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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1928**

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**State of Washington                      53rd Legislature                      1993 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Representatives R. Fisher, Quall, Locke, Roland and Johanson)

Read first time 03/08/93.

1            AN ACT Relating to regional transportation planning; amending RCW  
2 47.80.030, 35.58.2795, 35.77.010, and 36.81.121; adding new sections to  
3 chapter 47.80 RCW; creating new sections; providing an effective date;  
4 and declaring an emergency.

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

6            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**    LEGISLATIVE INTENT.    The legislature  
7 recognizes that recent legislative enactments have significantly added  
8 to the complexity of and to the potential for benefits from integrated  
9 transportation and comprehensive planning and that there is currently  
10 a unique opportunity for integration of local comprehensive plans and  
11 regional goals with state and local transportation programs. Further,  
12 approaches to transportation demand management initiatives and local  
13 and state transportation funding can be better coordinated to insure an  
14 efficient, effective transportation system that insures mobility and  
15 addresses community needs.

16            The legislature further finds that transportation and land use  
17 share a critical relationship that policy makers can better utilize to  
18 address regional strategies.

1 Prudent investment by the state and by local governments in highway  
2 facilities, local streets and arterials, rail facilities, marine  
3 facilities, nonmotorized transportation facilities and systems, public  
4 transit systems, transportation system management, and the development  
5 of high capacity transit systems can help to effectively address  
6 mobility needs. Such investment can also enhance local and state  
7 objectives for effective comprehensive planning, economic development  
8 strategies, clean air policies, and transportation demand management.

9 The legislature finds that addressing public initiatives regarding  
10 transportation and comprehensive planning necessitates an innovative  
11 approach. Improved integration between transportation and  
12 comprehensive planning among public institutions, particularly in the  
13 state's largest metropolitan areas is considered by the state to be  
14 imperative, and to have significant benefit to the citizens of  
15 Washington.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** ORGANIZATION'S DUTIES. Each regional  
17 transportation planning organization shall have the following duties:

18 (1) Prepare and periodically update a transportation strategy for  
19 the region. The strategy shall address alternative transportation  
20 modes in regional corridors and shall recommend preferred  
21 transportation policies to implement adopted growth strategies. The  
22 strategy shall serve as a guide in preparation of the regional  
23 transportation plan.

24 (2) Prepare a regional transportation plan as set forth in RCW  
25 47.80.030 that is consistent with county-wide planning policies if such  
26 have been adopted pursuant to chapter 36.70A RCW, with county, city,  
27 and town comprehensive plans, and state transportation plans.

28 (3) Certify that the transportation elements of comprehensive plans  
29 adopted by counties, cities, and towns within the region reflect the  
30 guidelines and principles developed pursuant to section 3 of this act,  
31 are consistent with the adopted regional transportation plan, and,  
32 where appropriate, conform with the requirements of RCW 36.70A.070.

33 (4) Where appropriate, certify that county-wide planning policies  
34 adopted under RCW 36.70A.210 and the adopted regional transportation  
35 plan are consistent.

36 (5) Develop, in cooperation with the department of transportation,  
37 operators of public transportation services and local governments  
38 within the region, a six-year regional transportation improvement

1 program which proposes regionally significant transportation projects  
2 and programs. The regional transportation improvement program shall be  
3 based on the programs and projects of regional significance as  
4 identified by transit agencies, cities, and counties pursuant to RCW  
5 35.58.2795, 35.77.010, and 36.81.121, respectively. The program shall  
6 include a priority list of projects and programs, project segments and  
7 programs, and a specific financial plan that demonstrates how the  
8 transportation improvement program can be funded. The program shall be  
9 updated at least every two years for the ensuing six-year period.

