
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5744

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Haugen, Loveland, Vognild, Winsley and M. Rasmussen)

Read first time 02/26/93.

1 AN ACT Relating to streets that are part of the state highway
2 system; and amending RCW 47.24.020.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 47.24.020 and 1991 c 342 s 52 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 The jurisdiction, control, and duty of the state and city or town
7 with respect to such streets shall be as follows:

8 (1) The department has no authority to change or establish any
9 grade of any such street without approval of the governing body of such
10 city or town, except with respect to limited access facilities
11 established by the commission;

12 (2) The city or town shall exercise full responsibility for and
13 control over any such street beyond the curbs and if no curb is
14 installed, beyond that portion of the highway used for highway
15 purposes. However, within incorporated cities and towns the title to
16 a state limited access highway vests in the state, and, notwithstanding
17 any other provision of this section, the department shall exercise full
18 jurisdiction, responsibility, and control to and over such facility as
19 provided in chapter 47.52 RCW;

1 (3) The department has authority to prohibit the suspension of
2 signs, banners, or decorations above the portion of such street between
3 the curbs or portion used for highway purposes up to a vertical height
4 of twenty feet above the surface of the roadway;

5 (4) The city or town shall at its own expense maintain all
6 underground facilities in such streets, and has the right to construct
7 such additional underground facilities as may be necessary in such
8 streets;

9 (5) The city or town has the right to grant the privilege to open
10 the surface of any such street, but all damage occasioned thereby shall
11 promptly be repaired either by the city or town itself or at its
12 direction;

13 (6) The city or town at its own expense shall provide street
14 illumination and shall clean all such streets, including storm sewer
15 inlets and catch basins, and remove all snow, except that the state
16 shall when necessary plow the snow on the roadway. In cities and towns
17 having a population of (~~fifteen~~) twenty-two thousand five hundred or
18 less according to the latest determination of population by the office
19 of financial management, the state, when necessary for public safety,
20 shall assume, at its expense, responsibility for the stability of the
21 slopes of cuts and fills and the embankments within the right of way to
22 protect the roadway itself. When the population of a city or town
23 (~~reaches fifteen~~) first exceeds twenty-two thousand (~~after January~~
24 ~~1, 1990, the state shall retain the responsibility for the stability of~~
25 ~~slopes of cuts and fills and the embankments within the right of way to~~
26 ~~protect the road itself until the legislature acts upon the findings of~~
27 ~~the task force created in section 53, chapter 342, Laws of 1991, or~~
28 ~~until June 30, 1993, whichever occurs first~~) five hundred according to
29 the determination of population by the office of financial management,
30 the city or town shall have three years from the date of the
31 determination to plan for additional staffing, budgetary, and equipment
32 requirements before being required to assume the responsibilities under
33 this subsection. The state shall install, maintain, and operate all
34 illuminating facilities on any limited access facility, together with
35 its interchanges, located within the corporate limits of any city or
36 town, and shall assume and pay the costs of all such installation,
37 maintenance, and operation incurred after November 1, 1954;

38 (7) The department has the right to use all storm sewers on such
39 highways without cost; and if new storm sewer facilities are necessary

1 in construction of new streets by the department, the cost of the
2 facilities shall be borne by the state and/or city as may be mutually
3 agreed upon between the department and the governing body of the city
4 or town;

5 (8) Cities and towns have exclusive right to grant franchises not
6 in conflict with state laws, over, beneath, and upon such streets, but
7 the department is authorized to enforce in an action brought in the
8 name of the state any condition of any franchise which a city or town
9 has granted on such street. No franchise for transportation of
10 passengers in motor vehicles may be granted on such streets without the
11 approval of the department, but the department shall not refuse to
12 approve such franchise unless another street conveniently located and
13 of strength of construction to sustain travel of such vehicles is
14 accessible;

15 (9) Every franchise or permit granted any person by a city or town
16 for use of any portion of such street by a public utility shall require
17 the grantee or permittee to restore, repair, and replace to its
18 original condition any portion of the street damaged or injured by it;

