vicinity of Pateros, thence in a northerly direction to a junction with state route number 20 in the vicinity south of Twisp;

(37) State route number 155, beginning at a junction with state route number 2 in the vicinity north of Coulee City, thence northerly and westerly to the junction with state route number 215;

(38) State route number 194, beginning at the Port of Almota to the junction with state route number 195 in the vicinity of Pullman;

(39) State route number 195, beginning at the Washington-Idaho boundary line southeast of Uniontown, thence northwesterly and northerly by way of the vicinity of Colton, Pullman, Colfax, Steptoe, and Rosalia to the Whitman county boundary line;

(40) State route number 202, beginning at the junction with state route number 522, thence in an easterly direction to the junction with state route number 90 in the vicinity of North Bend;

(41) State route number 211, beginning at the junction with state route number 2, thence northerly to the junction with state route number 20 in the vicinity of Usk;

(42) State route number 215, beginning at the junction of state route number 20 in the vicinity of Okanogan, thence northeasterly on the west side of the Okanogan river to a junction with state route number 97 north of Omak;

(43) State route number 231, beginning at the junction with state route number 23, in the vicinity of Sprague, thence in a northerly direction to the junction with state route number 2, approximately 2.5 miles west of Reardan;

(44) State route number 261, beginning at the junction with state route number 12 in the vicinity of Delaney, thence northwesterly to the junction with state route number 260;

(45) State route number 262, beginning at the junction with state route number 26, thence northeasterly to the junction with state route number 17 between Moses Lake and Othello;

(46) State route number 271, beginning at a junction with state route number 27 in the vicinity of Oakesdale, thence northwesterly to a junction with state route number 195 in the vicinity south of Rosalia;

(47) State route number 272, beginning at the junction with state route number 195 in Colfax, thence easterly to the Idaho state line, approximately 1.5 miles east of Palouse;

(48) State route number 278, beginning at a junction with state route number 27, thence easterly via Rockford to the Idaho state line;

(49) State route number 305, beginning at the Winslow ferry dock to the junction with state route number 3 approximately 1.0 mile north of Poulsbo;

(50) State route number 395, beginning at the north end of the crossing of Mill creek in the vicinity of Colville, thence in a northwesterly direction to a junction with state route number 20 at the west end of the crossing over the Columbia river at Kettle Falls;

(51) State route number 401, beginning at a junction with state route number 101 at Point Ellice, thence easterly and northerly to a junction with state route number 4 in the vicinity north of Naselle;

(52) State route number 410, beginning at the intersection with Farman street in Enumclaw, thence in an easterly direction to the junction with state route number 12, approximately 3.5 miles west of Naches;

(53) State route number 501, beginning at the junction with state route number 5 in the vicinity of Vancouver, thence northwesterly on the New Lower River road around Vancouver Lake;

(54) State route number 503, beginning at the junction with state route number 500, thence northerly by way of Battle Ground and Yale to the junction with state route number 5 in the vicinity of Woodland;

(55) State route number 504, beginning at a junction with state route number 5 at Castle Rock, to the end of the route on Johnston Ridge, approximately milepost 52;

(56) State route number 505, beginning at the junction with state route number 504, thence northwesterly by way of Toledo to the junction with state route number 5;

(57) State route number 508, beginning at the junction with state route number 5, thence in an easterly direction to the junction with state route number 7 in Morton;

(58) State route number 525, beginning at the ferry toll booth on Whidbey Island to a junction with state route number 20 east of the Keystone ferry slip;

(59) State route number 542, beginning at the junction with state route number 5, thence easterly to the vicinity of Austin pass in Whatcom county;

(60) State route number 547, beginning at the junction with state route number 542 in Kendall, thence northwesterly to the junction with state route number 9 in the vicinity of the Canadian border;

(61) State route number 706, beginning at the junction with state route number 7 in Elbe, in an easterly direction to the end of the route at Mt. Rainier National Park;

(62) State route number 821, beginning at a junction with state route number 82 at the Yakima firing center interchange, thence in a northerly direction to a junction with state route number 82 at the Thrall road interchange;

(63) State route number 971, Navarre Coulee road, between the junction with state route number 97 and the junction with South Lakeshore road;

(64) Beginning at the Anacortes ferry landing, the Washington state ferries Anacortes/San Juan Islands route, which includes stops at Lopez, Shaw, Orcas, and San Juan Islands; and the roads on San Juan and Orcas Islands as described in San Juan Island county council resolution number 7, adopted February 5, 2008;

(65) All Washington state ferry routes. [2013 c 154 § 2; 2011 c 123 § 1; 2010 c 14 § 2; 2009 c 277 § 1; 2003 c 55 § 1; 1993 c 430 § 7; 1992 c 26 § 2; 1991 c 342 § 54; 1990 c 240 § 3; 1975 c 63 § 8; 1973 1st ex.s. c 151 § 10; 1971 ex.s. c 73 § 29; 1970 ex.s. c 51 § 177; 1969 ex.s. c 281 § 6; 1967 ex.s. c 85 § 2.]

**Intent—2013 c 154:** "The legislature recognizes the city of Enumclaw as the gateway to the Chinook scenic byway in western Washington. As such, it is the legislature's intent to set the western terminus of the byway within Enumclaw's city limits. It is further the legislature's intent to make attractions within the city of Enumclaw eligible for future grant opportunities by establishing an all-encompassing entrance point for the Chinook scenic byway." [2013 c 154 § 1.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 342:** See note following RCW 47.01.425.

**Legislative finding—1990 c 240:** "The legislature finds that scenic and recreational highways are designated because of a need to develop management plans that will protect and preserve the scenic and recreational resources from loss through inappropriate development. Protection of scenic and recreational resources includes managing land use outside normal highway rights-of-way. The legislature recognizes that scenic and recreational highways are typically located in areas that are natural in character, along watercourses or through mountainous areas, or in areas with a view of such scenery." [1990 c 240 § 1.]

**RCW 47.39.030 Development and maintenance of system by department of transportation and parks and recreation commission—Allocation of costs.** (1) The department shall pay from motor vehicle funds appropriated for construction of state highways, the following costs of developing and constructing scenic and recreational highways: (a) Acquisition of the right-of-way necessary for state highway purposes; (b) construction of the portion of the highway designed primarily for motor vehicle travel; (c) exit and entrance roadways providing access to scenic observation points; (d) safety rest areas; (e) roadside landscaping within the portion of the highway right-of-way acquired by the department for state highway purposes; (f) the uniform signs and markers designating the various features and facilities of the scenic and recreational highways; and (g) any additional costs of constructing and developing the scenic and recreational highways, including property acquisition adjacent to

highways as authorized by RCW 47.12.250, for which the department shall receive reimbursement from the federal government or any other source.

(2) The parks and recreation commission shall pay the costs of developing and constructing the scenic and recreational highways not provided for in subsection (1) of this section from any funds appropriated for such purposes.

(3) The costs of maintaining the scenic and recreational highway system shall be allocated between the department and the parks and recreation commission in the same manner that costs of developing and constructing such highways are allocated in subsections (1) and (2) of this section.

(4) The city, town, county, regional transportation planning organization, federal agency, federally recognized tribe, or any other such party that nominates a roadway not located on a state-owned right-of-way for designation as a scenic byway shall bear all costs relating to the nomination and designation of the byway, such as costs for developing, maintaining, planning, designing, and constructing the scenic byway. [1999 c 218 § 2; 1984 c 7 § 207; 1967 ex.s. c 85 § 3.]

**Effective date—1999 c 218:** See note following RCW 47.39.010.

*Safety rest areas: Chapter 47.38 RCW.*

**RCW 47.39.040 Planning and design standards established by department of commerce.** The establishment of planning and design standards for items provided for in RCW 47.39.050 shall be coordinated by the department of commerce. The department of transportation, parks and recreation commission, and any other departments or commissions whose interests are affected shall prepare, submit, and file with the department of commerce standards relating to the scenic and recreational highway system. If varying planning and design standards are filed, the department of commerce shall consult with the submitting agencies on the merits of the several proposals and, based upon such consultation, establish a set of standards. Pursuant to the planning and design standards so established, the department of transportation and the parks and recreation commission shall develop the highways and areas adjacent thereto to accomplish the purposes of this chapter, but the department shall retain exclusive authority over the highway right-of-way.

Responsibility for construction and maintenance is hereby established between the department and the parks and recreation commission with the department responsible for activities financed with funds provided for under RCW 47.39.030(1) and the parks and recreation commission responsible for activities financed from other sources of funds. By mutual consent, responsibility for development and/or maintenance may be transferred between the two agencies. [2023 c 470 § 2086; 1995 c 399 § 122; 1985 c 6 § 16; 1984 c 7 § 208; 1967 ex.s. c 85 § 4.]

**Explanatory statement—2023 c 470:** See note following RCW 10.99.030.

*Department of commerce: Chapter 43.330 RCW.*

**RCW 47.39.050 Planning and design standards—Facilities and factors considered.** Planning and design standards established for highways falling within the scenic and recreational highways system may include, but shall not be limited to, provision for the following:

- (1) Hiking, bicycle, and bridle trails, including regulations for their use;
- (2) Campsites and shelters;
- (3) Boat launching sites;
- (4) Access trails to lakes, rivers and streams, and easements along their shores;
- (5) Safety rest areas;
- (6) Historic and geologic interpretative facilities;
- (7) Scenic observation facilities;
- (8) Roadside landscaping, restoration and aesthetic enhancement;
- (9) Specifically delineated highway corridors and means for the preservation of natural beauty, historic sites, or viewpoints;
- (10) A uniform system of signs and markers designating the various features and facilities of the scenic and recreational highway systems. [1967 ex.s. c 85 § 5.]

**RCW 47.39.060 Designation of system on maps or other descriptive material.** The department and the parks and recreation commission may include, where appropriate, on any maps, or in any relevant descriptive material they may prepare at state expense, references to those portions of highways designated in RCW 47.39.020, and may include those designated byways by appropriate color or code designation. [1999 c 218 § 3; 1984 c 7 § 209; 1967 ex.s. c 85 § 6.]

**Effective date—1999 c 218:** See note following RCW 47.39.010.

**RCW 47.39.069 Designation and removal criteria.** (1) The department, in consultation with the department of commerce, the department of natural resources, the parks and recreation commission, affected cities, towns, and counties, federally recognized tribes, regional transportation planning organizations, Washington-based automobile clubs, statewide bicycling organizations, and other interested parties, shall develop by December 31, 1999, criteria for assessing scenic byways and heritage tour routes and an appropriate method of nomination and application for the designation and removal of the designation of the byways. Factors the department may take into consideration, but is not limited by, are: (a) Scenic quality of the byway; (b) natural aspects, such as geological formations, water bodies, vegetation, and wildlife; (c) historic elements; (d) cultural features such as the arts, crafts, music, customs, or traditions of a distinct group of people; (e) archaeological features; (f) recreational activities; (g) roadway safety including accommodations for bicycle and pedestrian travel, tour buses, and automobiles; (h) scenic byway and local and regional byway management plans; and (i) local public involvement and support for the byway.

(2) The criteria developed in subsection (1) of this section must not impose nor require regulation of privately owned lands or property rights.

(3) Any person may nominate a roadway, path, or trail for inclusion in the scenic byway program. The department shall assess

nominations in accordance with the criteria developed under subsection (1) of this section. The department shall submit its recommendations for scenic byway and heritage tour route designations to the commission for its approval and official designation of the roadway, path, or trail as a scenic byway or a heritage tour route. All decisions made by the commission relating to scenic byway and heritage tour route designations are final.

(4) The department shall apply the criteria in subsection (1) of this section to state highways that are currently not a part of the designated scenic and recreational highway system. The department shall respond to local requests for route evaluation as defined in subsection (3) of this section.

(5) Once the commission has designated a roadway as a scenic byway, the department may submit an individual nomination to the federal highway administration for its consideration of whether the roadway qualifies to be designated as a national scenic byway or an All-American Roadway. [2023 c 470 § 2087; 1999 c 218 § 4.]

**Explanatory statement—2023 c 470:** See note following RCW 10.99.030.

**Effective date—1999 c 218:** See note following RCW 47.39.010.

**RCW 47.39.075 Corridor management plan.** The department shall participate with local communities to develop a corridor management plan for a state highway nominated to be part of the scenic byway program. Local, regional, or other governmental bodies shall develop a corridor management plan for nominated routes that are under their jurisdiction. [1999 c 218 § 5.]

**Effective date—1999 c 218:** See note following RCW 47.39.010.

**RCW 47.39.080 Funding priorities—Signage.** Recognizing that the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century establishes a national "Scenic Byways" grant program and a new apportionment program called "Transportation Enhancement Activities," the department of transportation shall place high priority on obtaining funds from those sources for further development of a scenic and recreational highways program, including enhancement projects on the designated scenic and recreational highway system. The department shall consider the use of the designated system by bicyclists and pedestrians in connection with nonmotorized routes in the state trail plan, and the state bicycle plan which are also eligible for TEA-21 funding. Appropriate signage may be used at intersections of nonmotorized and motorized systems to demonstrate the access, location, and the interconnectivity of various modes of travel for transportation and recreation. For the purposes of leveraging national scenic byway planning grant funds, the commission may designate eligible state highways as scenic byways on an interim basis. [1999 c 218 § 6; 1993 c 430 § 8.]

**Effective date—1999 c 218:** See note following RCW 47.39.010.

**RCW 47.39.090 Consultation with other agencies and parties—**  
**Identification of tourist routes.** In developing the scenic and recreational highways program, the department shall consult with the department of commerce, the department of natural resources, the parks and recreation commission, affected cities, towns, and counties, regional transportation planning organizations, statewide bicycling organizations, and other interested parties. The scenic and recreational highways program may identify entire highway loops or similar tourist routes that could be developed to promote tourist activity and provide concurrent economic growth while protecting the scenic and recreational quality surrounding state highways. [2023 c 470 § 2088; 1995 c 399 § 123; 1993 c 430 § 9.]

**Explanatory statement—2023 c 470:** See note following RCW 10.99.030.

**RCW 47.39.100 Removal of designation.** (1) The commission may remove the designation of a route if it no longer possesses the intrinsic qualities or fails to meet the criteria that supported its designation.

(2) The department shall determine whether a roadway designated as a national scenic byway or an All-American Roadway is being properly maintained in accordance with the roadway's byway management plan, including preserving the intrinsic qualities that originally supported the designation. When the department determines that the intrinsic qualities of a national scenic byway or All-American Roadway have not been maintained sufficiently to retain its designation, the department shall notify the party responsible for maintaining the designation of the finding and allow the party an opportunity, under federal regulations, for corrective action before formal removal of the designation of the roadway.

(3) Local, regional, or other governmental bodies may notify the commission of the removal of a designated route if they determine it no longer meets the designation criteria, or community support for the designation no longer exists, or it no longer possesses the intrinsic qualities that supported its original designation.

(4) State or local removal of a designated route will result in discontinued state support of the designated route and can include, but is not limited to, state matching assistance for grant applications, the removal of signs directly related to the byway, free promotional information in the state-owned safety rest areas, and inclusion in maps, brochures, and electronic media. [1999 c 218 § 7.]

**Effective date—1999 c 218:** See note following RCW 47.39.010.

**RCW 47.39.900 Short title.** RCW 47.39.010 through 47.39.910 shall constitute a new chapter in Title 47 RCW and shall be known and may be cited as the "Scenic and Recreational Highway Act of 1967." [1967 ex.s. c 85 § 7.]

**RCW 47.39.910 Severability—1967 ex.s. c 85.** If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision

to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1967 ex.s. c 85 § 8.]



**Chapter 47.40 RCW**  
**ROADSIDE IMPROVEMENT AND BEAUTIFICATION**

**Sections**

- 47.40.010 Improvement and beautification a highway purpose.
- 47.40.020 Use of funds authorized.
- 47.40.030 Permit to private persons.
- 47.40.040 Application for permit, contents.
- 47.40.050 Survey—Report—Permit.
- 47.40.060 Agreement to maintain project.
- 47.40.070 Damaging project unlawful.
- 47.40.080 Penalty for destroying native flora on state lands,  
                  highways, parks.
- 47.40.090 Glass bottles along highways—Collection and removal.
- 47.40.100 State adopt-a-highway program.
- 47.40.105 Local adopt-a-highway programs.

*City streets, parkways, boulevards, etc.: Title 35 RCW.*

*State parks and recreation commission may plant trees along highway:  
RCW 79A.05.030.*

*Withdrawal of public lands abutting highway: RCW 79A.05.105.*

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*Withdrawal of public lands abutting highway: RCW 79A.05.105.*

**RCW 47.40.010 Improvement and beautification a highway purpose.**

The planting and cultivating of any shrubs, trees, hedges or other domestic or native ornamental growth, the improvement of roadside facilities and view points, and the correction of unsightly conditions, upon the right-of-way of any state highway is hereby declared to be a proper state highway purpose. [1961 c 13 § 47.40.010. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 88; RRS § 6400-88.]

**RCW 47.40.020 Use of funds authorized.**

Whenever funds are available for the planting or cultivation of any shrubs, trees, hedges, or other domestic or native ornamental growth, the improvement of roadside facilities and view points, the correction of unsightly conditions upon the right-of-way of any state highway, and for roadside development and beautification, the department is empowered to expend such funds, either independently or in conjunction with the funds of any county, political subdivision, or any person, firm, corporation, association, or organization. [1984 c 7 § 210; 1961 c 13 § 47.40.020. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 89; RRS § 6400-89.]

**RCW 47.40.030 Permit to private persons.**

Any person, firm, corporation, association, or organization owning lands abutting upon any state highway and desiring to plant, cultivate, and grow any hedge, shade trees, or ornamental trees or shrubs along the right-of-way thereof, or to clear and cultivate a portion of the state highway right-of-way for the purpose of growing crops and destroying noxious weeds, or any person, firm, corporation, association, or organization interested in public improvement and desiring to improve and beautify any state highway right-of-way or any portion thereof by planting, cultivating, or growing any hedge or shade or ornamental trees or

cultivate along or upon the right-of-way thereof, may upon application to the department, be granted a permit therefor as provided by law. [1984 c 7 § 211; 1961 c 13 § 47.40.030. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 90; RRS § 6400-90; prior: 1927 c 242 § 1; RRS § 6437-1.]

**RCW 47.40.040 Application for permit, contents.** Each application for a permit to plant, cultivate and grow any hedge, shade or ornamental trees or shrubbery along or upon the right-of-way of any state highway or improve such right-of-way shall be in writing, signed by the applicant, and shall describe the state highway or portion thereof along or upon the right-of-way of which permit to plant, cultivate, grow or improve is sought, by name, number, or other reasonable description, and the lands bordering thereon by governmental subdivisions, and shall state the names, places or residence and post office addresses of the applicant or applicants owning the land abutting upon such state highway or the name of the person, firm, corporation, association or organization applying for the permit and the names of its officers and their places of residence and their post office addresses, and shall state definitely the purpose for which the permit is sought, giving a description of the kind of hedge, or variety of shrubbery or trees desired to be planted or the kinds of crops to be grown, or improvement to be made, with a diagram illustrating the location and number of hedges, trees or shrubs or the area of cultivation desired or plans of the improvement proposed to be made. Whenever possible, applicants should use native forage plants that are pollen-rich or nectar-rich and beneficial for all pollinators, including honey bees, in order to develop habitat beneficial for the feeding, nesting, and reproduction of pollinators. [2019 c 353 § 10; 1961 c 13 § 47.40.040. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 91; RRS § 6400-91; prior: 1927 c 242 § 2; RRS § 6437-2.]

**Findings—Intent—2019 c 353:** See note following RCW 43.23.300.

**RCW 47.40.050 Survey—Report—Permit.** Upon the filing of such application, the department shall cause a survey of the state highway to be made with reference to the application and a report of the findings and recommendations as to the granting of the permit, and if it appears to the satisfaction of the department that the use of a portion of the state highway for the purpose set out in the application will not interfere with the use of the state highway for public travel and will beautify and improve the state highway, a permit may be granted and issued to the applicant to plant, cultivate, and grow any hedge, shade or ornamental trees, shrubbery, or crops, or make such improvement along or upon the right-of-way of such portion of the state highway as is definitely described in the permit, and to construct and maintain such temporary and substantial fence on and along the portion of the right-of-way of the state highway described in the permit as is specified in the permit. The permit shall specify the exact location of all hedges, shade or ornamental trees, or shrubbery to be planted and grown, or the area to be cultivated under the permit, or the area to be improved to which specified location the person, firm, corporation, association, or organization receiving the permit shall specifically conform. The department may in its discretion refuse to issue the permit, and any such permit that is

granted is revocable at the will of the department and nothing in this title may be construed as in anywise affecting the title of the state to the lands included in the state highway, or the right to use the lands for state highway purposes, or to remove or destroy any of such hedges, trees, shrubbery, or crops for the purpose of construction, alteration, repair, improvement, or maintenance of the state highway, or for any other purpose and at any time. [1984 c 7 § 212; 1961 c 13 § 47.40.050. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 92; RRS § 6400-92; prior: 1927 c 242 § 3, part; RRS § 6437, part.]

**RCW 47.40.060 Agreement to maintain project.** If any such permit is granted, the department shall enter into an agreement with the person, firm, corporation, association, or organization agreeing that such roadside development or beautification shall be maintained and kept up by the state through the department or by the person, firm, corporation, association, or organization. If any such person, firm, corporation, association, or organization so agreeing fails or neglects to maintain the roadside development or beautification, the department is empowered to do so, and the expense thereof shall be a charge against the person, firm, corporation, association, or organization. [1984 c 7 § 213; 1961 c 13 § 47.40.060. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 93; RRS § 6400-93; prior: 1927 c 242 § 3, part; RRS § 6437-3, part.]

**RCW 47.40.070 Damaging project unlawful.** It is unlawful for any person to injure, destroy, or remove any hedge, shade or ornamental trees, shrubbery, or crops, planted, cultivated, and grown or improvement made upon or along any portion of any state highway under permit from the department or otherwise, or to injure, destroy, or remove any fence erected under any such permit or otherwise. However, nothing in this section may be construed to prevent any person with the department to do so or the officers of the state charged with the duty of constructing and maintaining any such state highway, from removing any hedges, trees, shrubbery, or crops planted or improvements or fences built under permit, where in their judgment they interfere with or are detrimental to, the use of the state highway for public travel, or such removal is necessary for the construction, alteration, repair, improvement, or maintenance of the state highway. [1984 c 7 § 214; 1961 c 13 § 47.40.070. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 94; RRS § 6400-94; prior: 1927 c 242 § 4; RRS § 6437-4.]

**RCW 47.40.080 Penalty for destroying native flora on state lands, highways, parks.** Any person who shall break or cut from any lands owned by the state of Washington or shall cut down, remove, destroy or uproot any rhododendron, evergreen, huckleberry, native dogwood or any other native tree, shrub, fern, herb, bulb or wild plants, or any part thereof, within three hundred feet of the center line of any state or county road, or who shall cut down, remove or destroy any flowering or ornamental tree or shrub, or any native flowering plant, fern, herb or bulb, either perennial or annual, situate, growing or being on any public street or highway, state or city park, in the state of Washington, unless such person be engaged in the work of constructing or repairing such highway or street under authority and direction of the legally constituted public officials

being charged by law with the duty of constructing or repairing such highways or streets, state or city parks, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [1961 c 13 § 47.40.080. Prior: 1933 c 133 § 1; 1925 ex.s. c 59 § 1; RRS § 2787-1.]

**RCW 47.40.090 Glass bottles along highways—Collection and removal.** The department and any other governmental subdivision shall, with the staff, equipment, and material under their control, or by contract with others, take all necessary actions to collect and remove any or all glass bottles or glass containers along the right-of-way of any public road or public highway. [1984 c 7 § 215; 1969 ex.s. c 281 § 48.]

*Deposit of unwholesome substance: RCW 9.66.050.*

*Removal of glass after accident: RCW 46.61.645.*

*Throwing glass on highway: RCW 46.61.645, 70A.200.060.*

**RCW 47.40.100 State adopt-a-highway program.** (1) (a) The department of transportation shall establish a statewide adopt-a-highway program. The purpose of the program is to provide volunteers and businesses an opportunity to contribute to a cleaner environment, enhanced roadsides, and protection of wildlife habitats. Participating volunteers and businesses shall adopt department-designated sections of state highways, rest areas, park and ride lots, intermodal facilities, and any other facilities the department deems appropriate, in accordance with rules adopted by the department. The department may elect to coordinate a consortium of participants for adopt-a-highway projects.

(b) The adopt-a-highway program shall include, at a minimum, litter control for the adopted section, and may include additional responsibilities such as planting and maintaining vegetation, controlling weeds, graffiti removal, and any other roadside improvement or clean-up activities the department deems appropriate. Whenever possible, when planting and maintaining vegetation, volunteers and businesses should use native forage plants that are pollen-rich or nectar-rich and beneficial for all pollinators, including honey bees, in order to develop habitat beneficial for the feeding, nesting, and reproduction of pollinators. The department shall not accept adopt-a-highway proposals that would have the effect of terminating classified employees or classified employee positions.

(2) A volunteer group or business choosing to participate in the adopt-a-highway program must submit a proposal to the department. The department shall review the proposal for consistency with departmental policy and rules. The department may accept, reject, or modify an applicant's proposal.

(3) The department shall seek partnerships with volunteer groups and businesses to facilitate the goals of this section. The department may solicit funding for the adopt-a-highway program that allows private entities to undertake all or a portion of financing for the initiatives. The department shall develop guidelines regarding the cash, labor, and in-kind contributions to be performed by the participants.

(4) An organization whose name: (a) Endorses or opposes a particular candidate for public office, (b) advocates a position on a specific political issue, initiative, referendum, or piece of legislation, or (c) includes a reference to a political party shall not be eligible to participate in the adopt-a-highway program.

(5) In administering the adopt-a-highway program, the department shall:

- (a) Provide a standardized application form, registration form, and contractual agreement for all participating groups. The forms shall notify the prospective participants of the risks and responsibilities to be assumed by the department and the participants;
  - (b) Require all participants to be at least fifteen years of age;
  - (c) Require parental consent for all minors;
  - (d) Require at least one adult supervisor for every eight minors;
  - (e) Require one designated leader for each participating organization, unless the department chooses to coordinate a consortium of participants;
  - (f) Assign each participating organization a section or sections of state highway, or other state-owned transportation facilities, for a specified period of time;
  - (g) Recognize the efforts of a participating organization by erecting and maintaining signs with the organization's name on both ends of the organization's section of highway;
  - (h) Provide appropriate safety equipment. Safety equipment issued to participating groups must be returned to the department upon termination of the applicable adopt-a-highway agreement;
  - (i) Provide safety training for all participants;
  - (j) Pay any and all premiums or assessments required under RCW 51.12.035 to secure medical aid benefits under chapter 51.36 RCW for all volunteers participating in the program;
  - (k) Require participating businesses to pay all employer premiums or assessments required to secure medical aid benefits under chapter 51.36 RCW for all employees or agents participating in the program;
  - (l) Maintain records of all injuries and accidents that occur;
  - (m) Adopt rules that establish a process to resolve any question of an organization's eligibility to participate in the adopt-a-highway program;
  - (n) Obtain permission from property owners who lease right-of-way before allowing an organization to adopt a section of highway on such leased property; and
  - (o) Establish procedures and guidelines for the adopt-a-highway program.
- (6) Nothing in this section affects the rights or activities of, or agreements with, adjacent landowners, including the use of rights-of-way and crossings, nor impairs these rights and uses by the placement of signs. [2019 c 353 § 11; 1995 c 106 § 1; 1990 c 258 § 5.]

**Findings—Intent—2019 c 353:** See note following RCW 43.23.300.

**Legislative findings and intent—1990 c 258:** "The legislature finds that despite the efforts of the department of transportation, the department of ecology, and the ecology youth corps to pick up litter along state highways, roadside litter in Washington state has increased by thirty-six percent since 1983. The legislature further finds that in twenty-seven states, volunteer organizations are able to

give of their time and energy, demonstrate commitment to a clean environment, and discourage would-be litterers by keeping sections of highway litter free because those states have established programs to encourage and recognize such voluntary efforts. Therefore, it is the legislature's intent to establish an "adopt-a-highway" litter control program as a partnership between citizen volunteers and the state to reduce roadside litter and build civic pride in a litter-free Washington." [1990 c 258 § 4.]

**RCW 47.40.105 Local adopt-a-highway programs.** Local government legislative authorities may enact local "adopt-a-highway sign" programs which are not inconsistent with state or federal law. [1990 c 258 § 3.]

**Legislative findings and intent—1990 c 258:** See note following RCW 47.40.100.

**Chapter 47.41 RCW**  
**JUNKYARDS ADJACENT TO INTERSTATE AND PRIMARY HIGHWAYS**

**Sections**

- 47.41.010 Legislative declaration—Purpose.
- 47.41.020 Definitions.
- 47.41.030 Junkyards adjacent to highways prohibited—Exceptions.
- 47.41.040 Screening or removal of junkyard.
- 47.41.050 Administrative rules—Review of action.
- 47.41.060 Other laws not affected.
- 47.41.070 Violations—Penalty—Abatement as public nuisance.
- 47.41.080 Agreements with United States secretary of transportation.

*Vehicle wreckers: Chapter 46.80 RCW.*



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*Vehicle wreckers: Chapter 46.80 RCW.*

**RCW 47.41.010 Legislative declaration—Purpose.** For the purpose of promoting the public safety, health, welfare, convenience, and enjoyment of public travel, to protect the public investment in public highways, and to preserve and enhance the scenic beauty of lands bordering public highways, it is hereby declared to be in the public interest to regulate and restrict the establishment, operation, and maintenance of junkyards in areas adjacent to the interstate and federal-aid primary systems within this state. The legislature hereby finds and declares that junkyards which do not conform to the requirements of this chapter are public nuisances. [1971 ex.s. c 101 § 1.]

**RCW 47.41.020 Definitions.** The definitions set forth in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Junk" means old or scrap copper, brass, rope, rags, batteries, paper, trash, rubber debris, waste, or junked, dismantled, or wrecked automobiles, or parts thereof, iron, steel, and other old or scrap ferrous or nonferrous material.

(2) "Automobile graveyard" means any establishment or place of business that is maintained, used, or operated by storing, keeping, buying, or selling wrecked, scrapped, ruined, or dismantled motor vehicles or motor vehicle parts.

(3) "Junkyard" means an establishment or place of business that is maintained, operated, or used for storing, keeping, buying, or selling junk or for the maintenance or operation of an automobile graveyard, and the term includes garbage dumps and sanitary fills.

(4) "Interstate system" means that portion of the national system of interstate and defense highways located within this state, as officially designated or as may hereafter be so designated by the department and approved by the United States secretary of transportation under Title 23 United States Code.

(5) "Federal-aid primary system" means that portion of connected main highways as officially designated or as may hereafter be so designated by the department and approved by the United States secretary of transportation as the federal-aid primary system pursuant to the provisions of Title 23 United States Code.

(6) "Department" means the Washington state department of transportation. [1984 c 7 § 216; 1971 ex.s. c 101 § 2.]

**RCW 47.41.030 Junkyards adjacent to highways prohibited—**

**Exceptions.** No person may establish, operate, or maintain a junkyard any portion of which is within one thousand feet of the nearest edge of the right-of-way of any interstate or federal-aid primary highway, except the following:

- (1) Those which are screened by natural objects, plantings, fences, or other appropriate means so as not to be visible from the main-traveled way of the system or otherwise removed from sight;
- (2) Those located within areas which are zoned for industrial use under authority of law;
- (3) Those located within unzoned industrial areas, which areas shall be determined from actual land uses and defined by rules adopted by the department and approved by the United States secretary of transportation; and
- (4) Those which are not visible from the main-traveled way of the system. [1984 c 7 § 217; 1971 ex.s. c 101 § 3.]

**RCW 47.41.040 Screening or removal of junkyard.** Before July 1, 1971, the department shall determine whether or not the topography of the land adjoining the highway will permit adequate screening of any junkyard lawfully in existence located outside of a zoned industrial area or an unzoned industrial area as defined under RCW 47.41.030 on August 9, 1971, that is within one thousand feet of the nearest edge of the right-of-way and visible from the main traveled way of any highway on the interstate and primary system and whether screening of the junkyard would be economically feasible. Within thirty days thereafter the department shall notify by certified mail the record owner of the land upon which the junkyard is located, or the operator thereof, of its determination.

If it is economically feasible to screen the junkyard, the department shall screen the junkyard so that it will not be visible from the main-traveled way of the highway. The department is authorized to acquire by gift, purchase, exchange, or condemnation such lands or interest in lands as may be required for these purposes.

If it is not economically feasible to screen the junkyard, the department shall acquire by purchase, gift, or condemnation an interest in the real property used for junkyard purposes that is visible from the main traveled way of the highway, restricting any owner of the remaining interest to use of the real estate for purposes other than a junkyard. In addition to compensation for the real property interest, the operator of a junkyard shall receive the actual reasonable expenses in moving his or her business personal property to a location within the same general area where a junkyard may be lawfully established, operated, and maintained. This section shall be interpreted as being in addition to all other rights and remedies of a junkyard owner or operator and shall not be interpreted as a limitation on or alteration of the law of compensation in eminent domain. [2010 c 8 § 10015; 1984 c 7 § 218; 1971 ex.s. c 101 § 4.]

**RCW 47.41.050 Administrative rules—Review of action.** The department shall adopt rules for the administration of this chapter consistent with the policy of this chapter and the national policy set forth in 23 U.S.C. Sec. 136, and the regulations promulgated thereunder by the United States secretary of transportation.

Proceedings for review of any action taken by the department pursuant to this chapter shall be instituted by filing a petition only in the superior court of Thurston county. [1984 c 7 § 219; 1971 ex.s. c 101 § 5.]

**RCW 47.41.060 Other laws not affected.** Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to permit a person to maintain any junkyard that is otherwise prohibited by statute or by the resolution or ordinance of any county, city, or town, nor to abrogate or affect the lawful provisions of any statute, ordinance, regulation, or resolution which are more restrictive than the provisions of this chapter. [1971 ex.s. c 101 § 6.]

**RCW 47.41.070 Violations—Penalty—Abatement as public nuisance.**  
(1) If the owner of the land upon which any such junkyard is located, or the operator thereof, as the case may be, fails to comply with the notice or remove any such junk within the time provided in this chapter after being so notified, he or she is guilty of a misdemeanor. In addition to the penalties imposed by law upon conviction, an order may be entered compelling compliance with this chapter. Each day the junkyard is maintained in a manner so as not to comply with this chapter constitutes a separate offense.

(2) If the operator of the junkyard or the owner of the property upon which it is located, as the case may be, is not found or refuses receipt of the notice, the department, the chief of the Washington state patrol, the county sheriff, or the chief of police of any city or town shall post the property upon which it is located with a notice that the junkyard constitutes a public nuisance and that the junk thereon must be removed as provided in this chapter. If the notice is not complied with, the department, the chief of the Washington state patrol, the county sheriff, or the chief of police of any city or town shall abate the nuisance and remove the junk, and for that purpose may enter upon private property without incurring liability for doing so. [2003 c 53 § 261; 1984 c 7 § 220; 1971 ex.s. c 101 § 7.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**RCW 47.41.080 Agreements with United States secretary of transportation.** The department is authorized to enter into agreements with the United States secretary of transportation as provided in Title 23 United States Code, relating to the control of junkyards in areas adjacent to the interstate and primary systems, and to take action in the name of the state to comply with the terms of the agreement. [1984 c 7 § 221; 1971 ex.s. c 101 § 8.]

**Chapter 47.42 RCW**  
**HIGHWAY ADVERTISING CONTROL ACT—SCENIC VISTAS ACT**

**Sections**

- 47.42.010 Declaration of purpose.
- 47.42.020 Definitions.
- 47.42.025 Exclusions from scenic system.
- 47.42.030 Signs visible from interstate, primary, or scenic systems restricted.
- 47.42.040 Permissible signs classified.
- 47.42.045 Number of signs—Spacing—Tourist facility, business or agricultural signs.
- 47.42.050 Information signs by governmental units.
- 47.42.055 Roadside area information panels or displays.
- 47.42.060 Rules for signs visible from interstate and scenic systems—Judicial review.
- 47.42.062 Signs visible from primary system in commercial and industrial areas—Requirements, restrictions, and prohibitions.
- 47.42.063 Signs visible from primary system in commercial and industrial areas—Preexisting signs—Permissible signs—Spacing.
- 47.42.065 Signs viewable from other highways or streets—Requirements.
- 47.42.070 State and local prohibitions.
- 47.42.080 Public nuisance—Abatement—Penalty.
- 47.42.090 Revocation of permit.
- 47.42.100 Preexisting signs—Moratorium.
- 47.42.102 Compensation for removal of signs—Authorized—Applicability.
- 47.42.103 Compensation for removal—Action determining amount—Payment—State's share.
- 47.42.104 Compensation for removal—Federal share—Acceptance.
- 47.42.105 Unavailability of federal share.
- 47.42.107 Compensation for removal under local authority.
- 47.42.110 Agreements for federal aid.
- 47.42.120 Permits—Application—Fees—Renewal—Permissible acts—Revocation.
- 47.42.130 Permit identification number.
- 47.42.140 Scenic areas designated.
- 47.42.901 Severability—1963 ex.s. c 3.
- 47.42.910 Short title—1961 c 96.
- 47.42.911 Short title—1971 ex.s. c 62.
- 47.42.920 Federal requirements—Conflict and accord.

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- 47.42.911 Short title—1971 ex.s. c 62.
- 47.42.920 Federal requirements—Conflict and accord.

**RCW 47.42.010 Declaration of purpose.** The control of signs in areas adjacent to state highways of this state is hereby declared to be necessary to promote the public health, safety, welfare, convenience and enjoyment of public travel, to protect the public investment in the interstate system and other state highways, and to attract visitors to this state by conserving the natural beauty of areas adjacent to the interstate system, and of scenic areas adjacent to state highways upon which they travel in great numbers, and to

insure that information in the specific interest of the traveling public is presented safely and effectively. [1961 c 96 § 1.]

**RCW 47.42.020 Definitions.** The definitions set forth in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Commercial and industrial areas" means any area zoned commercial or industrial by a county or municipal code, or if unzoned or zoned for general uses by a county or municipal code, that area occupied by three or more separate and distinct commercial or industrial activities, or any combination thereof, within a space of five hundred feet and the area within five hundred feet of such activities on both sides of the highway. The area shall be measured from the outer edges of the regularly used buildings, parking lots, or storage or processing areas of the commercial or industrial activity and not from the property lines of the parcels upon which the activities are located. Measurements shall be along or parallel to the edge of the main traveled way of the highway. The following shall not be considered commercial or industrial activities:

(a) Agricultural, forestry, grazing, farming, and related activities, including, but not limited to, wayside fresh produce stands;

(b) Transient or temporary activities;

(c) Railroad tracks and minor sidings;

(d) Signs;

(e) Activities more than six hundred and sixty feet from the nearest edge of the right-of-way;

(f) Activities conducted in a building principally used as a residence.

If any commercial or industrial activity that has been used in defining or delineating an unzoned area ceases to operate for a period of six continuous months, any signs located within the former unzoned area become nonconforming and shall not be maintained by any person.

(2) "Department" means the Washington state department of transportation.

(3) "Erect" means to construct, build, raise, assemble, place, affix, attach, create, paint, draw, or in any other way bring into being or establish.

(4) "Interstate system" means any state highway which is or does become part of the national system of interstate and defense highways as described in section 103(d) of Title 23, United States Code.

(5) "Maintain" means to allow to exist.

(6) "Person" means this state or any public or private corporation, firm, partnership, association, as well as any individual or individuals.

(7) "Primary system" means any state highway which is or does become part of the federal-aid primary system as described in section 103(b) of Title 23, United States Code.

(8) "Roadside area information panel or display" means a panel or display located so as not to be readable from the main traveled way, erected in a safety rest area, scenic overlook, or similar roadside area, for providing motorists with information in the specific interest of the traveling public.

(9) "Scenic system" means (a) any state highway within any public park, federal forest area, public beach, public recreation area, or national monument, (b) any state highway or portion thereof outside the boundaries of any incorporated city or town designated by the

legislature as a part of the scenic system, or (c) any state highway or portion thereof outside the boundaries of any incorporated city or town designated by the legislature as a part of the scenic and recreational highway system except for the sections of highways specifically excluded in RCW 47.42.025 or located within areas zoned by the governing county for predominantly commercial and industrial uses, and having development visible to the highway, as determined by the department.

(10) "Sign" means any outdoor sign, display, device, figure, painting, drawing, message, placard, poster, billboard, or other thing that is designed, intended, or used to advertise or inform, any part of the advertising or informative contents of which is visible from any place on the main-traveled way of the interstate system or other state highway. "Sign" does not include a display authorized under RCW 47.36.030(3) promoting a local agency sponsored event that does not include advertising.

(11) "Temporary agricultural directional sign" means a sign on private property adjacent to a state highway right-of-way, or on a state highway right-of-way, to provide directional information to places of business offering for sale seasonal agricultural products on the property where the sale is taking place. [2010 c 138 § 1; 2005 c 398 § 2; 1993 c 430 § 10; 1991 c 94 § 1; 1990 c 258 § 1; 1987 c 469 § 2; 1985 c 376 § 2; 1984 c 7 § 222; 1977 ex.s. c 258 § 1; 1974 ex.s. c 80 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 62 § 1; 1961 c 96 § 2.]

**Reviser's note:** The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k).

**Legislative findings and intent—1990 c 258:** See note following RCW 47.40.100.

**Legislative intent—1985 c 376:** "It is the intent of the legislature that state highway information and directional signs provide appropriate guidance to all motorists traveling throughout the state. Such guidance should include the identity, location, and types of recreational, cultural, educational, entertainment, or unique or unusual commercial activities whose principle source of visitation is derived from motorists not residing in the immediate locale of the activity. Such informational and directional signs shall comply with Title 23, United States Code and the rules adopted by the department under RCW 47.42.060." [1985 c 376 § 1.]

**RCW 47.42.025 Exclusions from scenic system.** The following sections of the scenic and recreational highway system are excluded from the scenic system as defined in subsection (7) of \*RCW 47.42.020:

(1) Beginning on state route number 101 at the junction with Airport Road north of Shelton, thence north to a point two thousand feet north of Airport Road.

(2) Beginning on state route number 101 at the junction with Mill Creek Road south of Forks, thence north two and four-tenths miles to the Calawah River bridge.

(3) Beginning on state route number 105 at a point one-half mile southwest of the boundary of Aberdeen, thence northeast to the boundary of Aberdeen.

(4) Beginning on state route number 17 at a point nine-tenths of a mile west of Grape Drive in the vicinity of Moses Lake, thence easterly to a junction of Grape Drive.

(5) Beginning on state route number 12 at a point one-half mile south of the south boundary of Dayton, thence northerly to the south boundary of Dayton.

(6) Beginning on state route number 14 one-half mile west of the west boundary of Bingen, thence east to a point one-half mile east of the east boundary of Bingen. [1971 ex.s. c 62 § 2.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 47.42.020 was alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k), changing subsection (7) to subsection (9).

**RCW 47.42.030 Signs visible from interstate, primary, or scenic systems restricted.** Except as permitted under this chapter, no person shall erect or maintain a sign which is visible from the main traveled way of the interstate system, the primary system, or the scenic system. In case a highway or a section of highway is both a part of the primary system and the scenic system, only those signs permitted along the scenic system shall be erected or maintained. [1971 ex.s. c 62 § 3; 1961 c 96 § 3.]

**RCW 47.42.040 Permissible signs classified.** It is declared to be the policy of the state that no signs which are visible from the main traveled way of the interstate system, primary system, or scenic system shall be erected or maintained except the following types:

(1) Directional or other official signs or notices that are required or authorized by law including signs with the Crime Stoppers name, logo, and telephone number;

(2) Signs advertising the sale or lease of the property upon which they are located;

(3) Signs advertising activities conducted on the property on which they are located;

(4) Signs, not inconsistent with the policy of this chapter and the national policy set forth in section 131 of title 23, United States Code as codified and enacted by Public Law 85-767 and amended only by section 106, Public Law 86-342, and the national standards promulgated thereunder by the secretary of commerce or the secretary of transportation, advertising activities being conducted at a location within twelve miles of the point at which such signs are located: PROVIDED, That no sign lawfully erected pursuant to this subsection adjacent to the interstate system and outside commercial and industrial areas shall be maintained by any person after three years from May 10, 1971;

(5) Signs, not inconsistent with the policy of this chapter and the national policy set forth in section 131 of title 23, United States Code as codified and enacted by Public Law 85-767 and amended only by section 106, Public Law 86-342, and the regulations promulgated thereunder by the secretary of commerce or the secretary of transportation, designed to give information in the specific interest of the traveling public: PROVIDED, That no sign lawfully erected pursuant to this subsection adjacent to the interstate system and outside commercial and industrial areas shall be maintained by any person after three years from May 10, 1971;



(6) Signs lawfully in existence on October 22, 1965, determined by the commission, subject to the approval of the United States secretary of transportation, to be landmark signs, including signs on farm structures or natural surfaces, of historic or artistic significance the preservation of which would be consistent with the purposes of chapter 47.42 RCW;

(7) Public service signs, located on school bus stop shelters, which:

- (a) Identify the donor, sponsor, or contributor of said shelters;
- (b) Contain safety slogans or messages which occupy not less than sixty percent of the area of the sign;
- (c) Contain no other message;
- (d) Are located on school bus shelters which are authorized or approved by city, county, or state law, regulation, or ordinance, and at places approved by the city, county, or state agency controlling the highway involved; and
- (e) Do not exceed thirty-two square feet in area. Not more than one sign on each shelter may face in any one direction.

Subsection (7) of this section notwithstanding, the department of transportation shall adopt regulations relating to the appearance of school bus shelters, the placement, size, and public service content of public service signs located thereon, and the prominence of the identification of the donors, sponsors, or contributors of the shelters;

(8) Temporary agricultural directional signs, with the following restrictions:

- (a) Signs shall be posted only during the period of time the seasonal agricultural product is being sold;
- (b) Signs shall not be placed adjacent to the interstate highway system unless the sign qualifies as an on-premise [on-premises] sign;
- (c) Signs shall not be placed within an incorporated city or town;
- (d) Premises on which the seasonal agricultural products are sold must be within fifteen miles of the state highway, and necessary supplemental signing on local roads must be provided before the installation of the signs on the state highway;
- (e) Signs must be located so as not to restrict sight distances on approaches to intersections;
- (f) The department shall establish a permit system and fee schedule and rules for the manufacturing, installation, and maintenance of these signs in accordance with the policy of this chapter;
- (g) Signs in violation of these provisions shall be removed in accordance with the procedures in RCW 47.42.080;

Only signs of types 1, 2, 3, 7, and 8 may be erected or maintained within view of the scenic system. Signs of types 7 and 8 may also be erected or maintained within view of the federal aid primary system. [2001 c 107 § 1; 1991 c 94 § 2; 1990 c 258 § 2; 1985 c 376 § 3; 1979 c 69 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 271 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 62 § 4; 1961 c 96 § 4.]

**Legislative findings and intent—1990 c 258:** See note following RCW 47.40.100.

**Legislative intent—1985 c 376:** See note following RCW 47.42.020.

**RCW 47.42.045 Number of signs—Spacing—Tourist facility, business or agricultural signs.** (1) Not more than one type 3 sign visible to traffic proceeding in any one direction on an interstate system, primary system outside an incorporated city or town or commercial or industrial area, or scenic system highway may be permitted more than fifty feet from the advertised activity;

(2) A type 3 sign, other than one along any portion of the primary system within an incorporated city or town or within any commercial or industrial area, permitted more than fifty feet from the advertised activity pursuant to subsection (1) of this section shall not be erected or maintained a greater distance from the advertised activity than one of the following options selected by the owner of the business being advertised:

(a) One hundred fifty feet measured along the edge of the protected highway from the main entrance to the activity advertised (when applicable);

(b) One hundred fifty feet from the main building of the advertised activity; or

(c) Fifty feet from a regularly used parking lot maintained by and contiguous to the advertised activity.

(3) In addition to signs permitted by subsections (1) and (2) of this section, the commission may adopt regulations permitting one type 3 sign visible to traffic proceeding in any one direction on an interstate, primary or scenic system highway on premises which, on June 25, 1976, are used wholly or in part as an operating business, farm, ranch or orchard which sign bears only the name of the business, farm, ranch or orchard and a directional arrow or short directional message. Regulations adopted under this subsection shall prohibit the erection or maintenance of such type 3 signs on narrow strips of land a substantial distance from but connected with a business, farm, ranch or orchard. Signs permitted under this subsection shall not exceed fifty square feet in area.

(4) The commission with advice from the parks and recreation commission shall adopt specifications for a uniform system of official tourist facility directional signs to be used on the scenic system highways. Official directional signs shall be posted by the commission to inform motorists of types of tourist and recreational facilities available off the scenic system which are accessible by way of public or private roads intersecting scenic system highways. [1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 55 § 2; 1974 ex.s. c 154 § 1; 1974 ex.s. c 138 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 62 § 5.]

**RCW 47.42.050 Information signs by governmental units.**

Information signs may be erected and maintained by the state, any county, city, or town. [1961 c 96 § 5.]

**RCW 47.42.055 Roadside area information panels or displays.** The department is authorized to erect roadside area information panels or displays adjacent to the state highway system within this state. The department may contract with private persons for the erection and operation of the information panels or displays. Compensation to the contractors shall be derived solely from the reasonable fees that the contractors will be permitted to charge participating businesses for making and exhibiting business signs and displays and for rendering

services to tourists. [1985 c 376 § 5; 1984 c 7 § 225; 1977 ex.s. c 258 § 2.]

**Legislative intent—1985 c 376:** See note following RCW 47.42.020.

**RCW 47.42.060 Rules for signs visible from interstate and scenic systems—Judicial review.** The department shall adopt rules for the erection and maintenance of signs that are visible from the main traveled way of the interstate system and the scenic system and that are permitted by this chapter and other rules for the administration of this chapter consistent with the policy of this chapter and the national policy set forth in section 131, title 23, United States Code as codified and enacted by Public Law 85-767 and amended only by section 106, Public Law 86-342 and the regulations promulgated thereunder by the secretary of commerce or the secretary of transportation. Proceedings for review of any action taken by the department pursuant to this chapter shall be instituted by filing a petition only in the superior court of Thurston county. [1984 c 7 § 226; 1971 ex.s. c 62 § 6; 1961 c 96 § 6.]

**RCW 47.42.062 Signs visible from primary system in commercial and industrial areas—Requirements, restrictions, and prohibitions.** Signs within six hundred and sixty feet of the nearest edge of the right-of-way which are visible from the main traveled way of the primary system within commercial and industrial areas and whose size, lighting, and spacing are consistent with the customary use of property for the effective display of outdoor advertising as set forth in this section may be erected and maintained: PROVIDED, That this section shall not serve to restrict type 3 signs located along any portion of the primary system within an incorporated city or town or within any commercial or industrial area.

(1) General: Signs shall not be erected or maintained which (a) imitate or resemble any official traffic sign, signal, or device; (b) are erected or maintained upon trees or painted or drawn upon rocks or other natural features and which are structurally unsafe or in disrepair; or (c) have any visible moving parts.

(2) Size of signs:

(a) The maximum area for any one sign shall be six hundred seventy-two square feet with a maximum height of twenty-five feet and maximum length of fifty feet inclusive of any border and trim but excluding the base or apron, supports and other structural members: PROVIDED, That cut-outs and extensions may add up to twenty percent of additional sign area.

(b) For the purposes of this subsection, double-faced, back-to-back, or V-type signs shall be considered as two signs.

(c) Signs which exceed three hundred twenty-five square feet in area may not be double-faced (abutting and facing the same direction).

(3) Spacing of signs:

(a) Signs may not be located in such a manner as to obscure, or otherwise physically interfere with the effectiveness of an official traffic sign, signal, or device, obstruct or physically interfere with the driver's view of approaching, merging, or intersecting traffic.

(b) On limited access highways established pursuant to chapter 47.52 RCW no two signs shall be spaced less than one thousand feet

apart, and no sign may be located within three thousand feet of the center of an interchange, a safety rest area, or information center, or within one thousand feet of an intersection at grade. Double-faced signs shall be prohibited. Not more than a total of five sign structures shall be permitted on both sides of the highway per mile.

(c) On noncontrolled access highways inside the boundaries of incorporated cities and towns not more than a total of four sign structures on both sides of the highway within a space of six hundred sixty feet shall be permitted with a minimum of one hundred feet between sign structures. In no event, however, shall more than four sign structures be permitted between platted intersecting streets or highways. On noncontrolled access highways outside the boundaries of incorporated cities and towns minimum spacing between sign structures on each side of the highway shall be five hundred feet.

(d) For the purposes of this subsection, a back-to-back sign and a V-type sign shall be considered one sign structure.

(e) Official signs, and signs advertising activities conducted on the property on which they are located shall not be considered in determining compliance with the above spacing requirements. The minimum space between structures shall be measured along the nearest edge of the pavement between points directly opposite the signs along each side of the highway and shall apply to signs located on the same side of the highway.

(4) Lighting: Signs may be illuminated, subject to the following restrictions:

(a) Signs which contain, include, or are illuminated by any flashing, intermittent, or moving light or lights are prohibited, except those giving public service information such as time, date, temperature, weather, or similar information.

(b) Signs which are not effectively shielded as to prevent beams or rays of light from being directed at any portion of the traveled ways of the highway and which are of such intensity or brilliance as to cause glare or to impair the vision of the driver of any motor vehicle, or which otherwise interfere with any driver's operation of a motor vehicle are prohibited.

(c) No sign shall be so illuminated that it interferes with the effectiveness of, or obscures an official traffic sign, device, or signal.

(d) All such lighting shall be subject to any other provisions relating to lighting of signs presently applicable to all highways under the jurisdiction of the state. [1975 1st ex.s. c 271 § 3; 1974 ex.s. c 154 § 2; 1974 ex.s. c 138 § 2; 1971 ex.s. c 62 § 7.]

**RCW 47.42.063 Signs visible from primary system in commercial and industrial areas—Preexisting signs—Permissible signs—Spacing.**

(1) Signs within six hundred and sixty feet of the nearest edge of the right-of-way lawfully erected and maintained which are visible from the main traveled way of the primary system within commercial and industrial areas on June 1, 1971 shall be permitted to remain and be maintained.

(2) Signs within six hundred and sixty feet of the nearest edge of the right-of-way which are visible from the main traveled way of the primary system within commercial and industrial areas whose size, lighting, and spacing are consistent with customary use as set forth in RCW 47.42.062 may be erected and maintained. Signs lawfully erected

and maintained on June 1, 1971 shall be included in the determination of spacing requirements for additional signs. [1975 1st ex.s. c 271 § 4; 1971 ex.s. c 62 § 8.]

**RCW 47.42.065 Signs viewable from other highways or streets—Requirements.** Notwithstanding any other provision of chapter 47.42 RCW, signs may be erected and maintained more than six hundred and sixty feet from the nearest edge of the right-of-way which are visible from the main traveled way of the interstate system, primary system, or scenic system when designed and oriented to be viewed from highways or streets other than the interstate system, primary system, or the scenic system and the advertising or informative contents of which may not be clearly comprehended by motorists using the main traveled way of the interstate system, primary system or scenic system. [1975 1st ex.s. c 271 § 5; 1971 ex.s. c 62 § 9.]

**RCW 47.42.070 State and local prohibitions.** Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to permit a person to erect or maintain any sign that is otherwise prohibited by statute or by the resolution or ordinance of any county, city, or town of the state of Washington. [1961 c 96 § 7.]

**RCW 47.42.080 Public nuisance—Abatement—Penalty.** (1) Any sign erected or maintained contrary to the provisions of this chapter or rules adopted hereunder that is designed to be viewed from the interstate system, the primary system, or the scenic system is a public nuisance, and the department, the chief of the Washington state patrol, the county sheriff, or the chief of police of any city or town shall notify the permittee or, if there is no permittee, the owner of the property on which the sign is located, by certified mail at his or her last known address, that it constitutes a public nuisance and must comply with the chapter or be removed.

(2) If the permittee or owner, as the case may be, fails to comply with the chapter or remove any such sign within fifteen days after being notified to remove the sign he or she is guilty of a misdemeanor. In addition to the penalties imposed by law upon conviction, an order may be entered compelling removal of the sign. Each day the sign is maintained constitutes a separate offense.

(3) If the permittee or owner, as the case may be, fails to comply with this chapter or rules adopted under this chapter or fails to remove any sign erected or maintained contrary to the provisions of this chapter or rules adopted under this chapter within fifteen days after being notified to remove the sign, the department shall assess a fine of one hundred dollars per calendar day until the sign is brought into compliance or is removed. The one hundred dollar per calendar day fine is not contingent on a misdemeanor conviction. Fines collected under this subsection must be deposited with the state treasurer to the credit of the motor vehicle fund.

(4) If the permittee or the owner of the property upon which it is located, as the case may be, is not found or refuses receipt of the notice, the department, the chief of the Washington state patrol, the county sheriff, or the chief of police of any city or town shall post the sign and property upon which it is located with a notice that the

sign constitutes a public nuisance and must be removed. If the sign is not removed within fifteen days after such posting, the department, the chief of the Washington state patrol, the county sheriff, or the chief of police of any city or town shall abate the nuisance and destroy the sign, and for that purpose may enter upon private property without incurring liability for doing so.

(5) Nothing in this section may be construed to affect the provisions contained in RCW 47.42.102 requiring the payment of compensation upon the removal of any signs compensable under state law.

(6) Any sign erected or maintained on state highway right-of-way contrary to this chapter or rules adopted under it is a public nuisance, and the department is authorized to remove any such sign without notice. [2013 c 312 § 2; 2010 c 8 § 10016; 1985 c 376 § 6; 1984 c 7 § 227; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 55 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 62 § 10; 1961 c 96 § 8.]

**Legislative intent—1985 c 376:** See note following RCW 47.42.020.

**RCW 47.42.090 Revocation of permit.** If any person is convicted of a violation of this chapter, or any rule adopted hereunder, the department may revoke any permit issued to that person under this chapter. [1984 c 7 § 228; 1961 c 96 § 9.]

**RCW 47.42.100 Preexisting signs—Moratorium.** (1) No sign lawfully erected in a protected area as defined by section 2, chapter 96, Laws of 1961 (before the amendment thereof), prior to March 11, 1961, within a commercial or industrial zone within the boundaries of any city or town, as such boundaries existed on September 21, 1959, wherein the use of real property adjacent to the interstate system is subject to municipal regulation or control but which does not comply with the provisions of this chapter or any regulations promulgated hereunder, shall be maintained by any person after March 11, 1965.

(2) No sign lawfully erected in a protected area as defined by section 2, chapter 96, Laws of 1961 (before the amendment thereof), prior to March 11, 1961, other than within a commercial or industrial zone within the boundaries of a city or town as such boundaries existed on September 21, 1959, wherein the use of real property adjacent to the interstate system is subject to municipal regulation or control but which does not comply with the provisions of this chapter or any regulations promulgated hereunder, shall be maintained by any person after three years from March 11, 1961.

(3) No sign lawfully erected in a scenic area as defined by section 2, chapter 96, Laws of 1961 (before the amendment thereof), prior to the effective date of the designation of such area as a scenic area shall be maintained by any person after three years from the effective date of the designation of any such area as a scenic area.

(4) No sign visible from the main traveled way of the interstate system, the primary system (other than type 3 signs along any portion of the primary system within an incorporated city or town or within a commercial or industrial area), or the scenic system which was there lawfully maintained immediately prior to May 10, 1971, but which does not comply with the provisions of chapter 47.42 RCW as now or

hereafter amended, shall be maintained by any person (a) after three years from May 10, 1971, or (b) with respect to any highway hereafter designated by the legislature as a part of the scenic system, after three years from the effective date of the designation. Signs located in areas zoned by the governing county for predominantly commercial or industrial uses, that do not have development visible to the highway, as determined by the department, and that were lawfully installed after May 10, 1971, visible to any highway now or hereafter designated by the legislature as part of the scenic system, shall be allowed to be maintained. [1993 c 430 § 11; 1974 ex.s. c 154 § 3; 1974 ex.s. c 138 § 3; 1971 ex.s. c 62 § 11; 1963 ex.s. c 3 § 55; 1961 c 96 § 10.]

**RCW 47.42.102 Compensation for removal of signs—Authorized—Applicability.**

(1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (3) of this section, just compensation shall be paid upon the removal of any sign (pursuant to the provisions of chapter 47.42 RCW), lawfully erected under state law, which is visible from the main traveled way of the interstate system or the primary system.

(2) Such compensation shall be paid for the following:

(a) The taking from the owner of such sign, display, or device of all right, title, leasehold, and interest in such sign, display, or device; and

(b) The taking from the owner of the real property on which the sign, display, or device is located, of the right to erect and maintain such signs, displays, and devices thereon.

(3) In no event, however, shall compensation be paid for the taking or removal of signs adjacent to the interstate system and the scenic system which became subject to removal pursuant to chapter 96, Laws of 1961 as amended by section 55, chapter 3, Laws of 1963 ex. sess. prior to May 10, 1971. [1975 1st ex.s. c 271 § 2; 1971 ex.s. c 62 § 12.]

**RCW 47.42.103 Compensation for removal—Action determining amount—Payment—State's share.**

(1) Compensation as required by RCW 47.42.102 shall be paid to the person or persons entitled thereto for the removal of such signs. If no agreement is reached on the amount of compensation to be paid, the department may institute an action by summons and complaint in the superior court for the county in which the sign is located to obtain a determination of the compensation to be paid. If the owner of the sign is unknown and cannot be ascertained after diligent efforts to do so, the department may remove the sign upon the payment of compensation only to the owner of the real property on which the sign is located. Thereafter the owner of the sign may file an action at any time within one year after the removal of the sign to obtain a determination of the amount of compensation he or she should receive for the loss of the sign. If either the owner of the sign or the owner of the real property on which the sign is located cannot be found within the state, service of the summons and complaint on such person for the purpose of obtaining a determination of the amount of compensation to be paid may be by publication in the manner provided by RCW 4.28.100.

(2) If compensation is determined by judicial proceedings, the sum so determined shall be paid into the registry of the court to be disbursed upon removal of the sign by its owner or by the owner of the

real property on which the sign is located. If the amount of compensation is agreed upon, the department may pay the agreed sum into escrow to be released upon the removal of the sign by its owner or the owner of the real property on which the sign is located.

(3) The state's share of compensation shall be paid from the motor vehicle fund, or if a court having jurisdiction enters a final judgment declaring that motor vehicle funds may not be used, then from the general fund. [2010 c 8 § 10017; 1984 c 7 § 229; 1971 ex.s. c 62 § 13.]

**RCW 47.42.104 Compensation for removal—Federal share—**

**Acceptance.** The department may accept any allotment of funds by the United States, or any agency thereof, appropriated to carry out the purposes of section 131 of title 23, United States Code, as now or hereafter amended. The department shall take such steps as may be necessary from time to time to obtain from the United States, or the appropriate agency thereof, funds allotted and appropriated, pursuant to section 131, for the purpose of paying the federal share of the just compensation to be paid to sign owners and owners of real property under the terms of subsection (g) of section 131 and RCW 47.42.102, 47.42.103, and 47.42.104. [1984 c 7 § 230; 1971 ex.s. c 62 § 14.]

**RCW 47.42.105 Unavailability of federal share.** No sign, display, or device shall be required to be removed if the federal share of the just compensation to be paid upon the removal of such sign, display, or device is not available to make such payment. [1971 ex.s. c 62 § 15.]

**RCW 47.42.107 Compensation for removal under local authority.**

(1) Just compensation shall be paid upon the removal of any existing sign pursuant to the provisions of any resolution or ordinance of any county, city, or town of the state of Washington by such county, city, or town if:

(a) Such sign was lawfully in existence on May 10, 1971 (the effective date of the Scenic Vistas Act of 1971); or

(b) Such sign was erected subsequent to May 10, 1971 (the effective date of the Scenic Vistas Act of 1971), in compliance with existing state and local law.

(2) Such compensation shall be paid in the same manner as specified in RCW 47.42.102(2) for the following:

(a) The taking from the owner of such sign, display, or device of all right, title, leasehold, and interest in such sign, display, or device; and

(b) The taking from the owner of the real property on which the sign, display, or device is located, of the right to erect and maintain such signs, displays, and devices thereon. [1977 ex.s. c 141 § 1.]

**Severability—1977 ex.s. c 141:** "If any provision of this 1977 amendatory act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the



provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1977 ex.s. c 141 § 2.]

**RCW 47.42.110 Agreements for federal aid.** The department is authorized to enter into agreements (and such supplementary agreements as may be necessary) consistent with this chapter, with the secretary of commerce or the secretary of transportation authorized under section 131(b) of title 23, United States Code, as codified and enacted by Public Law 85-767 and amended only by section 106, Public Law 86-342, in order that the state may become eligible for increased federal aid as provided for in section 131 of title 23, United States Code, as codified and enacted by Public Law 85-767 and amended only by section 106, Public Law 86-342. [1984 c 7 § 231; 1971 ex.s. c 62 § 16; 1961 c 96 § 11.]

**RCW 47.42.120 ~~Permits—Application—Fees—Renewal—Permissible acts—Revocation.~~** Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter, no sign except a sign of type 1 or 2 or those type 3 signs that advertise activities conducted upon the properties where the signs are located, may be erected or maintained without a permit issued by the department. Application for a permit shall be made to the department on forms furnished by it. The forms shall contain a statement that the owner or lessee of the land in question has consented thereto. For type 8 signs (temporary agricultural directional signs), when the land in question is owned by the department, the consent statement must be reviewed and, if the sign does not create a safety concern, be approved within ten days of application by the department. The application shall be accompanied by a fee established by department rule to be deposited with the state treasurer to the credit of the motor vehicle fund. Permits shall be for the remainder of the calendar year in which they are issued, and accompanying fees shall not be prorated for fractions of the year. Permits must be renewed annually through a certification process established by department rule. Advertising copy may be changed at any time without the payment of an additional fee. Assignment of permits in good standing is effective only upon receipt of written notice of assignment by the department. A permit may be revoked after hearing if the department finds that any statement made in the application or annual certification process was false or misleading, or that the sign covered is not in good general condition and in a reasonable state of repair, or is otherwise in violation of this chapter, if the false or misleading information has not been corrected and the sign has not been brought into compliance with this chapter or rules adopted under it within thirty days after written notification. Beginning July 1, 2014, the department shall establish and charge by rule an annual fee for type 4 and 5 sign permits. The fee must reasonably recover costs for outdoor advertising control program administration and enforcement and may not exceed one hundred fifty dollars. The department shall establish by rule exemptions from payment of the annual fee for type 4 and 5 signs that do not generate rental income. [2013 c 312 § 1; 2010 c 138 § 2; 1999 c 276 § 1; 1984 c 7 § 232; 1971 ex.s. c 62 § 17; 1961 c 96 § 12.]

**RCW 47.42.130 Permit identification number.** Every permit issued by the department shall be assigned a separate identification number, and each permittee shall fasten to each sign a weatherproof label, not larger than twenty-eight square inches, that shall be furnished by the department and on which shall be plainly visible the permit number. The permittee shall also place his or her name in a conspicuous position on the front or back of each sign. The failure of a sign to have such a label affixed to it is prima facie evidence that it is not in compliance with the provisions of this chapter. [2013 c 312 § 3; 1999 c 276 § 2; 1984 c 7 § 233; 1961 c 96 § 13.]

**RCW 47.42.140 Scenic areas designated.** The following portions of state highways are designated as a part of the scenic system:

(1) State route number 2 beginning at the crossing of Woods creek at the east city limits of Monroe, thence in an easterly direction by way of Stevens pass to a junction with state route number 97 in the vicinity of Peshastin.

(2) State route number 7 beginning at a junction with state route number 706 at Elbe, thence in a northerly direction to a junction with state route number 507 south of Spanaway.

(3) State route number 11 beginning at the Blanchard overcrossing, thence in a northerly direction to the limits of Larabee state park (north line of section 36, township 37 north, range 2 east).

(4) State route number 12 beginning at Kosmos southeast of Morton, thence in an easterly direction across White pass to the Oak Flat junction with state route number 410 northwest of Yakima.

(5) State route number 90 beginning at the westerly junction with West Lake Sammamish parkway in the vicinity of Issaquah, thence in an easterly direction by way of North Bend and Snoqualmie pass to a junction with state route number 970 at Cle Elum.

(6) State route number 97 beginning at a junction with state route number 970 at Virden, thence via Blewett pass to a junction with state route number 2 in the vicinity of Peshastin.

(7) State route number 106 beginning at the junction with state route number 101 in the vicinity of Union, thence northeasterly to the junction with state route number 3 in the vicinity of Belfair.

(8) State route number 123 beginning at a junction with state route number 12 at Ohanapecosh junction in the vicinity west of White pass, thence in a northerly direction to a junction with state route number 410 at Cayuse junction in the vicinity west of Chinook pass.

(9) State route number 165 beginning at the northwest entrance to Mount Rainier national park, thence in a northerly direction to a junction with state route number 162 east of the town of South Prairie.

(10) State route number 206, Mt. Spokane Park Drive, beginning at the junction with state route number 2 near the north line section 3, township 26 N, range 43 E, thence northeasterly to a point in section 28, township 28 N, range 45 E at the entrance to Mt. Spokane state park.

(11) State route number 305, beginning at the ferry slip at Winslow on Bainbridge Island, thence northwesterly by way of Agate Pass bridge to a junction with state route number 3 approximately four miles northwest of Poulsbo.

(12) State route number 410 beginning at the crossing of Scatter creek approximately six miles east of Enumclaw, thence in an easterly

direction by way of Chinook pass to a junction of state route number 12 and state route number 410.

(13) State route number 706 beginning at a junction with state route number 7 at Elbe thence in an easterly direction to the southwest entrance to Mount Rainier national park.

(14) State route number 970 beginning at a junction with state route number 90 in the vicinity of Cle Elum thence via Teanaway to a junction with state route number 97 in the vicinity of Virden. [1993 c 430 § 12; 1992 c 26 § 3; 1975 c 63 § 9; 1974 ex.s. c 138 § 4. Prior: 1971 ex.s. c 73 § 28; 1971 ex.s. c 62 § 18; 1961 c 96 § 14. Cf. 1974 ex.s. c 154 § 4.]

**RCW 47.42.901 Severability—1963 ex.s. c 3.** If any provision of \*section 55 of this amendatory act shall be held to be invalid or shall be held to invalidate any provision of chapter 96, Laws of 1961 (chapter 47.42 RCW), then that provision of this amendatory act shall be of no force and effect and the provisions of chapter 96, Laws of 1961 (chapter 47.42 RCW) shall continue in effect. [1963 ex.s. c 3 § 56.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The reference to "section 55 of this amendatory act" is to the 1963 amendment of RCW 47.42.100.

**RCW 47.42.910 Short title—1961 c 96.** This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the highway advertising control act of 1961. [1961 c 96 § 17.]

**RCW 47.42.911 Short title—1971 ex.s. c 62.** This chapter may be cited as the "Scenic Vistas Act." [1999 c 276 § 3; 1971 ex.s. c 62 § 19.]

**RCW 47.42.920 Federal requirements—Conflict and accord.** If the secretary of the United States department of transportation finds any part of this chapter to be in conflict with federal requirements that are a prescribed condition to the allocation of federal funds to the state, the conflicting part of this chapter is hereby declared to be inoperative solely to the extent of the conflict and with respect to the agencies directly affected, and such finding or determination shall not affect the operation of the remainder of this chapter in its application to the agencies concerned. The rules under this chapter shall meet federal requirements that are a necessary condition to the receipt of federal funds by the state. [1985 c 142 § 4.]

**Chapter 47.44 RCW**  
**FRANCHISES ON STATE HIGHWAYS**

**Sections**

- 47.44.010 Wire and pipe line and tram and railway franchises—  
Application—Rules on hearing and notice.
- 47.44.020 Grant of franchise—Conditions—Hearing.
- 47.44.031 Removal of facilities—Limitation.
- 47.44.040 Franchises across joint bridges.
- 47.44.050 Permit for short distances.
- 47.44.060 Penalties.
- 47.44.081 Exception—Leases for deployment of personal wireless  
service facilities.
- 47.44.150 Measure of damages.
- 47.44.160 Broadband facilities and infrastructure—Collaboration.

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service facilities.
- 47.44.150 Measure of damages.
- 47.44.160 Broadband facilities and infrastructure—Collaboration.

**RCW 47.44.010 Wire and pipe line and tram and railway franchises—Application—Rules on hearing and notice.** (1) The department of transportation may grant franchises to persons, associations, private or municipal corporations, the United States government, or any agency thereof, to use any state highway for the construction and maintenance of water pipes, flume, gas, oil or coal pipes, telephone, telegraph, fiber optic, electric light and power lines and conduits, trams or railways, and any structures or facilities that are part of an urban public transportation system owned or operated by a municipal corporation, agency, or department of the state of Washington other than the department of transportation, and any other such facilities. In order to minimize the disruption to traffic and damage to the roadway, the department is encouraged to develop a joint trenching policy with other affected jurisdictions so that all permittees and franchisees requiring access to ground under the roadway may do so at one time.

(2) All applications for the franchise must be made in writing and subscribed by the applicant, and describe the state highway or portion thereof over which franchise is desired and the nature of the franchise. The application must also include the identification of all jurisdictions affected by the franchise and the names of other possible franchisees who should receive notice of the application for a franchise.

(3) The department of transportation shall adopt rules providing for a hearing or an opportunity for a hearing with reasonable public notice thereof with respect to any franchise application involving the construction and maintenance of utilities or other facilities within the highway right-of-way which the department determines may (a) during construction, significantly disrupt the flow of traffic or use of driveways or other facilities within the right-of-way, or (b) during or following construction, cause a significant and adverse effect upon the surrounding environment. [2021 c 258 § 8; 2001 c 201 § 5; 1980 c 28 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 46 § 1; 1967 c 108 § 7; 1963 c 70 § 1; 1961 ex.s. c 21 § 26; 1961 c 13 § 47.44.010. Prior: 1943 c 265 § 2; 1937 c 53 § 83; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6400-83.]

**Findings—Intent—2021 c 258:** See note following RCW 47.44.160.

Urban public transportation system defined: RCW 47.04.082.

**RCW 47.44.020 Grant of franchise—Conditions—Hearing.** (1) If the department of transportation deems it to be for the public interest, the franchise may be granted in whole or in part, with or without hearing under such regulations and conditions as the department may prescribe, with or without compensation, but not in excess of the reasonable cost for investigating, handling, and granting the franchise. The department may require that the utility and appurtenances be so placed on the highway that they will, in its opinion, least interfere with other uses of the highway.

(2) If a hearing is held, it must be conducted by the department, and may be adjourned from time to time until completed. The applicant may be required to produce all facts pertaining to the franchise, and evidence may be taken for and against granting it.

(3) The facility must be made subject to removal when necessary for the construction, alteration, repair, or improvement of the highway and at the expense of the franchise holder, except that the state shall pay the cost of the removal whenever the state is entitled to receive proportionate reimbursement therefor from the United States in the cases and in the manner set forth in \*RCW 47.44.030. Renewal upon expiration of a franchise must be by application.

(4) A person constructing or operating such a utility on a state highway is liable to any person injured thereby for any damages incident to the work of installation or the continuation of the occupancy of the highway by the utility, and except as provided above, is liable to the state for all necessary expenses incurred in restoring the highway to a permanent suitable condition for travel. A person constructing or operating such a utility on a state highway is also liable to the state for all necessary expenses incurred in inspecting the construction and restoring the pavement or other related transportation equipment or facilities to a permanent condition suitable for travel and operation in accordance with requirements set by the department. Permit and franchise holders are also financially responsible to the department for trenching work not completed within the contractual period and for compensating for the loss of useful pavement life caused by trenching. No franchise may be granted for a longer period than fifty years, and no exclusive franchise or privilege may be granted.

(5) The holder of a franchise granted under this section is financially responsible to the department for trenching work not completed within the period of the permit and for compensating for the loss of useful pavement life caused by trenching. In the case of common trenching operations, liability under this subsection will be assessed equally between the franchisees. The assessed parties may thereafter pursue claims of contribution or indemnity in accord with such fault as may be determined by arbitration or other legal action. [2001 c 201 § 6; 1980 c 28 § 2; 1975 1st ex.s. c 46 § 2; 1961 c 13 § 47.44.020. Prior: 1959 c 330 § 1; 1937 c 53 § 84; RRS § 6400-84.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 47.44.030 was repealed by 2023 c 102 § 31.

**RCW 47.44.031 Removal of facilities—Limitation.** The provisions of \*RCW 47.44.030 authorizing the department to pay or reimburse the owner of a utility apply only to relocation or removal of utility

facilities required by state construction contracts which are advertised for bids by the department after June 30, 1959. [1984 c 7 § 235; 1961 c 13 § 47.44.031. Prior: 1959 c 330 § 3.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 47.44.030 was repealed by 2023 c 102 § 31.

**RCW 47.44.040 Franchises across joint bridges.** Whenever any bridge exists on the route of any state highway and crosses any stream, body of water, gulch, navigable water, swamp, or other topographical formation constituting the boundary of this state or the boundary of a county, city, or town of this state and the bridge is owned or operated by this state jointly with any such county, city, or town, or with any municipal corporation of this state, or with such other state or with any county, city, or town of such other state, the department is empowered to join with the proper officials of the county, city, or town, or the municipal corporation of this state or of such other state or of such county, city, or town of such other state in granting franchises to persons or private or municipal corporations for the construction and maintenance on the bridge of water pipes, flumes, gas pipes, telephone, telegraph, and electric light and power lines and conduits, trams and railways, and any structures or facilities that are part of an urban public transportation system owned or operated by a municipal corporation, agency, or department of the state of Washington other than the department, or any other such facilities. All such franchises shall be granted in the same manner as provided for the granting of like franchises on state highways. Any revenue accruing to the state of Washington from the franchises shall be paid to the state treasurer and deposited to the credit of the fund from which this state's share of the cost of joint operation of the bridge is paid. [1984 c 7 § 236; 1967 c 108 § 8; 1961 c 13 § 47.44.040. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 86; RRS § 6400-86.]

*Urban public transportation system defined: RCW 47.04.082.*

**RCW 47.44.050 Permit for short distances.** (1) The department may grant a permit to construct or maintain on, over, across, or along any state highway any water, gas, telephone, telegraph, light, power, or other such facilities when they do not extend along the state highway for a distance greater than three hundred feet. The department may require such information as it deems necessary in the application for any such permit, and may grant or withhold the permit within its discretion. Any permit granted may be canceled at any time, and any facilities remaining upon the right-of-way of the state highway after thirty days written notice of the cancellation are an unlawful obstruction and may be removed in the manner provided by law.

(2) The holder of a permit granted under this section is financially responsible to the department for trenching work not completed within the period of the permit and for compensating for the loss of useful pavement life caused by trenching. In the case of common trenching operations, liability under this subsection will be assessed equally between the permit holders. The assessed parties may thereafter pursue claims of contribution or indemnity in accord with such fault as may be determined by arbitration or other legal action.

[2001 c 201 § 7; 1984 c 7 § 237; 1961 c 13 § 47.44.050. Prior: 1943 c 265 § 3; 1937 c 53 § 87; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6400-87.]

**RCW 47.44.060 Penalties.** (1) Any person, firm, or corporation who constructs or maintains on, over, across, or along any state highway any water pipe, flume, gas pipe, telegraph, telephone, electric light, or power lines, or tram or railway, or any other such facilities, without having first obtained and having at all times in full force and effect a franchise or permit to do so in the manner provided by law is guilty of a misdemeanor. Each day of violation is a separate and distinct offense.

(2) Any person, firm, or corporation who constructs or maintains on, over, across, or along any state highway any water pipe, flume, gas pipe, telegraph, telephone, electric light or power lines, or tram or railway, or any other such facilities, without having first obtained and having at all times in full force and effect a franchise or permit to do so in the manner provided by law is liable for a civil penalty of one hundred dollars per calendar day beginning forty-five days from the date notice is given and until application is made for a franchise or permit or until the facility is removed as required by notice. The state shall give notice by certified mail that a franchise or permit is required or the facility must be removed and shall include in the notice sufficient information to identify the portion of right-of-way in question. Notice is effective upon delivery.

(3) If a person, firm or corporation does not apply for a permit or franchise within forty-five days of notice given in accordance with subsection (2) of this section or the state determines that the facility constructed or maintained without a permit or franchise would not be granted a permit or franchise, the state may order the facility to be removed within such time period as the state may specify. If the facility is not removed, the state, in addition to any other remedy, may remove the facility at the expense of the owner. [1989 c 224 § 1; 1961 c 13 § 47.44.060. Prior: 1943 c 265 § 1; 1937 c 53 § 82; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6400-82.]

**RCW 47.44.081 Exception—Leases for deployment of personal wireless service facilities.** This chapter does not apply to leases issued for the deployment of personal wireless service facilities as provided in RCW 47.04.045. [2003 c 244 § 3.]

**RCW 47.44.150 Measure of damages.** In any action for damages against the state of Washington, its agents, contractors, or employees by reason of damages to a utility or other facility located on a state highway, the damages are limited to the cost of repair of the utility or facility and are recoverable only in those instances where the utility or facility is authorized to be located on the state highway. However, the state is subject to the penalties provided in RCW 19.122.070 (1) and (2) only if the state has failed to give a notice meeting the requirements of RCW 19.122.030 to utilities or facilities that are authorized to be located on the state highway. [1989 c 196 § 1.]



**RCW 47.44.160 Broadband facilities and infrastructure—**

**Collaboration.** (1) The department is directed to adopt and maintain an agency policy that requires the department to proactively provide broadband facility owners with information about planned state highway projects to enable collaboration between broadband facility owners and the department to identify opportunities for the installation of broadband facilities during the appropriate phase of these projects when such opportunities exist.

(2) If no owners are ready or able to participate in coordination of the installation of broadband infrastructure concurrently with state highway projects, the department may enlist its contractors to install broadband conduit as part of road construction projects in order to directly benefit the transportation system and motor vehicle users by:

(a) Reducing future traffic impacts to the traveling public on the roadway;

(b) Supporting the vehicle miles traveled reduction and congestion management goals of the state by allowing for more telework; or

(c) Proactively preparing the transportation system for the widespread development and use of autonomous vehicles.

(3) Broadband facility owners must first obtain a franchise granted by the department pursuant to RCW 47.44.010 and 47.44.020 before installing broadband facilities within the department's conduit. The costs for installation and maintenance of such broadband facilities shall be the responsibility of the broadband facility owner. The department may adopt rules establishing a fee schedule for occupancy of broadband facilities within the department's conduit consistent with federal law.

(4) As used in this section:

(a) "Broadband conduit" means a conduit used to support broadband infrastructure, including fiber optic cables.

(b) "Broadband infrastructure" has the same meaning as in RCW 43.330.530. [2021 c 258 § 5.]

**Findings—Intent—2021 c 258:** "(1) The legislature finds that:

(a) Increasing broadband access to unserved areas of the state provides an increasingly essential public benefit to the citizens of Washington by allowing full participation in society and the modern economy, and enabling access to health care, education, the use of other technologies, and essential services, including public safety;

(b) Facilitating and accelerating affordable and quality statewide broadband access for all Washingtonians will require sustained investment, research, local and community participation, and the formation of strategic partnerships between private, public, and nonprofit entities;

(c) Providing for additional coordination and removal of barriers across sectors to increase broadband access in unserved areas is in the best interest of the state;

(d) Maximizing the use of rights-of-way during construction or repair of transportation systems offers cost-effective opportunities for extending and improving broadband and high-speed internet connections throughout the state; and

(e) Expanding broadband access, especially broadband conduit along roadways, provides commensurate benefits to the transportation system and motor vehicle users in terms of reducing the use of roads

and alleviating congestion by allowing for more telework, and laying the foundation for a transportation system increasingly more reliant on autonomous vehicles.

(2) The legislature also finds that there is a need to utilize near-term options and opportunities along state highway rights-of-way to drive broadband network expansion and for undertaking longer-term planning of activities to develop additional paths to facilitate the expansion of broadband networks along state highway rights-of-way.

(3) Therefore, the legislature intends to expedite the expansion of broadband access to unserved areas throughout the state by increasing broadband infrastructure coordination, including through collaboration between the statewide broadband office and the department of transportation; proactively facilitating installation and improvement of infrastructure during state road construction projects; and studying recommendations related to the department of transportation's role in broadband service expansion efforts." [2021 c 258 § 1.]

**Chapter 47.46 RCW**  
**PUBLIC-PRIVATE TRANSPORTATION INITIATIVES**

**Sections**

- 47.46.010 Finding.
- 47.46.011 Finding—Intent—2002 c 114.
- 47.46.020 Definitions.
- 47.46.030 Demonstration projects—Selection—Public involvement.
- 47.46.040 Demonstration projects—Terms of agreements—Public participation.
- 47.46.050 Financial arrangements.
- 47.46.060 Deferral of taxes—Application—Repayment.
- 47.46.070 Use of state bonds on certain projects.
- 47.46.080 State toll facilities authorized for projects.
- 47.46.090 Citizen advisory committee—Tolls.
- 47.46.091 Tacoma Narrows bridge citizen advisory committee.
- 47.46.100 Tolls—Setting—Lien on.
- 47.46.105 Tolls—Electronic toll collection and photo toll systems—Administrative fees—Violation.
- 47.46.110 Tolls—Term, use.
- 47.46.120 Toll increases in excess of fiscal growth factor.
- 47.46.130 Use of state bond proceeds.
- 47.46.140 Repayment of motor vehicle fund from toll charges.
- 47.46.150 Alteration not a new proposal.
- 47.46.160 Applicable rules and statutes.
- 47.46.170 Application of RCW 47.46.040 and 47.46.050.
- 47.46.180 Legislative oversight committee.
- 47.46.190 Tacoma Narrows bridge facility funding—Intent—State contribution loans—Private right of action not created.
- 47.46.200 Reports—Determination of contribution amount from nontoll sources—Maintenance of debt service plan repayment schedule—Annual expected toll revenue information to be used for repayment of state contribution loans—Private right of action not created.
- 47.46.900 Effective date—1993 c 370.

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- 47.46.200 Reports—Determination of contribution amount from nontoll sources—Maintenance of debt service plan repayment schedule—Annual expected toll revenue information to be used for repayment of state contribution loans—Private right of action not created.
- 47.46.900 Effective date—1993 c 370.

**RCW 47.46.010 Finding.** The legislature finds and declares:

It is essential for the economic, social, and environmental well-being of the state and the maintenance of a high quality of life that the people of the state have an efficient transportation system.

The ability of the state to provide an efficient transportation system will be enhanced by a public-private sector program providing for private entities to undertake all or a portion of the study, planning, design, development, financing, acquisition, installation, construction or improvement, operation, and maintenance of transportation systems and facility projects.

A public-private initiatives program will provide benefits to both the public and private sectors. Public-private initiatives provide a sound economic investment opportunity for the private sector. Such initiatives will provide the state with increased access to property development and project opportunities, financial and development expertise, and will supplement state transportation revenues, allowing the state to use its limited resources for other needed projects.