10 (6) Designate a lead planning agency to coordinate preparation of  
11 the regional transportation plan and carry out the other  
12 responsibilities of the organization. The lead planning agency may be  
13 a regional organization, a component county, city, or town agency, or  
14 the appropriate Washington state department of transportation district  
15 office.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** COMPREHENSIVE PLANS, TRANSPORTATION  
17 GUIDELINES, AND PRINCIPLES. Each regional transportation planning  
18 organization, with cooperation from component cities, towns, and  
19 counties, shall establish guidelines and principles that provide  
20 specific direction for the development and evaluation of the  
21 transportation elements of comprehensive plans, where such plans exist,  
22 and to assure that state, regional, and local goals for the development  
23 of transportation systems are met. These guidelines and principles  
24 shall address at a minimum the relationship between transportation  
25 systems and the following factors: Concentration of economic activity,  
26 residential density, development corridors and urban design that, where  
27 appropriate, supports high capacity transit, freight transportation and  
28 port access, development patterns that promote pedestrian and  
29 nonmotorized transportation, circulation systems, access to regional  
30 systems, effective and efficient highway systems, the ability of  
31 transportation facilities and programs to retain existing and attract  
32 new jobs and private investment and to accommodate growth in demand,  
33 transportation demand management, joint and mixed use developments,  
34 present and future railroad right-of-way corridor utilization, and  
35 intermodal connections.

36 Examples shall be published by the organization to assist local  
37 governments in interpreting and explaining the requirements of this  
38 section.

1       **Sec. 4.** RCW 47.80.030 and 1990 1st ex.s. c 17 s 55 are each  
2 amended to read as follows:

3       (1) Each regional transportation planning organization shall(~~(1~~  
4       ~~(a) Certify that the transportation elements of comprehensive plans~~  
5 ~~adopted by counties, cities, and towns within the region conform with~~  
6 ~~the requirements of RCW 36.70A.070, and are consistent with regional~~  
7 ~~transportation plans as provided for in (b) of this subsection;~~

8       ~~(b))~~ develop ((and adopt)) in cooperation with the department of  
9 transportation, providers of public transportation and high capacity  
10 transportation, ports, and local governments within the region, adopt,  
11 and periodically update a regional transportation plan that ((is  
12 consistent with county, city, and town comprehensive plans and state  
13 transportation plans. Regional transportation planning organizations  
14 are encouraged to use county, city, and town comprehensive plans that  
15 existed prior to July 1, 1990, as the basis of its regional  
16 transportation plan whenever possible. Such plans shall address)):

17       (a) Identifies existing or planned transportation facilities  
18 ((and)), services, and programs, including but not limited to major  
19 roadways including state highways and regional arterials, transit and  
20 nonmotorized services and facilities, multimodal and intermodal  
21 facilities, marine ports and airports, railroads, and noncapital  
22 programs including transportation demand management that should  
23 function as an integrated regional transportation system, giving  
24 emphasis to those facilities, services, and programs that exhibit one  
25 or more of the following characteristics:

26       (i) Physically crosses member county lines;

27       (ii) Is or will be used by a significant number of people who live  
28 or work outside the county in which the facility, service, or project  
29 is located;

30       (iii) Significant impacts are expected to be felt in more than one  
31 county;

32       (iv) Potentially adverse impacts of the facility, service, program,  
33 or project can be better avoided or mitigated through adherence to  
34 regional policies; and

35       (v) Transportation needs addressed by a project have been  
36 identified by the regional transportation planning process and the  
37 remedy is deemed to have regional significance;

38       ~~((c) Designate a lead planning agency to coordinate preparation of~~  
39 ~~the regional transportation plan. The lead planning agency may be a~~

1 ~~regional council, a county, city, or town agency, or a Washington state~~  
2 ~~department of transportation district;~~

3 ~~(d)) (b) Includes a financial plan demonstrating how the regional~~  
4 ~~transportation plan can be implemented, indicating resources from~~  
5 ~~public and private sources that are reasonably expected to be made~~  
6 ~~available to carry out the plan, and recommending any innovative~~  
7 ~~financing techniques to finance needed facilities, services, and~~  
8 ~~programs;~~

