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## Local Government Committee

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### HB 1223

**Brief Description:** Authorizing use of hearing officers for street vacation hearings.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Fitzgibbon, Green, Darneille, Jinkins, Ladenburg and Takko.

Brief Summary of Bill
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Allows legislative authorities to appoint a hearing officer to conduct street vacation hearings.</li></ul>



**Hearing Date:** 1/25/11

**Staff:** Miranda Leskinen (786-7291).

**Background:**

Owners of real estate abutting a street or alley that wish to vacate some or all of a street or alley may petition the legislative authority of the applicable city or town to make the vacation by filing a written petition with the city or town clerk. Alternatively, the legislative authority may initiate vacation by resolution. If the owners of more than two-thirds of the property abutting the proposed vacation site sign the petition, the legislative authority must hold a timely public hearing on the vacation and satisfy public notice requirements.

Vacation hearings are conducted before the legislative authority or a committee of the legislative authority. However, while a committee may report its recommendation to the legislative authority, it is the full legislative authority that decides whether or not to grant the petition in whole or part.

**Summary of Bill:**

The legislative authority is authorized to appoint a hearing officer to conduct street vacation public hearings. The hearing officer conducting the public hearing must provide a record of the

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proceedings and make a recommendation to the legislative authority, who issues their decision at a public meeting.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

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