The public-private initiatives program, to the fullest extent possible, should encourage and promote business and employment opportunities for Washington state citizens.

The public-private initiatives program shall be implemented in cooperation, consultation, and with the support of the affected communities and local jurisdictions.

The secretary of transportation should be permitted and encouraged to test the feasibility of building privately funded transportation systems and facilities or segments thereof through the use of innovative agreements with the private sector. The secretary of transportation should be vested with the authority to solicit, evaluate, negotiate, and administer public-private agreements with the private sector relating to the planning, construction, upgrading, or reconstruction of transportation systems and facilities.

Agreements negotiated under a public-private initiatives program will not bestow on private entities an immediate right to construct and operate the proposed transportation facilities. Rather, agreements will grant to private entities the opportunity to design the proposed facilities, demonstrate public support for proposed facilities, and complete the planning processes required in order to obtain a future decision by the department of transportation and other state and local lead agencies on whether the facilities should be permitted and built.

Agreements negotiated under the public-private initiatives program should establish the conditions under which the private developer may secure the approval necessary to develop and operate the proposed transportation facilities; create a framework to attract the private capital necessary to finance their development; ensure that the transportation facilities will be designed, constructed, and operated in accordance with applicable local, regional, state, and federal laws and the applicable standards and policies of the department of transportation; and require a demonstration that the proposed transportation facility has the support of the affected communities and local jurisdictions.

The legislature finds that the Puget Sound congestion pricing project, selected under this chapter, raises major transportation policy, economic, and equity concerns. These relate to the integrity of the state's high occupancy vehicle program; the cost-effective movement of freight and goods; the diversion of traffic to local streets and arterials; and possible financial hardship to commuters. The legislature further finds that these potential economic and social impacts require comprehensive legislative review prior to advancement of the project and directs that the secretary not proceed with the implementation of the project without prior approval of the legislature.

The department of transportation should be encouraged to take advantage of new opportunities provided by federal legislation under section 1012 of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA). That section establishes a new program authorizing federal participation in construction or improvement or improvement of publicly or privately owned toll roads, bridges, and tunnels, and allows states to leverage available federal funds as a means for attracting private sector capital. [1995 2nd sp.s. c 19 § 1; 1993 c 370 § 1.]

**Effective date—1995 2nd sp.s. c 19:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or

support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately [June 16, 1995]." [1995 2nd sp.s. c 19 § 5.]

**RCW 47.46.011 Finding—Intent—2002 c 114.** The legislature finds that greater flexibility to provide state financing for projects developed under chapter 47.46 RCW will result in better use of public resources, lower financing costs, and potential savings to taxpayers. The legislature intends to: Clarify the ability of the department of transportation to use public and private financing for projects selected and developed under chapter 47.46 RCW; provide the department with specific means of state financing where that financing is in the public's best interest; provide citizens living in the impacted areas a statutory mechanism to review proposed toll rates and provide input before adoption of toll schedules by the toll authority; and prevent unreasonable delay of critical transportation projects that are essential for public safety and welfare. [2002 c 114 § 1.]

**Captions not law—2002 c 114:** "Captions used in this act do not constitute any part of the law." [2002 c 114 § 26.]

**RCW 47.46.020 Definitions.** As used in this chapter:

(1) "Electronic toll collection system" means a system that collects tolls by crediting or debiting funds from a customer's unique prepaid tolling account.

(2) "Photo toll" means a charge associated with a particular vehicle that can only be identified by its license plate. A photo toll may be paid through one of the following methods:

(a) A customer-initiated account that is prepaid or postpaid.

(b) In response to a toll bill that is sent to the registered owner of the vehicle incurring the photo toll charge. The toll bill may designate a toll payment due date for the photo toll assessed.

(3) "Photo toll system" means a camera-based imaging system that uses digital video or still image formats to record license plate images of vehicles using toll lanes for the purpose of collecting a photo toll.

(4) "Toll payment due date" means the date when a toll must be paid to avoid a toll violation civil penalty. The toll payment due date is eighty days from the date the vehicle uses the toll facility and incurs the toll charge.

(5) "Transportation systems and facilities" means capital-related improvements and additions to the state's transportation infrastructure, including but not limited to highways, roads, bridges, vehicles, and equipment, marine-related facilities, vehicles, and equipment, park and ride lots, transit stations and equipment, transportation management systems, and other transportation-related investments. [2010 c 249 § 2; 1993 c 370 § 2.]

**Contingent effective date—2010 c 249:** See note following RCW 47.56.795.

**RCW 47.46.030 Demonstration projects—Selection—Public involvement.** (1) The secretary or a designee shall solicit proposals

from, and negotiate and enter into agreements with, private entities to undertake as appropriate, together with the department and other public entities, all or a portion of the study, planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of transportation systems and facilities, using in whole or in part public or private sources of financing.

The public-private initiatives program may develop up to six demonstration projects. Each proposal shall be weighed on its own merits, and each of the six agreements shall be negotiated individually, and as a stand-alone project.

(2) If project proposals selected prior to September 1, 1994, are terminated by the public or private sectors, the department shall not select any new projects, including project proposals submitted to the department prior to September 1, 1994, and designated by the transportation commission as placeholder projects, after June 16, 1995, until June 30, 1997.

The department, in consultation with the legislative transportation committee, shall conduct a program and fiscal audit of the public-private initiatives program for the biennium ending June 30, 1997. The department shall submit a progress report to the legislative transportation committee on the program and fiscal audit by June 30, 1996, with preliminary and final audit reports due December 1, 1996, and June 30, 1997, respectively.

The department shall develop and submit a proposed public involvement plan to the 1997 legislature to identify the process for selecting new potential projects and the associated costs of implementing the plan. The legislature must adopt the public involvement plan before the department may proceed with any activity related to project identification and selection. Following legislative adoption of the public involvement plan, the department is authorized to implement the plan and to identify potential new projects.

The public involvement plan for projects selected after June 30, 1997, shall, at a minimum, identify projects that: (a) Have the potential of achieving overall public support among users of the projects, residents of communities in the vicinity of the projects, and residents of communities impacted by the projects; (b) meet a state transportation need; (c) provide a significant state benefit; and (d) provide competition among proposers and maximum cost benefits to users. Prospective projects may include projects identified by the department or submitted by the private sector.

Projects that meet the minimum criteria established under this section and the requirements of the public involvement plan developed by the department and approved by the legislature shall be submitted to the Washington state transportation commission for its review. Forty-five days after the submission to the commission of the list of eligible projects, the secretary is authorized to solicit proposals for the eligible project.

(3) Prior to entering into agreements with private entities under the requirements of RCW 47.46.040 for any project proposal selected before September 1, 1994, or after June 30, 1997, except as provided for in subsections (11) and (12) of this section, the department shall require an advisory vote as provided under subsections (5) through (9) of this section.

(4) The advisory vote shall apply to project proposals selected prior to September 1, 1994, or after June 30, 1997, that receive public opposition as demonstrated by the submission to the department of original petitions bearing at least five thousand signatures of

individuals opposing the project collected and submitted in accordance with the dates established in subsections (11) and (12) of this section. The advisory vote shall be on the preferred alternative identified under the requirements of chapter 43.21C RCW and, if applicable, the national environmental policy act, 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq. The execution by the department of the advisory vote process established in this section is subject to the prior appropriation of funds by the legislature for the purpose of conducting environmental impact studies, a public involvement program, local involvement committee activities, traffic and economic impact analyses, engineering and technical studies, and the advisory vote.

(5) In preparing for the advisory vote, the department shall conduct a comprehensive analysis of traffic patterns and economic impact to define the geographical boundary of the project area that is affected by the imposition of tolls or user fees authorized under this chapter. The area so defined is referred to in this section as the affected project area. In defining the affected project area, the department shall, at a minimum, undertake: (a) A comparison of the estimated percentage of residents of communities in the vicinity of the project and in other communities impacted by the project who could be subject to tolls or user fees and the estimated percentage of other users and transient traffic that could be subject to tolls or user fees; (b) an analysis of the anticipated traffic diversion patterns; (c) an analysis of the potential economic impact resulting from proposed toll rates or user fee rates imposed on residents, commercial traffic, and commercial entities in communities in the vicinity of and impacted by the project; (d) an analysis of the economic impact of tolls or user fees on the price of goods and services generally; and (e) an analysis of the relationship of the project to state transportation needs and benefits.

(6) (a) After determining the definition of the affected project area, the department shall establish a committee comprised of individuals who represent cities and counties in the affected project area; organizations formed to support or oppose the project; and users of the project. The committee shall be named the public-private local involvement committee, and be known as the local involvement committee.

(b) The members of the local involvement committee shall be: (i) An elected official from each city within the affected project area; (ii) an elected official from each county within the affected project area; (iii) two persons from each county within the affected project area who represent an organization formed in support of the project, if the organization exists; (iv) two persons from each county within the affected project area who represent an organization formed to oppose the project, if the organization exists; and (v) four public members active in a statewide transportation organization. If the committee makeup results in an even number of committee members, there shall be an additional appointment of an elected official from the county in which all, or the greatest portion of the project is located.

(c) City and county elected officials shall be appointed by a majority of the members of the city or county legislative authorities of each city or county within the affected project area, respectively. The county legislative authority of each county within the affected project area shall identify and validate organizations officially formed in support of or in opposition to the project and shall make the appointments required under this section from a list submitted by



the chair of the organizations. Public members shall be appointed by the governor. All appointments to the local involvement committee shall be made and submitted to the department of transportation no later than January 1, 1996, for projects selected prior to September 1, 1994, and no later than thirty days after the affected project area is defined for projects selected after June 30, 1997. Vacancies in the membership of the local involvement committee shall be filled by the appointing authority under (b) (i) through (v) of this subsection for each position on the committee.

(d) The local involvement committee shall serve in an advisory capacity to the department on all matters related to the execution of the advisory vote.

(e) Members of the local involvement committee serve without compensation and may not receive subsistence, lodging expenses, or travel expenses.

(7) The department shall conduct a minimum thirty-day public comment period on the definition of the geographical boundary of the project area. The department, in consultation with the local involvement committee, shall make adjustments, if required, to the definition of the geographical boundary of the affected project area, based on comments received from the public. Within fourteen calendar days after the public comment period, the department shall set the boundaries of the affected project area in units no smaller than a precinct as defined in RCW 29A.04.121.

(8) The department, in consultation with the local involvement committee, shall develop a description for selected project proposals. After developing the description of the project proposal, the department shall publish the project proposal description in newspapers of general circulation for seven calendar days in the affected project area. Within fourteen calendar days after the last day of the publication of the project proposal description, the department shall transmit a copy of the map depicting the affected project area and the description of the project proposal to the county auditor of the county in which any portion of the affected project area is located.

(9) Upon receipt of the map and the description of the project proposal, the county auditor shall, within thirty days, verify the precincts that are located within the affected project area. The county auditor shall prepare the text identifying and describing the affected project area and the project proposal using the definition of the geographical boundary of the affected project area and the project description submitted by the department and shall set an election date for the submission of a ballot proposition authorizing the imposition of tolls or user fees to implement the proposed project within the affected project area, which date may be the next succeeding general election to be held in the state, or at a special election, if requested by the department. The text of the project proposal must appear in a voters' pamphlet for the affected project area. The department shall pay the costs of publication and distribution. The special election date must be the next date for a special election provided under RCW 29A.04.330 that is at least sixty days but, if authorized under RCW 29A.04.330, no more than ninety days after the receipt of the final map and project description by the auditor. The department shall pay the cost of an election held under this section.

(10) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the department may contract with a private developer of a selected project proposal to conduct environmental impact studies, a public involvement program,

and engineering and technical studies funded by the legislature. For projects subject to this subsection, the department shall not enter into an agreement under RCW 47.46.040 prior to the advisory vote on the preferred alternative.

(11) Subsections (5) through (9) of this section shall not apply to project proposals selected prior to September 1, 1994, that have no organized public opposition as demonstrated by the submission to the department of original petitions bearing at least five thousand signatures of individuals opposing the project, collected and submitted after September 1, 1994, and by thirty calendar days after June 16, 1995.

(12) Subsections (5) through (9) of this section shall not apply to project proposals selected after June 30, 1997, that have no organized public opposition as demonstrated by the submission to the department of original petitions bearing at least five thousand signatures of individuals opposing the project, collected and submitted by ninety calendar days after project selection. [2005 c 319 § 132; 2002 c 114 § 3; 1996 c 280 § 1; 1995 2nd sp.s. c 19 § 2; 1993 c 370 § 3.]

**Findings—Intent—Part headings—Effective dates—2005 c 319:** See notes following RCW 43.17.020.

**Finding—Intent—2002 c 114:** See RCW 47.46.011.

**Captions not law—2002 c 114:** See note following RCW 47.46.011.

**Effective date—1996 c 280:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately [March 29, 1996]." [1996 c 280 § 2.]

**Effective date—1995 2nd sp.s. c 19:** See note following RCW 47.46.010.

**RCW 47.46.040 Demonstration projects—Terms of agreements—Public participation.** (1) The secretary or a designee shall consult with legal, financial, and other experts within and outside state government in the negotiation and development of the agreements.

(2) Agreements may provide for private ownership of the projects during the construction period. After completion and final acceptance of each project or discrete segment thereof, the agreement may provide for state ownership of the transportation systems and facilities and lease to the private entity unless the state elects to provide for ownership of the facility by the private entity during the term of the agreement.

The state may lease each of the demonstration projects, or applicable project segments, to the private entities for operating purposes for up to fifty years.

(3) The department may exercise any power possessed by it to facilitate the development, construction, financing operation, and maintenance of transportation projects under this section. Agreements for maintenance services entered into under this section shall provide for full reimbursement for services rendered by the department or other state agencies. Agreements for police services for projects,

involving state highway routes, developed under agreements shall be entered into with the Washington state patrol. The agreement for police services shall provide that the state patrol will be reimbursed for costs on a comparable basis with the costs incurred for comparable service on other state highway routes. The department may provide services for which it is reimbursed, including but not limited to preliminary planning, environmental certification, and preliminary design of the demonstration projects.

(4) The plans and specifications for each project constructed under this section shall comply with the department's standards for state projects. A facility constructed by and leased to a private entity is deemed to be a part of the state highway system for purposes of identification, maintenance, and enforcement of traffic laws and for the purposes of applicable sections of this title. Upon reversion of the facility to the state, the project must meet all applicable state standards. Agreements shall address responsibility for reconstruction or renovations that are required in order for a facility to meet all applicable state standards upon reversion of the facility to the state.

(5) For the purpose of facilitating these projects and to assist the private entity in the financing, development, construction, and operation of the transportation systems and facilities, the agreements may include provisions for the department to exercise its authority, including the lease of facilities, rights-of-way, and airspace, exercise of the power of eminent domain, granting of development rights and opportunities, granting of necessary easements and rights of access, issuance of permits and other authorizations, protection from competition, remedies in the event of default of either of the parties, granting of contractual and real property rights, liability during construction and the term of the lease, authority to negotiate acquisition of rights-of-way in excess of appraised value, and any other provision deemed necessary by the secretary.

(6) The agreements entered into under this section may include provisions authorizing the state to grant necessary easements and lease to a private entity existing rights-of-way or rights-of-way subsequently acquired with public or private financing. The agreements may also include provisions to lease to the entity airspace above or below the right-of-way associated or to be associated with the private entity's transportation facility. In consideration for the reversion rights in these privately constructed facilities, the department may negotiate a charge for the lease of airspace rights during the term of the agreement for a period not to exceed fifty years. If, after the expiration of this period, the department continues to lease these airspace rights to the private entity, it shall do so only at fair market value. The agreement may also provide the private entity the right of first refusal to undertake projects utilizing airspace owned by the state in the vicinity of the public-private project.

(7) Agreements under this section may include any contractual provision that is necessary to protect the project revenues required to repay the costs incurred to study, plan, design, finance, acquire, build, install, operate, enforce laws, and maintain toll highways, bridges, and tunnels and which will not unreasonably inhibit or prohibit the development of additional public transportation systems and facilities. Agreements under this section must secure and maintain liability insurance coverage in amounts appropriate to protect the project's viability and may address state indemnification of the

private entity for design and construction liability where the state has approved relevant design and construction plans.

(8) Agreements entered into under this section shall include a process that provides for public involvement in decision making with respect to the development of the projects.

(9) (a) In carrying out the public involvement process required in subsection (8) of this section, the private entity shall proactively seek public participation through a process appropriate to the characteristics of the project that assesses and demonstrates public support among: Users of the project, residents of communities in the vicinity of the project, and residents of communities impacted by the project.

(b) The private entity shall conduct a comprehensive public involvement process that provides, periodically throughout the development and implementation of the project, users and residents of communities in the affected project area an opportunity to comment upon key issues regarding the project including, but not limited to: (i) Alternative sizes and scopes; (ii) design; (iii) environmental assessment; (iv) right-of-way and access plans; (v) traffic impacts; (vi) tolling or user fee strategies and tolling or user fee ranges; (vii) project cost; (viii) construction impacts; (ix) facility operation; and (x) any other salient characteristics.

(c) If the affected project area has not been defined, the private entity shall define the affected project area by conducting, at a minimum: (i) A comparison of the estimated percentage of residents of communities in the vicinity of the project and in other communities impacted by the project who could be subject to tolls or user fees and the estimated percentage of other users and transient traffic that could be subject to tolls or user fees; (ii) an analysis of the anticipated traffic diversion patterns; (iii) an analysis of the potential economic impact resulting from proposed toll rates or user fee rates imposed on residents, commercial traffic, and commercial entities in communities in the vicinity of and impacted by the project; (iv) an analysis of the economic impact of tolls or user fees on the price of goods and services generally; and (v) an analysis of the relationship of the project to state transportation needs and benefits.

The agreement may require an advisory vote by users of and residents in the affected project area.

(d) In seeking public participation, the private entity shall establish a local involvement committee or committees comprised of residents of the affected project area, individuals who represent cities and counties in the affected project area, organizations formed to support or oppose the project, if such organizations exist, and users of the project. The private entity shall, at a minimum, establish a committee as required under the specifications of RCW 47.46.030(6)(b) (ii) and (iii) and appointments to such committee shall be made no later than thirty days after the project area is defined.

(e) Local involvement committees shall act in an advisory capacity to the department and the private entity on all issues related to the development and implementation of the public involvement process established under this section.

(f) The department and the private entity shall provide the local involvement committees with progress reports on the status of the public involvement process including the results of an advisory vote, if any occurs.

(10) Nothing in this chapter limits the right of the secretary and his or her agents to render such advice and to make such recommendations as they deem to be in the best interests of the state and the public. [2005 c 319 § 133; 2002 c 114 § 16; 2001 c 64 § 14; 1995 2nd sp.s. c 19 § 3; 1993 c 370 § 4.]

**Findings—Intent—Part headings—Effective dates—2005 c 319:** See notes following RCW 43.17.020.

**Finding—Intent—2002 c 114:** See RCW 47.46.011.

**Captions not law—2002 c 114:** See note following RCW 47.46.011.

**Effective date—1995 2nd sp.s. c 19:** See note following RCW 47.46.010.

**RCW 47.46.050 Financial arrangements.** (1) The department may enter into agreements using federal, state, and local financing in connection with the projects, including without limitation, grants, loans, and other measures authorized by section 1012 of ISTEA, and to do such things as necessary and desirable to maximize the funding and financing, including the formation of a revolving loan fund to implement this section.

(2) Agreements entered into under this section may authorize the private entity to lease the facilities within a designated area or areas from the state and to impose user fees or tolls within the designated area to allow a reasonable rate of return on investment, as established through a negotiated agreement between the state and the private entity. The negotiated agreement shall determine a maximum development fee and, where appropriate, a maximum rate of return on investment, based on project and financing characteristics. If the negotiated rate of return on investment or development fee is not affected, the private entity may establish and modify toll rates and user fees.

(3) Agreements that include a maximum rate of return may establish "incentive" rates of return beyond the negotiated maximum rate of return on investment. The incentive rates of return shall be designed to provide financial benefits to the affected public jurisdictions and the private entity, given the attainment of various safety, performance, or transportation demand management goals. The incentive rates of return shall be negotiated in the agreement.

(4) Agreements shall require that over the term of the ownership or lease the user fees or toll revenues be applied only to payment of:

(a) The capital outlay costs for the project, including the costs associated with planning, design, development, financing, construction, improvement, operations, toll collection, maintenance, and administration of the project;

(b) The reimbursement to the state for all costs associated with an election as required under RCW 47.46.030, the costs of project review and oversight, and technical and law enforcement services;

(c) The establishment of a fund to assure the adequacy of maintenance expenditures; and

(d) A reasonable return on investment to the private entity. A negotiated agreement shall not extend the term of the ownership or lease beyond the period of time required for payment of the private

entity's capital outlay costs for the project under this subsection. [2002 c 114 § 17; 1995 2nd sp.s. c 19 § 4; 1993 c 370 § 5.]

**Finding—Intent—2002 c 114:** See RCW 47.46.011.

**Captions not law—2002 c 114:** See note following RCW 47.46.011.

**Effective date—1995 2nd sp.s. c 19:** See note following RCW 47.46.010.

**RCW 47.46.060 Deferral of taxes—Application—Repayment.** (1) Any person, including the department of transportation and any private entity or entities, may apply for deferral of taxes on the site preparation for, the construction of, the acquisition of any related machinery and equipment that becomes a part of, and the rental of equipment for use in the state route number 16 corridor improvements project under this chapter. Application must be made to the department of revenue in a form and manner prescribed by the department of revenue. The application must contain information regarding estimated or actual costs, time schedules for completion and operation, and other information required by the department of revenue. The department of revenue must approve the application within sixty days if it meets the requirements of this section.

(2) The department of revenue must issue a sales and use tax deferral certificate for state and local sales and use taxes due under chapters 82.08, 82.12, and 82.14 RCW on the project.

(3) The department of transportation or a private entity granted a tax deferral under this section must begin paying the deferred taxes in the twenty-fourth year after the date certified by the department of revenue as the date on which the project is operationally complete. The first payment is due on December 31st of the twenty-fourth calendar year after such certified date, with subsequent annual payments due on December 31st of the following nine years. Each payment must equal ten percent of the deferred tax. The project is operationally complete under this section when the collection of tolls is commenced for the state route number 16 improvements covered by the deferral.

(4) The department of revenue may authorize an accelerated repayment schedule upon request of the department of transportation or a private entity granted a deferral under this section.

(5) Interest may not be charged on any taxes deferred under this section for the period of deferral, although all other penalties and interest applicable to delinquent excise taxes may be assessed and imposed for delinquent payments under this section. The debt for deferred taxes is not extinguished by insolvency or other failure of the private entity. Transfer of ownership does not terminate the deferral.

(6) Applications and any other information received by the department of revenue under this section are not confidential and are subject to disclosure. Chapter 82.32 RCW applies to the administration of this section. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 44 § 405; 2012 c 77 § 1; 2002 c 114 § 18; 1998 c 179 § 4.]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 44:** See note following RCW 46.68.395.

**Finding—Intent—2002 c 114:** See RCW 47.46.011.

**Captions not law—2002 c 114:** See note following RCW 47.46.011.

**Finding—1998 c 179:** See note following RCW 35.21.718.

**RCW 47.46.070 Use of state bonds on certain projects.** (1) To the extent that the legislature specifically appropriates funding for a project developed under this chapter using the proceeds of bonds issued by the state, an agreement for the design or construction of the project entered into by the secretary must incorporate provisions that are consistent with the use of the state financing provided by the appropriation.

(2) The secretary shall amend existing agreements or execute new agreements to comply with subsection (1) of this section.

(3) If the secretary is unable to reach agreement with other parties on contractual provisions providing for state financing, the secretary shall not enter into an agreement, or shall take no action with respect to an agreement, or shall exercise termination provisions, whichever option in the secretary's determination will result in the lowest net cost to the state. [2002 c 114 § 4.]

**Finding—Intent—2002 c 114:** See RCW 47.46.011.

**Captions not law—2002 c 114:** See note following RCW 47.46.011.

**RCW 47.46.080 State toll facilities authorized for projects.** The department may provide for the establishment and construction of state toll bridge facilities upon any public highways of this state together with approaches to them under agreements entered into under this chapter to develop such facilities. A state toll bridge facility authorized under this section includes, but is not limited to, the construction of an additional toll bridge, including approaches, adjacent to and within two miles of an existing bridge, the imposition of tolls on both bridges, and the operation of both bridges as one toll facility. [2002 c 114 § 5.]

**Finding—Intent—2002 c 114:** See RCW 47.46.011.

**Captions not law—2002 c 114:** See note following RCW 47.46.011.

**RCW 47.46.090 Citizen advisory committee—Tolls.** (1) A citizen advisory committee must be created for any project developed under this chapter that imposes toll charges for use of a transportation facility. The governor shall appoint nine members to the committee, all of whom must be permanent residents of the affected project area as defined for each project. Members of the committee shall serve without compensation.

(2) The citizen advisory committee shall serve in an advisory capacity to the commission on all matters related to the imposition of tolls including, but not limited to, (a) the feasibility of providing discounts to frequent users, electronic transponder users, senior citizens, or students; (b) the tradeoff of lower tolls versus the

early retirement of debt; and (c) a consideration of variable, or time of day pricing.

(3) No toll charge may be imposed or modified unless the citizen advisory committee has been given at least twenty days to review and comment on any proposed toll charge schedule. In setting toll rates, the commission shall give consideration to any recommendations of the citizen advisory committee. [2005 c 329 § 1; 2002 c 114 § 6.]

**Finding—Intent—2002 c 114:** See RCW 47.46.011.

**Captions not law—2002 c 114:** See note following RCW 47.46.011.

**RCW 47.46.091 Tacoma Narrows bridge citizen advisory committee.**

The Tacoma Narrows bridge citizen advisory committee is hereby created as directed under RCW 47.46.090. The advisory committee members shall be appointed proportionately, to the extent practicable, from those areas from which the majority of the trips originate on the bridge according to the latest traffic analysis by the department. [2005 c 329 § 2.]

**RCW 47.46.100 Tolls—Setting—Lien on.** (1) The commission shall fix the rates of toll and other charges for all toll bridges built under this chapter that are financed primarily by bonds issued by the state. Subject to RCW 47.46.090, the commission may impose and modify toll charges from time to time as conditions warrant.

(2) In establishing toll charges, the commission shall give due consideration to any required costs for operating and maintaining the toll bridge or toll bridges, including the cost of insurance, and to any amount required by law to meet the redemption of bonds and interest payments on them.

(3) The toll charges must be imposed in amounts sufficient to:

(a) Provide annual revenue sufficient to provide for annual operating and maintenance expenses, except as provided in RCW 47.56.245;

(b) Make payments required under RCW 47.56.165 and 47.46.140, including insurance costs and the payment of principal and interest on bonds issued for any particular toll bridge or toll bridges; and

(c) Repay the motor vehicle fund under RCW 47.46.110, 47.56.165, and 47.46.140.

(4) The bond principal and interest payments, including repayment of the motor vehicle fund for amounts transferred from that fund to provide for such principal and interest payments, constitute a first direct and exclusive charge and lien on all tolls and other revenues from the toll bridge concerned, subject to operating and maintenance expenses. [2002 c 114 § 7.]

**Finding—Intent—2002 c 114:** See RCW 47.46.011.

**Captions not law—2002 c 114:** See note following RCW 47.46.011.

**RCW 47.46.105 Tolls—Electronic toll collection and photo toll systems—Administrative fees—Violation.** (1) A toll collection system



may include, but is not limited to, electronic toll collection and photo tolling.

(2) (a) A photo toll system may take photographs, digital photographs, microphotographs, videotapes, or other recorded images of the vehicle and vehicle license plate only.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all photographs, digital photographs, microphotographs, videotape, other recorded images, or other records identifying a specific instance of travel prepared under this chapter are for the exclusive use of the tolling agency for toll collection and enforcement purposes and are not open to the public and may not be used in a court in a pending action or proceeding unless the action or proceeding relates to a civil penalty under RCW 46.63.160. No photograph, digital photograph, microphotograph, videotape, other recorded image, or other record identifying a specific instance of travel may be used for any purpose other than toll collection or enforcement of civil penalties under RCW 46.63.160. Records identifying a specific instance of travel by a specific person or vehicle must be retained only as required to ensure payment and enforcement of tolls and to comply with state records retention policies.

(3) The department and its agents shall only use electronic toll collection system technology for toll collection purposes.

(4) Tolls may be collected and paid by the following methods:

(a) A customer may pay an electronic toll through an electronic toll collection account;

(b) A customer who does not have an electronic toll collection account may pay a photo toll either through a customer-initiated payment or in response to a toll bill; or

(c) A customer who does not have an electronic toll collection account may pay with cash on toll facilities that have a manual cash collection system.

(5) To the extent practicable, the department shall adopt electronic toll collection options, which allow for anonymous customer accounts and anonymous accounts that are not linked to a specific vehicle.

(6) The transportation commission shall adopt rules, in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW, to assess administrative fees as appropriate for toll collection processes. Administrative fees must not exceed toll collection costs. All administrative fees collected under this section must be deposited into the toll facility account of the facility on which the toll was assessed.

(7) Failure to pay a photo toll by the toll payment due date is a violation for which a notice of civil penalty may be issued under RCW 46.63.160. [2010 c 249 § 4; 2004 c 230 § 2.]

**Contingent effective date—2010 c 249:** See note following RCW 47.56.795.

**RCW 47.46.110 Tolls—Term, use.** (1) The commission shall retain toll charges on any existing and future facilities constructed under this chapter and financed primarily by bonds issued by the state until:

(a) All costs of investigation, financing, acquisition of property, and construction advanced from the motor vehicle fund have

been fully repaid, except as provided in subsection (2)(b) of this section;

(b) Obligations incurred in constructing that facility have been fully paid;

(c) The motor vehicle fund is fully repaid under RCW 47.46.140; and

(d) The accounts from which moneys are provided to reduce the debt service according to RCW 47.46.190(5) are fully repaid.

(2) This section does not:

(a) Prohibit the use of toll revenues to fund maintenance, operations, or management of facilities constructed under this chapter except as prohibited by RCW 47.56.245;

(b) Require repayment of funds specifically appropriated as a nonreimbursable state financial contribution to a project.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (2)(a) of this section, upon satisfaction of the conditions enumerated in subsection (1) of this section:

(a) The facility must be operated as a toll-free facility; and

(b) The operation, maintenance, upkeep, and repair of the facility must be paid from funds appropriated for the use of the department for the construction and maintenance of the primary state highways of the state of Washington. [2018 c 195 § 3; 2002 c 114 § 8.]

**Finding—Intent—2002 c 114:** See RCW 47.46.011.

**Captions not law—2002 c 114:** See note following RCW 47.46.011.

**RCW 47.46.120 Toll increases in excess of fiscal growth factor.** Pursuant to RCW 43.135.055, the legislature authorizes the transportation commission to increase bridge tolls in excess of the fiscal growth factor. [2002 c 114 § 9.]

**Finding—Intent—2002 c 114:** See RCW 47.46.011.

**Captions not law—2002 c 114:** See note following RCW 47.46.011.

**RCW 47.46.130 Use of state bond proceeds.** Proceeds of the sale of bonds issued by the state for projects constructed under this chapter must be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of a special account designated for those purposes. Those proceeds must be expended only for the purposes enumerated in this chapter, for payment of the expense incurred in the issuance and sale of any such bonds, and to repay the motor vehicle fund for any sums advanced to pay the cost of surveys, location, design, development, right-of-way, and other activities related to the financing and construction of the bridge and its approaches. [2002 c 114 § 10.]

**Finding—Intent—2002 c 114:** See RCW 47.46.011.

**Captions not law—2002 c 114:** See note following RCW 47.46.011.

**RCW 47.46.140 Repayment of motor vehicle fund from toll charges.**

Toll charges must be used to repay the motor vehicle fund consistent with RCW 47.56.165 for any amounts transferred from the motor vehicle fund to the highway bond retirement fund under RCW 47.10.847 to provide for bond retirement and interest on bonds issued for the Tacoma Narrows public-private initiative project. Toll charges must remain on any facility financed by bonds issued by the state for a length of time necessary to repay the motor vehicle fund for any amounts expended from that fund for the design, development, right-of-way, financing, construction, maintenance, repair, or operation of the toll facility or for amounts transferred from the motor vehicle fund to the highway bond retirement fund under RCW 47.10.847 to provide for bond retirement and interest on bonds issued for the Tacoma Narrows public-private initiative project. Funds specifically appropriated as a nonreimbursable state financial contribution to the project do not require repayment. [2002 c 114 § 12.]

**Finding—Intent—2002 c 114:** See RCW 47.46.011.

**Captions not law—2002 c 114:** See note following RCW 47.46.011.

**RCW 47.46.150 Alteration not a new proposal.** If a proposal is or has been selected for the design, development, construction, maintenance, or operation of transportation systems or facilities under this chapter, subsequent agreements may be made to implement portions of the proposal that modify the proposal or that do not incorporate all the features of the proposal. Any such modified agreement does not require the solicitation or consideration of additional proposals for all or any portion of the services rendered under that modified agreement. Modified agreements may provide for the reimbursement of expenses and fees incurred under earlier agreements. [2002 c 114 § 13.]

**Finding—Intent—2002 c 114:** See RCW 47.46.011.

**Captions not law—2002 c 114:** See note following RCW 47.46.011.

**RCW 47.46.160 Applicable rules and statutes.** All projects designed, constructed, and operated under this chapter must comply with all applicable rules and statutes in existence at the time the agreement is executed, including but not limited to the following provisions: Chapter 39.12 RCW, this title, \*RCW 41.06.380, chapter 47.64 RCW, RCW 49.60.180, and 49 C.F.R. Part 21. [2002 c 114 § 14.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 41.06.380 was repealed by 2002 c 354 § 403, effective July 1, 2005.

**Finding—Intent—2002 c 114:** See RCW 47.46.011.

**Captions not law—2002 c 114:** See note following RCW 47.46.011.

**RCW 47.46.170 Application of RCW 47.46.040 and 47.46.050.** RCW 47.46.040 and 47.46.050 apply only to those agreements that include private sources of financing in whole or in part. [2002 c 114 § 15.]

**Finding—Intent—2002 c 114:** See RCW 47.46.011.

**Captions not law—2002 c 114:** See note following RCW 47.46.011.

**RCW 47.46.180 Legislative oversight committee.** A legislative oversight committee is established to monitor and report on the progress, execution, and efficiency of design-build contracts issued under this chapter. The legislative oversight committee will be comprised of one legislator from each caucus of each chamber of the legislature. The leadership of each caucus shall appoint one member from his or her respective caucus to serve on the legislative oversight committee authorized by this section. [2002 c 114 § 25.]

**Finding—Intent—2002 c 114:** See RCW 47.46.011.

**Captions not law—2002 c 114:** See note following RCW 47.46.011.

**RCW 47.46.190 Tacoma Narrows bridge facility funding—Intent—State contribution loans—Private right of action not created.** (1) The legislature finds funding of the Tacoma Narrows bridge facility to be distinct from other Washington state tolling facilities due to its increasing debt service costs, which is the primary driver of the facility's escalating costs. Washington state has since recommended and established financing structures with steadier levels of debt service payments for subsequent tolled transportation facilities, supporting better management of the state's debt burden and a lower financial burden for toll ratepayers.

(2) The Tacoma Narrows bridge facility debt service structure resulted, in part, from a decision by the legislature to fund construction of the bridge without drawing from state tax dollars. As a result, toll revenue was committed to fund 99 percent of bridge construction costs, as well as the associated interest payments and other associated debt service costs. This is not the standard more recently utilized by the legislature, as is the case of the state route 520 bridge's construction, 72 percent of which is to be paid for with toll revenues. In light of the maximum burden for bridge construction that was placed on Tacoma Narrows bridge toll ratepayers, there is no equitable reason that the burden of future debt service payment increases should be borne by these same toll ratepayers.

(3) The legislature established the Tacoma Narrows bridge work group in 2017 and tasked it with identifying opportunities for long-term toll payer relief from increasing toll rates on the Tacoma Narrows bridge. The work group recommended a request of up to \$125,000,000 in state funding from the legislature to offset future debt service payment increases, allocated across the remaining years of tolling at levels that result in maintaining toll rates at fiscal year 2018 levels.

(4) Due to the findings aforementioned, an alternative is put forward by the legislature. State contribution loans for each fiscal biennium are to be made through the life of the debt service plan of up to a total of \$85,000,000, and will be repaid in annual amounts beginning after the debt service and deferred sales tax are fully repaid. It is the intent of the legislature that the commission will adjust tolls accordingly, in consideration of annual contributions

from nontoll sources and the costs required to be covered under RCW 47.46.100, until such time as the debt service and deferred sales tax obligation is fully met according to the repayment schedule in place as of June 7, 2018, and until any state contribution loans are fully repaid.

(5) To offset part of the toll rate increases that would otherwise be necessary to meet increases in future debt service payments, it is the intent of the legislature that the state treasurer make state contribution loan transfers to the Tacoma Narrows toll bridge account created in RCW 47.56.165 on the first day of each fiscal biennium, beginning in the 2019-2021 fiscal biennium, through the life of the debt service plan. It is the intent of the legislature that the state treasurer make state contribution loan transfers in amounts necessary to ensure debt service payments are made in full after toll revenue from the Tacoma Narrows bridge toll facility is applied to the debt payment amounts and other required costs.

(6) This section does not create a private right of action.  
[2022 c 223 § 2; 2018 c 195 § 1.]

**RCW 47.46.200 Reports—Determination of contribution amount from nontoll sources—Maintenance of debt service plan repayment schedule—Annual expected toll revenue information to be used for repayment of state contribution loans—Private right of action not created. (1)**

Through 2031, the commission shall submit to the transportation committees of the legislature on an annual basis a report that includes sufficient information to enable the legislature to determine an adequate amount of contribution from nontoll sources required for each fiscal biennium to maintain the debt service plan repayment schedule in place as of June 7, 2018. The report must be submitted by January 5th of each year.

(2) Beginning in 2031, and until such time as the state contribution loans described in RCW 47.46.190(4) are repaid, the commission shall submit to the transportation committees of the legislature on an annual basis a report that includes information detailing the annual expected toll revenue to be used for repayment of the state contribution loans. The report must be submitted by January 5th of each year.

(3) This section does not create a private right of action.  
[2022 c 223 § 3; 2018 c 195 § 2.]

**RCW 47.46.900 Effective date—1993 c 370.** This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect July 1, 1993. [1993 c 370 § 7.]

**Chapter 47.48 RCW**  
**CLOSING HIGHWAYS AND RESTRICTING TRAFFIC**

**Sections**

- 47.48.010 Closure or restriction authorized—Restriction for urban public transportation system use.
- 47.48.020 Notice of closure or restriction—Emergency closure.
- 47.48.031 Emergency closures by state patrol.
- 47.48.040 Penalty.
- 47.48.050 Transportation of radioactive or hazardous cargo—  
Definition—Violation, penalty.
- 47.48.060 Registry of persons allowed access to property to conduct fire prevention despite closures—Liability.

*Closure of Camas slough: RCW 88.28.055.*

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- 47.48.060 Registry of persons allowed access to property to conduct fire prevention despite closures—Liability.

*Closure of Camas slough: RCW 88.28.055.*

**RCW 47.48.010 Closure or restriction authorized—Restriction for urban public transportation system use.** Whenever the condition of any state highway, county road, or city street, either newly or previously constructed, altered, repaired, or improved, or any part thereof is such that for any reason its unrestricted use or continued use by vehicles or by any class of vehicles will greatly damage that state highway, county road, or city street, or will be dangerous to traffic, or it is being constructed, altered, repaired, improved, or maintained in such a manner as to require that use of the state highway, county road, or city street, or any portion thereof be closed or restricted as to all vehicles or any class of vehicles for any period of time, the secretary, if it is a state highway, the county legislative authority, if it is a county road, or the governing body of any city or town, if it is a city street, is authorized to close the state highway, county road, or city street, as the case may be, to travel by all vehicles or by any class of vehicles, or may declare a lower maximum speed for any class of vehicles, for such a definite period as it shall determine. Nothing in the law of this state prevents the secretary, county legislative authority, or governing body of any city or town from classifying vehicles according to gross weight, axle weight, height, width, length, braking area, performance, vehicle combinations, or tire equipment for the purposes of this section, or from restricting the use of any portion of any state highway, county road, or city street, as the case may be, to its use by an urban public transportation system. [1984 c 7 § 238; 1977 ex.s. c 216 § 1; 1967 c 108 § 9; 1961 c 13 § 47.48.010. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 65; RRS § 6400-65; prior: 1929 c 214 § 1; 1927 c 232 § 1; 1921 c 21 § 1; RRS § 6839.]

*Restrictions on public highways to prevent damage: RCW 46.44.080.*

*Urban public transportation system defined: RCW 47.04.082.*

**RCW 47.48.020 Notice of closure or restriction—Emergency closure.** Before any state highway, county road, or city street is closed to, or the maximum speed limit thereon reduced for, all vehicles or any class of vehicles, a notice thereof including the

effective date shall be published in one issue of a newspaper of general circulation in the county or city or town in which such state highway, county road, or city street or any portion thereof to be closed is located; and a like notice shall be posted on or prior to the date of publication of such notice in a conspicuous place at each end of the state highway, county road, or city street or portion thereof to be closed or restricted: PROVIDED, That no such state highway, county road, or city street or portion thereof may be closed sooner than three days after the publication and the posting of the notice herein provided for: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That in cases of emergency or conditions in which the maximum time the closure will be in effect is twelve hours or less the proper officers may, without publication or delay, close state highways, county roads, and city streets temporarily by posting notices at each end of the closed portion thereof and at all intersecting state highways if the closing be of a portion of a state highway, at all intersecting state highways and county roads if the closing be a portion of a county road, and at all intersecting city streets if the closing be of a city street. In all emergency cases or conditions in which the maximum time the closure will be in effect is twelve hours or less, as herein provided, the orders of the proper authorities shall be immediately effective. [1982 c 145 § 5; 1977 ex.s. c 216 § 2; 1961 c 13 § 47.48.020. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 66, part; RRS § 6400-66, part; prior: 1921 c 21 § 2, part; RRS § 6840, part. Formerly RCW 47.48.020 and 47.48.030.]

**RCW 47.48.031 Emergency closures by state patrol.** (1) Whenever the chief or another officer of the state patrol determines on the basis of a traffic investigation that an emergency exists or less than safe road conditions exist due to human-caused or natural disasters or extreme weather conditions upon any state highway, or any part thereof, state patrol officers may determine and declare closures and temporarily reroute traffic from any such affected highway.

(2) Any alteration of vehicular traffic on any state highway due to closure in emergency conditions is effective until such alteration has been approved or altered by the secretary of transportation or other department of transportation authorities in their local respective jurisdictions.

(3) All state highway closures by officers of the state patrol shall be immediately reported to the secretary of transportation and to other authorities in their local jurisdictions. [1981 c 197 § 1.]

**RCW 47.48.040 Penalty.** Except as provided under RCW 47.48.060, when any state highway, county road, or city street or portion thereof shall have been closed, or when the maximum speed limit thereon shall have been reduced, for all vehicles or any class of vehicles, as by law provided, any person, firm, or corporation disregarding such closing or reduced speed limit shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall in addition to any penalty for violation of the provisions of this section, be liable in any civil action instituted in the name of the state of Washington or the county or city or town having jurisdiction for any damages occasioned to such state highway, county road, or city street, as the case may be, as the result of disregarding such closing or reduced speed limit. [2007 c 252 § 3; 1977 ex.s. c 216 § 3; 1961 c 13 § 47.48.040. Prior: 1937 c 53 § 67; RRS § 6400-67; prior: 1921 c 21 § 3; RRS § 6841.]



**RCW 47.48.050 Transportation of radioactive or hazardous cargo—  
Definition—Violation, penalty.** The chief or other officer of the Washington state patrol may prohibit the transportation of placarded radioactive or hazardous cargo over the highways of the state, or a portion thereof, if weather or other conditions create a substantial risk to public safety. For the purposes of this section hazardous cargo shall mean hazardous materials as defined in RCW 70.136.020(1). Violation of an order issued under this section constitutes a misdemeanor. [1983 c 205 § 1.]

*Regulations on notice of prohibition on radioactive or hazardous cargo: RCW 47.01.270.*

**RCW 47.48.060 Registry of persons allowed access to property to conduct fire prevention despite closures—Liability.** (1) Each county sheriff may, until a model policy pursuant to RCW 36.28A.140 is developed and implemented in the sheriff's county, establish and maintain a registry of persons authorized to access their land during a forest [fire] or wildfire. Upon request, the sheriff must include in the registry persons who demonstrate ownership of agriculture land or forestland within the county and who possess equipment that may be used for fire prevention or suppression activities. Persons included in the registry must be allowed to access their property to conduct fire prevention or suppression activities despite the closure of any state highway, county road, or city street under this chapter.

(2) (a) Residents, landowners, and others in lawful possession and control of land in the state are not liable for unintentional injuries or loss suffered by persons entering upon, or passing through, their land pursuant to this section.

(b) Federal, state, and local agencies, and their employees, are not liable for any action, or failure to act, when facilitating the access described in this section. [2007 c 252 § 2.]

**Chapter 47.50 RCW**  
**HIGHWAY ACCESS MANAGEMENT**

**Sections**

- 47.50.010 Findings—Access.
- 47.50.020 Definitions—Access.
- 47.50.030 Regulating connections.
- 47.50.040 Access permits.
- 47.50.050 Permit fee.
- 47.50.060 Permit review process.
- 47.50.070 Permit conditions.
- 47.50.080 Permit removal.
- 47.50.090 Access management standards.

**Chapter 47.50 RCW**  
**HIGHWAY ACCESS MANAGEMENT**

**Sections**

47.50.010 Findings—Access.  
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47.50.080 Permit removal.  
47.50.090 Access management standards.

**RCW 47.50.010 Findings—Access.** (1) The legislature finds that:

(a) Regulation of access to the state highway system is necessary in order to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, to preserve the functional integrity of the state highway system, and to promote the safe and efficient movement of people and goods within the state;

(b) The development of an access management program, in accordance with this chapter, which coordinates land use planning decisions by local governments and investments in the state highway system, will serve to control the proliferation of connections and other access approaches to and from the state highway system. Without such a program, the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of this state are at risk, due to the fact that uncontrolled access to the state highway system is a significant contributing factor to the congestion and functional deterioration of the system; and

(c) The development of an access management program in accordance with this chapter will enhance the development of an effective transportation system and increase the traffic-carrying capacity of the state highway system and thereby reduce the incidences of traffic accidents, personal injury, and property damage or loss; mitigate environmental degradation; promote sound economic growth and the growth management goals of the state; reduce highway maintenance costs and the necessity for costly traffic operations measures; lengthen the effective life of transportation facilities in the state, thus preserving the public investment in such facilities; and shorten response time for emergency vehicles.

(2) In furtherance of these findings, all state highways are hereby declared to be controlled access facilities as defined in RCW 47.50.020, except those highways that are defined as limited access facilities in chapter 47.52 RCW.

(3) It is the policy of the legislature that:

(a) The access rights of an owner of property abutting the state highway system are subordinate to the public's right and interest in a safe and efficient highway system; and

(b) Every owner of property which abuts a state highway has a right to reasonable access to that highway, unless such access has been acquired pursuant to chapter 47.52 RCW, but may not have the right of a particular means of access. The right of access to the state highway may be restricted if, pursuant to local regulation, reasonable access can be provided to another public road which abuts the property.

(4) The legislature declares that it is the purpose of this chapter to provide a coordinated planning process for the permitting of access points on the state highway system to effectuate the findings and policies under this section.

(5) Nothing in this chapter shall affect the right to full compensation under section 16, Article I of the state Constitution. [1991 c 202 § 1.]

**Captions not law—1991 c 202:** "Section captions and part headings as used in this act do not constitute any part of the law." [1991 c 202 § 22.]

**Effective date—1991 c 202:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect July 1, 1991." [1991 c 202 § 24.]

**Severability—1991 c 202:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1991 c 202 § 25.]

**RCW 47.50.020 Definitions—Access.** Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Controlled access facility" means a transportation facility to which access is regulated by the governmental entity having jurisdiction over the facility. Owners or occupants of abutting lands and other persons have a right of access to or from such facility at such points only and in such manner as may be determined by the governmental entity.

(2) "Connection" means approaches, driveways, turnouts, or other means of providing for the right of access to or from controlled access facilities on the state highway system.

(3) "Permitting authority" means the department for connections in unincorporated areas or a city or town within incorporated areas which are authorized to regulate access to state highways pursuant to chapter 47.24 RCW. [1991 c 202 § 2.]

**Captions not law—Effective date—Severability—1991 c 202:** See notes following RCW 47.50.010.

**RCW 47.50.030 Regulating connections.** (1) Vehicular access and connections to or from the state highway system shall be regulated by the permitting authority in accordance with the provisions of this chapter in order to protect the public health, safety, and welfare.

(2) The department shall by July 1, 1992, adopt administrative procedures pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW which establish state highway access standards and rules for its issuance and modification of access permits, closing of unpermitted connections, revocation of permits, and waiver provisions in accordance with this chapter. The department shall consult with the association of Washington cities and obtain concurrence of the city design standards committee as established by RCW 35.78.030 in the development and adoption of rules for access

standards for city streets designated as state highways under chapter 47.24 RCW.

(3) Cities and towns shall, no later than July 1, 1993, adopt standards for access permitting on streets designated as state highways which meet or exceed the department's standards, provided that such standards may not be inconsistent with standards adopted by the department. [1991 c 202 § 3.]

**Captions not law—Effective date—Severability—1991 c 202:** See notes following RCW 47.50.010.

**RCW 47.50.040 Access permits.** (1) No connection to a state highway shall be constructed or altered without obtaining an access permit in accordance with this chapter in advance of such action. A permitting authority has the authority to deny access to the state highway system at the location specified in the permit until the permittee constructs or alters the connection in accordance with the permit requirements.

(2) The cost of construction or alteration of a connection shall be borne by the permittee, except for alterations which are not required by law or administrative rule, but are made at the request of and for the convenience of the permitting authority. The permittee, however, shall bear the cost of alteration of any connection which is required by the permitting authority due to increased or altered traffic flows generated by changes in the permittee's facilities or nature of business conducted at the location specified in the permit.

(3) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, an unpermitted connection is subject to closure by the appropriate permitting authority which shall have the right to install barriers across or remove the connection. When the permitting authority determines that a connection is unpermitted and subject to closure, it shall provide reasonable notice of its impending action to the owner of property served by the connection. The permitting authority's procedures for providing notice and preventing the operation of unpermitted connections shall be adopted by rule. [1991 c 202 § 4.]

**Captions not law—Effective date—Severability—1991 c 202:** See notes following RCW 47.50.010.

**RCW 47.50.050 Permit fee.** The department shall establish by rule a schedule of fees for permit applications made to the department. The fee shall be nonrefundable and shall be used only to offset the costs of administering the access permit review process and the costs associated with administering the provisions of this chapter. [1991 c 202 § 5.]

**Captions not law—Effective date—Severability—1991 c 202:** See notes following RCW 47.50.010.

**RCW 47.50.060 Permit review process.** The review process for access permit applications made by the department shall be as follows: Any person seeking an access permit shall file an application with the department. The department by rule shall establish application form

and content requirements. The fee required by RCW 47.50.050 must accompany the applications. [1991 c 202 § 6.]

**Captions not law—Effective date—Severability—1991 c 202:** See notes following RCW 47.50.010.

**RCW 47.50.070 Permit conditions.** The permitting authority may issue a permit subject to any conditions necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter, including, but not limited to, requiring the use of a joint-use connection. The permitting authority may revoke a permit if the applicant fails to comply with the conditions upon which the issuance of the permit was predicated. [1991 c 202 § 7.]

**Captions not law—Effective date—Severability—1991 c 202:** See notes following RCW 47.50.010.

**RCW 47.50.080 Permit removal.** (1) Unpermitted connections to the state highway system in existence on July 1, 1990, shall not require the issuance of a permit and may continue to provide access to the state highway system, unless the permitting authority determines that such a connection does not meet minimum acceptable standards of highway safety. However, a permitting authority may require that a permit be obtained for such a connection if a significant change occurs in the use, design, or traffic flow of the connection or of the state highway to which it provides access. If a permit is not obtained, the connection may be closed pursuant to RCW 47.50.040.

(2) Access permits granted prior to adoption of the permitting authorities' standards shall remain valid until modified or revoked. Access connections to state highways identified on plats and subdivisions approved prior to July 1, 1991, shall be deemed to be permitted pursuant to chapter 202, Laws of 1991. The permitting authority may, after written notification, under rules adopted in accordance with RCW 47.50.030, modify or revoke an access permit granted prior to adoption of the standards by requiring relocation, alteration, or closure of the connection if a significant change occurs in the use, design, or traffic flow of the connection.

(3) The permitting authority may issue a nonconforming access permit after finding that to deny an access permit would leave the property without a reasonable means of access to the public roads of this state. Every nonconforming access permit shall specify limits on the maximum vehicular use of the connection and shall be conditioned on the availability of future alternative means of access for which access permits can be obtained. [1991 c 202 § 8.]

**Captions not law—Effective date—Severability—1991 c 202:** See notes following RCW 47.50.010.

**RCW 47.50.090 Access management standards.** (1) The department shall develop, adopt, and maintain an access control classification system for all routes on the state highway system, the purpose of which shall be to provide for the implementation and continuing applications of the provision of this chapter.

(2) The principal component of the access control classification system shall be access management standards, the purpose of which shall be to provide specific minimum standards to be adhered to in the planning for and approval of access to state highways.

(3) The control classification system shall be developed consistent with the following:

(a) The department shall, no later than January 1, 1993, adopt rules setting forth procedures governing the implementation of the access control classification system required by this chapter. The rule shall provide for input from the entities described in (b) of this subsection as well as for public meetings to discuss the access control classification system. Nothing in this chapter shall affect the validity of the department's existing or subsequently adopted rules concerning access to the state highway system. Such rules shall remain in effect until repealed or replaced by the rules required by this chapter.

(b) The access control classification system shall be developed in cooperation with counties, cities and towns, the department of commerce, regional transportation planning organizations, and other local governmental entities, and for city streets designated as state highways pursuant to chapter 47.24 RCW, adopted with the concurrence of the city design standards committee.

(c) The rule required by this section shall provide that assignment of a road segment to a specific access category be made in consideration of the following criteria:

(i) Local land use plans and zoning, as set forth in comprehensive plans;

(ii) The current functional classification as well as potential future functional classification of each road on the state highway system;

(iii) Existing and projected traffic volumes;

(iv) Existing and projected state, local, and metropolitan planning organization transportation plans and needs;

(v) Drainage requirements;

(vi) The character of lands adjoining the highway;

(vii) The type and volume of traffic requiring access;

(viii) Other operational aspects of access;

(ix) The availability of reasonable access by way of county roads and city streets to a state highway; and

(x) The cumulative effect of existing and projected connections on the state highway system's ability to provide for the safe and efficient movement of people and goods within the state.

(d) Access management standards shall include, but not be limited to, connection location standards, safety factors, design and construction standards, desired levels of service, traffic control devices, and effective maintenance of the roads. The standards shall also contain minimum requirements for the spacing of connections, intersecting streets, roads, and highways.

(e) An access control category shall be assigned to each segment of the state highway system by July 1, 1993. [2023 c 470 § 2089; 1995 c 399 § 124; 1991 c 202 § 9.]

**Explanatory statement—2023 c 470:** See note following RCW 10.99.030.

**Captions not law—Effective date—Severability—1991 c 202:** See notes following RCW 47.50.010.



**Chapter 47.52 RCW**  
**LIMITED ACCESS FACILITIES**

**Sections**

- 47.52.001 Declaration of policy.
- 47.52.010 "Limited access facility" defined.
- 47.52.011 "Existing highway" defined.
- 47.52.020 Powers of highway authorities—State facility, county road crossings.
- 47.52.025 Additional powers—Controlling use of limited access facilities—High occupancy vehicle lanes—Definition.
- 47.52.026 Rules—Control of vehicles entering—Ramp closure, metering, or restrictions—Notice.
- 47.52.027 Standards and rules for interstate and defense highways—Construction, maintenance, access.
- 47.52.040 Design—Entrance and exit restricted—Closure of intersecting roads.
- 47.52.041 Closure of intersecting roads—Rights of abutters.
- 47.52.042 Closure of intersecting roads—Other provisions not affected.
- 47.52.050 Acquisition of property.
- 47.52.060 Court process expedited.
- 47.52.070 Establishment of facility—Grade separation—Service roads.
- 47.52.080 Abutter's right of access protected—Compensation.
- 47.52.090 Cooperative agreements—Urban public transportation systems—Title to highway—Traffic regulations—Underground utilities and overcrossings—Passenger transportation—Storm sewers—City street crossings.
- 47.52.100 Existing roads and streets as service roads.
- 47.52.105 Acquisition and construction to preserve limited access or reduce required compensation.
- 47.52.110 Marking of facility with signs.
- 47.52.120 Violations specified—Exceptions—Penalty.
- 47.52.121 Prior determinations validated.
- 47.52.131 Consideration of local conditions—Report to local authorities—Conferences—Proposed plan.
- 47.52.133 Local public hearing—Notice.
- 47.52.134 When access reports and hearings not required.
- 47.52.135 Hearing procedure.
- 47.52.137 Adoption of plan—Service of findings and order—Publication of resume—Finality—Review.
- 47.52.139 Local approval of plan—Disapproval, request for review.
- 47.52.145 Modification of adopted plan without further public hearings—Conditions.
- 47.52.150 State facility through city or town—Board of review, composition and appointment.
- 47.52.160 State facility through city or town—Hearing—Notice—Evidence—Determination of issues.
- 47.52.170 State facility through city or town—Hearing—Procedure.
- 47.52.180 State facility through city or town—Hearing—Findings of board—Modification of proposed plan by stipulation.
- 47.52.190 State facility through city or town—Hearing—Assistants—Costs—Reporter.

- 47.52.195 Review and appeal on petition of abutter.
- 47.52.200 Law enforcement jurisdiction within city or town.
- 47.52.210 Property title designation upon construction of limited access highways.
- 47.52.220 Personal wireless service facilities—Approach permit—Report.

*Description, plans of highways, filing: RCW 47.28.025, 47.28.026.*

*Port districts, toll facilities: Chapter 53.34 RCW.*

*Speed limits on limited access facilities: RCW 46.61.430.*

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*Description, plans of highways, filing: RCW 47.28.025, 47.28.026.*

*Port districts, toll facilities: Chapter 53.34 RCW.*

*Speed limits on limited access facilities: RCW 46.61.430.*

**RCW 47.52.001 Declaration of policy.** (1) Unrestricted access to and from public highways has resulted in congestion and peril for the traveler. It has caused undue slowing of all traffic in many areas. The investment of the public in highway facilities has been impaired and highway facilities costing vast sums of money will have to be relocated and reconstructed.

(2) Broadband, which includes a range of high-speed transmission technologies, including fiber optic lines and personal wireless service facilities, is a critical part of the state's infrastructure. The rapid deployment of broadband facilities is critical to ensure public safety, network access, quality of service, and rural economic development.

(3) It is, therefore, the declared policy of this state to limit access to the highway facilities of this state in the interest of highway safety and for the preservation of the investment of the public in such facilities, and to ensure that the use of rights-of-way of limited access facilities accommodate the deployment of broadband facilities consistent with these interests. In furtherance of this policy, the department is directed to adopt and maintain an agency policy that requires the department to proactively provide broadband facility owners with information about planned limited access highway projects to enable collaboration between broadband facility owners and the department to identify opportunities for the installation of broadband facilities during the appropriate phase of these projects when such opportunities exist. Coordination between the department and broadband facility owners under this section must comply with applicable state and federal law including, but not limited to, chapter 47.44 RCW and RCW 47.04.045. [2021 c 258 § 6; 2004 c 131 § 1; 1961 c 13 § 47.52.001. Prior: 1951 c 167 § 1.]

**Findings—Intent—2021 c 258:** See note following RCW 47.44.160.

**RCW 47.52.010 "Limited access facility" defined.** For the purposes of this chapter, a "limited access facility" is defined as a highway or street especially designed or designated for through traffic, and over, from, or to which owners or occupants of abutting land, or other persons, have no right or easement, or only a limited right or easement of access, light, air, or view by reason of the fact that their property abuts upon such limited access facility, or for any other reason to accomplish the purpose of a limited access facility. Such highways or streets may be parkways, from which

vehicles forming part of an urban public transportation system, trucks, buses, or other commercial vehicles may be excluded; or they may be freeways open to use by all customary forms of street and highway traffic, including vehicles forming a part of an urban public transportation system. [1967 c 108 § 10; 1961 c 13 § 47.52.010. Prior: 1951 c 167 § 2; 1947 c 202 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6402-60.]

*Urban public transportation system defined: RCW 47.04.082.*

**RCW 47.52.011 "Existing highway" defined.** For the purposes of this chapter, the term "existing highway" shall include all highways, roads and streets duly established, constructed, and in use. It shall not include new highways, roads or streets, or relocated highways, roads or streets, or portions of existing highways, roads or streets which are relocated. [1961 c 13 § 47.52.011. Prior: 1951 c 167 § 3.]

**RCW 47.52.020 Powers of highway authorities—State facility, county road crossings.** The highway authorities of the state, counties, and incorporated cities and towns, acting alone or in cooperation with each other, or with any federal, state, or local agency, or any other state having authority to participate in the construction and maintenance of highways, may plan, designate, establish, regulate, vacate, alter, improve, construct, maintain, and provide limited access facilities for public use wherever the authority or authorities are of the opinion that traffic conditions, present or future, will justify the special facilities. However, upon county roads within counties, the state or county authorities are subject to the consent of the county legislative authority, except that where a state limited access facility crosses a county road the department may, without the consent of the county legislative authority, close off the county road so that it will not intersect such limited access facility.

The department may, in constructing or relocating any state highway, cross any county road at grade without obtaining the consent of the county legislative authority, and in so doing may revise the alignment of the county road to the extent that the department finds necessary for reasons of traffic safety or practical engineering considerations. [1984 c 7 § 239; 1961 c 13 § 47.52.020. Prior: 1957 c 235 § 2; prior: 1953 c 30 § 1; 1951 c 167 § 4; 1947 c 202 § 2, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6402-61, part.]

**RCW 47.52.025 Additional powers—Controlling use of limited access facilities—High occupancy vehicle lanes—Definition.** (1) Highway authorities of the state, counties, and incorporated cities and towns, in addition to the specific powers granted in this chapter, shall also have, and may exercise, relative to limited access facilities, any and all additional authority, now or hereafter vested in them relative to highways or streets within their respective jurisdictions, and may regulate, restrict, or prohibit the use of such limited access facilities by various classes of vehicles or traffic. Such highway authorities may reserve any limited access facility or portions thereof, including designated lanes or ramps for the exclusive or preferential use of (a) public transportation vehicles,

(b) privately owned buses, (c) motorcycles, (d) private motor vehicles carrying not less than a specified number of passengers, (e) organ transport vehicles transporting a time urgent organ or a time sensitive organ or tissue donor as defined in RCW 68.64.010, or (f) the following private transportation provider vehicles if the vehicle has the capacity to carry eight or more passengers, regardless of the number of passengers in the vehicle, and if such use does not interfere with the efficiency, reliability, and safety of public transportation operations: (i) Auto transportation company vehicles regulated under chapter 81.68 RCW; (ii) passenger charter carrier vehicles regulated under chapter 81.70 RCW, except marked or unmarked stretch limousines and stretch sport utility vehicles as defined under department of licensing rules; (iii) private nonprofit transportation provider vehicles regulated under chapter 81.66 RCW; and (iv) private employer transportation service vehicles, when such limitation will increase the efficient utilization of the highway facility or will aid in the conservation of energy resources. Regulations authorizing such exclusive or preferential use of a highway facility may be declared to be effective at all time or at specified times of day or on specified days.

(2) Any transit-only lanes that allow other vehicles to access abutting businesses that are reserved pursuant to subsection (1) of this section may not be authorized for the use of private transportation provider vehicles as described under subsection (1) of this section.

(3) Highway authorities of the state, counties, or incorporated cities and towns may prohibit the use of limited access facilities by the following private transportation provider vehicles: (a) Auto transportation company vehicles regulated under chapter 81.68 RCW; (b) passenger charter carrier vehicles regulated under chapter 81.70 RCW, and marked or unmarked limousines and stretch sport utility vehicles as defined under department of licensing rules; (c) private nonprofit transportation provider vehicles regulated under chapter 81.66 RCW; and (d) private employer transportation service vehicles, when the average transit speed in the high occupancy vehicle travel lane fails to meet department standards and falls below 45 miles per hour at least 90 percent of the time during the peak hours for two consecutive months.

(4) (a) Local authorities are encouraged to establish a process for private transportation providers, described under subsections (1) and (3) of this section, to apply for the use of limited access facilities that are reserved for the exclusive or preferential use of public transportation vehicles.

(b) The process must provide a list of facilities that the local authority determines to be unavailable for use by the private transportation provider and must provide the criteria used to reach that determination.

(c) The application and review processes must be uniform and should provide for an expeditious response by the authority.

(5) For the purposes of this section, "private employer transportation service" means regularly scheduled, fixed-route transportation service that is similarly marked or identified to display the business name or logo on the driver and passenger sides of the vehicle, meets the annual certification requirements of the department, and is offered by an employer for the benefit of its employees. [2023 c 290 § 8; 2013 c 26 § 3; 2011 c 379 § 3; 1974 ex.s.

c 133 § 1; 1961 c 13 § 47.52.025. Prior: 1957 c 235 § 3; prior: 1951 c 167 § 5; 1947 c 202 § 2, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6402-61, part.]

**Conflict with state and federal environmental mitigation requirements—2011 c 379:** See note following RCW 46.61.165.

*High occupancy vehicle lanes: RCW 46.61.165.*

**RCW 47.52.026 Rules—Control of vehicles entering—Ramp closure, metering, or restrictions—Notice.** (1) The department may adopt rules for the control of vehicles entering any state limited access highway as it deems necessary (a) for the efficient or safe flow of traffic traveling upon any part of the highway or connections with it or (b) to avoid exceeding federal, state, or regional air pollution standards either along the highway corridor or within an urban area served by the highway.

(2) Rules adopted by the department pursuant to subsection (1) of this section may provide for the closure of highway ramps or the metering of vehicles entering highway ramps or the restriction of certain classes of vehicles entering highway ramps (including vehicles with less than a specified number of passengers), and any such restrictions may vary at different times as necessary to achieve the purposes mentioned in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) Vehicle restrictions authorized by rules adopted pursuant to this section are effective when proper notice is given by any police officer, or by appropriate signals, signs, or other traffic control devices. [1984 c 7 § 240; 1974 ex.s. c 133 § 3.]

**RCW 47.52.027 Standards and rules for interstate and defense highways—Construction, maintenance, access.** The secretary of transportation may adopt design standards, rules, and regulations relating to construction, maintenance, and control of access of the national system of interstate and defense highways within this state as it deems advisable to properly control access thereto, to preserve the traffic-carrying capacity of such highways, and to provide the maximum degree of safety to users thereof. In adopting such standards, rules, and regulations the secretary shall take into account the policies, rules, and regulations of the United States secretary of commerce and the federal highway administration relating to the construction, maintenance, and operation of the system of interstate and defense highways. The standards, rules, and regulations so adopted by the secretary shall constitute the public policy of this state and shall have the force and effect of law. [1977 ex.s. c 151 § 62; 1961 c 13 § 47.52.027. Prior: 1959 c 319 § 35. Formerly RCW 47.28.160.]

*Nonmotorized traffic may be prohibited: RCW 46.61.160.*

**RCW 47.52.040 Design—Entrance and exit restricted—Closure of intersecting roads.** The highway authorities of the state, counties and incorporated cities and towns may so design any limited access facility and so regulate, restrict, or prohibit access as to best serve the traffic for which such facility is intended; and the determination of design by such authority shall be conclusive and

final. In this connection such highway authorities may divide and separate any limited access facility into separate roadways by the construction of raised curbsings, central dividing sections, or other physical separations, or by designating such separate roadways by signs, markers, stripes, and the proper lane for such traffic by appropriate signs, markers, stripes and other devices. No person shall have any right of ingress or egress to, from, or across limited access facilities to or from abutting lands, except at designated points at which access may be permitted by the highway authorities upon such terms and conditions as may be specified from time to time: PROVIDED, That any intersecting streets, roads or highways, not made a part of such facility, shall be deemed closed at the right-of-way line by the designation and construction of said facility and without the consent of any other party or the necessity of any other legal proceeding for such closing, notwithstanding any laws to the contrary. [1961 c 13 § 47.52.040. Prior: 1955 c 75 § 1; 1947 c 202 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6402-62.]

**RCW 47.52.041 Closure of intersecting roads—Rights of abutters.**

No person, firm or corporation, private or municipal, shall have any claim against the state, city or county by reason of the closing of such streets, roads or highways as long as access still exists or is provided to such property abutting upon the closed streets, roads or highways. Circuity of travel shall not be a compensable item of damage. [1961 c 13 § 47.52.041. Prior: 1955 c 75 § 2.]

**RCW 47.52.042 Closure of intersecting roads—Other provisions not affected.** RCW 47.52.040 and 47.52.041 shall not be construed to affect provisions for establishment, notice, hearing and court review of any decision establishing a limited access facility on an existing highway pursuant to chapter 47.52 RCW. [1961 c 13 § 47.52.042. Prior: 1955 c 75 § 3.]

**RCW 47.52.050 Acquisition of property.** (1) For the purpose of this chapter the highway authorities of the state, counties and incorporated cities and towns, respectively, or in cooperation one with the other, may acquire private or public property and property rights for limited access facilities and service roads, including rights of access, air, view and light, by gift, devise, purchase, or condemnation, in the same manner as such authorities are now or hereafter may be authorized by law to acquire property or property rights in connection with highways and streets within their respective jurisdictions. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2) of this section all property rights acquired under the provisions of this chapter shall be in fee simple. In the acquisition of property or property rights for any limited access facility or portion thereof, or for any service road in connection therewith, the state, county, incorporated city and town authority may, in its discretion, acquire an entire lot, block or tract of land, if by so doing the interest of the public will be best served, even though said entire lot, block or tract is not immediately needed for the limited access facility.

(2) The highway authorities of the state, counties, and incorporated cities and towns may acquire by gift, devise, purchase,



or condemnation a three-dimensional air space corridor in fee simple over or below the surface of the ground, together with such other property in fee simple and other property rights as are needed for the construction and operation of a limited access highway facility, but only if the acquiring authority finds that the proposal will not:

(a) impair traffic safety on the highway or interfere with the free flow of traffic; or

(b) permit occupancy or use of the air space above or below the highway which is hazardous to the operation of the highway. [1971 ex.s. c 39 § 1; 1961 c 13 § 47.52.050. Prior: 1947 c 202 § 4; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6402-63.]

*Award of costs in air space corridor acquisitions: RCW 8.25.073.*

*Right-of-way donations: Chapter 47.14 RCW.*

**RCW 47.52.060 Court process expedited.** Court proceedings necessary to acquire property or property rights for purposes of this chapter shall take precedence over all other causes not involving the public interest in all courts to the end that the provision for limited access facilities may be expedited. [1961 c 13 § 47.52.060. Prior: 1947 c 202 § 5; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6402-64.]

**RCW 47.52.070 Establishment of facility—Grade separation—Service roads.** The designation or establishment of a limited access facility shall, by the authority making the designation or establishment, be entered upon the records or minutes of such authority in the customary manner for the keeping of such records or minutes. The state, counties and incorporated cities and towns may provide for the elimination of intersections at grade of limited access facilities with existing state or county roads, and with city or town streets, by grade separation or service road, or by closing off such roads and streets at the right-of-way boundary line of such limited access facility; and after the establishment of any such facility, no highway or street which is not part of said facility, shall intersect the same at grade. No city or town street, county road, or state highway, or any other public or private way, shall be opened into or connect with any such limited access facility without the consent and previous approval of the highway authority of the state, county, incorporated city or town having jurisdiction over such limited access facility. Such consent and approval shall be given only if the public interest shall be served thereby. [1961 c 13 § 47.52.070. Prior: 1951 c 167 § 10; 1947 c 202 § 6; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6402-65.]

**RCW 47.52.080 Abutter's right of access protected—Compensation.** No existing public highway, road, or street shall be constructed as a limited access facility except upon the waiver, purchase, or condemnation of the abutting owner's right of access thereto as herein provided. In cases involving existing highways, if the abutting property is used for business at the time the notice is given as provided in RCW 47.52.133, the owner of such property shall be entitled to compensation for the loss of adequate ingress to or egress

from such property as business property in its existing condition at the time of the notice provided in RCW 47.52.133 as for the taking or damaging of property for public use. [1983 c 3 § 127; 1961 c 13 § 47.52.080. Prior: 1955 c 54 § 2; 1951 c 167 § 11; 1947 c 202 § 7; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6402-66.]

**RCW 47.52.090 Cooperative agreements—Urban public transportation systems—Title to highway—Traffic regulations—Underground utilities and overcrossings—Passenger transportation—Storm sewers—City street crossings.** The highway authorities of the state, counties, incorporated cities and towns, and municipal corporations owning or operating an urban public transportation system are authorized to enter into agreements with each other, or with the federal government, respecting the financing, planning, establishment, improvement, construction, maintenance, use, regulation, or vacation of limited access facilities in their respective jurisdictions to facilitate the purposes of this chapter. Any such agreement may provide for the exclusive or nonexclusive use of a portion of the facility by streetcars, trains, or other vehicles forming a part of an urban public transportation system and for the erection, construction, and maintenance of structures and facilities of such a system including facilities for the receipt and discharge of passengers. Within incorporated cities and towns the title to every state limited access highway vests in the state, and, notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the department shall exercise full jurisdiction, responsibility, and control to and over the highway from the time it is declared to be operational as a limited access facility by the department, subject to the following provisions:

(1) Cities and towns shall regulate all traffic restrictions on such facilities except as provided in RCW 46.61.430, and all regulations adopted are subject to approval of the department before becoming effective. Nothing herein precludes the state patrol or any county, city, or town from enforcing any traffic regulations and restrictions prescribed by state law, county resolution, or municipal ordinance.

(2) The city, town, or franchise holder shall at its own expense maintain its underground facilities beneath the surface across the highway and has the right to construct additional facilities underground or beneath the surface of the facility or necessary overcrossings of power lines and other utilities as may be necessary insofar as the facilities do not interfere with the use of the right-of-way for limited access highway purposes. The city or town has the right to maintain any municipal utility and the right to open the surface of the highway. The construction, maintenance until permanent repair is made, and permanent repair of these facilities shall be done in a time and manner authorized by permit to be issued by the department or its authorized representative, except to meet emergency conditions for which no permit will be required, but any damage occasioned thereby shall promptly be repaired by the city or town itself, or at its direction. Where a city or town is required to relocate overhead facilities within the corporate limits of a city or town as a result of the construction of a limited access facility, the cost of the relocation shall be paid by the state.

(3) Cities and towns have the right to grant utility franchises crossing the facility underground and beneath its surface insofar as

the franchises are not inconsistent with the use of the right-of-way for limited access facility purposes and the franchises are not in conflict with state laws. The department is authorized to enforce, in an action brought in the name of the state, any condition of any franchise that a city or town has granted. No franchise for transportation of passengers in motor vehicles may be granted on such highways without the approval of the department, except cities and towns are not required to obtain a franchise for the operation of municipal vehicles or vehicles operating under franchises from the city or town operating within the corporate limits of a city or town and within a radius not exceeding eight miles outside the corporate limits for public transportation on such facilities, but these vehicles may not stop on the limited access portion of the facility to receive or to discharge passengers unless appropriate special lanes or deceleration, stopping, and acceleration space is provided for the vehicles.

Every franchise or permit granted any person by a city or town for use of any portion of a limited access facility shall require the grantee or permittee to restore, permanently repair, and replace to its original condition any portion of the highway damaged or injured by it. Except to meet emergency conditions, the construction and permanent repair of any limited access facility by the grantee of a franchise shall be in a time and manner authorized by a permit to be issued by the department or its authorized representative.

(4) The department has the right to use all storm sewers that are adequate and available for the additional quantity of runoff proposed to be passed through such storm sewers.

(5) The construction and maintenance of city streets over and under crossings and surface intersections of the limited access facility shall be in accordance with the governing policy entered into between the department and the association of Washington cities on June 21, 1956, or as such policy may be amended by agreement between the department and the association of Washington cities. [1984 c 7 § 241; 1977 ex.s. c 78 § 8; 1967 c 108 § 11; 1961 c 13 § 47.52.090. Prior: 1957 c 235 § 4; 1947 c 202 § 8; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6402-67.]

*Urban public transportation system defined: RCW 47.04.082.*

**RCW 47.52.100 Existing roads and streets as service roads.** In connection with the development of any limited access facility the state, county or incorporated city or town highway authorities are authorized to plan, designate, establish, use, regulate, alter, improve, construct, maintain and vacate local service roads and streets, or to designate as local service roads and streets any existing road or street, and to exercise jurisdiction over service roads in the same manner as is authorized for limited access facilities under the terms of this chapter. If, in their opinion such local service roads and streets are necessary or desirable, such local service roads or streets shall be separated from the limited access facility by such means or devices designated as necessary or desirable by the proper authority. [1961 c 13 § 47.52.100. Prior: 1947 c 202 § 9; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6402-68.]

**RCW 47.52.105 Acquisition and construction to preserve limited access or reduce required compensation.** Whenever, in the opinion of

the department, frontage or service roads in connection with limited access facilities are not feasible either from an engineering or economic standpoint, the department may acquire private or public property by purchase or condemnation and construct any road, street, or highway connecting to or leading into any other road, street, or highway, when by so doing, it will preserve a limited access facility or reduce compensation required to be paid to an owner by reason of reduction in or loss of access. The department shall provide by agreement with a majority of the legislative authority of the county or city concerned as to location, future maintenance, and control of any road, street, or highway to be so constructed. The road, street, or highway need not be made a part of the state highway system or connected thereto, but may upon completion by the state be turned over to the county or city for location, maintenance, and control pursuant to the agreement as part of the system of county roads or city streets. [1984 c 7 § 242; 1967 c 117 § 1; 1961 c 13 § 47.52.105. Prior: 1955 c 63 § 1.]

**RCW 47.52.110 Marking of facility with signs.** After the opening of any new and additional limited access highway facility, or after the designation and establishment of any existing street or highway, as included the particular highways and streets or those portions thereof designated and established, shall be physically marked and indicated as follows: By the erection and maintenance of such signs as in the opinion of the respective authorities may be deemed proper, indicating to drivers of vehicles that they are entering a limited access area and that they are leaving a limited access area. [1961 c 13 § 47.52.110. Prior: 1947 c 202 § 10; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6402-69.]

**RCW 47.52.120 Violations specified—Exceptions—Penalty.** (1) After the opening of any limited access highway facility, it shall be unlawful for any person to: (a) Drive a vehicle over, upon, or across any curb, central dividing section, or other separation or dividing line on limited access facilities; (b) make a left turn or semicircular or U-turn except through an opening provided for that purpose in the dividing curb section, separation, or line; (c) drive any vehicle except in the proper lane provided for that purpose and in the proper direction and to the right of the central dividing curb, separation section, or line; (d) drive any vehicle into the limited access facility from a local service road except through an opening provided for that purpose in the dividing curb, dividing section, or dividing line which separates such service road from the limited access facility proper; (e) stop or park any vehicle or equipment within the right-of-way of such facility, including the shoulders thereof, except at points specially provided therefor, and to make only such use of such specially provided stopping or parking points as is permitted by the designation thereof: PROVIDED, That this subsection (1)(e) shall not apply to authorized emergency vehicles, law enforcement vehicles, assistance vans, or to vehicles stopped for emergency causes or equipment failures; (f) travel to or from such facility at any point other than a point designated by the establishing authority as an approach to the facility or to use an approach to such facility for any use in excess of that specified by the establishing authority.

(2) For the purposes of this section, an assistance van is a vehicle rendering aid free of charge to vehicles with equipment or fuel problems. The state patrol shall establish by rule additional standards and operating procedures, as needed, for assistance vans.

(3) Any person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon arrest and conviction therefor shall be punished by a fine of not less than five dollars nor more than one hundred dollars, or by imprisonment in the city or county jail for not less than five days nor more than ninety days, or by both fine and imprisonment.

(4) Nothing contained in this section prevents the highway authority from proceeding to enforce the prohibitions or limitations of access to such facilities by injunction or as otherwise provided by law. [2003 c 53 § 262; 1987 c 330 § 748; 1985 c 149 § 1; 1961 c 13 § 47.52.120. Prior: 1959 c 167 § 1; 1947 c 202 § 11; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6402-70.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Construction—Application of rules—Severability—1987 c 330:** See notes following RCW 28B.12.050.

**RCW 47.52.121 Prior determinations validated.** Any determinations of an authority establishing a limited access facility subsequent to March 19, 1947, and prior to March 16, 1951, in connection with new highways, roads or streets, or relocated highways, roads or streets, or portions of existing highways, roads or streets which are relocated, and all acquisitions of property or access rights in connection therewith are hereby validated, ratified, approved and confirmed, notwithstanding any lack of power (other than constitutional) of such authority, and notwithstanding any defects or irregularities (other than constitutional) in such proceedings. [1961 c 13 § 47.52.121. Prior: 1951 c 167 § 12.]

**RCW 47.52.131 Consideration of local conditions—Report to local authorities—Conferences—Proposed plan.** When the department is planning a limited access facility through a county or an incorporated city or town, the department or its staff, before any hearing, shall give careful consideration to available data as to the county or city's comprehensive plan, land use pattern, present and potential traffic volume of county roads and city streets crossing the proposed facility, origin and destination traffic surveys, existing utilities, the physical appearance the facility will present, and other pertinent surveys and, except as provided in RCW 47.52.134, shall submit to the county and city officials for study a report showing how these factors have been taken into account and how the proposed plan for a limited access facility will serve public convenience and necessity, together with the locations and access and egress plans, and over and under crossings that are under consideration. This report shall show the proposed approximate right-of-way limits and profile of the facility with relation to the existing grade, and shall discuss in a general manner plans for landscaping treatment, fencing, and illumination, and shall include sketches of typical roadway sections for the roadway

itself and any necessary structures such as viaducts or bridges, subways, or tunnels.

Conferences shall be held on the merits of this state report and plans and any proposed modification or alternate proposal of the county, city, or town in order to attempt to reach an agreement between the department and the county or city officials. As a result of the conference, the proposed plan, together with any modifications, shall be prepared by the department and presented to the county or city for inspection and study. [1987 c 200 § 1; 1984 c 7 § 243; 1965 ex.s. c 75 § 1.]

**RCW 47.52.133 Local public hearing—Notice.** Except as provided in RCW 47.52.134, the department and the highway authorities of the counties and incorporated cities and towns, with regard to facilities under their respective jurisdictions, prior to the establishment of any limited access facility, shall hold a public hearing within the county, city, or town wherein the limited access facility is to be established to determine the desirability of the plan proposed by such authority. Notice of such hearing shall be given to the owners of property abutting the section of any existing highway, road, or street being established as a limited access facility, as indicated in the tax rolls of the county, and in the case of a state limited access facility, to the county and/or city or town. Such notice shall be by United States mail in writing, setting forth a time for the hearing, which time shall be not less than fifteen days after mailing of such notice. Notice of such hearing also shall be given by publication not less than fifteen days prior to such hearing in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the county, city, or town. Such notice by publication shall be deemed sufficient as to any owner or reputed owner or any unknown owner or owner who cannot be located. Such notice shall indicate a suitable location where plans for such proposal may be inspected. [2006 c 334 § 25; 1987 c 200 § 2; 1981 c 95 § 1; 1965 ex.s. c 75 § 2.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**RCW 47.52.134 When access reports and hearings not required.** Access reports and hearings on the establishment of limited access facilities are not required if:

(1) The limited access facility would lie wholly within state or federal lands and the agency or agencies with jurisdiction of the land agree to the access plan; or

(2) The access rights to the affected section of roadway have previously been purchased or established by others; or

(3) The limited access facility would not significantly change local road use, and all affected local agencies and abutting property owners agree in writing to waive a formal hearing on the establishment of the facility after publication of a notice of opportunity for a limited access hearing. This notice of opportunity for a limited access hearing shall be given in the same manner as required for published notice of hearings under RCW 47.52.133. If the authority specified in the notice receives a request for a hearing from one or more abutting property owners or affected local agencies on or before the date stated in the notice, an access report shall be submitted as

provided in RCW 47.52.131 and a hearing shall be held. Notice of the hearing shall be given by mail and publication as provided in RCW 47.52.133. [1987 c 200 § 3.]

**RCW 47.52.135 Hearing procedure.** At the hearing any representative of the county, city or town, or any other person may appear and be heard even though such official or person is not an abutting property owner. Such hearing may, at the option of the highway authority, be conducted in accordance with federal laws and regulations governing highway design public hearings. The members of such authority shall preside, or may designate some suitable person to preside as examiner. The authority shall introduce by competent evidence a summary of the proposal for the establishment of a limited access facility and any evidence that supports the adoption of the plan as being in the public interest. At the conclusion of such evidence, any person entitled to notice who has entered a written appearance shall be deemed a party to this hearing for purposes of this chapter and may thereafter introduce, either in person or by counsel, evidence and statements or counterproposals bearing upon the reasonableness of the proposal. Any such evidence and statements or counterproposals shall receive reasonable consideration by the authority before any proposal is adopted. Such evidence must be material to the issue before the authority and shall be presented in an orderly manner. [1982 c 189 § 5; 1981 c 67 § 29; 1977 c 77 § 2; 1965 ex.s. c 75 § 3.]

**Effective date—1982 c 189:** See note following RCW 34.12.020.

**Effective dates—Severability—1981 c 67:** See notes following RCW 34.12.010.

**RCW 47.52.137 Adoption of plan—Service of findings and order—Publication of resume—Finality—Review.** Following the conclusion of such hearing the authority shall adopt a plan with such modifications, if any, it deems proper and necessary. Its findings and order shall be in writing and copies thereof shall be served by United States mail upon all persons having entered a written appearance at such hearing, and in the case of a state limited access facility, the county commissioners of the county affected and the mayor of the city or town affected. The authority shall also cause a resume of such plan to be published once each week for two weeks in one or more newspapers of general circulation within such county, city or town beginning not less than ten days after the mailing of such findings and order. Such determination by the authority shall become final within thirty days after such mailing unless a review is taken as hereinafter provided. In case of an appeal, the order shall be final as to all parties not appealing. [1965 ex.s. c 75 § 4.]

**RCW 47.52.139 Local approval of plan—Disapproval, request for review.** Upon receipt of the findings and order adopting a plan, the county, city, or town may notify the department of transportation of its approval of such plan in writing, in which event such plan shall be final.

In the event that a county, city, or town does not approve the plan, the county, city, or town shall file its disapproval in writing with the secretary of transportation within thirty days after the mailing thereof to such mayor or county commissioner. Along with the written disapproval shall be filed a written request for a hearing before a board of review, hereinafter referred to as the board. The request for hearing shall set forth the portions of the plan of the department to which the county, city, or town objects, and shall include every issue to be considered by the board. The hearing before a board of review shall be governed by RCW 47.52.150 through 47.52.190, as now or hereafter amended. [1977 ex.s. c 151 § 63; 1965 ex.s. c 75 § 5.]