9 ~~(c) Assesses regional development patterns, capital investment and~~  
10 ~~other measures necessary to:~~

11 ~~(i) Ensure the preservation of the existing regional transportation~~  
12 ~~system, including requirements for operational improvements,~~  
13 ~~resurfacing, restoration, and rehabilitation of existing and future~~  
14 ~~major roadways, as well as operations, maintenance, modernization, and~~  
15 ~~rehabilitation of existing and future transit, railroad systems and~~  
16 ~~corridors, and nonmotorized facilities; and~~

17 ~~(ii) Make the most efficient use of existing transportation~~  
18 ~~facilities to relieve vehicular congestion and maximize the mobility of~~  
19 ~~people and goods;~~

20 ~~(d) Sets forth a proposed regional transportation approach,~~  
21 ~~including capital investments, service improvements, and programs, to~~  
22 ~~guide the development of the integrated, multimodal regional~~  
23 ~~transportation system; and~~

24 ~~(e) Where appropriate, sets forth the relationship of high capacity~~  
25 ~~transportation providers and other public transit providers with regard~~  
26 ~~to responsibility for, and the coordination between, services and~~  
27 ~~facilities.~~

28 ~~(2) The organization shall review the regional transportation plan~~  
29 ~~biennially for currency((+)) and~~

30 ~~((+e)) forward the adopted plan((,-and)) along with documentation~~  
31 ~~of the biennial review ((of-it,-)) to the state department of~~  
32 ~~transportation.~~

33 ~~((+2)) (3) All transportation projects and programs within the~~  
34 ~~region that have an impact upon regional facilities or services must be~~  
35 ~~consistent with the plan and with the adopted regional growth and~~  
36 ~~transportation strategies.~~

37 ~~((+3) In order to ensure state-wide consistency in the regional~~  
38 ~~transportation planning process, the state department of transportation~~  
39 ~~shall:~~

1       ~~(a) In cooperation with regional transportation planning~~  
2 ~~organizations, establish minimum standards for development of a~~  
3 ~~regional transportation plan;~~  
4       ~~(b) Facilitate coordination between regional transportation~~  
5 ~~planning organizations; and~~  
6       ~~(c) Through the regional transportation planning process, and~~  
7 ~~through state planning efforts as required by RCW 47.01.071, identify~~  
8 ~~and jointly plan improvements and strategies within those corridors~~  
9 ~~important to moving people and goods on a regional or state-wide~~  
10 ~~basis.))~~

11       **NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. STATE-WIDE CONSISTENCY.** In order to ensure  
12 state-wide consistency in the regional transportation planning process,  
13 the state department of transportation, in conformance with chapter  
14 34.05 RCW, shall:

15       (1) In cooperation with regional transportation planning  
16 organizations, establish minimum standards for development of a  
17 regional transportation plan;

18       (2) Facilitate coordination between regional transportation  
19 planning organizations; and

20       (3) Through the regional transportation planning process, and  
21 through state planning efforts as required by RCW 47.01.071, identify  
22 and jointly plan improvements and strategies within those corridors  
23 important to moving people and goods on a regional or state-wide basis.

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

26       By April 1st of each year, the legislative authority of each  
27 municipality, as defined in RCW 35.58.272, and each regional transit  
28 authority shall prepare a six-year transit development ~~((and financial~~  
29 ~~program))~~ plan for that calendar year and the ensuing five years. The  
30 program shall be consistent with the comprehensive plans adopted by  
31 counties, cities, and towns, pursuant to chapter 35.63, 35A.63, or  
32 36.70 RCW, the inherent authority of a first class city or charter  
33 county derived from its charter, or chapter 36.70A RCW. The program  
34 shall contain information as to how the municipality intends to meet  
35 state and local long-range priorities for public transportation,  
36 capital improvements, significant operating changes planned for the  
37 system, and how the municipality intends to fund program needs. The

1 six-year plan for each municipality and regional transit authority  
2 shall specifically set forth those projects of regional significance  
3 for inclusion in the transportation improvement program within that  
4 region. Each municipality and regional transit authority shall file  
5 the six-year program with the state department of transportation, the  
6 transportation improvement board, and cities, counties, and regional  
7 planning councils within which the municipality is located.