19 (10) The city or town has the right to issue overload or overwidth
20 permits for vehicles to operate on such streets or roads subject to
21 regulations printed and distributed to the cities and towns by the
22 department;

23 (11) Cities and towns shall regulate and enforce all traffic and
24 parking restrictions on such streets, but all regulations adopted by a
25 city or town relating to speed, parking, and traffic control devices on
26 such streets not identical to state law relating thereto are subject to
27 the approval of the department before becoming effective. All
28 regulations pertaining to speed, parking, and traffic control devices
29 relating to such streets heretofore adopted by a city or town not
30 identical with state laws shall become null and void unless approved by
31 the department heretofore or within one year after March 21, 1963;

32 (12) The department shall erect, control, and maintain at state
33 expense all route markers and directional signs, except street signs,
34 on such streets;

35 (13) The department shall install, operate, maintain, and control
36 at state expense all traffic control signals, signs, and traffic
37 control devices for the purpose of regulating both pedestrian and motor
38 vehicular traffic on, entering upon, or leaving state highways in
39 cities and towns having a population of (~~fifteen~~) twenty-two thousand

1 five hundred or less according to the latest determination of
2 population by the office of financial management. Such cities and
3 towns may submit to the department a plan for traffic control signals,
4 signs, and traffic control devices desired by them, indicating the
5 location, nature of installation, or type thereof, or a proposed
6 amendment to such an existing plan or installation, and the department
7 shall consult with the cities or towns concerning the plan before
8 installing such signals, signs, or devices. Cities and towns having a
9 population in excess of (~~fifteen~~) twenty-two thousand five hundred
10 according to the latest determination of population by the office of
11 financial management shall install, maintain, operate, and control such
12 signals, signs, and devices at their own expense, subject to approval
13 of the department for the installation and type only. When the
14 population of a city or town (~~reaches fifteen~~) first exceeds twenty-
15 two thousand (~~after January 1, 1990, the state shall retain the~~
16 ~~responsibility for installing, operating, maintaining, and controlling~~
17 ~~such signals, signs, and devices until the legislature acts upon the~~
18 ~~findings of the task force created in section 53, chapter 342, Laws of~~
19 ~~1991, or until June 30, 1993, whichever occurs first~~) five hundred
20 according to the determination of population by the office of financial
21 management, the city or town shall have three years from the date of
22 the determination to plan for additional staffing, budgetary, and
23 equipment requirements before being required to assume the
24 responsibilities under this subsection. For the purpose of this
25 subsection, striping, lane marking, and channelization are considered
26 traffic control devices;

27 (14) All revenue from parking meters placed on such streets belongs
28 to the city or town;

29 (15) Rights of way for such streets shall be acquired by either the
30 city or town or by the state as shall be mutually agreed upon. Costs
31 of acquiring rights of way may be at the sole expense of the state or
32 at the expense of the city or town or at the expense of the state and
33 the city or town as may be mutually agreed upon. Title to all such
34 rights of way so acquired shall vest in the city or town: PROVIDED,
35 That no vacation, sale, rental, or any other nontransportation use of
36 any unused portion of any such street may be made by the city or town
37 without the prior written approval of the department; and all revenue
38 derived from sale, vacation, rental, or any nontransportation use of

1 such rights of way shall be shared by the city or town and the state in
2 the same proportion as the purchase costs were shared;

3 (16) If any city or town fails to perform any of its obligations as
4 set forth in this section or in any cooperative agreement entered into
5 with the department for the maintenance of a city or town street
6 forming part of the route of a state highway, the department may notify
7 the mayor of the city or town to perform the necessary maintenance
8 within thirty days. If the city or town within the thirty days fails
9 to perform the maintenance or fails to authorize the department to
10 perform the maintenance as provided by RCW 47.24.050, the department
11 may perform the maintenance, the cost of which is to be deducted from
12 any sums in the motor vehicle fund credited or to be credited to the
13 city or town.

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