**RCW 47.52.145 Modification of adopted plan without further public hearings—Conditions.** Whenever after the final adoption of a plan for a limited access highway by the department, an additional design public hearing with respect to the facility or any portion thereof is conducted pursuant to federal law resulting in a revision of the design of the limited access plan, the department may modify the previously adopted limited access plan to conform to the revised design without further public hearings providing the following conditions are met:

(1) As compared with the previously adopted limited access plan, the revised plan will not require additional or different right-of-way with respect to that section of highway for which the design has been revised, in excess of five percent by area; and

(2) If the previously adopted limited access plan was modified by a board of review convened at the request of a county, city, or town, the legislative authority of the county, city, or town shall approve any revisions of the plan which conflict with modifications ordered by the board of review. [2006 c 334 § 26; 1981 c 95 § 2; 1977 c 77 § 1.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**RCW 47.52.150 State facility through city or town—Board of review, composition and appointment.** Upon request for a hearing before the board by any county, city, or town, a board consisting of five members shall be appointed as follows: The mayor or the county commissioners, as the case may be shall appoint two members of the board, of which one shall be a duly elected official of the city, county, or legislative district, except that of the legislative body of the county, city, or town requesting the hearing, subject to confirmation by the legislative body of the city or town; the secretary of transportation shall appoint two members of the board; and one member shall be selected by the four members thus appointed. Such fifth member shall be a licensed civil engineer or a recognized professional city or town planner, who shall be chair of the board. In the case both the county and an included city or town request a hearing, the board shall consist of nine members appointed as follows: The mayor and the county commission shall each appoint two members from the elective officials of their respective jurisdictions, and of the four thus selected no more than two thereof may be members of a legislative body of the county, city, or town. The secretary of transportation shall appoint four members of the board. One member



shall be selected by the members thus selected, and such ninth member shall be a licensed civil engineer or a recognized city or town planner, who shall be chair of the board. Such boards as are provided by this section shall be appointed within thirty days after the receipt of such a request by the secretary. In the event the secretary or a county, city, or town shall not appoint members of the board or members thus appointed fail to appoint a fifth or ninth member of the board, as the case may be, either the secretary or the county, city, or town may apply to the superior court of the county in which the county, city, or town is situated to appoint the member or members of the board in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. [2010 c 8 § 10018; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 64; 1963 c 103 § 3; 1961 c 13 § 47.52.150. Prior: 1959 c 242 § 3; 1957 c 235 § 7.]

**RCW 47.52.160 State facility through city or town—Hearing—Notice—Evidence—Determination of issues.** The board shall fix a reasonable time not more than thirty days after the date of its appointment and shall indicate the time and place for the hearing, and shall give notice to the county, city, or town and to the department. At the time and place fixed for the hearing, the state and the county, city, or town shall present all of their evidence with respect to the objections set forth in the request for the hearing before the board, and if either the state, the county, or the city or town fails to do so, the board may determine the issues upon such evidence as may be presented to it at the hearing. [1984 c 7 § 244; 1963 c 103 § 4; 1961 c 13 § 47.52.160. Prior: 1957 c 235 § 8.]

**RCW 47.52.170 State facility through city or town—Hearing—Procedure.** No witness's testimony shall be received unless he or she shall have been duly sworn, and the board may cause all oral testimony to be stenographically reported. Members of the board, its duly authorized representatives, and all persons duly commissioned by it for the purpose of taking depositions, shall have power to administer oaths; to preserve and enforce order during such hearings; to issue subpoenas for, and to compel the attendance and testimony of witnesses, or the production of books, papers, documents and other evidence, or the taking of depositions before any designated individual competent to administer oaths, and it shall be their duty so to do; to examine witnesses; and to do all things conformable to law which may be necessary to enable them, or any of them, effectively to discharge the duties of their office. [2010 c 8 § 10019; 1961 c 13 § 47.52.170. Prior: 1957 c 235 § 9.]

**RCW 47.52.180 State facility through city or town—Hearing—Findings of board—Modification of proposed plan by stipulation.** At the conclusion of such hearing, the board shall consider the evidence taken and shall make specific findings with respect to the objections and issues within thirty days after the hearing, which findings shall approve, disapprove, or modify the proposed plan of the department of transportation. Such findings shall be final and binding upon both parties. Any modification of the proposed plan of the department of transportation made by the board of review may thereafter be modified

by stipulation of the parties. [1977 ex.s. c 151 § 65; 1977 c 77 § 3; 1961 c 13 § 47.52.180. Prior: 1957 c 235 § 10.]

**RCW 47.52.190 State facility through city or town—Hearing—Assistants—Costs—Reporter.** The board shall employ such assistance and clerical help as is necessary to perform its duties. The costs thereby incurred and incident to the conduct of the hearing, necessary expenses, and fees, if any, of members of the board shall be borne equally by the county, city, or town requesting the hearing and the department. When oral testimony is stenographically reported, the department shall provide a reporter at its expense. [1984 c 7 § 245; 1963 c 103 § 5; 1961 c 13 § 47.52.190. Prior: 1957 c 235 § 11.]

**RCW 47.52.195 Review and appeal on petition of abutter.** An abutting property owner may petition for review in the superior court of the state of Washington in the county where the limited access facility is to be located. Such review and any appeal therefrom shall be considered and determined by said court upon the record of the authority in the manner, under the conditions and subject to the limitations and with the effect specified in the Administrative Procedure Act, chapter 34.05 RCW, as amended. [1965 ex.s. c 75 § 6.]

**RCW 47.52.200 Law enforcement jurisdiction within city or town.** Whenever any limited access highway facility passes within or through any incorporated city or town the municipal police officers of such city or town, the sheriff of the county wherein such city or town is situated and officers of the Washington state patrol shall have independent and concurrent jurisdiction to enforce any violation of the laws of this state occurring thereon: PROVIDED, The Washington state patrol shall bear primary responsibility for the enforcement of laws of this state relating to motor vehicles within such limited access highway facilities. [1961 c 122 § 1.]

**RCW 47.52.210 Property title designation upon construction of limited access highways.** (1) Whenever the department adopts a plan for a limited access highway to be constructed within the corporate limits of a city or town which incorporates existing city or town streets, title to such streets shall remain in the city or town, and the provisions of RCW 47.24.020 as now or hereafter amended shall continue to apply to such streets until such time that the highway is operated as either a partially or fully controlled access highway. Title to and full control over that portion of the city or town street incorporated into the limited access highway shall be vested in the state upon a declaration by the secretary of transportation that such highway is operational as a limited access facility, but in no event prior to the acquisition of right-of-way for such highway including access rights, and not later than the final completion of construction of such highway.

(2) Upon the completion of construction of a state limited access highway within a city or town, the department of transportation may relinquish to the city or town streets constructed or improved as a functional part of the limited access highway, slope easements,

landscaping areas, and other related improvements to be maintained and operated by the city or town in accordance with the limited access plan. Title to such property relinquished to a city or town shall be conveyed by a deed executed by the secretary of transportation and duly acknowledged. Relinquishment of such property to the city or town may be expressly conditioned upon the maintenance of access control acquired by the state and the continued operation of such property as a functional part of the limited access highway. [2006 c 334 § 27; 1981 c 95 § 3; 1977 ex.s. c 78 § 3.]

**Effective date—2006 c 334:** See note following RCW 47.01.051.

**RCW 47.52.220 Personal wireless service facilities—Approach permit—Report.** (1) The department shall authorize an off and on approach to partially controlled limited access highways for the placement and service of facilities providing personal wireless services.

(a) The approach shall be in a legal manner not to exceed thirty feet in width.

(b) The approach may be specified at a point satisfactory to the department at or between designated highway stations.

(c) The permit holder may use the approach for ingress and egress from the highway for construction or maintenance of the personal wireless service facility during nonpeak traffic hours so long as public safety is not adversely affected. The permit holder may use the approach for ingress and egress at any time for the construction of the facility if public safety is not adversely affected and if construction will not substantially interfere with traffic flow during peak traffic periods.

(2) The department shall authorize the approach by an annual permit, which may only be canceled upon one hundred eighty days' written notice to the permit holder.

(a) The department shall set the yearly cost of a permit in rule.

(b) The permit shall be assignable to the contractors and subcontractors of the permit holder. The permit shall also be transferable to a new owner following the sale or merger of the permit holder.

(3) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Personal wireless services" means any federally licensed personal wireless service.

(b) "Facilities" means unstaffed facilities that are used for the transmission or reception, or both, of wireless communication services including, but not necessarily limited to, antenna arrays, transmission cables, equipment shelters, and support structures.

(4) The department shall present a report to the house of representatives technology, telecommunications, and energy committee and the senate technology and communications committee on the implementation of the permit process and the cost of permits by January 15, 2004, and by the first day of the legislative session following adoption of any rule increasing the cost of permits. [2003 c 188 § 2.]

**Chapter 47.56 RCW**  
**STATE TOLL BRIDGES, TUNNELS, AND FERRIES**

**Sections**

GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 47.56.010 Definitions.
- 47.56.030 Powers and duties regarding toll facilities—Purchasing.
- 47.56.031 Approval of tolls.
- 47.56.032 Authority of department and commission relating to state ferries.
- 47.56.040 Toll bridges authorized—Investigations.
- 47.56.042 State boundary bridges—Investigations—Agreements with counties or states.
- 47.56.050 Purchase of bridges and ferries authorized—Provisions applicable.
- 47.56.060 Toll bridges—General powers of department and officials—Financial statements.
- 47.56.070 Toll facilities authorized—Provisions applicable.
- 47.56.075 Toll roads, facilities—Legislative authorization or regional or local sponsorship required.
- 47.56.076 Regional transportation investment district—Vehicle tolls authorized.
- 47.56.077 Concessions to operate private business on toll road prohibited.
- 47.56.078 Transportation benefit district—Vehicle tolls authorized.
- 47.56.090 Authority to acquire right-of-way in constructing a toll bridge.
- 47.56.100 Toll bridges—Right-of-way across state highways and political subdivisions—Compensation.
- 47.56.110 Toll bridges—Resolution of necessity in acquiring right-of-way—Effect of.
- 47.56.120 Toll bridges—Construction directed—Costs.
- 47.56.130 Toll bridges—Bonds—Cooperative funds from state and federal government.
- 47.56.140 Toll bridges, bonds—Form, contents, manner of sale—Interim bonds.
- 47.56.150 Toll bridges—Bond proceeds and toll revenues, disposition of—Construction fund—Disbursement—Investment.
- 47.56.160 Toll bridges—Toll revenue fund.
- 47.56.165 Tacoma Narrows toll bridge account.
- 47.56.167 Toll collection account.
- 47.56.170 Toll bridges—Transfer of funds for bond payments—Surplus funds.
- 47.56.180 Toll bridges—Payments made by warrants on vouchers—Interest on deposits.
- 47.56.190 Toll bridges—Agreement on deposit of funds.
- 47.56.200 Toll bridges—Use of bond proceeds and revenue for expenses.
- 47.56.210 Toll bridges—Remedies of bond holders.
- 47.56.220 Toll bridges—Limitations on other service—Protection of outstanding bonds.
- 47.56.230 Toll bridges—Insurance or indemnity bonds authorized.

- 47.56.240 Toll bridges—Fixing of toll rates authorized—Lien of bonds on revenue.
  - 47.56.242 Liquidation and closure of facility accounts upon removal of tolls—Transfer to motor vehicle fund.
  - 47.56.243 Liquidation and closure of facility accounts upon removal of tolls—Satisfaction of claims.
  - 47.56.245 Toll charges retained until costs paid.
  - 47.56.247 Credit permits for vehicular passage.
  - 47.56.248 Credit permits for vehicular passage—Cash deposit or bond—Revocation of permit.
  - 47.56.250 Contributions by the state or political subdivision—Bonds—Repayment.
  - 47.56.253 Permits, leases, licenses to governmental entities to use property of toll facility or ferry system.
  - 47.56.254 Sale of unneeded property—Authorized—Rules.
  - 47.56.255 Sale of unneeded property—Certification to governor—Execution, delivery of deed.
  - 47.56.256 Franchises for utility, railway, urban public transportation purposes.
  - 47.56.257 Deposit of moneys received under RCW 47.56.253 through 47.56.256.
  - 47.56.258 Notification requirements.
  - 47.56.270 1950 Tacoma Narrows bridge part of primary highways.
  - 47.56.271 1950 Tacoma Narrows bridge toll-free—Exception.
  - 47.56.366 Hood Canal bridge—Public sport fishing—Disclaimer of liability.
  - 47.56.401 High occupancy toll lanes defined.
  - 47.56.600 Naches Pass tunnel—Design.
  - 47.56.711 Spokane river bridges.
  - 47.56.720 Puget Island-Westport ferry—Payments for operation and maintenance to Wahkiakum county—Toll-free operation and provision of rest room facilities, when.
  - 47.56.725 County ferries—Deficit reimbursements—Capital improvement funds.
  - 47.56.730 "No Smoking" areas on ferries—Establishment directed.
  - 47.56.770 Refunding bonds—Authorized.
  - 47.56.771 Refunding bonds—General obligation—Signatures, negotiability—Payment of principal and interest—Pledge of excise taxes.
  - 47.56.772 Refunding bonds—Liquidation of existing bond funds.
  - 47.56.773 Refunding bonds—Repayment to Puget Sound capital construction account.
  - 47.56.774 Various bond issues—Charge against fuel tax revenues.
  - 47.56.785 Authority to collect tolls on existing or replacement state route number 520 bridge—Toll charge schedule.
  - 47.56.790 Interstate 90 floating bridge tolls—Federal authorization—Report.
  - 47.56.795 Tolls—Electronic toll collection and photo toll systems—Administrative fees—Violation—In-vehicle device availability.
  - 47.56.796 Toll rates—Legislative approval—Adjustments—Reports.
- TOLL FACILITIES CREATED AFTER JULY 1, 2008
- 47.56.805 Finding—Intent.
  - 47.56.810 Definitions.

- 47.56.820 Imposition of tolls on eligible toll facilities—Who may authorize, revenue expenditures.
- 47.56.830 Policy guidelines for eligible toll facility proposals.
- 47.56.840 Tolling advisory committee.
- 47.56.850 Transportation commission as state tolling authority—Powers and duties—Toll rates—Restrictions on toll revenue.
- 47.56.855 Report to legislature on toll rate increases and decreases by transportation commission.
- 47.56.860 Application.
- 47.56.862 State route number 99, deep bore tunnel—Tolls authorized—Eligible toll facility—Toll revenue—Toll rate schedule.
- 47.56.864 Alaskan Way viaduct replacement project account—Deposits—Use and transfer of funds.
- 47.56.870 State route No. 520 corridor—Tolls authorized—Eligible toll facility—Toll revenue—Toll rate schedule—Bridge replacement program, work groups.
- 47.56.875 State route No. 520 corridor account—Deposits—Use and transfer of funds.
- 47.56.876 State route number 520 civil penalties account.
- 47.56.878 State route number 167 and Interstate 405 corridor project—Construction—Application for deferral of state and local sales and use taxes—Department of revenue to issue certificate—Payments—Interest and penalties—Subject to disclosure.
- 47.56.880 Interstate 405 and state route number 167 corridors—Tolls authorized—Eligible toll facility—Toll rate schedule—Capacity improvements—Performance measures—Violation.
- 47.56.884 Interstate 405 and state route number 167 express toll lanes account.
- 47.56.886 State route number 167 and Interstate 405 express toll lane system—Traffic and revenue analysis—Finance plan.
- 47.56.888 Interstate 405 and state route number 167 corridors—Performance—Reevaluation of options.
- 47.56.892 Columbia river crossing project—Agreements with the Oregon state transportation commission.
- 47.56.895 Puget Sound Gateway facility—Toll rates.
- 47.56.897 Puget Sound Gateway facility account.
- 47.56.900 High occupancy toll lanes operations account, repealed—Residual balance of funds, year-end accruals—Transfer to Interstate 405 and state route number 167 express toll lanes account.
- 47.56.902 Interstate 5 bridge replacement project—Toll facility.
- 47.56.904 Interstate 5 bridge replacement project account.
- 47.56.906 Interstate 5 bridge replacement project—Bistate agreement.

*Bridges across navigable waters: RCW 79.110.110 through 79.110.140.*

*Port districts, toll facilities: Chapter 53.34 RCW.*

*Toll bridge bonds authorized, adjoining counties: RCW 36.76.140.*

*Traffic violations and unlawful acts on toll facility or ferry: RCW  
46.61.690.*

*Viaducts, bridges, elevated roadways, tunnels, etc., authority of  
cities to construct: Chapter 35.85 RCW.*

**Chapter 47.56 RCW**  
**STATE TOLL BRIDGES, TUNNELS, AND FERRIES**

**Sections**

GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 47.56.010 Definitions.
- 47.56.030 Powers and duties regarding toll facilities—Purchasing.
- 47.56.031 Approval of tolls.
- 47.56.032 Authority of department and commission relating to state ferries.
- 47.56.040 Toll bridges authorized—Investigations.
- 47.56.042 State boundary bridges—Investigations—Agreements with counties or states.
- 47.56.050 Purchase of bridges and ferries authorized—Provisions applicable.
- 47.56.060 Toll bridges—General powers of department and officials—Financial statements.
- 47.56.070 Toll facilities authorized—Provisions applicable.
- 47.56.075 Toll roads, facilities—Legislative authorization or regional or local sponsorship required.
- 47.56.076 Regional transportation investment district—Vehicle tolls authorized.
- 47.56.077 Concessions to operate private business on toll road prohibited.
- 47.56.078 Transportation benefit district—Vehicle tolls authorized.
- 47.56.090 Authority to acquire right-of-way in constructing a toll bridge.
- 47.56.100 Toll bridges—Right-of-way across state highways and political subdivisions—Compensation.
- 47.56.110 Toll bridges—Resolution of necessity in acquiring right-of-way—Effect of.
- 47.56.120 Toll bridges—Construction directed—Costs.
- 47.56.130 Toll bridges—Bonds—Cooperative funds from state and federal government.
- 47.56.140 Toll bridges, bonds—Form, contents, manner of sale—Interim bonds.
- 47.56.150 Toll bridges—Bond proceeds and toll revenues, disposition of—Construction fund—Disbursement—Investment.
- 47.56.160 Toll bridges—Toll revenue fund.
- 47.56.165 Tacoma Narrows toll bridge account.
- 47.56.167 Toll collection account.
- 47.56.170 Toll bridges—Transfer of funds for bond payments—Surplus funds.
- 47.56.180 Toll bridges—Payments made by warrants on vouchers—Interest on deposits.
- 47.56.190 Toll bridges—Agreement on deposit of funds.
- 47.56.200 Toll bridges—Use of bond proceeds and revenue for expenses.
- 47.56.210 Toll bridges—Remedies of bond holders.
- 47.56.220 Toll bridges—Limitations on other service—Protection of outstanding bonds.
- 47.56.230 Toll bridges—Insurance or indemnity bonds authorized.



- 47.56.240 Toll bridges—Fixing of toll rates authorized—Lien of bonds on revenue.
  - 47.56.242 Liquidation and closure of facility accounts upon removal of tolls—Transfer to motor vehicle fund.
  - 47.56.243 Liquidation and closure of facility accounts upon removal of tolls—Satisfaction of claims.
  - 47.56.245 Toll charges retained until costs paid.
  - 47.56.247 Credit permits for vehicular passage.
  - 47.56.248 Credit permits for vehicular passage—Cash deposit or bond—Revocation of permit.
  - 47.56.250 Contributions by the state or political subdivision—Bonds—Repayment.
  - 47.56.253 Permits, leases, licenses to governmental entities to use property of toll facility or ferry system.
  - 47.56.254 Sale of unneeded property—Authorized—Rules.
  - 47.56.255 Sale of unneeded property—Certification to governor—Execution, delivery of deed.
  - 47.56.256 Franchises for utility, railway, urban public transportation purposes.
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  - 47.56.600 Naches Pass tunnel—Design.
  - 47.56.711 Spokane river bridges.
  - 47.56.720 Puget Island-Westport ferry—Payments for operation and maintenance to Wahkiakum county—Toll-free operation and provision of rest room facilities, when.
  - 47.56.725 County ferries—Deficit reimbursements—Capital improvement funds.
  - 47.56.730 "No Smoking" areas on ferries—Establishment directed.
  - 47.56.770 Refunding bonds—Authorized.
  - 47.56.771 Refunding bonds—General obligation—Signatures, negotiability—Payment of principal and interest—Pledge of excise taxes.
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  - 47.56.796 Toll rates—Legislative approval—Adjustments—Reports.
- TOLL FACILITIES CREATED AFTER JULY 1, 2008
- 47.56.805 Finding—Intent.
  - 47.56.810 Definitions.

- 47.56.820 Imposition of tolls on eligible toll facilities—Who may authorize, revenue expenditures.
- 47.56.830 Policy guidelines for eligible toll facility proposals.
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- 47.56.862 State route number 99, deep bore tunnel—Tolls authorized—Eligible toll facility—Toll revenue—Toll rate schedule.
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- 47.56.870 State route No. 520 corridor—Tolls authorized—Eligible toll facility—Toll revenue—Toll rate schedule—Bridge replacement program, work groups.
- 47.56.875 State route No. 520 corridor account—Deposits—Use and transfer of funds.
- 47.56.876 State route number 520 civil penalties account.
- 47.56.878 State route number 167 and Interstate 405 corridor project—Construction—Application for deferral of state and local sales and use taxes—Department of revenue to issue certificate—Payments—Interest and penalties—Subject to disclosure.
- 47.56.880 Interstate 405 and state route number 167 corridors—Tolls authorized—Eligible toll facility—Toll rate schedule—Capacity improvements—Performance measures—Violation.
- 47.56.884 Interstate 405 and state route number 167 express toll lanes account.
- 47.56.886 State route number 167 and Interstate 405 express toll lane system—Traffic and revenue analysis—Finance plan.
- 47.56.888 Interstate 405 and state route number 167 corridors—Performance—Reevaluation of options.
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- 47.56.897 Puget Sound Gateway facility account.
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*Viaducts, bridges, elevated roadways, tunnels, etc., authority of cities to construct: Chapter 35.85 RCW.*

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

### **RCW 47.56.010 Definitions.** As used in this chapter:

(1) "1950 Tacoma Narrows bridge" means the bridge crossing the Tacoma Narrows that was opened to vehicle travel in 1950.

(2) "Electronic toll collection system" means a system that collects tolls by crediting or debiting funds from a customer's unique prepaid tolling account.

(3) "Photo toll" means a toll charge associated with a particular vehicle that is identified by its license plate. A photo toll may be paid through one of the following methods:

(a) A customer-initiated account that is prepaid or postpaid.

(b) In response to a toll bill that is sent to the registered owner of the vehicle incurring the photo toll charge. The toll bill may designate a toll payment due date for the photo toll assessed.

(4) "Photo toll system" means a camera-based imaging system that uses digital video or still image formats to record license plate images of vehicles using toll lanes for the purpose of collecting a photo toll.

(5) "Toll bridge" means a bridge constructed or acquired under this chapter, upon which tolls are charged, together with all appurtenances, additions, alterations, improvements, and replacements thereof, and the approaches thereto, and all lands and interests used therefor, and buildings and improvements thereon.

(6) "Toll payment due date" means the date when a toll must be paid to avoid a toll violation civil penalty. The toll payment due date is eighty days from the date the vehicle uses the toll facility and incurs the toll charge.

(7) "Toll road" means any express highway, superhighway, or motorway at such locations and between such termini as may be established by law, and constructed or to be constructed as a limited access highway under the provisions of this chapter by the department, and shall include, but not be limited to, all bridges, tunnels, overpasses, underpasses, interchanges, entrance plazas, approaches, toll houses, service areas, service facilities, communications facilities, and administration, storage, and other buildings that the department may deem necessary for the operation of the project, together with all property, rights, easements, and interests that may be acquired by the department for the construction or the operation of the project, all of which shall be conducted in the same manner and under the same procedure as provided for the establishing, constructing, operating, and maintaining of toll bridges by the department, insofar as those procedures are reasonably consistent and applicable. [2010 c 249 § 1; 2002 c 114 § 2; 1984 c 7 § 246; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.010. Prior: 1953 c 220 § 1; 1937 c 173 § 1, part; RRS § 6524-1, part.]

**Reviser's note:** The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k).

**Contingent effective date—2010 c 249:** See note following RCW 47.56.795.

**Finding—Intent—2002 c 114:** See RCW 47.46.011.

**Captions not law—2002 c 114:** See note following RCW 47.46.011.

**RCW 47.56.030 Powers and duties regarding toll facilities—**  
**Purchasing.** (1) Except as permitted under chapter 47.29 or 47.46 RCW:  
    (a) Unless otherwise delegated, and subject to RCW 47.56.820, the department of transportation shall have full charge of the planning, analysis, and construction of all toll bridges and other toll facilities including the Washington state ferries, and the operation and maintenance thereof.  
    (b) The transportation commission shall determine and establish the tolls and charges thereon.  
    (c) Unless otherwise delegated, and subject to RCW 47.56.820, the department shall have full charge of planning, analysis, and design of all toll facilities. The department may conduct the planning, analysis, and design of toll facilities as necessary to support the legislature's consideration of toll authorization.  
    (d) The department shall utilize and administer toll collection systems that are simple, unified, and interoperable. To the extent practicable, the department shall avoid the use of toll booths. The department shall set the statewide standards and protocols for all toll facilities within the state, including those authorized by local authorities.  
    (e) Except as provided in this section, the department shall proceed with the construction of such toll bridges and other facilities and the approaches thereto by contract in the manner of state highway construction immediately upon there being made available funds for such work and shall prosecute such work to completion as rapidly as practicable. The department is authorized to negotiate contracts for any amount without bid under (e) (i) and (ii) of this subsection:  
        (i) Emergency contracts, in order to make repairs to ferries or ferry terminal facilities or removal of such facilities whenever continued use of ferries or ferry terminal facilities constitutes a real or immediate danger to the traveling public or precludes prudent use of such ferries or facilities; and  
        (ii) Single source contracts for vessel dry dockings, when there is clearly and legitimately only one available bidder to conduct dry dock-related work for a specific class or classes of vessels. The contracts may be entered into for a single vessel dry docking or for multiple vessel dry dockings for a period not to exceed two years.  
    (f) Any new vessel planning, construction, purchase, analysis, or design work must be consistent with RCW 47.60.810, except as otherwise provided in RCW 47.60.826.  
(2) The department shall proceed with the procurement of materials, supplies, services, and equipment needed for the support, maintenance, and use of a ferry, ferry terminal, or other facility operated by Washington state ferries, in accordance with chapter 43.19 RCW except as follows:  
    (a) When the secretary of the department of transportation determines in writing that the use of invitation for bid is either not

practicable or not advantageous to the state and it may be necessary to make competitive evaluations, including technical or performance evaluations among acceptable proposals to complete the contract award, a contract may be entered into by use of a competitive sealed proposals method, and a formal request for proposals solicitation. Such formal request for proposals solicitation shall include a functional description of the needs and requirements of the state and the significant factors.

(b) When purchases are made through a formal request for proposals solicitation the contract shall be awarded to the responsible proposer whose competitive sealed proposal is determined in writing to be the most advantageous to the state taking into consideration price and other evaluation factors set forth in the request for proposals. No significant factors may be used in evaluating a proposal that are not specified in the request for proposals. Factors that may be considered in evaluating proposals include but are not limited to: Price; maintainability; reliability; commonality; performance levels; life-cycle cost if applicable under this section; cost of transportation or delivery; delivery schedule offered; installation cost; cost of spare parts; availability of parts and service offered; and the following:

(i) The ability, capacity, and skill of the proposer to perform the contract or provide the service required;

(ii) The character, integrity, reputation, judgment, experience, and efficiency of the proposer;

(iii) Whether the proposer can perform the contract within the time specified;

(iv) The quality of performance of previous contracts or services;

(v) The previous and existing compliance by the proposer with laws relating to the contract or services;

(vi) Objective, measurable criteria defined in the request for proposal. These criteria may include but are not limited to items such as discounts, delivery costs, maintenance services costs, installation costs, and transportation costs; and

(vii) Such other information as may be secured having a bearing on the decision to award the contract.

(c) When purchases are made through a request for proposal process, proposals received shall be evaluated based on the evaluation factors set forth in the request for proposal. When issuing a request for proposal for the procurement of propulsion equipment or systems that include an engine, the request for proposal must specify the use of a life-cycle cost analysis that includes an evaluation of fuel efficiency. When a life-cycle cost analysis is used, the life-cycle cost of a proposal shall be given at least the same relative importance as the initial price element specified in the request of proposal documents. The department may reject any and all proposals received. If the proposals are not rejected, the award shall be made to the proposer whose proposal is most advantageous to the department, considering price and the other evaluation factors set forth in the request for proposal. [2023 c 429 § 6; 2015 3rd sp.s. c 14 § 7; 2008 c 122 § 8; 2002 c 114 § 19; 2001 c 59 § 1; 1995 1st sp.s. c 4 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 66; 1969 ex.s. c 180 § 3; 1961 c 278 § 8; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.030. Prior: 1937 c 173 § 10; RRS § 6524-10.]

**Effective date—2023 c 429:** See note following RCW 47.60.826.

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 14:** See note following RCW 47.60.005.

**Finding—Intent—2002 c 114:** See RCW 47.46.011.

**Captions not law—2002 c 114:** See note following RCW 47.46.011.

**Effective date—1995 1st sp.s. c 4:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately [June 14, 1995]." [1995 1st sp.s. c 4 § 4.]

**RCW 47.56.031 Approval of tolls.** No tolls may be imposed on new or existing highways or bridges without specific legislative authorization, or upon a majority vote of the people within the boundaries of the unit of government empowered to impose tolls. This section applies to chapter 47.56 RCW and to any tolls authorized under chapter 47.29 RCW, the transportation innovative partnership act of 2005. [2005 c 335 § 2.]

**RCW 47.56.032 Authority of department and commission relating to state ferries.** All powers vested in the toll bridge authority as of September 21, 1977, relating to the acquiring, operating, extending, designing, constructing, repairing, and maintenance of the Washington state ferries or any part thereof and the collecting of tolls and charges for use of its facilities, shall be performed by the department. The commission shall determine all fares, tolls, and other charges for its facilities and shall directly perform all duties and exercise all powers relating to financing, refinancing, and fiscal management of the system's bonded indebtedness in the manner provided by law. [1984 c 7 § 247; 1961 c 278 § 9.]

**RCW 47.56.040 Toll bridges authorized—Investigations.** The department is empowered, in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, to provide for the establishment and construction of toll bridges upon any public highways of this state together with approaches thereto wherever it is considered necessary or advantageous and practicable for crossing any stream, body of water, gulch, navigable water, swamp, or other topographical formation whether that formation is within this state or constitutes a boundary between this state and an adjoining state or country. For the purpose of obtaining information for the consideration of the department upon the construction of any toll bridge or any other matters pertaining thereto, any cognizant officer or employee of the state shall, upon the request of the department, make reasonable examination, investigation, survey, or reconnaissance for the determination of material facts pertaining thereto and report this to the department. The cost of any such examination, investigation, survey, or reconnaissance shall be borne by the department or office conducting these activities from the funds provided for that department or office for its usual functions. [2008 c 122 § 9; 1984 c 7 § 248; 1961 c 13 §

47.56.040. Prior: 1937 c 173 § 3; RRS § 6524-3; prior: 1913 c 56 § 2; RRS § 6525.]

**RCW 47.56.042 State boundary bridges—Investigations—Agreements with counties or states.** The department is authorized to enter into agreements with any county of this state and/or with an adjoining state or county thereof for the purpose of implementing an investigation of the feasibility of any toll bridge project for the bridging of a river forming a portion of the boundary of this state, and the adjoining state. The department may use funds available to it to carry out the purposes of this section. These agreements may provide that if any such project is determined to be feasible and is adopted, any advancement of funds by any state or county may be reimbursed out of any proceeds derived from the sale of bonds or out of tolls and revenues to be derived from the project. [1984 c 7 § 249; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.042. Prior: 1955 c 203 § 1.]

**RCW 47.56.050 Purchase of bridges and ferries authorized—Provisions applicable.** (1) The department, whenever it is considered necessary or advantageous and practicable, is empowered to provide for the acquisition by purchase of, and to acquire by purchase (a) any bridge or bridges or ferries which connect with or may be connected with the public highways of this state (b) together with approaches thereto.

(2) In connection with the acquisition by purchase of any bridge or bridges or ferries under subsection (1) of this section, the department, the state treasurer, any city, county, or other political subdivision of this state, and all of their officers:

(a) Are empowered and required to do all acts and things provided for in this chapter to establish and construct toll bridges and operate, finance, and maintain such bridges insofar as the powers and requirements are applicable to the purchase of any bridge or bridges or ferries and their operation, financing, and maintenance; and

(b) In purchasing, operating, financing, and maintaining any bridge or bridges or ferries acquired or to be acquired by purchase under this section, shall act in the same manner and under the same procedures as are provided in this chapter to establish, construct, operate, finance, and maintain toll bridges insofar as such manner and procedure are applicable to the purchase of any bridge or bridges or ferries and their operation, financing, and maintenance.

(3) Without limiting the generality of the provisions contained in subsections (1) and (2) of this section, the department is empowered: (a) To cause surveys to be made for the purpose of investigating the propriety of acquiring by purchase any such bridge or bridges or ferries and the right-of-way necessary or proper for that bridge or bridges or ferries, and other facilities necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter; (b) to issue, sell, and redeem bonds, and to deposit and pay out the proceeds of the bonds for the financing thereof; (c) to collect, deposit, and expend tolls therefrom; (d) to secure and remit financial and other assistance in the purchase thereof; and (e) to carry insurance thereon.

(4) The provisions of RCW 47.56.220 apply when any bridge or bridges or ferries are acquired by purchase pursuant to this section.

[1984 c 7 § 250; 1973 c 106 § 25; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.050. Prior: 1945 c 266 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6524-3a.]

**RCW 47.56.060 Toll bridges—General powers of department and officials—Financial statements.** The department, the officials thereof, and all other state officials are empowered to act and make agreements consistent with law as may be necessary or desirable in connection with the duties and powers conferred upon them respectively by law regarding the construction, maintenance, operation, and insurance of toll bridges or the safeguarding of the funds and revenues required for such construction and the payment of the indebtedness incurred therefor. The department shall keep full, complete, and separate accounts of each toll bridge, and annually shall prepare balance sheet and income and profit and loss statements showing the financial condition of each such toll bridge, which statement shall be open at all reasonable times to the inspection of holders of bonds issued by the department. [1984 c 7 § 251; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.060. Prior: 1937 c 173 § 17; RRS § 6524-17.]

**RCW 47.56.070 Toll facilities authorized—Provisions applicable.** The department of transportation may, in accordance with this chapter, provide for the construction and operation of toll tunnels, toll roads, and other facilities necessary for their construction and connection with public highways of the state. It may cause surveys to be made to determine the propriety of their construction and operation, and may acquire rights-of-way and other facilities necessary to carry out the provisions hereof; and may issue, sell, and redeem bonds, and deposit and expend them; secure and remit financial and other assistance in the construction thereof; carry insurance thereon; and handle any other matters pertaining thereto, all of which shall be conducted in the same manner and under the same procedure as provided for the constructing, operating, and maintaining of toll bridges by the department, insofar as reasonably consistent and applicable. [2008 c 122 § 10; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 67; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.070. Prior: 1953 c 220 § 3; 1937 c 173 § 3 1/2; RRS § 6524-3 1/2.]

**RCW 47.56.075 Toll roads, facilities—Legislative authorization or regional or local sponsorship required.** The department shall approve for construction only such toll roads as the legislature specifically authorizes or such toll facilities as are specifically sponsored by a regional transportation investment district, city, town, or county. [2002 c 56 § 404; 1984 c 7 § 252; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.075. Prior: 1953 c 220 § 7.]

**RCW 47.56.076 Regional transportation investment district—Vehicle tolls authorized.** (1) Upon approval of a majority of the voters within its boundaries voting on the ballot proposition, a regional transportation investment district may authorize vehicle tolls on a local or regional arterial or a state or federal highway within the boundaries of the district. The department shall administer the collection of vehicle tolls authorized on designated facilities



unless otherwise specified in law or by contract, and the commission or its successor statewide tolling authority shall set and impose the tolls in amounts sufficient to implement the regional transportation investment plan under RCW 36.120.020.

(2) Consistent with RCW 47.56.820, vehicle tolls must first be authorized by the legislature if the tolls are imposed on a state route.

(3) Consistent with RCW 47.56.850, vehicle tolls, including any change in an existing toll rate, must first be reviewed and approved by the tolling authority designated in RCW 47.56.850 if the tolls, or change in toll rate, would have a significant impact, as determined by the tolling authority, on the operation of any state facility. [2008 c 122 § 11; 2006 c 311 § 19; 2005 c 335 § 3; 2002 c 56 § 403.]

**Findings—2006 c 311:** See note following RCW 36.120.020.

**RCW 47.56.077 Concessions to operate private business on toll road prohibited.** The department shall not grant concessions for the operation or establishment of any privately owned business upon toll road rights-of-way. [1984 c 7 § 253; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.077. Prior: 1953 c 220 § 8.]

**RCW 47.56.078 Transportation benefit district—Vehicle tolls authorized.** (1) Subject to the provisions under chapter 36.73 RCW, a transportation benefit district may authorize vehicle tolls on state routes or federal highways, city streets, or county roads, within the boundaries of the district, unless otherwise prohibited by law. The department of transportation shall administer the collection of vehicle tolls authorized on state routes or federal highways, unless otherwise specified in law or by contract, and the state transportation commission, or its successor, may approve, set, and impose the tolls in amounts sufficient to implement the district's transportation improvement finance plan. The district shall administer the collection of vehicle tolls authorized on city streets or county roads, and shall set and impose the tolls, only with approval of the transportation commission, in amounts sufficient to implement the district's transportation improvement plan. Toll rates may vary for type of vehicle, for time of day, for traffic conditions, and/or other factors designed to improve performance of the facility or the transportation network.

(2) Consistent with RCW 47.56.820, vehicle tolls must first be authorized by the legislature if the tolls are imposed on a state route.

(3) Consistent with RCW 47.56.850, vehicle tolls, including any change in an existing toll rate, must first be reviewed and approved by the tolling authority designated in RCW 47.56.850 if the tolls, or change in toll rate, would have a significant impact, as determined by the tolling authority, on the operation of any state facility. [2008 c 122 § 12; 2005 c 336 § 25.]

**Effective date—2005 c 336:** See note following RCW 36.73.015.

**RCW 47.56.090 Authority to acquire right-of-way in constructing a toll bridge.** The department of transportation is empowered to secure right-of-way for toll bridges and for approaches thereto by gift or purchase, or by condemnation in the manner provided by law for the taking of private property for public highway purposes. [1977 ex.s. c 151 § 69; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.090. Prior: 1937 c 173 § 5; RRS § 6524-5.]

**RCW 47.56.100 Toll bridges—Right-of-way across state highways and political subdivisions—Compensation.** The right-of-way is hereby given, dedicated, and set apart upon which to locate, construct, and maintain bridges or approaches thereto or other highway crossings, and transportation facilities thereof or thereto, through, over, or across any state highways, and through, over, or across the streets, alleys, lanes, and roads within any city, county, or other political subdivision of the state. If any property belonging to any city, county, or other political subdivision of the state is required to be taken for the construction of any bridge or approach thereto, or if any such property is injured or damaged by such construction, compensation therefor as may be proper or necessary and as agreed upon may be paid by the department to the particular county, city, or other political subdivision of the state owning the property, or condemnation proceedings may be brought for the determination of the compensation. [1984 c 7 § 254; 1977 ex.s. c 103 § 4; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.100. Prior: 1937 c 173 § 16; RRS § 6524-16.]

**RCW 47.56.110 Toll bridges—Resolution of necessity in acquiring right-of-way—Effect of.** Before the department proceeds with any action to secure a right-of-way or with construction of any toll bridge under the provisions of this chapter, the commission shall first pass a resolution that public interest and necessity require the acquisition of right-of-way for and the construction of the toll bridge. The resolution is conclusive evidence (1) of the public necessity of such construction; (2) that the property is necessary therefor; and (3) that the proposed construction is planned or located in a manner which will be most compatible with the greatest public good and the least private injury. When it becomes necessary for the department to condemn any real estate to be used in connection with any such bridge, the attorney general of the state shall represent the department. In eminent domain proceedings to acquire property for any of the purposes of this chapter, any toll bridge, real property, personal property, franchises, rights, easements, or other property or privileges appurtenant thereto appropriated or dedicated to a public use or purpose by any person, firm, private, public, or municipal corporation, county, city, town, district, or any political subdivision of the state, may be condemned and taken, and the acquisition and use as provided in this chapter for the same public use or purpose to which the property has been so appropriated or dedicated, or for any other public use or purpose, is a superior and permanent right and necessity, and a more necessary use and purpose than the public use or purpose to which the property has already been appropriated or dedicated. It is not necessary in any eminent domain proceedings under this chapter to plead or prove any acts or proceedings preliminary or prior to the adoption of the resolution

hereinbefore referred to describing the property sought to be taken and directing such proceedings. [1984 c 7 § 255; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.110. Prior: 1937 c 173 § 11; RRS § 6524-11.]

**RCW 47.56.120 Toll bridges—Construction directed—Costs.** In the event that any toll bridge should be constructed, all cost thereof including right-of-way, survey, and engineering shall be paid out of any funds available for payment of the cost of such toll bridge under this chapter. [2008 c 122 § 13; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 70; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.120. Prior: 1937 c 173 § 4; RRS § 6524-4.]

**RCW 47.56.130 Toll bridges—Bonds—Cooperative funds from state and federal government.** The department is hereby empowered to issue bonds for the construction of any toll bridge or toll bridges authorized under the provisions of this chapter. Any and all bonds issued for the construction of any toll bridge or toll bridges under the authority of the department shall be issued in the name of the department, shall constitute obligations only of the department, shall be identified as . . . . toll bridge bonds, and shall contain a recital on the face thereof that the payment or redemption of the bonds and the payment of the interest thereon is secured by a direct and exclusive charge and lien upon the tolls and other revenues of any nature whatever received from the operation of the particular toll bridge or bridges for the construction of which the bonds are issued and that neither the payment of the principal or any part thereof nor of the interest thereon or any part thereof constitutes a debt, liability, or obligation of the state of Washington. The department is empowered to receive and accept funds from the state of Washington or the federal government upon a cooperative or other basis for the construction of any toll bridge authorized under this chapter and is empowered to enter into such agreements with the state of Washington or the federal government as may be required for the securing of such funds. [1984 c 7 § 256; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.130. Prior: 1937 c 173 § 7; RRS § 6524-7.]

**RCW 47.56.140 Toll bridges, bonds—Form, contents, manner of sale—Interim bonds.** The revenue bonds may be issued and sold by the department of transportation from time to time and in such amounts as it deems necessary to provide sufficient funds for the construction of the bridge, and to pay interest on outstanding bonds issued for its construction during the period of actual construction and for six months after completion thereof.

The department of transportation shall determine the form, conditions, and denominations of the bonds, and the maturity dates which the bonds to be sold shall bear and the interest rate thereon. All bonds of the same issue need not bear the same interest rate. Principal and interest of the bonds may be payable at such place as determined by the department. They may be in any form including bearer bonds or registered bonds as provided in RCW 39.46.030, with interest payable at such times as determined by the department, and shall mature at such times and in such amounts as the department prescribes. The department may provide for the retirement of the bonds at any time prior to maturity, and in such manner and upon payment of such

premiums as it may determine in the resolution providing for the issuance of the bonds. All such bonds shall be signed by the state auditor and countersigned by the governor and any interest coupons appertaining thereto shall bear the signature of the state auditor. The countersignature of the governor on such bonds and the signature of the state auditor on any coupons may be their printed or lithographed facsimile signatures. Successive issues of such bonds within the limits of the original authorization shall have equal preference with respect to the redemption thereof and the payment of interest thereon. The department may fix different maturity dates, serially or otherwise, for successive issues under any one original authorization. The bonds shall be negotiable instruments under the law merchant. All bonds issued and sold hereunder shall be sold on sealed bids to the highest and best bidder after such advertising for bids as the department deems proper. The department may reject any and all bids and may thereafter sell the bonds at private sale under such terms and conditions as it deems most advantageous to its own interests; but not at a price below that of the best bid which was rejected. The department may contract loans and borrow money through the sale of bonds of the same character as those herein authorized, from the United States or any agency thereof, upon such conditions and terms as may be agreed to and the bonds shall be subject to all the provisions of this chapter, except the requirement that they be first offered at public sale.

Temporary or interim bonds, certificates, or receipts, of any denomination, and with or without coupons attached, signed by the state auditor, may be issued and delivered until bonds are executed and available for delivery. [1983 c 167 § 118; 1970 ex.s. c 56 § 62; 1969 ex.s. c 232 § 33; 1963 ex.s. c 3 § 45; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.140. Prior: 1953 c 79 § 1; 1937 c 173 § 8; RRS § 6524-8.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**Purpose—1970 ex.s. c 56:** See note following RCW 39.52.020.

**Validation—Saving—Severability—1969 ex.s. c 232:** See notes following RCW 39.52.020.

**RCW 47.56.150 Toll bridges—Bond proceeds and toll revenues, disposition of—Construction fund—Disbursement—Investment.** The proceeds from the sale of all bonds authorized under the provisions of this chapter shall be paid to the state treasurer for the credit of the department and be deposited as demand deposits forthwith in such depository or depositories as may be authorized by law to receive deposits of state funds to the credit of a fund to be designated as the construction fund of the particular toll bridge or toll bridges for which such bonds were issued and sold, which fund shall not be a state fund and shall at all times be kept segregated and set apart from all other funds and in trust for the purposes herein set out. Such proceeds shall be paid out or disbursed solely for the construction of such toll bridge or toll bridges, the acquisition of the necessary lands and easements therefor and the payment of interest on such bonds during the period of actual construction and for a period of six months thereafter, only as the need therefor shall

arise. The department may agree with the purchaser of the bonds upon any conditions or limitations restricting the disbursement of such funds that may be deemed advisable, for the purpose of assuring the proper application of such funds. All moneys in such fund and not required to meet current construction costs of the toll bridge or toll bridges for which such bonds were issued and sold, and all funds constituting surplus revenues that are not immediately needed for the particular object or purpose to which they must be applied or are pledged shall be invested in bonds and obligations of the nature eligible for investment of surplus state moneys: PROVIDED, That the department may provide in the proceedings authorizing the issuance of these bonds that the investment of such moneys shall be made only in particular bonds and obligations within the classifications eligible for such investment, and such provisions shall thereupon be binding upon the department and all officials having anything to do with the investment. Any surplus which may exist in the construction fund shall be applied to the retirement of bonds issued for the construction of such toll bridge or toll bridges by purchase or call. If these bonds cannot be purchased at a price satisfactory to the department and are not by their terms callable prior to maturity, the surplus shall be paid into the fund applicable to the payment of principal and interest of the bonds and shall be used for that purpose. The proceedings authorizing the issuance of bonds may provide limitations and conditions upon the time and manner of applying the surplus to the purchase and call of outstanding bonds and the terms upon which they shall be purchased or called. Such limitations and conditions shall be followed and observed in the application and use of the surplus. All bonds so retired by purchase or call shall be immediately canceled. [1984 c 7 § 257; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.150. Prior: 1937 c 173 § 14, part; RRS § 6524-14, part.]

**RCW 47.56.160 Toll bridges—Toll revenue fund.** All tolls or other revenues received from the operation of any toll bridge or toll bridges constructed with the proceeds of bonds issued and sold hereunder shall be paid over by the department to the state treasurer. The treasurer shall deposit them forthwith as demand deposits in a depository or depositories authorized by law to receive deposits of state funds. The deposit shall be made to the credit of a special trust fund designated as the toll revenue fund of the particular toll bridge or toll bridges producing the tolls or revenue, which fund shall be a trust fund and shall at all times be kept segregated and set apart from all other funds. [1984 c 7 § 258; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.160. Prior: 1937 c 173 § 14, part; RRS § 6524-14, part.]

**RCW 47.56.165 Tacoma Narrows toll bridge account.** A special account to be known as the Tacoma Narrows toll bridge account is created in the motor vehicle fund in the state treasury.

(1) Deposits to the account must include:

(a) All proceeds of bonds issued for construction of the Tacoma Narrows public-private initiative project, including any capitalized interest;

(b) All of the toll charges and other revenues received from the operation of the Tacoma Narrows bridge as a toll facility, to be deposited at least monthly;

(c) Any interest that may be earned from the deposit or investment of those revenues;

(d) Notwithstanding RCW 47.12.063, proceeds from the sale of any surplus real property acquired for the purpose of building the second Tacoma Narrows bridge;

(e) All liquidated damages collected under any contract involving the construction of the second Tacoma Narrows bridge; and

(f) Beginning with September 2022 and ending July 1, 2032, by the last day of September, December, March, and June of each year, the state treasurer shall transfer from the general fund to the account the sum of \$3,250,000. The total amount that may be transferred pursuant to this subsection is \$130,000,000.

(2) Proceeds of bonds shall be used consistent with RCW 47.46.130, including the reimbursement of expenses and fees incurred under agreements entered into under RCW 47.46.040 as required by those agreements.

(3) Toll charges, other revenues, and interest may only be used to:

(a) Pay required costs that contribute directly to the financing, operation, maintenance, management, and necessary repairs of the tolled facility, as determined by rule by the transportation commission; and

(b) Repay amounts to the motor vehicle fund as required under RCW 47.46.140.

(4) Toll charges, other revenues, and interest may not be used to pay for costs that do not contribute directly to the financing, operation, maintenance, management, and necessary repairs of the tolled facility, as determined by rule by the transportation commission.

(5) The department shall make detailed quarterly expenditure reports available to the transportation commission and to the public on the department's website using current department resources.

(6) When repaying the motor vehicle fund under RCW 47.46.140, the state treasurer shall transfer funds from the Tacoma Narrows toll bridge account to the motor vehicle fund on or before each debt service date for bonds issued for the Tacoma Narrows public-private initiative project in an amount sufficient to repay the motor vehicle fund for amounts transferred from that fund to the highway bond retirement fund to provide for any bond principal and interest due on that date. The state treasurer may establish subaccounts for the purpose of segregating toll charges, bond sale proceeds, and other revenues. [2022 c 223 § 1; 2009 c 567 § 1; 2006 c 17 § 1; 2002 c 114 § 11.]

**Finding—Intent—2002 c 114:** See RCW 47.46.011.

**Captions not law—2002 c 114:** See note following RCW 47.46.011.

**RCW 47.56.167 Toll collection account.** (1) The toll collection account is created in the custody of the state treasurer for the deposit of prepaid customer tolls and clearing activities benefiting multiple toll facilities.

(2) All receipts from prepaid customer tolls must be deposited into the account. Prepaid customer tolls may be used only to refund customer prepaid tolls or for distributions to the appropriate toll

facility account based on an equitable methodology to be determined by the department in consultation with the office of financial management. For purposes of accounting, distributions from the account constitute earned toll revenues in the receiving toll facility account at the time of distribution.

(3) Operations that benefit multiple toll facilities may be recorded in the account. At least monthly, operating activities must be distributed to the benefiting toll facility accounts.

(4) On a monthly basis, interest earnings on deposits in the account must be distributed to the toll facility accounts based on an equitable methodology to be determined by the department in consultation with the office of financial management.

(5) Only the secretary of transportation or the secretary's designee may authorize distributions from the account. Distributions of revenue and refunds from this account are not subject to the allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW and an appropriation is not required. [2010 c 249 § 8; 2008 c 122 § 23.]

**Contingent effective date—2010 c 249:** See note following RCW 47.56.795.

**Effective date—2008 c 122 §§ 23 and 24:** "Sections 23 and 24 of this act are necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and take effect immediately [March 25, 2008]." [2008 c 122 § 26.]

**RCW 47.56.170 Toll bridges—Transfer of funds for bond payments—Surplus funds.** From the money deposited in each separate construction fund under RCW 47.56.160, the state treasurer shall transfer to the place or places of payment named in the bonds such sums as may be required to pay the interest as it becomes due on all bonds sold and outstanding for the construction of a particular toll bridge or toll bridges during the period of actual construction and during the period of six months immediately thereafter. The state treasurer shall thereafter transfer from each separate toll revenue fund to the place or places of payment named in the bonds such sums as may be required to pay the interest on the bonds and redeem the principal thereof as the interest payments and bond redemption become due for all bonds issued and sold for the construction of the particular toll bridge or toll bridges producing the tolls or revenues so deposited in the toll revenue fund. All funds so transferred for the payment of principal or interest on bonds issued for any particular toll bridge shall be segregated and applied solely for the payment of that principal or interest. The proceedings authorizing the issuance of bonds may provide for setting up a reserve fund or funds out of the tolls and other revenues not needed for the payment of principal and interest, as the same currently matures and for the preservation and continuance of the fund in a manner to be provided therein. The proceedings may also require the immediate application of all surplus moneys in the toll revenue fund to the retirement of the bonds prior to maturity, by call or purchase, in such manner and upon such terms and the payment of such premiums as may be deemed advisable in the judgment of the department.

The moneys remaining in each separate toll revenue fund after providing the amount required for interest and redemption of bonds as provided in this section shall be held and applied as provided in the proceedings authorizing the issuance of the bonds. If the proceedings authorizing the issuance of the bonds do not require surplus revenues to be held or applied in any particular manner, they shall be allocated and used for such other purposes incidental to the construction, operation, and maintenance of the toll bridge or bridges as the department may determine. [1984 c 7 § 259; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.170. Prior: 1937 c 173 § 14, part; RRS § 6524-14, part.]

**RCW 47.56.180 Toll bridges—Payments made by warrants on vouchers—Interest on deposits.** Warrants for payments to be made on account of the bonds shall be duly drawn by the state treasurer on vouchers approved by the department.

Moneys required to meet the costs of construction and all expenses and costs incidental to the construction of any particular toll bridge or toll bridges or to meet the costs of operating, maintaining, and repairing the bridge or bridges shall be paid from the proper fund therefor by the state treasurer upon vouchers approved by the department.

All interest received or earned on money deposited in each and every fund provided for in this chapter shall be credited to and become a part of the particular fund upon which the interest accrues. [1984 c 7 § 260; 1973 c 106 § 26; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.180. Prior: 1937 c 173 § 14, part; RRS § 6524-14, part.]

**RCW 47.56.190 Toll bridges—Agreement on deposit of funds.** The department may provide in the proceedings authorizing the issuance of bonds or may otherwise agree with the purchasers of bonds regarding the deposit of all moneys constituting the construction fund and the toll revenue fund and provide for the deposit of the money at such times and with such depositaries or paying agents and upon the furnishing of security as meets with the approval of the purchasers of the bonds so long as the depositaries and security provided for or agreed upon are qualified and eligible in accordance with the requirements of law. [1984 c 7 § 261; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.190. Prior: 1937 c 173 § 14, part; RRS § 6524-14, part.]

**RCW 47.56.200 Toll bridges—Use of bond proceeds and revenue for expenses.** Notwithstanding anything contained in this chapter, the proceeds received from the sale of bonds and the tolls or other revenues received from the operation of any toll bridge or toll bridges may be used to defray any expenses incurred by the department in connection with and incidental to the issuance and sale of bonds for the construction of the toll bridge or toll bridges including expenses for the preparation of surveys and estimates and making inspections and examinations required by the purchasers of the bonds. In addition, the proceedings authorizing the issuance of the bonds may contain appropriate provisions governing the use and application of the bond proceeds and toll or other revenues for the purposes herein specified. [1984 c 7 § 262; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.200. Prior: 1937 c 173 § 14, part; RRS § 6524-14, part.]



**RCW 47.56.210 Toll bridges—Remedies of bond holders.** While any bonds issued by the department under this chapter remain outstanding, the powers, duties, or existence of the department or of any other official or agency of the state shall not be diminished or impaired in any manner that will affect adversely the interests and rights of the holders of such bonds. The holder of any bond may by mandamus or other appropriate proceeding require and compel the performance of any of the duties imposed upon any state department, official, or employee, or imposed upon the department or its officers, agents, and employees in connection with the construction, maintenance, operation, and insurance of any bridge, and in connection with the collection, deposit, investment, application, and disbursement of all tolls and other revenues derived from the operation and use of any bridge and in connection with the deposit, investment, and disbursement of the proceeds received from the sale of bonds. The enumeration of rights and remedies in this section shall not be deemed to exclude the exercise or prosecution of any other rights or remedies by the holders of the bonds. [1984 c 7 § 263; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.210. Prior: 1937 c 173 § 18; RRS § 6524-18.]

**RCW 47.56.220 Toll bridges—Limitations on other service—Protection of outstanding bonds.** Except as otherwise provided in RCW \*47.56.291, \*\*47.56.714, and \*47.56.756, as long as any of the bonds issued hereunder for the construction of any toll bridge are outstanding and unpaid, there shall not be erected, constructed, or maintained any other bridge or other crossing over, under, through, or across the waters over which such toll bridge is located or constructed, connecting or joining directly or indirectly the lands or extensions thereof or abutments thereon on both sides of the waters spanned or crossed by such toll bridge within a distance of ten miles from either side of such toll bridge excepting bridges or other highway crossings actually in existence and being maintained, or for which there was outstanding an existing and lawfully issued franchise, at the time of the location of such toll bridge and prior to the time of the authorization of such bonds, and no ferry or other similar means of crossing the said waters within the said distance and connecting or plying directly or indirectly between the lands or extensions thereof or abutments thereon on both sides of the waters spanned or crossed by such bridge shall be maintained or operated or permitted or allowed: PROVIDED, That ferries and other similar means of crossing actually in existence and being maintained and operated, or for which there was outstanding an existing and lawfully issued franchise, at the time of the location of such bridge and prior to the time of the authorization of such bonds, may continue and be permitted to be operated and maintained under such existing rights and franchises, or any lawful renewal or extension thereof. The provisions of this section shall be binding upon the state department of transportation, the state of Washington, and all of its departments, agencies, or instrumentalities as well as any and all private, political, municipal, and public corporations and subdivisions, including cities, counties, and other political subdivisions, and the prohibitions of this section shall restrict and limit the powers of the legislature of the state of Washington in respect to the matters herein mentioned as long as any of such bonds are outstanding and unpaid and shall be deemed to constitute a contract to that effect for

the benefit of the holders of all such bonds. [1983 c 3 § 128; 1979 ex.s. c 212 § 19; 1979 c 131 § 8; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.220. Prior: 1937 c 173 § 13; RRS § 6524-13.]

**Reviser's note:** \*(1) RCW 47.56.291 and 47.56.756 were repealed by 2005 c 335 § 5.

\*\* (2) RCW 47.56.714 was repealed by 1990 c 42 § 403, effective September 1, 1990.

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 212:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1979 ex.s. c 212 § 21.]

**RCW 47.56.230 Toll bridges—Insurance or indemnity bonds authorized.** When any toll bridge or bridges authorized under this chapter is being built by the department, the department may carry or cause to be carried an amount of insurance or indemnity bond or bonds as protection against loss or damage as the department may deem proper. The department is hereby further empowered to carry such an amount of insurance to cover any accident or destruction in part or in whole to any toll bridge or toll bridges until all bonds sold for the construction of the toll bridge or toll bridges and interest accrued thereon have been fully redeemed and paid. All moneys collected on any indemnity bond or insurance policy as the result of any damage or injury to the toll bridge or toll bridges shall be used for the purpose of repairing or rebuilding the toll bridge or toll bridges as long as there are revenue bonds against any such structure outstanding and unredeemed. The department is also empowered to carry insurance or indemnity bonds insuring against the loss of tolls or other revenues to be derived from any such toll bridge or bridges by reason of any interruption in the use of the toll bridge or toll bridges from any cause whatever, and the proceeds of the insurance or indemnity bonds shall be paid into the fund into which the tolls and other revenues of the bridge thus insured are required to be paid and shall be applied to the same purposes and in the same manner as other moneys in the fund. The insurance or indemnity bonds may be in an amount equal to the probable tolls and other revenues to be received from the operation of the toll bridge or toll bridges during any period of time that may be determined by the department and fixed in its discretion, and be paid for out of the toll revenue fund as may be specified in the proceedings. The department may provide in the proceedings authorizing the issuance of bonds for the carrying of insurance as authorized by this chapter, and the purchase and carrying of insurance as authorized by this chapter, and the purchase and carrying of such insurance shall thereupon be obligatory upon the department and be paid for out of the toll revenue fund as may be specified in the proceedings. [1984 c 7 § 264; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.230. Prior: 1937 c 173 § 15; RRS § 6524-15.]

**RCW 47.56.240 Toll bridges—Fixing of toll rates authorized—Lien of bonds on revenue.** Except as otherwise provided in RCW 47.56.850, the commission is hereby empowered to fix the rates of toll and other charges for all toll bridges built under the terms of this chapter. Toll charges so fixed may be changed from time to time as conditions

warrant. The commission, in establishing toll charges, shall give due consideration to the cost of operating and maintaining such toll bridge or toll bridges including the cost of insurance, and to the amount required annually to meet the redemption of bonds and interest payments on them. The tolls and charges shall be at all times fixed at rates to yield annual revenue equal to annual operating and maintenance expenses including insurance costs and all redemption payments and interest charges of the bonds issued for any particular toll bridge or toll bridges as the bonds become due. The bond redemption and interest payments constitute a first direct charge and lien on all such tolls and other revenues and interest thereon. Sinking funds created therefrom received from the use and operation of the toll bridge or toll bridges, and such tolls and revenues together with the interest earned thereon shall constitute a trust fund for the security and payment of such bonds and shall not be used or pledged for any other purpose as long as any of these bonds are outstanding and unpaid. [2008 c 122 § 14; 1984 c 7 § 265; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.240. Prior: 1937 c 173 § 9; RRS § 6524-9.]

**RCW 47.56.242 Liquidation and closure of facility accounts upon removal of tolls—Transfer to motor vehicle fund.** The department is authorized to liquidate and close toll facility trust and other facility accounts established outside the state treasury under chapter 47.56 RCW after the removal of tolls from the facility for which the accounts were established. Any balance remaining in the accounts shall thereupon be transferred to the motor vehicle fund. In addition, the department may, after the removal of tolls from a particular facility or facilities, require that all moneys transferred to the place of payment named in the revenue bonds, for the purpose of paying principal or interest or for redemption of the bonds not then expended for such purpose, be returned to the state treasurer for deposit in the motor vehicle fund. [1984 c 7 § 266; 1967 ex.s. c 145 § 48.]

**RCW 47.56.243 Liquidation and closure of facility accounts upon removal of tolls—Satisfaction of claims.** After transfer of such moneys pursuant to RCW 47.56.242, all valid claims against such accounts, including proper claims for refunds for unused commute media and other prepaid toll fees, may be satisfied, and any outstanding bonds or any coupons may be redeemed by payment from the motor vehicle fund upon proper application to and approval by the department of transportation.

Neither the provisions of this section nor of RCW 47.56.242 shall be construed to preclude any remedy otherwise available to bond owners or coupon holders. [1983 c 167 § 119; 1967 ex.s. c 145 § 49.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**RCW 47.56.245 Toll charges retained until costs paid.** The department shall retain toll charges on all existing and future facilities until all costs of investigation, financing, acquisition of property, and construction advanced from the motor vehicle fund, and

obligations incurred under RCW 47.56.250 and chapter 16, Laws of 1945 have been fully paid.

(1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, with respect to every facility completed after March 19, 1953, costs of maintenance and operation shall be paid periodically out of the revenues of the facility in which such costs were incurred.

(2) Where a state toll facility is constructed under chapter 47.46 RCW adjacent to or within two miles of an existing bridge that was constructed under this chapter, revenue from the toll facility may not be used to pay for costs of maintenance on the existing bridge. [2002 c 114 § 23; 1984 c 7 § 267; 1965 ex.s. c 170 § 53; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.245. Prior: 1953 c 220 § 6.]

**Finding—Intent—2002 c 114:** See RCW 47.46.011.

**Captions not law—2002 c 114:** See note following RCW 47.46.011.

**RCW 47.56.247 Credit permits for vehicular passage.** The department may issue permits for the passage of vehicles on any or all of its toll bridges, toll tunnels, toll roads, or for the Washington state ferry system on a credit basis upon such terms and conditions as the department deems proper. [1984 c 7 § 268; 1961 c 258 § 1.]

**Severability—1961 c 258:** "If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1961 c 258 § 3.]

**RCW 47.56.248 Credit permits for vehicular passage—Cash deposit or bond—Revocation of permit.** The department may require the holder of the permit to furnish to and maintain in force with the department a cash deposit or a corporate surety bond. The department may require the holder of the permit to increase the amount of cash bond, or to furnish an additional surety bond, or may reduce the amount of the cash bond or surety bond required, as the amount of charges incurred and regularity of payment warrant, or may revoke any permit granted for failure of the holder to comply with any of its terms. [1984 c 7 § 269; 1961 c 258 § 2.]

**Severability—1961 c 258:** See note following RCW 47.56.247.

**RCW 47.56.250 Contributions by the state or political subdivision—Bonds—Repayment.** Whenever a proposed toll bridge, toll road, toll tunnel, or any other toll facility of any sort is to be constructed, any city, county, or other political subdivision located in relation to such facility so as to benefit directly or indirectly thereby, may, either jointly or separately, at the request of the transportation commission advance or contribute money, or bonds, rights-of-way, labor, materials, and other property toward the expense of building the toll facility, and for preliminary surveys and the preparation of plans and estimates of cost therefor and other preliminary expenses. Any such city, county, or other political subdivision may, either jointly or separately, at the request of the

transportation commission advance or contribute money or bonds for the purpose of guaranteeing the payment of interest or principal on the bonds issued by the commission to finance the toll facility. Appropriations for such purposes may be made from any funds available, including county road funds received from or credited by the state, or funds obtained by excess tax levies made pursuant to law or the issuance of general obligation bonds for this purpose. General obligation bonds issued by a city, county, or political subdivision may with the consent of the commission be placed with the department of transportation to be sold by the department to provide funds for such purpose. Money, or bonds, or property so advanced or contributed may be immediately transferred or delivered to the department to be used for the purpose for which contribution was made. The commission may enter into an agreement with a city, county, or other political subdivision to repay any money, or bonds or the value of a right-of-way, labor, materials, or other property so advanced or contributed. The commission may make such repayment to a city, county, or other political subdivision and reimburse the state for any expenditures made by it in connection with the toll facility out of tolls and other revenues for the use of the toll facility. [1977 ex.s. c 151 § 71; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.250. Prior: 1959 c 162 § 1; 1955 c 166 § 1; 1937 c 173 § 12; RRS § 6524-12.]

**RCW 47.56.253 Permits, leases, licenses to governmental entities to use property of toll facility or ferry system.** If the department deems it in the public interest and not inconsistent with the use and operation of the toll facility involved, the department may on application therefor issue a permit, lease, or license to the state, or to any city, county, port district, or other political subdivision or municipal corporation of the state to use any portion of the property of any toll bridge, toll road, toll tunnel, or Washington state ferry system upon such terms and conditions as the department may prescribe. [1984 c 7 § 270; 1961 c 257 § 2.]

**Severability—1961 c 257:** "If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1961 c 257 § 7.]

**RCW 47.56.254 Sale of unneeded property—Authorized—Rules.** If the secretary of transportation determines that any real property (including lands, improvements thereon, and any interests or estates) originally acquired for toll facility purposes is no longer required for purposes of the department, the department shall offer it for sale as authorized by RCW 47.12.063 or 47.12.283. The department may adopt rules further implementing this section. [1979 ex.s. c 189 § 4; 1977 ex.s. c 151 § 72; 1973 1st ex.s. c 177 § 3; 1961 c 257 § 3.]

**Effective date—1979 ex.s. c 189:** See note following RCW 47.12.283.

**Severability—1961 c 257:** See note following RCW 47.56.253.

**RCW 47.56.255 Sale of unneeded property—Certification to governor—Execution, delivery of deed.** When full payment for real property agreed to be sold as authorized by RCW 47.56.254 has been received, the department may certify this fact to the governor, with a description of the land and terms of the sale, and the governor may execute and the secretary of state shall attest the deed and deliver it to the grantee. [1984 c 7 § 271; 1973 1st ex.s. c 177 § 4; 1961 c 257 § 4.]

**Severability—1961 c 257:** See note following RCW 47.56.253.

**RCW 47.56.256 Franchises for utility, railway, urban public transportation purposes.** If the department deems it not inconsistent with the use and operation of any department facility, the department may grant franchises to persons, associations, private or municipal corporations, the United States government, or any agency thereof, to use any portion of the property of any toll bridge, toll road, toll tunnel, or the Washington state ferry system, including approaches thereto, for the construction and maintenance of water pipes, flumes, gas pipes, telephone, telegraph, and electric light and power lines and conduits, trams or railways, any structures or facilities that are part of an urban public transportation system owned or operated by a municipal corporation, agency, or department of the state of Washington other than the department of transportation, and any other such facilities in the manner of granting franchises on state highways. [1984 c 7 § 272; 1967 c 108 § 12; 1961 c 257 § 5.]

**Severability—1961 c 257:** See note following RCW 47.56.253.

*Urban public transportation system defined: RCW 47.04.082.*

**RCW 47.56.257 Deposit of moneys received under RCW 47.56.253 through 47.56.256.** Any moneys received pursuant to the provisions of RCW 47.56.253 through 47.56.256 shall be deposited into the separate and proper trust fund with the state treasurer established for the respective toll facility. [1979 ex.s. c 189 § 5; 1961 c 257 § 6.]

**Effective date—1979 ex.s. c 189:** See note following RCW 47.12.283.

**Severability—1961 c 257:** See note following RCW 47.56.253.

**RCW 47.56.258 Notification requirements.** Actions under this chapter are subject to the notification requirements of RCW 43.17.400. [2007 c 62 § 10.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—2007 c 62:** See notes following RCW 43.17.400.

**RCW 47.56.270 1950 Tacoma Narrows bridge part of primary highways.** The 1950 Tacoma Narrows bridge in chapter 47.17 RCW made a part of the primary state highways of the state of Washington shall,

upon completion, be operated, maintained, kept up, and repaired by the department in the manner provided in this chapter, and the cost of such operation, maintenance, upkeep, and repair shall be paid from funds appropriated for the use of the department for the construction and maintenance of the primary state highways of the state of Washington. This section does not apply to that portion of the Tacoma Narrows bridge facility first opened to traffic after June 13, 2002. [2005 c 335 § 4; 2002 c 114 § 20; 1983 c 3 § 129; 1961 c 13 § 47.56.270. Prior: 1939 c 5 § 4; RRS § 6524-3a.]

**Finding—Intent—2002 c 114:** See RCW 47.46.011.

**Captions not law—2002 c 114:** See note following RCW 47.46.011.

**RCW 47.56.271 1950 Tacoma Narrows bridge toll-free—Exception.**

Except as otherwise provided in this section, the 1950 Tacoma Narrows bridge hereinbefore by the provisions of RCW 47.17.065 and 47.56.270 made a part of the primary state highways of the state shall be operated and maintained by the department as a toll-free facility at such time as the bonded indebtedness relating to the construction of the 1950 Tacoma Narrows bridge is wholly retired and tolls equaling the indebtedness of the toll bridge authority incurred for the construction of the 1950 Tacoma Narrows bridge to the county of Pierce have been collected. Toll charges may be imposed upon the 1950 Tacoma Narrows bridge only if that bridge is included as part of a public toll bridge facility that includes an additional toll bridge adjacent to the 1950 Tacoma Narrows bridge and constructed under RCW 47.46.080. [2002 c 114 § 21; 1983 c 3 § 130; 1965 c 50 § 1.]

**Finding—Intent—2002 c 114:** See RCW 47.46.011.

**Captions not law—2002 c 114:** See note following RCW 47.46.011.

**RCW 47.56.366 Hood Canal bridge—Public sport fishing—Disclaimer of liability.**

The department may permit public sport fishing from the Hood Canal bridge. The department may adopt rules governing public use of the bridge for sport fishing to the end that such activity shall not interfere with the primary use and operation of the bridge as a highway facility. Notwithstanding the provisions of RCW 4.92.090 or any other statute imposing liability upon the state of Washington, the state hereby disclaims any liability arising out of loss or injury in connection with the public use of the Hood Canal bridge for sport fishing purposes. [1984 c 7 § 277; 1963 c 240 § 2.]

**RCW 47.56.401 High occupancy toll lanes defined.** For the purposes of RCW 46.61.165, \*47.56.403, and \*47.66.090, "high occupancy toll lanes" means one or more lanes of a highway that charges tolls as a means of regulating access to or the use of the facility, to maintain travel speed and reliability. Supporting facilities include, but are not limited to, approaches, enforcement areas, improvements, buildings, and equipment. [2005 c 312 § 2.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 47.56.403 and 47.66.090 were repealed by 2019 c 421 § 16.

**Intent—2005 c 312:** "The legislature recognizes that the Puget Sound region is faced with growing traffic congestion and has limited ability to expand freeway capacity due to financial, environmental, and physical constraints. Freeway high occupancy vehicle lanes have been an effective means of providing transit, vanpools, and carpools with a fast trip on congested freeway corridors, but in many cases, these lanes are themselves getting crowded during the peak commute times, while some are being underused at off-peak times.

It is the intent of the legislature to maximize the effectiveness and efficiency of the freeway system. To evaluate methods to accomplish this, it is beneficial to evaluate alternative approaches to managing the use of freeway high occupancy vehicle lanes, including pilot projects to determine and demonstrate the effectiveness and benefits of implementing high occupancy toll lanes. The legislature acknowledges that state route 167 provides an ideal test of the high occupancy toll lane concept because it is a congested corridor, it has underused capacity in the high occupancy vehicle lane, and it has adequate right-of-way for improvements needed to test the concept. Therefore, it is the intent of this act to direct that the department of transportation, as a pilot project, develop and operate a high occupancy toll lane on state route 167 in King county and to conduct an evaluation of that project to determine impacts on freeway efficiency, effectiveness for transit, feasibility of financing improvements through tolls, and the impacts on freeway users." [2005 c 312 § 1.]

**Captions—2005 c 312:** "Section captions used in this act are not any part of the law." [2005 c 312 § 9.]

**RCW 47.56.600 Naches Pass tunnel—Design.** Upon adoption of the financing plan the commission and the authority, acting jointly, shall forthwith proceed to make the design for the entire project. [1961 c 13 § 47.56.600. Prior: 1959 c 292 § 4.]

**Reviser's note:** Powers, duties, and functions of highway commission and toll bridge authority transferred to department of transportation; see RCW 47.01.031. Terms "commission" and "authority" mean department of transportation; see RCW 47.04.015.

**RCW 47.56.711 Spokane river bridges.** The state highway bridge across the Spokane river in the vicinity of Trent Avenue in Spokane shall be known and designated as the James E. Keefe bridge.

After September 1, 1990, ownership of the Spokane river toll bridge, known as the Maple Street bridge, shall revert to the city of Spokane. [1990 c 42 § 401; 1979 c 131 § 1.]

**Purpose—Effective dates—Application—Implementation—1990 c 42:** See notes following RCW 46.68.090.

**Severability—1979 c 131:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1979 c 131 § 11.]



**RCW 47.56.720 Puget Island-Westport ferry—Payments for operation and maintenance to Wahkiakum county—Toll-free operation and provision of rest room facilities, when.** (1) The legislature finds that the ferry operated by Wahkiakum county between Puget Island and Westport on the Columbia river provides an important transportation bypass for state route 4 and provides the only crossing of the Columbia river between the Astoria-Megler bridge and the Longview bridge.

(2) The department is hereby authorized to enter into a continuing agreement with Wahkiakum county pursuant to which the department shall pay to Wahkiakum county from moneys appropriated for such purpose monthly amounts not to exceed 85 percent of the operating and maintenance deficit with a maximum not to exceed the amount appropriated for that biennium to be used in the operation and maintenance of the Puget Island ferry, commencing July 1, 1992.

(3) The annual deficit, if any, incurred in the operation and maintenance of the ferry shall be determined by Wahkiakum county subject to the approval of the department. If 85 percent of the deficit for the preceding fiscal year exceeds the total amount paid to the county for that year, the additional amount shall be paid to the county by the department upon the receipt of a properly executed voucher. The fares established by the county shall be comparable to those used for similar runs on the state ferry system.

(4) Whenever, subsequent to June 9, 1977, state route 4 between Cathlamet and Longview is closed to traffic pursuant to chapter 47.48 RCW due to actual or potential slide conditions and there is no suitable, reasonably short alternate state route provided, Wahkiakum county is authorized to operate the Puget Island ferry on a toll-free basis during the entire period of such closure. The state's share of the ferry operations and maintenance deficit during such period shall be 100 percent.

(5) Whenever state route 4 between Cathlamet and Longview is closed to traffic, as mentioned in subsection (4) [of this subsection] hereof, the state of Washington shall provide temporary rest room facilities at the Washington ferry landing terminal. [2023 c 428 § 1; 1992 c 82 § 1; 1987 c 368 § 1; 1984 c 7 § 285; 1977 c 11 § 1; 1973 2nd ex.s. c 26 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 254 § 1.]

**Effective date—1987 c 368:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect July 1, 1987." [1987 c 368 § 2.]

**Effective date—1973 2nd ex.s. c 26:** "This 1973 amendatory act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect October 1, 1973." [1973 2nd ex.s. c 26 § 3.]

**RCW 47.56.725 County ferries—Deficit reimbursements—Capital improvement funds.** (1) The department is hereby authorized to enter into a continuing agreement with Pierce, Skagit, and Whatcom counties pursuant to which the department shall, from time to time, direct the distribution to each of the counties the amounts authorized in subsection (2) of this section in accordance with RCW 46.68.090.

(2) The department is authorized to include in each agreement a provision for the distribution of funds to each county to reimburse the county for fifty percent of the deficit incurred during each previous fiscal year in the operation and maintenance of the ferry system owned and operated by the county. The total amount to be reimbursed to Pierce, Skagit, and Whatcom counties collectively shall not exceed one million eight hundred thousand dollars in the 2015-2017 biennium. For subsequent biennia, the amount authorized in this section must increase by the fiscal growth factor as defined in RCW 43.135.025. Each county agreement shall contain a requirement that the county shall maintain tolls on its ferries at least equal to published fares in place on January 1, 2015, excluding surcharges.

(3) The annual fiscal year operating and maintenance deficit, if any, shall be determined by Pierce, Skagit, and Whatcom counties subject to review and approval of the department. The annual fiscal year operating and maintenance deficit is defined as the total of operations and maintenance expenditures less the sum of ferry toll revenues and that portion of fuel tax revenue distributions which are attributable to the county ferry as determined by the department. Distribution of the amounts authorized by subsection (2) of this section by the state treasurer shall be directed by the department upon the receipt of properly executed vouchers from each county.

(4) The county road administration board may evaluate requests by Pierce, Skagit, Wahkiakum, and Whatcom counties for county ferry capital improvement funds. The board shall evaluate the requests and, if approved by a majority of the board, submit the requests to the legislature for funding out of the amounts available under RCW 46.68.090(2)(h). Any county making a request under this subsection shall first seek funding through the public works trust fund, or any other available revenue source, where appropriate. [2015 c 230 § 1; 1999 c 269 § 12; 1991 c 310 § 1; 1984 c 7 § 286; 1977 c 51 § 2; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 57 § 2; 1975 1st ex.s. c 21 § 1.]

**Effective date—1999 c 269:** See note following RCW 36.78.070.

**Effective date—1977 c 51:** "This 1977 amendatory act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect on July 1, 1977." [1977 c 51 § 4.]

**Severability—1977 c 51:** "If any provision of this 1977 amendatory act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1977 c 51 § 3.]

**RCW 47.56.730 "No Smoking" areas on ferries—Establishment directed.** The legislature finds that the public health, safety, and welfare require that "No Smoking" areas be established on all state ferries since there is a significant number of our citizens who are nonsmokers. The department is hereby authorized and directed to adopt rules pursuant to the administrative procedure act, chapter 34.05 RCW, to establish and clearly designate areas on all state-operated ferries that are expressly reserved for use by nonsmokers. [1984 c 7 § 287; 1974 ex.s. c 10 § 1.]

**RCW 47.56.770 Refunding bonds—Authorized.** The state finance committee is authorized to issue refunding bonds and use other available money to refund, defease, and redeem all of those toll bridge authority, ferry, and Hood Canal bridge refunding revenue bonds under RCW 47.56.771 through 47.56.774. [1993 c 4 § 2.]

**Legislative declaration—1993 c 4:** "It is declared that it is in the best interest of the state to modify the debt service and reserve requirements, sources of payment, covenants, and other terms of the outstanding toll bridge authority, ferry, and Hood Canal bridge refunding revenue bonds." [1993 c 4 § 1.]

**Effective date—1993 c 4:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately [March 12, 1993]." [1993 c 4 § 11.]

**RCW 47.56.771 Refunding bonds—General obligation—Signatures, negotiability—Payment of principal and interest—Pledge of excise taxes.** (1) The refunding bonds authorized under RCW 47.56.770 must be general obligation bonds of the state of Washington and must be issued in a total principal amount not to exceed fifteen million dollars. The exact amount of refunding bonds to be issued must be determined by the state finance committee after calculating the amount of money deposited with the trustee for the bonds to be refunded which can be used to redeem or defease outstanding toll bridge authority, ferry, and Hood Canal bridge revenue bonds after the setting aside of sufficient money from that fund to pay the first interest installment on the refunding bonds. The refunding bonds must be serial in form maturing at such time, in such amounts, having such denomination or denominations, redemption privileges, and having such terms and conditions as determined by the state finance committee. The last maturity date of the refunding bonds may not be later than January 1, 2002.

(2) The refunding bonds must be signed by the governor and the state treasurer under the seal of the state, which signatures must be made manually or in printed facsimile. The bonds must be registered in the name of the owner in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. The refunding bonds must distinctly state that they are a general obligation of the state of Washington, must pledge the full faith and credit of the state, and must contain an unconditional promise to pay the principal thereof and the interest thereon when due. The refunding bonds must be fully negotiable instruments.

(3) The principal and interest on the refunding bonds must be first payable in the manner provided in this section from the proceeds of state excise taxes on fuels imposed by chapter 82.38 RCW.

(4) The principal of and interest on the refunding bonds must be paid first from the state excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels deposited in the ferry bond retirement fund. There is hereby pledged the proceeds of state excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels imposed under chapter 82.38 RCW to pay the refunding bonds and interest thereon, and the legislature hereby agrees to continue to impose the same excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels in amounts sufficient to pay, when due, the principal and interest on the refunding bonds. Not less than fifteen days prior to

the date any interest or principal and interest payments are due, the state finance committee must certify to the state treasurer such amount of additional money as may be required for debt service, and the treasurer must thereupon transfer from the motor vehicle fund such amount from the proceeds of such excise taxes into the ferry bond retirement fund. Any proceeds of such excise taxes required for these purposes must first be taken from that portion of the motor vehicle fund which results from the imposition of the excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and which is distributed to the Puget Sound capital construction account. If the proceeds from excise taxes distributed to the state are ever insufficient to meet the required payments on principal or interest on the refunding bonds when due, the amount required to make the payments on the principal or interest must next be taken from that portion of the motor vehicle fund which results from the imposition of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and which is distributed to the state, counties, cities, and towns pursuant to RCW 46.68.090. Any payments of the principal or interest taken from the motor vehicle or special fuel tax revenues which are distributable to the counties, cities, and towns must be repaid from the first money distributed to the state not required for redemption of the refunding bonds or interest thereon. The legislature covenants that it will at all times provide sufficient revenues from the imposition of such excise taxes to pay the principal and interest due on the refunding bonds. [2013 c 225 § 634; 1999 c 269 § 14; 1995 c 274 § 17; 1993 c 4 § 3.]

**Effective date—2013 c 225:** See note following RCW 82.38.010.

**Effective date—1999 c 269:** See note following RCW 36.78.070.

**Legislative declaration—Effective date—1993 c 4:** See notes following RCW 47.56.770.

**RCW 47.56.772 Refunding bonds—Liquidation of existing bond funds.** Upon the issuance of refunding bonds as authorized by RCW 47.56.770, the department of transportation may liquidate the existing bond fund and other funds and accounts established in the proceedings which authorized the issuance of the outstanding toll bridge authority, ferry, and Hood Canal bridge refunding revenue bonds and apply the money contained in those funds and accounts to the defeasance and redemption of outstanding toll bridge authority, ferry, and Hood Canal refunding revenue bonds, except that prior to such bond redemption, money sufficient to pay the first interest installment on the refunding bonds shall be deposited in the ferry bond retirement fund. Money remaining in such funds not used for such bond defeasance and redemption or first interest installment on the refunding bonds shall be transferred to and deposited in the Puget Sound ferry operations account created under RCW 47.60.530. [1999 c 94 § 25; 1993 c 4 § 4.]

**Legislative finding—Effective dates—1999 c 94:** See notes following RCW 43.84.092.

**Legislative declaration—Effective date—1993 c 4:** See notes following RCW 47.56.770.

**RCW 47.56.773 Refunding bonds—Repayment to Puget Sound capital construction account.** Any money appropriated from the Puget Sound capital construction account under section 10, chapter 4, Laws of 1993 and expended to pay expenses of issuing the refunding bonds authorized by RCW 47.56.770, and any money in the Puget Sound capital construction account subsequently used to pay principal and interest on the refunding bonds authorized by RCW 47.56.770 shall be repaid to the Puget Sound capital construction account for use by the department of transportation. [1993 c 4 § 5.]

**Legislative declaration—Effective date—1993 c 4:** See notes following RCW 47.56.770.

**RCW 47.56.774 Various bond issues—Charge against fuel tax revenues.** Except as otherwise provided by statute, the refunding bonds issued under authority of RCW 47.56.770, the bonds authorized by RCW 47.60.560 through 47.60.640, the bonds authorized by RCW 47.26.420 through 47.26.427, and any general obligation bonds of the state of Washington which have been or may be authorized by the legislature after the enactment of those sections and which pledge motor vehicle and special fuel excise taxes for the payment of principal thereof and interest thereon shall be an equal charge and lien against the revenues from such motor vehicle and special fuel excise taxes. [1993 c 4 § 6.]

**Legislative declaration—Effective date—1993 c 4:** See notes following RCW 47.56.770.

**RCW 47.56.785 Authority to collect tolls on existing or replacement state route number 520 bridge—Toll charge schedule.** (1) Following the submission of the report required in section 6, chapter 270, Laws of 2008, the department may seek authorization from the legislature to collect tolls on the existing state route number 520 bridge or on a replacement state route number 520 bridge.

(2) The schedule of toll charges must be established by the transportation commission and collected in a manner determined by the department. [2008 c 270 § 4.]

**Finding—2008 c 270:** See note following RCW 47.01.408.

**RCW 47.56.790 Interstate 90 floating bridge tolls—Federal authorization—Report.** The department shall work with the federal highways administration to determine the necessary actions for receiving federal authorization to toll the Interstate 90 floating bridge. The department must periodically report the status of those discussions to the governor and the joint transportation committee. [2008 c 270 § 5.]