8 In developing its program, the municipality and the regional  
9 transit authority shall consider those policy recommendations affecting  
10 public transportation contained in the state transportation policy plan  
11 approved by the state transportation commission and, where appropriate,  
12 adopted by the legislature. The municipality shall conduct one or more  
13 public hearings while developing its program and for each annual  
14 update.

15 **Sec. 7.** RCW 35.77.010 and 1990 1st ex.s. c 17 s 59 are each  
16 amended to read as follows:

17 (1) The legislative body of each city and town, pursuant to one or  
18 more public hearings thereon, shall prepare and adopt a comprehensive  
19 ((~~street~~)) transportation program for the ensuing six calendar years.  
20 If the city or town has adopted a comprehensive plan pursuant to  
21 chapter 35.63 or 35A.63 RCW, the inherent authority of a first class  
22 city derived from its charter, or chapter 36.70A RCW, the program shall  
23 be consistent with this comprehensive plan.

24 The program shall be filed with the secretary of transportation not  
25 more than thirty days after its adoption. Annually thereafter the  
26 legislative body of each city and town shall review the work  
27 accomplished under the program and determine current city ((~~street~~))  
28 transportation needs. Based on these findings each such legislative  
29 body shall prepare and after public hearings thereon adopt a revised  
30 and extended comprehensive ((~~street~~)) transportation program before  
31 July 1st of each year, and each one-year extension and revision shall  
32 be filed with the secretary of transportation not more than thirty days  
33 after its adoption. The purpose of this section is to assure that each  
34 city and town shall perpetually have available advanced plans looking  
35 to the future for not less than six years as a guide in carrying out a  
36 coordinated ((~~street—construction~~)) transportation program. The  
37 program may at any time be revised by a majority of the legislative  
38 body of a city or town, but only after a public hearing.

1 The six-year plan for each city or town shall specifically set  
2 forth those projects and programs of regional significance for  
3 inclusion in the transportation improvement program within that region.

4 The six-year transportation program of each city lying within an  
5 urban area shall contain a separate section setting forth the six-year  
6 program for arterial street construction based upon its long range  
7 construction plan and formulated in accordance with rules of the  
8 transportation improvement board. The six-year program for arterial  
9 street construction shall be submitted to the transportation  
10 improvement board forthwith after its annual revision and adoption by  
11 the legislative body of the city. The six-year program for arterial  
12 street construction shall be based upon estimated revenues available  
13 for such construction together with such additional sums as the  
14 legislative authority may request for urban arterials from the urban  
15 arterial trust account or the transportation improvement account for  
16 the six-year period. (~~The arterial street construction program shall~~  
17 ~~provide for a more rapid rate of completion of the long range~~  
18 ~~construction needs of principal arterial streets than for minor and~~  
19 ~~collector arterial streets, pursuant to rules of the transportation~~  
20 ~~improvement board: PROVIDED, That~~) Urban arterial trust funds made  
21 available to the group of incorporated cities lying outside the  
22 boundaries of federally approved urban areas within each region need  
23 not be divided between functional classes of arterials but shall be  
24 available for any designated arterial street.

25 (2) Each six-year transportation program forwarded to the secretary  
26 in compliance with subsection (1) of this section shall contain  
27 information as to how a city or town will expend its moneys, including  
28 funds made available pursuant to chapter 47.30 RCW, for (~~bicycle,~~  
29 ~~pedestrian, and equestrian~~) nonmotorized transportation purposes.

