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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5403**

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**State of Washington**

**67th Legislature**

**2021 Regular Session**

**By** Senate State Government & Elections (originally sponsored by Senators Wellman, Warnick, Hasegawa, Kuderer, Lovelett, Mullet, Saldaña, and Wilson, C.)

READ FIRST TIME 02/15/21.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 (e) The ability to plan and collaborate across programs and  
2 jurisdictions so that different investments are packaged to be  
3 complementary, timely, and responsive to economic and community  
4 opportunities;

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

9 (g) Optimal use and leveraging of federal and private  
10 infrastructure dollars; and

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

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

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

37 (4) The system improvement team shall provide briefings as  
38 requested to the public works board on the current state of  
39 infrastructure programs to build an understanding of the

1 infrastructure investment program landscape and the interplay of its  
2 component parts.

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

10 (6) This section expires June 30, (~~2021~~) 2025.

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