
HOUSE BILL 1277

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Representatives R. Fisher, Schmidt, R. Meyers, Brown, Jones, Johanson, Horn, Wood and Dunshee; by request of Department of Transportation

Read first time 01/20/93. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to transit development plans; amending RCW
2 35.58.2795, 35.58.2796, 36.57A.070, and 36.57.070; and repealing RCW
3 36.57A.060.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 35.58.2795 and 1990 1st ex.s. c 17 s 60 are each
6 amended to read as follows:

7 ~~((By April 1st of each year,))~~ (1) The legislative authority of
8 each municipality, as defined in RCW 35.58.272, shall prepare a six-
9 year transit development ((and financial program for that calendar year
10 and the ensuing five years)) plan. The plan shall establish the
11 framework for the continued development of transit services in the
12 municipality, and shall be adopted and submitted to the state
13 department of transportation annually by June 1st of each year,
14 beginning in 1994. In addition, each municipality shall concurrently
15 file a copy of its transit development plan with the transportation
16 improvement board and cities, counties, and regional transportation
17 planning organizations within which the municipality is located. The
18 municipality shall conduct one or more public hearings each year while
19 developing its plan. The department of transportation shall ensure

1 that the plan for each municipality is current, and shall provide
2 technical support to such municipalities that may be lacking resources
3 to complete the plans.

4 (2) The ((program)) transit development plan shall be consistent
5 with the comprehensive plans adopted by counties, cities, and towns,
6 pursuant to chapter 35.63, 35A.63, or 36.70 RCW, the inherent authority
7 of a first class city or charter county derived from its charter, or
8 chapter 36.70A RCW. ((The program shall contain information as to how
9 the municipality intends to meet state and local long range priorities
10 for public transportation,)) The plan shall address types of land use
11 patterns in the service area, how those patterns affect transit
12 services, what coordination processes have been developed with
13 constituent city and county land use planning efforts, and how transit
14 service and land use compatibility can be enhanced. The plan shall be
15 coordinated and consistent with the regional transportation plan.

16 (3) The plan shall address those state-wide transit goals,
17 policies, and emphasis areas contained in the state transportation
18 policy plan approved by the transportation commission, and when
19 appropriate, adopted by the legislature.

20 (4) The department of transportation, in consultation with the
21 affected municipalities and the legislative transportation committee,
22 shall determine the format for the transit development plan. Each plan
23 shall include an annual element that describes the proposed activities
24 of the municipality in the current year. At minimum the plan shall
25 address capital improvements, significant operating changes planned for
26 the system, and how the municipality intends to fund program needs.
27 ((Each municipality shall file the six year program with the state
28 department of transportation, the transportation improvement board, and
29 cities, counties, and regional planning councils within which the
30 municipality is located.

31 In developing its program, the municipality shall consider those
32 policy recommendations affecting public transportation contained in the
33 state transportation policy plan approved by the state transportation
34 commission and, where appropriate, adopted by the legislature. The
35 municipality shall conduct one or more public hearings while developing
36 its program and for each annual update.))

37 **Sec. 2.** RCW 35.58.2796 and 1989 c 396 s 2 are each amended to read
38 as follows:

1 (1) The department of transportation shall develop an annual report
2 summarizing the status of (~~public transportation~~) transit systems in
3 the state. By September 1st of each year, copies of the report shall
4 be submitted to the legislative transportation committee and to each
5 municipality, as defined in RCW 35.58.272, and to individual members of
6 the municipality's legislative authority. (~~The department shall
7 prepare and submit a preliminary report by December 1, 1989.~~

8 ~~To assist the department with preparation of the report, each
9 municipality shall file a system report by April 1st of each year with
10 the state department of transportation identifying its public
11 transportation services for the previous calendar year and its
12 objectives for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of those
13 services. The system report shall address those items required for
14 each public transportation system in the department's report.)~~ The
15 report shall also address the progress made toward meeting state-wide
16 transit goals, policies, and emphasis areas contained in the state
17 transportation policy plan approved by the transportation commission,
18 and when appropriate, adopted by the legislature.

