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**Natural Resources, Ecology &  
Parks Committee**

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**HB 2625**

**Brief Description:** Funding mountains to Sound greenway outdoor recreation projects.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Jarrett, Upthegrove, Rodne, Simpson, Miloscia, B. Sullivan, Roberts and Springer.

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Creates new accounts and appropriates money from the general fund for specific recreational and scenic projects located along the portion of the I-90 corridor between King County and western Kittitas County.

**Hearing Date:** 1/19/06

**Staff:** Jason Callahan (786-7117).

**Background:**

The portion of the I-90 corridor located in King County and western Kittitas County is considered the Mountains to Sound Greenway (Greenway). The area features over 125,000 acres of forest and park land that have been obtained by federal, state, and local agencies over the past 14 years. An additional 90,000 acres are protected from development along the Greenway through the execution of conservation easements.

**Summary of Bill:**

The following appropriations are made from the general fund to the following agencies:

- \$6.1 million to the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development.
- \$5 million to the Department of Transportation.
- \$3.9 million to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

A new account is created for each of the agencies receiving an appropriation. These accounts are known as the "Mountains to Sound Greenway Project" accounts. The accounts are non-appropriated, with expenditures authorized by the director of the appropriate agency.

Each agency receiving funds is provided with a specific list of projects that must be completed. All projects are centered along the Greenway. The identified projects are recreational or scenic in

nature, and include projects such as recreational trail development and expansion, visitor facilities enhancement, sign location, snopark improvements, and property acquisition.

**Appropriation:** The sum of \$15 million.

**Fiscal Note:** Requested on 1/11/06.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.