**Finding—2008 c 270:** See note following RCW 47.01.408.

**RCW 47.56.795 Tolls—Electronic toll collection and photo toll systems—Administrative fees—Violation—In-vehicle device**

**availability.** (1) A toll collection system may include, but is not limited to, electronic toll collection and photo tolling.

(2) (a) A photo toll system may take photographs, digital photographs, microphotographs, videotapes, or other recorded images of the vehicle and vehicle license plate only.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all photographs, digital photographs, microphotographs, videotape, other recorded images, or other records identifying a specific instance of travel prepared under this chapter are for the exclusive use of the tolling agency for toll collection and enforcement purposes and are not open to the public and may not be used in a court in a pending action or proceeding unless the action or proceeding relates to a civil penalty under RCW 46.63.160. No photograph, digital photograph, microphotograph, videotape, other recorded image, or other record identifying a specific instance of travel may be used for any purpose other than toll collection or enforcement of civil penalties under RCW 46.63.160. Records identifying a specific instance of travel by a specific person or vehicle must be retained only as required to ensure payment and enforcement of tolls and to comply with state records retention policies. Aggregate records that do not identify an individual, vehicle, or account may be maintained.

(3) The department and its agents shall only use electronic toll collection system technology for toll collection purposes.

(4) Tolls may be collected and paid by the following methods:

(a) A customer may pay an electronic toll through an electronic toll collection account;

(b) A customer may pay a photo toll either through a customer-initiated payment or in response to a toll bill; or

(c) A customer may pay with cash on toll facilities that have a manual cash collection system.

(5) To the extent practicable, the department shall adopt electronic toll collection options, which allow for anonymous customer accounts and anonymous accounts that are not linked to a specific vehicle.

(6) The transportation commission shall adopt rules, in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW, to assess administrative fees as appropriate for toll collection processes. Administrative fees must not exceed toll collection costs. All administrative fees collected under this section must be deposited into the toll facility account of the facility on which the toll was assessed.

(7) Failure to pay a photo toll by the toll payment due date is a violation for which a notice of civil penalty may be issued under RCW 46.63.160.

(8) For an electronic toll collection system that uses an in-vehicle device, such as a transponder, to identify a particular customer for the purposes of paying an electronic toll from that customer's toll collection account, the department must allow such in-vehicle devices to be offered for sale at vehicle dealers. [2015 c 292 § 2; 2010 c 249 § 3.]

**Contingent effective date—2010 c 249:** "This act takes effect upon certification by the secretary of transportation that the new statewide tolling operations center and photo toll system are fully operational. A notice of certification must be filed with the code reviser for publication in the state register. If a certificate is not issued by the secretary of transportation by December 1, 2012, this

act is null and void." [2010 c 249 § 12.] A notice of certification was filed with the code reviser on December 2, 2011, becoming effective December 3, 2011 (see WSR 11-24-042).

**RCW 47.56.796 Toll rates—Legislative approval—Adjustments—Reports.** (1) Consistent with RCW 43.135.055 and 47.56.805 through 47.56.876, the legislature approves the action taken by the transportation commission on January 5, 2011, adopting amended rules to set the schedule of toll rates applicable to the state route number 520 corridor. The legislature further authorizes the transportation commission, as the tolling authority for the state, to set and adjust toll rates on the state route number 520 corridor in accordance with the authorization, requirements, and guidelines set forth in RCW 47.56.830, 47.56.850, and 47.56.870. The transportation commission may adjust the toll rates, as identified in the adopted schedule of toll rates, only in amounts not greater than those sufficient to meet (a) the operating costs of the state route number 520 corridor, including necessary maintenance, preservation, renewal, replacement, administration, and toll enforcement by public law enforcement and (b) obligations for the timely payment of debt service on bonds issued under chapter 498, Laws of 2009 and chapter 377, Laws of 2011, and any other associated financing costs including, but not limited to, required reserves, minimum debt coverage or other appropriate contingency funding, insurance, and compliance with all other financial and other covenants made by the state in the bond proceedings. Prior to the convening of each regular session of the legislature, the transportation commission must provide the transportation committees of the legislature with a detailed report regarding any increase or decrease in any toll rate approved by the commission that has not been described in a previous report provided pursuant to this subsection (1), along with a detailed justification for each such increase or decrease.

(2) Consistent with RCW 43.135.055 and 47.46.100, the legislature approves the action taken by the transportation commission on January 25, 2011, adopting amended rules to set the schedule of photo toll, or "pay by mail," charges applicable to the Tacoma Narrows bridge. Prior to the convening of each regular session of the legislature, the transportation commission must provide the transportation committees of the legislature with a detailed report regarding any increase or decrease in any toll rate approved by the commission that has not been described in a previous report provided pursuant to this subsection (2), along with a detailed justification for each such increase or decrease.

(3) Consistent with RCW 43.135.055 and 47.56.795(6), the legislature approves the action taken by the transportation commission on January 5, 2011, adopting amended rules concerning the assessment of administrative fees for toll collection processes. The administrative fees must not exceed toll collection costs. [2011 c 377 § 2.]

**Effective date—2011 c 377:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [May 16, 2011]." [2011 c 377 § 8.]

TOLL FACILITIES CREATED AFTER JULY 1, 2008

**RCW 47.56.805 Finding—Intent.** The legislature finds and declares that it is the policy of the state of Washington to use tolling to provide a source of transportation funding and to encourage effective use of the transportation system.

The legislature intends that the policy framework created by chapter 122, Laws of 2008 will guide subsequent legislation and decisions regarding the tolling of specific facilities and corridors. For each state-owned facility or corridor, the legislature intends that it will authorize the budget and finance plan. Specific issues that may be addressed in the finance plan and budget authorization legislation include the amount of financing required for a facility or corridor, the budget for any construction and operations financed by tolling, whether and how variable pricing will be applied, and the timing of tolling.

The legislature also intends that while the transportation commission, as the toll-setting authority, may set toll rates for facilities, corridors, or systems thereof, the legislature reserves the authority to impose tolls on any state transportation route or facility. Similarly, local or quasi-local entities that retain the power to impose tolls may do so as long as the effect of those tolls on the state highway system is consistent with the policy guidelines detailed in chapter 122, Laws of 2008. If the imposition of tolls could have an impact on state facilities, the state tolling authority must review and approve such tolls. [2008 c 122 § 1.]

**RCW 47.56.810 Definitions. (Contingent expiration date.)** The definitions in this section apply throughout this subchapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

(1) "Eligible toll facility" or "eligible toll facilities" means portions of the state highway system specifically identified by the legislature including, but not limited to, transportation corridors, bridges, crossings, interchanges, on-ramps, off-ramps, approaches, bistate facilities, and interconnections between highways.

(2) "Express toll lanes" means one or more high occupancy vehicle lanes of a highway in which the department charges tolls primarily as a means of regulating access to or use of the lanes to maintain travel speed and reliability.

(3) "Toll revenue" or "revenue from an eligible toll facility" means toll receipts, all interest income derived from the investment of toll receipts, and any gifts, grants, or other funds received for the benefit of transportation facilities in the state, including eligible toll facilities.

(4) "Tolling authority" means the governing body that is legally empowered to review and adjust toll rates. Unless otherwise delegated, the transportation commission is the tolling authority for all state highways. [2011 c 377 § 7; 2011 c 369 § 2; 2008 c 122 § 3.]

**Reviser's note:** (1) The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k).

(2) This section was amended by 2011 c 369 § 2 and by 2011 c 377 § 7, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are



incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Finding—2012 c 36:** "The legislature finds that the replacement and improvement of the Interstate 5 Columbia river crossing is critical for the west coast's transportation system and for the safety of Washington and Oregon drivers. The interstate bridge includes two side-by-side structures built in 1917 and 1958. In 2005, approximately one hundred thirty-four thousand vehicles traveled across the interstate bridge each day, and about forty billion dollars in freight crosses the river each year. Collisions on and near the bridge occur at a rate almost twice as high as other similar urban highways, and the aging bridges are vulnerable to earthquakes. Replacing these structures and making multimodal improvements to facilitate travel in the bistate corridor is essential for the economy of the region. Therefore, the state must develop a comprehensive approach to fund an Interstate 5 Columbia river crossing project." [2012 c 36 § 1.]

**\*Contingent effective date—2012 c 36:** "Except for section 4 of this act, this act takes effect upon, and tolls may not be collected on the Columbia river crossing project until: (1) Certification of the secretary of transportation to the governor that the department of transportation has received satisfactory evidence that sufficient funding, including federal funds, will be available to complete the phase of the Columbia river crossing project that includes the construction of the Columbia river bridge and landings; and (2) the agreement or agreements described in section 4 of this act have taken effect. If the secretary of transportation does not provide such certification to the governor by December 31, 2015, this act, except for section 4 of this act, is null and void." [2012 c 36 § 7.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The contingency in 2012 c 36 § 7 did not occur by December 31, 2015.

**Notice of certification and toll rate agreements—2012 c 36:** "The secretary of transportation must provide notice that the governor has received certification as described under section 7 of this act to affected parties, the chief clerk of the house of representatives, the secretary of the senate, the office of the code reviser, and others as deemed appropriate by the secretary. Additionally, the tolling authority, as defined in RCW 47.56.810, must provide written notice that the agreements described under section 4 of this act have taken effect to affected parties, the chief clerk of the house of representatives, the secretary of the senate, the office of the code reviser, and others as deemed appropriate by the tolling authority." [2012 c 36 § 8.]

**Effective date—2011 c 377:** See note following RCW 47.56.796.

**Intent—2011 c 369:** See note following RCW 47.56.880.

**RCW 47.56.810 Definitions. (Contingent effective date.)** The definitions in this section apply throughout this subchapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

(1) "Eligible toll facility" or "eligible toll facilities" means portions of the state highway system specifically identified by the

legislature including, but not limited to, transportation corridors, bridges, crossings, interchanges, on-ramps, off-ramps, approaches, bistate facilities, and interconnections between highways. For purposes of a bistate facility, the legislature may define an "eligible toll facility" to include a part of a project that may extend beyond the state border.

(2) "Express toll lanes" means one or more high occupancy vehicle lanes of a highway in which the department charges tolls primarily as a means of regulating access to or use of the lanes to maintain travel speed and reliability.

(3) "Toll revenue" or "revenue from an eligible toll facility" means toll receipts, all interest income derived from the investment of toll receipts, and any gifts, grants, or other funds received for the benefit of transportation facilities in the state, including eligible toll facilities.

(4) "Tolling authority" means the governing body that is legally empowered to review and adjust toll rates. Unless otherwise delegated, the transportation commission is the tolling authority for all state highways. [2023 c 377 § 5. Prior: 2011 c 377 § 7; 2011 c 369 § 2; 2008 c 122 § 3.]

**Finding—Contingent effective date—2023 c 377:** See notes following RCW 47.56.902.

**Finding—2012 c 36:** "The legislature finds that the replacement and improvement of the Interstate 5 Columbia river crossing is critical for the west coast's transportation system and for the safety of Washington and Oregon drivers. The interstate bridge includes two side-by-side structures built in 1917 and 1958. In 2005, approximately one hundred thirty-four thousand vehicles traveled across the interstate bridge each day, and about forty billion dollars in freight crosses the river each year. Collisions on and near the bridge occur at a rate almost twice as high as other similar urban highways, and the aging bridges are vulnerable to earthquakes. Replacing these structures and making multimodal improvements to facilitate travel in the bistate corridor is essential for the economy of the region. Therefore, the state must develop a comprehensive approach to fund an Interstate 5 Columbia river crossing project." [2012 c 36 § 1.]

**\*Contingent effective date—2012 c 36:** "Except for section 4 of this act, this act takes effect upon, and tolls may not be collected on the Columbia river crossing project until: (1) Certification of the secretary of transportation to the governor that the department of transportation has received satisfactory evidence that sufficient funding, including federal funds, will be available to complete the phase of the Columbia river crossing project that includes the construction of the Columbia river bridge and landings; and (2) the agreement or agreements described in section 4 of this act have taken effect. If the secretary of transportation does not provide such certification to the governor by December 31, 2015, this act, except for section 4 of this act, is null and void." [2012 c 36 § 7.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The contingency in 2012 c 36 § 7 did not occur by December 31, 2015.

**Notice of certification and toll rate agreements—2012 c 36:** "The secretary of transportation must provide notice that the governor has

received certification as described under section 7 of this act to affected parties, the chief clerk of the house of representatives, the secretary of the senate, the office of the code reviser, and others as deemed appropriate by the secretary. Additionally, the tolling authority, as defined in RCW 47.56.810, must provide written notice that the agreements described under section 4 of this act have taken effect to affected parties, the chief clerk of the house of representatives, the secretary of the senate, the office of the code reviser, and others as deemed appropriate by the tolling authority." [2012 c 36 § 8.]

**Effective date—2011 c 377:** See note following RCW 47.56.796.

**Intent—2011 c 369:** See note following RCW 47.56.880.

**RCW 47.56.820 Imposition of tolls on eligible toll facilities—Who may authorize, revenue expenditures.** (1) Unless otherwise delegated, only the legislature may authorize the imposition of tolls on eligible toll facilities.

(2) All revenue from an eligible toll facility must be used only to construct, improve, preserve, maintain, manage, or operate the eligible toll facility on or in which the revenue is collected. Expenditures of toll revenues are subject to appropriation and must be made only:

(a) To cover the operating costs of the eligible toll facility, including necessary maintenance, preservation, administration, and toll enforcement by public law enforcement within the boundaries of the facility;

(b) To meet obligations for the repayment of debt and interest on the eligible toll facilities, and any other associated financing costs including, but not limited to, required reserves and insurance;

(c) To meet any other obligations to provide funding contributions for any projects or operations on the eligible toll facilities;

(d) To provide for the operations of conveyances of people or goods; or

(e) For any other improvements to the eligible toll facilities.

[2008 c 122 § 4.]

**RCW 47.56.830 Policy guidelines for eligible toll facility proposals.** Any proposal for the establishment of eligible toll facilities shall consider the following policy guidelines:

(1) Overall direction. Washington should use tolling to encourage effective use of the transportation system and provide a source of transportation funding.

(2) When to use tolling. Tolling should be used when it can be demonstrated to contribute a significant portion of the cost of a project that cannot be funded solely with existing sources or optimize the performance of the transportation system. Such tolling should, in all cases, be fairly and equitably applied in the context of the statewide transportation system and not have significant adverse impacts through the diversion of traffic to other routes that cannot otherwise be reasonably mitigated. Such tolling should also consider relevant social equity, environmental, and economic issues, and should

be directed at making progress toward the state's greenhouse gas reduction goals.

(3) Use of toll revenue. All revenue from an eligible toll facility must be used only to improve, preserve, manage, or operate the eligible toll facility on or in which the revenue is collected. Additionally, toll revenue should provide for and encourage the inclusion of recycled and reclaimed construction materials.

(4) Setting toll rates. Toll rates, which may include variable pricing, must be set to meet anticipated funding obligations. To the extent possible, the toll rates should be set to optimize system performance, recognizing necessary trade-offs to generate revenue.

(5) Duration of toll collection. Because transportation infrastructure projects have costs and benefits that extend well beyond those paid for by initial construction funding, tolls on future toll facilities may remain in place to fund additional capacity, capital rehabilitation, maintenance, management, and operations, and to optimize performance of the system. [2008 c 122 § 5.]

**RCW 47.56.840 Tolling advisory committee.** (1) A tolling advisory committee may be created at the direction of the tolling authority for any eligible toll facilities. The tolling authority shall appoint nine members to the committee, all of whom must be permanent residents of the affected project area as defined for each project. Members of the committee shall serve without receiving compensation.

(2) The tolling advisory committee shall serve in an advisory capacity to the tolling authority on all matters related to the imposition of tolls including, but not limited to: (a) The feasibility of providing discounts; (b) the trade-off of lower tolls versus the early retirement of debt; and (c) consideration of variable or time of day pricing.

(3) In setting toll rates, the tolling authority shall consider recommendations of the tolling advisory committee. [2008 c 122 § 6.]

**RCW 47.56.850 Transportation commission as state tolling authority—Powers and duties—Toll rates—Restrictions on toll revenue.**

(1) Unless these powers are otherwise delegated by the legislature, the transportation commission is the tolling authority for the state. The tolling authority shall:

(a) Set toll rates, establish appropriate exemptions, if any, and make adjustments as conditions warrant on eligible toll facilities;

(b) Review toll collection policies, toll operations policies, and toll revenue expenditures on the eligible toll facilities and report annually on this review to the legislature.

(2) The tolling authority, in determining toll rates, shall consider the policy guidelines established in RCW 47.56.830.

(3) Unless otherwise directed by the legislature, in setting and periodically adjusting toll rates, the tolling authority must ensure that toll rates will generate revenue sufficient to:

(a) Meet the operating costs of the eligible toll facilities, including necessary maintenance, preservation, renewal, replacement, administration, and toll enforcement by public law enforcement;

(b) Meet obligations for the timely payment of debt service on bonds issued for eligible toll facilities, and any other associated

financing costs including, but not limited to, required reserves, minimum debt coverage or other appropriate contingency funding, insurance, and compliance with all other financial and other covenants made by the state in the bond proceedings;

(c) Meet obligations to reimburse the motor vehicle fund for excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels applied to the payment of bonds issued for eligible toll facilities; and

(d) Meet any other obligations of the tolling authority to provide its proportionate share of funding contributions for any projects or operations of the eligible toll facilities.

(4) The established toll rates may include variable pricing, and should be set to optimize system performance, recognizing necessary trade-offs to generate revenue for the purposes specified in subsection (3) of this section. Tolls may vary for type of vehicle, time of day, traffic conditions, or other factors designed to improve performance of the system.

(5) In fixing and adjusting toll rates under this section, the only toll revenue to be taken into account must be toll revenue pledged to bonds that includes toll receipts, and the only debt service requirements to be taken into account must be debt service on bonds payable from and secured by toll revenue that includes toll receipts.

(6) The legislature pledges to appropriate toll revenue as necessary to carry out the purposes of this section. When the legislature has specifically identified and designated an eligible toll facility and authorized the issuance of bonds for the financing of the eligible toll facility that are payable from and secured by a pledge of toll revenue, the legislature further agrees for the benefit of the owners of outstanding bonds issued by the state for eligible toll facilities to continue in effect and not to impair or withdraw the authorization of the tolling authority to fix and adjust tolls as provided in this section. The state finance committee shall pledge the state's obligation to impose and maintain tolls, together with the application of toll revenue as described in this section, to the owners of any bonds. [2009 c 498 § 15; 2008 c 122 § 7.]

**RCW 47.56.855 Report to legislature on toll rate increases and decreases by transportation commission.** Prior to the convening of each regular session of the legislature, the transportation commission must provide the transportation committees of the legislature with a detailed report regarding any increase or decrease in any toll rate approved by the commission that has not been described in a previous report provided pursuant to this section, along with a detailed justification for each such increase or decrease. [2009 c 472 § 6.]

**Intent—Effective date—2009 c 472:** See notes following RCW 47.56.870.

**RCW 47.56.860 Application.** This subchapter applies only to all state toll bridges and other state toll facilities, excluding the Washington state ferries, first authorized within this state after July 1, 2008. However, this subchapter does not apply to bridges under chapter 47.87 RCW. [2022 c 89 § 18; 2008 c 122 § 2.]

**RCW 47.56.862 State route number 99, deep bore tunnel—Tolls authorized—Eligible toll facility—Toll revenue—Toll rate schedule.**

(1) The initial imposition of tolls on the portion of state route number 99 that is the deep bore tunnel under First Avenue from the vicinity of the sports stadiums in Seattle to Aurora Avenue north of the Battery Street tunnel is authorized, this portion of state route number 99 is designated an eligible toll facility, and toll revenue generated from this facility must only be expended as allowed under RCW 47.56.820.

(2) The toll imposed under this section must be charged only for travel on the portion of state route number 99 that is a deep bore tunnel.

(3) (a) In setting toll rates for the deep bore tunnel portion of state route number 99 pursuant to RCW 47.56.850, the tolling authority shall set a variable schedule of toll rates to maintain travel time, speed, and reliability on this facility and generate the necessary revenue as required under (b) of this subsection.

(b) The tolling authority may adjust the variable schedule of toll rates at least annually to reflect inflation as measured by the consumer price index to meet the redemption of bonds, to meet the obligations of the tolling authority under RCW 47.56.850, and interest payments on bonds and for those costs that are eligible under RCW 47.56.820. [2012 c 83 § 2.]

**Finding—Intent—2012 c 83:** "The legislature finds that there is an urgent need to replace the central waterfront section of state route number 99, known as the Alaskan Way viaduct, because the viaduct is vulnerable to closure, damage, or catastrophic failure as a result of earthquakes or other events. In 2009, the legislature determined that the finance plan for the Alaskan Way viaduct replacement project should include no more than four hundred million dollars in toll funding for the project.

Therefore, it is the intent of the legislature to authorize tolling on the Alaskan Way viaduct replacement project, both to help finance the Alaskan Way viaduct replacement project and to help maintain travel time, speed, and reliability on the portion of state route number 99 that would be replaced by this project." [2012 c 83 § 1.]

**RCW 47.56.864 Alaskan Way viaduct replacement project account—Deposits—Use and transfer of funds.** A special account to be known as the Alaskan Way viaduct replacement project account is created in the state treasury.

(1) Deposits to the account must include:

(a) All proceeds of bonds issued for construction of the Alaskan Way viaduct replacement project, including any capitalized interest;

(b) All of the tolls and other revenues received from the operation of the Alaskan Way viaduct replacement project as a toll facility, to be deposited at least monthly;

(c) Any interest that may be earned from the deposit or investment of those revenues;

(d) Notwithstanding RCW 47.12.063, proceeds from the sale of any surplus real property acquired for the purpose of building the Alaskan Way viaduct replacement project; and

(e) All damages, liquidated or otherwise, collected under any contract involving the construction of the Alaskan Way viaduct replacement project.

(2) Subject to the covenants made by the state in the bond proceedings authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds for the construction of the Alaskan Way viaduct replacement project, toll charges, other revenues, and interest received from the operation of the Alaskan Way viaduct replacement project as a toll facility may be used to:

(a) Pay any required costs allowed under RCW 47.56.820; and

(b) Repay amounts to the motor vehicle fund as required.

(3) When repaying the motor vehicle fund, the state treasurer shall transfer funds from the Alaskan Way viaduct replacement project account to the motor vehicle fund on or before each debt service date for bonds issued for the construction of the Alaskan Way viaduct replacement project in an amount sufficient to repay the motor vehicle fund for amounts transferred from that fund to the highway bond retirement fund to provide for any bond principal and interest due on that date. The state treasurer may establish subaccounts for the purpose of segregating toll charges, bond sale proceeds, and other revenues. [2012 c 83 § 3.]

**Finding—Intent—2012 c 83:** See note following RCW 47.56.862.

**RCW 47.56.870 State route No. 520 corridor—Tolls authorized—Eligible toll facility—Toll revenue—Toll rate schedule—Bridge replacement program, work groups.** (1) The initial imposition of tolls on the state route number 520 corridor is authorized, the state route number 520 corridor is designated an eligible toll facility, and toll revenue generated in the corridor must only be expended as allowed under RCW 47.56.820.

(2) The state route number 520 corridor consists of that portion of state route number 520 between the junctions of Interstate 5 and state route number 202. The toll imposed by this section shall be charged only for travel on the floating bridge portion of the state route number 520 corridor.

(3) (a) In setting the toll rates for the corridor pursuant to RCW 47.56.850, the tolling authority shall set a variable schedule of toll rates to maintain travel time, speed, and reliability on the corridor and generate the necessary revenue as required under (b) of this subsection.

(b) The tolling authority shall initially set the variable schedule of toll rates, which the tolling authority may adjust at least annually to reflect inflation as measured by the consumer price index or as necessary to meet the redemption of bonds and interest payments on the bonds, to generate revenue sufficient to provide for:

(i) The issuance of general obligation bonds, authorized in RCW 47.10.879, first payable from toll revenue and then excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels pledged for the payment of those bonds in the amount necessary to fund the state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV program, subject to subsection (4) of this section; and

(ii) Costs associated with the project designated in subsection (4) of this section that are eligible under RCW 47.56.820.

(4) (a) The proceeds of the bonds designated in subsection (3) (b) (i) of this section must be used only to fund the state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV program; however, two hundred million dollars of bond proceeds, in excess of the proceeds necessary to complete the floating bridge segment and necessary landings, must be used only to fund the state route number 520, Interstate 5 to Medina bridge replacement and HOV project segment of the program, as identified in applicable environmental impact statements, and may be used to fund effective connections for high occupancy vehicles and transit for state route number 520, but only to the extent those connections benefit or improve the operation of state route number 520.

(b) The program must include the following elements within the cost constraints identified in section 1, chapter 472, Laws of 2009, consistent with the legislature's intent that cost savings applicable to the program stay within the program and that the bridge open to vehicular traffic in 2014:

(i) A project design, consistent with \*RCW 47.01.408, that includes high occupancy vehicle lanes with a minimum carpool occupancy requirement of three-plus persons on state route number 520;

(ii) High occupancy vehicle lane performance standards for the state route number 520 corridor established by the department. The department shall report to the transportation committees of the legislature when average transit speeds in the two lanes that are for high occupancy vehicle travel fall below forty-five miles per hour at least ten percent of the time during peak hours;

(iii) A work group convened by the mayor and city council of the city of Seattle to include sound transit, King county metro, the Seattle department of transportation, the department, the University of Washington, and other persons or organizations as designated by the mayor or city council to study and make recommendations of alternative connections for transit, including bus routes and high capacity transit, to the university link light rail line. The work group must consider such techniques as grade separation, additional stations, and pedestrian lids to effect these connections. The recommendations must be alternatives to the transit connections identified in the supplemental draft environmental impact statement for the state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV program released in January 2010, and must meet the requirements under \*RCW 47.01.408, including accommodating effective connections for transit. The recommendations must be within the scope of the supplemental draft environmental impact statement. For the purposes of this section, "effective connections for transit" means a connection that connects transit stops, including high capacity transit stops, that serve the state route number 520/Montlake interchange vicinity to the university link light rail line, with a connection distance of less than one thousand two hundred feet between the stops and the light rail station. The city of Seattle shall submit the recommendations by October 1, 2010, to the governor and the transportation committees of the legislature. However, if the city of Seattle does not convene the work group required under this subsection before July 1, 2010, or does not submit recommendations to the governor and the transportation committees of the legislature by October 1, 2010, the department must convene the work group required under this subsection and meet all the requirements of this subsection that are described as requirements of the city of Seattle by November 30, 2010;



(iv) A work group convened by the department to include sound transit and King county metro to study and make recommendations regarding options for planning and financing high capacity transit through the state route number 520 corridor. The department shall submit the recommendations by January 1, 2011, to the governor and the transportation committees of the legislature;

(v) A plan to address mitigation as a result of the state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV program at the Washington park arboretum. As part of its process, the department shall consult with the governing board of the Washington park arboretum, the Seattle city council and mayor, and the University of Washington to identify all mitigation required by state and federal law resulting from the state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV program's impact on the arboretum, and to develop a project mitigation plan to address these impacts. The department shall submit the mitigation plan by December 31, 2010, to the governor and the transportation committees of the legislature. Wetland mitigation required by state and federal law as a result of the state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV program's impacts on the arboretum must, to the greatest extent practicable, include on-site wetland mitigation at the Washington park arboretum, and must enhance the Washington park arboretum. This subsection (4)(b)(v) does not preclude any other mitigation planned for the Washington park arboretum as a result of the state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV program;

(vi) A work group convened by the department to include the mayor of the city of Seattle, the Seattle city council, the Seattle department of transportation, and other persons or organizations as designated by the Seattle city council and mayor to study and make recommendations regarding design refinements to the preferred alternative selected by the department in the supplemental draft environmental impact statement process for the state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV program. To accommodate a timely progression of the state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV program, the design refinements recommended by the work group must be consistent with the current environmental documents prepared by the department for the supplemental draft environmental impact statement. The department shall submit the recommendations to the legislature and governor by December 31, 2010, and the recommendations must inform the final environmental impact statement prepared by the department; and

(vii) An account, created in section 5 of this act, into which civil penalties generated from the nonpayment of tolls on the state route number 520 corridor are deposited to be used to fund any project within the program, including mitigation. However, this subsection (4)(b)(vii) is contingent on the enactment by June 30, 2010, of either chapter 249, Laws of 2010 or \*\*chapter . . . (Substitute House Bill No. 2897), Laws of 2010, but if the enacted bill does not designate the department as the toll penalty adjudicating agency, this subsection (4)(b)(vii) is null and void.

(5) The department may carry out the improvements designated in subsection (4) of this section and administer the tolling program on the state route number 520 corridor. [2010 c 248 § 2; 2009 c 472 § 2.]

**Reviser's note:** \*(1) 2010 c 248 § 3, which amended RCW 47.01.408, was vetoed by the governor.

\*\* (2) Substitute House Bill No. 2897 did not pass.

**Intent—2009 c 472:** "It is the intent of the legislature that the state authorize early tolling on the state route number 520 corridor in order to secure the authority to spend federal grant moneys provided to Washington state as part of the urban partnership grant program.

It is further the intent of the legislature to impose tolls on the state route number 520 floating bridge subject to section 2 of this act, to help finance construction of the replacement state route number 520 floating bridge and necessary landings.

It is further the intent of the legislature to expedite the replacement of the floating bridge and necessary landings in a manner that does not preclude local design options on either side of the state route number 520 corridor. For all projects in the state route number 520 corridor program, the legislature intends that the total cost will be no more than four billion six hundred fifty million dollars.

It is further the intent of the legislature that if the tolls on the state route number 520 corridor significantly alter the performance of nearby facilities, the legislature will reconsider the tolling policy for the corridor.

It is further the intent of the legislature that the department of transportation applies for federal stimulus funds for projects in the corridor." [2009 c 472 § 1.]

**Effective date—2009 c 472:** "This act takes effect August 1, 2009." [2009 c 472 § 7.]

**RCW 47.56.875 State route No. 520 corridor account—Deposits—Use and transfer of funds.** A special account to be known as the state route number 520 corridor account is created in the state treasury.

(1) Deposits to the account must include:

(a) All proceeds of bonds issued for the state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV program, including any capitalized interest;

(b) Except as provided in RCW 47.56.870(4)(b)(vii), all of the tolls and other revenues received from the operation of the state route number 520 corridor as a toll facility, to be deposited at least monthly;

(c) Any interest that may be earned from the deposit or investment of those revenues;

(d) Notwithstanding RCW 47.12.063, proceeds from the sale of any surplus real property acquired for the state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV program; and

(e) All damages, liquidated or otherwise, collected under any contract involving the state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV program.

(2) Subject to the covenants made by the state in the bond proceedings authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds for the state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV program, toll charges, other revenues, and interest received from the operation of the state route number 520 corridor as a toll facility may be used to:

(a) Pay any required costs allowed under RCW 47.56.820; and

(b) Repay amounts to the motor vehicle fund as required.

(3) When repaying the motor vehicle fund, the state treasurer shall transfer funds from the state route number 520 corridor account

to the motor vehicle fund on or before each debt service date for bonds issued for the state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV program in an amount sufficient to repay the motor vehicle fund for amounts transferred from that fund to the highway bond retirement fund to provide for any bond principal and interest due on that date. The state treasurer may establish subaccounts for the purpose of segregating toll charges, bond sale proceeds, and other revenues. [2010 c 248 § 4; 2009 c 472 § 4.]

**Intent—Effective date—2009 c 472:** See notes following RCW 47.56.870.

**RCW 47.56.876 State route number 520 civil penalties account.**

(1) A special account to be known as the state route number 520 civil penalties account is created in the state treasury. All state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV program civil penalties generated from the nonpayment of tolls on the state route number 520 corridor must be deposited into the account, as provided under RCW 47.56.870(4)(b)(vii). Moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation. Expenditures from the account must be used to fund legal obligations associated with bonds and loans associated with the construction and operation of state route number 520 under circumstances where the toll revenue collections at the time are not sufficient to fully cover such legal obligations, and then may be used to fund any project within the state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV program, including mitigation. The legislature may direct the state treasurer to make transfers of moneys in the state route number 520 civil penalties account to the state route number 520 corridor account. During the 2021-2023 and 2023-2025 fiscal biennia, the legislature may direct the state treasurer to transfer moneys in the state route number 520 civil penalties account to the motor vehicle account [fund].

(2) For purposes of this section, "legal obligations associated with bonds and loans" includes, but is not limited to, debt service and all other activities necessary to comply with financial covenants associated with state route number 520, costs associated with the civil penalties program, and operation and maintenance costs. [2023 c 472 § 713; 2022 c 157 § 17. Prior: 2021 c 333 § 709; 2021 c 136 § 1; 2019 c 416 § 710; 2017 c 313 § 713; 2015 1st sp.s. c 10 § 706; 2013 c 306 § 710; 2011 c 367 § 720; 2010 c 248 § 5.]

**Effective date—2023 c 472:** See note following RCW 43.19.642.

**Effective date—2021 c 333:** See note following RCW 43.19.642.

**Effective date—2021 c 136:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [April 26, 2021]." [2021 c 136 § 2.]

**Effective date—2019 c 416:** See note following RCW 43.19.642.

**Effective date—2017 c 313:** See note following RCW 43.19.642.

**Effective date—2015 1st sp.s. c 10:** See note following RCW 43.19.642.

**Effective date—2013 c 306:** See note following RCW 47.64.170.

**Effective date—2011 c 367:** See note following RCW 47.29.170.

**RCW 47.56.878 State route number 167 and Interstate 405 corridor project—Construction—Application for deferral of state and local sales and use taxes—Department of revenue to issue certificate—Payments—Interest and penalties—Subject to disclosure.** (1) (a) A person involved in the construction of any state route number 167 and Interstate 405 corridor project may apply to the department of revenue for deferral of state and local sales and use taxes owed by that person with respect to the site preparation for, the construction of, the acquisition of any related machinery and equipment that will become a part of, and the rental of equipment for use in, the projects. The deferral is for purchases made and labor or services rendered on or after July 1, 2022.

(b) Deferral applicants must submit their applications for deferral in a form and manner prescribed by the department of revenue. The application must contain information regarding estimated or actual costs, time schedules for completion and operation, and other information required by the department of revenue. The department of revenue shall approve the application within 60 days if it meets the requirements of this section.

(2) The department of revenue shall issue a sales and use tax deferral certificate to qualifying applicants for state and local sales and use taxes imposed or authorized under chapters 82.08, 82.12, and 82.14 RCW and RCW 81.104.170 on the project.

(3) A person granted a tax deferral under this section shall begin paying the deferred taxes in the tenth year after the date the department notifies the department of revenue in writing that all projects qualifying for a deferral under this section are operationally complete. The first payment is due on December 31st of the tenth calendar year after the notification date, with subsequent annual payments due on December 31st of the following nine years. Each payment must equal 10 percent of the deferred tax.

(4) The department of revenue may authorize an accelerated repayment schedule upon request of a person granted a deferral under this section.

(5) Interest and penalties must not be charged on any taxes deferred under this section for the period of deferral, although all other penalties and interest applicable to delinquent excise taxes may be assessed and imposed for delinquent payments under this section. The debt for deferred taxes is not extinguished by insolvency or other failure of any private entity granted a deferral under this section.

(6) Applications and any other information received by the department of revenue under this section are not confidential and are subject to disclosure. Chapter 82.32 RCW applies to the administration of this section.

(7) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(a) "Person" has the same meaning as in RCW 82.04.030 and also includes the department.

(b) "Qualifying applicant" means a person whose deferral application under this section was approved by the department of revenue.

(c) "State route number 167 and Interstate 405 corridor project" means any of the following projects:

(i) Interstate 405 and state route number 522 vicinity to state route number 527 express toll lanes improvement project (design completion and construction);

(ii) Interstate 405 Renton to Bellevue widening and express toll lanes project (construction of phase 3);

(iii) Northbound and southbound state route number 167 stage 6 extension project (design and construction);

(iv) Interstate 405 and North 8th Street direct access ramp project (design and construction); and

(v) Northeast 85th Street toll equipment through the Interstate 405 and Northeast 85th Street interchange and inline bus rapid transit station project (toll infrastructure construction). [2022 c 274 § 1.]

**Automatic expiration date and tax preference performance**

**statement exemption—2022 c 274:** "The provisions of RCW 82.32.805 and 82.32.808 do not apply to this act." [2022 c 274 § 2.]

**Effective date—2022 c 274:** "This act takes effect July 1, 2022." [2022 c 274 § 3.]

**RCW 47.56.880 Interstate 405 and state route number 167 corridors—Tolls authorized—Eligible toll facility—Toll rate schedule—Capacity improvements—Performance measures—Violation.** (1) The imposition of tolls for express toll lanes on Interstate 405 between Interstate 5 on the north end in the city of Lynnwood and Interstate 5 on the south end in the city of Tukwila, and for state route number 167 between Interstate 405 on the north end and state route number 512 on the south end is authorized. Interstate 405 and state route number 167 are designated an eligible toll facility, and toll revenue generated in the corridor must only be expended on the Interstate 405 and state route number 167 projects as identified in each corridor's master plan and as allowed under RCW 47.56.820.

(2) Tolls for the express toll lanes must be set as follows:

(a) The schedule of toll rates must be set by the tolling authority pursuant to RCW 47.56.850. Toll rates may vary in amount by time of day, level of traffic congestion within the highway facility, or other criteria, as the tolling authority deems appropriate.

(b) In those locations with two express toll lanes in each direction, the toll rate must be the same in both lanes.

(c) Toll charges may not be assessed on transit buses and vanpools.

(d) The department shall establish performance standards for travel time, speed, and reliability for the express toll lanes project. The department must automatically adjust the toll rate within the schedule established by the tolling authority, using dynamic tolling, to maintain the goal that average vehicle speeds in the lanes remain above forty-five miles per hour at least ninety percent of the time during peak hours.

(e) The tolling authority shall periodically review the toll rates against traffic performance of all lanes to determine if the

toll rates are effectively maintaining travel time, speed, and reliability on the highway facilities.

(f) (i) Toll charges may not be assessed on carpools with two or more people in the vehicle on the portion of Interstate 405 between Bellevue and state route number 167 for at least the first year following the initial imposition of tolls on that portion of the express toll lanes, contingent upon the analysis described in (f) (ii) of this subsection.

(ii) The department must analyze the effect of (f) (i) of this subsection utilizing forecasting and modeling data and present the results of the analysis to the tolling authority. If the analysis indicates that the express toll lanes on the portion of Interstate 405 between Bellevue and state route number 167 will not cover the financial obligations outlined in RCW 47.56.884(4), then the restriction on toll charges in (f) (i) of this subsection will not be implemented and the department must provide the transportation committees of the legislature with a report, within thirty days, that provides options for not assessing toll charges on carpools with two or more people in the vehicle, which also meet the financial obligations outlined in RCW 47.56.884(4).

(g) After the bonds issued pursuant to RCW 47.10.896(1) (a) are retired, the tolling authority must reduce the toll rates commensurate with this reduction in the amount of toll revenues required from the express toll lanes.

(3) The department shall work with local jurisdictions to minimize and monitor impacts to local streets and, after consultation with local jurisdictions, recommend mitigation measures to the legislature in those locations where it is appropriate.

(4) The department shall monitor the express toll lanes and shall annually report to the transportation commission and the legislature on the impacts from the project on the following performance measures:

(a) Whether the express toll lanes maintain speeds of forty-five miles per hour at least ninety percent of the time during peak periods, and any alternate metric determined by the department in conjunction with the federal highway administration;

(b) Whether the average traffic speed changed in the general purpose lanes;

(c) Whether transit ridership changed;

(d) Whether the actual use of the express toll lanes is consistent with the projected use;

(e) Whether the express toll lanes generated sufficient revenue to pay for all express toll lane-related operating costs; and

(f) Whether travel times and volumes have increased or decreased on adjacent local streets and state highways.

(5) The department, in consultation with the transportation commission, shall consider making operational changes necessary to fix any unintended consequences of implementing the express toll lanes.

(6) A violation of the lane restrictions applicable to the express toll lanes established under this section is a traffic infraction. [2019 c 421 § 11; 2011 c 369 § 3.]

**Intent—Effective date—2019 c 421:** See notes following RCW 47.10.896.

**Intent—2011 c 369:** "The legislature recognizes that the Puget Sound region is faced with growing traffic congestion and has limited

ability to expand freeway capacity due to financial, environmental, and physical constraints. Freeway high occupancy vehicle lanes have been an effective means of providing transit, vanpools, and carpools with a fast trip on congested freeway corridors, but in many cases, these lanes operate beyond their capacity during peak commute times.

It is the intent of the legislature to improve mobility for people and goods by maximizing the effectiveness of the freeway system. An express toll lanes network is one approach for managing the use of freeway high occupancy vehicle lanes and, at the same time, generating funds to improve the Interstate 405 and state route number 167 corridor. The legislature acknowledges that as one of the most congested freeway sections in the state, the combined Interstate 405 and state route number 167 corridor serves as an ideal candidate for the use of an express toll lanes network. An express toll lanes network could provide benefits for movement of vehicles and people, as well as having the potential to generate revenue for other improvements in the Interstate 405 and state route number 167 corridor, also known as the eastside corridor.

The legislature also recognizes the need for geographic balance and regional equity in decisions regarding tolling and pricing, and intends to consider the implementation of express toll lanes on other facilities in the region in the future. It is further the intent of the legislature to use its evaluation of initial express toll lanes on Interstate 405 to guide additions to the express toll lanes network, particularly in the most congested areas of the Interstate 405 and state route number 167 corridor, such as the Renton-to-Bellevue segment and the Interstate 405/state route number 167 interchange, with the ultimate goal of continuous express toll lanes from Puyallup to Lynnwood.

Therefore, it is the intent of this act to direct the department of transportation to develop and operate express toll lanes on Interstate 405 between the city of Bellevue on the south end and Interstate 5 on the north end and to conduct an evaluation of that project to determine the impacts on the movement of vehicles and people through the Interstate 405 and state route number 167 corridor, effectiveness for transit, carpools and single occupancy vehicles, and feasibility of financing capacity improvements through tolls." [2011 c 369 § 1.]

**RCW 47.56.884 Interstate 405 and state route number 167 express toll lanes account.** (1) The Interstate 405 and state route number 167 express toll lanes account is created in the motor vehicle fund.

(2) Deposits to the account must include:

(a) All proceeds of bonds authorized in RCW 47.10.896(1)(a) and loans for the Interstate 405 and state route number 167 projects, including capitalized interest;

(b) All tolls and other revenues received from the operation of the Interstate 405 and state route number 167 express toll lanes facility, to be deposited at least monthly;

(c) Any interest that may be earned from the deposit or investment of those revenues;

(d) Notwithstanding RCW 47.12.063, proceeds from the sale of any surplus real property acquired for completing the Interstate 405 and state route number 167 express toll lanes facility; and

(e) All damages liquidated or otherwise, collected under any contract involving Interstate 405 or state route number 167 projects.

(3) Moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation, consistent with RCW 47.56.820.

(4) The proceeds of the general obligation bonds authorized in RCW 47.10.896(1)(a) shall be used to make progress toward completion of the Interstate 405 and state route number 167 master plans. It is the intent of the legislature to first use the bond proceeds for the following projects:

(a) Up to six hundred million dollars to design and construct capacity improvements on Interstate 405 between state route number 522 and state route number 527. This project would widen Interstate 405 through the state route number 522 interchange, build direct access ramps to the express toll lanes at state route number 522, build one new lane in each direction to be used as a second express toll lane, and build a partial direct access ramp at state route number 527 to the east, north, and south, to provide connections to the Canyon Park park and ride;

(b) Up to two hundred fifteen million dollars toward completion of the I-405/Renton to Bellevue - Corridor Widening project (M00900R);

(c) Up to three million dollars to update the state route number 167 master plan;

(d) Up to one hundred million dollars to construct both the northbound and southbound state route number 167 stage 6 extension project. This project would extend the express toll lanes south to the state route number 410 and state route number 512 interchange to help mitigate traffic congestion; and

(e) Up to twenty million dollars to design the Interstate 405/North 8th Street Direct Access Ramp project in the city of Renton. It is the intent of the legislature to provide construction funding for this project at a later date. [2019 c 421 § 12; 2011 c 369 § 5.]

**Intent—Effective date—2019 c 421:** See notes following RCW 47.10.896.

**Intent—2011 c 369:** See note following RCW 47.56.880.

**RCW 47.56.886 State route number 167 and Interstate 405 express toll lane system—Traffic and revenue analysis—Finance plan.** (1)(a) The transportation commission shall retain appropriate independent experts and conduct a traffic and revenue analysis for the development of a forty-mile continuous express toll lane system that includes state route number 167 and Interstate 405. The analysis must include a review of the following variables within the express toll lane system:

(i) Vehicles with two or more occupants are exempt from payment;

(ii) Vehicles with three or more occupants are exempt from payment;

(iii) A variable fee; and

(iv) A flat rate fee.

(b) The department, in consultation with the transportation commission, shall develop a corridor-wide project management plan to develop a strategy for phasing the completion of improvements in the Interstate 405 and state route number 167 corridor.

(2) The department, in consultation with the transportation commission, shall use the information from the traffic and revenue analysis and the corridor-wide project management plan to develop a finance plan to fund improvements in the Interstate 405 and state



route number 167 corridor. The department must include the following elements in the finance plan:

(a) Current state and federal funding contributions for projects in the Interstate 405 and state route number 167 corridor;

(b) A potential future state and federal funding contribution to leverage toll revenues;

(c) Financing mechanisms to optimize the revenue available for capacity improvements including, but not limited to, using the full faith and credit of the state;

(d) An express toll lane system operating in the Interstate 405 and state route number 167 corridor by 2014; and

(e) Completion of the capacity improvements in the Interstate 405 and state route number 167 corridor.

(3) The department and the transportation commission must consult with a committee consisting of local and state elected officials from the Interstate 405 and state route number 167 corridor and representatives from the transit agencies that operate in the Interstate 405 and state route number 167 corridor while developing the performance standards, traffic and revenue analysis, and finance plan.

(4) The transportation commission must provide the traffic and revenue analysis plan, and the department must provide the finance plan, to the governor and the legislature by January 2012. The department shall provide technical and other support as requested by the transportation commission to complete the plans identified in this subsection. Funds from Interstate 405 capital project appropriations may be used by the transportation commission through an interagency agreement with the department to cover the cost of the plans identified in this subsection.

(5) The department shall conduct ongoing education and outreach to ensure public awareness of the express toll lane system. [2011 c 369 § 4.]

**Intent—2011 c 369:** See note following RCW 47.56.880.

**RCW 47.56.888 Interstate 405 and state route number 167 corridors—Performance—Reevaluation of options.** The legislature recognizes the need to reduce congestion and improve mobility on the Interstate 405 and state route number 167 corridors, and finds that performance on the corridors has not met the goal that average vehicle speeds in the express toll lanes remain above 45 miles per hour at least 90 percent of the time during peak hours. Therefore, the legislature intends that the commission reevaluate options at least every two years to improve performance on the Interstate 405 and state route number 167 corridors, pursuant to RCW 47.56.880 and 47.56.850. [2022 c 182 § 425.]

**Intent—Effective date—2022 c 182:** See notes following RCW 70A.65.240.

**RCW 47.56.892 Columbia river crossing project—Agreements with the Oregon state transportation commission. (Contingent repeal.)** For the Columbia river crossing project, the tolling authority may enter into agreements with the Oregon state transportation commission

regarding the mutual or joint setting, adjustment, and review of toll rates as the tolling authority may find necessary to carry out the purposes of this section. Any agreement between the tolling authority and the Oregon state transportation commission made pursuant to this section takes effect, and is not binding and enforceable until, thirty days after adjournment of the next ensuing regular legislative session. If the tolling authority has not entered into an agreement with the Oregon state transportation commission by December 31, 2015, this section expires. [2012 c 36 § 4.]

**Reviser's note:** The tolling authority (Washington state transportation commission) entered into an agreement as described in section 4, chapter 36, Laws of 2012 with the Oregon state transportation commission, dated December 19, 2012. This section was previously removed from the code then restored by the office of the code reviser upon receipt of notice pursuant to section 8, chapter 36, Laws of 2012 on December 15, 2016.

**Contingent repeal—2023 c 377:** "RCW 47.56.892 (Columbia river crossing project—Agreements with the Oregon state transportation commission) and 2012 c 36 s 4 are each repealed." [2023 c 377 § 10.]

**RCW 47.56.895 Puget Sound Gateway facility—Toll rates.** (1) The Puget Sound Gateway facility is designated an eligible toll facility, tolls are authorized to be imposed on the Puget Sound Gateway facility, and toll revenue generated must be expended only as allowed under RCW 47.56.820.

(2)(a) In setting toll rates for the Puget Sound Gateway facility, pursuant to RCW 47.56.850, the tolling authority shall set a variable schedule of toll rates to maintain travel time, speed, and reliability on the Puget Sound Gateway facility.

(b) The tolling authority may adjust toll rates to reflect inflation as measured by the consumer price index or as necessary for those costs that are eligible under RCW 47.56.820 and to meet the obligations of the tolling authority under RCW 47.56.850.

(c) After the bonds issued pursuant to RCW 47.10.896(1)(b) are retired, the tolling authority must reduce the toll rates commensurate with this reduction in the amount of toll revenues required from the express toll lanes.

(3) For the purposes of this section and RCW 47.56.897, "Puget Sound Gateway facility" means the state route number 167 roadway between north Meridian Avenue in Puyallup and Interstate 5 in Fife, the state route number 509 spur between Interstate 5 in Fife and state route number 509 in Tacoma, and the state route number 509 roadway between south 188th Street and Interstate 5 in SeaTac.

(4) Prior to setting the schedule of toll rates on the portion of state route number 509 between South 188th Street and Interstate 5 in SeaTac, the department, in collaboration with the transportation commission, must analyze and present to the transportation commission at least one schedule of toll rates that exempts, discounts, or provides other toll relief for low-income drivers during all hours of operation on state route number 509 between South 188th Street and Interstate 5 in SeaTac. In analyzing the schedule of toll rates, the department shall consider implementing an exemption, discount, or other toll relief policy for drivers that reside in close proximity to the corridor. [2019 c 421 § 13.]

**Intent—Effective date—2019 c 421:** See notes following RCW 47.10.896.

**RCW 47.56.897 Puget Sound Gateway facility account.** (1) A special account to be known as the Puget Sound Gateway facility account is created in the motor vehicle fund.

(2) Deposits to the account must include:

(a) All proceeds of bonds authorized in RCW 47.10.896(1)(b) and loans for the Puget Sound Gateway project, including capitalized interest;

(b) All tolls and other revenues received from the operation of the Puget Sound Gateway facility, to be deposited at least monthly;

(c) Any interest that may be earned from the deposit or investment of those revenues;

(d) Notwithstanding RCW 47.12.063, proceeds from the sale of any surplus real property acquired for completing the Puget Sound Gateway project, including existing state route number 509 right-of-way in SeaTac and Des Moines; and

(e) All damages liquidated or otherwise, collected under any contract involving the Puget Sound Gateway project.

(3) Moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation, consistent with RCW 47.56.820.

(4) The proceeds of the general obligation bonds authorized in RCW 47.10.896(1)(b) shall be used to make progress toward completion of the Puget Sound Gateway facility. It is the intent of the legislature to use the bond proceeds to advance the Puget Sound Gateway facility in order to maximize net mobility benefits for both freight and the traveling public. It is the intent of the legislature for tolling to begin on stage one of the project as soon as practicable in order to leverage toll funds, use bond proceeds to advance one hundred twenty-nine million dollars of connecting Washington state appropriations by two biennia to the 2023-2025 biennium, and advance local and federal contributions. This will allow the department of transportation to deliver and open to the public stage two of the project in fiscal year 2028, three years earlier than originally planned, and to realize twenty million dollars in cost savings in connecting Washington state appropriations.

(5) It is also the intent of the legislature to use the bond proceeds for up to five million dollars to provide noise mitigation on state route number 509 between south 188th Street and Interstate 5.

(6) It is further the intent of the legislature to clarify how the tolling of state route number 167 and state route number 509 will be implemented by requiring the transportation commission and the department of transportation to consider naming the sections of each facility where all of the lanes are tolled as the state route number 167 express way and the state route number 509 express way respectively. [2019 c 421 § 14.]

**Intent—Effective date—2019 c 421:** See notes following RCW 47.10.896.

**RCW 47.56.900 High occupancy toll lanes operations account, repealed—Residual balance of funds, year-end accruals—Transfer to Interstate 405 and state route number 167 express toll lanes account.**

Any residual balance of funds remaining in the high occupancy toll lanes operations account repealed by section 16, chapter 421, Laws of 2019 on June 30, 2019, and any year-end accruals accounted for after June 30, 2019, from the state route number 167 high occupancy toll lanes pilot project, shall be transferred to the Interstate 405 and state route number 167 express toll lanes account created in RCW 47.56.884. [2019 c 421 § 17.]

**Intent—Effective date—2019 c 421:** See notes following RCW 47.10.896.

**RCW 47.56.902 Interstate 5 bridge replacement project—Toll facility. (Contingent effective date.)** (1) For the purposes of this section and RCW 47.56.904 and 47.56.906 and section 8, chapter 377, Laws of 2023, "Interstate 5 bridge replacement project" means the bistate, multimodal corridor improvement program between the state route number 500 interchange in Vancouver, Washington and the Victory Boulevard interchange in Portland, Oregon.

(2) The Interstate 5 bridge replacement project is designated an eligible toll facility. Tolls are authorized to be imposed on the Interstate 5 bridge replacement project. Tolls may be charged for travel only on the existing and replacement Interstate 5 Columbia river bridges. Tolls may not be charged for travel on the Washington state portion of Interstate 205. Toll revenue generated on the Interstate 5 bridge replacement project must be expended only as allowed under RCW 47.56.820. [2023 c 377 § 2.]

**Finding—2023 c 377:** "The legislature finds that the replacement and improvement of the Interstate 5 Columbia river bridge is critical for the west coast's transportation system and for the safety of Washington and Oregon drivers. The interstate bridge includes two side-by-side structures built in 1917 and 1958. In 2019, approximately 143,000 vehicles traveled across the interstate bridge each weekday. In 2017, about \$71,000,000 in freight commodity value crossed the river each day. Collisions on and near the bridge occur at a rate almost twice as high as other similar urban highways, and the aging bridges are vulnerable to earthquakes. Replacing these structures and making multimodal improvements to facilitate travel in the bistate corridor is essential for the economy of the region. Although Washington state has pledged \$1,000,000,000, and expects an equivalent investment of \$1,000,000,000 from Oregon state, to help finance replacement of the bridge, funding from tolls and other sources will be necessary to complete and maintain the project. The legislature finds that Oregon state has already authorized tolls to be imposed on the Oregon portion of the Interstate 5 bridge replacement project, and that providing tolling authorization within Washington state will help make the project better situated to receive funding from other sources, including federal funding. As a result, and to align with the efforts of Oregon state, the legislature intends to provide tolling authorization for the Interstate 5 bridge replacement project." [2023 c 377 § 1.]

**Contingent effective date—2023 c 377:** "Except for sections 4, 6, and 7 of this act, this act takes effect upon, and tolls may not be collected on the Interstate 5 bridge replacement project until: (1)

Certification of the secretary of transportation to the governor that the department of transportation has received satisfactory evidence that a sufficient federal funding plan is in place and that sufficient state and local funds are available to complete the Interstate 5 bridge replacement project; and (2) the bistate agreement described in section 4 of this act has taken effect." [2023 c 377 § 8.]

**Notice of certification and bistate agreement—2023 c 377:** "The secretary of transportation must provide notice that the governor has received certification as described under section 8(1) of this act to affected parties, the chief clerk of the house of representatives, the secretary of the senate, the office of the code reviser, and others as deemed appropriate by the secretary. Additionally, the tolling authority, as defined in RCW 47.56.810, must provide written notice that the bistate agreement described under section 4 of this act has taken effect to affected parties, the chief clerk of the house of representatives, the secretary of the senate, the office of the code reviser, and others as deemed appropriate by the tolling authority." [2023 c 377 § 9.]

**RCW 47.56.904 Interstate 5 bridge replacement project account. (Contingent effective date.)** (1) A special account to be known as the Interstate 5 bridge replacement project account is created in the state treasury.

(2) Deposits to the account must include:

(a) All proceeds of bonds and loans issued on behalf of Washington state for the Interstate 5 bridge replacement project, including any capitalized interest;

(b) All net tolls and other revenues received from the operation of the Interstate 5 bridge replacement project as a toll facility;

(c) The Washington state portion of any interest that may be earned from the deposit or investment of those revenues;

(d) Notwithstanding RCW 47.12.063, the Washington state portion of proceeds from the sale of any surplus real property acquired for the Interstate 5 bridge replacement project; and

(e) The Washington state portion of all damages, liquidated or otherwise, collected under any contract involving the Interstate 5 bridge replacement project.

(3) Moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation, consistent with RCW 47.56.820. [2023 c 377 § 3.]

**Finding—Contingent effective date—2023 c 377:** See notes following RCW 47.56.902.

**RCW 47.56.906 Interstate 5 bridge replacement project—Bistate agreement.** For the Interstate 5 bridge replacement project, the tolling authority may enter into a bistate agreement with the Oregon state transportation commission regarding the mutual or joint setting, adjustment, and review of toll rates and exemptions as the tolling authority may find necessary to carry out the purposes of this section. The toll rates established pursuant to the bistate agreement may not be set at a rate that exceeds the highest toll rate allowed on any of the other toll facilities in Washington, unless the legislature provides direction to do so in duly enacted legislation. The toll

rates established pursuant to the bistrate agreement may not be set to pay for all of the operational and administrative costs of Oregon's tolling system. The Washington tolling authority must require toll rates that specifically cover the Interstate 5 Columbia river bridge without subsidizing other Oregon toll facilities. Washington residents are already paying for toll system operations of the Washington department of transportation, and therefore the agreement must recognize that it would be unfair for the toll rates on the Interstate 5 Columbia river bridge to pay for administrative and program costs of the Oregon department of transportation that are created with the expectation to benefit multiple tolled facilities in Oregon. [2023 c 377 § 4.]

**Finding—Notice of certification and bistrate agreement—2023 c 377:** See notes following RCW 47.56.902.

**Chapter 47.58 RCW**  
**EXISTING AND ADDITIONAL BRIDGES**

**Sections**

- 47.58.010 Improvement of existing bridge and construction of new bridge as single project—Agreement—Tolls.
- 47.58.020 Examinations and surveys—Preliminary expenses—Financing.
- 47.58.030 Construction, operation of bridges—Collection of tolls—Schedule of charges.
- 47.58.040 Revenue bonds—Form—Sale—Interim bonds—Deposit of proceeds.
- 47.58.050 Revenue bonds—Expenses includable—Conditions—Remedies of bondholders.
- 47.58.060 Bond resolution—Disposition of income and revenues.
- 47.58.070 Bonds legal investment for state moneys.
- 47.58.080 Eminent domain.
- 47.58.090 Study of projects—Specific authorization of construction and finance.
- 47.58.900 Chapter provides additional method.

*Bridges over navigable waters: RCW 79.110.110 through 79.110.140.*

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- 47.58.900 Chapter provides additional method.

*Bridges over navigable waters: RCW 79.110.110 through 79.110.140.*

**RCW 47.58.010 Improvement of existing bridge and construction of new bridge as single project—Agreement—Tolls.** Whenever the legislature specifically authorizes, as a single project, the construction of an additional toll bridge, including approaches, and the reconstruction of an existing adjacent bridge, including approaches, and the imposition of tolls on both bridges, the department is authorized to enter into appropriate agreements whereunder the existing bridge or its approaches will be reconstructed and improved and an additional bridge, including approaches and connecting highways will be constructed as a part of the same project to be located adjacent to or within two miles of the existing bridge and will be financed through the issuance of revenue bonds of the same series. The department has the right to impose tolls for traffic over the existing bridge as well as the additional bridge for the purpose of paying the cost of operation and maintenance of the bridge or bridges and the interest on and creating a sinking fund for retirement of revenue bonds issued for account of such project, all in the manner permitted and provided by this chapter. [1984 c 7 § 288; 1961 c 13 § 47.58.010. Prior: 1955 c 208 § 1.]

**RCW 47.58.020 Examinations and surveys—Preliminary expenses—Financing.** For the purpose of obtaining information as to the necessity of the reconstruction or improvement of any such bridge and the expediency of constructing any such additional bridge it is the duty of the department to make any examination, investigation, survey, or reconnaissance pertaining thereto. The cost of any such examination, investigation, survey, or reconnaissance, and all preliminary expenses in the issuance of any revenue bonds, making surveys and appraisals and drafting, printing, issuance, and sale of bonds under this chapter, shall be advanced by any interested municipality, agency, or department of the state of Washington. All



such advancements shall be reimbursed out of any proceeds derived from the sale of bonds or out of tolls and revenues to be derived by the department through its operations hereunder for account of the project, as may be agreed upon between the department and the municipality, agency, or department. [1984 c 7 § 289; 1961 c 13 § 47.58.020. Prior: 1955 c 208 § 2.]

**RCW 47.58.030 Construction, operation of bridges—Collection of tolls—Schedule of charges.** Except as otherwise provided in RCW 47.56.850, the secretary shall have full charge of the construction of all such improvements and reconstruction work and the construction of any additional bridge, including approaches and connecting highways, that may be authorized under this chapter and the operation of such bridge or bridges, as well as the collection of tolls and other charges for services and facilities thereby afforded. The schedule of charges for the services and facilities shall be fixed and revised from time to time by the commission so that the tolls and revenues collected will yield annual revenue and income sufficient, after payment or allowance for all operating, maintenance, and repair expenses, to pay the interest on all revenue bonds outstanding under the provisions of this chapter for account of the project and to create a sinking fund for the retirement of the revenue bonds at or prior to maturity. The charges shall be continued until all such bonds and interest thereon and unpaid advancements, if any, have been paid. [2008 c 122 § 19; 1984 c 7 § 290; 1961 c 13 § 47.58.030. Prior: 1955 c 208 § 3.]

**RCW 47.58.040 Revenue bonds—Form—Sale—Interim bonds—Deposit of proceeds.** For the purpose of paying the cost of all or any part of the improvement and reconstruction work and the construction of any additional bridge, approaches thereto, and connecting highways, the department is hereby authorized by resolution to issue its revenue bonds which shall constitute obligations only of the department and shall be payable from any funds available except revenue from the general fund, including but not limited to the revenues and income from the operation of the bridge or bridges constituting the project as may be provided in and by such resolution. Each such revenue bond shall contain a recital that payment or redemption of the bond and payment of the interest thereon is secured by a direct charge and lien upon the tolls and revenues pledged for that purpose and that such bond does not constitute an indebtedness of the state of Washington. Such revenue bonds may bear such date or dates, may mature at such time or times as the department shall determine, may bear interest at such rate or rates, may be in such denomination or denominations, may be in such form, either coupon or registered, may carry such registration and conversion privileges, may be made subject to such terms of redemption with or without premium, and may contain such other terms and covenants not inconsistent with this chapter as may be provided in such resolution. Notwithstanding the form or tenor of the bond, and in the absence of an express recital on its face that the bond is nonnegotiable, each such revenue bond shall at all times be and shall be treated as a negotiable instrument for all purposes. All such bonds shall be signed by the state treasurer and countersigned by the governor, and any interest coupons appertaining thereto shall bear

the signature of the state treasurer. The countersignature of the governor on the bonds and the signature of the state treasurer on the coupons may be their printed or lithographed facsimile signatures. Pending the issuance of definitive bonds, temporary or interim bonds, certificates, or receipts of any denomination and with or without coupons attached may be issued as may be provided by the resolution. All bonds issued under or by authority of this chapter shall be sold to the highest and best bidder at such price or prices, at such rate or rates of interest, and after such advertising for bids as the department may deem proper, but it may reject any and all bids so submitted and thereafter sell the bonds so advertised under such terms and conditions as it deems advantageous. The purchase price of all bonds issued hereunder shall be paid to the state treasurer consistent with the provisions of the resolution pursuant to which the bonds have been issued or to the trustee designated in the bond resolution and held as a separate trust fund to be disbursed on the orders of the department. [1984 c 7 § 291; 1973 c 106 § 27; 1970 ex.s. c 56 § 64; 1969 ex.s. c 232 § 78; 1961 c 102 § 1; 1961 c 13 § 47.58.040. Prior: 1955 c 208 § 4.]

**Purpose—1970 ex.s. c 56:** See note following RCW 39.52.020.

**Validation—Saving—Severability—1969 ex.s. c 232:** See notes following RCW 39.52.020.

**RCW 47.58.050 Revenue bonds—Expenses includable—Conditions—Remedies of bondholders.** In determining the amount of bonds required to be issued, there may be included any expenses incurred or approved by the department in connection with and incidental to the issuance and sale of bonds and for the preparation of surveys and estimates and making inspections and examinations, required reserves, if any, interest during the estimated construction period and for six months thereafter, and a reasonable amount for initial operating expenses and prepaid insurance. The department is hereby empowered to include in any resolution authorizing the issuance of the bonds such covenants, stipulations, and conditions as it deems necessary with respect to the continued use and application of the revenues and income from the bridge or bridges. The holder of any bond or the trustee for any bonds designated by resolution may by mandamus or other appropriate proceeding compel performance of any duties imposed upon any state department, official, or employee, including any duties imposed upon or undertaken by the department or its officers, agents, and employees in connection with any improvement or reconstruction work on any existing bridge, the construction of any additional bridge, including approaches and connecting highways provided to be so constructed, the maintenance and operation of the bridge or bridges and in connection with the collection, deposit, investment, application, and disbursement of the proceeds of the bonds and the revenues and income derived from the operation of the bridge or bridges. [1984 c 7 § 292; 1961 c 13 § 47.58.050. Prior: 1955 c 208 § 5.]

**RCW 47.58.060 Bond resolution—Disposition of income and revenues.** Each resolution providing for the issuance of revenue bonds shall provide for setting aside the necessary amounts for the

reasonable and proper operation, maintenance, and repair expenses, and shall fix and determine the amounts to be set apart and applied to the payment of the interest on and retirement of the revenue bonds. All income and revenues as collected shall be paid to the state treasurer for the account of the department as a separate trust fund to be segregated and set apart for the payment of the revenue bonds, or may be remitted to and held by a designated trustee in such manner and with such collateral as may be provided in the resolution authorizing the issuance of the bonds. [1984 c 7 § 293; 1961 c 13 § 47.58.060. Prior: 1955 c 208 § 6.]

**RCW 47.58.070 Bonds legal investment for state moneys.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, bonds issued under this chapter shall be legal investments by the state investment board of any state moneys in its hands, except permanent school funds. [1981 c 3 § 39; 1961 c 13 § 47.58.070. Prior: 1955 c 208 § 7.]

**Effective dates—Severability—1981 c 3:** See notes following RCW 43.33A.010.

**RCW 47.58.080 Eminent domain.** The department is hereby authorized and empowered to acquire in the name of the state by the exercise of the power of eminent domain any lands, property, rights, rights-of-way, franchises, easements, and other property of any person, firm, corporation, political subdivision, or other owner, deemed necessary or convenient for the construction, reconstruction, improvement, and operation of any project initiated and carried on by the department under this chapter. The proceedings shall be in accordance with and subject to the provisions of any and all laws applicable to the exercise of the power of eminent domain by the state. [1984 c 7 § 294; 1961 c 13 § 47.58.080. Prior: 1955 c 208 § 8.]

**RCW 47.58.090 Study of projects—Specific authorization of construction and finance.** Under the provisions of this chapter, projects other than those specifically authorized herein involving existing bridges may be studied and analyzed by the department, and recommendations therefor may be submitted to the legislature, but such other projects shall not be financed or constructed by the department under the provisions of this chapter until further specific authorization therefor has been provided by the legislature. [1984 c 7 § 295; 1961 c 13 § 47.58.090. Prior: 1955 c 208 § 11.]

**RCW 47.58.900 Chapter provides additional method.** This chapter shall be deemed to provide an additional and alternative method for the doing of the things authorized thereby, and shall be regarded as supplemental and additional to powers conferred by other laws, and shall not be regarded as in derogation of any powers existing on June 8, 1955. [1961 c 13 § 47.58.900. Prior: 1955 c 208 § 9.]

**Chapter 47.60 RCW**  
**PUGET SOUND FERRY AND TOLL BRIDGE SYSTEM**

**Sections**

- 47.60.005 Definitions.
- 47.60.010 Ferry system, toll bridges, and facilities authorized—  
Power to contract, sell, and lease back.
- 47.60.013 Emergency powers of governor to insure continued  
operation of ferry and toll bridge system—Cost  
reimbursement.
- 47.60.015 "Washington State Ferries"—Name authorized.
- 47.60.017 State ferry system a public mass transportation system.
- 47.60.020 Eminent domain—Condemnation proceedings.
- 47.60.030 Existing contracts—Prior negotiations and bids  
validated.
- 47.60.040 Survey by department.
- 47.60.050 Improvement of facilities—Financing.
- 47.60.060 Revenue bonds authorized—Issuance—Conditions—  
Negotiability—Interim bonds.
- 47.60.080 Determining amount of bonds to be issued.
- 47.60.090 Sale of bonds—Deposit, disbursement of proceeds.
- 47.60.100 Bonds are legal investment for state moneys.
- 47.60.110 Bondholders may compel performance.
- 47.60.113 Refunding bonds—Authorization—Amount—Interest—  
Conditions.
- 47.60.114 Refunding bonds—Payable from revenues.
- 47.60.115 Refunding bonds—Disposition—Laws applicable.
- 47.60.120 Other crossings—Infringement of existing franchises—  
Waivers (*as amended by 2003 c 83*).
- 47.60.120 Other crossings—Infringement of existing franchises—  
Waivers (*as amended by 2003 c 373*).
- 47.60.122 Ferries, terminal facilities—Interim revenue warrants  
authorized.
- 47.60.124 Revenue refunding bonds to redeem interim warrants.
- 47.60.126 Interim warrants and refunding bonds—Laws applicable.
- 47.60.130 Unit or combined operation—Continuous project—Rental,  
charter, lease of system property—Sale of unneeded  
property.
- 47.60.135 Charter of state ferries—Hazardous materials.
- 47.60.140 System as self-liquidating undertaking—Powers of  
department—Concessions.
- 47.60.145 Historic ferries—Acquisition by qualified persons or  
organizations.
- 47.60.170 Ferries revolving fund—Deposit of excess funds.
- 47.60.200 Consent to liability not general liability of state.
- 47.60.210 Seamen may sue for injuries—Venue.
- 47.60.220 Department as common carrier—Rights and liabilities.
- 47.60.230 Liability for damages as to persons or property.
- 47.60.240 Liability to persons other than shippers or passengers—  
Limitation.
- 47.60.250 Claim for damages—Filing—Contents—Time limitations.
- 47.60.260 Payment of claims.
- 47.60.270 Venue of actions—Enforcement of judgment.
- 47.60.275 Local law enforcement officers on ferries and terminals.

- 47.60.280 Ferry service—Lummi Island to Orcas Island—Limitation on operation.
- 47.60.282 Ferry service between Port Townsend and Keystone—Operation authorized, when.
- 47.60.283 Ferry service between Port Townsend and Keystone—Purpose.
- 47.60.286 Ferry user data survey.
- 47.60.290 State ferries—Review of fares and pricing policies—Proposals.
- 47.60.300 State ferries—Scope of review—Periodic reviews required.
- 47.60.310 State ferries—Local expressions—Ferry advisory committees.
- 47.60.315 Fares and pricing policies—Adoption schedule—Revenues—Vessel replacement surcharges.
- 47.60.322 Capital vessel replacement account—Transfer prohibition, authorization.
- 47.60.327 Operational strategies for asset utilization.
- 47.60.330 Public participation—Legislative approval.
- 47.60.335 Appropriation limitations—Capital program cost allocation.
- 47.60.340 Vessel maintenance and preservation program—Report.
- 47.60.345 Life-cycle cost model on capital assets.
- 47.60.355 Terminal and vessel preservation funding requests—Predesign study.
- 47.60.365 Terminal and vessel design standards.
- 47.60.375 Capital plan.
- 47.60.377 Vessel rebuild and replacement plan.
- 47.60.385 Terminal improvement, vessel improvement, and vessel acquisition project funding requests—Predesign study—Prioritization.
- 47.60.386 Additional requirements for vessel improvement and vessel acquisition funding requests.
- 47.60.400 Refunding bonds authorized, 1961 Act.
- 47.60.420 Additional revenue bonds, refunding bonds, authorized, 1961 Act—Prior charge against Puget Sound capital construction account if ferry system revenues insufficient.
- 47.60.430 Additional revenue bonds, refunding bonds, authorized, 1961 Act—Agreement to continue imposition of certain taxes.
- 47.60.440 Additional revenue bonds, refunding bonds, authorized, 1961 Act—Ferry system a revenue-producing undertaking—Debt service—Tolls on ferry system and Hood Canal bridge.
- 47.60.500 Acquisition of additional ferries—Legislative finding—Department authority.
- 47.60.505 Puget Sound capital construction account—Created—Use.
- 47.60.530 Puget Sound ferry operations account.
- 47.60.550 Parking or holding area for ferry patrons in conjunction with municipal off-street parking facilities.
- 47.60.560 General obligation bonds—Ferries—Authorized—Purposes—Passenger-only vessels—Issuance, sale, and retirement.
- 47.60.570 Disposition of proceeds from sale of bonds.

- 47.60.580 Bonds—Terms—Principal and interest payable from proceeds of state excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels.
- 47.60.590 Repayment of bonds—Fund sources.
- 47.60.600 Bonds—Powers and duties of state finance committee.
- 47.60.610 Excess repayment funds—Disposition.
- 47.60.620 Reimbursements and transfers of funds.
- 47.60.630 Bonds legal investment for public funds.
- 47.60.640 Bonds—Equal charge against revenues from motor vehicle and special fuel excise taxes.
- 47.60.656 Passenger-only ferry service—Conveyance of vessels authorized.
- 47.60.662 Ferry system collaboration with passenger-only ferry service providers.
- 47.60.680 Prequalification of contractors required.
- 47.60.690 Qualifications of contractor—Rules to assure.
- 47.60.700 Application for prequalification—Form.
- 47.60.710 Department authority to obtain information.
- 47.60.720 Additional investigation—Terms of prequalification—Notice of nonqualification.
- 47.60.730 Renewal of prequalification—Nonrenewal or revocation, notice.
- 47.60.740 Rejection of bid despite prequalification—Unqualified bidder.
- 47.60.750 Appeal of refusal, modification, or revocation of prequalification.
- 47.60.760 Financial information regarding qualifying not public.
- 47.60.800 General obligation bonds—1992 issue—Purpose—Issuance and sale.
- 47.60.802 Bonds—1992 issue—Supervision of sale by state finance committee—Option of short-term obligations.
- 47.60.804 Bonds—1992 issue—Use of proceeds.
- 47.60.806 Bonds—1992 issue—Payment of principal and interest from pledged excise taxes.
- 47.60.808 Bonds—1992 issue—Payment from ferry bond retirement fund.
- 47.60.810 Design-build ferries—Independent owner's representative—Phases defined—Department may modify certain existing option contracts.
- 47.60.812 Design-build ferries—Notice of request for proposals.
- 47.60.814 Design-build ferries—Issuance of request for proposals.
- 47.60.815 Design-build ferries—Cost-benefit analysis—Engineer's estimate—Subsequent request for proposals, when required.
- 47.60.816 Design-build ferries—Phase one.
- 47.60.818 Design-build ferries—Phase two.
- 47.60.820 Design-build ferries—Phase three.
- 47.60.822 Design-build ferries—Notice to proposers not selected—Appeal.
- 47.60.824 Design-build ferries—Single best-qualified proposer—Incentives—Proposal negotiations—Compensation.
- 47.60.8241 Findings—Single proposal process for new ferry vessel construction.

- 47.60.826 Design-build ferries—Hybrid diesel-electric ferry vessels—Contract requirements—Third-party experts.
- 47.60.830 Ferry system operation—Fuel purchasing strategies—Report.
- 47.60.835 Small business enterprise enforceable goals program.
- 47.60.838 Vessel and terminal electrification program.
- 47.60.840 Annual fare policy.
- 47.60.850 Implementation of workforce planning recommendations—Adoption of formal strategy—Annual employee survey—Workforce development and career advancement—Instruction—Evaluation of management practices—Report of staffing.

*Bridges across navigable waters: RCW 79.110.110 through 79.110.140.*

*Credit permits for vehicular passage: RCW 47.56.247, 47.56.248.*

*Sale, lease of unneeded toll facility, ferry system property—Franchises for utility, railway purposes: RCW 47.56.253 through 47.56.257.*

*Traffic violations and unlawful acts on toll facility or ferry: RCW 46.61.690.*

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- 47.60.030 Existing contracts—Prior negotiations and bids  
validated.
- 47.60.040 Survey by department.
- 47.60.050 Improvement of facilities—Financing.
- 47.60.060 Revenue bonds authorized—Issuance—Conditions—  
Negotiability—Interim bonds.
- 47.60.080 Determining amount of bonds to be issued.
- 47.60.090 Sale of bonds—Deposit, disbursement of proceeds.
- 47.60.100 Bonds are legal investment for state moneys.
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- 47.60.113 Refunding bonds—Authorization—Amount—Interest—  
Conditions.
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charter, lease of system property—Sale of unneeded  
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department—Concessions.
- 47.60.145 Historic ferries—Acquisition by qualified persons or  
organizations.
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Limitation.
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- 47.60.270 Venue of actions—Enforcement of judgment.
- 47.60.275 Local law enforcement officers on ferries and terminals.



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- 47.60.310 State ferries—Local expressions—Ferry advisory committees.
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- 47.60.322 Capital vessel replacement account—Transfer prohibition, authorization.
- 47.60.327 Operational strategies for asset utilization.
- 47.60.330 Public participation—Legislative approval.
- 47.60.335 Appropriation limitations—Capital program cost allocation.
- 47.60.340 Vessel maintenance and preservation program—Report.
- 47.60.345 Life-cycle cost model on capital assets.
- 47.60.355 Terminal and vessel preservation funding requests—Predesign study.
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- 47.60.375 Capital plan.
- 47.60.377 Vessel rebuild and replacement plan.
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- 47.60.590 Repayment of bonds—Fund sources.
- 47.60.600 Bonds—Powers and duties of state finance committee.
- 47.60.610 Excess repayment funds—Disposition.
- 47.60.620 Reimbursements and transfers of funds.
- 47.60.630 Bonds legal investment for public funds.
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- 47.60.700 Application for prequalification—Form.
- 47.60.710 Department authority to obtain information.
- 47.60.720 Additional investigation—Terms of prequalification—Notice of nonqualification.
- 47.60.730 Renewal of prequalification—Nonrenewal or revocation, notice.
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- 47.60.750 Appeal of refusal, modification, or revocation of prequalification.
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- 47.60.804 Bonds—1992 issue—Use of proceeds.
- 47.60.806 Bonds—1992 issue—Payment of principal and interest from pledged excise taxes.
- 47.60.808 Bonds—1992 issue—Payment from ferry bond retirement fund.
- 47.60.810 Design-build ferries—Independent owner's representative—Phases defined—Department may modify certain existing option contracts.
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- 47.60.814 Design-build ferries—Issuance of request for proposals.
- 47.60.815 Design-build ferries—Cost-benefit analysis—Engineer's estimate—Subsequent request for proposals, when required.
- 47.60.816 Design-build ferries—Phase one.
- 47.60.818 Design-build ferries—Phase two.
- 47.60.820 Design-build ferries—Phase three.
- 47.60.822 Design-build ferries—Notice to proposers not selected—Appeal.
- 47.60.824 Design-build ferries—Single best-qualified proposer—Incentives—Proposal negotiations—Compensation.
- 47.60.8241 Findings—Single proposal process for new ferry vessel construction.

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*Traffic violations and unlawful acts on toll facility or ferry: RCW 46.61.690.*

**RCW 47.60.005 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Adaptive management" means a systematic process for continually improving management policies and practices by learning from the outcomes of operational programs.

(2) "Capital plan" means the state ferry system plan developed by the department as described in RCW 47.06.050(2), reviewed by the commission, and reported to the transportation committees of the legislature by the department.

(3) "Capital project" has the same meaning as used in budget instructions developed by the office of financial management.

(4) "Commission" means the transportation commission created in RCW 47.01.051.

(5) "Fixed price contract" means a contract that requires the contractor to deliver a specified project for a set price. Change orders on fixed price contracts are allowable but should be used on a very limited basis.

(6) "Improvement project" has the same meaning as in the budget instructions developed by the office of financial management. If the budget instructions do not define improvement project, then it has the same meaning as "program project" in the budget instructions. If a project meets both the improvement project and preservation project definitions in this section it must be defined as an improvement project. New vessel acquisitions must be defined as improvement projects.

(7) "Life-cycle cost analysis" means an analysis of the full net present value cost of constructing and operating a vessel over its life span, including capital costs, financing costs, operation and maintenance costs, decommissioning costs, and variable costs including fuel.

(8) "Life-cycle cost model" means that portion of a capital asset inventory system which, among other things, is used to estimate future preservation needs.

(9) "Maintenance cost" has the same meaning as used in budget instructions developed by the office of financial management.

(10) "Preservation project" has the same meaning as used in budget instructions developed by the office of financial management.

(11) "Route" means all ferry sailings from one location to another, such as the Seattle to Bainbridge route or the Port Townsend to Keystone route.

(12) "Sailing" means an individual ferry sailing for a specific route, such as the 5:00 p.m. sailing from Seattle to Bremerton.

(13) "Travel shed" means one or more ferry routes with distinct characteristics as determined by the department.

(14) "Washington state ferries" means the ferry division within the department, as described in RCW 47.60.015. [2023 c 188 § 2. Prior: 2015 3rd sp.s. c 14 § 1; 2008 c 124 § 1; 2007 c 512 § 3.]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 14:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [July 6, 2015]." [2015 3rd sp.s. c 14 § 9.]

**Finding—Intent—2007 c 512:** See note following RCW 47.06.140.

**RCW 47.60.010 Ferry system, toll bridges, and facilities authorized—Power to contract, sell, and lease back.** The department is authorized to acquire by lease, charter, contract, purchase, condemnation, or construction, and partly by any or all of such means, and to thereafter operate, improve, and extend, a system of ferries on and crossing Puget Sound and any of its tributary waters and connections thereof, and connecting with the public streets and highways in the state. However, any new vessel planning, construction, purchase, analysis, or design work must be consistent with RCW 47.60.810, except as otherwise provided in RCW 47.60.826. The system of ferries shall include such boats, vessels, wharves, docks, approaches, landings, franchises, licenses, and appurtenances as shall be determined by the department to be necessary or desirable for efficient operation of the ferry system and best serve the public. Subject to RCW 47.56.820, the department may in like manner acquire by purchase, condemnation, or construction and include in the ferry system such toll bridges, approaches, and connecting roadways as may be deemed by the department advantageous in channeling traffic to points served by the ferry system. In addition to the powers of acquisition granted by this section, the department is empowered to enter into any contracts, agreements, or leases with any person, firm, or corporation and to thereby provide, on such terms and conditions as it shall determine, for the operation of any ferry or ferries or system thereof, whether acquired by the department or not.

The authority of the department to sell and lease back any state ferry, for federal tax purposes only, as authorized by 26 U.S.C., Sec. 168(f)(8) is confirmed. Legal title and all incidents of legal title to any ferry sold and leased back (except for the federal tax benefits attributable to the ownership thereof) shall remain in the state of

Washington. [2023 c 429 § 5; 2015 3rd sp.s. c 14 § 2; 2008 c 122 § 20; 1984 c 18 § 1; 1984 c 7 § 296; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.010. Prior: 1949 c 179 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6584-30.]

**Effective date—2023 c 429:** See note following RCW 47.60.826.

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 14:** See note following RCW 47.60.005.

**RCW 47.60.013 Emergency powers of governor to insure continued operation of ferry and toll bridge system—Cost reimbursement.** The governor is authorized to take such actions as may be necessary to insure the continued operation of the Puget Sound ferry and toll bridge system under any emergency circumstances which threaten the continued operation of the system. In the event of such an emergency, the governor may assume all the powers granted by law to the transportation commission and department of transportation with respect to the ferry system. In addition, notwithstanding the provisions of chapters 47.60 and 47.64 RCW, the governor may contract with any qualified persons for the operation of the Washington state ferry system, or any part thereof, or for ferry service to be provided by privately owned vessels. Administrative costs to the office of the governor incurred in the exercise of this authority shall be reimbursed by the department. [1981 c 341 § 1.]

**Severability—1981 c 341:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1981 c 341 § 2.]

**RCW 47.60.015 "Washington State Ferries"—Name authorized.** The department is authorized to operate its ferry system under the name: "Washington State Ferries." [1984 c 7 § 297; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.015. Prior: 1953 c 33 § 1.]

**RCW 47.60.017 State ferry system a public mass transportation system.** The legislature finds and declares that the state ferry system is a public mass transportation system. [1974 ex.s. c 105 § 1.]

**RCW 47.60.020 Eminent domain—Condemnation proceedings.** For the purpose of carrying out any or all of the powers granted in this chapter, the department has the power of eminent domain for the acquisition of either real or personal property, used or useful for the Puget Sound ferry system. Condemnation pursuant to this chapter shall be the procedure set out in chapter 8.04 RCW. The department may institute condemnation proceedings in the superior court of any county or other court of competent jurisdiction in which any of the property sought to be condemned is located or in which the owner of any thereof does business, and the court in any such action has jurisdiction to condemn property wherever located within the state. It shall not be necessary to allege or prove any offer to purchase or inability to

agree with the owners thereof for the purchase of any such property in the proceedings. It is the intention of this section to permit the consolidation in one action of all condemnation proceedings necessary to acquire a ferry system and every type of property incident thereto, irrespective of its location within the state or diversity of ownership. Upon the filing of a petition for condemnation as provided in this section, the court may issue an order restraining the removal from the jurisdiction of the state of any personal property sought to be acquired by the proceeding during the pendency thereof. The court further has the power to issue such orders or process as are necessary to place the department into possession of any property condemned. [1984 c 7 § 298; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.020. Prior: 1949 c 179 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6584-31.]

**RCW 47.60.030 Existing contracts—Prior negotiations and bids validated.** In any case where the department takes over any property or properties which are under lease, contract, or concession, or where the department has heretofore entered into any contract or negotiation or received any bid for any of the purposes set forth in this chapter, the department is authorized to continue in effect and carry out any such contract, lease, or concession or complete any such negotiation or accept any such bid or any modification of any of them which appears advantageous to the department without regard to any limitations or directions as to the manner thereof contained in this chapter. However, this section shall not be construed as requiring the department so to act, but this section is permissive only and then only in respect to contracts, leases, concessions, negotiations, or bids existing, entered into, or received prior to April 1, 1949. [1984 c 7 § 299; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.030. Prior: 1949 c 179 § 7; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6584-36.]