19 (2) The annual state report shall be derived by the department from
20 the collective transit development plans filed by each municipality as
21 required by RCW 35.58.2795. The (~~department~~) report shall describe
22 individual (~~public transportation~~) transit systems, including
23 contracted transportation services and dial-a-ride services, and
24 include a state-wide summary of (~~public transportation~~) transit
25 accomplishments, issues, and data. The (~~descriptions~~) report shall
26 include the following elements and such other elements as the
27 department deems appropriate after consultation with the municipalities
28 and the legislative transportation committee:

29 (~~(1)~~) (a) Equipment and facilities, including vehicle replacement
30 standards;

31 (~~(2)~~) (b) Services and service standards;

32 (~~(3)~~) (c) Revenues, expenses, and (~~ending balances, by fund
33 source~~) status of reserve accounts;

34 (~~(4)~~) (d) Policy issues and system improvement objectives,
35 including community participation in development of those objectives
36 and how those objectives address state-wide transportation priorities;

37 (~~(5)~~) (e) Operating indicators applied to public transportation
38 services, revenues, and expenses. Operating indicators shall include
39 operating cost per passenger trip, operating cost per revenue vehicle

1 service hour, passenger trips per revenue service hour, passenger trips
2 per vehicle service mile, vehicle service hours per employee, and
3 farebox revenue as a percent of operating costs;

4 (f) Activities aimed at improving the efficiency and effectiveness
5 of transit services.

6 **Sec. 3.** RCW 36.57A.070 and 1985 c 6 s 5 are each amended to read
7 as follows:

8 (1) The public transportation benefit area authority shall develop
9 and adopt a transit development plan under RCW 35.58.2795 for the area.
10 The authority shall submit the initial plan to the department of
11 transportation for approval. The ((comprehensive transit plan adopted
12 by the authority)) initial plan shall be reviewed by the ((state
13 transportation commission)) department to determine:

14 ((+1)) (a) The levels and completeness of transit service to be
15 ((offered)) provided and the ((economic)) financial viability of the
16 ((transit system proposed in such comprehensive transit plan))
17 authority to provide the services;

18 ((+2)) (b) Whether such plan integrates the proposed
19 ((transportation system)) transit services with existing and planned
20 transportation modes and systems that serve the benefit area;

21 ((+3)) (c) Whether such plan coordinates that area's ((system
22 and)) services with nearby ((public)) transportation systems and
23 addresses possible future expansion of the benefit area or the
24 consolidation of the benefit area with other systems; and

25 ((+4)) (d) Whether such plan ((is eligible for matching state or
26 federal funds)) addresses state-wide goals, policies, and objectives
27 set forth in the state transit plan component of the state-wide
28 transportation plan;

29 (2) After reviewing the ((comprehensive transit)) initial transit
30 development plan, the ((state transportation commission shall have))
31 department has sixty days in which to approve such plan and to certify
32 to the state treasurer that such public transportation benefit area
33 shall be eligible to receive the motor vehicle excise tax proceeds
34 authorized pursuant to RCW 35.58.273((, as now or hereafter amended))
35 in the manner prescribed by chapter 82.44 RCW((, as now or hereafter
36 amended. To be approved a plan shall provide for coordinated
37 transportation planning, the integration of such proposed
38 transportation program with other transportation systems operating in

1 areas adjacent to, or in the vicinity of the proposed public
2 transportation benefit area, and be consistent with the public
3 transportation coordination criteria adopted pursuant to the urban mass
4 transportation act of 1964 as amended as of July 1, 1975. In the event
5 such comprehensive)). The department shall notify the authority in
6 writing within thirty days as to the approval of the plan, and shall
7 notify the authority as to the time subsequent transit development
8 plans are required under RCW 35.58.2795. The time must be no longer
9 than eighteen months after the approval of the initial public
10 transportation development plan.

11 (3) If the plan is disapproved and ruled ineligible to receive
12 motor vehicle tax proceeds, the ((state transportation commission))
13 department shall provide written notice to the authority within thirty
14 days as to the reasons for such plan's disapproval and such
15 ineligibility. The authority may resubmit such plan upon
16 reconsideration and correction of such deficiencies in the plan cited
17 in such notice of disapproval.

18 **Sec. 4.** RCW 36.57.070 and 1974 ex.s. c 167 s 7 are each amended to
19 read as follows:

20 The authority shall ((adopt a public transportation plan)) prepare
21 a six-year transit development plan as prescribed in RCW 36.57A.070.
22 Such plan shall be a general comprehensive plan designed to best serve
23 the residents of the entire county. Prior to adoption of the plan, the
24 authority shall provide a minimum of sixty days during which sufficient
25 hearings shall be held to provide interested persons an opportunity to
26 participate in development of the plan.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** RCW 36.57A.060 and 1975 1st ex.s. c 270 s 16
28 are each repealed.

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