
SENATE BILL 6316

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2024 Regular Session

By Senators Pedersen and King

1 AN ACT Relating to the state route number 520 corridor; amending
2 RCW 47.56.870; and adding a new section to chapter 47.01 RCW.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 47.56.870 and 2010 c 248 s 2 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) The initial imposition of tolls on the state route number 520
7 corridor is authorized, the state route number 520 corridor is
8 designated an eligible toll facility, and toll revenue generated in
9 the corridor must only be expended as allowed under RCW 47.56.820.

10 (2) The state route number 520 corridor consists of that portion
11 of state route number 520 between the junctions of Interstate 5 and
12 state route number 202. (~~The toll imposed by this section shall be
13 charged only for travel on the floating bridge portion of the state
14 route number 520 corridor.~~)

15 (3) (a) In setting the toll rates for the corridor pursuant to RCW
16 47.56.850, the tolling authority shall set a variable schedule of
17 toll rates to maintain travel time, speed, and reliability on the
18 corridor and generate the necessary revenue as required under (b) of
19 this subsection.

20 (b) The tolling authority shall initially set the variable
21 schedule of toll rates, which the tolling authority may adjust at

1 least annually to reflect inflation as measured by the consumer price
2 index or as necessary to meet the redemption of bonds and interest
3 payments on the bonds, to generate revenue sufficient to provide for:

4 (i) The issuance of general obligation bonds, authorized in RCW
5 47.10.879, first payable from toll revenue and then excise taxes on
6 motor vehicle and special fuels pledged for the payment of those
7 bonds in the amount necessary to fund the state route number 520
8 bridge replacement and HOV program, subject to subsection (4) of this
9 section; and

10 (ii) Costs associated with the project designated in subsection
11 (4) of this section that are eligible under RCW 47.56.820.

12 (4)(a) The proceeds of the bonds designated in subsection
13 (3)(b)(i) of this section must be used only to fund the state route
14 number 520 bridge replacement and HOV program; however, (~~two hundred~~
15 ~~million dollars~~) \$200,000,000 of bond proceeds, in excess of the
16 proceeds necessary to complete the floating bridge segment and
17 necessary landings, must be used only to fund the state route number
18 520, Interstate 5 to Medina bridge replacement and HOV project
19 segment of the program, as identified in applicable environmental
20 impact statements, and may be used to fund effective connections for
21 high occupancy vehicles and transit for state route number 520, but
22 only to the extent those connections benefit or improve the operation
23 of state route number 520.

24 (b) The program must include the following elements within the
25 cost constraints identified in section 1, chapter 472, Laws of 2009,
26 consistent with the legislature's intent that cost savings applicable
27 to the program stay within the program and that the bridge open to
28 vehicular traffic in 2014:

29 (i) A project design, consistent with RCW 47.01.408, that
30 includes high occupancy vehicle lanes with a minimum carpool
31 occupancy requirement of three-plus persons on state route number
32 520;

33 (ii) High occupancy vehicle lane performance standards for the
34 state route number 520 corridor established by the department. The
35 department shall report to the transportation committees of the
36 legislature when average transit speeds in the two lanes that are for
37 high occupancy vehicle travel fall below (~~forty-five~~) 45 miles per
38 hour at least ten percent of the time during peak hours;

39 (iii) A work group convened by the mayor and city council of the
40 city of Seattle to include sound transit, King county metro, the

1 Seattle department of transportation, the department, the University
2 of Washington, and other persons or organizations as designated by
3 the mayor or city council to study and make recommendations of
4 alternative connections for transit, including bus routes and high
5 capacity transit, to the university link light rail line. The work
6 group must consider such techniques as grade separation, additional
7 stations, and pedestrian lids to effect these connections. The
8 recommendations must be alternatives to the transit connections
9 identified in the supplemental draft environmental impact statement
10 for the state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV program
11 released in January 2010, and must meet the requirements under RCW
12 47.01.408, including accommodating effective connections for transit.
13 The recommendations must be within the scope of the supplemental
14 draft environmental impact statement. For the purposes of this
15 section, "effective connections for transit" means a connection that
16 connects transit stops, including high capacity transit stops, that
17 serve the state route number 520/Montlake interchange vicinity to the
18 university link light rail line, with a connection distance of less
19 than (~~one thousand two hundred~~) 1,200 feet between the stops and
20 the light rail station. The city of Seattle shall submit the
21 recommendations by October 1, 2010, to the governor and the
22 transportation committees of the legislature. However, if the city of
23 Seattle does not convene the work group required under this
24 subsection before July 1, 2010, or does not submit recommendations to
25 the governor and the transportation committees of the legislature by
26 October 1, 2010, the department must convene the work group required
27 under this subsection and meet all the requirements of this
28 subsection that are described as requirements of the city of Seattle
29 by November 30, 2010;