**RCW 47.60.040 Survey by department.** For the purpose of obtaining information for the consideration of the department upon the acquisition of any ferries or ferry facilities or the construction of any toll bridge under this chapter, the department shall make any examination, investigation, survey, or reconnaissance for the determination of material facts pertaining thereto.

The cost of any such examination, investigation, survey, or reconnaissance, and all preliminary expenses leading up to and resulting in the issuance of any revenue bonds including, but not being limited to expenses in making surveys and appraisals and the drafting, printing, issuance, and sale of bonds under this chapter shall be borne by the department out of the motor vehicle fund. All such costs and expenses as well as any thereof heretofore incurred shall be reimbursed to the motor vehicle fund out of any proceeds derived from the sale of bonds or out of tolls and revenues to be derived by the department through its operations hereunder. [1984 c 7 § 300; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.040. Prior: 1949 c 179 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6584-33, part.]

**RCW 47.60.050 Improvement of facilities—Financing.** Any facility that the department acquires or is authorized to acquire under the provisions of this chapter may be rehabilitated, rebuilt,

enlarged, or improved, and the cost thereof may be paid from the revenues of the system or through the issuance of bonds as hereinafter provided. [1984 c 7 § 301; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.050. Prior: 1949 c 179 § 3, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6584-32, part.]

**RCW 47.60.060 Revenue bonds authorized—Issuance—Conditions—Negotiability—Interim bonds.** For the purpose of paying the cost of acquiring by lease, charter, contract, purchase, condemnation, or construction all or any part of such Puget Sound ferry system, including toll bridges, approaches, and roadways incidental thereto, and for rehabilitating, rebuilding, enlarging, or improving all or any part of the system, the department is authorized by resolution to issue its revenue bonds which shall constitute obligations only of the department and shall be payable solely and only from all or such part of the revenues from the operation of the system as may be provided in and by the resolution.

Each revenue bond shall contain a recital that payment or redemption of the bond and payment of the interest thereon is secured by a direct charge and lien upon the tolls and revenues pledged for that purpose and that the bond does not constitute an indebtedness of the state of Washington.

The department is empowered to include in any resolution authorizing the issuance of the bonds such covenants, stipulations, and conditions as may be deemed necessary with respect to the continued use and application of the income and revenues from the undertaking.

The revenue bonds may bear such date or dates, may mature at such time or times as the department determines, may bear interest at such rate or rates, may be in such denomination or denominations, may be in such form, either coupon or registered, may carry such registration and conversion privileges, may be made subject to such terms of redemption with or without premium, and may contain such other terms and covenants not inconsistent with this chapter as may be provided in the resolution. Notwithstanding the form or tenor thereof, and in the absence of an express recital on the face thereof that the bond is nonnegotiable, each such revenue bond shall at all times be and shall be treated as a negotiable instrument for all purposes. All such bonds shall be signed by the state treasurer and countersigned by the governor, and any interest coupons appertaining thereto shall bear the signature of the state treasurer. The countersignature of the governor on the bonds and the signature of the state treasurer on the coupons may be their printed or lithographed facsimile signatures.

Pending the issuance of definitive bonds, temporary or interim bonds, certificates, or receipts of any denomination and with or without coupons attached may be issued as may be provided by the resolution. [1984 c 7 § 302; 1973 c 106 § 28; 1970 ex.s. c 56 § 65; 1969 ex.s. c 232 § 34; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.060. Prior: 1949 c 179 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6584-33, part.]

**Purpose—1970 ex.s. c 56:** See note following RCW 39.52.020.

**Validation—Saving—Severability—1969 ex.s. c 232:** See notes following RCW 39.52.020.

**RCW 47.60.080 Determining amount of bonds to be issued.** In determining the amount of bonds required to be issued there may be included any expenses incurred by the department in connection with and incidental to the issuance and sale of bonds and for the preparation of surveys and estimates and making inspections and examinations, interest during the estimated construction period, and for six months thereafter, and a reasonable amount for working capital and prepaid insurance. [1984 c 7 § 303; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.080. Prior: 1949 c 179 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6584-33, part.]

**RCW 47.60.090 Sale of bonds—Deposit, disbursement of proceeds.** All bonds issued under or by authority of this chapter shall be sold to the highest and best bidder after such advertising for bids as the department deems proper. However, the department may reject any and all bids so submitted and thereafter sell such bonds so advertised under such terms and conditions as it deems most advantageous to its own interests. The purchase price of all bonds issued under this chapter shall be paid to the state treasurer consistent with the provisions of the resolution pursuant to which the bonds have been issued or to the trustee designated in the bond resolution and held as a separate trust fund to be disbursed on the orders of the department. [1984 c 7 § 304; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.090. Prior: 1949 c 179 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6584-33, part.]

**RCW 47.60.100 Bonds are legal investment for state moneys.** Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, bonds issued by the authority shall be legal investments by the state investment board of any state moneys in its hands, except permanent school funds and motor vehicle funds. [1981 c 3 § 40; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.100. Prior: 1953 c 154 § 14; 1951 c 259 § 3; 1951 c 121 § 14; 1949 c 179 § 8; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6584-37.]

**Effective dates—Severability—1981 c 3:** See notes following RCW 43.33A.010.

**RCW 47.60.110 Bondholders may compel performance.** The holder of any bond or the trustee for any bonds designated by resolution may by mandamus or other appropriate proceeding require and compel performance of any duties imposed upon any state department, official or employee, including any duties imposed upon or undertaken by the authority or its officers, agents and employees in connection with the construction, maintenance and operation of the ferry system and in connection with the collection, deposit, investment, application and disbursement of the proceeds of the bonds and the revenue and income derived from the operation of the system. [1961 c 13 § 47.60.110. Prior: 1949 c 179 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6584-33, part.]

**RCW 47.60.113 Refunding bonds—Authorization—Amount—Interest—Conditions.** The department is authorized to refund, at the maturity thereof, or before the maturity thereof if they are subject to call prior to maturity or if all of the holders thereof consent thereto, upon such terms and conditions as it deems best, any or all of its



revenue bonds now or hereafter outstanding, issued for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, or reconstructing any toll bridge, toll road, toll tunnel, ferry system, or any other toll facility of any sort, or issued for the purpose of refunding such bonds, which revenue bonds are payable out of all or part of the revenues of the toll facility. Refunding bonds may be issued hereunder in a sufficient amount to provide additional funds for acquiring, constructing, reconstructing, rehabilitating, rebuilding, enlarging, or improving any toll bridge, toll road, toll tunnel, ferry system, or any other toll facility of any sort, and to pay all refunding costs and expenses and to provide adequate reserves for the toll facility and for any such refunding bonds. Various issues and series of such outstanding bonds, including refunding bonds, may be combined and refunded by a single issue of refunding bonds. The refunding bonds shall bear interest at such rates and mature at such times, without limitation by the interest rates or maturity of the bonds being refunded, and shall contain such other covenants and conditions as the department determines by resolution. [1984 c 7 § 305; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.113. Prior: 1957 c 152 § 1; 1955 c 17 § 1.]

**RCW 47.60.114 Refunding bonds—Payable from revenues.** Any refunding bonds authorized by this chapter constitute obligations of the department only and not of the state of Washington. They shall be payable solely out of all or such part of the revenues derived from the operation of the toll bridge, toll road, toll tunnel, ferry system, or any other toll facility, as shall be provided in the resolution authorizing the issuance of the refunding bonds. [1984 c 7 § 306; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.114. Prior: 1957 c 152 § 2; 1955 c 17 § 2.]

**RCW 47.60.115 Refunding bonds—Disposition—Laws applicable.** The bonds herein authorized shall, in the discretion of the department, be exchanged at the best possible price for the bonds being refunded, or any such bonds not exchanged shall be sold in the manner provided in RCW 47.60.090. The bonds herein authorized shall be issued in accordance with, and shall be subject to, the provisions of RCW 47.60.050, 47.60.060, 47.60.080, 47.60.100, 47.60.110, and 47.60.120. [1983 c 3 § 134; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.115. Prior: 1957 c 152 § 3; 1955 c 17 § 3.]

**RCW 47.60.120 Other crossings—Infringement of existing franchises—Waivers (as amended by 2003 c 83).** (1) If the department acquires or constructs, maintains, and operates any ferry crossings upon or toll bridges over Puget Sound or any of its tributary or connecting waters, there shall not be constructed, operated, or maintained any other ferry crossing upon or bridge over any such waters within ten miles of any such crossing or bridge operated or maintained by the department excepting such bridges or ferry crossings in existence, and being operated and maintained under a lawfully issued franchise at the time of the location of the ferry crossing or construction of the toll bridge by the department.

(2) The ten-mile distance in subsection (1) of this section means ten statute miles measured by airline distance. The ten-mile

restriction shall be applied by comparing the two end points (termini) of a state ferry crossing to those of a private ferry crossing.

(3) The Washington utilities and transportation commission may, upon written petition of a commercial ferry operator certificated or applying for certification under chapter 81.84 RCW, and upon notice and hearing, grant a waiver from the ten-mile restriction. The waiver must not be detrimental to the public interest. In making a decision to waive the ten-mile restriction, the commission shall consider, but is not limited to, the impact of the waiver on transportation congestion mitigation, air quality improvement, and the overall impact on the Washington state ferry system. The commission shall act upon a request for a waiver within ninety days after the conclusion of the hearing. A waiver is effective for a period of five years from the date of issuance. At the end of five years the waiver becomes permanent unless appealed within thirty days by the commission on its own motion, the department, or an interested party.

(4) The department shall not maintain and operate any ferry crossing or toll bridge over Puget Sound or any of its tributary or connecting waters that would infringe upon any franchise lawfully issued by the state and in existence and being exercised at the time of the location of the ferry crossing or toll bridge by the department, without first acquiring the rights granted to such franchise holder under the franchise.

(5) This section does not apply to the operation of passenger-only ferry service by public transportation benefit areas meeting the requirements of RCW 36.57A.200 or to the operation of passenger-only ferry service by ferry districts. [2003 c 83 § 204; 1993 c 427 § 1; 1984 c 7 § 307; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.120. Prior: 1949 c 179 § 6; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6584-35.]

**Findings—Intent—Captions, part headings not law—Severability—Effective date—2003 c 83:** See notes following RCW 36.57A.200.

**RCW 47.60.120 Other crossings—Infringement of existing franchises—Waivers (as amended by 2003 c 373).** (1) If the department acquires or constructs, maintains, and operates any ferry crossings upon or toll bridges over Puget Sound or any of its tributary or connecting waters, there shall not be constructed, operated, or maintained any other ferry crossing upon or bridge over any such waters within ten miles of any such crossing or bridge operated or maintained by the department excepting such bridges or ferry crossings in existence, and being operated and maintained under a lawfully issued franchise at the time of the location of the ferry crossing or construction of the toll bridge by the department.

(2) The ten-mile distance in subsection (1) of this section means ten statute miles measured by airline distance. The ten-mile restriction shall be applied by comparing the two end points (termini) of a state ferry crossing to those of a private ferry crossing.

(3) The Washington utilities and transportation commission may, upon written petition of a commercial ferry operator certificated or applying for certification under chapter 81.84 RCW, and upon notice and hearing, grant a waiver from the ten-mile restriction. The waiver must not be detrimental to the public interest. In making a decision to waive the ten-mile restriction, the commission shall consider, but is not limited to, the impact of the waiver on transportation

congestion mitigation, air quality improvement, and the overall impact on the Washington state ferry system. The commission shall act upon a request for a waiver within ninety days after the conclusion of the hearing. A waiver is effective for a period of five years from the date of issuance. At the end of five years the waiver becomes permanent unless appealed within thirty days by the commission on its own motion, the department, or an interested party.

(4) The department shall not maintain and operate any ferry crossing or toll bridge over Puget Sound or any of its tributary or connecting waters that would infringe upon any franchise lawfully issued by the state and in existence and being exercised at the time of the location of the ferry crossing or toll bridge by the department, without first acquiring the rights granted to such franchise holder under the franchise.

(5) This section does not apply to operators of passenger-only ferry service. [2003 c 373 § 2; 1993 c 427 § 1; 1984 c 7 § 307; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.120. Prior: 1949 c 179 § 6; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6584-35.]

**Reviser's note:** RCW 47.60.120 was amended twice during the 2003 legislative session, each without reference to the other. For rule of construction concerning sections amended more than once during the same legislative session, see RCW 1.12.025.

**Findings—Intent—2003 c 373:** See note following RCW 47.64.090.

**RCW 47.60.122 Ferries, terminal facilities—Interim revenue warrants authorized.** For the purpose of paying the cost of acquiring, constructing, or reconstructing ferries or ferry terminal facilities, and all costs which may be incurred in connection therewith, the department is authorized to issue interim revenue warrants, which shall constitute obligations only of the department, and which shall not be obligations of the state of Washington. Such warrants shall be payable solely out of part or all of the revenues derived from the operation of the Puget Sound ferry system as shall be provided in the resolution authorizing their issuance, and shall be drawn upon, and the principal thereof and interest thereon shall be payable out of, such fund or funds as shall be created in and provided by the resolution. The warrants may be interest-bearing coupon warrants with a fixed maturity date, or may be interest-bearing registered warrants payable in order of their issuance whenever there is sufficient money in the fund upon which they were drawn to redeem any of them. [1984 c 7 § 308; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.122. Prior: 1953 c 159 § 1.]

**RCW 47.60.124 Revenue refunding bonds to redeem interim warrants.** If it is deemed advisable or found necessary to redeem any or all of such warrants, the department is authorized to issue its revenue refunding bonds for that purpose. The bonds shall constitute obligations only of the department, and shall not be obligations of the state of Washington. The refunding bonds shall be payable solely out of part or all of the revenues derived from the operation of the Puget Sound ferry system as shall be provided in the resolution authorizing their issuance. [1984 c 7 § 309; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.124. Prior: 1953 c 159 § 2.]

**RCW 47.60.126 Interim warrants and refunding bonds—Laws applicable.** All provisions of chapter 47.60 RCW pertaining and applicable to the revenue bonds of the department authorized in that chapter are applicable to the warrants and revenue refunding bonds authorized herein except insofar as otherwise provided by RCW 47.60.122 through 47.60.126. [1984 c 7 § 310; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.126. Prior: 1953 c 159 § 3.]

**RCW 47.60.130 Unit or combined operation—Continuous project—Rental, charter, lease of system property—Sale of unneeded property.** Such ferry system, including any toll bridges, approaches, and roadways incidental thereto, may be financed and operated in combination or separately as one or more units as the department of transportation may determine, and such ferry system together with any toll bridge hereafter constructed by the department upon or across the waters of Puget Sound or Hood Canal, or any part of either, replacing one or more presently operated ferry routes, is declared to be a continuous project within the meaning of \*RCW 47.56.070. The department is empowered to rent, lease, or charter any property acquired under this chapter. If the department determines that any real property (including lands, improvements thereon, and any interests or estates) originally acquired for the ferry system is no longer required for the purposes of the ferry system, the department shall offer it for sale in the manner and with the authority authorized to the department by RCW 47.12.063 or 47.12.283. The secretary of transportation may adopt rules further implementing this section. The proceeds of all such sales shall be paid into the separate trust fund of the state treasury established pursuant to \*\*RCW 47.60.150. [1979 ex.s. c 189 § 6; 1973 1st ex.s. c 177 § 5; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.130. Prior: 1955 c 22 § 1; 1953 c 32 § 1; 1949 c 179 § 3, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6584-32, part.]

**Reviser's note:** \*(1) RCW 47.56.070 was amended by 2008 c 122 § 10, deleting the language pertaining to the meaning of a continuous project.

\*\* (2) RCW 47.60.150 was repealed by 2007 c 512 § 16.

**Effective date—1979 ex.s. c 189:** See note following RCW 47.12.283.

**RCW 47.60.135 Charter of state ferries—Hazardous materials.**

(1) The charter use of Washington State Ferry vessels when established route operations and normal user requirements are not disrupted is permissible. In establishing chartering agreements, Washington State Ferries shall consider the special needs of local communities and interested parties. Washington State Ferries shall use sound business judgment and be sensitive to the interests of existing private enterprises.

(2) Consistent with the policy as established in subsection (1) of this section, the chief executive officer of the Washington State Ferries may approve agreements for the chartering of Washington State Ferry vessels to groups or individuals, including hazardous material transporters, in accordance with the following:

(a) Vessels may be committed to charter only when established route operation and normal user requirements are not disrupted or

inconvenienced. If a vessel is engaged in the transport of hazardous materials, the transporter shall pay for all legs necessary to complete the charter, even if the vessel is simultaneously engaged in an operational voyage on behalf of Washington State Ferries.

(b) Charter rates for vessels must be established at actual vessel operating costs plus a market-rate profit margin. Actual vessel operating costs include, but are not limited to, all labor, fuel, and vessel maintenance costs incurred due to the charter agreement, including deadheading and standby.

(c) Parties chartering Washington State Ferry vessels shall comply with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations during the charter voyage, and failure to so comply is cause for immediate termination of the charter voyage. [2003 c 374 § 1; 1997 c 323 § 2.]

**Finding—1997 c 323:** "The legislature finds that when established route operations and normal user requirements are not disrupted Washington state ferries may be used for the transportation of hazardous materials under the chartering procedures and rates described in RCW 47.60.135." [1997 c 323 § 1.]

**RCW 47.60.140 System as self-liquidating undertaking—Powers of department—Concessions.** (1) The department is empowered to operate such ferry system, including all operations, whether intrastate or international, upon any route or routes, and toll bridges as a revenue-producing and self-liquidating undertaking. The department has full charge of the construction, rehabilitation, rebuilding, enlarging, improving, operation, and maintenance of the ferry system, including toll bridges, approaches, and roadways incidental thereto that may be authorized by the department, including the collection of tolls and other charges for the services and facilities of the undertaking. The department has the exclusive right to enter into leases and contracts for use and occupancy by other parties of the concessions and space located on the ferries, wharves, docks, approaches, parking lots, and landings, including the selling of commercial advertising space and licenses to use the Washington State Ferries trademarks, but, except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, no such leases or contracts may be entered into for more than ten years, nor without a competitive contract process, except as otherwise provided in this section. The competitive process shall be either an invitation for bids in accordance with the process established by chapter 43.19 RCW, or a request for proposals in accordance with the process established by RCW 47.56.030. All revenues from commercial advertising, concessions, parking, leases, and contracts must be deposited in the Puget Sound ferry operations account in accordance with \*RCW 47.60.150.

(2) As part of a joint development agreement under which a public or private developer constructs or installs improvements on ferry system property, the department may lease all or part of such property and improvements to such developers for that period of time, not to exceed fifty-five years, or not to exceed thirty years for those areas located within harbor areas, which the department determines is necessary to allow the developer to make reasonable recovery on its initial investment. Any lease entered into as provided for in this subsection that involves state aquatic lands shall conform with the Washington state Constitution and applicable statutory requirements as

determined by the department of natural resources. That portion of the lease rate attributable to the state aquatic lands shall be distributed in the same manner as other lease revenues derived from state aquatic lands as provided in \*\*RCW 79.24.580.

(3) The department shall include in the strategic planning and performance assessment process, as required by RCW 43.88.090, an analysis of the compatibility of public and private partnerships with the state ferry system's core business, and the department's efforts to maximize nonfarebox revenues and provide benefit to the public users of the ferry system facilities. The department shall include an assessment of the need for an open solicitation to identify and select possible public or private partnerships in order to maximize the value of projects and the state's investment in current and future ferry system operations.

(a) When the department determines that an open solicitation is necessary, a request for proposal shall be released, consisting of an open solicitation outlining functional specifications to be used as the basis for selecting partnerships in the project.

(b) Any responses to the request for proposal shall be evaluated, at a minimum, on the basis of compatibility with the state ferry system's core business, potential to maximize nonfarebox revenue, longevity of the possible partnership commitment, and benefit to the public users of the ferry system facilities.

(c) If no responses are received, or those that are received are incompatible with ferry system operations, or do not meet the criteria stated in (b) of this subsection, the state ferry system may proceed with state ferry system operating strategies designed to achieve state ferry system objectives without established partnerships. [2003 c 374 § 2; 1995 1st sp.s. c 4 § 2; 1987 c 69 § 1; 1984 c 7 § 311; 1965 ex.s. c 170 § 58; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.140. Prior: 1951 c 259 § 1; 1949 c 179 § 5, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6584-34, part.]

**Reviser's note:** \*(1) RCW 47.60.150 was repealed by 2007 c 512 § 16.

\*\* (2) RCW 79.24.580 was recodified as RCW 79.90.245 pursuant to 2003 c 334 § 569. RCW 79.90.245 was subsequently recodified as RCW 79.105.150 pursuant to 2005 c 155 § 1003.

**Effective date—1995 1st sp.s. c 4:** See note following RCW 47.56.030.

**RCW 47.60.145 Historic ferries—Acquisition by qualified persons or organizations.** (1) An "historic ferry" is any vessel in the Washington state ferries fleet which has been listed in the Washington state register of historic places.

(2) When the department of transportation determines that an historic ferry is surplus to the needs of Washington state ferries, the department shall call for proposals from persons who wish to acquire the historic ferry. Proposals for the acquisition of an historic ferry shall be accepted only from persons or organizations that (a) are a governmental entity or a nonprofit corporation or association dedicated to the preservation of historic properties; (b) agree to a contract approved by the state historic preservation officer, which requires the preservation and maintenance of the historic ferry and provides that title to the ferry reverts to the state if the secretary of transportation determines that the contract

has been violated; and (c) demonstrate the administrative and financial ability successfully to comply with the contract.

(3) The department shall evaluate the qualifying proposals and shall select the proposal which is most advantageous to the state. Factors to be considered in making the selection shall include but not be limited to:

- (a) Extent and quality of restoration;
- (b) Retention of original design and use;
- (c) Public access to the vessel;
- (d) Provisions for historical interpretation;
- (e) Monetary return to the state.

(4) If there are no qualifying proposals, an historic ferry shall be disposed of in the manner provided by state law. [1982 c 210 § 1.]

**Severability—1982 c 210:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1982 c 210 § 2.]

*Archaeology and historic preservation, office of: Chapter 27.34 RCW.*

**RCW 47.60.170 Ferries revolving fund—Deposit of excess funds.**

Nothing in \*RCW 47.60.150 forbids the establishment by the department of a Washington state ferries revolving fund of not to exceed six hundred thousand dollars from the proceeds of any bonds sold under the provisions of this chapter. The fund may be deposited by the department in such banks or financial institutions as it may select throughout the state. RCW 43.01.050 does not apply to the fund or any deposits therein made by the department under this section. The department may deposit all moneys received under this chapter in the fund. All expenses whatsoever arising in the operations of the Puget Sound ferry system shall be paid from the fund, if established, by check or voucher in such manner as may be prescribed by the department.

All moneys received by the department or any employee under the foregoing sections of this chapter, except an amount of petty cash for each day's needs as fixed by the regulation of the department, shall each day and as often during the day as advisable, be deposited in the nearest authorized depository selected by the department under this section.

Whenever the fund exceeds six hundred thousand dollars, the department shall forthwith transmit the excess to the state treasurer for deposit in the trust fund established by \*RCW 47.60.150. [1984 c 7 § 313; 1970 ex.s. c 85 § 6; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.170. Prior: 1951 c 259 § 13.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 47.60.150 was repealed by 2007 c 512 § 16.

**Effective date—1970 ex.s. c 85:** See note following RCW 47.60.500.

**RCW 47.60.200 Consent to liability not general liability of state.** Any consent to liability given under the provisions of this chapter creates liability of the department only and does not create

any general liability of the state. [1984 c 7 § 314; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.200. Prior: 1951 c 259 § 5.]

**RCW 47.60.210 Seamen may sue for injuries—Venue.** The state consents to suits against the department by seamen for injuries occurring upon vessels of the department in accordance with the provisions of section 688, title 46, of the United States code. The venue of such actions may be in the superior court for Thurston county or the county where the injury occurred. [1984 c 7 § 315; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.210. Prior: 1951 c 259 § 6.]

**RCW 47.60.220 Department as common carrier—Rights and liabilities.** The department has all the obligations, duties, and rights of a common carrier of persons and property in its operation of ferries, terminals, or other facilities used in its ferry operations, including the right to participate in joint rates and through routes, agreements, and divisions of through and joint rates with railroads and other common carriers and the right to make any filings with the interstate commerce commission, the United States maritime commission, or any other state or federal regulatory or governmental body and to comply with the lawful rules and regulations or requirements of any such body, and is subject to laws relating to carrier's liability for loss or damage to property transported, and for personal injury or death of persons transported. [1984 c 7 § 316; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.220. Prior: 1951 c 259 § 7.]

**RCW 47.60.230 Liability for damages as to persons or property.** In case of property loss or damage or personal injuries or death resulting from the operation of any ferry or terminal by the department, any person or the personal representative of any person, subject to and to the extent hereinafter provided, has a right of action against the department for the damage, loss, injury, or death. [1984 c 7 § 317; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.230. Prior: 1951 c 259 § 8.]

**RCW 47.60.240 Liability to persons other than shippers or passengers—Limitation.** The right of action extended by this chapter is applicable to loss or damage of property and/or personal injury or death resulting from the operation of ferries or terminals by the department to persons other than shippers or passengers, but any recovery of damages in such cases shall not exceed an amount equal to the limitations of the insurance carried by the department to insure it against loss for such liability. [1984 c 7 § 318; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.240. Prior: 1951 c 259 § 9.]

**RCW 47.60.250 Claim for damages—Filing—Contents—Time limitations.** As a condition to a recovery thereon, a verified claim against the department growing out of such damages, loss, injuries, or death must first be presented to the department and filed with the secretary within one hundred twenty days after the time when the claim accrued. If the claimant is incapacitated from verifying and filing a claim within the one hundred twenty days, or if the claimant is a



minor, then the claim may be verified and presented on behalf of the claimant by his or her relative, attorney, or agent. Each claim must accurately locate and describe the event or defect that caused the damage, loss, injury, or death, reasonably describe the damage, loss, or injury, and state the time when the damage, loss, or injury occurred, give the claimant's residence for the last six months, and contain the items of damages claimed. No action may be maintained against the department upon the claim until the claim has been presented to, and filed with, the department and sixty days have elapsed after the presentation and filing, nor more than three years after the claim accrued.

With respect to the content of the claims, this section shall be liberally construed so that substantial compliance will be deemed satisfactory. [1984 c 7 § 319; 1967 c 164 § 3; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.250. Prior: 1951 c 259 § 10.]

**Purpose—Severability—1967 c 164:** See notes following RCW 4.96.010.

*Claims against the state: Chapter 4.92 RCW.*

**RCW 47.60.260 Payment of claims.** The department may upon such terms and conditions as it may impose and under such rules as it may adopt, pay claims arising under its operation of ferries or terminals or compromise or settle the claims. No claim may be paid by the department or any settlement or compromise of it be made except from the operating revenues of the department derived from its operation of ferries or terminals or from the proceeds of insurance recoveries. [1984 c 7 § 320; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.260. Prior: 1951 c 259 § 11.]

**RCW 47.60.270 Venue of actions—Enforcement of judgment.** Actions for the recovery of damages under RCW 47.60.220 through 47.60.260 may be brought in Thurston county or in the county in which the aggrieved person resides. No execution upon a judgment or attachment may be levied against the property of the department, nor does the state consent to any maritime lien against vessels of the department, but the department may be required by order of court to pay any judgment. [1984 c 7 § 321; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.270. Prior: 1951 c 259 § 12.]

**RCW 47.60.275 Local law enforcement officers on ferries and terminals.** Law enforcement officers of cities, towns, and counties which are served by state ferries shall have, and are hereby authorized to exercise, concurrent jurisdiction and authority with state law enforcement officers in the enforcement of laws of the state and local governmental divisions at those state ferry terminals located within the respective governmental division served by such local law enforcement officers and on state ferries at the terminals and throughout the ferry runs, notwithstanding that the ferry may not be in the officer's governmental division. [1969 ex.s. c 13 § 1.]

**RCW 47.60.280 Ferry service—Lummi Island to Orcas Island—**  
**Limitation on operation.** The department is authorized and directed to establish and operate a ferry service from a suitable point on Lummi Island in Whatcom county to a suitable point on Orcas Island in San Juan county by the most feasible route if and when Whatcom county constructs a bridge from Gooseberry Point on the mainland to Lummi Island. The actual operation of the ferry service shall not begin until Whatcom county has completed the construction of such bridge. [1984 c 7 § 322; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.280. Prior: 1959 c 198 § 1.]

**RCW 47.60.282 Ferry service between Port Townsend and Keystone—**  
**Operation authorized, when.** The department is authorized to operate a ferry service between Port Townsend and Keystone on Admiralty Inlet if the certificate of convenience and necessity for the ferry operation is theretofore surrendered, rights thereunder are abandoned, and the ferry service is discontinued. In no event may the department undertake such a ferry service preceding events as set forth herein or before April 1, 1973. [1984 c 7 § 323; 1972 ex.s. c 44 § 1.]

**RCW 47.60.283 Ferry service between Port Townsend and Keystone—**  
**Purpose.** The purpose of RCW 47.60.282 and 47.60.283 is to provide service on the ferry route between Port Townsend and Keystone to be determined by the department. Operation of this route is necessary for the economic health, safety, and welfare of the people of the state. Additionally, state operation of this route will further benefit the people of the state by providing better access to important installations maintained by the United States Navy and the United States Coast Guard. [1984 c 7 § 324; 1972 ex.s. c 44 § 2.]

**RCW 47.60.286 Ferry user data survey.** (1) The commission shall, with the involvement of the department, conduct a survey to gather data on ferry users to help inform level of service, operational, pricing, planning, and investment decisions. The survey must include, but is not limited to:

- (a) Recreational use;
- (b) Walk-on customer use;
- (c) Vehicle customer use;
- (d) Freight and goods movement demand; and
- (e) Reactions to potential operational strategies and pricing policies described under RCW 47.60.327 and 47.60.290.

(2) The commission shall develop the survey after providing an opportunity for ferry advisory committees to offer input.

(3) The survey must be updated at least every two years and maintained to support the development and implementation of adaptive management of ferry services. [2007 c 512 § 4.]

**Finding—Intent—2007 c 512:** See note following RCW 47.06.140.

**RCW 47.60.290 State ferries—Review of fares and pricing policies—Proposals.** (1) The department shall annually review fares and pricing policies applicable to the operation of the Washington state ferries.

(2) Beginning in 2008, the department shall develop fare and pricing policy proposals that must:

(a) Recognize that each travel shed is unique, and might not have the same farebox recovery rate and the same pricing policies;

(b) Use data from the current survey conducted under RCW 47.60.286;

(c) Be developed with input from affected ferry users by public hearing and by review with the affected ferry advisory committees, in addition to the data gathered from the survey conducted in RCW 47.60.286;

(d) Generate the amount of revenue required by the biennial transportation budget;

(e) Consider the impacts on users, capacity, and local communities; and

(f) Keep fare schedules as simple as possible.

(3) While developing fare and pricing policy proposals, the department must consider the following:

(a) Options for using pricing to level vehicle peak demand; and

(b) Options for using pricing to increase off-peak ridership.

[2007 c 512 § 5; 1983 c 3 § 136; 1972 ex.s. c 24 § 6; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.290. Prior: 1959 c 199 § 1.]

**Finding—Intent—2007 c 512:** See note following RCW 47.06.140.

**RCW 47.60.300 State ferries—Scope of review—Periodic reviews required.** The review shall include but not be limited to tariffs for automobiles, passengers, trucks, commutation rates, and volume discounts. The review shall give proper consideration to time of travel, distance of travel, operating costs, maintenance and repair expenses, and the resultant effect any change in tariff might have on the debt service requirements of the department as specifically provided in existing financing programs. The review shall also include the allocation of vessels to particular runs, the scheduling of particular runs, the adequacy and arrangements of docks and dock facilities, and any other subject deemed by the department to be properly within the scope of the review. The department is further authorized and directed to make a like review within every three-year period. [1984 c 7 § 325; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.300. Prior: 1959 c 199 § 2.]

**RCW 47.60.310 State ferries—Local expressions—Ferry advisory committees.** (1) The department is further directed to conduct such review by soliciting and obtaining expressions from local community groups in order to be properly informed as to problems being experienced within the area served by the Washington state ferries. In order that local representation may be established, the department shall give prior notice of the review to the ferry advisory committees.

(2) The legislative authorities of San Juan, Skagit, Clallam, and Jefferson counties shall each appoint a committee to consist of five members to serve as an advisory committee to the department or its designated representative in such review. The legislative authorities of other counties that contain ferry terminals shall appoint ferry advisory committees consisting of three members for each terminal area

in each county, except for Vashon Island, which shall have one committee, and its members shall be appointed by the Vashon/Maury Island community council. If the Vashon/Maury Island community council fails to appoint a qualified person to fill a vacancy within ninety days of the occurrence of the vacancy, the legislative authority of King county shall appoint a qualified person to fill the vacancy. At least one person appointed to each ferry advisory committee shall be representative of an established ferry user group or of frequent users of the ferry system. Each member shall reside in the vicinity of the terminal that the advisory committee represents.

(3) The members of the San Juan, Clallam, and Jefferson county ferry advisory committees shall be appointed for four-year terms. The initial terms shall commence on July 1, 1982, and end on June 30, 1986. Any vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term by the appointing authority. At least one person appointed to the advisory committee shall be representative of an established ferry-user group or of frequent users of the ferry system, at least one shall be representative of persons or firms using or depending upon the ferry system for commerce, and one member shall be representative of a local government planning body or its staff. Every member shall be a resident of the county upon whose advisory committee he or she sits, and not more than three members shall at the time of their appointment be members of the same major political party.

(4) The members of each terminal area committee shall be appointed for four-year terms. The initial terms of the members of each terminal area committee shall be staggered as follows: All terms shall commence September 1, 1988, with one member's term expiring August 31, 1990, one member's term expiring August 31, 1991, and the remaining member's term expiring August 31, 1992. Any vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term by the appointing authority. Not more than two members of any terminal-area committee may be from the same political party at the time of their appointment, and in a county having more than one committee, the overall party representation shall be as nearly equal as possible.

(5) The chairs of the several committees constitute an executive committee of the Washington state ferry users. The executive committee shall meet twice each year with representatives of the marine division of the department to review ferry system issues.

(6) The committees to be appointed by the county legislative authorities shall serve without fee or compensation. [2016 c 25 § 1; 2010 c 8 § 10020; 1988 c 100 § 1; 1983 c 15 § 24; 1983 c 3 § 137; 1977 c 29 § 1; 1961 c 13 § 47.60.310. Prior: 1959 c 199 § 3.]

**RCW 47.60.315 Fares and pricing policies—Adoption schedule—Revenues—Vessel replacement surcharges.** (1) The commission shall adopt fares and pricing policies by rule, under chapter 34.05 RCW, according to the following schedule:

(a) Each year the department shall provide the commission a report of its review of fares and pricing policies, with recommendations for the revision of fares and pricing policies for the ensuing year;

(b) By September 1st of each year, beginning in 2008, the commission shall adopt by rule fares and pricing policies for the ensuing year.

(2) The commission may adopt by rule fares that are effective for more or less than one year for the purposes of transitioning to the fare schedule in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) The commission may increase ferry fares included in the schedule of charges adopted under this section by a percentage that exceeds the fiscal growth factor.

(4) The chief executive officer of the ferry system may authorize the use of promotional, discounted, and special event fares to the general public and commercial enterprises for the purpose of maximizing capacity use and the revenues collected by the ferry system. The department shall report to the commission a summary of the promotional, discounted, and special event fares offered during each fiscal year and the financial results from these activities.

(5) Fare revenues and other revenues deposited in the Puget Sound ferry operations account created in RCW 47.60.530 may not be used to support the Puget Sound capital construction account created in RCW 47.60.505, unless the support for capital is separately identified in the fare or except as provided in section 715, chapter 333, Laws of 2021 during the 2021-2023 biennium and section 716, chapter 472, Laws of 2023 during the 2023-2025 fiscal biennium.

(6) The commission may not raise fares until the fare rules contain pricing policies developed under RCW 47.60.290, or September 1, 2009, whichever is later.

(7) The commission shall impose a vessel replacement surcharge of 25 cents on every one-way and round-trip ferry fare sold, including multiride and monthly pass fares. This surcharge must be clearly indicated to ferry passengers and drivers and, if possible, on the fare media itself.

(8) Except as provided in subsection (10) of this section, beginning May 1, 2020, the commission shall impose an additional vessel replacement surcharge in an amount sufficient to fund 25 year debt service on one 144-auto hybrid vessel taking into account funds provided in chapter 417, Laws of 2019 or \*chapter . . . (SSB 5419), Laws of 2019. The department of transportation shall provide to the commission vessel and debt service cost estimates. Information on vessels constructed or purchased with revenue from the surcharges must be publicly posted including, but not limited to, the commission website.

(9) The vessel replacement surcharges imposed in this section may only be used for the construction or purchase of ferry vessels and to pay the principal and interest on bonds authorized for the construction or purchase of new ferry vessels.

(10) The commission shall not impose the additional vessel replacement surcharge in subsection (8) of this section if doing so would increase fares by more than 10 percent.

(11) For the 2023-2025 fiscal biennium, any ferry fuel surcharge imposed by the commission may not go into effect until after the ensuing regular legislative session. If a fuel surcharge is imposed as provided under this subsection, the commission must reevaluate the need for the surcharge on at least a quarterly basis to determine if the surcharge is still needed to cover increased fuel costs, and revoke the surcharge if the determination is that the surcharge is no longer needed for this purpose. [2023 c 472 § 714; 2021 c 333 § 716; 2019 c 431 § 3; 2011 1st sp.s. c 16 § 3; 2007 c 512 § 6.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Substitute Senate Bill No. 5419 was not enacted during the 2019 legislative session.

**Effective date—2023 c 472:** See note following RCW 43.19.642.

**Effective date—2021 c 333:** See note following RCW 43.19.642.

**Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 16 §§ 1-15:** See note following RCW 47.60.530.

**Finding—Intent—2007 c 512:** See note following RCW 47.06.140.

**RCW 47.60.322 Capital vessel replacement account—Transfer prohibition, authorization.** (1) The capital vessel replacement account is created in the motor vehicle account. All revenues generated from the vessel replacement surcharge under RCW 47.60.315(7) and service fees collected by the department of licensing or county auditor or other agent appointed by the director under RCW 46.17.040, 46.17.050, and 46.17.060 must be deposited into the account. Moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation. Expenditures from the account may be used only for the construction or purchase of ferry vessels and to pay the principal and interest on bonds authorized for the construction or purchase of ferry vessels. However, expenditures from the account must first be used to support the construction or purchase, including any applicable financing costs, of a ferry vessel with a carrying capacity of at least one hundred forty-four cars.

(2) The state treasurer may transfer moneys from the capital vessel replacement account to the transportation 2003 account (nickel account) for debt service on bonds issued for the construction of 144-car class ferry vessels.

(3) The legislature may transfer from the capital vessel replacement account to the connecting Washington account created under RCW 46.68.395 such amounts as reflect the excess fund balance of the capital vessel replacement account to be used for ferry terminal construction and preservation.

(4) During the 2021-2023 and 2023-2025 fiscal biennia, the legislature may direct the state treasurer to make transfers of moneys in the capital vessel replacement account to the transportation partnership account and the connecting Washington account. [2023 c 472 § 715; 2021 c 333 § 712; 2019 c 416 § 716; 2015 3rd sp.s. c 44 § 213; 2014 c 59 § 1; 2011 1st sp.s. c 16 § 2.]

**Effective date—2023 c 472:** See note following RCW 43.19.642.

**Effective date—2021 c 333:** See note following RCW 43.19.642.

**Effective date—2019 c 416:** See note following RCW 43.19.642.

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 44:** See note following RCW 46.68.395.

**Application—2014 c 59:** "This act applies to vehicle registrations that are due or become due on or after January 1, 2015, and certificate of title transactions that are processed on or after January 1, 2015." [2014 c 59 § 5.]

**Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 16 §§ 1-15:** See note following RCW 47.60.530.

**RCW 47.60.327 Operational strategies for asset utilization. (1)**

The department shall develop, and the commission shall review, operational strategies to ensure that existing assets are fully utilized and to guide future investment decisions. These operational strategies must, at a minimum:

(a) Recognize that each travel shed is unique and might not have the same operational strategies;

(b) Use data from the current survey conducted under RCW 47.60.286;

(c) Be consistent with vehicle level of service standards;

(d) Choose the most efficient balance of capital and operating investments by using a life-cycle cost analysis; and

(e) Use methods of collecting fares that maximize efficiency and achieve revenue management control.

(2) After the commission reviews recommendations by the department, the commission and department shall make joint recommendations to the legislature for the improvement of operational strategies.

(3) In developing operational strategies, the following, at a minimum, must be considered:

(a) The feasibility of using reservation systems;

(b) Methods of shifting vehicular traffic to other modes of transportation;

(c) Methods of improving on-dock operations to maximize efficiency and minimize operating and capital costs;

(d) A cost-benefit analysis of remote holding versus overwater holding;

(e) Methods of reorganizing holding areas and minimizing on-dock employee parking to maximize the dock size available for customer vehicles;

(f) Schedule modifications;

(g) Efficiencies in exit queuing and metering;

(h) Interoperability with other transportation services;

(i) Options for leveling vehicle peak demand; and

(j) Options for increasing off-peak ridership.

(4) Operational strategies must be reevaluated periodically and, at a minimum, before developing a new capital plan. [2007 c 512 § 7.]

**Finding—Intent—2007 c 512:** See note following RCW 47.06.140.

**RCW 47.60.330 Public participation—Legislative approval. (1)**

Before a substantial change to the service levels provided to ferry users, the department shall consult with affected ferry users by public hearing and by review with the affected ferry advisory committees.

(2) Before adding or eliminating a ferry route, the department shall consult with affected ferry users and receive legislative approval. [2007 c 512 § 8; 2003 c 374 § 5; 1983 c 15 § 26.]

**Finding—Intent—2007 c 512:** See note following RCW 47.06.140.

**RCW 47.60.335 Appropriation limitations—Capital program cost allocation. (1)** Appropriations made for the Washington state ferries capital program may not be used for maintenance costs.

(2) Appropriations made for preservation projects shall be spent only on preservation and only when warranted by asset condition, and shall not be spent on master plans, right-of-way acquisition, or other nonpreservation items.

(3) Systemwide and administrative capital program costs shall be allocated to specific capital projects using a cost allocation plan developed by the department. Systemwide and administrative capital program costs shall be identifiable.

(4) The vessel emergency repair budget may not be used for planned maintenance and inspections of inactive vessels. [2008 c 124 § 7; 2007 c 512 § 9.]

**Finding—Intent—2007 c 512:** See note following RCW 47.06.140.

**RCW 47.60.340 Vessel maintenance and preservation program—Report.** (1) The department shall develop and maintain a vessel maintenance and preservation program that meets or exceeds all federal requirements and, at a minimum:

- (a) Includes a bilge and void maintenance program;
- (b) Includes a visual inspection/audio gauging steel preservation program; and
- (c) Uses a lowest life-cycle cost method.

(2) The vessel maintenance and preservation program must maximize cost efficiency by, at a minimum:

- (a) Reducing planned out-of-service time to the greatest extent possible; and
- (b) Striving to eliminate planned peak season out-of-service periods.

(3) When construction is underway for the replacement of a vessel, the vessel that is scheduled for retirement is exempt from the requirement in subsection (1)(c) of this section.

(4) The department shall include a plain language status report on the maintenance and preservation vessel program with each budget submittal to the office of financial management. This report must include, at a minimum:

- (a) A description of the maintenance and preservation of each vessel in the fleet;
- (b) A highlight and explanation of any significant deviation from the norm;
- (c) A highlight and explanation of any significant deviation from the vessel preservation plan required under RCW 47.60.375;
- (d) A highlight and explanation of decisions not to invest in vessels; and
- (e) A highlight and explanation of decisions to invest early in vessels. [2008 c 124 § 5.]

**RCW 47.60.345 Life-cycle cost model on capital assets.** (1) The department shall maintain a life-cycle cost model on capital assets such that:

- (a) Available industry standards are used for estimating the life of an asset, and department-adopted standard life cycles derived from the experience of similar public and private entities are used when industry standards are not available;



(b) Standard estimated life is adjusted for asset condition when inspections are made;

(c) It does not include utilities or other systems that are not replaced on a standard life cycle; and

(d) It does not include assets not yet built.

(2) All assets in the life-cycle cost model must be inspected and updated in the life-cycle cost model for asset condition at least every three years.

(3) The life-cycle cost model shall be used when estimating future terminal and vessel preservation needs.

(4) The life-cycle cost model shall be the basis for developing the budget request for terminal and vessel preservation funding. [2008 c 124 § 4; 2007 c 512 § 10.]

**Finding—Intent—2007 c 512:** See note following RCW 47.06.140.

**RCW 47.60.355 Terminal and vessel preservation funding requests—Predesign study.** (1) Terminal and vessel preservation funding requests shall only be for assets in the life-cycle cost model.

(2) Terminal and vessel preservation funding requests that exceed five million dollars per project must be accompanied by a predesign study. The predesign study must include all elements required by the office of financial management. [2010 c 283 § 3; 2007 c 512 § 11.]

**Findings—Intent—2010 c 283:** "The legislature finds that the Washington state ferry system is a critical component of the state's highway system. The legislature further finds that ferry system revenues are inadequate to support the capital requirements of aging vessels and terminals, and operating cost growth is fast outpacing the growth of fare revenue and gas tax revenue dedicated to the ferry system. As such, and drawing on more than four consecutive years of legislative analysis and operating policy reforms, the legislature finds that a realignment of the ferry compensation policy framework is an appropriate next step toward the legislature's long-term goal of assuring sustainable, cost-effective ferry service. The legislature further intends to address increased costs of ferry system operations in a manner that balances the interests of the ferry system, ferry workforce, and fare payers. It is the intent of the legislature that final recommendations from the joint transportation committee ferry study, submitted to the legislature during the 2009 regular legislative session, be enacted by the legislature and implemented by the department of transportation as soon as practicable in order to benefit from the efficiencies and cost savings identified in the recommendations. It is also the intent of the legislature to make various additional policy changes aimed at further efficiencies and cost savings. Since the study began in 2006, recommendations have been made with regard to long range planning and implementing the most efficient and effective balance between ferry capital and operating investments. It is intended that this act, the 2009-2011 omnibus transportation appropriations act, and subsequent transportation appropriations acts serve as vehicles for enacting these recommendations in order to maximize the utilization of existing capacity and to make the most efficient use of existing assets and tax dollars." [2010 c 283 § 1.]

**Effective date—2010 c 283:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [April 1, 2010]." [2010 c 283 § 24.]

**Finding—Intent—2007 c 512:** See note following RCW 47.06.140.

**RCW 47.60.365 Terminal and vessel design standards.** The department shall develop terminal and vessel design standards that:

- (1) Adhere to vehicle level of service standards as described in RCW 47.06.140;
- (2) Adhere to operational strategies as described in RCW 47.60.327; and
- (3) Choose the most efficient balance between capital and operating investments by using a life-cycle cost analysis. [2010 c 283 § 4; 2007 c 512 § 12.]

**Findings—Intent—Effective date—2010 c 283:** See notes following RCW 47.60.355.

**Finding—Intent—2007 c 512:** See note following RCW 47.06.140.

**RCW 47.60.375 Capital plan.** (1) The capital plan must adhere to the following:

- (a) A current ridership demand forecast;
- (b) Vehicle level of service standards as described in RCW 47.06.140;
- (c) Operational strategies as described in RCW 47.60.327; and
- (d) Terminal and vessel design standards as described in RCW 47.60.365.

(2) The capital plan must include the following:

- (a) A current vessel preservation plan;
- (b) A current systemwide vessel rebuild and replacement plan as described in RCW 47.60.377;
- (c) A current vessel deployment plan; and
- (d) A current terminal preservation plan that adheres to the life-cycle cost model on capital assets as described in RCW 47.60.345. [2010 c 283 § 5; 2008 c 124 § 3; 2007 c 512 § 13.]

**Findings—Intent—Effective date—2010 c 283:** See notes following RCW 47.60.355.

**Finding—Intent—2007 c 512:** See note following RCW 47.06.140.

**RCW 47.60.377 Vessel rebuild and replacement plan.** The department shall develop and maintain a vessel rebuild and replacement plan that, at a minimum:

- (1) Includes projected retirement dates for all vessels, distinguishing between active and inactive vessels;
- (2) Includes projected rebuild dates for all vessels;
- (3) Includes timelines for vessel replacement, including business decisions, design, procurement, and construction; and

(4) Includes a summary of the condition of all vessels, distinguishing between active and inactive vessels. [2008 c 124 § 2.]

**RCW 47.60.385 Terminal improvement, vessel improvement, and vessel acquisition project funding requests—Predesign study—Prioritization.** (1) Terminal improvement, vessel improvement, and vessel acquisition project funding requests must adhere to the capital plan, include route-based planning, and be submitted with a predesign study that:

(a) Includes all elements required by the office of financial management;

(b) Separately identifies basic terminal and vessel elements essential for operation and their costs;

(c) Separately identifies additional elements to provide ancillary revenue and customer comfort and their costs;

(d) Includes construction phasing options that are consistent with forecasted ridership increases;

(e) Separately identifies additional elements requested by local governments and the cost and proposed funding source of those elements;

(f) Separately identifies multimodal elements and the cost and proposed funding source of those elements;

(g) Identifies all contingency amounts;

(h) Identifies any terminal, vessel, or other capital modifications that would be required as a result of the proposed capital project;

(i) Includes planned service modifications as a result of the proposed capital project, and the consistency of those service modifications with the capital plan; and

(j) Demonstrates the evaluation of long-term operating costs including fuel efficiency, staffing, and preservation.

(2) The department shall prioritize vessel preservation and acquisition funding requests over vessel improvement funding requests. [2010 c 283 § 6; 2008 c 124 § 6; 2007 c 512 § 14.]

**Findings—Intent—Effective date—2010 c 283:** See notes following RCW 47.60.355.

**Finding—Intent—2007 c 512:** See note following RCW 47.06.140.

**RCW 47.60.386 Additional requirements for vessel improvement and vessel acquisition funding requests.** (1) In addition to the requirements of RCW 47.60.385(1), initial requests for, and substantial modification requests to, vessel acquisition funding must be submitted with a predesign study that:

(a) Includes a business decision case on vessel sizing;

(b) Includes an updated vessel deployment plan demonstrating maximum use of existing vessels, and an updated systemwide vessel rebuild and replacement plan;

(c) Includes an analysis that demonstrates that acquiring a new vessel or improving an existing vessel is more cost-effective than other alternatives considered. At a minimum, alternatives explored must include:

- (i) Alternatives to new vessel construction that increase capacity of existing vessels;
  - (ii) Service level changes in lieu of adding vessel capacity; and
  - (iii) Acquiring existing vessels or existing vessel plans rather than wholly new vessels or vessel plans; and
  - (d) Demonstrates that the vessel proposed for improvement, construction, or purchase, if intended to replace an existing vessel or to place an existing vessel into inactive or reserve status, is consistent with the scheduled replacements in the rebuild and replacement plan.
- (2) In addition to the requirements of RCW 47.60.385(1), initial requests for, and substantial modification requests to, vessel improvement funding must be submitted with a predesign study that includes:
- (a) An explanation of any regulatory changes necessitating the improvement;
  - (b) The requirements under subsection (1) of this section, if the improvement modifies the capacity of a vessel;
  - (c) A cost-benefit analysis of any modifications designed to improve fuel efficiency, including potential impacts on vessel maintenance and repair; and
  - (d) An assessment of out-of-service time associated with making the improvement and ongoing preservation of the improvement. [2010 c 283 § 7.]

**Findings—Intent—Effective date—2010 c 283:** See notes following RCW 47.60.355.

**RCW 47.60.400 Refunding bonds authorized, 1961 Act.** The Washington toll bridge authority is authorized to issue revenue bonds to refund all or any part of the authority's outstanding 1955 Washington state ferry system refunding revenue bonds and 1957 ferry and Hood Canal bridge revenue bonds. With respect to the issuing of such bonds and the payment of principal and interest thereon, the payment into reserves, sinking funds, and the fixing and revision of charges for services and facilities of the system, and in managing all its fiscal operations, the authority shall have all the powers and shall follow the same procedures established for it under existing laws, except as otherwise provided herein. [1986 c 66 § 3; 1961 ex.s. c 9 § 1.]

**Reviser's note:** Powers, duties, and functions of toll bridge authority transferred to department of transportation; see RCW 47.01.031. Term "Washington toll bridge authority" means department of transportation; see RCW 47.04.015.

**Effective date—1986 c 66:** "This act shall take effect July 1, 1987. The secretary of transportation may immediately take such steps as are necessary to ensure that this act is implemented on its effective date." [1986 c 66 § 14.]

**Appropriation—1961 ex.s. c 9:** "There is hereby appropriated from the motor vehicle fund to the Washington toll bridge authority, for the biennium ending June 30, 1963, the sum of two million six hundred thousand dollars or so much thereof as may be necessary for the operation and maintenance of the Washington state ferries and the

payments of principal and interest on outstanding 1955 Washington state ferry system refunding revenue bonds and 1957 ferry and Hood Canal bridge revenue bonds and payments into reserves thereof as required by resolutions adopted by the authority with respect to such bond issues. Whenever such bond issues shall be refunded, any unexpended part of this appropriation shall lapse." [1961 ex.s. c 9 § 8.]

**RCW 47.60.420 Additional revenue bonds, refunding bonds, authorized, 1961 Act—Prior charge against Puget Sound capital construction account if ferry system revenues insufficient.** To the extent that all revenues from the Washington state ferry system available therefor are insufficient to provide for the payment of principal and interest on the bonds authorized and issued under RCW 47.60.400 through \*47.60.450 and for sinking fund requirements established with respect thereto and for payment into such reserves as the department has established with respect to the securing of the bonds, there is imposed a first and prior charge against the Puget Sound capital construction account of the motor vehicle fund created by RCW 47.60.505 and, to the extent required, against all revenues required by RCW 46.68.090 to be deposited in the Puget Sound capital construction account.

To the extent that the revenues from the Washington state ferry system available therefor are insufficient to meet required payments of principal and interest on bonds, sinking fund requirements, and payments into reserves, the department shall use moneys in the Puget Sound capital construction account for such purpose. [1999 c 269 § 15; 1990 c 42 § 407; 1986 c 66 § 4; 1984 c 7 § 330; 1961 ex.s. c 9 § 3.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 47.60.450 was repealed by 2005 c 335 § 5.

**Effective date—1999 c 269:** See note following RCW 36.78.070.

**Purpose—Effective dates—Application—Implementation—1990 c 42:** See notes following RCW 46.68.090.

**Effective date—1986 c 66:** See note following RCW 47.60.400.

**RCW 47.60.430 Additional revenue bonds, refunding bonds, authorized, 1961 Act—Agreement to continue imposition of certain taxes.** So long as any bonds issued as authorized herein are outstanding, the state hereby agrees to continue to impose at least one-quarter cent of motor vehicle fuel tax and one-quarter cent of special fuel tax required by law and to deposit the proceeds of these taxes in the Puget Sound capital construction account of the motor vehicle fund. [1986 c 66 § 5; 1961 ex.s. c 9 § 4.]

**Effective date—1986 c 66:** See note following RCW 47.60.400.

**RCW 47.60.440 Additional revenue bonds, refunding bonds, authorized, 1961 Act—Ferry system a revenue-producing undertaking—Debt service—Tolls on ferry system and Hood Canal bridge.** The

Washington state ferry system shall be efficiently managed, operated, and maintained as a revenue-producing undertaking. Subject to the provisions of \*RCW 47.60.326 the commission shall maintain and revise from time to time as necessary a schedule of tolls and charges on said ferry system with other moneys deposited in the Puget Sound ferry operations account for maintenance and operation and all moneys in the Puget Sound capital construction account available for debt service will produce net revenue available for debt service, in each fiscal year, in an amount at least equal to minimum annual debt service requirements as hereinafter provided. Minimum annual debt service requirements as used in this section shall include required payments of principal and interest, sinking fund requirements, and payments into reserves on all outstanding revenue bonds authorized by RCW 47.60.400 through \*\*47.60.470.

The provisions of law relating to the revision of tolls and charges to meet minimum annual debt service requirements from net revenues as required by this section shall be binding upon the commission but shall not be deemed to constitute a contract to that effect for the benefit of the holders of such bonds. [1999 c 94 § 28; 1990 c 42 § 408; 1986 c 66 § 6; 1983 c 3 § 139; 1972 ex.s. c 24 § 7; 1963 ex.s. c 3 § 42; 1961 ex.s. c 9 § 5.]

**Reviser's note:** \*(1) RCW 47.60.326 was repealed by 2007 c 512 § 16.

\*\* (2) RCW 47.60.470 was repealed by 1998 c 245 § 176.

**Legislative finding—Effective dates—1999 c 94:** See notes following RCW 43.84.092.

**Purpose—Effective dates—Application—Implementation—1990 c 42:** See notes following RCW 46.68.090.

**Effective date—1986 c 66:** See note following RCW 47.60.400.

**RCW 47.60.500 Acquisition of additional ferries—Legislative finding—Department authority.** (1) The legislature finds that the state's ferry fleet available for mass transportation of people within the urban region of Puget Sound is critically deficient and that substantial financial assistance for the acquisition of new ferries is necessary if the Washington state ferries is to continue to fulfill its role in the Puget Sound regional urban transportation system.

(2) The department is authorized:

(a) To apply to the United States secretary of transportation for a financial grant to assist the state to acquire urgently needed ferries;

(b) To enter into an agreement with the United States secretary of transportation or other duly authorized federal officials and to assent to such conditions as may be necessary to obtain financial assistance for the acquisition of additional ferries. In connection with the agreement the department may pledge any moneys in the Puget Sound capital construction account, not required for debt service, in the motor vehicle fund or any moneys to be deposited in the account for the purpose of paying the state's share of the cost of acquiring ferries. To the extent of the pledge the department shall use the moneys available in the Puget Sound capital construction account to

meet the obligations as they arise. [1986 c 66 § 8; 1984 c 7 § 333; 1970 ex.s. c 85 § 1.]

**Effective date—1986 c 66:** See note following RCW 47.60.400.

**Effective date—1970 ex.s. c 85:** "This 1970 amendatory act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions and shall take effect April 1, 1970." [1970 ex.s. c 85 § 9.]

**RCW 47.60.505 Puget Sound capital construction account—Created—Use.** There is hereby created in the motor vehicle fund the Puget Sound capital construction account. All moneys hereafter deposited in said account shall be used by the department of transportation for:

(1) Reimbursing the motor vehicle fund for all transfers therefrom made in accordance with RCW 47.60.620; and

(2) Improving the Washington state ferry system including, but not limited to, vessel acquisition, vessel construction, major and minor vessel improvements, terminal construction and improvements, and reconstruction or replacement of, and improvements to, the Hood Canal bridge, reimbursement of the motor vehicle fund for any state funds, other than insurance proceeds, expended therefrom for reconstruction or replacement of and improvements to the Hood Canal bridge, pursuant to proper appropriations: PROVIDED, That any funds accruing to the Puget Sound capital construction account after June 30, 1979, which are not required to reimburse the motor vehicle fund pursuant to RCW 47.60.620 as such obligations come due nor are required for capital improvements of the Washington state ferries pursuant to appropriations therefor shall from time to time as shall be determined by the department of transportation be transferred by the state treasurer to the Puget Sound ferry operations account in the motor vehicle fund.

(3) The department may pledge any moneys in the Puget Sound capital construction account or to be deposited in that account to guarantee the payment of principal or interest on bonds issued to refund the outstanding 1955 Washington state ferry system refunding bonds and the 1957 ferry and Hood Canal bridge revenue bonds.

The department may further pledge moneys in the Puget Sound capital construction account to meet any sinking fund requirements or reserves established by the department with respect to any bond issues provided for in this section.

To the extent of any pledge authorized in this section, the department shall use the first moneys available in the Puget Sound capital construction account to meet such obligations as they arise, and shall maintain a balance of not less than one million dollars in the account for this purpose.

(4) The treasurer shall never transfer any moneys from the Puget Sound capital construction account for use by the department for state highway purposes so long as there is due and unpaid any obligations for payment of principal, interest, sinking funds, or reserves as required by any pledge of the Puget Sound capital construction account. Whenever the department has pledged any moneys in the account for the purposes authorized in this section, the state agrees to continue to deposit in the Puget Sound capital construction account

the motor vehicle fuel taxes and special fuel taxes as provided in RCW \*82.36.020 and 82.38.290 and further agrees that, so long as there exists any outstanding obligations pursuant to such pledge, to continue to impose such taxes.

(5) Funds in the Puget Sound capital construction account of the motor vehicle fund that are not required by the department for payment of principal or interest on bond issues or for any of the other purposes authorized in this chapter may be invested by the department in bonds and obligations of the nature eligible for the investment of current state funds as provided in RCW 43.84.080. [1986 c 66 § 9; 1979 c 27 § 3; 1977 ex.s. c 360 § 10; 1970 ex.s. c 85 § 2.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Chapter 82.36 RCW was repealed in its entirety by 2013 c 225 § 501, effective July 1, 2016.

**Transfer of funds—1986 c 66:** "Moneys in the Puget Sound reserve account and ferry improvement fund on July 1, 1987, shall be transferred to the Puget Sound capital construction account." [1986 c 66 § 13.]

**Effective date—1986 c 66:** See note following RCW 47.60.400.

**Severability—1979 c 27:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1979 c 27 § 10.]

**Severability—1977 ex.s. c 360:** See note following RCW 47.60.560.

**Effective date—1970 ex.s. c 85:** See note following RCW 47.60.500.

**RCW 47.60.530 Puget Sound ferry operations account.** (1) The Puget Sound ferry operations account is created in the motor vehicle account.

(2) The following funds must be deposited into the account:

(a) All moneys directed by law;

(b) All revenues generated from ferry fares; and

(c) All revenues generated from commercial advertising, concessions, parking, and leases as allowed under RCW 47.60.140.

(3) Moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation.

(4) Expenditures from the account may be used only for the maintenance, administration, and operation of the Washington state ferry system.

(5) During the 2021-2023 and 2023-2025 fiscal biennia, the legislature may direct the state treasurer to make transfers of moneys in the Puget Sound ferry operations account to the Puget Sound capital construction account. [2023 c 472 § 716; 2021 c 333 § 715; 2017 c 313 § 714; 2015 3rd sp.s. c 43 § 605; 2011 1st sp.s. c 16 § 1; 1979 c 27 § 4; 1972 ex.s. c 24 § 3.]

**Effective date—2023 c 472:** See note following RCW 43.19.642.

**Effective date—2021 c 333:** See note following RCW 43.19.642.



**Effective date—2017 c 313:** See note following RCW 43.19.642.

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 43:** See note following RCW 46.68.030.

**Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 16 §§ 1-15:** "Sections 1 through 15 of this act are necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and take effect immediately [June 7, 2011]." [2011 1st sp.s. c 16 § 30.]

**Severability—1979 c 27:** See note following RCW 47.60.505.

**RCW 47.60.550 Parking or holding area for ferry patrons in conjunction with municipal off-street parking facilities.** (1)

Whenever a county, city, or other municipal corporation acquires or constructs a facility to be used in whole or in part for off-street parking of motor vehicles which is in the immediate vicinity of an existing or planned ferry terminal, the department may enter into an agreement with the local governmental body providing for the use in part or at specified times of the facility as a holding area for traffic waiting to board a ferry or for parking by ferry patrons.

(2) As a part of an agreement authorized by subsection (1) of this section, the department, subject to the limitations contained in RCW 47.60.505, may pledge any moneys in the Puget Sound capital construction account in the motor vehicle fund, or to be deposited in the account, to guarantee the payment of principal and interest on bonds issued by a county, city, or other municipal corporation to finance the acquisition or construction of the parking facility. In making the pledge, the department shall reserve the right to issue its own bonds for the purpose of paying the costs of acquiring ferry vessels with the provision that the bonds shall rank on parity with the bonds authorized by this section as a lien upon moneys in or to be deposited in the Puget Sound capital construction account.

The department shall also reserve the right to pledge moneys in the Puget Sound capital construction account to guarantee subsequent bonds issued by any county, city, or other municipal corporation to finance parking facilities as authorized in subsection (1) of this section with the provision that the subsequent bonds shall rank on parity with prior bonds guaranteed pursuant to this section as a lien upon moneys in or to be deposited in the Puget Sound capital construction account. To the extent of any pledge herein authorized, the department shall use the first moneys available in the Puget Sound capital construction account to meet the obligations as they arise. [1986 c 66 § 10; 1984 c 7 § 335; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 69 § 1.]

**Effective date—1986 c 66:** See note following RCW 47.60.400.

**RCW 47.60.560 General obligation bonds—Ferries—Authorized—Purposes—Passenger-only vessels—Issuance, sale, and retirement.** In

order to provide funds necessary for vessel acquisition, vessel construction, major and minor vessel improvements, and terminal construction and improvements for the Washington state ferries, there shall be issued and sold upon the request of the department general

obligation bonds of the state of Washington in the sum of one hundred thirty-five million dollars or such amount thereof as may be required (together with other funds available therefor). If the state of Washington is able to obtain matching funds from the urban mass transportation administration or other federal government agencies for the acquisition of passenger-only vessels capable of operating as an integral part of the Washington state ferries on Puget Sound and the Straits of Juan de Fuca, a sufficient amount of the proceeds of the bonds authorized herein shall be used to pay the state's share of the acquisition cost of the passenger-only vessels. Upon request being made by the department, the state finance committee shall supervise and provide for the issuance, sale, and retirement of the bonds in accordance with chapter 39.42 RCW. The bonds may be sold from time to time in such amounts as may be necessary for the orderly progress in constructing the ferries. The bonds shall be sold in such manner, at such time or times, in such amounts, and at such price or prices as the state finance committee shall determine. The state finance committee may obtain insurance, letters of credit, or other credit facility devices with respect to the bonds and may authorize the execution and delivery of agreements, promissory notes, and other obligations for the purpose of insuring the payment or enhancing the marketability of the bonds. Promissory notes or other obligations issued under this section shall not constitute a debt or the contracting of indebtedness under any constitutional or statutory indebtedness limitation if their payment is conditioned upon the failure of the state to pay the principal of or interest on the bonds with respect to which the promissory notes or other obligations relate. The state finance committee may authorize the issuance of short-term obligations in lieu of long-term obligations for the purposes of more favorable interest rates, lower total interest costs, and increased marketability and for the purposes of retiring the bonds during the life of the project for which they were issued. [1986 c 290 § 8; 1985 c 176 § 1; 1984 c 7 § 336; 1977 ex.s. c 360 § 1.]

**Severability—1977 ex.s. c 360:** "If any provision of this 1977 amendatory act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1977 ex.s. c 360 § 13.]

**RCW 47.60.570 Disposition of proceeds from sale of bonds.** The proceeds from the sale of the bonds shall be deposited in the Puget Sound capital construction account of the motor vehicle fund and such proceeds shall be available only for the purposes enumerated in RCW 47.60.560, for the payment of bond anticipation notes, if any, and for the payment of the expense incurred in the drafting, printing, issuance, and sale of such bonds. The costs of obtaining insurance, letters of credit, or other credit enhancement devices with respect to the bonds shall be considered to be expenses incurred in the issuance and sale of the bonds. [1986 c 290 § 9; 1977 ex.s. c 360 § 2.]

**Severability—1977 ex.s. c 360:** See note following RCW 47.60.560.

**RCW 47.60.580 Bonds—Terms—Principal and interest payable from proceeds of state excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels.**

Bonds issued under the provisions of RCW 47.60.560 must distinctly state that they are a general obligation of the state of Washington, must pledge the full faith and credit of the state to the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon, and must contain an unconditional promise to pay such principal and interest as the same becomes due. The principal of and interest on such bonds must be first payable in the manner provided in RCW 47.60.560 through 47.60.640 from the proceeds of the state excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels imposed by chapter 82.38 RCW. Proceeds of such excise taxes are hereby pledged to the payment of any bonds and the interest thereon issued under the provisions of RCW 47.60.560 through 47.60.640 and the legislature hereby agrees to continue to impose the same excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels in amounts sufficient to pay, when due, the principal and interest on all bonds issued under the provisions of RCW 47.60.560 through 47.60.640. [2013 c 225 § 635; 1995 c 274 § 18; 1977 ex.s. c 360 § 3.]

**Effective date—2013 c 225:** See note following RCW 82.38.010.

**Severability—1977 ex.s. c 360:** See note following RCW 47.60.560.

**RCW 47.60.590 Repayment of bonds—Fund sources.** Any funds required to repay the bonds authorized by RCW 47.60.560 or the interest thereon when due shall be taken from that portion of the motor vehicle fund which results from the imposition of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and which is distributed to the state for expenditure pursuant to RCW 46.68.130 and shall never constitute a charge against any allocations of such funds to counties, cities, and towns unless and until the amount of the motor vehicle fund arising from the excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and available for state highway purposes proves insufficient to meet the requirements for bond retirement or interest on any such bonds. [1977 ex.s. c 360 § 4.]

**Severability—1977 ex.s. c 360:** See note following RCW 47.60.560.

**RCW 47.60.600 Bonds—Powers and duties of state finance committee.** At least one year prior to the date any interest is due and payable on such bonds or before the maturity date of such bonds, the state finance committee shall estimate, subject to the provisions of RCW 47.60.590, the percentage of the receipts in money of the motor vehicle fund resulting from collection of excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels, for each month of the year which shall be required to meet interest or bond payments when due and shall notify the treasurer of such estimated requirement. The state treasurer shall thereafter from time to time each month as such funds are paid into the motor vehicle fund, transfer such percentage of the monthly receipts from excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels of the motor vehicle fund to the ferry bond retirement fund hereby created in the state treasury, which funds shall be available solely for payment of the principal of and interest on the bonds when due. If in any month it shall appear that the estimated percentage of moneys so made

is insufficient to meet the requirements for payment of the principal thereof or interest thereon, the treasurer shall notify the state finance committee forthwith and such committee shall adjust its estimates so that all requirements for the interest on and principal of all bonds issued shall be fully met at all times. [1977 ex.s. c 360 § 5.]

**Severability—1977 ex.s. c 360:** See note following RCW 47.60.560.

**RCW 47.60.610 Excess repayment funds—Disposition.** Whenever the percentage of the motor vehicle fund arising from excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels payable into the bond retirement fund proves more than is required for the payment of interest on bonds when due, or current retirement of bonds, any excess may, in the discretion of the state finance committee and with the concurrence of the department, be available for the prior redemption of any bonds or remain available in the fund to reduce requirements upon the fuel excise tax portion of the motor vehicle fund at the next interest or bond payment period. [1984 c 7 § 337; 1977 ex.s. c 360 § 6.]

**Severability—1977 ex.s. c 360:** See note following RCW 47.60.560.

**RCW 47.60.620 Reimbursements and transfers of funds.** Whenever, pursuant to RCW 47.60.600, the state treasurer shall transfer funds from the motor vehicle fund to the ferry bond retirement fund, the state treasurer shall at the same time reimburse the motor vehicle fund in an identical amount from the Puget Sound capital construction account. After each transfer by the treasurer of funds from the motor vehicle fund to the bond retirement fund and to the extent permitted by RCW 47.60.420, 47.60.505(3), and 47.60.505(4), the obligation to reimburse the motor vehicle fund as required herein shall constitute a first and prior charge against the funds within and accruing to the Puget Sound capital construction account, including the proceeds of the additional two-tenths of one percent excise tax imposed by \*RCW 82.44.020, as amended by chapter 332, Laws of 1977 ex. sess. All funds reimbursed to the motor vehicle fund as provided herein shall be distributed to the state for expenditure pursuant to RCW 46.68.130. [1986 c 66 § 11; 1977 ex.s. c 360 § 7.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 82.44.020 was repealed by 2000 1st sp.s. c 1 § 2.

**Effective date—1986 c 66:** See note following RCW 47.60.400.

**Severability—1977 ex.s. c 360:** See note following RCW 47.60.560.

**RCW 47.60.630 Bonds legal investment for public funds.** The bonds authorized in RCW 47.60.560 through 47.60.640 shall constitute a legal investment for all state funds or for funds under state control and all funds of municipal corporations. [1977 ex.s. c 360 § 8.]

**Severability—1977 ex.s. c 360:** See note following RCW 47.60.560.

**RCW 47.60.640 Bonds—Equal charge against revenues from motor vehicle and special fuel excise taxes.** Bonds issued under authority of RCW 47.60.560 through 47.60.640 and any subsequent general obligation bonds of the state of Washington which may be authorized and which pledge motor vehicle and special fuel excise taxes for the payment of principal and interest thereon shall be an equal charge against the revenues from such motor vehicle and special fuel excise taxes. [1977 ex.s. c 360 § 9.]

**Severability—1977 ex.s. c 360:** See note following RCW 47.60.560.

**RCW 47.60.656 Passenger-only ferry service—Conveyance of vessels authorized.** The department of transportation may enter into contracts with public transportation benefit areas meeting the requirements of RCW 36.57A.200 or county ferry districts to convey passenger-only ferry vessels and other properties associated with passenger-only ferry service that serve to provide passenger-only ferry service, as full or part consideration for the benefit area or ferry district assuming all future maintenance and operation obligations and costs required to maintain and operate the vessel and facilities. The conveyances must provide that the vessels or properties revert to the department if the vessels are not used for providing passenger-only ferry service. [2003 c 83 § 203.]

**Findings—Intent—Captions, part headings not law—Severability—Effective date—2003 c 83:** See notes following RCW 36.57A.200.

**RCW 47.60.662 Ferry system collaboration with passenger-only ferry service providers.** The Washington state ferry system shall collaborate with new and potential passenger-only ferry service providers, as described in chapters 36.54, 36.57A, and 53.08 RCW, for terminal operations at its existing terminal facilities. [2008 c 45 § 3; 2007 c 223 § 3; 2006 c 332 § 5.]

**Effective date—2007 c 223:** See note following RCW 36.57A.220.

**RCW 47.60.680 Prequalification of contractors required.** No contract for the construction, improvement, or repair of a ferry, ferry terminal, or other facility operated by the Washington state ferries or for the repair, overhaul, or the dry-docking of any ferry operated by Washington state ferries may be awarded to any contractor who has not first been prequalified to perform the work by the department of transportation. No bid or proposal for such a contract may be received from any contractor who has not first been prequalified to perform the work by the department of transportation. [1983 c 133 § 1.]

**RCW 47.60.690 Qualifications of contractor—Rules to assure.** The secretary of transportation shall adopt rules prescribing standards and criteria to assure that each ferry system construction and repair contract described in RCW 47.60.680 shall be awarded to a

competent and responsible contractor who has all of the following qualifications:

(1) Adequate financial resources, which may take into account the ability of the contractor to secure such resources;

(2) The necessary organization, personnel, equipment, facilities, experience, and technical qualification[s] to perform ferry system construction and repair contracts generally and with respect to any specific contract such additional special qualifications as may be necessary to perform the contract;

(3) The ability to comply with the department's performance schedules taking into account the outstanding work on all of the contractor's construction and repair contracts;

(4) A satisfactory record of performing previous contracts;

(5) A satisfactory record of integrity, judgment, and skills; and

(6) Such other qualifications as the secretary may prescribe to assure that prequalified contractors are competent and responsible. [1983 c 133 § 2.]

**RCW 47.60.700 Application for prequalification—Form.** Any contractor desiring to submit bids or proposals for ferry system construction or repair contracts as described in RCW 47.60.680 shall file an application for prequalification with the department. The application shall be on a standard form supplied by the department. The form shall require a complete statement of the applicant's financial ability, including a statement of the applicant's current net assets and working capital. The form shall require such additional information as may be necessary for the department to determine whether or not the applicant is entitled to be prequalified in accordance with RCW 47.60.680 through 47.60.760 and the rules adopted thereunder. [1983 c 133 § 3.]

**RCW 47.60.710 Department authority to obtain information.** Upon request by the department an applicant for prequalification shall authorize the department to obtain any information pertinent to the application, including information relating to the applicant's net worth, assets, and liabilities, from banks or other financial institutions, surety companies, and material and equipment suppliers. [1983 c 133 § 4.]

**RCW 47.60.720 Additional investigation—Terms of prequalification—Notice of nonqualification.** Upon receipt of an application by a contractor for prequalification to perform ferry system construction and repair contracts, the department shall conduct such additional investigation as it deems necessary. If it finds that the applicant is qualified in accordance with the rules as adopted by the secretary, the department shall prequalify the contractor to perform the contracts for a period of one year. The prequalification shall fix the aggregate dollar amount of work, including any contract let by the department, that the contractor may have under contract and uncompleted at any one time and may limit the contractor to the submission of bids or proposals upon a certain class of work. Subject to any restrictions on the dollar amount or class of work specified thereunder, the prequalification shall authorize a contractor to bid

or submit proposals on all ferry system construction and repair contracts mentioned in RCW 47.60.680 except contracts requiring special prequalification. If the department determines that an applicant is not entitled to prequalification, it shall give written notice of the determination to the applicant. [1983 c 133 § 5.]

**RCW 47.60.730 Renewal of prequalification—Nonrenewal or revocation, notice.** A contractor may apply annually for renewal of its prequalification by submission of a new or supplemental questionnaire and financial statement on standard forms provided by the department. Based upon information received at the time of renewal or at any other time the department may amend the prequalification of the contractor as to the dollar amount or class of work that the contractor may perform or may refuse to renew the prequalification or may revoke a prequalification previously approved, all in accordance with the same standards and criteria used for considering an original application for prequalification. The department shall give written notice of any such action to the contractor. [1983 c 133 § 6.]

**RCW 47.60.740 Rejection of bid despite prequalification—Unqualified bidder.** If the department finds, after the opening of bids, that facts exist that would disqualify the lowest bidder, or that the lowest bidder is not competent or responsible in accordance with the standards and criteria for prequalifying contractors, the department shall reject the bid despite the prior prequalification of the bidder. No contract may be awarded to a bidder not qualified to bid on it at the time fixed for receiving bids. [1983 c 133 § 7.]

**RCW 47.60.750 Appeal of refusal, modification, or revocation of prequalification.** The action of the department in refusing, modifying, or revoking the prequalification of any contractor under RCW 47.60.680 through 47.60.740 is conclusive unless an appeal is filed with the Thurston county superior court within ten days after receiving written notice of the refusal, modification, or revocation. The appeal shall be heard summarily within twenty days after the appeal is taken and on five days notice thereof to the department. The court shall hear any such appeal on the administrative record that was before the department. The court may affirm the decision of the department, or it may reverse the decision if it determines the action of the department was arbitrary or capricious. [1983 c 133 § 8.]

**RCW 47.60.760 Financial information regarding qualifying not public.** The department of transportation shall not be required to make available for public inspection and copying financial information supplied by any person, firm, or corporation for the purpose of qualifying to submit a bid or proposal for a ferry system construction or repair contract as required by RCW 47.60.680 through 47.60.750. [1983 c 133 § 9.]

**RCW 47.60.800 General obligation bonds—1992 issue—Purpose—Issuance and sale.** In order to provide funds necessary for vessel and

terminal acquisition, construction, and major and minor improvements, including long lead time materials acquisition for the Washington state ferries, there shall be issued and sold upon the request of the Washington state transportation commission and legislative appropriation a total of two hundred ten million dollars of general obligation bonds of the state of Washington. [1992 c 158 § 1.]

**RCW 47.60.802 Bonds—1992 issue—Supervision of sale by state finance committee—Option of short-term obligations.** (1) Upon request being made by the transportation commission, the state finance committee shall supervise and provide for the issuance, sale, and retirement of the bonds authorized by RCW 47.60.800 through 47.60.808 in accordance with chapter 39.42 RCW. The bonds may be sold from time to time in such amounts as may be necessary for the purposes under RCW 47.60.800. The bonds shall be sold in such manner, at such time or times, in such amounts, and at such price or prices as the state finance committee shall determine. No such bonds may be offered for sale without prior legislative appropriation of the net proceeds of the sale of the bonds.

(2) The state finance committee shall consider the issuance of short-term obligations in lieu of long-term obligations for the purposes of more favorable interest rates, lower total interest costs, and increased marketability and for the purposes of retiring the bonds during the life of the project for which they were issued. [1992 c 158 § 2.]

**RCW 47.60.804 Bonds—1992 issue—Use of proceeds.** The proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by RCW 47.60.800 through 47.60.808 shall be deposited in the Puget Sound capital construction account of the motor vehicle fund and such proceeds shall be available only for the purposes under RCW 47.60.800, for the payment of bond anticipation notes, if any, and for the payment of bond issuance costs, including the costs of underwriting. [1992 c 158 § 3.]

**RCW 47.60.806 Bonds—1992 issue—Payment of principal and interest from pledged excise taxes.** Bonds issued under the authority of RCW 47.60.800 through 47.60.808 shall distinctly state that they are a general obligation of the state of Washington, shall pledge the full faith and credit of the state to the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon, and shall contain an unconditional promise to pay such principal and interest as the same shall become due. The principal and interest shall be first payable in the manner provided in RCW 47.60.800 through 47.60.808 from the proceeds of the state excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels imposed by chapters \*82.36 and 82.38 RCW and distributed to the state pursuant to RCW 46.68.130 and shall never constitute a charge against any allocations of such funds to counties, cities, and towns unless and until the amount of the motor vehicle fund arising from the excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels and available for state highway purposes proves insufficient to meet the requirements for bond retirement or interest on any such bonds. Proceeds of such excise taxes are hereby pledged to the payment of any bonds and the interest thereon issued under the authority of RCW 47.60.800 through 47.60.808,



and the legislature agrees to continue to impose these excise taxes on motor vehicle and special fuels in amounts sufficient to pay, when due, the principal and interest on all bonds issued under the authority of RCW 47.60.800 through 47.60.808. [1995 c 274 § 19; 1992 c 158 § 4.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Chapter 82.36 RCW was repealed in its entirety by 2013 c 225 § 501, effective July 1, 2016.

**RCW 47.60.808 Bonds—1992 issue—Payment from ferry bond retirement fund.** Both principal and interest on the bonds issued for the purposes of RCW 47.60.800 through 47.60.808 shall be payable from the ferry bond retirement fund authorized in RCW 47.60.600. Whenever, pursuant to RCW 47.60.800 and 47.60.806, the state treasurer transfers funds from the motor vehicle fund to the ferry bond retirement fund, the state treasurer may at the same time reimburse the motor vehicle fund in an identical amount from the Puget Sound capital construction account. [1992 c 158 § 5.]

**RCW 47.60.810 Design-build ferries—Independent owner's representative—Phases defined—Department may modify certain existing option contracts.** (1) Except as otherwise provided in RCW 47.60.826, the department shall use a modified request for proposals process when purchasing new auto ferries, except for new 144-auto ferries purchased through an option on a contract executed before July 6, 2015, whereby the prevailing shipbuilder and the department engage in a design and build partnership for the design and construction of the auto ferries. The process consists of the three phases described in subsection (3) of this section.

(2) Throughout the three phases described in subsection (3) of this section, the department shall employ an independent owner's representative to serve as a third-party intermediary between the department and the proposers, and subsequently the successful proposer. However, this representative shall serve only during the development and construction of the first vessel constructed as part of a new class of vessels developed after July 6, 2015. The independent owner's representative shall:

- (a) Serve as the department's primary advocate and communicator with the proposers and successful proposer;
- (b) Perform project quality oversight;
- (c) Manage any change order requests;
- (d) Ensure that the contract is adhered to and the department's best interests are considered in all decisions; and
- (e) Possess knowledge of and experience with inland waterways, Puget Sound vessel operations, the propulsion system of the new vessels, and Washington state ferries operations.

(3) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout RCW 47.60.812 through 47.60.822.

(a) "Phase one" means the evaluation and selection of proposers to participate in development of technical proposals in phase two.

(b) "Phase two" means the preparation of technical proposals by the selected proposers in consultation with the department.

(c) "Phase three" means the submittal and evaluation of bids, the award of the contract to the successful proposer, and the design and construction of the auto ferries.

(4) The department may modify an existing option contract executed prior to July 6, 2015, to allow for the purchase of up to five additional 144-auto ferries, for a total of nine 144-auto ferries. The department must execute a new modification to an existing option contract for each of the additional five ferries. [2023 c 429 § 3; 2019 c 431 § 1; 2015 3rd sp.s. c 14 § 3; 2001 c 226 § 4.]

**Effective date—2023 c 429:** See note following RCW 47.60.826.

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 14:** See note following RCW 47.60.005.

**Findings—Purpose—2001 c 226:** See note following RCW 47.20.780.

**RCW 47.60.812 Design-build ferries—Notice of request for proposals.** To commence the request for proposals process, the department shall publish a notice of its intent once a week for at least two consecutive weeks in at least one trade paper and one other paper, both of general circulation in the state. The notice must contain, but is not limited to, the following information:

(1) The number of auto ferries to be procured, the auto and passenger capacities, the delivery dates, and the estimated price range for the contract;

(2) A statement that a modified request for proposals design and build partnership will be used in the procurement process;

(3) A short summary of the requirements for prequalification of proposers including a statement that prequalification is a prerequisite to submittal of a proposal in phase one; and

(4) An address and telephone number that may be used to obtain a prequalification questionnaire and the request for proposals. [2001 c 226 § 5.]

**Findings—Purpose—2001 c 226:** See note following RCW 47.20.780.

**RCW 47.60.814 Design-build ferries—Issuance of request for proposals.** (1) Subject to legislative appropriation for the procurement of vessels, the department shall issue a request for proposals to interested parties that must include, at least, the following:

(a) Solicitation of a proposal to participate in a design and build partnership with the department to design and construct the auto ferries;

(b) Instructions on the prequalification process and procedures;

(c) A description of the modified request for proposals process. Under this process, the department may modify any component of the request for proposals, including the outline specifications, by addendum at any time before the submittal of bids in phase three;

(d) A description of the design and build partnership process to be used for procurement of the vessels;

(e) Outline specifications that provide the requirements for the vessels including, but not limited to, items such as length, beam, displacement, speed, propulsion requirements, capacities for autos and passengers, passenger space characteristics, and crew size. The department will produce notional line drawings depicting hull geometry

that will interface with Washington state ferries terminal facilities. Notional lines may be modified in phase two, subject to approval by the department;

(f) Instructions for the development of technical proposals in phase two, and information regarding confidentiality of technical proposals;

(g) The vessel delivery schedule, identification of the port on Puget Sound where delivery must take place, and the location where acceptance trials must be held;

(h) The estimated price range for the contract;

(i) Notification that the contract will be a fixed price contract;

(j) The form and amount of the required bid deposit and contract security;

(k) A copy of the contract that will be signed by the successful proposer;

(l) The date by which proposals in phase one must be received by the department in order to be considered;

(m) A description of information to be submitted in the proposals in phase one concerning each proposer's qualifications, capabilities, and experience;

(n) A statement of the maximum number of proposers that may be selected in phase one for development of technical proposals in phase two;

(o) Criteria that will be used for the phase one selection of proposers to participate in the phase two development of technical proposals;

(p) A description of the process that will be used for the phase three submittal and evaluation of bids, award of the contract, and postaward administrative activities;

(q) A requirement that the contractor comply with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations including but not limited to those pertaining to the environment, worker health and safety, and prevailing wages;

(r) A requirement that the vessels be constructed within the boundaries of the state of Washington except that equipment furnished by the state and components, products, and systems that are standard manufactured items are not subject to the in-state requirement under this subsection (1)(r). For the purposes of this subsection (1)(r), "constructed" means the fabrication, by the joining together by welding or fastening of all steel parts from which the total vessel is constructed, including, but not limited to, all shell frames, longitudinals, bulkheads, webs, piping runs, wire ways, and ducting. "Constructed" also means the installation of all components and systems, including, but not limited to, equipment and machinery, castings, electrical, electronics, deck covering, lining, paint, and joiner work required by the contract. "Constructed" also means the interconnection of all equipment, machinery, and services, such as piping, wiring, and ducting;

(s) A requirement that all vessel design specifications and drawings must be complete and, when applicable, meet United States coast guard standards before vessel construction begins; and

(t) A requirement that all warranty work on the vessel must be performed within the boundaries of the state of Washington, insofar as practical.