30 (3) Each six-year transportation program forwarded to the secretary  
31 in compliance with subsection (1) of this section shall contain  
32 information as to how a city or town shall act to preserve railroad  
33 right-of-way in the event the railroad ceases to operate in the city's  
34 or town's jurisdiction.

35 **Sec. 8.** RCW 36.81.121 and 1990 1st ex.s. c 17 s 58 are each  
36 amended to read as follows:

37 (1) Before July 1st of each year, the legislative authority of each  
38 county (~~with the advice and assistance of the county road engineer,~~



1 ~~and pursuant to~~), after one or more public hearings thereon, shall  
2 prepare and adopt a comprehensive (~~road~~) transportation program for  
3 the ensuing six calendar years. If the county has adopted a  
4 comprehensive plan pursuant to chapter 35.63 or 36.70 RCW, the inherent  
5 authority of a charter county derived from its charter, or chapter  
6 36.70A RCW, the program shall be consistent with this comprehensive  
7 plan.

8 The program shall include proposed road and bridge construction  
9 work and other transportation facilities and programs deemed  
10 appropriate, and for those counties operating ferries shall also  
11 include a separate section showing proposed capital expenditures for  
12 ferries, docks, and related facilities. Copies of the program shall be  
13 filed with the county road administration board and with the state  
14 secretary of transportation not more than thirty days after its  
15 adoption by the legislative authority. The purpose of this section is  
16 to assure that each county shall perpetually have available advanced  
17 plans looking to the future for not less than six years as a guide in  
18 carrying out a coordinated (~~road construction~~) transportation  
19 program. The program may at any time be revised by a majority of the  
20 legislative authority but only after a public hearing thereon.

21 (2) The six-year transportation program of each county having an  
22 urban area within its boundaries shall contain a separate section  
23 setting forth the six-year program for arterial road construction based  
24 upon its long-range construction plan and formulated in accordance with  
25 regulations of the transportation improvement board. The six-year  
26 program for arterial road construction shall be submitted to the  
27 transportation improvement board forthwith after its annual revision  
28 and adoption by the legislative authority of each county. The six-year  
29 program for arterial road construction shall be based upon estimated  
30 revenues available for such construction together with such additional  
31 sums as the legislative authority of each county may request for urban  
32 arterials from the urban arterial trust account or the transportation  
33 improvement account for the six-year period. (~~The arterial road~~  
34 ~~construction program shall provide for a more rapid rate of completion~~  
35 ~~of the long-range construction needs of principal arterial roads than~~  
36 ~~for minor and collector arterial roads, pursuant to regulations of the~~  
37 ~~transportation improvement board.~~)

38 (3) Each six-year transportation program forwarded to the secretary  
39 in compliance with subsection (1) of this section shall contain

1 information as to how a county will expend its moneys, including funds  
2 made available pursuant to chapter 47.30 RCW, for ((bicycles,  
3 pedestrians, and equestrian)) nonmotorized transportation purposes.

4 (4) Each six-year transportation program forwarded to the secretary  
5 in compliance with subsection (1) of this section shall contain  
6 information as to how a county shall act to preserve railroad right-of-  
7 way in the event the railroad ceases to operate in the county's  
8 jurisdiction.

9 (5) The six-year plan for each county shall specifically set forth  
10 those projects and programs of regional significance for inclusion in  
11 the transportation improvement program within that region.

12 NEW SECTION. Sec. 9. Sections 1 through 3 and 5 of this act are  
13 each added to chapter 47.80 RCW.

14 NEW SECTION. Sec. 10. Captions used in this act do not constitute  
15 any part of the law.

16 NEW SECTION. Sec. 11. If any provision of this act or its  
17 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the  
18 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other  
19 persons or circumstances is not affected.

20 NEW SECTION. Sec. 12. This act is necessary for the immediate  
21 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
22 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take  
23 effect July 1, 1993.

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