

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SENATE BILL 6283**

Chapter 106, Laws of 2024

68th Legislature  
2024 Regular Session

SANDY WILLIAMS CONNECTING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM—EXPIRATION ELIMINATION

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 6, 2024

Passed by the Senate February 8, 2024  
Yeas 48 Nays 0

DENNY HECK

**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House February 28, 2024  
Yeas 87 Nays 8

LAURIE JINKINS

**Speaker of the House of  
Representatives**

Approved March 14, 2024 11:45 AM

JAY INSLEE

**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Sarah Bannister, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SENATE BILL 6283** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

SARAH BANNISTER

**Secretary**

FILED

March 14, 2024

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SENATE BILL 6283**

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Passed Legislature - 2024 Regular Session

**State of Washington**

**68th Legislature**

**2024 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Nobles, Billig, Shewmake, Holy, King, Lias, Lovick, C. Wilson, J. Wilson, Valdez, Kauffman, Hawkins, Lovelett, Padden, Fortunato, Cleveland, Trudeau, Frame, Hasegawa, Kuderer, Saldaña, and Stanford

Read first time 01/19/24. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1           AN ACT Relating to eliminating the expiration date for the Sandy  
2 Williams connecting communities program; and amending RCW 47.04.380.

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

4           **Sec. 1.** RCW 47.04.380 and 2023 c 431 s 6 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6           (1) The legislature finds that many communities across Washington  
7 state have not equitably benefited from investments in the active  
8 transportation network. The legislature also finds that legacy state  
9 transportation facilities designed primarily for vehicle use caused  
10 disconnections in safe routes for people who walk, bike, and roll to  
11 work and to carry out other daily activities.

12           (2) To address these investment gaps, and to honor the legacy of  
13 community advocacy of Sandy Williams, the Sandy Williams connecting  
14 communities program is established within the department. The purpose  
15 of the program is to improve active transportation connectivity in  
16 communities by:

17           (a) Providing safe, continuous routes for pedestrians,  
18 bicyclists, and other nonvehicle users carrying out their daily  
19 activities;

1 (b) Mitigating for the health, safety, and access impacts of  
2 transportation infrastructure that bisects communities and creates  
3 obstacles in the local active transportation network;

4 (c) Investing in greenways providing protected routes for a wide  
5 variety of nonvehicular users; and

6 (d) Facilitating the planning, development, and implementation of  
7 projects and activities that will improve the connectivity and safety  
8 of the active transportation network.

9 (3) The department must select projects to propose to the  
10 legislature for funding. In selecting projects, the department must  
11 consider, at a minimum, the following criteria:

12 (a) Access to a transit facility, community facility, commercial  
13 center, or community-identified assets;

14 (b) The use of minority and women-owned businesses and community-  
15 based organizations in planning, community engagement, design, and  
16 construction of the project;

17 (c) Whether the project will serve:

18 (i) Overburdened communities as defined in RCW 70A.02.010 to mean  
19 a geographic area where vulnerable populations face combined,  
20 multiple environmental harms and health impacts, and includes, but is  
21 not limited to, highly impacted communities as defined in RCW  
22 19.405.020;

23 (ii) Vulnerable populations as defined in RCW 70A.02.010 to mean  
24 population groups that are more likely to be at higher risk for poor  
25 health outcomes in response to environmental harms, due to adverse  
26 socioeconomic factors, such as unemployment, high housing, and  
27 transportation costs relative to income, limited access to nutritious  
28 food and adequate health care, linguistic isolation, and other  
29 factors that negatively affect health outcomes and increase  
30 vulnerability to the effects of environmental harms; and sensitivity  
31 factors, such as low birth weight and higher rates of  
32 hospitalization. Vulnerable populations include, but are not limited  
33 to: Racial or ethnic minorities, low-income populations, populations  
34 disproportionately impacted by environmental harms, and populations  
35 of workers experiencing environmental harms;

36 (iii) Household incomes at or below 200 percent of the federal  
37 poverty level; and

38 (iv) People with disabilities;

39 (d) Environmental health disparities, such as those indicated by  
40 the diesel pollution burden portion of the Washington environmental

1 health disparities map developed by the department of health, or  
2 other similar indicators;

3 (e) Location on or adjacent to tribal lands or locations  
4 providing essential services to tribal members;

5 (f) Crash experience involving pedestrians and bicyclists; and

6 (g) Identified need by the community, for example in the state  
7 active transportation plan or a regional, county, or community plan.

8 (4) It is the intent of the legislature that the Sandy Williams  
9 connecting communities program comply with the requirements of  
10 chapter 314, Laws of 2021.

11 (5) The department shall submit a report to the transportation  
12 committees of the legislature by December 1, 2022, and each December  
13 1st thereafter identifying the selected connecting communities  
14 projects for funding by the legislature. The report must also include  
15 the status of previously funded projects.

16 (~~(6) This section expires July 1, 2027.~~)

Passed by the Senate February 8, 2024.

Passed by the House February 28, 2024.

Approved by the Governor March 14, 2024.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 14, 2024.

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