(2) The department shall not issue a request for proposals for the procurement of vessels, except on a contract executed before July

6, 2015, without specific authorization to do so from the legislature. After receiving such specific authorization, any request for proposals issued by the department must comply with RCW 47.60.815. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 14 § 4; 2001 c 226 § 6.]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 14:** See note following RCW 47.60.005.

**Findings—Purpose—2001 c 226:** See note following RCW 47.20.780.

**RCW 47.60.815 Design-build ferries—Cost-benefit analysis—Engineer's estimate—Subsequent request for proposals, when required.**

(1) The Washington state institute for public policy must conduct a cost-benefit analysis of the state's ferry vessel procurement practices. This analysis must (a) compare in-state construction to construction at shipyards across the United States, (b) identify barriers to receiving three or more in-state bids to a request for proposals, and (c) recommend policies to encourage three or more in-state bidders to respond to a request for proposals. This analysis must be provided to the governor, the transportation committees of the legislature, and the department by December 1, 2016.

(2) In developing its engineer's estimate to procure a ferry vessel, the department must identify significant project cost drivers, including materials, labor, overhead, delivery, and profit.

(3) After July 1, 2017, if all responses to the initial request for proposals under RCW 47.60.814 are greater than five percent above the department's engineer's estimate for the project, the department must reject all proposals and issue a subsequent request for proposal that is not subject to RCW 47.60.814(1)(r). [2015 3rd sp.s. c 14 § 5.]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 14:** See note following RCW 47.60.005.

**RCW 47.60.816 Design-build ferries—Phase one.** Phase one of the request for proposals process consists of evaluation and selection of prequalified proposers to participate in subsequent development of technical proposals in phase two, as follows:

(1) The department shall issue a request for proposals to interested parties.

(2) The request for proposals must require that each proposer prequalify for the contract under chapter 468-310 WAC, except that the department may adopt rules for the financial prequalification of proposers for this specific contract only. The department shall modify the financial prequalification rules in chapter 468-310 WAC in order to maximize competition among financially capable and otherwise qualified proposers. In adopting these rules, the department shall consider factors including, without limitation: (a) Shipyard resources in Washington state; (b) the cost to design and construct multiple vessels under a single contract without options; and (c) the sequenced delivery schedule for the vessels.

(3) The department may use some, or all, of the nonfinancial prequalification factors as part of the evaluation factors in phase one to enable the department to select a limited number of best

qualified proposers to participate in development of technical proposals in phase two.

(4) The department shall evaluate submitted proposals in accordance with the selection criteria established in the request for proposals. Selection criteria may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (a) Shipyard facilities;
- (b) Organization components;
- (c) Design capability;
- (d) Build strategy;
- (e) Experience and past performance;
- (f) Ability to meet vessel delivery dates;
- (g) Projected workload; and
- (h) Expertise of project team and other key personnel.

(5) Upon concluding its evaluation of proposals, the department shall select the best qualified proposers in accordance with the request for proposals. The selected proposers must participate in development of technical proposals. Selection must be made in accordance with the selection criteria stated in the request for proposals. All proposers must be ranked in order of preference as derived from the same selection criteria. [2001 c 226 § 7.]

**Findings—Purpose—2001 c 226:** See note following RCW 47.20.780.

**RCW 47.60.818 Design-build ferries—Phase two.** Phase two of the request for proposals process consists of preparation of technical proposals in consultation with the department, as follows:

(1) The development of technical proposals in compliance with the detailed instructions provided in the request for proposals, including the outline specifications, and any addenda to them. Technical proposals must include the following:

- (a) Design and specifications sufficient to fully depict the ferries' characteristics and identify installed equipment;
- (b) Drawings showing arrangements of equipment and details necessary for the proposer to develop a firm, fixed price bid;
- (c) Project schedule including vessel delivery dates; and
- (d) Other appropriate items.

(2) The department shall conduct periodic reviews with each of the selected proposers to consider and critique their designs, drawings, and specifications. These reviews must be held to ensure that technical proposals meet the department's requirements and are responsive to the critiques conducted by the department during the development of technical proposals.

(3) If, as a result of the periodic technical reviews or otherwise, the department determines that it is in the best interests of the department to modify any element of the request for proposals, including the outline specifications, it shall do so by written addenda to the request for proposals.

(4) Proposers must submit final technical proposals for approval that include design, drawings, and specifications at a sufficient level of detail to fully depict the ferries' characteristics and identify installed equipment, and to enable a proposer to deliver a firm, fixed price bid to the department. The department shall reject final technical proposals that modify, fail to conform to, or are not fully responsive to and in compliance with the requirements of the

request for proposals, including the outline specifications, as amended by addenda. [2001 c 226 § 8.]

**Findings—Purpose—2001 c 226:** See note following RCW 47.20.780.

**RCW 47.60.820 Design-build ferries—Phase three.** Phase three consists of the submittal and evaluation of bids and the award of the contract to the successful proposer for the final design and construction of the auto ferries, as follows:

(1) The department shall request bids for detailed design and construction of the vessels after completion of the review of technical proposals in phase two. The department will review detailed design drawings in phase three for conformity with the technical proposals submitted in phase two. In no case may the department's review replace the builder's responsibility to deliver a product meeting the phase two technical proposal. The department may only consider bids from selected proposers that have qualified to bid by submitting technical proposals that have been approved by the department.

(2) Each qualified proposer must submit its total bid price for all vessels, including certification that the bid is based upon its approved technical proposal and the request for proposals.

(3) Bids constitute an offer and remain open for ninety days from the date of the bid opening. A deposit in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or surety bond in an amount specified in the request for proposals must accompany each bid and no bid may be considered unless the deposit is enclosed.

(4) The department shall evaluate the submitted bids. Upon completing the bid evaluation, the department may select the responsive and responsible proposer that offers the lowest total fixed price bid for all vessels.

(5) The department may waive informalities in the proposal and bid process, accept a bid from the lowest responsive and responsible proposer, reject any or all bids, republish, and revise or cancel the request for proposals to serve the best interests of the department.

(6) The department may:

(a) Award the contract to the proposer that has been selected as the responsive and responsible proposer that has submitted the lowest total fixed price bid;

(b) If a contract cannot be signed with the apparent successful proposer, award the contract to the next lowest responsive and responsible proposer; or

(c) If necessary, repeat this procedure with each responsive and responsible proposer in order of rank until the list of those proposers has been exhausted.

(7) If the department awards a contract to a proposer under this section, and the proposer fails to enter into the contract and furnish satisfactory contract security as required by chapter 39.08 RCW within twenty days from the date of award, its deposit is forfeited to the state and will be deposited by the state treasurer to the credit of the Puget Sound capital construction account. Upon the execution of a ferry design and construction contract all proposal deposits will be returned.

(8) The department may provide an honorarium to reimburse each unsuccessful phase three proposer for a portion of its technical

proposal preparation costs at a preset, fixed amount to be specified in the request for proposals. If the department rejects all bids, the department may provide the honoraria to all phase three proposers that submitted bids.

(9) (a) To accommodate change orders on a fixed price contract, the department shall request that the legislative appropriation for any auto ferry construction project include a contingency in the following amounts:

(i) For the first vessel in any class of vessels designed to be powered by liquefied natural gas, the contingency may be no more than ten percent of the contract price;

(ii) For all other vessels, the contingency may be no more than five percent of the contract price.

(b) The contingency required by this subsection (9) must be identified in the funding request to the legislature and held in reserve until the office of financial management approves the expenditure. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 14 § 6; 2001 c 226 § 9.]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 14:** See note following RCW 47.60.005.

**Findings—Purpose—2001 c 226:** See note following RCW 47.20.780.

**RCW 47.60.822 Design-build ferries—Notice to proposers not selected—Appeal.** (1) The department shall immediately notify those proposers that are not selected to participate in development of technical proposals in phase one and those proposers who submit unsuccessful bids in phase three.

(2) The department's decision is conclusive unless an aggrieved proposer files an appeal with the superior court of Thurston county within five days after receiving notice of the department's award decision. The court shall hear any such appeal on the department's administrative record for the project. The court may affirm the decision of the department, or it may reverse or remand the administrative decision if it determines the action of the department was arbitrary and capricious. [2001 c 226 § 10.]

**Findings—Purpose—2001 c 226:** See note following RCW 47.20.780.

**RCW 47.60.824 Design-build ferries—Single best-qualified proposer—Incentives—Proposal negotiations—Compensation.** If at any point there is only a single best-qualified proposer participating in the competitive design-build procurement process prior to the submission of bids in phase three, or if there is only a single responsive and responsible bid submitted in phase three, or if the current best-qualified proposers elect to jointly submit a single proposal, the department may negotiate a fair-value contract with the proposer or joint proposers. The negotiations may consider the scope of work as well as contract price. The contract price must be established between the department and the proposer through negotiation based on detailed cost and price information provided by the proposer, the department, and other relevant sources in a format as determined by the department. To achieve efficiencies, the department may negotiate incentives and economic cost sharing between

the state and the proposer. In addition to the cost incentives, other incentives may be considered, as determined by the department, to be in the best interests of the state. Such incentives may include, but are not limited to, key schedule milestones, technological innovations, performance efficiencies, constructability, and operational value or life-cycle cost. The department may issue guidelines, requirements, and procedures for all negotiations.

If the department conducts negotiations with a single remaining proposer or joint proposers prior to the submission of bids in phase three, all negotiations must be completed within forty-five days of the department's approval of the final technical proposal. If the department conducts negotiations with a single responsive and responsible phase three bidder, all negotiations must be completed within thirty days of submission of the phase three bids.

If the department reaches an agreement with the proposer or joint proposers, the department shall submit a copy of the contract, the final negotiated price, and supporting information to the office of financial management at least ten days prior to execution of the contract. If the final negotiated price is greater than the legislature's adopted expenditure plan for vessel construction, the department may not execute the contract until the legislature reviews the final proposals and adjusts the expenditure plan accordingly.

If the department is unable within the designated time period to reach an agreement with the proposer or joint proposers that is fair, reasonable, and in the department's budget, or if the proposers initially provide notice of their intent to jointly submit a single proposal but fail to do so, or if any one of the proposers withdraws from a jointly submitted single proposal before entering into a contract with the department, or if both of the current best-qualified proposers withdraw or otherwise fail to proceed with the request for proposals process, the department may issue a new request for proposals or cancel the request for proposals process, to serve the best interests of the state.

The department may pay an honorarium in a specified amount determined by the department to a proposer or joint proposers who has [have] submitted a final, approved technical proposal and with whom the department has engaged in unsuccessful negotiations. The proposer or joint proposers shall not receive any other compensation for attempting to negotiate a contract, except to the extent allowed by the department in a final contract awarded pursuant to the request for proposal. [2007 c 481 § 2.]

**Effective date—2007 c 481:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [May 14, 2007]." [2007 c 481 § 3.]

**RCW 47.60.8241 Findings—Single proposal process for new ferry vessel construction.** The legislature finds that the Washington state ferry system has an excellent safety record and has commenced a long-term vessel procurement plan to ensure the replacement of older and outdated ferry vessels. The legislature further finds that the current vessel procurement process must move forward with all due speed, balancing the interests of both the taxpayers and shipyards. The commencement of construction of new vessels is important not only for



safety reasons, but also to keep skilled marine construction jobs in the Puget Sound region and to sustain the capacity of the region to meet the ongoing preservation needs of the ferry system fleet of vessels.

The legislature further finds that the balancing of interests described in this section may necessitate the department of transportation to consider in the department's current new 144—auto ferries request for proposals a single proposal submitted jointly by the current best-qualified proposers. The department may, therefore, consider and accept or reject in the department's discretion such a single proposal, and the current best-qualified proposers may meet and confer to discuss matters that are reasonably necessary to determine whether to submit such a single proposal and to implement a single final contract if the proposal is accepted by the department. Discussions may address the terms of any agreement that may be entered into between the best-qualified proposers for purposes of submitting a single proposal, as well as any agreement that may be entered into with the department. Discussions may also address cost and price information and division of work under the request for proposals. The current best-qualified proposers shall each expressly declare in writing to the department, their intent, if any, to jointly submit a single proposal within thirty days of May 14, 2007, and shall further provide within the thirty-day period information that may be required by the department including, but not limited to, information regarding the proposed shipyard organizational structure and responsibilities of each participant. If at the end of the thirty-day period the proposers have not declared such an intent and provided the information required by the department, or if the department, in its discretion, determines that the joint venture, other legal entity, or organizational structure, or division of responsibilities intended by the joint proposers are unacceptable and not in the best interests of the state, the proposers will be deemed as proposing separately to the request for proposals, and further discussions related to the request for proposals shall not be allowed between the proposers.

To further facilitate the balancing of interests described in this section, the department of transportation may, in its discretion, make revisions to the request for proposals that the department deems necessary or appropriate to balance such interests. [2007 c 481 § 1.]

**Effective date—2007 c 481:** See note following RCW 47.60.824.

**RCW 47.60.826 Design-build ferries—Hybrid diesel-electric ferry vessels—Contract requirements—Third-party experts.** (1)(a) The department shall contract for the acquisition of up to five new hybrid diesel-electric ferry vessels that can carry up to 144 vehicles, using a one or two contract procurement approach to potentially accelerate vessel delivery.

(b) The Washington state ferries shall make available the design for the 144 vehicle hybrid electric Olympic class vessel to potential bidders. Incentives may be awarded by the department to bidders who offer design modifications that:

(i) Lower the minimum number of crew needed to staff the vessel in accordance with United States coast guard requirements;

(ii) Incorporate materials, technologies, or other features that lower life-cycle maintenance and operations costs;

(iii) Accelerate the proposed delivery schedule; or

(iv) Make other improvements determined to be beneficial by the department. The Washington state ferries may allow for exceptions of the 144 vehicle capacity of the vessel design in cases where efficiencies outlined in (b) (i) or (ii) of this subsection are met.

(2) (a) The contract or contracts must be for a minimum of two vessels, with options for up to five vessels in total, and are exempt from the requirements set forth in RCW 47.60.810 through 47.60.824.

(b) The contract or contracts may employ the following procurement methods:

(i) Design-build procedure as authorized under chapter 39.10 RCW;

(ii) Design-bid-build as authorized under chapter 39.04 RCW or an equivalent process allowed in statute as determined by the department; or

(iii) Lease with an option to buy in accordance with RCW 47.60.010. The terms of any plan to pursue a lease with an option to buy agreement must be approved by the governor and appropriate committees of the legislature and are subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose.

(c) To the extent possible, the department shall establish and apply evaluation criteria beyond low price to meet best value objectives.

(d) The department must award a credit of 13 percent of the bid price for bid proposals for vessels constructed in the state of Washington, which must be adjusted to reflect the proportion of the construction of the vessels that occurs within the state. This credit represents the:

(i) Amount of economic and revenue loss to the state of Washington from constructing vessels outside the state of Washington, as indicated by the Washington institute for public policy study regarding Washington state ferry vessel procurement dated December 2016; and

(ii) Additional costs of transport, potential delay, and owner oversight incurred for construction at shipyards located outside the state of Washington.

(e) The department must require that contractors meet the requirements of RCW 39.04.320 regarding apprenticeships or other state law or federal law equivalents, where such equivalents exist.

(f) The department must require that contractors meet the requirements of chapter 90.48 RCW regarding water pollution control or other state law or federal law equivalents, where such equivalents exist.

(3) For contracts eligible for the use of federal funds, contractors must comply with federal disadvantaged business enterprise targets as outlined by the federal agency awarding funds.

(4) Contractors located in the state of Washington must meet the requirements of RCW 47.60.835, the small business enterprise enforceable goals program.

(5) The department shall employ third-party experts that report to the Washington state ferries to serve as a supplementary resource. The third-party experts contracted by the Washington state ferries shall:

(a) Perform project quality oversight and report to the transportation committees of the legislature and the office of financial management on a semiannual basis on project schedule, risks, and project budget;

(b) Assist with the management of change order requests;

(c) Advise on contract and technical matters; and  
(d) Possess knowledge of and experience with inland waterways, Puget Sound vessel operations, the propulsion system of the new vessels, and Washington state ferries operations. [2023 c 429 § 2.]

**Effective date—2023 c 429:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [May 11, 2023]." [2023 c 429 § 7.]

**RCW 47.60.830 Ferry system operation—Fuel purchasing strategies—Report.** In performing the function of operating its ferry system, the department may, subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this specific purpose and after consultation with the department of enterprise services, explore and implement strategies designed to reduce the overall cost of fuel and mitigate the impact of market fluctuations and pressure on both short-term and long-term fuel costs. These strategies may include, but are not limited to, futures contracts, hedging, swap transactions, option contracts, costless collars, and long-term storage. The department shall periodically submit a report to the transportation committees of the legislature and the department of enterprise services on the status of any such implemented strategies, including cost mitigation results, a description of each contract established to mitigate fuel costs, the amounts of fuel covered by the contracts, the cost mitigation results, and any related recommendations. The first report must be submitted within one year of implementation. [2015 c 225 § 101; 2008 c 126 § 4.]

**Finding—Intent—2008 c 126:** See note following RCW 35.58.262.

**RCW 47.60.835 Small business enterprise enforceable goals program.** (1) In the absence of federal funding and the applicability of the disadvantaged business enterprise program, to increase race and gender-neutral participation of small and diverse businesses in ferry procurement, the Washington state department of transportation's office of equal opportunity and civil rights shall develop and monitor a state small business enterprise enforceable goals program. Pursuant to this program, the office shall establish contract goals for ferry vessel procurement. The contract goal is defined as a percentage of the contract award amount that the prime contractor must meet by subcontracting with small business enterprises. The enforceable goal for all ferry vessel procurement contracts will be set by the office. Prime contractors unable to meet the enforceable goals must submit evidence of good faith efforts to meet the contract goals to the small business enterprise enforceable goals program. The department, in collaboration with the office of equal opportunities [opportunity] and civil rights will develop contractual remedies should the contractor not make good faith efforts.

(2) Small business enterprises intending to benefit from the small business enterprise enforceable goals program established in subsection (1) of this section must meet the definition of "small business" in RCW 39.26.010 and must be certified as a "small business enterprise" by the Washington state office of minority and women's

business enterprises. Prime contractors will enter all subcontractor payments into the office's diversity management and compliance system. The office of equal opportunity and civil rights shall monitor program performance. [2023 c 429 § 4; 2019 c 431 § 2.]

**Effective date—2023 c 429:** See note following RCW 47.60.826.

**RCW 47.60.838 Vessel and terminal electrification program.** It is the intent of the legislature to fully fund the vessel and terminal electrification program in accordance with the Washington state ferries 2040 long range plan. The legislature finds that to attain the 2040 target fleet size of 26 vessels, a biennial replacement schedule is necessary to ensure the level of ferry service and reliability expected by the public. Therefore, by June 30, 2025, the legislature will secure funding options, including but not limited to a vessel surcharge, to devote the resources necessary to fulfill the vessel and terminal needs outlined in the 2040 long range plan. [2022 c 182 § 431.]

**Intent—Effective date—2022 c 182:** See notes following RCW 70A.65.240.

**RCW 47.60.840 Annual fare policy.** Consistent with RCW 47.60.315(1)(b), the commission shall adopt an annual fare policy for Washington state ferries to allow all riders 18 years of age and younger to ride free of charge on all system routes. This fare change must apply to both walk-on passengers and passengers in vehicles. The commission is directed to make the initial fare policy change effective no later than October 1, 2022. [2022 c 182 § 421.]

**Effective date—2022 c 182 §§ 313, 408-414, and 421:** See note following RCW 82.21.030.

**Intent—2022 c 182:** See note following RCW 70A.65.240.

**RCW 47.60.850 Implementation of workforce planning recommendations—Adoption of formal strategy—Annual employee survey—Workforce development and career advancement—Instruction—Evaluation of management practices—Report of staffing.** (1) The legislature finds that the maritime sector in Washington state is currently facing historic labor challenges. The legislature further finds that the Washington state ferry system is an essential component of the transportation system. Therefore, the legislature intends that Washington state ferries implement the recommendations of the joint transportation committee study on workforce planning, completed in December 2022.

(2) Washington state ferries shall adopt a formal strategy to implement diversity, equity, and inclusion directives to address issues including, but not limited to, recruitment, employee development, retention, and agency branding for workforce marketing materials. The strategy may address specific goals and objectives of diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts, training and development of

staff, and key performance indicators to track effectiveness of the strategy.

(3) (a) On an annual basis, Washington state ferries shall conduct an employee survey of employees' feedback on workplace conditions either via the department-wide survey or utilizing a third-party consultant. The results of the survey shall be used at a minimum to:

(i) Perform an in-depth cultural assessment;

(ii) Identify any issues of concern among the Washington state ferries workforce; and

(iii) Form the basis of an action plan to remediate any cultural issues identified.

(b) Washington state ferries shall submit a summary of survey results and corresponding action planning to address cultural issues to the transportation committees of the legislature and the office of financial management at the time of Washington state ferries' biennial budget submissions, beginning with the 2025-2027 submission.

(4) Washington state ferries shall continuously seek methods to improve workforce development and career advancement for all employees with a focus on vessel engine room and deck, terminal, and Eagle Harbor maintenance facility tradespeople. In consultation with labor partners, Washington state ferries shall develop programs for employees to gain maritime credentials and marine pilotage required by the United States coast guard, as well as transferring knowledge through formalized mentorship, work shadow, or apprenticeship programs. Washington state ferries shall adopt a formal policy to assist applicants to gain required United States coast guard documentation and maritime credentialing necessary for entry level positions. Assistance to perspective employees may include both financial and technical assistance.

(5) When possible, Washington state ferries shall partner with maritime academies and training facilities to offer instruction, including electronic learning, internships, or apprenticeships, to current or perspective employees.

(6) Washington state ferries shall continuously evaluate management practices concerning recruitment and hiring, staffing levels, scheduling practices, compensation, and agency technology needs, to optimize system and administrative performance. The evaluation must include a strategy to develop or modify a staffing model to forecast staffing needs and succession planning for future biennia and set a target level of operational overtime.

(7) At the time of Washington state ferries' biennial budget submissions, beginning with the 2025-2027 submission, Washington state ferries shall report staffing progress for deck, terminal, maintenance shop, and engine room employees, identifying:

(a) The approximate number of employees eligible for promotion;

(b) The number of employees eligible for retirement;

(c) The number of employees who have utilized on-the-job programs to gain maritime credentials or fulfill marine pilotage requirements; and

(d) A forecast of all staffing needs and changes for the subsequent biennia. [2023 c 188 § 1.]

**Chapter 47.64 RCW**  
**MARINE EMPLOYEES—PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS**

**Sections**

- 47.64.005 Declaration of policy.
- 47.64.006 Public policy.
- 47.64.011 Definitions.
- 47.64.060 Federal social security—State employees' retirement.
- 47.64.070 Employees subject to industrial insurance laws.
- 47.64.090 Other party operating ferry by rent, lease, or charter—  
Passenger-only ferry service.
- 47.64.120 Scope of negotiations—Interest on retroactive  
compensation increases—Prohibitions—Agreement  
conflicts.
- 47.64.130 Unfair labor practices.
- 47.64.132 Unfair labor practice procedures—Powers and duties of  
commission.
- 47.64.135 Representation—Elections—Rules.
- 47.64.137 Application of RCW 41.56.037—Bargaining representative  
access to new employees.
- 47.64.140 Strikes, work stoppages, and lockouts prohibited.
- 47.64.160 Employee authorization of membership dues and other  
payments—Revocation.
- 47.64.170 Collective bargaining procedures.
- 47.64.175 Collective bargaining agreement negotiation.
- 47.64.200 Impasse procedures.
- 47.64.210 Mediation.
- 47.64.230 Waiver of mediation.
- 47.64.250 Legal actions.
- 47.64.260 Notice and service.
- 47.64.270 Insurance and health care.
- 47.64.290 Toll bridge employees subject to civil service.
- 47.64.300 Interest arbitration—Procedures.
- 47.64.310 Interest arbitration—Function.
- 47.64.320 Parties not bound by arbitration—Arbitration factors.
- 47.64.330 Collective bargaining limitations.
- 47.64.340 Ferry vessel captains—Authority, responsibilities—  
Collective bargaining.
- 47.64.350 Ferry system performance measures and targets—  
Definitions.
- 47.64.355 Ferry system performance measures and targets—Ad hoc  
committee.
- 47.64.360 Ferry system performance measures and targets—Reports.
- 47.64.370 Certain communications—Privilege from examination and  
disclosure.
- 47.64.900 Section captions not part of law—1983 c 15.

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compensation increases—Prohibitions—Agreement  
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- 47.64.360 Ferry system performance measures and targets—Reports.
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- 47.64.900 Section captions not part of law—1983 c 15.

**RCW 47.64.005 Declaration of policy.** The state of Washington, as a public policy, declares that sound labor relations are essential to the development of a ferry and bridge system which will best serve the interests of the people of the state. [1961 c 13 § 47.64.005. Prior: 1949 c 148 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6524-22.]

**RCW 47.64.006 Public policy.** The legislature declares that it is the public policy of the state of Washington to: (1) Provide continuous operation of the Washington state ferry system at reasonable cost to users; (2) efficiently provide levels of ferry service consistent with trends and forecasts of ferry usage; (3) promote harmonious and cooperative relationships between the ferry system and its employees by permitting ferry employees to organize and bargain collectively; (4) protect the citizens of this state by assuring effective and orderly operation of the ferry system in providing for their health, safety, and welfare; (5) prohibit and prevent all strikes or work stoppages by ferry employees; (6) protect the rights of ferry employees with respect to employee organizations; and (7) promote just and fair compensation, benefits, and working conditions for ferry system employees as compared with public and private sector employees in states along the west coast of the United States, including Alaska, and in British Columbia in directly comparable but not necessarily identical positions. [1989 c 327 § 1; 1983 c 15 § 1.]

**RCW 47.64.011 Definitions.** As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, the definitions in this section shall apply.

(1) "Collective bargaining representative" means the persons designated by the governor and employee organizations to be the exclusive representatives during collective bargaining negotiations.

(2) "Commission" means the public employment relations commission created in RCW 41.58.010.

(3) "Department of transportation" means the department as defined in RCW 47.01.021.

(4) "Employer" means the state of Washington.

(5) "Executive director" means the executive director of the commission.

(6) "Ferry employee" means any employee of the marine transportation division of the department of transportation who is a member of a collective bargaining unit represented by a ferry employee organization and does not include an exempt employee pursuant to RCW 41.06.079.

(7) "Ferry employee organization" means any labor organization recognized to represent a collective bargaining unit of ferry employees.

(8) "Lockout" means the refusal of the employer to furnish work to ferry employees in an effort to get ferry employee organizations to make concessions during collective bargaining, grievance, or other labor relation negotiations. Curtailment of employment of ferry employees due to lack of work resulting from a strike or work stoppage shall not be considered a lockout.

(9) "Office of financial management" means the office as created in RCW 43.41.050.

(10) "Strike or work stoppage" means a ferry employee's refusal, in concerted action with others, to report to duty, or his or her willful absence from his or her position, or his or her stoppage or slowdown of work, or his or her abstinence in whole or in part from the full, faithful, and proper performance of the duties of employment, for the purpose of inducing, influencing, or coercing a change in conditions, compensation, rights, privileges, or obligations of his, her, or any other ferry employee's employment. A refusal, in



good faith, to work under conditions which pose an endangerment to the health and safety of ferry employees or the public, as determined by the master of the vessel, shall not be considered a strike for the purposes of this chapter. [2011 1st sp.s. c 16 § 24; 2006 c 164 § 1; 1983 c 15 § 2.]

**Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 16 §§ 16-25:** See note following RCW 41.58.060.

**Transfer of powers, duties, and functions—2011 1st sp.s. c 16:** See note following RCW 41.58.060.

**Prospective application—Savings—2006 c 164:** "(1) This act applies prospectively only and not retroactively. It applies to collective bargaining agreements, the negotiations of collective bargaining agreements, mediations, arbitrations, and other actions under this act that arise or are commenced on or after March 21, 2006.

(2) This act does not apply to collective bargaining agreements, either in effect or for which the negotiations have begun, or mediations and arbitrations that arose or commenced under \*this chapter before March 21, 2006. Such collective bargaining agreements and related proceedings must be administered in accordance with the authorities, rules, and procedures that were established under \*this chapter as it existed before March 21, 2006. The repealers in section 19 of this act do not affect any existing right acquired, or liability or obligation incurred, under the statutes repealed or under any rule or order adopted under those statutes, nor do they affect any proceeding instituted under them." [2006 c 164 § 16.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The term "this chapter" apparently refers to chapter 47.64 RCW.

**Effective dates—2006 c 164:** "Except for section 10 of this act which takes effect July 1, 2006, this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [March 21, 2006]." [2006 c 164 § 21.]

**RCW 47.64.060 Federal social security—State employees' retirement.** All employees engaged in the operation of ferries acquired by the department shall remain subject to the federal social security act and shall be under the state employees' retirement act. The department shall make such deductions from salaries of employees and contributions from revenues of the department as shall be necessary to qualify the employees for benefits under the federal social security act. The appropriate officials are authorized to contract with the secretary of health, education and welfare to effect the coverage. [1984 c 7 § 340; 1961 c 13 § 47.64.060. Prior: 1957 c 271 § 7; 1951 c 82 § 2; 1949 c 148 § 5; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6524-26.]

**RCW 47.64.070 Employees subject to industrial insurance laws.** Employees, except the masters and members of the crews of vessels, shall be subject to and entitled to the benefits of the industrial insurance laws of the state, and are hereby declared to be in extrahazardous employment within the meaning of such laws. [1961 c 13

§ 47.64.070. Prior: 1951 c 259 § 2; 1949 c 148 § 6; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6524-27.]

**RCW 47.64.090 Other party operating ferry by rent, lease, or charter—Passenger-only ferry service.** (1) Except as provided in RCW 47.60.656 and subsections (2) and (4) of this section, or as provided in RCW 36.54.130 and subsection (3) of this section, if any party assumes the operation and maintenance of any ferry or ferry system by rent, lease, or charter from the department of transportation, such party shall assume and be bound by all the provisions herein and any agreement or contract for such operation of any ferry or ferry system entered into by the department shall provide that the wages to be paid, hours of employment, working conditions, and seniority rights of employees will be established by the commission in accordance with the terms and provisions of this chapter and it shall further provide that all labor disputes shall be adjudicated in accordance with chapter 47.64 RCW.

(2) If a public transportation benefit area meeting the requirements of RCW 36.57A.200 has voter approval to operate passenger-only ferry service, it may enter into an agreement with Washington State Ferries to rent, lease, or purchase passenger-only vessels, related equipment, or terminal space for purposes of loading and unloading the passenger-only ferry. Charges for the vessels, equipment, and space must be fair market value taking into account the public benefit derived from the ferry service. A benefit area or subcontractor of that benefit area that qualifies under this subsection is not subject to the restrictions of subsection (1) of this section, but is subject to:

(a) The terms of those collective bargaining agreements that it or its subcontractors negotiate with the exclusive bargaining representatives of its or its subcontractors' employees under chapter 41.56 RCW or the National Labor Relations Act, as applicable;

(b) Unless otherwise prohibited by federal or state law, a requirement that the benefit area and any contract with its subcontractors, give preferential hiring to former employees of the department of transportation who separated from employment with the department because of termination of the ferry service by the state of Washington; and

(c) Unless otherwise prohibited by federal or state law, a requirement that the benefit area and any contract with its subcontractors, on any questions concerning representation of employees for collective bargaining purposes, may be determined by conducting a cross-check comparing an employee organization's membership records or bargaining authorization cards against the employment records of the employer. A determination through a cross-check process may be made upon a showing of interest submitted in support of the exclusive bargaining representative by more than fifty percent of the employees.

(3) If a ferry district is formed under RCW 36.54.110 to operate passenger-only ferry service, it may enter into an agreement with Washington State Ferries to rent, lease, or purchase vessels, related equipment, or terminal space for purposes of loading and unloading the ferry. Charges for the vessels, equipment, and space must be fair market value taking into account the public benefit derived from the ferry service. A ferry district or subcontractor of that district that

qualifies under this subsection is not subject to the restrictions of subsection (1) of this section, but is subject to:

(a) The terms of those collective bargaining agreements that it or its subcontractors negotiate with the exclusive bargaining representatives of its or its subcontractors' employees under chapter 41.56 RCW or the national labor relations act, as applicable;

(b) Unless otherwise prohibited by federal or state law, a requirement that the ferry district and any contract with its subcontractors, give preferential hiring to former employees of the department of transportation who separated from employment with the department because of termination of the ferry service by the state of Washington; and

(c) Unless otherwise prohibited by federal or state law, a requirement that the ferry district and any contract with its subcontractors, on any questions concerning representation of employees for collective bargaining purposes, may be determined by conducting a cross-check comparing an employee organization's membership records or bargaining authorization cards against the employment records of the employer.

(4) The department of transportation shall make its terminal, dock, and pier space available to private operators of passenger-only ferries if the space can be made available without limiting the operation of car ferries operated by the department. These private operators are not bound by the provisions of subsection (1) of this section. Charges for the equipment and space must be fair market value taking into account the public benefit derived from the passenger-only ferry service. [2019 c 230 § 19; 2011 1st sp.s. c 16 § 25. Prior: 2003 c 373 § 3; 2003 c 91 § 1; 2003 c 83 § 205; 1983 c 15 § 27; 1961 c 13 § 47.64.090; prior: 1949 c 148 § 8; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6524-29.]

**Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 16 §§ 16-25:** See note following RCW 41.58.060.

**Transfer of powers, duties, and functions—2011 1st sp.s. c 16:** See note following RCW 41.58.060.

**Findings—Intent—2003 c 373:** "The legislature finds that the Washington state department of transportation should focus on its core ferry mission of moving automobiles on Washington state's marine highways. The legislature finds that current statutes impose barriers to entities other than the state operating passenger-only ferries. The legislature intends to lift those barriers to allow entities other than the state to provide passenger-only ferry service. The legislature finds that the provision of this service and the improvement in the mobility of the citizens of Washington state is legally adequate consideration for the use of state facilities in conjunction with the provision of the service, and the legislature finds that allowing the operators of passenger-only ferries to use state facilities on the basis of legally adequate consideration does not evince donative intent on the part of the legislature." [2003 c 373 § 1.]

**Contingent effective date—2003 c 91:** "Sections 1 and 2 of this act are necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and take effect immediately [April 23, 2003], but

only if Engrossed Substitute House Bill No. 1853 has become law. If Engrossed Substitute House Bill No. 1853 has not become law by June 30, 2003, sections 1 and 2 of this act are null and void." [2003 c 91 § 4.] Engrossed Substitute House Bill No. 1853 became law as 2003 c 83, effective April 23, 2003.

**Findings—Intent—Captions, part headings not law—Severability—Effective date—2003 c 83:** See notes following RCW 36.57A.200.

**RCW 47.64.120 Scope of negotiations—Interest on retroactive compensation increases—Prohibitions—Agreement conflicts.** (1) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the employer and ferry system employee organizations, through their collective bargaining representatives, shall meet at reasonable times to negotiate in good faith with respect to wages, hours, working conditions, and insurance, and other matters mutually agreed upon. Employer funded retirement benefits shall be provided under the public employees retirement system under chapter 41.40 RCW and shall not be included in the scope of collective bargaining. Except as provided under RCW 47.64.270, the employer is not required to bargain over health care benefits. Any retirement system or retirement benefits shall not be subject to collective bargaining.

(2) Upon ratification of bargaining agreements, ferry employees are entitled to an amount equivalent to the interest earned on retroactive compensation increases. For purposes of this section, the interest earned on retroactive compensation increases is the same monthly rate of interest that was earned on the amount of the compensation increases while held in the state treasury. The interest will be computed for each employee until the date the retroactive compensation is paid, and must be allocated in accordance with appropriation authority. The interest earned on retroactive compensation is not considered part of the ongoing compensation obligation of the state and is not compensation earnable for the purposes of chapter 41.40 RCW. Negotiations shall also include grievance procedures for resolving any questions arising under the agreement, which shall be embodied in a written agreement and signed by the parties.

(3) The employer shall not bargain over the rights of management as identified in RCW 41.80.040.

(4) A collective bargaining agreement may not contain any provision that extends the term of an existing collective bargaining agreement or applicability of items incompatible with this section in an existing collective bargaining agreement.

(5) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, if a conflict exists between an executive order, administrative rule, or agency policy relating to wages, hours, and terms and conditions of employment and a collective bargaining agreement negotiated under this chapter, the collective bargaining agreement shall prevail. A provision of a collective bargaining agreement that conflicts with the terms of a statute is invalid and unenforceable. [2011 1st sp.s. c 16 § 7; 2010 c 283 § 10; 2006 c 164 § 3; 1997 c 436 § 1; 1983 c 15 § 3.]

**Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 16 §§ 1-15:** See note following RCW 47.60.530.

**Findings—Intent—Effective date—2010 c 283:** See notes following RCW 47.60.355.

**Prospective application—Savings—Effective dates—2006 c 164:** See notes following RCW 47.64.011.

**RCW 47.64.130 Unfair labor practices.** (1) It is an unfair labor practice for the employer or its representatives:

(a) To interfere with, restrain, or coerce employees in the exercise of the rights guaranteed by this chapter;

(b) To dominate or interfere with the formation or administration of any employee organization or contribute financial or other support to it. However, subject to rules made by the public employment relations commission pursuant to RCW 41.58.050, an employer shall not be prohibited from permitting employees to confer with it or its representatives or agents during working hours without loss of time or pay;

(c) To encourage or discourage membership in any employee organization by discrimination in regard to hiring, tenure of employment, or any term or condition of employment, but nothing contained in this subsection prevents an employer from requiring, as a condition of continued employment, payment of periodic dues and fees uniformly required to an exclusive bargaining representative pursuant to RCW 47.64.160. However, nothing prohibits the employer from agreeing to obtain employees by referral from a lawful hiring hall operated by or participated in by a labor organization;

(d) To discharge or otherwise discriminate against an employee because he or she has filed charges or given testimony under this chapter;

(e) To refuse to bargain collectively with the representatives of its employees.

(2) It is an unfair labor practice for an employee organization:

(a) To restrain or coerce (i) employees in the exercise of the rights guaranteed by this chapter. However, this subsection does not impair the right of an employee organization to prescribe its own rules with respect to the acquisition or retention of membership therein, or (ii) an employer in the selection of his or her representatives for the purposes of collective bargaining or the adjustment of grievances;

(b) To cause or attempt to cause an employer to discriminate against an employee in violation of subsection (1)(c) of this section;

(c) To refuse to bargain collectively with an employer.

(3) The expression of any view, argument, or opinion, or the dissemination thereof to the public, whether in written, printed, graphic, or visual form, shall not constitute or be evidence of an unfair labor practice under any of the provisions of this chapter, if the expression contains no threat of reprisal or force or promise of benefit. [2011 1st sp.s. c 16 § 19; 2010 c 8 § 10021; 2006 c 164 § 4; 1983 c 15 § 4.]

**Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 16 §§ 16-25:** See note following RCW 41.58.060.

**Transfer of powers, duties, and functions—2011 1st sp.s. c 16:** See note following RCW 41.58.060.

**Prospective application—Savings—Effective dates—2006 c 164:** See notes following RCW 47.64.011.

**RCW 47.64.132 Unfair labor practice procedures—Powers and duties of commission.** (1) The commission is empowered and directed to prevent any unfair labor practice and to issue appropriate remedial orders; however, a complaint shall not be processed for any unfair labor practice occurring more than six months before the filing of the complaint with the commission or in superior court. This power shall not be affected or impaired by any means of adjustment, mediation, or conciliation in labor disputes that have been or may hereafter be established by law.

(2) If the commission determines that any person has engaged in or is engaging in an unfair labor practice, the commission shall issue and cause to be served upon the person an order requiring the person to cease and desist from such unfair labor practice, and to take such affirmative action as will effectuate the purposes and policy of this chapter, such as the payment of damages and the reinstatement of employees.

(3) The commission may petition the superior court for the county in which the main office of the employer is located or in which the person who has engaged or is engaging in such unfair labor practice resides or transacts business, for the enforcement of its order and for appropriate temporary relief. [2018 c 252 § 5; 2011 1st sp.s. c 16 § 26.]

**Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 16 §§ 26-28:** "Sections 26 through 28 of this act take effect July 1, 2013." [2011 1st sp.s. c 16 § 32.]

**Transfer of powers, duties, and functions—2011 1st sp.s. c 16:** See note following RCW 41.58.060.

**RCW 47.64.135 Representation—Elections—Rules.** (1) The commission shall determine all questions pertaining to representation and shall administer all elections and be responsible for the processing and adjudication of all disputes that arise as a consequence of elections. The commission shall adopt rules that provide for at least the following:

- (a) Secret balloting;
  - (b) Consulting with employee organizations;
  - (c) Access to lists of employees, job classification, work locations, and home mailing addresses;
  - (d) Absentee voting;
  - (e) Procedures for the greatest possible participation in voting;
  - (f) Campaigning on the employer's property during working hours;
- and
- (g) Election observers.

(2) If an employee organization has been certified as the exclusive bargaining representative of the employees of a bargaining unit, the employee organization may act for and negotiate master collective bargaining agreements that will include within the coverage of the agreement all employees in the bargaining unit.

(3) The certified exclusive bargaining representative is responsible for representing the interests of all the employees in the bargaining unit. This section shall not be construed to limit an exclusive representative's right to exercise its discretion to refuse to process grievances of employees that are unmeritorious.

(4) No question concerning representation may be raised if:

(a) Fewer than twelve months have elapsed since the last certification or election; or

(b) A valid collective bargaining agreement exists covering the unit, except for that period of no more than one hundred twenty calendar days and no less than ninety calendar days before the expiration of the contract. [2011 1st sp.s. c 16 § 27.]

**Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 16 §§ 26-28:** See note following RCW 47.64.132.

**Transfer of powers, duties, and functions—2011 1st sp.s. c 16:** See note following RCW 41.58.060.

**RCW 47.64.137 Application of RCW 41.56.037—Bargaining representative access to new employees.** RCW 41.56.037 applies to this chapter. [2018 c 250 § 6.]

**RCW 47.64.140 Strikes, work stoppages, and lockouts prohibited.**

(1) It is unlawful for any ferry system employee or any employee organization, directly or indirectly, to induce, instigate, encourage, authorize, ratify, or participate in a strike or work stoppage against the ferry system.

(2) It is unlawful for the employer to authorize, consent to, or condone a strike or work stoppage; or to conduct a lockout; or to pay or agree to pay any ferry system employee for any day in which the employee participates in a strike or work stoppage; or to pay or agree to pay any increase in compensation or benefits to any ferry system employee in response to or as a result of any strike or work stoppage or any act that violates subsection (1) of this section. It is unlawful for any official, director, or representative of the ferry system to authorize, ratify, or participate in any violation of this subsection. Nothing in this subsection prevents new or renewed bargaining and agreement within the scope of negotiations as defined by this chapter, at any time. No collective bargaining agreement provision regarding suspension or modification of any court-ordered penalty provided in this section is binding on the courts.

(3) In the event of any violation or imminently threatened violation of subsection (1) or (2) of this section, any citizen domiciled within the jurisdictional boundaries of the state may petition the superior court for Thurston county for an injunction restraining the violation or imminently threatened violation. Rules of civil procedure regarding injunctions apply to the action. However, the court shall grant a temporary injunction if it appears to the court that a violation has occurred or is imminently threatened; the plaintiff need not show that the violation or threatened violation would greatly or irreparably injure him or her; and no bond may be required of the plaintiff unless the court determines that a bond is necessary in the public interest. Failure to comply with any temporary

or permanent injunction granted under this section is a contempt of court as provided in chapter 7.21 RCW. The court may impose a penalty of up to ten thousand dollars for an employee organization or the ferry system, for each day during which the failure to comply continues. The sanctions for a ferry employee found to be in contempt shall be as provided in chapter 7.21 RCW. An individual or an employee organization which makes an active good faith effort to comply fully with the injunction shall not be deemed to be in contempt.

(4) The right of ferry system employees to engage in strike or work slowdown or stoppage is not granted and nothing in this chapter may be construed to grant such a right.

(5) Each of the remedies and penalties provided by this section is separate and several, and is in addition to any other legal or equitable remedy or penalty.

(6) In addition to the remedies and penalties provided by this section the successful litigant is entitled to recover reasonable attorney fees and costs incurred in the litigation.

(7) Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 88.04 RCW and chapter 88.08 RCW, the department of transportation shall adopt rules allowing vessels, as defined in RCW 88.04.015, as well as other watercraft, to engage in emergency passenger service on the waters of Puget Sound in the event ferry employees engage in a work slowdown or stoppage. Such emergency rules shall allow emergency passenger service on the waters of Puget Sound within seventy-two hours following a work slowdown or stoppage. Such rules that are adopted shall give due consideration to the needs and the health, safety, and welfare of the people of the state of Washington. [2006 c 164 § 5; 1989 c 373 § 25; 1983 c 15 § 5.]

**Prospective application—Savings—Effective dates—2006 c 164:** See notes following RCW 47.64.011.

**RCW 47.64.160 Employee authorization of membership dues and other payments—Revocation.** (1) A collective bargaining agreement may include a provision for members of the bargaining unit to authorize the deduction of membership dues from their salary, and the employer shall enforce it by deducting from the salary payments to members of the bargaining unit the dues required of membership. An employee's written, electronic, or recorded voice authorization to have the employer deduct membership dues from the employee's salary must be made by the employee to the exclusive bargaining representative. If the employer receives a request for authorization of deductions, the employer shall as soon as practicable forward the request to the exclusive bargaining representative.

(2)(a) Upon receiving notice of the employee's authorization from the exclusive bargaining representative, the employer shall deduct from the employee's salary membership dues and remit the amounts to the exclusive bargaining representative.

(b) The employee's authorization remains in effect until expressly revoked by the employee in accordance with the terms and conditions of the authorization.

(c) An employee's request to revoke authorization for payroll deductions must be in writing and submitted by the employee to the exclusive bargaining representative in accordance with the terms and conditions of the authorization.



(d) After the employer receives confirmation from the exclusive bargaining representative that the employee has revoked authorization for deductions, the employer shall end the deduction no later than the second payroll after receipt of the confirmation.

(e) The employer shall rely on information provided by the exclusive bargaining representative regarding the authorization and revocation of deductions. [2019 c 230 § 20; 1983 c 15 § 7.]

**RCW 47.64.170 Collective bargaining procedures.** (1) Any ferry employee organization certified as the bargaining representative shall be the exclusive representative of all ferry employees in the bargaining unit and shall represent all such employees fairly.

(2) A ferry employee organization or organizations and the governor may each designate any individual as its representative to engage in collective bargaining negotiations.

(3) Negotiating sessions, including strategy meetings of the employer or employee organizations, mediation, and the deliberative process of arbitrators are exempt from the provisions of chapter 42.30 RCW. Hearings conducted by arbitrators may be open to the public by mutual consent of the parties.

(4) Terms of any collective bargaining agreement may be enforced by civil action in Thurston county superior court upon the initiative of either party.

(5) Ferry system employees or any employee organization shall not negotiate or attempt to negotiate directly with anyone other than the person who has been appointed or authorized a bargaining representative for the purpose of bargaining with the ferry employees or their representative.

(6) (a) Within ten working days after the first Monday in September of every odd-numbered year, the parties shall attempt to agree on an interest arbitrator to be used if the parties are not successful in negotiating a comprehensive collective bargaining agreement. If the parties cannot agree on an arbitrator within the ten-day period, either party may request a list of seven arbitrators from the federal mediation and conciliation service. The parties shall select an interest arbitrator using the coin toss/alternate strike method within thirty calendar days of receipt of the list. Immediately upon selecting an interest arbitrator, the parties shall cooperate to reserve dates with the arbitrator for potential arbitration between August 1st and September 15th of the following even-numbered year. The parties shall also prepare a schedule of at least five negotiation dates for the following year, absent an agreement to the contrary. The parties shall execute a written agreement before November 1st of each odd-numbered year setting forth the name of the arbitrator and the dates reserved for bargaining and arbitration. This subsection (6) (a) imposes minimum obligations only and is not intended to define or limit a party's full, good faith bargaining obligation under other sections of this chapter.

(b) The negotiation of a proposed collective bargaining agreement by representatives of the employer and a ferry employee organization shall commence on or about February 1st of every even-numbered year.

(c) For negotiations covering the 2009-2011 biennium and subsequent biennia, the time periods specified in this section, and in RCW 47.64.210 and 47.64.300 through 47.64.320, must ensure conclusion of all agreements on or before October 1st of the even-numbered year next preceding the biennial budget period during which the agreement

should take effect. These time periods may only be altered by mutual agreement of the parties in writing. Any such agreement and any impasse procedures agreed to by the parties under RCW 47.64.200 must include an agreement regarding the new time periods that will allow final resolution by negotiations or arbitration by October 1st of each even-numbered year.

(7) It is the intent of this section that the collective bargaining agreement or arbitrator's award shall commence on July 1st of each odd-numbered year and shall terminate on June 30th of the next odd-numbered year to coincide with the ensuing biennial budget year, as defined by \*RCW 43.88.020(7), to the extent practical. It is further the intent of this section that all collective bargaining agreements be concluded by October 1st of the even-numbered year before the commencement of the biennial budget year during which the agreements are to be in effect. After the expiration date of a collective bargaining agreement negotiated under this chapter, except to the extent provided in subsection (11) of this section and RCW 47.64.270(4), all of the terms and conditions specified in the collective bargaining agreement remain in effect until the effective date of a subsequently negotiated agreement, not to exceed one year from the expiration date stated in the agreement. Thereafter, the employer may unilaterally implement according to law.

(8) The office of financial management shall conduct a salary survey, for use in collective bargaining and arbitration.

(9) Except as provided in subsection (11) of this section:

(a) The governor shall submit a request either for funds necessary to implement the collective bargaining agreements including, but not limited to, the compensation and fringe benefit provisions or for legislation necessary to implement the agreement, or both. Requests for funds necessary to implement the collective bargaining agreements shall not be submitted to the legislature by the governor unless such requests:

(i) Have been submitted to the director of the office of financial management by October 1st before the legislative session at which the requests are to be considered; and

(ii) Have been certified by the director of the office of financial management as being feasible financially for the state.

(b) The governor shall submit a request either for funds necessary to implement the arbitration awards or for legislation necessary to implement the arbitration awards, or both. Requests for funds necessary to implement the arbitration awards shall not be submitted to the legislature by the governor unless such requests:

(i) Have been submitted to the director of the office of financial management by October 1st before the legislative session at which the requests are to be considered; and

(ii) Have been certified by the director of the office of financial management as being feasible financially for the state.

(c) The legislature shall approve or reject the submission of the request for funds necessary to implement the collective bargaining agreements or arbitration awards as a whole for each agreement or award. The legislature shall not consider a request for funds to implement a collective bargaining agreement or arbitration award unless the request is transmitted to the legislature as part of the governor's budget document submitted under RCW 43.88.030 and 43.88.060. If the legislature rejects or fails to act on the submission, either party may reopen all or part of the agreement and

award or the exclusive bargaining representative may seek to implement the procedures provided for in RCW 47.64.210 and 47.64.300.

(10) If, after the compensation and fringe benefit provisions of an agreement are approved by the legislature, a significant revenue shortfall occurs resulting in reduced appropriations, as declared by proclamation of the governor or by resolution of the legislature, both parties shall immediately enter into collective bargaining for a mutually agreed upon modification of the agreement.

(11)(a) For the collective bargaining agreements negotiated for the 2011-2013 fiscal biennium, the legislature may consider a request for funds to implement a collective bargaining agreement even if the request for funds was not received by the office of financial management by October 1st and was not transmitted to the legislature as part of the governor's budget document submitted under RCW 43.88.030 and 43.88.060.

(b) For the 2013-2015 fiscal biennium, a collective bargaining agreement related to employee health care benefits negotiated between the employer and coalition pursuant to RCW 41.80.020(3) regarding the dollar amount expended on behalf of each employee must be a separate agreement for which the governor may request funds necessary to implement the agreement. The legislature may act upon a 2013-2015 collective bargaining agreement related to employee health care benefits if an agreement is reached and submitted to the office of financial management and legislative budget committees before final legislative action on the biennial or supplemental operating budget by the sitting legislature.

(c) For the collective bargaining agreements negotiated for the 2013-2015 fiscal biennium, the legislature may consider a request for funds to implement a collective bargaining agreement reached after October 1st after a determination of financial infeasibility by the director of the office of financial management if the request for funds is transmitted to the legislature as part of the governor's budget document submitted under RCW 43.88.030 and 43.88.060. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 1 § 305; 2015 1st sp.s. c 10 § 707; 2013 c 306 § 521; 2011 c 367 § 712; 2010 c 283 § 11; 2007 c 160 § 1; 2006 c 164 § 6; 1983 c 15 § 8.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 43.88.020 was alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k), changing subsection (7) to subsection (9).

**Effective date—2015 1st sp.s. c 10:** See note following RCW 43.19.642.

**Effective date—2013 c 306:** "Except for sections 702 and 709 of this act, this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [May 20, 2013]." [2013 c 306 § 1402.]

**Effective date—2011 c 367:** See note following RCW 47.29.170.

**Findings—Intent—Effective date—2010 c 283:** See notes following RCW 47.60.355.

**Prospective application—Savings—Effective dates—2006 c 164:** See notes following RCW 47.64.011.

**RCW 47.64.175 Collective bargaining agreement negotiation.** (1)

For the purpose of negotiating collective bargaining agreements under this chapter, the employer shall be represented by the governor or governor's designee.

(2) Two or more ferry employee organizations may, upon agreement of the parties, negotiate, as a coalition with the employer representative as designated in subsection (1) of this section, a multiunion collective bargaining agreement on behalf of all the employees in ferry employee organization bargaining units that the exclusive bargaining representatives represent. The coalition shall bargain for a multiunion collective bargaining agreement covering all of the employees represented by the coalition. The governor's designee and the exclusive bargaining representative or representatives are authorized to enter into supplemental bargaining of bargaining unit-specific issues for inclusion in or as an addendum to the multiunion collective bargaining agreement, subject to the parties' agreement regarding the issues and procedures for supplemental bargaining. Nothing in this section impairs the right of each ferry employee organization to negotiate a collective bargaining agreement exclusive to the bargaining unit it represents. [2006 c 164 § 2.]

**Prospective application—Savings—Effective dates—2006 c 164:** See notes following RCW 47.64.011.

**RCW 47.64.200 Impasse procedures.** As the first step in the performance of their duty to bargain, the employer and the employee organization shall endeavor to agree upon impasse procedures. Unless otherwise agreed to by the employee organization and the employer in their impasse procedures, the arbitrator or panel shall issue a decision it deems just and appropriate with respect to each impasse item. If the parties fail to agree upon impasse procedures under this section, the impasse procedures provided in RCW 47.64.210 and 47.64.230 and 47.64.300 through 47.64.320 apply. It is unlawful for either party to refuse to participate in the impasse procedures provided in RCW 47.64.210 and 47.64.230 and 47.64.300 through 47.64.320. [2010 c 283 § 12; 2006 c 164 § 7; 1983 c 15 § 11.]

**Findings—Intent—Effective date—2010 c 283:** See notes following RCW 47.60.355.

**Prospective application—Savings—Effective dates—2006 c 164:** See notes following RCW 47.64.011.

**RCW 47.64.210 Mediation.** In the absence of an impasse agreement between the parties or the failure of either party to utilize its procedures by August 1st in the even-numbered year preceding the biennium, either party may request the commission to appoint an impartial and disinterested person to act as mediator. It is the function of the mediator to bring the parties together to effectuate a settlement of the dispute, but the mediator shall not compel the parties to agree. [2007 c 160 § 2; 2006 c 164 § 8; 1983 c 15 § 12.]

**Prospective application—Savings—Effective dates—2006 c 164:** See notes following RCW 47.64.011.

**RCW 47.64.230 Waiver of mediation.** By mutual agreement, the parties may waive mediation and proceed with binding arbitration as provided for in the impasse procedures agreed to under RCW 47.64.200 or in 47.64.300 through 47.64.320, as applicable. The waiver shall be in writing and be signed by the representatives of the parties. Regardless of the status of mediation, the parties must comply with the interest arbitration agreement under RCW 47.64.170(6)(a), absent any subsequent agreement to the contrary. [2007 c 160 § 3; 2006 c 164 § 11; 1983 c 15 § 14.]

**Prospective application—Savings—Effective dates—2006 c 164:** See notes following RCW 47.64.011.

**RCW 47.64.250 Legal actions.** (1) Any ferry employee organization and the department of transportation may sue or be sued as an entity under this chapter. Service upon any party shall be in accordance with law or the rules of civil procedure. Nothing in this chapter may be construed to make any individual or his or her assets liable for any judgment against the department of transportation or a ferry employee organization if the individual was acting in his or her official capacity.

(2) Any legal action by any ferry employee organization or the department of transportation under this chapter shall be filed in Thurston county superior court within ten days of when the cause of action arose. The court shall consider those actions on a priority basis and determine the merits of the actions within thirty days of filing. [2010 c 8 § 10022; 1983 c 15 § 16.]

**RCW 47.64.260 Notice and service.** Any notice required under this chapter shall be in writing, but service thereof is sufficient if mailed by certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed to the last known address of the parties, or sent by electronic facsimile transmission with transaction report verification and same-day United States postal service mailing of copies or service as specified in Title 316 WAC, unless otherwise provided in this chapter. Refusal of certified mail by any party shall be considered service. Prescribed time periods commence from the date of the receipt of the notice. Any party may at any time execute and deliver an acceptance of service in lieu of mailed notice. [2001 c 19 § 1; 1983 c 15 § 17.]

**RCW 47.64.270 Insurance and health care.** (1) The employer and one coalition of all the exclusive bargaining representatives subject to this chapter and chapter 41.80 RCW shall conduct negotiations regarding the dollar amount expended on behalf of each employee for health care benefits.

(2) Absent a collective bargaining agreement to the contrary, the department of transportation shall provide contributions to insurance and health care plans for ferry system employees and dependents, as determined by the state health care authority, under chapter 41.05 RCW.

(3) The employer and employee organizations may collectively bargain for insurance plans other than health care benefits, and

employer contributions may exceed that of other state agencies as provided in RCW 41.05.050.

(4) For the 2013-2015 fiscal biennium, a collective bargaining agreement related to employee health care benefits negotiated between the employer and coalition pursuant to RCW 41.80.020(3) regarding the dollar amount expended on behalf of each employee must be a separate agreement for which the governor may request funds necessary to implement the agreement. [2013 c 306 § 522; 2011 c 367 § 713; 2010 c 283 § 13; 2006 c 164 § 17; 1995 1st sp.s. c 6 § 6; 1993 c 492 § 224; 1988 c 107 § 21; 1987 c 78 § 2; 1983 c 15 § 18.]

**Effective date—2013 c 306:** See note following RCW 47.64.170.

**Effective date—2011 c 367:** See note following RCW 47.29.170.

**Findings—Intent—Effective date—2010 c 283:** See notes following RCW 47.60.355.

**Prospective application—Savings—Effective dates—2006 c 164:** See notes following RCW 47.64.011.

**Effective date—1995 1st sp.s. c 6:** See note following RCW 28A.400.410.

**Findings—Intent—1993 c 492:** See notes following RCW 43.20.050.

**Short title—Savings—Reservation of legislative power—Effective dates—1993 c 492:** See RCW 43.72.910 through 43.72.915.

**Implementation—Effective dates—1988 c 107:** See RCW 41.05.901.

**Intent—1987 c 78:** "The legislature finds that the provisions of RCW 47.64.270 have been subject to misinterpretation. The objective of this act is to clarify the intent of RCW 47.64.270 as originally enacted." [1987 c 78 § 1.]

**Effective date—1987 c 78:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect July 1, 1987." [1987 c 78 § 3.]

**RCW 47.64.290 Toll bridge employees subject to civil service.** Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter, toll bridge employees of the marine transportation division are subject to chapter 41.06 RCW. [1984 c 48 § 2.]

**RCW 47.64.300 Interest arbitration—Procedures.** (1) If an agreement has not been reached following a reasonable period of negotiations and, when applicable, mediation, upon the recommendation of the assigned mediator that the parties remain at impasse or, with respect to biennial bargaining, in compliance with the interest arbitration agreement under RCW 47.64.170(6)(a), all impasse items shall be submitted to arbitration under this section. The issues for

arbitration shall be limited to the issues certified by the executive director.

(2) The parties may agree to submit the dispute to a single arbitrator, whose authority and duties shall be the same as those of an arbitration panel. If the parties cannot agree on the arbitrator within five working days, the selection shall be made under subsection (3) of this section, except with respect to biennial bargaining described under RCW 47.64.170(6). The full costs of arbitration under this section shall be shared equally by the parties to the dispute.

(3) Within seven days following the issuance of the determination of the executive director, each party shall, absent an agreement to the contrary, name one person to serve as its arbitrator on the arbitration panel. Except with respect to biennial bargaining described under RCW 47.64.170(6), the two members so appointed shall meet within seven days following the appointment of the later appointed member to attempt to choose a third member to act as the neutral chair of the arbitration panel. Upon the failure of the arbitrators to select a neutral chair within seven days, either party may apply to the federal mediation and conciliation service, or, with the consent of the parties, the American arbitration association to provide a list of five qualified arbitrators from which the neutral chair shall be chosen. Each party shall pay the fees and expenses of its arbitrator, and the fees and expenses of the neutral chair shall be shared equally between the parties.

(4) In consultation with the parties, the arbitrator or arbitration panel shall promptly establish a date, time, and place for a hearing and shall provide reasonable notice thereof to the parties to the dispute. The parties shall exchange final positions in writing, with copies to the arbitrator or arbitration panel, with respect to every issue to be arbitrated, on a date mutually agreed upon, but in no event later than ten working days before the date set for hearing. A hearing, which shall be informal, shall be held, and each party shall have the opportunity to present evidence and make argument. No member of the arbitration panel may present the case for a party to the proceedings. The rules of evidence prevailing in judicial proceedings may be considered, but are not binding, and any oral testimony or documentary evidence or other data deemed relevant by the chair of the arbitration panel may be received in evidence. A recording of the proceedings shall be taken. The arbitration panel has the power to administer oaths, require the attendance of witnesses, and require the production of such books, papers, contracts, agreements, and documents as may be deemed by the panel to be material to a just determination of the issues in dispute. If any person refuses to obey a subpoena issued by the arbitration panel, or refuses to be sworn or to make an affirmation to testify, or any witness, party, or attorney for a party is guilty of any contempt while in attendance at any hearing held hereunder, the arbitration panel may invoke the jurisdiction of the superior court in the county where the labor dispute exists, and the court has jurisdiction to issue an appropriate order. Any failure to obey the order may be punished by the court as a contempt thereof.

(5) The neutral chair shall consult with the other members of the arbitration panel, if a panel has been created. Within thirty days following the conclusion of the hearing, or sooner as the October 1st deadline set forth in RCW 47.64.170 (6)(c) and (7) necessitates, the neutral chair shall make written findings of fact and a written determination of the issues in dispute, based on the evidence

presented. A copy thereof shall be served on each of the other members of the arbitration panel, and on each of the parties to the dispute. That determination is final and binding upon both parties, subject to review by the superior court upon the application of either party solely upon the question of whether the decision of the panel was arbitrary or capricious. [2011 1st sp.s. c 16 § 21; 2007 c 160 § 4; 2006 c 164 § 12.]

**Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 16 §§ 16-25:** See note following RCW 41.58.060.

**Transfer of powers, duties, and functions—2011 1st sp.s. c 16:** See note following RCW 41.58.060.

**Prospective application—Savings—Effective dates—2006 c 164:** See notes following RCW 47.64.011.

**RCW 47.64.310 Interest arbitration—Function.** An interest arbitration proceeding under RCW 47.64.300 exercises a state function and is, for the purposes of this chapter, functioning as a state agency. Chapter 34.05 RCW does not apply to an interest arbitration proceeding under this chapter. [2006 c 164 § 13.]

**Prospective application—Savings—Effective dates—2006 c 164:** See notes following RCW 47.64.011.

**RCW 47.64.320 Parties not bound by arbitration—Arbitration factors.** (1) The mediator, arbitrator, or arbitration panel may consider only matters that are subject to bargaining under this chapter, except that health care benefits are not subject to interest arbitration.

(2) The decision of an arbitrator or arbitration panel is not binding on the legislature and, if the legislature does not approve the funds necessary to implement provisions pertaining to compensation and fringe benefit provisions of an arbitrated collective bargaining agreement, is not binding on the state, the department of transportation, or the ferry employee organization.

(3) In making its determination, the arbitrator or arbitration panel shall be mindful of the legislative purpose under RCW 47.64.005 and 47.64.006 and, as additional standards or guidelines to aid it in reaching a decision, shall take into consideration the following factors:

(a) The financial ability of the department to pay for the compensation and fringe benefit provisions of a collective bargaining agreement;

(b) Past collective bargaining contracts between the parties including the bargaining that led up to the contracts;

(c) The constitutional and statutory authority of the employer;

(d) Stipulations of the parties;

(e) The results of the salary survey as required in RCW 47.64.170(8);

(f) Comparison of wages, hours, employee benefits, and conditions of employment of the involved ferry employees with those of public and private sector employees in states along the west coast of the United



States, including Alaska, and in British Columbia doing directly comparable but not necessarily identical work, giving consideration to factors peculiar to the area and the classifications involved;

(g) Changes in any of the foregoing circumstances during the pendency of the proceedings;

(h) The limitations on ferry toll increases and operating subsidies as may be imposed by the legislature;

(i) The ability of the state to retain ferry employees;

(j) The overall compensation presently received by the ferry employees, including direct wage compensation, vacations, holidays and other paid excused time, pensions, insurance benefits, and all other direct or indirect monetary benefits received; and

(k) Other factors that are normally or traditionally taken into consideration in the determination of matters that are subject to bargaining under this chapter.

(4) This section applies to any matter before the respective mediator, arbitrator, or arbitration panel. [2010 c 283 § 15; 2006 c 164 § 14.]

**Findings—Intent—Effective date—2010 c 283:** See notes following RCW 47.60.355.

**Prospective application—Savings—Effective dates—2006 c 164:** See notes following RCW 47.64.011.

**RCW 47.64.330 Collective bargaining limitations.** Collective bargaining under chapter 164, Laws of 2006 may not be for the purposes of making a collective bargaining agreement take effect before July 1, 2007. No party may engage in collective bargaining under chapter 164, Laws of 2006 to amend a collective bargaining agreement in effect on March 21, 2006. A collective bargaining agreement or amendment thereto entered into under chapter 164, Laws of 2006 shall not be effective before July 1, 2007, and may not have any retroactive effect. [2006 c 164 § 15.]

**Prospective application—Savings—Effective dates—2006 c 164:** See notes following RCW 47.64.011.

**RCW 47.64.340 Ferry vessel captains—Authority, responsibilities—Collective bargaining.** (1) The captain of a Washington state ferry vessel, also known as the master of a vessel or the commanding officer, is the ultimate authority on, manager of, and has responsibility for the entire vessel and its Washington state ferries personnel while it is in service. The captain's responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

(a) Ensuring the safe navigation of the vessel and its crew and passengers;

(b) Following all applicable federal, state, and agency policies and regulations;

(c) Supervising crew in performance, operations, training, security, and environmental protection;

(d) Overseeing all aspects of vessel operations;

(e) Ensuring that the vessel operations and its Washington state ferries personnel satisfy performance expectations set forth by the department; and

(f) Managing vessel arrivals and departures, as well as all other vessel operations while the vessel is in service.

(3) [(2)] Effective July 1, 2013, the public employment relations commission shall sever from the masters, mates, and pilots bargaining unit all captains. By August 31, 2011, if a majority of the captains in the masters, mates, and pilots bargaining unit indicate by vote that they desire to be included in a newly formed captains-only bargaining unit, the public employment relations commission shall certify a captains-only bargaining unit, to be effective July 1, 2013. For the vote described in this subsection, a union seeking to represent captains does not have to demonstrate a showing of interest to be included on a ballot. Notwithstanding the results of a vote, captains shall remain a part of the masters, mates, and pilots bargaining unit through June 30, 2013.

(4) [(3)] If a new captains-only bargaining unit is created, the employer and the exclusive bargaining representative for the captains-only bargaining unit must negotiate a collective bargaining agreement exclusive to the captains-only bargaining unit.

(5) [(4)] Beginning with negotiations covering the 2013-2015 biennium, the employer and the exclusive bargaining representative of the captains-only bargaining unit must negotiate agreements that are consistent with this section.

(6) [(5)] A collective bargaining agreement may not contain any provision that extends the term of an existing collective bargaining agreement or applicability of items incompatible with this section in an existing collective bargaining agreement. [2011 1st sp.s. c 16 § 8.]

**Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 16 §§ 1-15:** See note following RCW 47.60.530.

**RCW 47.64.350 Ferry system performance measures and targets—Definitions.** For the purposes of this section and \*sections 10 through 15 of this act:

(1) "Management" means an employee at the Washington state ferries who is part of Washington management services or is exempt.

(2) "Performance measure" means measurable standards to be used by the department to evaluate the sufficiency of the services being provided to ferry riders.

(3) "Performance report" means a report that summarizes ferry system performance using the performance measures identified in RCW 47.64.355 and \*section 11 of this act.

(4) "Performance target" means the desired outcome of a performance measure. [2011 1st sp.s. c 16 § 9.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Sections 10 and 12 of this act were codified as RCW 47.64.355 and 47.64.360, respectively. Sections 11, 13, 14, and 15 of this act were vetoed by the governor.

**Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 16 §§ 1-15:** See note following RCW 47.60.530.

**RCW 47.64.355 Ferry system performance measures and targets—Ad hoc committee.** Performance targets must be established by an ad hoc committee with members from and designated by the office of the governor, which must include at least one member from labor. The committee may not consist of more than eleven members. By December 31, 2011, the committee shall present performance targets to the representatives of the legislative transportation committees and the joint transportation committee for review of the performance measures listed under this section. The committee may also develop performance measures in addition to the following:

(1) Safety performance as measured by passenger injuries per one million passenger miles and by injuries per ten thousand revenue service hours that are recordable by standards of the federal occupational safety and health administration and related to standard operating procedures;

(2) Service effectiveness measures including, but not limited to, passenger satisfaction of interactions with ferry employees, cleanliness and comfort of vessels and terminals, and satisfactory response to requests for assistance. Passenger satisfaction must be measured by an evaluation that is created by a contracted market research company and conducted by the Washington state transportation commission as part of the ferry riders' opinion group survey. The Washington state transportation commission shall, to the extent possible, integrate the passenger satisfaction evaluation into the ferry user data survey described in RCW 47.60.286;

(3) Cost-containment measures including, but not limited to, operating cost per passenger mile, operating cost per revenue service mile, discretionary overtime as a percentage of straight time, and gallons of fuel consumed per revenue service mile; and

(4) Maintenance and capital program effectiveness measures including, but not limited to: Project delivery rate as measured by the number of projects completed on time and within the omnibus transportation appropriations act; vessel and terminal design and engineering costs as measured by a percentage of the total capital program, including measurement of the ongoing operating and maintenance costs; and total vessel out-of-service time.

The ad hoc committee described in subsection (1) of this section expires December 31, 2011. [2011 1st sp.s. c 16 § 10.]

**Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 16 §§ 1-15:** See note following RCW 47.60.530.

**RCW 47.64.360 Ferry system performance measures and targets—Reports.** (1) The department of transportation shall complete a government management and accountability performance report that provides a baseline assessment of current performance on the performance measures identified in RCW 47.64.355 using final 2009-2011 data. This report must be presented to the legislature by November 1, 2011, through the attainment report required in RCW 47.04.285 and 47.04.280.

(2) By December 31, 2012, and each year thereafter, the department of transportation shall complete a performance report for the prior fiscal year. This report must be reviewed by the office of financial management, which must provide comment on the report, and

the joint transportation committee, prior to submitting the report to the legislature and governor.

(3) Management shall lead implementation of the performance measures in RCW 47.64.355. [2016 c 35 § 4; 2015 3rd sp.s. c 1 § 306; 2011 1st sp.s. c 16 § 12.]

**Effective date—2011 1st sp.s. c 16 §§ 1-15:** See note following RCW 47.60.530.

**RCW 47.64.370 Certain communications—Privilege from examination and disclosure.** The privilege established by RCW 5.60.060(11) shall apply to all collective bargaining representatives covered by this chapter and in all proceedings authorized by this chapter. [2023 c 202 § 8.]

**Findings—2023 c 202:** See note following RCW 5.60.060.

**RCW 47.64.900 Section captions not part of law—1983 c 15.** Section captions used in this act constitute no part of the law. [1983 c 15 § 29.]

**Chapter 47.66 RCW**  
**MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS**

**Sections**

- 47.66.010 Legislative declaration.
- 47.66.030 Regional mobility grants.
- 47.66.040 Selection process—Local matching funds.
- 47.66.070 Multimodal transportation account.
- 47.66.080 Grant programs examination.
- 47.66.100 Rural mobility grant program.
- 47.66.120 Green transportation capital grant program.
- 47.66.130 Bus and bus facilities grant program.
- 47.66.140 Transit support grant program.
- 47.66.150 Paratransit and special needs grant program.
- 47.66.160 Public transit ride share program.
- 47.66.900 Effective date—1993 c 393.

**Chapter 47.66 RCW**  
**MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS**

**Sections**

47.66.010	Legislative declaration.
47.66.030	Regional mobility grants.
47.66.040	Selection process—Local matching funds.
47.66.070	Multimodal transportation account.
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47.66.100	Rural mobility grant program.
47.66.120	Green transportation capital grant program.
47.66.130	Bus and bus facilities grant program.
47.66.140	Transit support grant program.
47.66.150	Paratransit and special needs grant program.
47.66.160	Public transit ride share program.
47.66.900	Effective date—1993 c 393.

**RCW 47.66.010 Legislative declaration.** There is significant state interest in assuring that viable multimodal transportation programs are available throughout the state. The legislature recognizes the need to create a mechanism to fund multimodal transportation programs and projects. The legislature further recognizes the complexities associated with current funding mechanisms and seeks to create a process that would allow for all transportation programs and projects to compete for limited resources. [1993 c 393 § 3.]

**RCW 47.66.030 Regional mobility grants.** (1) (a) The department shall establish a regional mobility grant program. The purpose of the grant program is to aid local governments in funding projects such as intercounty connectivity service, park and ride lots, rush hour transit service, and capital projects that improve the connectivity and efficiency of our transportation system. The department shall identify cost-effective projects that reduce delay for people and goods and improve connectivity between counties and regional population centers. The department shall submit a prioritized list of all projects requesting funding to the legislature by December 1st of each year.

(b) Once the department has a prioritized list, pursuant to (a) of this subsection and RCW 47.66.040, of all projects requesting funding, the department shall reprioritize the projects in counties with a population of seven hundred thousand or more that border Puget Sound based on the same criteria used for the prioritized list as well as the additional criteria of coordination and integration. After this reprioritization, the department shall integrate these reprioritized projects with the prioritized projects from all other counties while ensuring that the prioritized projects from all other counties do not move to a lower relative position on this integrated list or, if a prioritized project from all other counties is in the funded portion of the prioritized list, out of the funded portion of this integrated list.

(2) The department may establish an advisory committee to carry out the mandates of this chapter.

(3) The department must report annually to the transportation committees of the legislature on the status of any grants projects funded by the program created under this section. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 11 § 3; 2005 c 318 § 4; 1996 c 49 § 3; 1995 c 269 § 2604; 1993 c 393 § 5.]

**Effective date—Intent—2015 3rd sp.s. c 11:** See notes following RCW 35.58.2796.

**Findings—Intent—2005 c 318:** See note following RCW 47.01.330.

**Effective date—Part headings not law—Severability—1995 c 269:** See notes following RCW 18.16.050.

**RCW 47.66.040 Selection process—Local matching funds.** (1) The department shall select projects based on a competitive process. The competition shall be consistent with the following criteria:

- (a) Local, regional, and state transportation plans;
- (b) Local transit development plans; and
- (c) Local comprehensive land use plans.

(2) The following criteria shall be considered by the department in selecting programs and projects:

(a) Objectives of the growth management act, the high capacity transportation act, the commute trip reduction act, transportation demand management programs, federal and state air quality requirements, and federal Americans with Disabilities Act and related state accessibility requirements; and

(b) Enhancing the efficiency of regional corridors in moving people among jurisdictions and modes of transportation, energy efficiency issues, reducing delay for people and goods, freight and goods movement as related to economic development, regional significance, rural isolation, the leveraging of other funds, and safety and security issues.

(3) The department shall determine the appropriate level of local match required for each project based on the source of funds. [2005 c 318 § 5; 1995 c 269 § 2606; 1993 c 393 § 6.]

**Findings—Intent—2005 c 318:** See note following RCW 47.01.330.

**Effective date—Part headings not law—Severability—1995 c 269:** See notes following RCW 18.16.050.

**RCW 47.66.070 Multimodal transportation account.** The multimodal transportation account is created in the state treasury. Moneys in the account may be spent only after appropriation. Expenditures from the account may be used only for transportation purposes. [2000 2nd sp.s. c 4 § 2.]

**Effective date—2000 2nd sp.s. c 4 §§ 1-3, 20:** See note following RCW 82.08.020.

**RCW 47.66.080 Grant programs examination.** Beginning in 2005, and every other year thereafter, the department shall examine the

division's existing grant programs, and the methods used to allocate grant funds, to determine the program's effectiveness, and whether the methods used to allocate funds result in an equitable distribution of the grants. The department shall submit a report of the findings to the transportation committees of the legislature. [2005 c 318 § 6.]

**Findings—Intent—2005 c 318:** See note following RCW 47.01.330.

**RCW 47.66.100 Rural mobility grant program.** (1) The department shall establish a rural mobility grant program. The purpose of the grant program is to aid small cities and rural areas, as identified in the "Summary of Public Transportation - 2008" published by the department or subsequent versions published by the department.

(a) Fifty percent of the money appropriated for the rural mobility grant program must go to noncompetitive grants that must be distributed to the transit systems serving small cities and rural areas in a manner similar to past disparity equalization programs.

(b) Fifty percent of the money appropriated for the rural mobility grant program must go to competitive grants to providers of rural mobility service in areas not served or underserved by transit agencies.

(2) The department may establish an advisory committee to carry out the mandates of this section.

(3) The department must report annually to the transportation committees of the legislature on the status of any grants projects funded by the program created under this section.

(4) During the 2011-2013 fiscal biennium, the department shall, with money appropriated for the competitive grants program under subsection (1)(b) of this section, implement a pilot project to provide agricultural workers with enhanced transit opportunities through the establishment of one or more vanpool programs. The pilot project must, at a minimum, provide appropriate vehicles, insurance, and maintenance, and may charge an appropriate fee, as determined by the department, to the riders in a vanpool. [2011 c 272 § 2.]

**RCW 47.66.120 Green transportation capital grant program.**

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

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

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



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

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

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

(3) In order to receive green transportation capital grant program funding for a project, a transit authority must provide matching funding for that project that is at least equal to 20 percent of the total cost of the project.

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

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

(6) During the 2021-2023 fiscal biennium, the department may provide up to 20 percent of the total green transportation capital grant program funding for zero emissions capital transition planning projects. During the 2023-2025 fiscal biennium, the department may provide up to 10 percent of the total green transportation capital grant program funding for zero emissions capital transition planning projects. [2023 c 472 § 717; 2022 c 182 § 439; 2021 c 333 § 721; 2019 c 287 § 18.]

**Effective date—2023 c 472:** See note following RCW 43.19.642.

**Intent—Effective date—2022 c 182:** See notes following RCW 70A.65.240.

**Effective date—2021 c 333:** See note following RCW 43.19.642.

**Effective date—2019 c 287:** See note following RCW 82.29A.125.

**Findings—Intent—2019 c 287:** See note following RCW 28B.30.903.

**RCW 47.66.130 Bus and bus facilities grant program.** (1) The department shall establish a bus and bus facilities grant program. The purpose of this competitive grant program is to provide grants to any transit authority for the replacement, expansion, rehabilitation, and purchase of transit rolling stock; construction, modification, or

rehabilitation of transit facilities; and funding to adapt to technological change or innovation through the retrofitting of transit rolling stock and facilities.

(2) (a) The department must incorporate environmental justice principles into the grant selection process, with the goal of increasing the distribution of funding to communities based on addressing environmental harms and provide environmental benefits for overburdened communities, as defined in RCW 70A.02.010, and vulnerable populations.

(b) The department must incorporate geographic diversity into the grant selection process.

(c) No grantee may receive more than 35 percent of the amount appropriated for the grant program in a particular biennium.

(d) Fuel type may not be a factor in the grant selection process.

(3) The department must establish an advisory committee to carry out the mandates of this section, including assisting with the establishment of grant criteria.

(4) The department must report annually to the transportation committees of the legislature on the status of any grant projects funded by the program created under this section.

(5) For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Transit authority" means a city transit system under RCW 35.58.2721 or chapter 35.95A RCW, a county public transportation authority under chapter 36.57 RCW, a metropolitan municipal corporation transit system under chapter 36.56 RCW, a public transportation benefit area under chapter 36.57A RCW, an unincorporated transportation benefit area under RCW 36.57.100, or any special purpose district formed to operate a public transportation system.

(b) "Transit rolling stock" means transit vehicles including, but not limited to, buses, ferries, and vans. [2022 c 182 § 416.]

**Intent—Effective date—2022 c 182:** See notes following RCW 70A.65.240.

**RCW 47.66.140 Transit support grant program.** (1) The department shall establish a transit support grant program for the purpose of providing financial support to transit agencies for operating and capital expenses only. Public transit agencies must maintain or increase their local sales tax authority on or after January 1, 2022, and may not delay or suspend the collection of voter-approved sales taxes that were approved on or before January 1, 2022, in order to qualify for the grants.

(a) Grants for transit agencies must be prorated based on the amount expended for operations in the most recently published report of "Summary of Public Transportation" published by the department.

(b) No transit agency may receive more than 35 percent of these distributions.

(c) Fuel type may not be a factor in the grant selection process.

(2) To be eligible to receive a grant, the transit agency must have adopted, at a minimum, a zero-fare policy that allows passengers 18 years of age and younger to ride free of charge on all modes provided by the agency. Transit agencies must submit documentation of a zero-fare policy for 18 years of age and under by October 1, 2022, to be eligible for the 2023-2025 biennium. Transit agencies that

submit such fare policy documentation following the October 1, 2022, deadline shall become eligible for the next biennial distribution. To the extent practicable, transit agencies shall align implementation of youth zero-fare policies with equity and environmental justice principles consistent with recommendations from the environmental justice council, and ensure low-barrier accessibility of the program to all youth.

(3) The department shall, for the purposes of the "Summary of Public Transportation" report, require grantees to report the number of trips that were taken under this program.

(4) For the purposes of this section, "transit agency" or "agency" means a city transit system under RCW 35.58.2721 or chapter 35.95A RCW, a county public transportation authority under chapter 36.57 RCW, a metropolitan municipal corporation transit system under chapter 36.56 RCW, a public transportation benefit area under chapter 36.57A RCW, an unincorporated transportation benefit area under RCW 36.57.100, or any special purpose district formed to operate a public transportation system. [2023 c 431 § 12; 2022 c 182 § 422.]

**Intent—2023 c 431:** See note following RCW 46.17.015.

**Intent—Effective date—2022 c 182:** See notes following RCW 70A.65.240.

**RCW 47.66.150 Paratransit and special needs grant program.** (1)

The department shall establish a paratransit and special needs grant program to sustain and expand transit service to people with disabilities.

(2) Of the amounts appropriated to the program, 23 percent shall be provided solely for grants to nonprofit providers of special needs transportation. Grants for nonprofit providers must be based on need, including the availability of other providers of service in the area, efforts to coordinate trips among providers and riders, and the cost-effectiveness of trips provided.

(3) The remaining 77 percent of amounts appropriated to the program shall be provided solely for grants to transit agencies to support persons with special transportation needs. To receive a grant, the transit agency must, to the greatest extent practicable, have a maintenance of effort for special needs transportation, in the latest calendar year for which the department publishes data in the most recent "Summary of Public Transportation" report, that is no less than the previous year's maintenance of effort for special needs transportation as shown in the report. Grants for transit agencies must be prorated based on the amount expended for demand response service and route deviated service for the latest calendar year as published in the most recent "Summary of Public Transportation" report. No transit agency shall receive more than 30 percent of the distribution. [2023 c 447 § 1.]

**RCW 47.66.160 Public transit ride share program.** (1) The department shall establish a public transit ride share program. The grant program shall provide resources for:

(a) Public transit agencies to add or replace ride share vehicles; and

(b) Incentives and outreach to increase ride share use.

(2) The grant program for public transit agencies may cover capital costs only and costs for operating vanpools at public transit agencies are not eligible for funding. Awards from the grant shall not be used to supplant transit funds currently funding ride share programs, nor be used to hire additional employees. [2023 c 447 § 2.]

**RCW 47.66.900 Effective date—1993 c 393.** This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately [May 15, 1993]. [1993 c 393 § 10.]