30 (iv) A work group convened by the department to include sound
31 transit and King county metro to study and make recommendations
32 regarding options for planning and financing high capacity transit
33 through the state route number 520 corridor. The department shall
34 submit the recommendations by January 1, 2011, to the governor and
35 the transportation committees of the legislature;

36 (v) A plan to address mitigation as a result of the state route
37 number 520 bridge replacement and HOV program at the Washington park
38 arboretum. As part of its process, the department shall consult with
39 the governing board of the Washington park arboretum, the Seattle
40 city council and mayor, and the University of Washington to identify

1 all mitigation required by state and federal law resulting from the
2 state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV program's impact on
3 the arboretum, and to develop a project mitigation plan to address
4 these impacts. The department shall submit the mitigation plan by
5 December 31, 2010, to the governor and the transportation committees
6 of the legislature. Wetland mitigation required by state and federal
7 law as a result of the state route number 520 bridge replacement and
8 HOV program's impacts on the arboretum must, to the greatest extent
9 practicable, include on-site wetland mitigation at the Washington
10 park arboretum, and must enhance the Washington park arboretum. This
11 subsection (4)(b)(v) does not preclude any other mitigation planned
12 for the Washington park arboretum as a result of the state route
13 number 520 bridge replacement and HOV program;

14 (vi) A work group convened by the department to include the mayor
15 of the city of Seattle, the Seattle city council, the Seattle
16 department of transportation, and other persons or organizations as
17 designated by the Seattle city council and mayor to study and make
18 recommendations regarding design refinements to the preferred
19 alternative selected by the department in the supplemental draft
20 environmental impact statement process for the state route number 520
21 bridge replacement and HOV program. To accommodate a timely
22 progression of the state route number 520 bridge replacement and HOV
23 program, the design refinements recommended by the work group must be
24 consistent with the current environmental documents prepared by the
25 department for the supplemental draft environmental impact statement.
26 The department shall submit the recommendations to the legislature
27 and governor by December 31, 2010, and the recommendations must
28 inform the final environmental impact statement prepared by the
29 department; and

30 (vii) An account, created in section 5 of this act, into which
31 civil penalties generated from the nonpayment of tolls on the state
32 route number 520 corridor are deposited to be used to fund any
33 project within the program, including mitigation. However, this
34 subsection (4)(b)(vii) is contingent on the enactment by June 30,
35 2010, of either chapter 249, Laws of 2010 or chapter . . .
36 (Substitute House Bill No. 2897), Laws of 2010, but if the enacted
37 bill does not designate the department as the toll penalty
38 adjudicating agency, this subsection (4)(b)(vii) is null and void.

1 (5) The department may carry out the improvements designated in
2 subsection (4) of this section and administer the tolling program on
3 the state route number 520 corridor.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 47.01
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) (a) Any person involved in the construction of the state route
7 number 520 corridor improvements - west end project may apply for
8 deferral of state and local sales and use taxes on the site
9 preparation for, the construction of, the acquisition of any related
10 machinery and equipment that will become a part of, and the rental of
11 equipment for use in, the project.

12 (b) Applications shall be made to the department of revenue in a
13 form and manner prescribed by the department of revenue. The
14 application must contain information regarding estimated or actual
15 costs, time schedules for completion and operation, and other
16 information required by the department of revenue. The department of
17 revenue shall approve the application within 60 days if it meets the
18 requirements of this section.

19 (2) The department of revenue shall issue a sales and use tax
20 deferral certificate for state and local sales and use taxes imposed
21 or authorized under chapters 82.08, 82.12, and 82.14 RCW and RCW
22 81.104.170 on the project.

23 (3) A person granted a tax deferral under this section shall
24 begin paying the deferred taxes in the 24th year after the date
25 certified by the department of revenue as the date on which the
26 project is operationally complete. The project, which completes
27 corridor improvements between Interstate 5 and the west high rise, is
28 operationally complete under this section when the department
29 notifies the department of revenue in writing that all projects
30 qualifying for a deferral under this section are operationally
31 complete. The first payment is due on December 31st of the 24th
32 calendar year after the certified date, with subsequent annual
33 payments due on December 31st of the following nine years. Each
34 payment shall equal 10 percent of the deferred tax.

35 (4) The department of revenue may authorize an accelerated
36 repayment schedule upon request of a person granted a deferral under
37 this section.

38 (5) Interest shall not be charged on any taxes deferred under
39 this section for the period of deferral, although all other penalties

1 and interest applicable to delinquent excise taxes may be assessed
2 and imposed for delinquent payments under this section. The debt for
3 deferred taxes is not extinguished by insolvency or other failure of
4 any private entity granted a deferral under this section.

5 (6) Applications and any other information received by the
6 department of revenue under this section are not confidential and are
7 subject to disclosure. Chapter 82.32 RCW applies to the
8 administration of this section.

9 (7) For purposes of this section, "person" has the same meaning
10 as in RCW 82.04.030 and also includes the department.

--- END ---