**Chapter 47.68 RCW  
AERONAUTICS**

**Sections**

- 47.68.010 Statement of policy.
- 47.68.015 Change of meaning, certain terms.
- 47.68.020 Definitions.
- 47.68.060 Offices.
- 47.68.070 General powers.
- 47.68.080 Drafts of legislation, other duties.
- 47.68.090 Aid to municipalities, Indian tribes, persons—Federal aid.
- 47.68.100 Acquisition and disposal of airports, facilities, etc.
- 47.68.110 Zoning powers not interfered with.
- 47.68.120 Condemnation, how exercised.
- 47.68.130 Contracts or leases of facilities in operating airports.
- 47.68.140 Lease of airports.
- 47.68.150 Lien for state's charges.
- 47.68.160 Acceptance of federal moneys.
- 47.68.170 State airways system.
- 47.68.180 Execution of necessary contracts.
- 47.68.185 Establishment of procedures required by conditions of federal transfers of facilities.
- 47.68.190 Exclusive grants prohibited.
- 47.68.200 Exercise of powers, public and governmental purpose.
- 47.68.210 Rules—Standards.
- 47.68.220 Operating aircraft recklessly or under influence of intoxicants or drugs.
- 47.68.230 Aircraft, airman, and airwoman certificates required.
- 47.68.235 License or certificate suspension—Noncompliance with support order—Reissuance.
- 47.68.240 Penalties for violations.
- 47.68.250 Registration of aircraft.
- 47.68.255 Evasive registration.
- 47.68.280 Investigations, hearings, etc.—Subpoenas—Compelling attendance.
- 47.68.290 Joint hearings—Cooperation.
- 47.68.300 State and municipal agencies to cooperate.
- 47.68.310 Enforcement of aeronautics laws.
- 47.68.320 Service of orders—Hearings—Review.
- 47.68.330 Exchange of data, reports of violations, etc.
- 47.68.340 Hazardous structures and obstacles—Marking—Hearing to determine hazard.
- 47.68.350 Hazardous structures and obstacles—Reporting location—Subpoenas.
- 47.68.360 Hazardous structures and obstacles—Exemption of structures required by federal law to be marked.
- 47.68.380 Aerial search and rescue—Liability—Definition.
- 47.68.390 Airport capacity and facilities assessment.
- 47.68.400 Airport capacity and facilities market analysis.
- 47.68.420 Unpiloted aircraft system coordinator—Duties—Department may adopt rules—Report.
- 47.68.430 Community aviation revitalization board.
- 47.68.440 Community aviation revitalization board—Members, participation in decisions—Code of ethics.

- 47.68.450 Community aviation revitalization board—Duties.
- 47.68.460 Community aviation revitalization board—Loans—  
Applications—Guidelines.
- 47.68.470 Community aviation revitalization board—Public use  
general aviation airport loan program.
- 47.68.480 Community aviation revitalization board—Enhancing  
competition for loans, quality of projects.
- 47.68.490 Public use general aviation airport loan revolving  
account.
- 47.68.500 Community aviation revitalization board and department of  
transportation to keep proper records of accounts.

*Recycling at airports: RCW 70A.200.110.*

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**RCW 47.68.010 Statement of policy.** It is hereby declared that the purpose of this chapter is to further the public interest and aeronautical progress by providing for the protection and promotion of safety in aeronautics; by cooperating in effecting uniformity of the laws and regulations relating to the development and regulation of aeronautics in the several states consistent with federal aeronautics laws and regulations; by granting to a state agency such powers and imposing upon it such duties that the state may properly perform its functions relative to aeronautics and effectively exercise its jurisdiction over persons and property within such jurisdiction, assist in the development of a statewide system of airports, cooperate with and assist the municipalities of this state and others engaged in aeronautics, and encourage and develop aeronautics; by establishing only such regulations as are essential in order that persons engaged in aeronautics of every character may so engage with the least possible restriction, consistent with the safety and the rights of others; and by providing for cooperation with the federal authorities in the development of a national system of civil aviation and for coordination of the aeronautical activities of those authorities and the authorities of this state. [1947 c 165 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10964-82. Formerly RCW 14.04.010.]

**RCW 47.68.015 Change of meaning, certain terms.** Unless the language specifically indicates otherwise, or unless the context plainly requires a different interpretation:

Wherever in any provision in the Revised Code of Washington the term "Washington state aeronautics commission", "the state aeronautics commission", "the aeronautics commission of the state", "the aeronautics commission", or "the commission" (when referring to the Washington state aeronautics commission) is used, it shall mean the department of transportation created in RCW 47.01.031.

Wherever in any provision in the Revised Code of Washington the term "state director of aeronautics", "director of aeronautics", or "director" (when referring to the state director of aeronautics) is used, it shall mean the secretary of transportation whose office is created in RCW 47.01.041. [1977 ex.s. c 151 § 22.]

**RCW 47.68.020 Definitions.** As used in this chapter, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:



(1) "Aeronautics" means the science and art of flight and including, but not limited to, transportation by aircraft; the operation, construction, repair, or maintenance of aircraft, aircraft power plants and accessories, including the repair, packing, and maintenance of parachutes; the design, establishment, construction, extension, operation, improvement, repair, or maintenance of airports or air navigation facilities; and instruction in flying or ground subjects pertaining thereto.

(2) "Aeronautics instructor" means any individual who for hire or reward engages in giving instruction or offering to give instruction in flying or ground subjects pertaining to aeronautics, but excludes any instructor in a public school, university, or institution of higher learning duly accredited and approved for carrying on collegiate work, who instructs in flying or ground subjects pertaining to aeronautics, while in the performance of his or her duties at such school, university, or institution.

(3) "Air navigation facility" means any facility, other than one owned or operated by the United States, used in, available for use in, or designed for use in aid of air navigation, including any structures, mechanisms, lights, beacons, markers, communicating systems, or other instrumentalities or devices used or useful as an aid, or constituting an advantage or convenience, to the safe taking-off, navigation, and landing of aircraft, or the safe and efficient operation or maintenance of an airport, and any combination of any or all of such facilities.

(4) "Air school" means any person who advertises, represents, or holds out as giving or offering to give instruction in flying or ground subjects pertaining to aeronautics whether for or without hire or reward; but excludes any public school, university, or institution of higher learning duly accredited and approved for carrying on collegiate work.

(5) "Aircraft" means a piloted or unmanned contrivance now known, or hereafter invented, used or designed for navigation of or flight in the air.

(6) "Airman or airwoman" means any individual who engages, as the person in command, or as pilot, mechanic, or member of the crew in the navigation of aircraft while under way, and any individual who is directly in charge of the inspection, maintenance, overhauling, or repair of aircraft engines, airframes, propellers, or appliances, and any individual who serves in the capacity of aircraft dispatcher or air-traffic control tower operator; but does not include any individual employed outside the United States, or any individual employed by a manufacturer of aircraft, aircraft engines, airframes, propellers, or appliances to perform duties as inspector or mechanic in connection therewith, or any individual performing inspection or mechanical duties in connection with aircraft owned or operated by the person.

(7) "Airport" means any area of land or water which is used, or intended for use, for the landing and take-off of aircraft, and any appurtenant areas which are used, or intended for use, for airport buildings or other airport facilities or right-of-way, together with all airport buildings and facilities located thereon.

(8) "Airport hazard" means any structure, object of natural growth, or use of land, which obstructs the airspace required for the flight of aircraft in landing or taking off at an airport or is otherwise hazardous to such landing or taking off.

(9) "Airport sponsor" means any public agency or private entity owning or leasing a public use airport.

(10) "Aviation division" means the aeronautics division of the department.

(11) "Commercial" means an aircraft, piloted or unpiloted, not used exclusively for hobby or recreation.

(12) "Department" means the state department of transportation.

(13) "Municipal" means pertaining to a municipality, and "municipality" means any county, city, town, authority, district, or other political subdivision or public corporation of this state.

(14) "Operation of aircraft" or "operate aircraft" means the use, navigation, or piloting of aircraft in the airspace over this state or upon any airport within this state.

(15) "Person" means any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, company, association, joint stock association, or body politic; and includes any trustee, receiver, assignee, or other similar representative thereof.

(16) "Public agency" means any state, political subdivision of a state, tax-supported organization, or Indian tribe.

(17) "Public use airport" means any airport that is used for public, governmental, county, or municipal purposes for matters of public necessity.

(18) "Secretary" means the state secretary of transportation.

(19) "State" or "this state" means the state of Washington.

(20) "State airway" means a route in the navigable airspace over and above the lands or waters of this state, designated by the department as a route suitable for air navigation.

(21) "Unpiloted aircraft system" means an aircraft operated without the possibility of direct human intervention from within or on the aircraft and is synonymous with the term "unmanned aircraft system". An unpiloted aircraft system must meet the same criteria and standards established by the federal aviation administration for an unmanned aircraft system. [2021 c 175 § 11; 2021 c 131 § 4; 1993 c 208 § 4; 1984 c 7 § 342; 1947 c 165 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10964-81. Formerly RCW 14.04.020.]

**Reviser's note:** (1) The definitions in this section have been alphabetized pursuant to RCW 1.08.015(2)(k).

(2) This section was amended by 2021 c 131 § 4 and by 2021 c 175 § 11, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Findings—Effective date—2021 c 175:** See notes following RCW 47.68.430.

**Effective date—2021 c 131:** See note following RCW 47.68.420.

**RCW 47.68.060 Offices.** Suitable offices and office equipment shall be provided by the state for the aeronautics division of the department of transportation in a city in the state that it may designate, and the department may incur the necessary expense for office furniture, stationery, printing, incidental expenses, and other expenses necessary for the administration of this chapter. [1984 c 7 § 343; 1947 c 165 § 6; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10964-86. Formerly RCW 14.04.060.]

**RCW 47.68.070 General powers.** The department has general supervision over aeronautics within this state. It is empowered and directed to encourage, foster, and assist in the development of aeronautics in this state and to encourage the establishment of airports and air navigation facilities. It shall cooperate with and assist the federal government, the municipalities of this state, and other persons in the development of aeronautics, and shall seek to coordinate the aeronautical activities of these bodies and persons. Municipalities are authorized to cooperate with the department in the development of aeronautics and aeronautical facilities in this state. [1984 c 7 § 344; 1947 c 165 § 7; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10964-87. Formerly RCW 14.04.070.]

**RCW 47.68.080 Drafts of legislation, other duties.** The department may draft and recommend necessary legislation to advance the interests of the state in aeronautics, represent the state in aeronautical matters before federal agencies and other state agencies, and participate as party plaintiff or defendant or as intervener on behalf of the state or any municipality or citizen thereof in any controversy which involves the interest of the state in aeronautics. [1984 c 7 § 345; 1947 c 165 § 8; 1945 c 252 § 5; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10964-88. Formerly RCW 14.04.080.]

**RCW 47.68.090 Aid to municipalities, Indian tribes, persons—**  
**Federal aid.** (1) The department of transportation may make available its engineering and other technical services, with or without charge, to any municipality or person desiring them in connection with the planning, acquisition, construction, improvement, maintenance, or operation of airports or air navigation facilities.

(2) (a) The department may render financial assistance by grant or loan, or both, to the following entities out of appropriations made by the legislature for the following purposes:

(i) Any municipality or municipalities acting jointly in the planning, acquisition, construction, improvement, maintenance, or operation of an airport owned or controlled, or to be owned or controlled by such municipality or municipalities;

(ii) Any Indian tribe recognized as such by the federal government or such tribes acting jointly in the planning, acquisition, construction, improvement, maintenance, or operation of an airport, owned or controlled, or to be owned or controlled by such tribe or tribes, and to be held available for the general use of the public; or

(iii) Any person or persons acting jointly in the planning, acquisition, construction, improvement, maintenance, or operation of an airport, owned or controlled, or to be owned or controlled by such person or persons, and to be held available for the general use of the public.

(b) Such financial assistance may be furnished in connection with federal or other financial aid for the same purposes: PROVIDED, That no grant or loan, or both, shall be in excess of seven hundred fifty thousand dollars for any one project: PROVIDED FURTHER, That no grant or loan, or both, shall be granted unless the municipality or municipalities acting jointly, the tribe or tribes acting jointly, or the person or persons acting jointly shall from their own funds match

any funds made available by the department upon such ratio as the department may prescribe.

(c) The department must establish, by rule, criteria for administering financial assistance to any entity.

(3) The department is authorized to act as agent of any municipality or municipalities acting jointly, any tribe or tribes acting jointly, or any person or persons acting jointly upon the request of such municipality or municipalities, tribe or tribes, or person or persons in accepting, receiving, receipting for, and disbursing federal moneys, and other moneys public or private, made available to finance, in whole or in part, the planning, acquisition, construction, improvement, maintenance, or operation of an airport or air navigation facility; and if requested by such municipality or municipalities, tribe or tribes, or person or persons, may act as its or their agent in contracting for and supervising such planning, acquisition, construction, improvement, maintenance, or operation; and all municipalities, tribes, and persons are authorized to designate the department as their agent for the foregoing purposes. The department, as principal on behalf of the state, and any municipality on its own behalf, may enter into any contracts, with each other or with the United States or with any person, which may be required in connection with a grant or loan of federal moneys for airport or air navigation facility purposes. All federal moneys accepted under this section shall be accepted and transferred or expended by the department upon such terms and conditions as are prescribed by the United States. All moneys received by the department pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the state treasury, and, unless otherwise prescribed by the authority from which such moneys were received, shall be kept in separate funds designated according to the purposes for which the moneys were made available, and held by the state in trust for such purposes. All such moneys are hereby appropriated for the purposes for which the same were made available, to be disbursed or expended in accordance with the terms and conditions upon which they were made available: PROVIDED, That any landing fee or charge imposed by any Indian tribe or tribes for the privilege of use of an airport facility planned, acquired, constructed, improved, maintained, or operated with financial assistance from the department pursuant to this section must apply equally to tribal and nontribal members: PROVIDED FURTHER, That in the event any municipality or municipalities, Indian tribe or tribes, or person or persons, or any distributor of aircraft fuel as defined by RCW 82.42.010 which operates in any airport facility which has received financial assistance pursuant to this section, fails to collect the aircraft fuel excise tax as specified in chapter 82.42 RCW, all funds or value of technical assistance given or paid to such municipality or municipalities, Indian tribe or tribes, or person or persons under the provisions of this section shall revert to the department, and shall be due and payable to the department immediately. [2017 c 48 § 2; 2011 c 51 § 1; 2009 c 470 § 718; 1980 c 67 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 161 § 1; 1947 c 165 § 9; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10964-89. Formerly RCW 14.04.090.]

**Finding—2017 c 48:** "The legislature finds that the Washington state department of transportation airport investment study identified total statewide airport preservation and capital needs and included a list of recommended changes. One of the recommendations is to increase

the maximum amount authorized by the airport aid program per grant to airports. This change can help smaller airports use the state grant to match federal funding." [2017 c 48 § 1.]

**Effective date—2009 c 470:** See note following RCW 46.68.170.

*Distributor of aircraft fuel defined:* RCW 82.42.010(7).

**RCW 47.68.100 Acquisition and disposal of airports, facilities, etc.** The department is authorized on behalf of and in the name of the state, out of appropriations and other moneys made available for such purposes, to plan, establish, construct, enlarge, improve, maintain, equip, operate, regulate, protect, and police airports, air navigation facilities, and air markers and/or air marking systems, either within or without the state, including the construction, installation, equipment, maintenance, and operation at the airports of buildings and other facilities for the servicing of aircraft or for the comfort and accommodation of air travelers. For such purposes the department may by purchase, gift, devise, lease, condemnation, or otherwise, acquire property, real or personal, or any interest therein, including easements or land outside the boundaries of an airport or airport site, as are necessary to permit safe and efficient operation of the airports or to permit the removal, elimination, marking, or lighting of obstructions or airport hazards, or to prevent the establishment of airport hazards. In like manner the department may acquire existing airports and air navigation facilities. However, it shall not acquire or take over any airport or air navigation facility owned or controlled by a municipality of this or any other state without the consent of the municipality. The department may by sale, lease, or otherwise, dispose of any property, airport, air navigation facility, or portion thereof or interest therein. The disposal by sale, lease, or otherwise shall be in accordance with the laws of this state governing the disposition of other property of the state, except that in the case of disposals to any municipality or state government or the United States for aeronautical purposes incident thereto, the sale, lease, or other disposal may be effected in such manner and upon such terms as the department deems in the best interest of the state. The department may exercise any powers granted by this section jointly with any municipalities, agencies, or departments of the state government, with other states or their municipalities, or with the United States. [1984 c 7 § 346; 1947 c 165 § 10; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10964-90. Formerly RCW 14.04.100.]

**RCW 47.68.110 Zoning powers not interfered with.** Nothing contained in this chapter shall be construed to limit any right, power or authority of the state or a municipality to regulate airport hazards by zoning. [1947 c 165 § 11; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10964-91. Formerly RCW 14.04.110.]

*Planning commissions:* Chapter 35.63 RCW.

**RCW 47.68.120 Condemnation, how exercised.** In the condemnation of property authorized by this chapter, the department shall proceed

in the name of the state in the manner that property is acquired by the department for public uses. [1984 c 7 § 347; 1947 c 165 § 12; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10964-92. Formerly RCW 14.04.120.]

*Acquisition of highway property: Chapter 47.12 RCW.*

*Eminent domain by state: Chapter 8.04 RCW.*

**RCW 47.68.130 Contracts or leases of facilities in operating airports.** In operating an airport or air navigation facility owned or controlled by the state, the department may enter into contracts, leases, and other arrangements for a term not exceeding twenty-five years with any persons. The department may grant the privilege of using or improving the airport or air navigation facility or any portion or facility thereof or space therein for commercial purposes, confer the privilege of supplying goods, commodities, things, services, or facilities at the airport or air navigation facility, or make available services to be furnished by the department or its agents at the airport or air navigation facility. In each case the department may establish the terms and conditions and fix the charges, rentals, or fees for the privileges or services, which shall be reasonable and uniform for the same class of privilege or service and shall be established with due regard to the property and improvements used and the cost of operation to the state. In no case shall the public be deprived of its rightful, equal, and uniform use of the airport, air navigation facility, or portion or facility thereof. [1984 c 7 § 348; 1947 c 165 § 13; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10964-93. Formerly RCW 14.04.130.]

**RCW 47.68.140 Lease of airports.** The department may by contract, lease, or other arrangement, upon a consideration fixed by it, grant to any qualified person for a term not to exceed twenty-five years the privilege of operating, as agent of the state or otherwise, any airport owned or controlled by the state: PROVIDED, That no such person shall be granted any authority to operate the airport other than as a public airport or to enter into any contracts, leases, or other arrangements in connection with the operation of the airport which the department might not have undertaken under RCW 47.68.130. [1983 c 3 § 141; 1947 c 165 § 14; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10964-94. Formerly RCW 14.04.140.]

**RCW 47.68.150 Lien for state's charges.** To enforce the payment of any charges for repairs to, improvements, storage, or care of any personal property made or furnished by the department or its agents in connection with the operation of an airport or air navigation facility owned or operated by the state, the state shall have liens on such property, which shall be enforceable by the department as provided by law. [1984 c 7 § 349; 1947 c 165 § 15; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10964-95. Formerly RCW 14.04.150.]

**RCW 47.68.160 Acceptance of federal moneys.** The department is authorized to accept, receive, receipt for, disburse, and expend federal moneys, and other moneys public or private, made available to

accomplish, in whole or in part, any of the purposes of this section. All federal moneys accepted under this section shall be accepted and expended by the department upon such terms and conditions as are prescribed by the United States. In accepting federal moneys under this section, the department shall have the same authority to enter into contracts on behalf of the state as is granted to the department under RCW 47.68.090 with respect to federal moneys accepted on behalf of municipalities. All moneys received by the department pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the state treasury, and, unless otherwise prescribed by the authority from which such moneys were received, shall be kept in separate funds designated according to the purposes for which the moneys were made available, and held by the state in trust for such purposes. All such moneys are hereby appropriated for the purpose of which the same were made available, to be disbursed or expended in accordance with the terms and conditions upon which they were made available. [1983 c 3 § 142; 1947 c 165 § 16; 1945 c 252 § 7; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10964-96. Formerly RCW 14.04.160.]

**RCW 47.68.170 State airways system.** The department may designate, design, and establish, expand, or modify a state airways system that will best serve the interest of the state. It may chart the airways system and arrange for publication and distribution of such maps, charts, notices, and bulletins relating to the airways as may be required in the public interest. The system shall be supplementary to and coordinated in design and operation with the federal airways system. It may include all types of air navigation facilities, whether publicly or privately owned, if the facilities conform to federal safety standards. [1984 c 7 § 350; 1947 c 165 § 17; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10964-97. Formerly RCW 14.04.170.]

**RCW 47.68.180 Execution of necessary contracts.** The department may enter into any contracts necessary to the execution of the powers granted it by this chapter. All contracts made by the department, either as the agent of the state or as the agent of any municipality, shall be made pursuant to the laws of the state governing the making of like contracts. Where the planning, acquisition, construction, improvement, maintenance, or operation of any airport or air navigation facility is financed wholly or partially with federal moneys, the department as agent of the state or of any municipality, may let contracts in the manner prescribed by the federal authorities acting under the laws of the United States and any rules or regulations made thereunder. [1984 c 7 § 351; 1947 c 165 § 18; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10964-98. Formerly RCW 14.04.180.]

**RCW 47.68.185 Establishment of procedures required by conditions of federal transfers of facilities.** The department is authorized to establish the necessary accounts or administrative procedures required by conditions attached to transfers of airport facilities from the federal government to the state of Washington. [1984 c 7 § 352; 1963 c 73 § 1. Formerly RCW 14.04.185.]

**RCW 47.68.190 Exclusive grants prohibited.** The department shall not grant any exclusive right for the use of any landing area or air navigation facility under its jurisdiction. This section shall not be construed to prevent the making of contracts, leases, and other arrangements pursuant to this chapter. [1984 c 7 § 353; 1947 c 165 § 19; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10964-99. Formerly RCW 14.04.190.]

**RCW 47.68.200 Exercise of powers, public and governmental purpose.** The acquisition of any lands or interest therein pursuant to this chapter, the planning, acquisition, establishment, construction, improvement, maintenance, equipment, and operation of airports and air navigation facilities, whether by the state separately or jointly with any municipality or municipalities, and the exercise of any other powers herein granted to the department are public and governmental functions, exercised for a public purpose, and matters of public necessity. All lands and other property and privileges acquired and used by or on behalf of the state in the manner and for the purposes enumerated in this chapter shall and are declared to be acquired and used for public and governmental purposes and as a matter of public necessity. [1984 c 7 § 354; 1947 c 165 § 20; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10964-100. Formerly RCW 14.04.200.]

**RCW 47.68.210 Rules—Standards.** The department of transportation may perform such acts, issue and amend such orders, make, promulgate, and amend such reasonable general rules, and procedures, and establish such minimum standards, consistent with the provisions of this chapter, as it shall deem necessary to perform its duties hereunder; all commensurate with and for the purpose of protecting and insuring the general public interest and safety, the safety of persons operating, using or traveling in aircraft or persons receiving instruction in flying or ground subjects pertaining to aeronautics, and the safety of persons and property on land or water, and developing and promoting aeronautics in this state. No rule of the department shall apply to airports or air navigation facilities owned or operated by the United States.

The department shall keep on file with the code reviser, and at the principal office of the department, a copy of all its rules for public inspection.

The department shall provide for the publication and general distribution of all its orders, rules, and procedures having general effect. [1982 c 35 § 198; 1947 c 165 § 21; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10964-101. Formerly RCW 14.04.210.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective dates—Application—1982 c 35:** See notes following RCW 43.07.160.

*Notice of meetings: Chapter 42.30 RCW.*

**RCW 47.68.220 Operating aircraft recklessly or under influence of intoxicants or drugs.** It shall be unlawful for any person to operate an aircraft in the air, or on the ground or water, while under the influence of intoxicating liquor, narcotics, or other habit-forming drug, or to operate an aircraft in the air or on the ground or



water, in a careless manner so as to endanger the life or property of another. In any proceeding charging careless or reckless operation of aircraft in violation of this section, the court in determining whether the operation was careless or reckless may consider the standards for safe operation of aircraft prescribed by federal statutes or regulations governing aeronautics. [1947 c 165 § 22; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10964-102. Formerly RCW 14.04.220.]

**RCW 47.68.230 Aircraft, airman, and airwoman certificates required.** It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or cause or authorize to be operated any civil aircraft within this state unless such aircraft has an appropriate effective certificate, permit, or license issued by the United States, if such certificate, permit, or license is required by the United States, and a current registration certificate issued by the secretary of transportation, if registration of the aircraft with the department of transportation is required by this chapter. It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in aeronautics as an airman or airwoman in the state unless the person has an appropriate effective airman or airwoman certificate, permit, rating, or license issued by the United States authorizing him or her to engage in the particular class of aeronautics in which he or she is engaged, if such certificate, permit, rating, or license is required by the United States.

Where a certificate, permit, rating, or license is required for an airman or airwoman by the United States, it shall be kept in his or her personal possession when he or she is operating within the state. Where a certificate, permit, or license is required by the United States or by this chapter for an aircraft, it shall be carried in the aircraft at all times while the aircraft is operating in the state and shall be conspicuously posted in the aircraft where it may be readily seen by passengers or inspectors. Such certificates shall be presented for inspection upon the demand of any peace officer, or any other officer of the state or of a municipality or member, official, or employee of the department of transportation authorized pursuant to this chapter to enforce the aeronautics laws, or any official, manager, or person in charge of any airport, or upon the reasonable request of any person. [2005 c 341 § 1; 1993 c 208 § 5; 1987 c 220 § 1; 1979 c 158 § 205; 1967 ex.s. c 68 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 9 § 7; 1949 c 49 § 11; 1947 c 165 § 23; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 10964-103. Formerly RCW 14.04.230.]

**Effective date—2005 c 341:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect July 1, 2005." [2005 c 341 § 6.]

**RCW 47.68.235 License or certificate suspension—Noncompliance with support order—Reissuance.** The department shall immediately suspend the license or certificate of a person who has been certified pursuant to RCW 74.20A.320 by the department of social and health services as a person who is not in compliance with a support order or a \*residential or visitation order. If the person has continued to meet all other requirements for reinstatement during the suspension, reissuance of the license or certificate shall be automatic upon the

department's receipt of a release issued by the department of social and health services stating that the licensee is in compliance with the order. [1997 c 58 § 859.]

**\*Reviser's note:** 1997 c 58 § 886 requiring a court to order certification of noncompliance with residential provisions of a court-ordered parenting plan was vetoed. Provisions ordering the department of social and health services to certify a responsible parent based on a court order to certify for noncompliance with residential provisions of a parenting plan were vetoed. See RCW 74.20A.320.

**Short title—Part headings, captions, table of contents not law—Exemptions and waivers from federal law—Conflict with federal requirements—Severability—1997 c 58:** See RCW 74.08A.900 through 74.08A.904.

**Effective dates—Intent—1997 c 58:** See notes following RCW 74.20A.320.

**RCW 47.68.240 Penalties for violations.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter, or any of the rules, regulations, or orders issued pursuant thereto, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(2) (a) Any person violating any of the provisions of RCW 47.68.220, 47.68.230, or 47.68.255 is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

(b) In addition to, or in lieu of, the penalties provided in this section, or as a condition to the suspension of a sentence which may be imposed pursuant thereto, for violations of RCW 47.68.220 and 47.68.230, the court in its discretion may prohibit the violator from operating an aircraft within the state for such period as it may determine but not to exceed one year. Violation of the duly imposed prohibition of the court may be treated as a separate offense under this section or as a contempt of court.

(3) In addition to the provisions of subsections (1) and (2) of this section, failure to register an aircraft, as required by this chapter is subject to a penalty of one hundred dollars if the aircraft registration is sixty days or more past due.

(4) The revenue from the penalty prescribed in subsection (3) of this section must be deposited into the aeronautics account under RCW 82.42.090. [2016 c 20 § 2; 2005 c 341 § 2. Prior: 2003 c 375 § 3; 2003 c 53 § 265; 2000 c 229 § 2; 1999 c 277 § 5; 1993 c 238 § 3; 1987 c 202 § 216; 1983 c 3 § 145; 1947 c 165 § 24; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10964-104. Formerly RCW 14.04.240.]

**Application—2016 c 20 § 2:** "Section 2 of this act applies to registrations that initially become past due beginning on or after July 1, 2016." [2016 c 20 § 5.]

**Findings—Intent—2016 c 20:** "The legislature finds that the current penalty structure for late aircraft registration is unfair and excessive. The legislature further finds that the timing of providing proof of registration places a burden on aircraft owners attempting to lease or purchase hangar space for their aircraft. The legislature intends to streamline the penalty structure of late registrations and clarify the requirements for providing proof of registration in order

to reduce administrative processes and eliminate excessive penalty charges." [2016 c 20 § 1.]

**Effective date—2005 c 341:** See note following RCW 47.68.230.

**Effective date—2003 c 375:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect July 1, 2003." [2003 c 375 § 7.]

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Effective date—2000 c 229:** See note following RCW 46.16A.030.

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**RCW 47.68.250 Registration of aircraft. (Effective until July 1, 2031.)** (1) Every aircraft, inclusive of commercial unpowered aircraft systems, must be registered with the department for each calendar year in which the aircraft is operated or is based within this state. A fee of fifteen dollars is charged for each such registration and each annual renewal thereof.

(2) The department must review the fee schedule based on the number of unpowered aircraft systems registered under any single entity. Consideration should be given to the cost to administer the program and the number of commercial aircraft registered in the state. The department shall collaborate with the department of commerce, the department of revenue, and industry representatives in determining any recommendations to revise the initial fee. The report is due to the transportation committees of the legislature by December 1, 2022.

(3) Possession of the appropriate effective federal certificate, permit, rating, or license relating to ownership and airworthiness of the aircraft, and payment of the excise tax imposed by Title 82 RCW for the privilege of using the aircraft within this state during the year for which the registration is sought, and payment of the registration fee required by this section are the only requisites for registration of an aircraft under this section.

(4) The registration fee imposed by this section is payable to and collected by the secretary. The fee for any calendar year must be paid during the month of January, and collected by the secretary at the time of the collection by him or her of the excise tax. If the secretary is satisfied that the requirements for registration of the aircraft have been met, he or she must issue to the owner of the aircraft a certificate of registration therefor. The secretary must pay to the state treasurer the registration fees collected under this section, which registration fees must be credited to the aeronautics account.

(5) It is not necessary for the registrant to provide the secretary with originals or copies of federal certificates, permits, ratings, or licenses. The secretary must issue certificates of registration, or such other evidences of registration or payment of fees as he or she may deem proper; and in connection therewith may prescribe requirements for the possession and exhibition of such certificates or other evidences.

(6) The provisions of this section do not apply to:

(a) An aircraft owned by and used exclusively in the service of any government or any political subdivision thereof, including the government of the United States, any state, territory, or possession of the United States, or the District of Columbia, which is not engaged in carrying persons or property for commercial purposes;

(b) An aircraft registered under the laws of a foreign country;

(c) An aircraft that is owned by a nonresident if:

(i) The aircraft remains in this state or is based in this state, or both, for a period less than ninety days; or

(ii) The aircraft is a large private airplane as defined in RCW 82.08.215 and remains in this state for a period of ninety days or longer, but only when:

(A) The airplane is in this state exclusively for the purpose of repairs, alterations, or reconstruction, including any flight testing related to the repairs, alterations, or reconstruction, or for the purpose of continual storage of not less than one full calendar year;

(B) An employee of the facility providing these services is on board the airplane during any flight testing; and

(C) Within ninety days of the date the airplane first arrived in this state during the calendar year, the nonresident files a written statement with the department indicating that the airplane is exempt from registration under this subsection (6)(c)(ii). The written statement must be filed in a form and manner prescribed by the department and must include such information as the department requires. The department may require additional periodic verification that the airplane remains exempt from registration under this subsection (6)(c)(ii) and that written statements conform with the provisions of chapter 5.50 RCW;

(d) A piloted aircraft engaged principally in commercial flying constituting an act of interstate or foreign commerce;

(e) An aircraft owned by the commercial manufacturer thereof while being operated for test or experimental purposes, or for the purpose of training crews for purchasers of the aircraft;

(f) An aircraft being held for sale, exchange, delivery, test, or demonstration purposes solely as stock in trade of an aircraft dealer licensed under Title 14 RCW;

(g) An aircraft based within the state that is in an unairworthy condition, is not operated within the registration period, and has obtained a written exemption issued by the secretary; and

(h) Unpiloted aircraft systems used exclusively for hobby or recreation.

(7) The secretary must be notified within thirty days of any change in ownership of a registered aircraft. The notification must contain the N, NC, NR, NL, or NX number of the aircraft, the full name and address of the former owner, and the full name and address of the new owner. For failure to so notify the secretary, the registration of that aircraft may be canceled by the secretary, subject to reinstatement upon application and payment of a reinstatement fee of ten dollars by the new owner.

(8) A municipality or port district that owns, operates, or leases an airport, as defined in RCW 47.68.020, with the intent to operate, must require from an aircraft owner proof of aircraft registration as a condition of leasing or selling tiedown or hangar space for an aircraft. It is the responsibility of the lessee or purchaser to register the aircraft. Proof of registration must be provided according to the following schedule:

(a) For the purchase of tiedown or hangar space, the municipality or port district must allow the purchaser thirty days from the date of the application for purchase to produce proof of aircraft registration.

(b) For the lease of tiedown or hangar space that extends thirty days or more, the municipality or port district must allow the lessee thirty days to produce proof of aircraft registration from the date of the application for lease of tiedown or hangar space.

(c) For the lease of tiedown or hangar space that extends less than thirty days, the municipality or port district must allow the lessee to produce proof of aircraft registration at any point prior to the final day of the lease.

(9) The airport must work with the aviation division to assist in its efforts to register aircraft by providing information about based aircraft on an annual basis as requested by the division.

(10) The department may adopt rules to implement this section. [2021 c 131 § 2; 2020 c 304 § 3; (2019 c 232 § 23 expired July 1, 2021); 2017 3rd sp.s. c 25 § 46; (2017 3rd sp.s. c 25 § 44 expired July 1, 2021); 2016 c 20 § 4; (2016 c 20 § 3 expired July 1, 2021); (2013 2nd sp.s. c 13 § 1102 expired July 1, 2021); 2003 c 375 § 4; 1999 c 302 § 2; 1998 c 188 § 1; 1995 c 170 § 3; 1993 c 208 § 7; 1987 c 220 § 3; 1979 c 158 § 206; 1967 ex.s. c 9 § 8; 1955 c 150 § 11; 1949 c 49 § 12; 1947 c 165 § 25; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 10964-105. Formerly RCW 14.04.250.]

**Expiration—2021 c 131 § 2:** "Section 2 of this act expires July 1, 2031." [2021 c 131 § 5.]

**Effective date—2021 c 131:** See note following RCW 47.68.420.

**Effective date—2020 c 304 §§ 3 and 5:** "Sections 3 and 5 of this act take effect July 1, 2021." [2020 c 304 § 6.]

**Expiration date—2020 c 304 §§ 3 and 5:** "Sections 3 and 5 of this act expire July 1, 2031." [2020 c 304 § 7.]

**Intent—Findings—Tax preference review—2020 c 304 §§ 1-5; 2013 2nd sp.s. c 13 §§ 1101-1105:** "(1) The legislature intends to promote the economic development of our state's aerospace cluster and increase the tax revenues collected by the state through promoting a competitive marketplace for storing and modifying unfurnished, noncommercial aircraft. The legislature finds that Washington is currently losing these types of jobs to other states, resulting in the loss of high-wage jobs and new tax revenue. Further, the legislature finds that the current tax statutes are an impediment to encouraging the development of aerospace clusters in our state. Therefore, the legislature intends to modify our state's tax policy to encourage aerospace cluster development within the state and increase tax revenues.

(2) The joint legislative audit and review committee, as part of its tax preference review process, must estimate the net impact on state tax revenues by comparing the decrease in state revenues resulting from the changes made in sections 1 through 5, chapter 304, Laws of 2020 and sections 1101 through 1105, chapter 13, Laws of 2013 2nd sp. sess. to the additional tax revenues generated from the direct, indirect, and induced economic impacts from those changes. The

committee must conduct its tax preference review of sections 1 through 5, chapter 304, Laws of 2020 and sections 1101 through 1105, chapter 13, Laws of 2013 2nd sp. sess. during calendar years 2016 and 2026 and report its findings and recommendations to the legislature by January 1, 2017, and January 1, 2027." [2020 c 304 § 9; 2013 2nd sp.s. c 13 § 1101.]

**Expiration date—2020 c 304; 2013 2nd sp.s. c 13 §§ 1102 and 1105:** "Sections 1102 and 1105, chapter 13, Laws of 2013 2nd sp. sess. expire July 1, 2021." [2020 c 304 § 10; 2013 2nd sp.s. c 13 § 1906.]

**Expiration date—2019 c 232 § 23:** "Section 23 of this act expires July 1, 2021." [2019 c 232 § 28.]

**Expiration date—2017 3rd sp.s. c 25 § 44:** "Section 44 of this act expires July 1, 2021." [2017 3rd sp.s. c 25 § 45.]

**Effective date—2017 3rd sp.s. c 25 § 46:** "Section 46 of this act takes effect July 1, 2021." [2017 3rd sp.s. c 25 § 47.]

**Effective date—2016 c 20 § 3:** "Section 3 of this act takes effect July 1, 2016." [2016 c 20 § 6.]

**Expiration date—2016 c 20 § 3:** "Section 3 of this act expires July 1, 2021." [2016 c 20 § 7.]

**Effective date—2016 c 20 § 4:** "Section 4 of this act takes effect July 1, 2021." [2016 c 20 § 8.]

**Findings—Intent—2016 c 20:** See note following RCW 47.68.240.

**Effective date—2013 2nd sp.s. c 13:** See note following RCW 82.08.215.

**Effective date—2003 c 375:** See note following RCW 47.68.240.

**Severability—1987 c 220:** See note following RCW 47.68.230.

*Aircraft dealers: Chapter 14.20 RCW.*

*Definition of terms: RCW 14.20.010, 47.68.020.*

**RCW 47.68.250 Registration of aircraft. (Effective July 1, 2031.)** (1) Every aircraft, inclusive of commercial unpiloted aircraft systems, must be registered with the department for each calendar year in which the aircraft is operated or is based within this state. A fee of fifteen dollars is charged for each such registration and each annual renewal thereof.

(2) The department must review the fee schedule based on the number of unpiloted aircraft systems registered under any single entity. Consideration should be given to the cost to administer the program and the number of commercial aircraft registered in the state. The department shall collaborate with the department of commerce, the department of revenue, and industry representatives in determining any

recommendations to revise the initial fee. The report is due to the transportation committees of the legislature by December 1, 2022.

(3) Possession of the appropriate effective federal certificate, permit, rating, or license relating to ownership and airworthiness of the aircraft, and payment of the excise tax imposed by Title 82 RCW for the privilege of using the aircraft within this state during the year for which the registration is sought, and payment of the registration fee required by this section are the only requisites for registration of an aircraft under this section.

(4) The registration fee imposed by this section is payable to and collected by the secretary. The fee for any calendar year must be paid during the month of January, and must be collected by the secretary at the time of the collection by him or her of the excise tax. If the secretary is satisfied that the requirements for registration of the aircraft have been met, he or she must issue to the owner of the aircraft a certificate of registration therefor. The secretary must pay to the state treasurer the registration fees collected under this section, which registration fees must be credited to the aeronautics account.

(5) It is not necessary for the registrant to provide the secretary with originals or copies of federal certificates, permits, ratings, or licenses. The secretary must issue certificates of registration, or such other evidences of registration or payment of fees as he or she may deem proper; and in connection therewith may prescribe requirements for the possession and exhibition of such certificates or other evidences.

(6) The provisions of this section do not apply to:

(a) An aircraft owned by and used exclusively in the service of any government or any political subdivision thereof, including the government of the United States, any state, territory, or possession of the United States, or the District of Columbia, which is not engaged in carrying persons or property for commercial purposes;

(b) An aircraft registered under the laws of a foreign country;

(c) An aircraft that is owned by a nonresident if:

(i) The aircraft remains in this state or is based in this state, or both, for a period less than ninety days; or

(ii) The aircraft is a large private airplane as defined in RCW 82.08.215 and remains in this state for a period of ninety days or longer, but only when:

(A) The airplane is in this state exclusively for the purpose of repairs, alterations, or reconstruction, including any flight testing related to the repairs, alterations, or reconstruction, or for the purpose of continual storage of not less than one full calendar year;

(B) An employee of the facility providing these services is on board the airplane during any flight testing; and

(C) Within ninety days of the date the airplane first arrived in this state during the calendar year, the nonresident files a written statement with the department indicating that the airplane is exempt from registration under this subsection (6)(c)(ii). The written statement must be filed in a form and manner prescribed by the department and must include such information as the department requires. The department may require additional periodic verification that the airplane remains exempt from registration under this subsection (6)(c)(ii) and that written statements conform with the provisions of chapter 5.50 RCW;

(d) A piloted aircraft engaged principally in commercial flying constituting an act of interstate or foreign commerce;

(e) An aircraft owned by the commercial manufacturer thereof while being operated for test or experimental purposes, or for the purpose of training crews for purchasers of the aircraft;

(f) An aircraft being held for sale, exchange, delivery, test, or demonstration purposes solely as stock in trade of an aircraft dealer licensed under Title 14 RCW;

(g) An aircraft based within the state that is in an unairworthy condition, is not operated within the registration period, and has obtained a written exemption issued by the secretary; and

(h) Unpiloted aircraft systems used exclusively for hobby or recreation.

(7) The secretary must be notified within thirty days of any change in ownership of a registered aircraft. The notification must contain the N, NC, NR, NL, or NX number of the aircraft, the full name and address of the former owner, and the full name and address of the new owner. For failure to so notify the secretary, the registration of that aircraft may be canceled by the secretary, subject to reinstatement upon application and payment of a reinstatement fee of ten dollars by the new owner.

(8) A municipality or port district that owns, operates, or leases an airport, as defined in RCW 47.68.020, with the intent to operate, must require from an aircraft owner proof of aircraft registration as a condition of leasing or selling tiedown or hangar space for an aircraft. It is the responsibility of the lessee or purchaser to register the aircraft. Proof of registration must be provided according to the following schedule:

(a) For the purchase of tiedown or hangar space, the municipality or port district must allow the purchaser thirty days from the date of the application for purchase to produce proof of aircraft registration.

(b) For the lease of tiedown or hangar space that extends thirty days or more, the municipality or port district must allow the lessee thirty days to produce proof of aircraft registration from the date of the application for lease of tiedown or hangar space.

(c) For the lease of tiedown or hangar space that extends less than thirty days, the municipality or port district must allow the lessee to produce proof of aircraft registration at any point prior to the final day of the lease.

(9) The airport must work with the aviation division to assist in its efforts to register aircraft by providing information about based aircraft on an annual basis as requested by the division.

(10) The department may adopt rules to implement this section. [2021 c 131 § 3; (2019 c 232 § 23 expired July 1, 2021); (2017 3rd sp.s. c 25 § 44 expired July 1, 2021); (2016 c 20 § 3 expired July 1, 2021); (2013 2nd sp.s. c 13 § 1102 expired July 1, 2021); 2003 c 375 § 4; 1999 c 302 § 2; 1998 c 188 § 1; 1995 c 170 § 3; 1993 c 208 § 7; 1987 c 220 § 3; 1979 c 158 § 206; 1967 ex.s. c 9 § 8; 1955 c 150 § 11; 1949 c 49 § 12; 1947 c 165 § 25; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 10964-105. Formerly RCW 14.04.250.]

**Effective date—2021 c 131 § 3:** "Section 3 of this act takes effect July 1, 2031." [2021 c 131 § 6.]

**Intent—Findings—Tax preference review—2020 c 304 §§ 1-5; 2013 2nd sp.s. c 13 §§ 1101-1105:** "(1) The legislature intends to promote the economic development of our state's aerospace cluster and increase



the tax revenues collected by the state through promoting a competitive marketplace for storing and modifying unfurnished, noncommercial aircraft. The legislature finds that Washington is currently losing these types of jobs to other states, resulting in the loss of high-wage jobs and new tax revenue. Further, the legislature finds that the current tax statutes are an impediment to encouraging the development of aerospace clusters in our state. Therefore, the legislature intends to modify our state's tax policy to encourage aerospace cluster development within the state and increase tax revenues.

(2) The joint legislative audit and review committee, as part of its tax preference review process, must estimate the net impact on state tax revenues by comparing the decrease in state revenues resulting from the changes made in sections 1 through 5, chapter 304, Laws of 2020 and sections 1101 through 1105, chapter 13, Laws of 2013 2nd sp. sess. to the additional tax revenues generated from the direct, indirect, and induced economic impacts from those changes. The committee must conduct its tax preference review of sections 1 through 5, chapter 304, Laws of 2020 and sections 1101 through 1105, chapter 13, Laws of 2013 2nd sp. sess. during calendar years 2016 and 2026 and report its findings and recommendations to the legislature by January 1, 2017, and January 1, 2027." [2020 c 304 § 9; 2013 2nd sp.s. c 13 § 1101.]

**Expiration date—2020 c 304; 2013 2nd sp.s. c 13 §§ 1102 and 1105:** "Sections 1102 and 1105, chapter 13, Laws of 2013 2nd sp. sess. expire July 1, 2021." [2020 c 304 § 10; 2013 2nd sp.s. c 13 § 1906.]

**Expiration date—2019 c 232 § 23:** "Section 23 of this act expires July 1, 2021." [2019 c 232 § 28.]

**Expiration date—2017 3rd sp.s. c 25 § 44:** "Section 44 of this act expires July 1, 2021." [2017 3rd sp.s. c 25 § 45.]

**Effective date—2016 c 20 § 3:** "Section 3 of this act takes effect July 1, 2016." [2016 c 20 § 6.]

**Expiration date—2016 c 20 § 3:** "Section 3 of this act expires July 1, 2021." [2016 c 20 § 7.]

**Findings—Intent—2016 c 20:** See note following RCW 47.68.240.

**Effective date—2013 2nd sp.s. c 13:** See note following RCW 82.08.215.

**Effective date—2003 c 375:** See note following RCW 47.68.240.

**Severability—1987 c 220:** See note following RCW 47.68.230.

*Aircraft dealers: Chapter 14.20 RCW.*

*Definition of terms: RCW 14.20.010, 47.68.020.*

**RCW 47.68.255 Evasive registration.** A person who is required to register an aircraft under this chapter and who registers an aircraft

in another state or foreign country evading the Washington aircraft excise tax is guilty of a gross misdemeanor. For a second or subsequent offense, the person convicted is also subject to a fine equal to four times the amount of avoided taxes and fees, no part of which may be suspended, except as provided in RCW 10.05.180. Excise taxes owed and fines assessed must be deposited in the manner provided under RCW 46.16A.030(6). [2019 c 459 § 4; 2019 c 423 § 204; 2010 c 161 § 1147; 2003 c 53 § 266; 2000 c 229 § 3; 1999 c 277 § 6; 1996 c 184 § 3; 1993 c 238 § 2.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 2019 c 423 § 204 and by 2019 c 459 § 4, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section under RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Finding—Intent—2019 c 459:** See note following RCW 10.05.180.

**Finding—Intent—Effective date—2019 c 423:** See notes following RCW 82.08.0273.

**Effective date—Intent—Legislation to reconcile chapter 161, Laws of 2010 and other amendments made during the 2010 legislative session—2010 c 161:** See notes following RCW 46.04.013.

**Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53:** See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

**Effective date—2000 c 229:** See note following RCW 46.16A.030.

**Effective date—1996 c 184:** See note following RCW 46.16A.030.

**RCW 47.68.280 Investigations, hearings, etc.—Subpoenas—Compelling attendance.** The department or any officer or employee of the department designated by it has the power to hold investigations, inquiries, and hearings concerning matters covered by this chapter including accidents in aeronautics within this state. Hearings shall be open to the public and, except as hereinafter provided, shall be held upon such call or notice as the department deems advisable. The department and every officer or employee of the department designated by it to hold any inquiry, investigation, or hearing has the power to administer oaths and affirmations, certify to all official acts, issue subpoenas, and order the attendance of witnesses and the production of papers, books and documents. In case of the failure of a person to comply with a subpoena or order issued under the authority of this section, the department or its authorized representatives may invoke the aid of a competent court of general jurisdiction. The court may thereupon order the person to comply with the requirements of the subpoena or order or to give evidence touching the matter in question. Failure to obey the order of the court may be punished by the court as a contempt thereof. [1984 c 7 § 356; 1947 c 165 § 28; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10964-108. Formerly RCW 14.04.280.]

**RCW 47.68.290 Joint hearings—Cooperation.** The department may confer with or hold joint hearings with any agency of the United

States in connection with any matter arising under this chapter or relating to the development of aeronautics.

The department may avail itself of the cooperation, services, records, and facilities of the agencies of the United States as fully as may be practicable in the administration and enforcement of this chapter, and shall furnish to the agencies of the United States such services, records, and facilities as are practicable.

The department shall report to the appropriate agency of the United States all accidents in aeronautics in this state of which it is informed, and shall in so far as is practicable preserve, protect, and prevent the removal of the component parts of any aircraft involved in an accident being investigated by it until the federal agency institutes an investigation. [1984 c 7 § 357; 1947 c 165 § 29; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10964-109. Formerly RCW 14.04.290.]

**RCW 47.68.300 State and municipal agencies to cooperate.** In carrying out this chapter the department may use the facilities and services of other agencies of the state and of the municipalities of the state to the utmost extent possible, and the agencies and municipalities are authorized and directed to make available their facilities and services. [1984 c 7 § 358; 1947 c 165 § 30; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10964-110. Formerly RCW 14.04.300.]

**RCW 47.68.310 Enforcement of aeronautics laws.** It is the duty of the secretary, the department, the officers and employees of the department, and every state and municipal officer charged with the enforcement of state and municipal laws to enforce and assist in the enforcement of this chapter and of all other laws of this state relating to aeronautics. The secretary and those officers or employees of the department designated by the secretary in writing are granted police powers solely for the enforcement of state aeronautics laws and the rules having the effect of law. [1984 c 7 § 359; 1955 c 204 § 1; 1947 c 165 § 31; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10964-111. Formerly RCW 14.04.310.]

**RCW 47.68.320 Service of orders—Hearings—Review.** Every order of the department requiring performance of certain acts or compliance with certain requirements and any denial or revocation of an approval, certificate, or license shall set forth the reasons and shall state the acts to be done or requirements to be met before approval by the department will be given or the approval, license, or certificate granted or restored, or the order modified or changed. Orders issued by the department under this chapter shall be served upon the persons affected either by certified mail or in person. In every case where notice and opportunity for a hearing are required under this chapter, the order of the department shall, on not less than ten days notice, specify a time when and place where the person affected may be heard, or the time within which the person may request a hearing, and the order shall become effective upon the expiration of the time for exercising the opportunity for a hearing, unless a hearing is held or requested within the time provided, in which case the order shall be suspended until the department affirms, disaffirms, or modifies the order after a hearing has been held or default by the person has been affected. To the extent practicable, hearings on the orders shall be

in the county where the affected person resides or does business. Any person aggrieved by an order of the department or by the grant, denial, or revocation of an approval, license, or certificate may have the action of the department reviewed by the courts of this state under chapter 34.05 RCW. [1984 c 7 § 360; 1947 c 165 § 32; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10964-112. Formerly RCW 14.04.320.]

**RCW 47.68.330 Exchange of data, reports of violations, etc.** The department is authorized to report to the appropriate federal agencies and agencies of other states all proceedings instituted charging violation of RCW 47.68.220 and 47.68.230 and all penalties, of which it has knowledge, imposed upon airmen or airwomen or the owners or operators of aircraft for violations of the law of this state relating to aeronautics or for violations of the rules, regulations, or orders of the department. The department is authorized to receive reports of penalties and other data from agencies of the federal government and other states and, when necessary, to enter into agreements with federal agencies and the agencies of other states governing the delivery, receipt, exchange, and use of reports and data. The department may make the reports and data of the federal agencies, the agencies of other states, and the courts of this state available, with or without request therefor, to any and all courts of this state. [2010 c 8 § 10023; 1983 c 3 § 146; 1947 c 165 § 33; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 10964-113. Formerly RCW 14.04.330.]

**RCW 47.68.340 Hazardous structures and obstacles—Marking—Hearing to determine hazard.** A structure or obstacle that obstructs the air space above ground or water level, when determined by the department after a hearing to be a hazard or potential hazard to the safe flight of aircraft, shall be plainly marked, illuminated, painted, lighted, or designated in a manner to be approved in accordance with the general rules of the department so that the structure or obstacle will be clearly visible to airmen or airwomen. In determining which structures or obstacles constitute a safety hazard, or a hazard to flight, the department shall take into account those obstacles located at a river, lake, or canyon crossing, and in other low-altitude flight paths usually traveled by aircraft including, but not limited to, airport areas and runway departure and approach areas as defined by federal air regulations. [2010 c 8 § 10024; 1995 c 153 § 2; 1984 c 7 § 361; 1961 c 263 § 2. Formerly RCW 14.04.340.]

**RCW 47.68.350 Hazardous structures and obstacles—Reporting location—Subpoenas.** The secretary may require owners, operators, lessees, or others having the control or management of structures or obstacles over one hundred fifty feet above ground or water level and that are or may become a hazard to air flight to report the location of the existing or proposed structures or obstacles to the department. For that purpose the secretary may issue subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum returnable within twenty days to the department. If a person refuses to obey the secretary's subpoena, the department may certify to the superior court all facts of the refusal. The court shall summarily hear evidence on the refusal, and, if the evidence warrants,

punish the person refusing in the same manner and to the same extent as a contempt committed before the court. [1984 c 7 § 362; 1961 c 263 § 3. Formerly RCW 14.04.350.]

**RCW 47.68.360 Hazardous structures and obstacles—Exemption of structures required by federal law to be marked.** RCW 47.68.340 and 47.68.350 shall not apply to structures required to be marked by federal regulations. [1983 c 3 § 147; 1961 c 263 § 4. Formerly RCW 14.04.360.]

**RCW 47.68.380 Aerial search and rescue—Liability—Definition.**

(1) The aviation division of the department is responsible for the conduct and management of all aerial search and rescue within the state. This includes search and rescue efforts involving aircraft and airships. The division is also responsible for search and rescue activities involving electronic emergency signaling devices such as emergency locator transmitters (ELT's) and emergency position indicating radio beacons (EPIRB's).

(2) An act or omission by any person registered with the aviation division of the department for the purpose of engaging in aerial search and rescue activities, while engaged in such activities, shall not impose any liability on the department or the person for civil damages resulting from the act or omission. However, the immunity provided under this subsection shall not apply to an act or omission that constitutes gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct. For the purpose of this subsection, "aerial search and rescue activities" includes, but is not limited to, training and training-related activities, but does not include appropriate search and rescue activities conducted under the authority of RCW 38.52.400. [2008 c 34 § 1; 1995 c 153 § 1.]

**RCW 47.68.390 Airport capacity and facilities assessment.** (1)

The aviation division of the department of transportation shall conduct a statewide airport capacity and facilities assessment. The assessment must include a statewide analysis of existing airport facilities, and passenger and air cargo transportation capacity, regarding both commercial aviation and general aviation; however, the primary focus of the assessment must be on commercial aviation. The assessment must at a minimum address the following issues:

(a) Existing airport facilities, both commercial and general aviation, including air side, land side, and airport service facilities;

(b) Existing air and airport capacity, including the number of annual passengers and air cargo operations;

(c) Existing airport services, including fixed based operator services, fuel services, and ground services; and

(d) Existing airspace capacity.

(2) The department shall consider existing information, technical analyses, and other research the department deems appropriate. The department may contract and consult with private independent professional and technical experts regarding the assessment.

(3) The department shall submit the assessment to the appropriate standing committees of the legislature, the governor, the

transportation commission, and regional transportation planning organizations by July 1, 2006. [2005 c 316 § 1.]

**RCW 47.68.400 Airport capacity and facilities market analysis.**

(1) After submitting the assessment under RCW 47.68.390, the aviation division of the department of transportation shall conduct a statewide airport capacity and facilities market analysis. The analysis must include a statewide needs analysis of airport facilities, passenger and air cargo transportation capacity, and demand and forecast market needs over the next twenty-five years with a more detailed analysis of the Puget Sound, southwest Washington, Spokane, and Tri-Cities regions. The analysis must address the forecasted needs of both commercial aviation and general aviation; however, the primary focus of the analysis must be on commercial aviation. The analysis must at a minimum address the following issues:

(a) A forecast of future airport facility needs based on passenger and air cargo operations and demand, airline planning, and a determination of aviation trends, demographic, geographic, and market factors that may affect future air travel demand;

(b) A determination of when the state's existing commercial service airports will reach their capacity;

(c) The factors that may affect future air travel and when capacity may be reached and in which location;

(d) The role of the state, metropolitan planning organizations, regional transportation planning organizations, the federal aviation administration, and airport sponsors in addressing statewide airport facilities and capacity needs; and

(e) Whether the state, metropolitan planning organizations, regional transportation planning organizations, the federal aviation administration, or airport sponsors have identified options for addressing long-range capacity needs at airports, or in regions, that will reach capacity before the year 2030.

(2) The department shall consider existing information, technical analyses, and other research the department deems appropriate. The department may contract and consult with private independent professional and technical experts regarding the analysis.

(3) The department shall submit the analysis to the appropriate standing committees of the legislature, the governor, the transportation commission, and regional transportation planning organizations by July 1, 2007. [2005 c 316 § 2.]

**RCW 47.68.420 Unpiloted aircraft system coordinator—Duties—**

**Department may adopt rules—Report.** (1) Within amounts collected from commercial unpiloted aircraft registration fees pursuant to RCW 47.68.250(1), the aviation division director (also known as the senior state aviation official) or the aviation division director's designee shall act as the unpiloted aircraft system coordinator. The unpiloted aircraft system coordinator serves primarily in an advisory role and is not authorized to direct unpiloted aircraft system operations, training, or policy outside the department. The duties of the unpiloted aircraft system coordinator include:

(a) Assisting with unpiloted aircraft system training and continuing education for state agencies;

(b) Coordinating with local governments on state and federal unpiloted aircraft system policies and regulations;

(c) Acting as a state level coordinator for unpiloted aircraft system operations during a governor declaration of emergency pursuant to RCW 43.06.210;

(d) Coordinating with the federal aviation administration and state agencies on unpiloted aircraft system trends;

(e) Identifying and disseminating information on unpiloted aircraft system training sites;

(f) Establishing and maintaining an unpiloted aircraft system coordination website for state and local governments;

(g) Assisting with the advancement of unpiloted aircraft systems across the state in coordination with the department of commerce, the aerospace industry, and the commercial unmanned aircraft systems industry;

(h) Acting as the principal advisor to the secretary on unpiloted aircraft system matters;

(i) Undertaking other unpiloted aircraft system coordination duties that are deemed appropriate by the aviation division director and the unpiloted aircraft system coordinator including, but not limited to, overseeing unpiloted aircraft system symposiums or other events for state agencies and other stakeholder groups.

(2) The department may adopt rules to implement this section.

(3) By December 1, 2022, the department shall provide a report to the transportation committees of the legislature and the department of commerce that provides details on the specific activities, accomplishments, and opportunities undertaken by the unpiloted aircraft system coordinator as to each of the duties provided in this section. The report must also be shared with interested aviation and aerospace industry stakeholders. The report shall include:

(a) Information on the specific activities, accomplishments, and opportunities taken by the aviation division director or the director's designee in their role as the unpiloted aircraft system coordinator;

(b) A statement on the justification and need for the aviation division director or the director's designee to continue to perform the specific activities of the unpiloted aircraft system coordinator; and

(c) Recommendations on any changes to the scope of the work and duties of the unpiloted aircraft system coordinator. This shall include recommendations on the reassignment of duties of the unpiloted aircraft system coordinator to the department's aviation division and recommendations on the termination of the unpiloted aircraft system coordinator position. [2021 c 131 § 1.]

**Effective date—2021 c 131:** "Except for section 3 of this act, this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect July 1, 2021." [2021 c 131 § 7.]

**RCW 47.68.430 Community aviation revitalization board.** (1) The department of transportation must convene a community aviation revitalization board to exercise the powers granted under this chapter.

(2) The board must consist of a representative from the department of transportation's aviation division, the public works board, and a nonlegislative member of the community economic revitalization board. The board must also consist of the following members appointed by the secretary of transportation: One port district official, one county official, one city official, one representative of airport managers, and one representative of a general aviation pilots organization within Washington that has an active membership and established location, chapter, or appointed representative within Washington. The appointive members must initially be appointed to terms as follows: Two members for two-year terms, and three members for three-year terms which must include the chair. Thereafter, each succeeding term must be for three years. The chair of the board must be selected by the secretary of transportation. The members of the board must elect one of their members to serve as vice chair.

(3) Management services, including fiscal and contract services, must be provided by the department of transportation to assist the board in implementing this chapter.

(4) If a vacancy occurs by death, resignation, or otherwise of appointive members of the board, the secretary of transportation must fill the vacancy for the unexpired term. Members of the board may be removed for malfeasance or misfeasance in office, upon specific written charges by the secretary of transportation, under chapter 34.05 RCW.

(5) A member appointed by the secretary of transportation may not be absent from more than fifty percent of the regularly scheduled meetings in any one calendar year. Any member who exceeds this absence limitation is deemed to have withdrawn from the office and may be replaced by the secretary of transportation.

(6) A majority of members currently appointed constitutes a quorum.

(7) The board must meet three times a year or as deemed necessary by the department of transportation.

(8) Staff support to the board must be provided by the department of transportation as needed. [2021 c 175 § 2.]

**Findings—2021 c 175:** "The legislature finds that providing additional funding mechanisms for public use airports that primarily support general aviation activities is in the best interest of the state. The legislature further finds it is in the best interest of the state to have a healthy and strong public use airport system for emergency response and enhanced economic opportunities. The legislature further finds that a revolving loan program would benefit smaller airport development while providing a self-sustaining resource." [2021 c 175 § 1.]

**Effective date—2021 c 175:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect June 30, 2021." [2021 c 175 § 13.]

**RCW 47.68.440 Community aviation revitalization board—Members, participation in decisions—Code of ethics.** In addition to other applicable provisions of law pertaining to conflicts of interest of



public officials, any community aviation revitalization board member, appointive or otherwise, may not participate in any decision on any board contract in which the board member has any interests, direct or indirect, with any firm, partnership, corporation, or association that would be the recipient of any aid under this chapter. If such participation occurs, the board must void the transaction and the involved member is subject to further sanctions as provided by law. The board must adopt a code of ethics for its members, which must be designed to protect the state and its citizens from any unethical conduct by the board. [2021 c 175 § 3.]

**Findings—Effective date—2021 c 175:** See notes following RCW 47.68.430.

**RCW 47.68.450 Community aviation revitalization board—Duties.**

The community aviation revitalization board may:

- (1) Adopt bylaws for the regulation of its affairs and the conduct of its business;
- (2) Adopt an official seal and alter the seal at its pleasure;
- (3) Utilize the services of other governmental agencies;
- (4) Accept from any federal agency loans or grants for the planning or financing of any project and enter into an agreement with the agency respecting the loans or grants;
- (5) Conduct examinations and investigations and take testimony at public hearings of any matter material for its information that will assist in determinations related to the exercise of the board's lawful powers;
- (6) Accept any gifts, grants, loans of funds, property, or financial or other aid in any form from any other source on any terms and conditions that are not in conflict with this chapter;
- (7) Enter into agreements or other transactions with and accept grants and the cooperation of any governmental agency in furtherance of this chapter;
- (8) Adopt rules under chapter 34.05 RCW as necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter; and
- (9) Perform all acts and things necessary or convenient to carry out the powers expressly granted or implied under this chapter. [2021 c 175 § 4.]

**Findings—Effective date—2021 c 175:** See notes following RCW 47.68.430.

**RCW 47.68.460 Community aviation revitalization board—Loans—Applications—Guidelines.** (1) The community aviation revitalization board may make direct loans to airport sponsors of public use airports in the state for the purpose of airport improvements that primarily support general aviation activities. The board may provide loans for the purpose of airport improvements only if the state is receiving commensurate public benefit, which must include, as a condition of the loan, a commitment to provide public access to the airport for a period of time equivalent to one and one-half times the term of the loan. For purposes of this subsection, "public use airports" means all public use airports not listed as having more than seventy-five

thousand annual commercial air service passenger enplanements as published by the federal aviation administration.

(2) An application for loan funds under this section must be made in the form and manner as the board may prescribe. When evaluating loan applications, the board must prioritize applications that provide conclusive justification that completion of the loan application project will create revenue generating opportunities. The board is not limited to, but must also use, the following expected outcome conditions when evaluating loan applications:

(a) A specific private development or expansion is ready to occur and will occur only if the aviation facility improvement is made;

(b) The loan application project results in the creation of jobs or private sector capital investment as determined by the board;

(c) The loan application project improves opportunities for the successful maintenance, operation, or expansion of an airport or adjacent airport business park;

(d) The loan application project results in the creation or retention of long-term economic opportunities; and

(e) The loan application project results in leveraging additional federal funding for an airport.

(3) (a) If the board chooses to require a local match, the board must develop guidelines for local participation and allowable match and activities.

(b) An application must:

(i) Be supported by the port district, city, or county in which the project is located; or

(ii) Clearly identify the source of funds intended to repay the loan. [2021 c 175 § 5.]

**Findings—Effective date—2021 c 175:** See notes following RCW 47.68.430.

**RCW 47.68.470 Community aviation revitalization board—Public use general aviation airport loan program.** The public use general aviation airport loan program, when authorized by the community aviation revitalization board, is subject to the following conditions:

(1) The moneys in the public use general aviation airport loan revolving account created in RCW 47.68.490 must be used only to fulfill commitments arising from loans authorized in this chapter. The total outstanding amount that the board must dispense at any time pursuant to this section must not exceed the moneys available from the account.

(2) On contracts made for public use general aviation airport loans, the board must determine the interest rate that loans must bear. The interest rate must not exceed the amount needed to cover the administrative expenses of the board and the loan program. The board may provide reasonable terms and conditions for the repayment of loans, with the repayment of a loan to begin no later than three years after the award date of the loan. The loans must not exceed twenty years in duration.

(3) The repayment of any loan made from the public use general aviation airport loan revolving account under the contracts for aviation loans must be paid into the public use general aviation airport loan revolving account.

(4) Loans issued to airport sponsors of nongovernmental airports must only be made from repaid loan funds deposited into the public use general aviation airport loan revolving account. [2021 c 175 § 6.]

**Findings—Effective date—2021 c 175:** See notes following RCW 47.68.430.

**RCW 47.68.480 Community aviation revitalization board—Enhancing competition for loans, quality of projects.** To enhance competition for loans and the quality of projects for which loans are sought, the community aviation revitalization board must take such reasonable measures as are necessary to familiarize government officials and members of the public with this chapter, particularly the board's authority to make loans. [2021 c 175 § 7.]

**Findings—Effective date—2021 c 175:** See notes following RCW 47.68.430.

**RCW 47.68.490 Public use general aviation airport loan revolving account.** The public use general aviation airport loan revolving account is created in the custody of the state treasurer. All receipts from moneys collected under sections 6023 and 4005, chapter 413, Laws of 2019 and section 1, chapter 175, Laws of 2021 and RCW 47.68.430 through 47.68.480 must be deposited into the account. Expenditures from the account may be used only for the purposes described in sections 6023 and 4005, chapter 413, Laws of 2019 and RCW 47.68.460 and 47.68.470. Only the community aviation revitalization board or the board's designee may authorize expenditures from the account. The account is subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is not required for expenditures. [2021 c 175 § 8. Prior: 2019 c 413 § 7037; 2018 c 298 § 7010; 2018 c 2 § 7028.]

**Findings—Effective date—2021 c 175:** See notes following RCW 47.68.430.

**RCW 47.68.500 Community aviation revitalization board and department of transportation to keep proper records of accounts.** The community aviation revitalization board and the department of transportation must keep proper records of accounts, which are subject to audit by the state auditor. [2021 c 175 § 9.]

**Findings—Effective date—2021 c 175:** See notes following RCW 47.68.430.

**Chapter 47.72 RCW  
NAVIGATION CANALS**

**Sections**

- 47.72.010 Declaration of purpose.
- 47.72.050 Powers and duties.
- 47.72.060 "Canal" defined.

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- 47.72.050 Powers and duties.
- 47.72.060 "Canal" defined.

**RCW 47.72.010 Declaration of purpose.** The purposes of this chapter are to aid commerce and navigation, including the development of recreational facilities related thereto, and to otherwise promote the general welfare by the development of navigation canals within the boundaries of the state of Washington. [1965 ex.s. c 123 § 1. Formerly RCW 91.12.010.]

**RCW 47.72.050 Powers and duties.** In its capacity as successor to the canal commission, the department of transportation may:

- (1) Adopt rules and regulations necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.
- (2) Make such investigations, surveys, and studies it deems necessary to determine the feasibility of the development of a navigation canal, or systems of navigation canals within the state of Washington.
- (3) Construct, maintain, and/or operate any navigation canal, or navigation canal systems deemed feasible by the department of transportation.
- (4) Acquire by gift, purchase, or condemnation from any person, municipal, public, or private corporation, or the state of Washington, or lease from the United States of America, any lands, rights-of-way, easements, or property rights in, over, or across lands or waters necessary for the construction, operation, or maintenance of any navigation canal, or navigation canal system. The acquisition of such rights is for a public use. The exercise of the right of eminent domain shall be in the manner provided by chapter 8.04 RCW, and all actions initiated thereunder shall be brought in the name of the department of transportation.
- (5) Hold public hearings. Prior to a determination of feasibility for any proposed project, the department shall hold a public hearing so that members of the public may present their views thereon.
- (6) Accept and expend moneys appropriated by the legislature or received from any public or private source, including the federal government, in carrying out the purposes of this chapter.
- (7) Negotiate and cooperate with the United States of America for the purpose of inducing the United States to undertake the construction, operation, or maintenance of any navigation canal, or navigation canal system provided for in this chapter.
- (8) As a local sponsor cooperate, contract, and otherwise fully participate on behalf of the state of Washington with the United States of America, in any study relating to a determination of feasibility of a navigation canal or navigation canal system, and in any project relating to the construction, operation, or maintenance of a navigation canal, or navigation canal system to be undertaken by the United States of America.

The authority granted herein includes, but is not limited to, contributing such moneys to the United States of America as may be required and appropriated for that purpose by the legislature and furnishing without cost to the United States of America all lands, easements, and rights-of-way, performing all necessary alterations to utilities arising from any project, and holding the United States of America free from any claims for damages arising out of the construction of any project. [1977 ex.s. c 151 § 75; 1965 ex.s. c 123 § 5. Formerly RCW 91.12.050.]

**RCW 47.72.060 "Canal" defined.** For the purposes of this chapter, "canal" is defined as any waterway for navigation created by construction of reservoirs or construction of channels by excavation in dry ground, in streams, rivers or in tidal waters and any existing waterway incorporated into such a canal and including any appurtenant features necessary for operation and maintenance of the canal. [1965 ex.s. c 123 § 6. Formerly RCW 91.12.060.]

**Chapter 47.76 RCW**  
**RAIL FREIGHT SERVICE**

**Sections**

- 47.76.200 Legislative findings.
- 47.76.210 State freight rail program.
- 47.76.220 State rail plan—Contents.
- 47.76.230 Freight rail planning—Railroad safety.
- 47.76.240 Rail preservation program.
- 47.76.250 Essential rail assistance account—Purposes.
- 47.76.255 Essential rail assistance account—Deposit of revenue from lease or operations on Palouse River and Coulee City rail lines.
- 47.76.270 Essential rail banking account merged into essential rail assistance account.
- 47.76.280 Sale or lease for use as rail service—Time limit.
- 47.76.290 Sale or lease for other use—Authorized buyers, notice, terms, deed, deposit of moneys.
- 47.76.300 Sale for other use—Governmental entity.
- 47.76.310 Rent or lease of lands.
- 47.76.320 Sale at public auction.
- 47.76.330 Eminent domain exemptions.
- 47.76.350 Monitoring federal rail policies.
- 47.76.360 Transfer of funds in excess of grain train program operating needs or capital reserves authorized.
- 47.76.370 Royal Slope railroad right-of-way—Transfer, reversion, agreement.
- 47.76.400 Produce railcar pool—Findings—Intent.
- 47.76.410 Produce railcar pool—Definition.
- 47.76.420 Produce railcar pool—Departmental authority.
- 47.76.430 Produce railcar pool—Funding.
- 47.76.440 Produce railcar pool—Management.
- 47.76.450 Produce railcar pool account.
- 47.76.460 Freight rail investment bank program.
- 47.76.470 Statewide emergent freight rail assistance program.

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- 47.76.400 Produce railcar pool—Findings—Intent.
- 47.76.410 Produce railcar pool—Definition.
- 47.76.420 Produce railcar pool—Departmental authority.
- 47.76.430 Produce railcar pool—Funding.
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- 47.76.460 Freight rail investment bank program.
- 47.76.470 Statewide emergent freight rail assistance program.

**RCW 47.76.200 Legislative findings.** The legislature finds that a balanced multimodal transportation system is required to maintain the state's commitment to the growing mobility needs of its citizens and commerce. The state's freight rail system, including branch lines, mainlines, rail corridors, terminals, yards, and equipment, is an important element of this multimodal system. Washington's economy relies heavily upon the freight rail system to ensure movement of the state's agricultural, chemical, and natural resources and manufactured products to local, national, and international markets and thereby contributes to the economic vitality of the state.

Since 1970, Washington has lost over one-third of its rail miles to abandonment and bankruptcies. The combination of rail abandonments and rail system capacity constraints may alter the delivery to market of many commodities. In addition, the resultant motor vehicle freight traffic increases the burden on state highways and county roads. In many cases, the cost of maintaining and upgrading the state highways and county roads exceeds the cost of maintaining rail freight service. Thus, the economy of the state will be best served by a policy of



maintaining and encouraging a healthy rail freight system by creating mechanisms that keep rail freight lines operating if the benefits of the service outweigh the cost.

Recognizing the implications of this trend for freight mobility and the state's economic future, the legislature finds that better freight rail planning, better cooperation to preserve rail lines, and increased financial assistance from the state are necessary to maintain and improve the freight rail system within the state. [1995 c 380 § 1; 1993 c 224 § 1; 1983 c 303 § 4. Formerly RCW 47.76.010.]

**RCW 47.76.210 State freight rail program.** The Washington state department of transportation shall implement a state freight rail program that supports the freight rail service objectives identified in the state's multimodal transportation plan required under chapter 47.06 RCW. The support may be in the form of projects and strategies that support branch lines and light-density lines, provide access to ports, maintain adequate mainline capacity, and preserve or restore rail corridors and infrastructure. [1995 c 380 § 2; 1990 c 43 § 2. Formerly RCW 47.76.110.]

**Construction—Severability—Headings—1990 c 43:** See notes following RCW 81.100.010.

**RCW 47.76.220 State rail plan—Contents.** (1) The department of transportation shall prepare and periodically update a state rail plan, the objective of which is to identify, evaluate, and encourage essential rail services. The plan shall:

- (a) Identify and evaluate mainline capacity issues;
- (b) Identify and evaluate port-to-rail access and congestion issues;
- (c) Identify and evaluate those rail freight lines that may be abandoned or have recently been abandoned;
- (d) Quantify the costs and benefits of maintaining rail service on those lines that are likely to be abandoned;
- (e) Establish priorities for determining which rail lines should receive state support. The priorities should include the anticipated benefits to the state and local economy, the anticipated cost of road and highway improvements necessitated by the abandonment or capacity constraints of the rail line, the likelihood the rail line receiving funding can meet operating costs from freight charges, surcharges on rail traffic, and other funds authorized to be raised by a county or port district, and the impact of abandonment or capacity constraints on changes in energy utilization and air pollution;
- (f) Identify and describe the state's rail system;
- (g) Prepare a state freight rail system map;
- (h) Identify and evaluate rail commodity flows and traffic types;
- (i) Identify lines and corridors that have been rail banked or preserved; and
- (j) Identify and evaluate other issues affecting the state's rail traffic.

(2) The state rail plan may be prepared in conjunction with the rail plan prepared by the department pursuant to the federal Railroad Revitalization and Regulatory Reform Act. [1995 c 380 § 3; 1993 c 224 § 2; 1985 c 432 § 1; 1983 c 303 § 5. Formerly RCW 47.76.020.]

**RCW 47.76.230 Freight rail planning—Railroad safety.** (1) The department of transportation shall continue its responsibility for the development and implementation of the state rail plan and programs, and the utilities and transportation commission shall continue its responsibility for railroad safety issues.

(2) The department of transportation shall maintain an enhanced data file on the rail system. Proprietary annual station traffic data from each railroad and the modal use of major shippers must be obtained to the extent that such information is available.

(3) The department of transportation shall provide technical assistance, upon request, to state agencies and local interests. Technical assistance includes, but is not limited to, the following:

(a) Rail project cost-benefit analyses conducted in accordance with methodologies recommended by the federal railroad administration;

(b) Assistance in the formation of county rail districts and port districts; and

(c) Feasibility studies for rail service continuation or rail service assistance, or both.

(4) With funding authorized by the legislature, the department of transportation, in collaboration with the department of commerce, and local economic development agencies, and other interested public and private organizations, shall develop a cooperative process to conduct community and business information programs and to regularly disseminate information on rail matters. [2023 c 470 § 2090; 2007 c 234 § 94; 1995 c 380 § 4; 1990 c 43 § 3. Formerly RCW 47.76.120.]

**Explanatory statement—2023 c 470:** See note following RCW 10.99.030.

**Construction—Severability—Headings—1990 c 43:** See notes following RCW 81.100.010.

**RCW 47.76.240 Rail preservation program.** The state, counties, local communities, ports, railroads, labor, and shippers all benefit from continuation of rail service and should participate in its preservation. Lines that provide benefits to the state and local jurisdictions, such as avoided roadway costs, reduced traffic congestion, economic development potential, environmental protection, and safety, should be assisted through the joint efforts of the state, local jurisdictions, and the private sector.

State funding for rail service, rail preservation, and corridor preservation projects must benefit the state's interests. The state's interest is served by reducing public roadway maintenance and repair costs, increasing economic development opportunities, increasing domestic and international trade, preserving jobs, and enhancing safety. State funding for projects is contingent upon appropriate local jurisdiction and private sector participation and cooperation. Before spending state moneys on projects, the department shall seek federal, local, and private funding and participation to the greatest extent possible.

(1) The department of transportation shall continue to monitor the status of the state's mainline and branchline common carrier railroads and preserved rail corridors through the state rail plan and various analyses, and shall seek alternatives to abandonment prior to interstate commerce commission proceedings, where feasible.

(2) The utilities and transportation commission shall intervene in proceedings of the surface transportation board, or its successor agency, on abandonments, when necessary, to protect the state's interest.

(3) The department of transportation, in consultation with the Washington state freight rail policy advisory committee, shall establish criteria for evaluating rail projects and corridors of significance to the state.

(4) Local jurisdictions may implement rail service preservation projects in the absence of state participation.

(5) The department of transportation shall continue to monitor projects for which it provides assistance. [2007 c 234 § 95; 1995 c 380 § 5; 1993 c 224 § 3; 1990 c 43 § 4. Formerly RCW 47.76.130.]

**Construction—Severability—Headings—1990 c 43:** See notes following RCW 81.100.010.

**RCW 47.76.250 Essential rail assistance account—Purposes.** (1)

The essential rail assistance account is created in the state treasury. Moneys in the account may be appropriated only for the purposes specified in this section.

(2) Moneys appropriated from the account to the department of transportation may be used by the department or distributed by the department to cities, county rail districts, counties, economic development councils, port districts, and privately or publicly owned railroads for the purpose of:

(a) Acquiring, rebuilding, rehabilitating, or improving rail lines;

(b) Purchasing or rehabilitating railroad equipment necessary to maintain essential rail service;

(c) Constructing railroad improvements to mitigate port access or mainline congestion;

(d) Construction of loading facilities to increase business on light density lines or to mitigate the impacts of abandonment;

(e) Preservation, including operation, of light density lines, as identified by the Washington state department of transportation, in compliance with this chapter; or

(f) Preserving rail corridors for future rail purposes by purchase of rights-of-way. The department shall first pursue transportation enhancement program funds, available under the federal surface transportation program, to the greatest extent practicable to preserve rail corridors. Purchase of rights-of-way may include track, bridges, and associated elements, and must meet the following criteria:

(i) The right-of-way has been identified and evaluated in the state rail plan prepared under this chapter;

(ii) The right-of-way may be or has been abandoned; and

(iii) The right-of-way has potential for future rail service.

(3) The department or the participating local jurisdiction is responsible for maintaining any right-of-way acquired under this chapter, including provisions for drainage management, fire and weed control, and liability associated with ownership.

(4) Nothing in this section impairs the reversionary rights of abutting landowners, if any, without just compensation.

(5) The department, cities, county rail districts, counties, and port districts may grant franchises to private railroads for the right to operate on lines acquired under this chapter.

(6) The department, cities, county rail districts, counties, and port districts may grant trackage rights over rail lines acquired under this chapter.

(7) If rail lines or rail rights-of-way are used by county rail districts, port districts, state agencies, or other public agencies for the purposes of rail operations and are later abandoned, the rail lines or rail rights-of-way cannot be used for any other purposes without the consent of the underlying fee titleholder or reversionary rights holder, or until compensation has been made to the underlying fee titleholder or reversionary rights holder.

(8) The department of transportation shall develop criteria for prioritizing freight rail projects that meet the minimum eligibility requirements for state assistance under RCW 47.76.240. The department shall develop criteria in consultation with the Washington state freight rail policy advisory committee. Project criteria should consider the level of local financial commitment to the project as well as cost/benefit ratio. Counties, local communities, railroads, shippers, and others who benefit from the project should participate financially to the greatest extent practicable.

(9) Moneys received by the department from franchise fees, trackage rights fees, and loan payments shall be redeposited in the essential rail assistance account. Repayment of loans made under this section shall occur within a period not longer than fifteen years, as set by the department. The repayment schedule and rate of interest, if any, shall be determined before the distribution of the moneys.

(10) The state shall maintain a contingent interest in any equipment, property, rail line, or facility that has outstanding grants or loans. The owner may not use the line as collateral, remove track, bridges, or associated elements for salvage, or use it in any other manner subordinating the state's interest without permission from the department.

(11) Moneys may be granted for improvements to privately owned railroads, railroad property, or other private property under this chapter for freight rail projects that meet the minimum eligibility criteria for state assistance under RCW 47.76.240, and which are supported by contractual consideration. At a minimum, such contractual consideration shall consist of defined benefits to the public with a value equal to or greater than the grant amount, and where the grant recipient provides the state a contingent interest adequate to ensure that such public benefits are realized. [2009 c 160 § 1; 1996 c 73 § 2; 1995 c 380 § 6; 1993 c 224 § 4; 1991 sp.s. c 13 § 22; 1991 c 363 § 125; 1990 c 43 § 11. Prior: 1985 c 432 § 2; 1985 c 57 § 64; 1983 c 303 § 6. Formerly RCW 47.76.030.]

**Effective date—1996 c 73:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [March 13, 1996]." [1996 c 73 § 4.]

**Effective dates—Severability—1991 sp.s. c 13:** See notes following RCW 18.08.240.

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**Construction—Severability—Headings—1990 c 43:** See notes following RCW 81.100.010.

**Effective date—1985 c 57:** See note following RCW 18.04.105.

*County rail districts: Chapter 36.60 RCW.*

*Port districts, acquisition and operation of facilities: RCW 53.08.020.*

**RCW 47.76.255 Essential rail assistance account—Deposit of revenue from lease or operations on Palouse River and Coulee City rail lines.** All revenue received by the department of transportation from operating leases or other business operations on the Palouse River and Coulee City rail lines must be deposited in the essential rail assistance account created in RCW 47.76.250 and used only for the refurbishment or improvement of the Palouse River and Coulee City rail lines. [2011 c 161 § 3.]

**RCW 47.76.270 Essential rail banking account merged into essential rail assistance account.** The essential rail banking account is merged into the essential rail assistance account created under RCW 47.76.250. Any appropriations made to the essential rail banking account are transferred to the essential rail assistance account, and are subject to the restrictions of that account. [1995 c 380 § 7; 1993 c 224 § 6; 1991 sp.s. c 13 § 120; 1991 c 363 § 127; 1990 c 43 § 7. Formerly RCW 47.76.160.]

**Effective dates—Severability—1991 sp.s. c 13:** See notes following RCW 18.08.240.

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**Construction—Severability—Headings—1990 c 43:** See notes following RCW 81.100.010.

**RCW 47.76.280 Sale or lease for use as rail service—Time limit.**  
(1) The department may sell or lease property acquired under this chapter to a county rail district established under chapter 36.60 RCW, a county, a port district, or any other public or private entity authorized to operate rail service. Any public or private entity that originally donated funds to the department under this chapter shall receive credit against the purchase price for the amount donated to the department, less management costs, in the event such public or private entity purchases the property from the department.

(2) If no county rail district, county, port district, or other public or private entity authorized to operate rail service purchases or leases the property within six years after its acquisition by the department, the department may sell or lease such property in the

manner provided in RCW 47.76.290. Failing this, the department may sell or convey all such property in the manner provided in RCW 47.76.300 or 47.76.320.

(3) Property acquired by the department under this chapter that is not essential for the operation of the rail service contemplated in subsections (1) and (2) of this section may be sold or leased at any time following acquisition in the manner provided in RCW 47.76.290. [2011 c 161 § 1; 1995 c 380 § 8; 1993 c 224 § 7; 1991 sp.s. c 15 § 61; 1991 c 363 § 126; 1985 c 432 § 3. Formerly RCW 47.76.040.]

**Construction—Severability—1991 sp.s. c 15:** See note following RCW 46.68.110.

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**RCW 47.76.290 Sale or lease for other use—Authorized buyers, notice, terms, deed, deposit of moneys.** (1) If real property acquired by the department under this chapter that is essential for the operation of the rail service contemplated in RCW 47.76.280 is not sold or leased to a public or private entity authorized to operate rail service within six years of its acquisition by the department, the department may sell or lease the property at fair market value, except as provided in RCW 47.76.370, to any of the following governmental entities or persons:

- (a) Any other state agency;
- (b) The city or county in which the property is situated;
- (c) Any other municipal corporation;
- (d) The former owner, heir, or successor of the property from whom the property was acquired; or
- (e) Any abutting private owner or owners.

(2) (a) Real property acquired by the department under this chapter that is not essential for the operation of the rail service contemplated in RCW 47.76.280 may be leased or sold at fair market value, at any time following acquisition, to any entity or person in the following priority order:

- (i) The current tenant or lessee of the real property or real property abutting the property being sold;
- (ii) An abutting private owner, but only after each other abutting private owner, if any, as shown in the records of the county assessor, is notified in writing of the proposed sale. If more than one abutting private owner requests in writing the right to purchase the real property within fifteen days after receiving notice of the proposed sale, the real property must be sold at public auction in the manner provided in RCW 47.76.320 (2) through (4);
- (iii) Any other state agency;
- (iv) The city or county in which the real property is situated;
- (v) Any other municipal corporation; or
- (vi) The former owner, heir, or successor of the real property from whom the real property was acquired.

(b) If the department intends to sell or lease property under this subsection to an entity or person that is not the entity or person with the highest priority status under this subsection, the department must give written notice to each entity or person with higher priority status under this subsection that is reasonably

considered to have an interest in the property. The entity with the highest priority status, willing to enter into a sale or lease at fair market value, must be given right of first refusal to buy or lease the property.

(3) Notice of intention to sell under this section shall be given by publication in one or more newspapers of general circulation in the area in which the property is situated not less than thirty days prior to the intended date of sale.

(4) Sales to purchasers under this section may, at the department's option, be for cash or by real estate contract, except that any such property of the Palouse River and Coulee City rail lines that was purchased with bond proceeds in November 2004 may be sold only for cash at fair market value.

(5) Conveyances made under this section shall be by deed executed by the secretary of transportation and shall be duly acknowledged.

(6) All moneys received under this section shall be deposited in the essential rail assistance account created in RCW 47.76.250. Any moneys deposited under this subsection from sales or leases of property that are related, in any way, to the Palouse River and Coulee City rail lines must be used and, in the case of moneys received from sales, expended within two years of receipt, only for the refurbishment or improvement of the Palouse River and Coulee City rail lines. [2015 c 281 § 2; 2011 c 161 § 2; 1993 c 224 § 8; 1991 sp.s. c 15 § 62; 1985 c 432 § 4. Formerly RCW 47.76.050.]

**Effective date—2015 c 281:** See note following RCW 47.76.370.

**Construction—Severability—1991 sp.s. c 15:** See note following RCW 46.68.110.

**RCW 47.76.300 Sale for other use—Governmental entity.** If real property acquired by the department under this chapter is not sold to a public or private entity authorized to operate rail service within six years of its acquisition by the department, the department may transfer and convey the property to the United States, its agencies or instrumentalities, to any other state agency, or to any county or city or port district of this state when, in the judgment of the secretary, the transfer and conveyance is consistent with the public interest. Whenever the secretary makes an agreement for any such transfer or conveyance, the secretary shall execute and deliver to the grantee a deed of conveyance, easement, or other instrument, duly acknowledged, as necessary to fulfill the terms of the agreement. All moneys paid to the state of Washington under this section shall be deposited in the essential rail banking account of the general fund. [1993 c 224 § 9; 1991 sp.s. c 15 § 63; 1985 c 432 § 5. Formerly RCW 47.76.060.]

**Construction—Severability—1991 sp.s. c 15:** See note following RCW 46.68.110.

**RCW 47.76.310 Rent or lease of lands.** The department is authorized subject to the provisions and requirements of zoning ordinances of political subdivisions of government, to rent or lease any lands acquired under this chapter, upon such terms and conditions

as the department determines. [1993 c 224 § 10; 1991 sp.s. c 15 § 64; 1985 c 432 § 6. Formerly RCW 47.76.070.]

**Construction—Severability—1991 sp.s. c 15:** See note following RCW 46.68.110.

**RCW 47.76.320 Sale at public auction.** (1) If real property acquired by the department under this chapter is not sold, conveyed, or leased to a public or private entity within six years of its acquisition by the department, the department may, in its discretion, sell the property at public auction in accordance with subsections (2) through (5) of this section.

(2) The department shall first give notice of the sale by publication on the same day of the week for two consecutive weeks, with the first publication at least two weeks before the date of the auction, in a legal newspaper of general circulation in the area where the property to be sold is located. The notice shall be placed in both the legal notices section and the real estate classified section of the newspaper. The notice shall contain a description of the property, the time and place of the auction, and the terms of the sale. The sale may be for cash or by real estate contract.

(3) In accordance with the terms set forth in the notice, the department shall sell the property at the public auction to the highest and best bidder if the bid is equal to or higher than the appraised fair market value of the property.

(4) If no bids are received at the auction or if all bids are rejected, the department may, in its discretion, enter into negotiations for the sale of the property or may list the property with a licensed real estate broker. No property may be sold by negotiations or through a broker for less than the property's appraised fair market value. Any offer to purchase real property under this subsection shall be in writing and may be rejected at any time before written acceptance by the department.

(5) Conveyances made under this section shall be by deed executed by the secretary of transportation and shall be duly acknowledged.

(6) All moneys received under this section shall be deposited in the essential rail banking account of the general fund. [1993 c 224 § 11; 1991 sp.s. c 15 § 65; 1985 c 432 § 7. Formerly RCW 47.76.080.]

**Construction—Severability—1991 sp.s. c 15:** See note following RCW 46.68.110.

**RCW 47.76.330 Eminent domain exemptions.** Transfers of ownership of property acquired under this chapter are exempt from chapters 8.25 and 8.26 RCW. [1993 c 224 § 12; 1991 sp.s. c 15 § 66; 1985 c 432 § 8. Formerly RCW 47.76.090.]

**Construction—Severability—1991 sp.s. c 15:** See note following RCW 46.68.110.

**RCW 47.76.350 Monitoring federal rail policies.** The department of transportation shall continue to monitor federal rail policies and congressional action and communicate to Washington's congressional



delegation and federal transportation agencies the need for a balanced transportation system and associated funding. [1990 c 43 § 10. Formerly RCW 47.76.190.]

**Construction—Severability—Headings—1990 c 43:** See notes following RCW 81.100.010.

**RCW 47.76.360 Transfer of funds in excess of grain train program operating needs or capital reserves authorized.** Funds deemed by the department of transportation, in consultation with relevant port districts, to be in excess of current operating needs or capital reserves of the grain train program may be transferred from the miscellaneous program account to the essential rail assistance account created in RCW 47.76.250 for the purpose of sustaining the grain train program. [2012 c 86 § 801.]

**Effective date—2012 c 86:** "Except for sections 701 through 713, 805, and 806 of this act, this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [March 23, 2012]." [2012 c 86 § 902.]

**RCW 47.76.370 Royal Slope railroad right-of-way—Transfer, reversion, agreement.** (1) The department must transfer, at no cost, to the Port of Royal Slope the Royal Slope railroad right-of-way, and any materials, equipment, and supplies purchased as a part of the Royal Slope rehabilitation project (L1000053).

(2) The Port of Royal Slope must maintain the Royal Slope railroad right-of-way and contract with an operator to provide service.

(3) (a) If the Port of Royal Slope is unable to secure an operator for any continuous five-year period, the right-of-way and any materials, equipment, and remaining supplies revert to the department.

(b) If ownership of the right-of-way reverts to the department under this subsection, the property must be in at least substantially the same condition as when the right-of-way was initially transferred under this section.

(4) Any operator agreement entered into under this section must not limit the state's ability to enter into a franchise agreement on the rail line. If the state enters into such a franchise agreement, the agreement must allow any person operating on that rail line pursuant to a valid contract to continue to operate under the terms of the contract. [2015 c 281 § 1.]

**Effective date—2015 c 281:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [May 18, 2015]." [2015 c 281 § 3.]

**RCW 47.76.400 Produce railcar pool—Findings—Intent.** The legislature finds that an actively coordinated and cooperatively facilitated railcar pool for transportation of perishable agricultural commodities is necessary for the continued viability and

competitiveness of Washington's agricultural industry. The legislature also finds that the rail transportation model established by the Washington Grain Train program has been successful in serving the shipping needs of the wheat industry.

It is, therefore, the intent of the legislature to authorize and direct the Washington department of transportation to develop a railcar program for Washington's perishable commodity industries to be known as the Washington Produce Railcar Pool. This railcar program should be modeled from the Washington Grain Train program, but be made flexible enough to work with entities outside state government in order to fulfill its mission, including, but not limited to, the federal and local governments, commodity commissions, and private entities. [2003 c 191 § 1.]

**RCW 47.76.410 Produce railcar pool—Definition.** As used in RCW 47.76.400 through 47.76.450 "short line railroad" means a Class II or Class III railroad as defined by the United States Surface Transportation Board. [2003 c 191 § 2.]

**RCW 47.76.420 Produce railcar pool—Departmental authority.** In addition to powers otherwise granted by law, the department may establish a Washington Produce Railcar Pool to promote viable, cost-effective rail service for Washington produce, including but not limited to apples, onions, pears, and potatoes, both processed and fresh.

To the extent that funds are appropriated, the department may:

(1) Operate the Washington Produce Railcar Pool program while working in close coordination with the department of agriculture, interested commodity commissions, port districts, and other interested parties;

(2) For the purposes of this program:

(a) Purchase or lease new or used refrigerated railcars;

(b) Accept donated refrigerated railcars; and

(c) Refurbish and remodel the railcars;

(3) Hire, in consultation with affected stakeholders, including but not limited to short line railroads, commodity commissions, and port districts, a transportation management firm to perform the function outlined in RCW 47.76.440; and

(4) Contribute the efforts of a short line rail-financing expert to find funding for the project to help interested short line railroads in this state to accomplish the necessary operating arrangements once the railcars are ready for service. [2003 c 191 § 3.]

**RCW 47.76.430 Produce railcar pool—Funding.** To the extent that funds are appropriated, the department shall fund the program as follows: The department may accept funding from the federal government, or other public or private sources, to purchase or lease new or used railcars and to refurbish and remodel the railcars as needed. Nothing in this section precludes other entities, including but not limited to short line railroads, from performing the remodeling under RCW 47.76.400 through 47.76.450. [2003 c 191 § 4.]

**RCW 47.76.440 Produce railcar pool—Management.** (1) The transportation management firm hired under RCW 47.76.420(3) shall manage the day-to-day operations of the railcars, such as monitoring the location of the cars, returning them to this state, distributing them, arranging for pretrips and repairs, and arranging for per diem, mileage allowances, and other freight billing charges with the railroads.

(2) The railcar pool must be managed over the life of the railcars so that the railcars will be distributed to railroads and port districts around the state for produce loadings as market conditions warrant or to other users, including out-of-state users by contractual agreement, during times of excess capacity.

(3) To maximize railcar availability and use, the department or the transportation management firm may make agreements with the transcontinental railroad systems to pool Washington-owned or Washington-managed railcars with those of the railroads. In such instances, the railroad must agree to provide immediately an equal number of railcars to the Washington railcar pool.

(4) The department shall act in an oversight role to verify that the railcar pool is managed in accordance with subsections (2) and (3) of this section. [2003 c 191 § 5.]

**RCW 47.76.450 Produce railcar pool account.** The produce railcar pool account is created in the custody of the state treasurer. All receipts from per diem charges, mileage charges, and freight billing charges paid by railroads and shippers that use the railcars in the Washington Produce Railcar Pool must be deposited into the account. Expenditures from the account may be used only for the purposes of RCW 47.76.400 through 47.76.440. Only the secretary of transportation or the secretary's designee may authorize expenditures from the account. The account is subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is not required for expenditures. [2003 c 191 § 6.]

**RCW 47.76.460 Freight rail investment bank program.** (1) The department shall establish a freight rail investment bank program for the purpose of supporting freight rail capital needs by providing low-interest loans to entities based on the state's interests as outlined in RCW 47.76.240.

(2) The department shall issue freight rail investment bank program loans with a repayment period of no more than 15 years, and charge only so much interest as is necessary to recoup the department's costs to administer the loans.

(3) The department shall report annually to the transportation committees of the legislature and the office of financial management on all freight rail investment bank loans issued.

(4) Projects shall be evaluated using a cost-benefit methodology. The methodology must use the following legislative priorities:

(a) Economic, safety, or environmental advantages of freight movement by rail compared to alternative modes;

(b) Self-sustaining economic development that creates family-wage jobs;

(c) Preservation of transportation corridors that would otherwise be lost;

- (d) Increased access to efficient and cost-effective transport to market for Washington's agricultural and industrial products;
- (e) Better integration and cooperation within the regional, national, and international systems of freight distribution; and
- (f) Mitigation of impacts of increased rail traffic on communities. [2023 c 447 § 3.]

**RCW 47.76.470 Statewide emergent freight rail assistance program.** (1) The department shall establish the statewide emergent freight rail assistance program for the purpose of supporting freight rail capital needs by awarding grants based on the state's interests as outlined in RCW 47.76.240.

(2) Grants shall be selected using the cost-benefit methodology as outlined in RCW 47.76.460.

(3) The department shall report annually to the transportation committees of the legislature and the office of financial management on all freight rail assistance program grants issued. [2023 c 447 § 4.]

**Chapter 47.79 RCW**  
**HIGH-SPEED GROUND TRANSPORTATION**

**Sections**

- 47.79.010 Legislative declaration.
- 47.79.020 Program established—Goals.
- 47.79.030 Project priority—Funding sources.
- 47.79.040 Rail passenger plan.
- 47.79.050 Facility acquisition and management.
- 47.79.060 Gifts.
- 47.79.070 Adjacent real property.
- 47.79.110 King Street station—Findings.
- 47.79.120 King Street station—Acquisition.
- 47.79.130 King Street station—Department's powers and duties.
- 47.79.140 King Street station—Leases and contracts for multimodal terminal.
- 47.79.150 King Street railroad station facility account.
- 47.79.900 Effective date—1993 c 381.

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**HIGH-SPEED GROUND TRANSPORTATION**

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- 47.79.900 Effective date—1993 c 381.

**RCW 47.79.010 Legislative declaration.** The legislature recognizes that major intercity transportation corridors in this state are becoming increasingly congested. In these corridors, population is expected to grow by nearly forty percent over the next twenty years, while employment will grow by nearly fifty percent. The estimated seventy-five percent increase in intercity travel demand must be accommodated to ensure state economic vitality and protect the state's quality of life.

The legislature finds that high-speed ground transportation offers a safer, more efficient, and environmentally responsible alternative to increasing highway capacity. High-speed ground transportation can complement and enhance existing air transportation systems. High-speed ground transportation can be compatible with growth management plans in counties and cities served by such a system. Further, high-speed ground transportation offers a reliable, all-weather service capable of significant energy savings over other intercity modes. [1993 c 381 § 1.]

**RCW 47.79.020 Program established—Goals.** The legislature finds that there is substantial public benefit to establishing a high-speed ground transportation program in this state. The program shall implement the recommendations of the high-speed ground transportation steering committee report dated October 15, 1992. The program shall be administered by the department of transportation in close cooperation with the utilities and transportation commission and affected cities and counties.

The high-speed ground transportation program shall have the following goals:

- (1) Implement high-speed ground transportation service offering top speeds over 150 m.p.h. between Everett and Portland, Oregon by 2020. This would be accomplished by meeting the intermediate objectives of a maximum travel time between downtown Portland and downtown Seattle of two hours and thirty minutes by the year 2000 and maximum travel time of two hours by the year 2010;

(2) Implement high-speed ground transportation service offering top speeds over 150 m.p.h. between Everett and Vancouver, B.C. by 2025;

(3) Implement high-speed ground transportation service offering top speeds over 150 m.p.h. between Seattle and Spokane by 2030.

The department of transportation shall, subject to legislative appropriation, implement such projects as necessary to achieve these goals in accordance with the implementation plans identified in RCW 47.79.030 and 47.79.040. [1993 c 381 § 2.]

**RCW 47.79.030 Project priority—Funding sources.** The legislature finds it important to develop public support and awareness of the benefits of high-speed ground transportation by developing high quality intercity passenger rail service as a first step. This high quality intercity passenger rail service shall be developed through incremental upgrading of the existing service. The department of transportation shall, subject to legislative appropriation, develop a prioritized list of projects to improve existing passenger rail service and begin new passenger rail service, to include but not be limited to:

(1) Improvement of depots;

(2) Improved grade crossing protection or grade crossing elimination;

(3) Enhanced train signals to improve rail corridor capacity and increase train speeds;

(4) Revised track geometry or additional trackage to improve ride quality and increase train speeds; and

(5) Contract for new or improved service in accordance with federal requirements to improve service frequency.

Service enhancements and station improvements must be based on the extent to which local comprehensive plans contribute to the viability of intercity passenger rail service, including providing efficient connections with other transportation modes such as transit, intercity bus, and roadway networks. Before spending state moneys on these projects, the department of transportation shall seek federal, local, and private funding participation to the greatest extent possible. Funding priorities for station improvements must also be based on the level of local and private in-kind and cash contributions. [1993 c 381 § 3.]

**RCW 47.79.040 Rail passenger plan.** The legislature recognizes the need to plan for the high-speed ground transportation service and the high quality intercity rail passenger service set forth in RCW 47.79.020 and 47.79.030. The department of transportation shall, subject to legislative appropriation, develop a rail passenger plan through the conduct of studies addressing, but not limited to, the following areas:

(1) Refined ridership estimates;

(2) Preliminary location and environmental analysis on new corridors;

(3) Detailed station location assessments in concert with affected local jurisdictions;

(4) Coordination with the air transportation commission on statewide air transportation policy and its effects on high-speed ground transportation service; and

(5) Coordination with the governments of Oregon and British Columbia, when appropriate, on alignment, station location, and environmental analysis. [1993 c 381 § 4.]

**RCW 47.79.050 Facility acquisition and management.** Subject to appropriation, the department is authorized to acquire by purchase, lease, condemnation, gift, devise, bequest, grant, or exchange, title to or any interests or rights in real property adjacent to or used in association with state intercity passenger rail service which may include, but are not limited to, depots, platforms, parking areas, and maintenance facilities. The department is authorized to contract with a public or private entity for the operation, maintenance, and/or management of these facilities. [1999 c 253 § 1.]

**RCW 47.79.060 Gifts.** Subject to appropriation, the department is authorized to accept and expend or use gifts, grants, and donations for the benefit of any depot, platform, parking area, maintenance facility, or other associated rail facility. However, such an expenditure shall be for the public benefit of the state's intercity passenger rail service. [1999 c 253 § 2.]

**RCW 47.79.070 Adjacent real property.** Subject to appropriation, the department is authorized to exercise all the powers and perform all the duties necessary, convenient, or incidental to the planning, designing, constructing, improving, repairing, operating, and maintaining real property adjacent to or used in association with the state intercity passenger rail service which may include, but are not limited to, depots, platforms, parking areas, and maintenance facilities, even if such real property is owned or controlled by another entity. However, any expenditure of public funds for these purposes shall be directly related to public benefit of the state's intercity passenger rail service. The department shall enter into a written contract with the affected real property owners to secure the public's investment. [1999 c 253 § 3.]

**RCW 47.79.110 King Street station—Findings.** The legislature finds that a balanced, multimodal transportation system is an essential element of the state's infrastructure, and that effective rail passenger service is an integral part of a balanced, multimodal transportation system. The legislature further finds that the King Street railroad station is the key hub for both Puget Sound's intermodal passenger transportation system and the state's rail passenger system. The legislature recognizes that the redevelopment of the King Street railroad station depot, along with necessary and related properties, is critical to its continued functioning as a transportation hub and finds that innovative funding arrangements can materially assist in furthering the redevelopment at reduced public expense. [2001 c 62 § 1.]



**Effective date—2001 c 62:** "Due to the irrevocable expiration of federal and Amtrak funds critical to the redevelopment of the King Street railroad station on or before June 30, 2001, sections 1 through 6 of this act are necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and take effect immediately [April 18, 2001]." [2001 c 62 § 7.]

**RCW 47.79.120 King Street station—Acquisition.** The department may acquire, or contract to acquire, by purchase, lease, option to lease or purchase, condemnation, gift, devise, bequest, grant, or exchange of title, the King Street railroad station depot located in Seattle, or any interests or rights in it, and other real property and improvements adjacent to, or used in association with, the King Street railroad station depot. The property may include, but not be limited to, the depot, platforms, parking areas, pedestrian and vehicle access areas, and maintenance facilities. These properties, in the aggregate, will be known as the King Street railroad station. [2001 c 62 § 2.]

**Effective date—2001 c 62:** See note following RCW 47.79.110.

**RCW 47.79.130 King Street station—Department's powers and duties.** During all periods that the department contracts to own or lease some, or all, of the King Street railroad station properties, the department may exercise all the powers and perform all the duties necessary, convenient, or incidental for planning, designing, constructing, improving, repairing, renovating, restoring, operating, and maintaining the King Street railroad station properties. These powers also include authority to lease or sell, assign, sublease, or otherwise transfer all, or portions of, the King Street railroad station properties for transportation or other public or private purposes and to contract with other public or private entities for the operation, administration, maintenance, or improvement of the King Street railroad station properties after the department takes possession of some, or all, of the properties, as the secretary deems appropriate. If the department transfers any of its fee ownership interests in the King Street railroad station properties, proceeds from the transaction must be placed in an account that supports multimodal programs, but not into an account restricted by Article II, section 40 of the state Constitution. [2001 c 62 § 3.]

**Effective date—2001 c 62:** See note following RCW 47.79.110.

**RCW 47.79.140 King Street station—Leases and contracts for multimodal terminal.** To facilitate tax exempt financing for the acquisition and improvement of the King Street railroad station, the department may lease from or contract with public or private entities for the acquisition, lease, operation, maintenance, financing, renovation, restoration, or management of some, or all, of the King Street railroad station properties as a multimodal terminal that supports the state intercity passenger rail service. The leases or contracts are not subject to either chapter 39.94 or 43.82 RCW. The leases and contracts will expire no later than fifty years from the

time they are executed, and at that time the department will either receive title or have the right to receive title to the financed property without additional obligation to compensate the owner of those properties for the acquisition of them. The secretary may take all actions necessary, convenient, or incidental to the financing. [2001 c 62 § 4.]

**Effective date—2001 c 62:** See note following RCW 47.79.110.

**RCW 47.79.150 King Street railroad station facility account.**

(1) The department may establish the King Street railroad station facility account as an interest-bearing local account. Receipts from the sources listed in subsection (2) of this section must be deposited into the account. Nothing in this section is a pledge of funds deposited to the account for repayment of tax exempt financing related to the King Street railroad station. The department may invest funds from the account as permitted by law and may enter into contracts with financial advisors as deemed necessary for that purpose. Only the secretary or the secretary's designee may authorize expenditures from the account.

(2) All funds appropriated to the King Street railroad station facility account by the legislature; all contributions, payments, grants, gifts, and donations to the account from other public or private entities; all receipts from departmental transactions involving capital facility sales, transfers, property leases and rents, incomes, and parking fees associated with the King Street railroad station; as well as all investment income associated with the account must be deposited into the King Street railroad station facility account for purposes specified in subsection (3) of this section.

(3) All funds deposited into the King Street railroad station facility account must be expended by the department solely to pay the following expenses:

(a) Costs for management of the account;

(b) Purchase and acquisition costs for King Street railroad station properties;

(c) Payments, including incidental expenses, relating to the King Street railroad station depot as required by a lease or contract under RCW 47.79.140;

(d) Maintenance and operating costs for the King Street railroad station properties; and

(e) Capital improvement projects initiated by the department associated with, and for the benefit of, the King Street railroad station depot occurring after the date of the department's beneficial occupancy of the renovated King Street railroad station depot, and for capital improvement projects initiated at any time by the department for the benefit of King Street railroad station properties other than the depot including, but not limited to, improvements to associated platforms, parking areas, temporary buildings, maintenance facilities, pedestrian access, and other improvements essential to the operation of the station as a multimodal terminal.

(4) Nothing in this section is intended to restrict the right of the department from otherwise funding purchase, acquisition, capital improvement, maintenance, rental, operational, and other incidental costs relating to the King Street railroad station from appropriations

and resources that are not designated for deposit in the King Street railroad station facility account. [2001 c 62 § 5.]

**Effective date—2001 c 62:** See note following RCW 47.79.110.

**RCW 47.79.900 Effective date—1993 c 381.** This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect July 1, 1993. [1993 c 381 § 5.]

**Chapter 47.80 RCW**  
**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS**

**Sections**

- 47.80.010 Findings—Declaration.
- 47.80.011 Legislative intent.
- 47.80.020 Regional transportation planning organizations authorized.
- 47.80.023 Duties.
- 47.80.026 Comprehensive plans, transportation guidelines, and principles.
- 47.80.030 Regional transportation plan—Contents, review, use.
- 47.80.040 Transportation policy boards.
- 47.80.050 Allocation of regional transportation planning funds—  
Eligibility—Federally recognized tribes, voting membership.
- 47.80.060 Executive board membership.
- 47.80.070 Statewide consistency.
- 47.80.080 Majority vote on state matters.
- 47.80.090 Regional transportation planning organizations—Electric vehicle infrastructure.
- 47.80.100 Summary of per capita vehicle miles traveled.
- 47.80.902 Captions not part of law—1994 c 158.
- 47.80.904 Effective date—1994 c 158.

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**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS**

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- 47.80.904 Effective date—1994 c 158.

**RCW 47.80.010 Findings—Declaration.** The legislature finds that while the transportation system in Washington is owned and operated by numerous public jurisdictions, it should function as one interconnected and coordinated system. Transportation planning, at all jurisdictional levels, should be coordinated with local comprehensive plans. Further, local jurisdictions and the state should cooperate to achieve both statewide and local transportation goals. To facilitate this coordination and cooperation among state and local jurisdictions, the legislature declares it to be in the state's interest to establish a coordinated planning program for regional transportation systems and facilities throughout the state. [1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 53.]

**RCW 47.80.011 Legislative intent.** The legislature recognizes that recent legislative enactments have significantly added to the complexity of and to the potential for benefits from integrated transportation and comprehensive planning and that there is currently a unique opportunity for integration of local comprehensive plans and regional goals with state and local transportation programs. Further, approaches to transportation demand management initiatives and local and state transportation funding can be better coordinated to insure an efficient, effective transportation system that insures mobility and accessibility, and addresses community needs.

The legislature further finds that transportation and land use share a critical relationship that policymakers can better utilize to address regional strategies.

Prudent and cost-effective investment by the state and by local governments in highway facilities, local streets and arterials, rail facilities, marine facilities, nonmotorized transportation facilities and systems, public transit systems, transportation system management,

transportation demand management, and the development of high capacity transit systems can help to effectively address mobility needs. Such investment can also enhance local and state objectives for effective comprehensive planning, economic development strategies, and clean air policies.

The legislature finds that addressing public initiatives regarding transportation and comprehensive planning necessitates an innovative approach. Improved integration between transportation and comprehensive planning among public institutions, particularly in the state's largest metropolitan areas is considered by the state to be imperative, and to have significant benefit to the citizens of Washington. [1994 c 158 § 1.]

**RCW 47.80.020 Regional transportation planning organizations authorized.** The legislature hereby authorizes creation of regional transportation planning organizations within the state. Each regional transportation planning organization shall be formed through the voluntary association of local governments within a county, or within geographically contiguous counties. Each organization shall:

- (1) Encompass at least one complete county;
- (2) (a) Have a population of at least one hundred thousand, (b) have a population of at least seventy-five thousand and contain a Washington state ferries terminal, (c) have a population of at least forty thousand and cover a geographic area of at least five thousand square miles, or (d) contain a minimum of three counties; and
- (3) Have as members all counties within the region, and at least sixty percent of the cities and towns within the region representing a minimum of seventy-five percent of the cities' and towns' population.

The state department of transportation must verify that each regional transportation planning organization conforms with the requirements of this section.

In urbanized areas, the regional transportation planning organization is the same as the metropolitan planning organization designated for federal transportation planning purposes. [2017 c 68 § 1; 2016 c 27 § 1; 1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 54.]

**Effective date—2016 c 27:** "This act takes effect July 1, 2016."  
[2016 c 27 § 2.]

**RCW 47.80.023 Duties.** Each regional transportation planning organization shall have the following duties:

- (1) Prepare and periodically update a transportation strategy for the region. The strategy shall address alternative transportation modes and transportation demand management measures in regional corridors and shall recommend preferred transportation policies to implement adopted growth strategies. The strategy shall serve as a guide in preparation of the regional transportation plan.

- (2) Prepare a regional transportation plan as set forth in RCW 47.80.030 that is consistent with countywide planning policies if such have been adopted pursuant to chapter 36.70A RCW, with county, city, and town comprehensive plans, and state transportation plans.

- (3) Certify by December 31, 1996, that the transportation elements of comprehensive plans adopted by counties, cities, and towns within the region reflect the guidelines and principles developed

pursuant to RCW 47.80.026, are consistent with the adopted regional transportation plan, and, where appropriate, conform with the requirements of RCW 36.70A.070.

(4) Where appropriate, certify that countywide planning policies adopted under RCW 36.70A.210 and the adopted regional transportation plan are consistent.

(5) Develop, in cooperation with the department of transportation, operators of public transportation services and local governments within the region, a six-year regional transportation improvement program which proposes regionally significant transportation projects and programs and transportation demand management measures. The regional transportation improvement program shall be based on the programs, projects, and transportation demand management measures of regional significance as identified by transit agencies, cities, and counties pursuant to RCW 35.58.2795, 35.77.010, and 36.81.121, respectively, and any recommended programs or projects identified by the agency council on coordinated transportation, as provided in \*chapter 47.06B RCW, that advance special needs coordinated transportation as defined in \*RCW 47.06B.012. The program shall include a priority list of projects and programs, project segments and programs, transportation demand management measures, and a specific financial plan that demonstrates how the transportation improvement program can be funded. The program shall be updated at least every two years for the ensuing six-year period.

(6) Include specific opportunities and projects to advance special needs coordinated transportation, as defined in \*RCW 47.06B.012, in the coordinated transit-human services transportation plan, after providing opportunity for public comment.

(7) Designate a lead planning agency to coordinate preparation of the regional transportation plan and carry out the other responsibilities of the organization. The lead planning agency may be a regional organization, a component county, city, or town agency, or the appropriate Washington state department of transportation district office.

(8) Review level of service methodologies used by cities and counties planning under chapter 36.70A RCW to promote a consistent regional evaluation of transportation facilities and corridors.

(9) Work with cities, counties, transit agencies, the department of transportation, and others to develop level of service standards or alternative transportation performance measures.

(10) Submit to the agency council on coordinated transportation, as provided in \*chapter 47.06B RCW, beginning on July 1, 2007, and every four years thereafter, an updated plan that includes the elements identified by the council. Each regional transportation planning organization must submit to the council every two years a prioritized regional human service and transportation project list. [2009 c 515 § 15; 2007 c 421 § 5; 1998 c 171 § 8; 1994 c 158 § 2.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Chapter 47.06B RCW was repealed by 2011 c 60 § 51.

**RCW 47.80.026 Comprehensive plans, transportation guidelines, and principles.** Each regional transportation planning organization, with cooperation from component cities, towns, and counties, shall establish guidelines and principles by July 1, 1995, that provide specific direction for the development and evaluation of the

transportation elements of comprehensive plans, where such plans exist, and to assure that state, regional, and local goals for the development of transportation systems are met. These guidelines and principles shall address at a minimum the relationship between transportation systems and the following factors: Concentration of economic activity, residential density, development corridors and urban design that, where appropriate, supports high capacity transit, freight transportation and port access, development patterns that promote pedestrian and nonmotorized transportation, circulation systems, access to regional systems, effective and efficient highway systems, the ability of transportation facilities and programs to retain existing and attract new jobs and private investment and to accommodate growth in demand, transportation demand management, joint and mixed use developments, present and future railroad right-of-way corridor utilization, and intermodal connections.

Examples shall be published by the organization to assist local governments in interpreting and explaining the requirements of this section. [1994 c 158 § 3.]

**RCW 47.80.030 Regional transportation plan—Contents, review, use.**

(1) Each regional transportation planning organization shall develop in cooperation with the department of transportation, providers of public transportation and high capacity transportation, ports, and local governments within the region, adopt, and periodically update a regional transportation plan that:

(a) Is based on a least cost planning methodology that identifies the most cost-effective facilities, services, and programs;

(b) Identifies existing or planned transportation facilities, services, and programs, including but not limited to major roadways including state highways and regional arterials, transit and nonmotorized services and facilities, multimodal and intermodal facilities, marine ports and airports, railroads, and noncapital programs including transportation demand management that should function as an integrated regional transportation system, giving emphasis to those facilities, services, and programs that exhibit one or more of the following characteristics:

(i) Crosses member county lines;

(ii) Is or will be used by a significant number of people who live or work outside the county in which the facility, service, or project is located;

(iii) Significant impacts are expected to be felt in more than one county;

(iv) Potentially adverse impacts of the facility, service, program, or project can be better avoided or mitigated through adherence to regional policies;

(v) Transportation needs addressed by a project have been identified by the regional transportation planning process and the remedy is deemed to have regional significance; and

(vi) Provides for system continuity;

(c) Establishes level of service standards for state highways and state ferry routes, with the exception of transportation facilities of statewide significance as defined in RCW 47.06.140. These regionally established level of service standards for state highways and state ferries shall be developed jointly with the department of transportation, to encourage consistency across jurisdictions. In



establishing level of service standards for state highways and state ferries, consideration shall be given for the necessary balance between providing for the free interjurisdictional movement of people and goods and the needs of local commuters using state facilities;

(d) Includes a financial plan demonstrating how the regional transportation plan can be implemented, indicating resources from public and private sources that are reasonably expected to be made available to carry out the plan, and recommending any innovative financing techniques to finance needed facilities, services, and programs;

(e) Assesses regional development patterns, capital investment and other measures necessary to:

(i) Ensure the preservation of the existing regional transportation system, including requirements for operational improvements, resurfacing, restoration, and rehabilitation of existing and future major roadways, as well as operations, maintenance, modernization, and rehabilitation of existing and future transit, railroad systems and corridors, and nonmotorized facilities; and

(ii) Make the most efficient use of existing transportation facilities to relieve vehicular congestion and maximize the mobility of people and goods;

(f) Sets forth a proposed regional transportation approach, including capital investments, service improvements, programs, and transportation demand management measures to guide the development of the integrated, multimodal regional transportation system. For regional growth centers, the approach must address transportation concurrency strategies required under RCW 36.70A.070 and include a measurement of vehicle level of service for off-peak periods and total multimodal capacity for peak periods; and

(g) Where appropriate, sets forth the relationship of high capacity transportation providers and other public transit providers with regard to responsibility for, and the coordination between, services and facilities.

(2) The organization shall review the regional transportation plan biennially for currency and forward the adopted plan along with documentation of the biennial review to the state department of transportation.

(3) All transportation projects, programs, and transportation demand management measures within the region that have an impact upon regional facilities or services must be consistent with the plan and with the adopted regional growth and transportation strategies. [2005 c 328 § 2; 1998 c 171 § 9; 1994 c 158 § 4; 1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 55.]

**RCW 47.80.040 Transportation policy boards.** Each regional transportation planning organization shall create a transportation policy board. Transportation policy boards shall provide policy advice to the regional transportation planning organization and shall allow representatives of major employers within the region, the department of transportation, transit districts, port districts, and member cities, towns, and counties within the region to participate in policy making. Any members of the house of representatives or the state senate whose districts are wholly or partly within the boundaries of the regional transportation planning organization are considered ex officio, nonvoting policy board members of the regional transportation planning organization. This does not preclude legislators from

becoming full-time, voting board members. [2003 c 351 § 1; 1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 56.]

**RCW 47.80.050 Allocation of regional transportation planning funds—Eligibility—Federally recognized tribes, voting membership.**

(1) Biennial appropriations to the department of transportation to carry out the regional transportation planning program shall set forth the amounts to be allocated as follows:

(a) A base amount per county for each county within each regional transportation planning organization, to be distributed to the lead planning agency;

(b) An amount to be distributed to each lead planning agency on a per capita basis; and

(c) An amount to be administered by the department of transportation as a discretionary grant program for special regional planning projects, including grants to allow counties which have significant transportation interests in common with an adjoining region to also participate in that region's planning efforts.

(2) In order for a regional transportation planning organization to be eligible to receive state funds that are appropriated for regional transportation planning organizations, a regional transportation planning organization must provide a reasonable opportunity for voting membership to federally recognized tribes that hold reservation or trust lands within the planning area of the regional transportation planning organization. Any federally recognized tribe that holds reservation or trust land within the planning area of a regional transportation planning organization and does not have voting membership in the regional transportation planning organization must be offered voting membership in the regional transportation planning organization every two years or when the composition of the board of the regional transportation planning organization is modified in an interlocal agreement. [2019 c 118 § 1; 1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 57.]

**Effective date—2019 c 118:** "This act takes effect August 1, 2019." [2019 c 118 § 2.]

**RCW 47.80.060 Executive board membership.** In order to qualify for state planning funds available to regional transportation planning organizations, the regional transportation planning organizations containing any county with a population in excess of one million shall provide voting membership on its executive board to the state transportation commission, the state department of transportation, the four largest public port districts within the region as determined by gross operating revenues, any incorporated principal city of a metropolitan statistical area within the region, as designated by the United States census bureau, and any incorporated city within the region with a population in excess of eighty thousand. It shall further assure that at least fifty percent of the county and city local elected officials who serve on the executive board also serve on transit agency boards or on a regional transit authority. [2007 c 511 § 1; 2005 c 334 § 1; 1992 c 101 § 31.]

**Section headings not part of law—Severability—Effective date—**  
**1992 c 101:** See RCW 81.112.900 through 81.112.902.

**RCW 47.80.070 Statewide consistency.** In order to ensure statewide consistency in the regional transportation planning process, the state department of transportation, in conformance with chapter 34.05 RCW, shall:

- (1) In cooperation with regional transportation planning organizations, establish minimum standards for development of a regional transportation plan;
- (2) Facilitate coordination between regional transportation planning organizations; and
- (3) Through the regional transportation planning process, and through state planning efforts as required by RCW 47.01.071, identify and jointly plan improvements and strategies within those corridors important to moving people and goods on a regional or statewide basis. [1994 c 158 § 5.]

**RCW 47.80.080 Majority vote on state matters.** When voting on matters solely affecting Washington state, a regional transportation planning organization must obtain a majority vote of the Washington residents serving as members of the regional transportation planning organization before a matter may be adopted. [2003 c 351 § 2.]

**RCW 47.80.090 Regional transportation planning organizations—Electric vehicle infrastructure.** (1) A regional transportation planning organization containing any county with a population in excess of one million in collaboration with representatives from the department of ecology, the department of commerce, local governments, and the office of regulatory assistance must seek federal or private funding for the planning for, deployment of, or regulations concerning electric vehicle infrastructure. These efforts should include:

(a) Development of short-term and long-term plans outlining how state, regional, and local government construction may include electric vehicle infrastructure in publicly available off-street parking and government fleet vehicle parking, including what ratios of charge spots to parking may be appropriate based on location or type of facility or building;

(b) Consultations with the state building code council and the department of labor and industries to coordinate the plans with state standards for new residential, commercial, and industrial buildings to ensure that the appropriate electric circuitry is installed to support electric vehicle infrastructure;

(c) Consultation with the workforce development council and the student achievement council to ensure the development of appropriate educational and training opportunities for citizens of the state in support of the transition of some portion of vehicular transportation from combustion to electric vehicles;

(d) Development of an implementation plan for counties with a population greater than five hundred thousand with the goal of having public and private parking spaces, in the aggregate, be ten percent electric vehicle ready by December 31, 2018; and

(e) Development of model ordinances and guidance for local governments for siting and installing electric vehicle infrastructure, in particular battery charging stations, and appropriate handling, recycling, and storage of electric vehicle batteries and equipment.

(2) These plans and any recommendations developed as a result of the consultations required by this section must be submitted to the legislature by December 31, 2010, or as soon as reasonably practicable after the securing of any federal or private funding. Priority will be given to the activities in subsection (1)(e) of this section and any ordinances or guidance that is developed will be submitted to the legislature, the department of commerce, and affected local governments prior to December 31, 2010, if completed.

(3) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(a) "Battery charging station" means an electrical component assembly or cluster of component assemblies designed specifically to charge batteries within electric vehicles, which meet or exceed any standards, codes, and regulations set forth by chapter 19.28 RCW and consistent with rules adopted under RCW 19.27.540.

(b) "Battery exchange station" means a fully automated facility that will enable an electric vehicle with a swappable battery to enter a drive lane and exchange the depleted battery with a fully charged battery through a fully automated process, which meets or exceeds any standards, codes, and regulations set forth by chapter 19.28 RCW and consistent with rules adopted under RCW 19.27.540.

(c) "Electric vehicle infrastructure" means structures, machinery, and equipment necessary and integral to support an electric vehicle, including battery charging stations, rapid charging stations, and battery exchange stations.

(d) "Rapid charging station" means an industrial grade electrical outlet that allows for faster recharging of electric vehicle batteries through higher power levels, which meets or exceeds any standards, codes, and regulations set forth by chapter 19.28 RCW and consistent with rules adopted under RCW 19.27.540. [2012 c 229 § 592; 2009 c 459 § 2.]

**Effective date—2012 c 229 §§ 101, 117, 401, 402, 501 through 594, 601 through 609, 701 through 708, 801 through 821, 902, and 904:**  
See note following RCW 28B.77.005.

**Finding—Purpose—2009 c 459:** "The legislature finds the development of electric vehicle infrastructure to be a critical step in creating jobs, fostering economic growth, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, reducing our reliance on foreign fuels, and reducing the pollution of Puget Sound attributable to the operation of petroleum-based vehicles on streets and highways. Limited driving distance between battery charges is a fundamental disadvantage and obstacle to broad consumer adoption of vehicles powered by electricity. In order to eliminate this fundamental disadvantage and dramatically increase consumer acceptance and usage of electric vehicles, it is essential that an infrastructure of convenient electric vehicle charging opportunities be developed. The purpose of this act is to encourage the transition to electric vehicle use and to expedite the establishment of a convenient, cost-effective, electric vehicle infrastructure that such a transition necessitates. The state's success in encouraging this transition will serve as an economic

stimulus to the creation of short-term and long-term jobs as the entire automobile industry and its associated direct and indirect jobs transform over time from combustion to electric vehicles." [2009 c 459 § 1.]

**RCW 47.80.100 Summary of per capita vehicle miles traveled.** The department shall compile, maintain, and publish a summary of the per capita vehicle miles traveled annually in each city in the state, and in the unincorporated portions of each county in the state. [2023 c 228 § 10.]

**RCW 47.80.902 Captions not part of law—1994 c 158.** Captions used in this act do not constitute any part of the law. [1994 c 158 § 11.]

**RCW 47.80.904 Effective date—1994 c 158.** This act shall take effect July 1, 1994. [1994 c 158 § 13.]

**Chapter 47.82 RCW**  
**AMTRAK**

**Sections**

- 47.82.010 Service improvement program.
- 47.82.020 Depot upgrading.
- 47.82.030 Service extension.
- 47.82.040 Coordination with other rail systems and common carriers.
- 47.82.900 Construction—Severability—Headings—1990 c 43.

**Chapter 47.82 RCW  
AMTRAK**

**Sections**

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- 47.82.900 Construction—Severability—Headings—1990 c 43.

**RCW 47.82.010 Service improvement program.** The department, in conjunction with local jurisdictions, shall coordinate as appropriate with the designated metropolitan planning organizations to develop a program for improving Amtrak passenger rail service. The program may include:

- (1) Determination of the appropriate level of Amtrak passenger rail service;
- (2) Implementation of higher train speeds for Amtrak passenger rail service, where safety considerations permit;
- (3) Recognition, in the state's long-range planning process, of potential higher speed intercity passenger rail service, while monitoring socioeconomic and technological conditions as indicators for higher speed systems; and
- (4) Identification of existing intercity rail rights-of-way which may be used for public transportation corridors in the future. [1990 c 43 § 36.]

**RCW 47.82.020 Depot upgrading.** The department shall, when feasible, assist local jurisdictions in upgrading Amtrak depots. Multimodal use of these facilities shall be encouraged. [1990 c 43 § 37.]

**RCW 47.82.030 Service extension.** (1) The department, in conjunction with local jurisdictions, shall coordinate as appropriate with designated metropolitan and provincial transportation organizations to pursue resumption of Amtrak service from Seattle to Vancouver, British Columbia, via Everett, Mount Vernon, and Bellingham.

(2) The department, in conjunction with local jurisdictions, shall study potential Amtrak service on the following routes:

- (a) Daytime Spokane-Wenatchee-Everett-Seattle service;
- (b) Daytime Spokane-Tri-Cities-Vancouver-Portland service;
- (c) Tri-Cities-Yakima-Ellensburg-Seattle service, if the Stampede Pass route is reopened; and
- (d) More frequent Portland-Vancouver-Kelso-Centralia-Olympia-Tacoma-Seattle service or increments thereof. [1990 c 43 § 38.]

**RCW 47.82.040 Coordination with other rail systems and common carriers.** The department, with other state and local agencies shall coordinate as appropriate with designated metropolitan planning organizations to provide public information with respect to common carrier passenger transportation. This information may include maps,

routes, and schedules of passenger rail service, local transit agencies, air carriers, private ground transportation providers, and international, state, and local ferry services.

The state shall continue its cooperative relationship with Amtrak and Canadian passenger rail systems. [1990 c 43 § 39.]

**RCW 47.82.900 Construction—Severability—Headings—1990 c 43.**

See notes following RCW 81.100.010.



**Chapter 47.85 RCW**  
**TRANSPORTATION PROJECT DELIVERY AND REVIEW**

**Sections**

- 47.85.005 Intent.
- 47.85.010 Legislative declaration.
- 47.85.020 Multiagency permit program—Federal act compliance—Permit application guidance, quality control—Multiagency effort to streamline permit and approval process.
- 47.85.030 Finding—Environmental review and oversight.
- 47.85.040 Environmental training and compliance.
- 47.85.050 Finding—Local land use review procedures.
- 47.85.100 Construction—Judicial review.

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- 47.85.040 Environmental training and compliance.
- 47.85.050 Finding—Local land use review procedures.
- 47.85.100 Construction—Judicial review.

**RCW 47.85.005 Intent.** It is the intent of the legislature to achieve transportation regulatory reform that expedites the delivery of transportation projects through a streamlined approach to environmental decision making. The department of transportation should work cooperatively and proactively with state regulatory and natural resource agencies, public and private sector interests, and Indian tribes to avoid project delays. The department and state regulatory and natural resource agencies should continue to implement and improve upon the successful policies, guidance, tools, and procedures that were created as a result of transportation permit efficiency and accountability committee efforts. The department should expedite project delivery and routine maintenance activities through the use of programmatic agreements and permits where possible and seek new opportunities to eliminate duplicative processes. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 17 § 1.]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 17:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect immediately [July 6, 2015]." [2015 3rd sp.s. c 17 § 12.]

**RCW 47.85.010 Legislative declaration.** The legislature recognizes the value that tribal governments provide in the review of transportation projects. The legislature expects the department to continue its efforts to provide consistent consultation and communication during the environmental review of proposed transportation projects. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 17 § 2.]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 17:** See note following RCW 47.85.005.

**RCW 47.85.020 Multiagency permit program—Federal act compliance—Permit application guidance, quality control—Multiagency effort to streamline permit and approval process.** The department must streamline the permitting process by developing and maintaining positive relationships with the regulatory agencies and the Indian tribes. The department can reduce the time it takes to obtain permits

by incorporating impact avoidance and minimization measures into project design and by developing complete permit applications. To streamline the permitting process, the department must:

(1) Implement a multiagency permit program, commensurate with program funding levels, consisting of appropriate regulatory agency staff with oversight and management from the department.

(a) The multiagency permit program must provide early project coordination, expedited project review, project status updates, technical and regulatory guidance, and construction support to ensure compliance.

(b) The multiagency permit program staff must assist department project teams with developing complete biological assessments and permit applications, provide suggestions for how the project can avoid and minimize impacts, and provide input regarding mitigation for unavoidable impacts;

(2) Establish, implement, and maintain programmatic agreements and permits with federal and state agencies to expedite the process of ensuring compliance with the endangered species act, section 106 of the national historic preservation act, hydraulic project approvals, the clean water act, and other federal acts as appropriate;

(3) Collaborate with permitting staff from the United States army corps of engineers, Seattle district, department of ecology, and department of fish and wildlife to develop, implement, and maintain complete permit application guidance. The guidance must identify the information that is required for agencies to consider a permit application complete;

(4) Perform internal quality assurance and quality control to ensure that permit applications are complete before submitting them to the regulatory agencies; and

(5) Implement a multiagency effort, in coordination with the department of ecology and the department of fish and wildlife, and work with the relevant federal environmental permitting agencies to streamline the acquisition of commonly needed environmental permits and approvals for department of transportation fish passage barrier correction projects. Expected results include developing programmatic permit options that simplify the application process, reduce paperwork, and reduce the amount of time and cost it takes to acquire these permits and approvals. [2021 c 289 § 3; 2015 3rd sp.s. c 17 § 3.]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 17:** See note following RCW 47.85.005.

**RCW 47.85.030 Finding—Environmental review and oversight.** The legislature finds that an essential component of streamlined permit decision making is the ability of the department to demonstrate the capacity to meet environmental responsibilities. Therefore, the legislature directs that:

(1) Qualified environmental staff within the department must supervise the development of all environmental documentation in accordance with the department's project delivery tools;

(2) The department must conduct special prebid meetings for projects that are environmentally complex. In addition, the department must review environmental requirements related to these projects

during the preconstruction meeting held with the contractor who is awarded the bid;

(3) Environmental staff at the department, or consultant staff hired directly by the department, must conduct field inspections to ensure that project activities comply with permit conditions and environmental commitments. These inspectors:

(a) Must notify the department's project engineer when compliance with permit conditions or environmental regulations are not being met; and

(b) Must immediately notify the regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over the nonconforming work; and

(4) When a project is not complying with a permit or environmental regulation, the project engineer must immediately order the contractor to stop all nonconforming work and implement measures necessary to bring the project into compliance with permits and regulations. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 17 § 4.]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 17:** See note following RCW 47.85.005.

**RCW 47.85.040 Environmental training and compliance.** The legislature expects the department to continue its efforts to improve training and compliance. The department must:

(1) Provide training in environmental procedures and permit requirements for those responsible for project delivery activities;

(2) Require wetland mitigation sites to be designed by qualified technical specialists that meet training requirements developed by the department in consultation with the department of ecology. Environmental mitigation site improvements must have oversight by environmental staff;

(3) Develop, implement, and maintain an environmental compliance data system to track permit conditions, environmental commitments, and violations;

(4) Continue to implement the environmental compliance assurance procedure to ensure that appropriate agencies are notified and that action is taken to remedy noncompliant work as soon as possible. When work occurs that does not comply with environmental permits or regulations, the project engineer must document the lessons learned to make other project teams within the department aware of the violation to prevent reoccurrence; and

(5) Provide an annual report summarizing violations of environmental permits and regulations to the department of ecology and the legislature on March 1st of each year for violations occurring during the preceding year. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 17 § 5.]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 17:** See note following RCW 47.85.005.

**RCW 47.85.050 Finding—Local land use review procedures.** The legislature finds that local land use reviews under chapter 90.58 RCW need to be harmonized with the efficient accomplishment of necessary maintenance and improvement to state transportation facilities. Local land use review procedures are highly variable and pose distinct challenges for linear facility maintenance and improvement projects

sponsored by the department. In particular, clearer procedures for local permitting under chapter 90.58 RCW are needed to meet the objectives of chapter 36.70A RCW regarding department facilities designated as essential public facilities. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 17 § 6.]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 17:** See note following RCW 47.85.005.

**RCW 47.85.100 Construction—Judicial review.** Nothing in this chapter may be interpreted to create a private right of action or right of review. Judicial review of the department's environmental review is limited to that available under chapter 43.21C RCW or applicable federal law. [2015 3rd sp.s. c 17 § 7.]

**Effective date—2015 3rd sp.s. c 17:** See note following RCW 47.85.005.

**Chapter 47.87 RCW**  
**INTERSTATE TOLL BRIDGES OWNED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**

**Sections**

- 47.87.010 Findings.
- 47.87.020 Definitions.
- 47.87.030 Commission formation agreement.
- 47.87.040 Commission, governed by board.
- 47.87.050 Commission powers.
- 47.87.060 Board appointment or retention—Privileges, immunities—  
Insurance—Furnishing of information—Budget.
- 47.87.070 Financing, refinancing, acquiring, assuming control—  
Eminent domain.
- 47.87.080 Tolls, other charges—Agreements—Photo toll systems—  
Enforcement—Proceeds.
- 47.87.090 Bridge design and construction.
- 47.87.100 Rules and regulations—Compensation to contractor—  
Revenue, other assistance.
- 47.87.110 Revenue bonds or other debt instruments.
- 47.87.120 Taxes or assessments.
- 47.87.130 Governance.
- 47.87.140 Grantees—Agreements—Funding of activities—Assignment,  
conveyance—Commission may be dissolved.
- 47.87.150 Deferral of state and local sales and use taxes—Repayment  
schedule—Interest.
- 47.87.160 Notice.
- 47.87.900 Construction.

**Chapter 47.87 RCW**  
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**RCW 47.87.010 Findings.** The legislature finds and declares that:

(1) Interstate toll bridges owned by local governments provide critical links for the transport of workers, services, tourism, and emergency response between Washington and Oregon, and for Washington and Oregon businesses to transport local agricultural products, forest products, rock and gravel, and manufactured products within their bistate regions and to broader national markets.

(2) Existing local government-owned interstate toll bridges are becoming functionally obsolete, weight-restricted, seismically deficient, and a hazardous obstacle for marine freight; and need to be replaced.

(3) Replacement of aging interstate toll bridges by local governments is extremely challenging, and local governments that own or are served by the bridges require additional means to address the problem. For some bistate regions, the successful replacement and subsequent operations of interstate toll bridges can be best accomplished by an independent bistate governmental authority, chartered by local governments, with sufficient powers to efficiently and equitably develop, operate, maintain, toll, and finance the replacement bridge. [2022 c 89 § 1.]

**RCW 47.87.020 Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

- (1) "Applicable laws" means the laws applicable to the commission pursuant to RCW 47.87.130.
- (2) "Board" means the board of directors of a commission formed under this chapter.
- (3) "Bordering state" means a state that shares a boundary with the state of Washington, the majority of which is formed by a river, and that enacts legislation authorizing the formation by local governments of a commission with the substantive powers provided in this chapter.
- (4) "Bridge" means an interstate bridge, including any approaches, buildings, structures, facilities, equipment, improvements, tolling systems and software, and appurtenances necessary or incidental to the bridge, which replaces an existing bridge.
- (5) "Bridge finance plan" means a plan adopted by the board to finance the design, construction, operations, maintenance, administration, and governance of the bridge, as it may be revised from time to time.
- (6) "Commission" means a public corporation formed under this chapter.
- (7) "Commission formation agreement" means a bistrate agreement among local governments to charter and form a commission under this chapter.
- (8) "Construction" or "construct" means all activities, materials, and services necessary or incidental to the design and construction of a bridge including, but not limited to, engineering, permitting, property acquisition, procurement, installation of equipment, site work, utility relocation, inspection, start-up, landscaping, hard construction, environmental mitigation, demolition and removal of an existing bridge, and all associated accounting, legal, administrative, project management, and governance activities.
- (9) "Debt instrument" means any contractual undertaking, financing agreement, or instrument entered into or issued by a commission to evidence an obligation to repay or guaranty repayment of borrowed moneys including, but not limited to, bonds, refunding bonds, notes, loans, interim financing, anticipation notes, certificates, credit enhancement devices, or other debt obligations.
- (10) "Departments of transportation" means the Washington state department of transportation and the department of transportation of a bordering state.
- (11) "Director" means a duly appointed member of the board or, when acting in the absence of a director, a duly appointed alternate member of the board.
- (12) "Existing bridge" means an interstate toll bridge owned by a local government, or which has been conveyed by a local government to a commission, which is to be replaced by a new bridge.
- (13) "Local government" means any county, city, or port district along the border of a bordering state that enters into a commission formation agreement.
- (14) "Operate" or "operations" means all activities necessary or incidental to the operations, tolling, maintenance, repair, rehabilitation, renewal, or replacement of the bridge, and all associated financial, legal, administrative, management, and governance activities.
- (15) "Other charges" means administrative and other fees, civil penalties, and other amounts established by the commission for use of the bridge.



(16) "Primary place of business" means the state and county within which the principal headquarters office of the commission is established in a commission formation agreement, notwithstanding any subsequent relocation of the principal headquarters office of the commission.

(17) "Public corporation" means a corporation created under this chapter to perform essential governmental functions for the public purposes described in this chapter, and, when issuing bonds or other debt instruments, acts on behalf of the local governments as a constituted authority, within the meaning of the United States department of the treasury regulations and the internal revenue service rulings adopted under section 103, internal revenue code.

(18) "States" means the state of Washington and a bordering state. [2022 c 89 § 2.]

**RCW 47.87.030 Commission formation agreement.** (1) Upon enactment of an act by a bordering state having the same material effect as chapter 89, Laws of 2022, as determined by the office of the attorney general, local governments may enter into a commission formation agreement to form and charter a commission under this chapter. The commission shall be a public corporation formed under the laws of both states, vested with the powers and duties granted by this chapter. The commission shall perform an essential governmental function and shall exercise its powers for the public purposes described in this chapter.

(2) Local governments may by resolution enter a commission formation agreement, consistent with the requirements of this chapter, to charter and form a commission. The commission formation agreement shall, at a minimum, be approved and executed by the owner of an existing bridge and the governing bodies of the counties within which an existing bridge is situated. A commission formation agreement may be enacted by local governments in phases. However, all required elements of a commission formation agreement must be enacted by the local governments prior to any board authorization to issue toll revenue bonds for the construction of the bridge. The commission formation agreement shall establish the following provisions:

(a) A name for the commission;

(b) The date on which the powers granted to the commission by this chapter become effective;

(c) The primary place of business for the purpose of establishing applicable laws under RCW 47.87.130;

(d) The composition and appointment process for members of the board, as described in RCW 47.87.040 (1) and (2);

(e) The term of office for, and rules, responsibilities, and requirements applicable to, the office of chair and cochair, as described in RCW 47.87.040(4);

(f) The requirements for formal actions of the board, as described in RCW 47.87.040(5); and

(g) Such other provisions as the local governments may elect, as long as the provisions comply with applicable laws, and do not impair or adversely affect the powers of the commission granted by this chapter.

(3) The commission formation agreement may allow the board to amend all or some of the provisions included in the commission formation agreement pursuant to subsection (2)(d), (e), (f), or (g) of

this section and RCW 47.87.040(5), and may establish conditions for such amendments.

(4) The purposes of the commission are to:

(a) Design, engineer, develop, finance and refinance, install, equip, and construct a bridge to replace and remove an existing toll bridge;

(b) Act as a cooperative bistate governance structure to develop, own or control, fix and adjust tolls, and regulate the use of a bridge;

(c) Oversee the efficient operation, maintenance, administration, rehabilitation, and renewal of the bridge; and

(d) Perform such additional duties and exercise such additional powers as may hereafter be conferred upon the commission pursuant to law. [2022 c 89 § 3.]

**RCW 47.87.040 Commission, governed by board.** (1) The commission shall be governed by a board. The commission formation agreement shall establish the number of voting and, if any, nonvoting or ex officio directors appointed by local governments of each state and, if any, appointed by governmental entities that are not local governments, and shall further establish the procedures for the nomination and appointment of such directors, which may differ by state.

(2) Each nominating authority shall nominate and each appointing authority shall appoint an alternate director for each director it nominates or appoints. The alternate director may only act in the absence of the director for whom the alternate is appointed. Unless the context requires otherwise, the term director under this chapter includes the alternate director when such alternate director is acting in the absence of the director.

(3) Directors and alternate directors shall serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred as an incident to the performance of their duties. Directors and alternate directors shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing body, and with or without cause may be removed or suspended from office by the appointing body. The commission formation agreement shall establish the length of the initial term of each of director and alternate director so that subsequent appointments by appointing bodies from each state are reasonably and similarly staggered. Except for the initial appointments of directors and alternate directors, the term of directors and alternate directors shall be four years.

(4) The board shall elect two cochairs from among its directors, with one cochair residing in Washington state and the other cochair residing in the bordering state. The two cochairs shall serve as first cochair and second cochair, with the first cochair responsible for presiding at all commission meetings. The board shall indicate which cochair will serve in the respective two positions within the first year after the formation of the commission, after which time the two positions must alternate on an annual basis. The commission formation agreement shall establish the terms of the cochairs, and may establish such other requirements for the office of cochair as the local governments elect.

(5) Formal actions of the board shall be by ordinance or resolution duly approved at any regular or special meeting of the board. No action of the board shall be effective unless there is a quorum and a majority of the directors present assent. The commission formation agreement shall establish the requirements for a quorum, and

may establish such other requirements for formal actions of the board as the local governments may elect, provided such requirements are consistent with applicable laws.

(6) Unless otherwise provided in an ordinance or resolution enacted by the board, the board shall have the exclusive right to exercise the powers granted by this chapter, and the exercise of all powers granted to the board by this chapter shall not be subject to any prior or subsequent authorization, approval, or concurrence by any local government or other governmental entity of either state.

(7) The board shall adopt rules, consistent with applicable laws and the commission formation agreement, regarding the organization, activities, and procedures of the board and the commission, as the board may determine. [2022 c 89 § 4.]

**RCW 47.87.050 Commission powers.** (1) In addition to any other powers granted under this chapter, the commission shall have the power to:

(a) Construct, purchase, lease, acquire, own, operate, maintain, control, hold, sell, convey, dispose of, and finance and refinance real and personal property, facilities, materials, supplies, equipment, or any interest therein, within the state of Washington and the bordering state, as the board deems necessary or incidental to the purposes of the commission;

(b) Secure all necessary federal, state, and local authorizations, permits, and approvals for the construction, maintenance, repair, operation, renewal, and financing or refinancing of the bridge;

(c) Adopt, amend, and repeal bylaws, rules, and regulations, consistent with applicable laws and the commission formation agreement, which add specificity to the powers and duties of the commission, clarify or interpret provisions in the commission formation agreement, or clarify or interpret laws and regulations applicable to the commission;

(d) Receive and accept, with or without consideration, from any federal agency, state, local government, or any other public or private source grants, contributions, loans, advances, credit enhancements, or other contributions in money, property, labor, materials, services, or other things of value to accomplish the purposes of the commission;

(e) Invest its moneys in investments permitted for municipal corporations and disburse funds for its lawful purposes;

(f) Make and enter into any contract or agreement the board deems necessary or incidental to the purposes of the commission;

(g) Grant by franchise, lease, or otherwise, the use of any property or facility owned or controlled by the commission and to make charges therefor;

(h) Create and abolish offices, employments, and positions, and employ or contract for professional and other services;

(i) Make and enforce regulations governing the use of facilities owned or controlled by the commission, the services rendered by the commission, and the tolls, fees, and other charges to be made therefor;

(j) Adopt and use a corporate seal;

(k) Sue and be sued in the name of the commission;

(l) Establish such special funds, and controls on deposits to and disbursements from them, as it finds convenient for the implementation of this chapter;

(m) Delegate any of its powers and duties if consistent with the purposes of this chapter;

(n) Perform all other functions necessary or incidental to the purposes of the commission, or to the execution of the powers granted under this chapter; and

(o) Exercise such additional powers as shall be conferred on it by law.

(2) The commission may not impose any taxes or assessments.

[2022 c 89 § 5.]

**RCW 47.87.060 Board appointment or retention—Privileges, immunities—Insurance—Furnishing of information—Budget.** (1) Before the start of bridge construction, the board shall appoint or retain:

(a) An executive director, who shall serve at the pleasure of the board, and be in administrative charge of the activities of the commission, and perform such additional duties as directed by the board. Subject to any rules enacted by the commission, the executive director may appoint staff or retain consultants to carry out the purposes and duties of the commission.

(b) Legal counsel, including without limitation bond counsel, who shall furnish or cause to be furnished to the commission such opinions, advice, and counsel as may be required, and represent or oversee the representation of the commission in legal matters or hearings, as directed by the commission.

(2) The commission may employ such engineering, technical, legal, administrative, operating, and other personnel, officers, or agents on a regular, part-time, or consulting basis as in its judgment is necessary or beneficial for the discharge of its duties. The commission may fix and provide for the qualification, appointment, removal, term, tenure, compensation, pension, and retirement rights of its officers and employees. Employees of the commission shall be afforded the labor rights and protections afforded public employees under the laws of the state within which the primary place of business is situated.

(3) All privileges and immunities from liability, laws, and benefits that apply to directors, officers, agents, or employees of a municipal corporation under applicable law shall apply to the directors, officers, agents, and employees of the commission.

(4) The commission may purchase insurance or self-insure to protect and hold personally harmless any of its directors, alternate directors, and the officers, employees, and agents of the commission from any action, claim, or proceeding arising out of their performance, purported performance, or failure of performance, in good faith of duties for, or employment with the commission, and to hold these individuals harmless from any expenses connected with the defense, settlement, or monetary judgments from such actions, claims, or proceedings.

(5) The commission may purchase insurance or self-insure against loss or damage to any of its properties or facilities, damage to persons or property, loss of revenues, or such other coverages as the board may elect to accomplish the purposes of the commission. Insurance coverage shall be in such form and amount as the board may

determine, provided that it satisfies any requirements of any agreement arising out of issuance of bonds or other obligations by the commission. The board may enter into intergovernmental agreements with any state, or local government, or combination thereof, to acquire or maintain the insurance.

(6) The commission shall furnish such information with respect to its affairs as may be requested by the state of Washington, bordering state, or any local government. The commission shall prepare an annual report which summarizes the major activities and expenditures of the commission during the year and anticipated for the following year. The commission shall furnish a copy of the annual report, together with any additional information deemed appropriate, to the local governments and other interested parties.

(7) Except as described in subsection (8) of this section, the commission shall prepare and adopt a single-year or biennial budget and make appropriations in accordance with this subsection. The commission shall: (a) Establish a budget committee; (b) publish public notice of each meeting of the budget committee; (c) publish public notice and hold a public hearing on the proposed budget before enacting a budget; (d) adopt the budget as it may be amended or revised by the commission, before the start of the budget period; (e) enact such amendments or supplementary budgets during a budget period as the commission may determine are appropriate; and (f) transmit to local area governments a copy of the final budget and any amended or supplementary budgets approved by the commission. In no case may the adopted budget expenditure allowances exceed total estimated revenues unless accompanied by proposed legislation to obtain an equivalent amount of additional revenue. The commission may adopt, and from time to time, amend a rule that further details the preparation of the budget and the process for its adoption.

(8) A commission is not required to enact a budget for any years in which the commission has no revenue and all revenues and expenditures for the bridge are authorized in a budget of one or more local governments. [2022 c 89 § 6.]

**RCW 47.87.070 Financing, refinancing, acquiring, assuming control—Eminent domain.** The commission may:

(1) Finance, refinance, and acquire or otherwise assume control by purchase, lease, donation, or by other means such real and personal property, structures, property rights, franchises, easements, and other property interests, whether situated within the state of Washington or the bordering state, as the board may deem necessary or incidental to the purposes of the commission; and

(2) Exercise the power of eminent domain to acquire by condemnation any property, structures, property rights, franchises, easements, and other property interests situated within the state of Washington or the bordering state as the board deems necessary or incidental to the purposes of the commission, subject to the applicable laws described in RCW 47.87.130(1)(b). No property owned or held by any state or local government shall be taken by the commission without the prior consent of such state or local government. [2022 c 89 § 7.]

**RCW 47.87.080 Tolls, other charges—Agreements—Photo toll systems—Enforcement—Proceeds.** (1) The board shall have the exclusive power to impose, fix, and periodically adjust the rate of tolls and other charges for use of any bridge owned by or operated by the commission without any approval, authorization, or concurrence by a legislature, state toll authority, local government, state agency or official, or other entity. The board may establish and implement such policies and criteria as the board deems advisable for the rate of tolls and other charges including, but not limited to, establishing discounts, exemptions, administrative fees, late fees, civil penalties, and toll rates for such classes of vehicles and users as the board may determine.

(2) In setting and periodically adjusting toll rates and other charges, the board shall ensure that toll rates and other charges will annually yield revenue sufficient to meet all costs, expenses, and obligations of the commission, including the satisfaction of all financial and other covenants made by the commission with regard to any bond or other debt instrument.

(3) The commission may enter agreements with the Washington state department of licensing and the applicable agency of the bordering state to enforce the payment of tolls and other charges for use of the bridge. Such agreements may provide that if the commission or its designee gives notice to the applicable department that a person has not paid a toll or other charge for use of the bridge, the applicable department shall refuse to renew the motor vehicle registration of the motor vehicle operated by the person at the time of the violation. The applicable department may renew such motor vehicle registration upon receipt of a notice from the commission or its designee indicating that all tolls and other charges owed by the person have been paid.

(4) Photo toll systems may take photographs, digital photographs, microphotographs, videotapes, or other recorded images of the vehicle and vehicle license plate only. A photo toll image of a vehicle and the registration plate of the vehicle produced by a photo toll system at the time the driver of the vehicle did not pay a toll is prima facie evidence that the registered owner of the vehicle is the driver of the vehicle. However, if the registered owner of a vehicle is a person in the vehicle rental or leasing business, the registered owner may elect to identify the person who was operating the vehicle at the time the toll was not paid or to pay the toll, civil penalty, and administrative fee. A registered owner of a vehicle who pays the toll, civil penalty, and administrative fee is entitled to recover the same from the driver, renter, or lessee of the vehicle.

(5) The rights to enforce the payment of tolls and other charges of the commission granted under this chapter are supplemental; the commission may employ all other remedies available to it under the laws of the state of Washington and the bordering state.

(6) The proceeds from toll rates and other charges of the commission shall only be used to pay the necessary and incidental costs and expenses incurred by the commission in connection with owning, constructing, operating, maintaining, renewing, and governing the bridge, which shall include, but not be limited to, costs incurred for:

(a) The design, development, construction, equipping, installation, and financing and refinancing of the bridge, demolition and removal of the existing bridge, and mitigation of associated impacts;

(b) The operations of the bridge including, but not limited to, repair, maintenance, resurfacing, preservation, equipping, improvement, reconstruction, renewal, and replacement;

(c) The tolling of the bridge including, but not limited to, toll collection, administration, and enforcement, and the acquisition, leasing, maintenance, and replacement of tolling equipment and software;

(d) The financing or refinancing of any bonds or other debt instruments of the commission;

(e) A reasonable return on investment for any private financing of any costs, expenses, or obligations of the commission;

(f) The establishment and maintenance of any reserves or sinking funds approved by the board; and

(g) Any other obligations or expenses incurred by the commission in carrying out its purposes under this chapter.

(7) The commission may grant to any public or private entity by franchise, lease, or otherwise the use or control of any portion of the bridge or any property or facility owned or under the control of the commission, and may fix the terms, conditions, rents, and other payments for such use.

(8) All revenues, receipts, grants, bond proceeds, and other funds of the commission may be comingled and spent to carry out commission purposes within either state, unless and to the extent otherwise restricted by the terms of a grant agreement or debt instrument.

(9) For purposes of this section, "photo toll system" means the system defined in RCW 47.56.010 and 47.46.020. [2022 c 89 § 8.]

**RCW 47.87.090 Bridge design and construction.** (1) The commission shall design and construct the bridge to standards and specifications satisfactory to the departments of transportation, and in accordance with all applicable permits, clearances, and mitigation requirements. The commission shall arrange for timely review by the departments of transportation of all pertinent engineering plans, specifications, and related reports.

(2) The commission may undertake any construction activities that have necessary permits and for which funding is available, provided that prior to issuing a notice to proceed with the construction of any bridge foundation, the commission shall:

(a) Prepare and adopt an initial bridge finance plan to fund the design, construction, operations, maintenance, administration, and governance of the bridge. Prior to adopting the initial bridge finance plan, the board shall require a feasibility review of the initial bridge finance plan and shall submit the feasibility review to the departments of transportation and the local governments for their review as determined by the board. Following the review by the departments of transportation and local governments, the board may adopt the initial bridge finance plan, as it may be amended as a result of the reviews. Following the adoption of the initial bridge finance plan, the board may periodically adjust or amend the bridge finance plan as the board may determine; and

(b) Make and enter into a written agreement with the owner of the applicable existing bridge, under such terms and conditions as may be acceptable to the commission and the owner of the existing bridge, regarding the removal and disposition of the existing bridge. The agreement shall address: (i) The roles, responsibilities, and

obligations of the parties with respect to the removal and disposal of the existing bridge, including any liabilities or potential liabilities incidental thereto; (ii) the retirement of any outstanding debt for which toll revenue from the existing bridge is pledged; (iii) the distribution of proceeds from any salvage value of the existing bridge; (iv) the disposition of any property, equipment, or other assets incidental to the existing bridge; (v) mitigation of impacts to existing bridge operations; and (vi) such other matters as the commission and owner of the existing bridge may determine.

(3) For purposes of the acquisition, design, construction, installation, operation, or maintenance of the bridge, or any combination thereof, the commission, without any prior or subsequent authorization, approval, or concurrence by any state, local government, or any other governmental entity of either state, may enter into any combination of contracts, agreements, or other arrangements with any one or more private entities or units of government, or any combination thereof, as the commission may elect including, but not limited to, any alternative or supplemental public works contract such as design-build and construction manager-general contractor contracts, public-private partnership agreement, lease agreement, franchise agreement, or financing agreement, and may include such terms and conditions as permitted under the constitutions of both states and the parties may agree to.

(4) As part of the construction of a bridge, the commission shall demolish, remove, and dispose of the applicable existing bridge in accordance with all applicable environmental permits and the terms of an agreement between the commission and owner of the existing bridge. Unless otherwise agreed to by the owner of the existing bridge, the proceeds from the sale of any salvaged materials from the existing bridge shall be owing to such owner.

(5) A commission is deemed a municipal corporation for the purposes of RCW 82.04.050(10), and therefore the public road construction exemption under RCW 82.04.050(10) shall apply to taxes otherwise owing from construction of a bridge. Subject to RCW 47.87.150, the commission may apply for a deferral of all state and local sales and use taxes incurred from construction of a bridge that are not relieved by the public road construction exemption. [2022 c 89 § 9.]

**RCW 47.87.100 Rules and regulations—Compensation to contractor—Revenue, other assistance.** (1) The board shall have the exclusive power to enact and enforce such rules and regulations as the board may elect for the use, operations, maintenance, inspection, and preservation of any bridge owned or operated by the commission, including limiting loads permitted on the bridge and closing the bridge to any traffic deemed unsafe by the commission, provided the commission shall comply with all state and federal regulations generally applicable to bridge operations, maintenance, safety, and inspections.

(2) Any facility or property owned, leased, operated, or controlled by the commission may be operated by the commission directly, or by another public or a private entity pursuant to a contract, lease, or agreement that is subject to such terms and conditions as the board may determine.



(3) Compensation to a contractor under an operating contract may be in the form of a payment by the commission to the contractor for services rendered, a payment by the contractor to the commission for the rights to operate the facility or property, or such other arrangements as the board may elect.

(4) A state agency or local government may pledge or grant revenue or other assistance to support or guaranty, in whole or part, the repayment of debt, costs of operations, or capitalization of reserves of the commission under such terms as the commission and the state agency or local government may agree, and the commission may accept such assistance. [2022 c 89 § 10.]

**RCW 47.87.110 Revenue bonds or other debt instruments.** (1) The commission may, from time to time, without the necessity of any assent by electors, local governments, or any other governmental entity, issue or enter into revenue bonds or other debt instruments paid from or secured by all or any revenues available to the commission in one or more series, and such amounts, maturities, denominations, and forms, with such insurance, credit enhancements, or other guarantees, and with such other terms and provisions as the board may determine.

(2) If the applicable laws pursuant to RCW 47.87.130 are those of the state of Washington, the commission may from time to time issue and sell:

(a) Revenue bonds or other debt instruments on the same basis as a local government in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW, provided, notwithstanding RCW 39.46.070(1), such bonds or other debt instruments issued by the commission for the construction of a bridge under chapter 89, Laws of 2022 may include capitalized interest for up to 72 months from the date of issuance;

(b) Debt instruments to refund outstanding debt instruments on the same basis as a public body under the refunding bond act, chapter 39.53 RCW; and

(c) Short-term obligations on the same basis as a municipal corporation in accordance with chapter 39.50 RCW.

(3) The commission may enter into one or more agreements with a federal agency for grants, loans, advances, credit enhancements, or other contributions subject to the applicable federal law, and need not comply with contrary state statutes that may otherwise apply.

(4) For the benefit of any holders of bonds or debt instruments that are outstanding or otherwise authorized by the commission:

(a) The board shall continue in effect toll rates and other charges that satisfy the provisions of chapter 89, Laws of 2022 and the covenants made by the commission, and shall not take any action or inaction to impair its ability to do so; and

(b) The state of Washington, or any political subdivision, district, or municipality thereof, shall not take any action that impairs, diminishes, or affects adversely the interest and rights of the holders of bonds or debt instruments of the commission. [2022 c 89 § 11.]

**RCW 47.87.120 Taxes or assessments.** Notwithstanding anything in the laws of either state to the contrary, the commission shall not be required to pay any tax or assessment, or any in lieu of tax or assessment, by either state, or by any political subdivision, municipality, or district thereof including, but not limited to, any

property tax, sales and use tax, or other tax or assessment upon real or personal property acquired or otherwise under the control of the commission, or upon any activity or expenditure of the commission, or upon the revenues of the commission, except to the extent that a municipal corporation would be subject to such a tax or assessment. [2022 c 89 § 12.]

**RCW 47.87.130 Governance.** (1) The commission shall be governed by applicable federal law, this chapter, rules adopted by the board under this chapter, and in the manner of a municipal corporation under the following state and local laws:

(a) Except as provided in (b) and (c) of this subsection, the commission and its board, officials, employees, and agents, shall be governed by the laws of the primary place of business. Such laws include, but are not limited to, laws pertaining to local government audits, financial administration, and accounting requirements; public records; prohibitions on using facilities for campaign purposes; open public meetings; the code of ethics for municipal officers; the rights of public employees; and local government whistleblower protection.

(b) The real estate transactions of, and exercise of eminent domain by, the commission, including relocation assistance; compliance with land use, environmental, and building codes; and such other actions of the commission pertaining to the ownership, control, or use of a particular property site or area as the board may determine by rule shall be governed by the laws of the state and local government within which the particular property site or area is situated.

(c) If there is a conflict between a provision of an otherwise applicable state or local law and a provision of this chapter, this chapter shall govern, and the conflicting provision in state or local law is inapplicable to the commission.

(2) The court of original jurisdiction for any action brought by or against the commission is the court designated pursuant to applicable law. [2022 c 89 § 13.]

**RCW 47.87.140 Grantees—Agreements—Funding of activities—Assignment, conveyance—Commission may be dissolved.** (1) The grantee for any federal, state, or local grant for a bridge owned or to be owned by the commission that was awarded before the formation date of the commission shall remain the grantee until such grant is closed under the terms of the grant agreement, unless otherwise agreed to by the grantee and the commission. The governing body of the grantee shall oversee the work under the grant, however, the grantee shall coordinate with the commission, and not take any actions inconsistent with the policy direction of the commission, unless required by the terms of the grant agreement. Following the formation date of the commission, the commission shall be the applicant and grantee for all federal, state, or local grants for the bridge, unless the commission otherwise agrees. The commission shall establish procedures for the timely coordination of its activities with the states and local governments.

(2) The departments of transportation and local governments are authorized to enter agreements with the commission to furnish it with surveys, engineering, plans, and specifications, construction management, project controls, operations, administration, and other

technical services, the cost of which shall be reimbursed by the commission.

(3) The commission may fund its activities before the receipt of tolls or other charges in any manner permitted by applicable law including, but not limited to:

(a) Borrowing funds from the federal government, either or both states, any local government, or any combination thereof, and repaying such borrowings following the opening of the bridge with the proceeds of tolls and other charges for use of the bridge, or in such other manner as the parties may agree;

(b) Being a direct grantee of any federal, state, or local government grant; and

(c) Receiving moneys as a subrecipient of a federal, state, or local government grant for which a department or local government is the grantee. To the extent permitted by the grant agreement, the departments of transportation and local governments may enter into agreements with the commission to make any portion of such grant funds available to the commission under such terms and conditions as the parties may agree to.

(4) The commission may from time to time assign or otherwise convey any of its properties, facilities, funds, accounts, obligations, or duties to any department, local government, or combination thereof, provided such assignment or conveyance does not in any manner impair or affect adversely the interests or rights of the holders of any bonds or other debt instruments of the commission, and the department or local government may, in its discretion, accept such assignment or conveyance.

(5) The commission may be dissolved as follows:

(a) Before the issuance of any bonds or other debt instrument of the commission, the board may enact a resolution to dissolve the commission at any time it determines the dissolution is in the public interest. The dissolution resolution shall address the methods by which all liabilities and obligations of the commission will be satisfied before the effective date of the dissolution, provided that all liabilities incurred by the commission shall be satisfied exclusively from the assets and properties of the commission and no creditor or other person shall have any right of action against any local government that formed the commission on account of any debts, obligations, or liabilities of the commission. The dissolution resolution shall also address the distribution and transference to local governments of any properties or other assets of the commission that may remain after the satisfaction of all commission liabilities, and such other matters as the board may elect. A resolution to dissolve the commission may not take effect until at least a majority of the local governments in each state agree in writing to the resolution; and

(b) Following the issuance of any bonds or other debt instruments of the commission, or in the event of the insolvency of the commission, the superior court or circuit court of the county of the primary place of business shall have jurisdiction and authority to appoint trustees or receivers of commission property and assets and supervise such trusteeship or receivership, provided that all liabilities incurred by the commission shall be satisfied exclusively from the assets and properties of the commission and no creditor or other person shall have any right of action against any local government that formed the commission on account of any debts, obligations, or liabilities of the commission. In the event the

commission is dissolved and properties or assets of the commission remain after the satisfaction of all of its outstanding debts, obligations, or liabilities, the remaining property and assets of the commission shall be transferred to local governments in accordance with an order issued by the superior court or circuit court of the county of the primary place of business. The allocation and transfer of the remaining properties and assets of the commission to local governments shall be in such manner as the court determines is equitable and serves the public interest. [2022 c 89 § 14.]

**RCW 47.87.150 Deferral of state and local sales and use taxes—  
Repayment schedule—Interest.**

(1) (a) Any person involved in the construction of a bridge under this chapter may apply for deferral of state and local sales and use taxes on the site preparation for, the construction of, the acquisition of any related machinery and equipment that will become a part of, and the rental of equipment for use in, the bridge.

(b) Applications shall be made to the department of revenue in a form and manner prescribed by the department of revenue. The application must contain information regarding estimated or actual costs, time schedules for completion and operation, and other information required by the department of revenue. The department of revenue shall approve the application within 60 days if it meets the requirements of this section.

(2) The department of revenue shall issue a sales and use tax deferral certificate for state and local sales and use taxes imposed or authorized under chapters 82.08, 82.12, and 82.14 RCW and RCW 81.104.170 on the bridge.

(3) A person granted a tax deferral under this section shall begin paying the deferred taxes in the fifth year after the date certified by the department of revenue as the date on which the bridge is operationally complete. The project is operationally complete under this section upon notification in writing by the commission to the department of revenue that the bridge is constructed and opened to traffic. The first payment is due on December 31st of the fifth calendar year after the certified date, with subsequent annual payments due on December 31st of the following nine years. Each payment shall equal 10 percent of the deferred tax.

(4) The department of revenue may authorize an accelerated repayment schedule upon request of a person granted a deferral under this section.

(5) Interest shall not be charged on any taxes deferred under this section for the period of deferral, although all other penalties and interest applicable to delinquent excise taxes may be assessed and imposed for delinquent payments under this section. The debt for deferred taxes is not extinguished by insolvency or other failure of any private entity granted a deferral under this section.

(6) Applications and any other information received by the department of revenue under this section are not confidential and are subject to disclosure. Chapter 82.32 RCW applies to the administration of this section.

(7) A public road contractor who applies for a deferral may not invoice a commission for sales and use taxes until after the taxes have been paid to the department of revenue.

(8) The provisions of RCW 82.32.805 and 82.32.808 do not apply to this section.

(9) For purposes of this section, "person" has the same meaning as in RCW 82.04.030 and also includes a commission under this chapter. [2022 c 89 § 16.]

**RCW 47.87.160 Notice.** The office of the attorney general must give notice that the condition in RCW 47.87.030(1) has been met to the transportation committees of the house of representatives and senate and the office of the code reviser. [2022 c 89 § 17.]

**Reviser's note:** The office of the code reviser has received notice from the office of the attorney general that an act by a bordering state having the same material effect as chapter 89, Laws of 2022 has been enacted.

**RCW 47.87.900 Construction.** (1) This chapter is liberally construed to effectuate the purposes of the commission, and the powers and authority granted to the commission under this chapter are deemed supplemental to all other powers and authorities granted to municipal corporations under applicable law.

(2) If any provision of this chapter, or its application to any person or circumstance, is held to be invalid, all other provisions of this chapter, and the application of all of its provisions to all other persons and circumstances, shall remain valid, and to this end the provisions of this chapter are severable.

(3) No legal challenge to the formation of the commission intended to be authorized or created pursuant to this chapter may be commenced more than 30 days after the effective date of the commission formation agreement. [2022 c 89 § 15.]

**Chapter 47.98 RCW**  
**CONSTRUCTION**

**Sections**

- 47.98.010 Continuation of existing law.
- 47.98.020 Provisions to be construed in pari materia.
- 47.98.030 Title, chapter, section headings not part of law.
- 47.98.040 Invalidity of part of title not to affect remainder.
- 47.98.050 Repeals and saving.
- 47.98.060 Emergency—1961 c 13.
- 47.98.070 Federal requirements.
- 47.98.090 Liberal construction.

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- 47.98.090 Liberal construction.

**RCW 47.98.010 Continuation of existing law.** The provisions of this title insofar as they are substantially the same as statutory provisions repealed by this chapter, and relating to the same subject matter, shall be construed as restatements and continuations, and not as new enactments. Nothing in this 1961 reenactment of this title shall be construed as authorizing any new bond issues or new or additional appropriations of moneys but the bond issue authorizations herein contained shall be construed only as continuations of bond issues authorized by prior laws herein repealed and reenacted, and the appropriations of moneys herein contained are continued herein for historical purposes only and this act shall not be construed as a reappropriation thereof and no appropriation contained herein shall be deemed to be extended or revived hereby and such appropriation shall lapse or shall have lapsed in accordance with the original enactment: PROVIDED, That this act shall not operate to terminate, extend, or otherwise affect any appropriation for the biennium commencing July 1, 1959 and ending June 30, 1961. [1961 c 13 § 47.98.010.]

**RCW 47.98.020 Provisions to be construed in pari materia.** The provisions of this title shall be construed in pari materia even though as a matter of prior legislative history they were not originally enacted in the same statute. The provisions of this title shall also be construed in pari materia with the provisions of Title 46 RCW, and with other laws relating to highways, roads, streets, bridges, ferries and vehicles. This section shall not operate retroactively. [1961 c 13 § 47.98.020.]

**RCW 47.98.030 Title, chapter, section headings not part of law.** Title headings, chapter headings, and section or subsection headings, as used in this title do not constitute any part of the law. [1961 c 13 § 47.98.030.]

**RCW 47.98.040 Invalidity of part of title not to affect remainder.** If any provision of this title, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the title, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1961 c 13 § 47.98.040.]

**RCW 47.98.050 Repeals and saving.** See 1961 c 13 s 47.98.050.

**RCW 47.98.060 Emergency—1961 c 13.** This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, the support of the state government and its existing institutions and shall take effect immediately: PROVIDED, That the effective date of sections \*47.16.160, 47.20.110, and 47.20.380 shall be July 1, 1961. [1961 c 13 § 47.98.060.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 47.16.160, 47.20.110, and 47.20.380 were repealed by 1970 ex.s. c 51.

**RCW 47.98.070 Federal requirements.** If any part of this title or any section of this 1977 amendatory act is ruled to be in conflict with federal requirements which are a prescribed condition of the allocation of federal funds to the state, or to any department or agencies thereof, such conflicting part or section is declared to be inoperative solely to the extent of the conflict. No such ruling shall affect the operation of the remainder of the act. Any internal reorganization carried out under the terms of this title or any section of this 1977 amendatory act shall meet federal requirements which are a necessary condition to the receipt of federal funds by the state. [1977 ex.s. c 151 § 76.]

**RCW 47.98.090 Liberal construction.** The rule of strict construction shall have no application to this title, and it shall be liberally construed in order to carry out the objectives for which it is designed. Any ambiguities arising from its interpretation should be resolved consistently with the broad purposes set forth in \*RCW 47.01.011. [1977 ex.s. c 151 § 78.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 47.01.011 was decodified pursuant to 1985 c 6 § 26.