Chapter 399-10 WAC
GENERAL PROVISIONS

WAC 399-10-010 Organization and operation of the public works board. (1) The public works board, hereinafter referred to as the board, is a thirteen-member board appointed by the governor and created pursuant to RCW 43.155.030.

(2) The governor shall appoint one of the general public members of the board as chair. The board may elect such other officers for such terms as it may from time to time deem necessary in accordance with the board’s bylaws.

(3) The board’s staff support and office space is provided by the department of community development, whose main office is located in the Ninth & Columbia Building, Olympia, Washington, 98504; phone (AC 206) 753-2200.

(4) The purpose of the board is to encourage self-reliance by local governments in meeting their public works needs and to assist in the financing of critical public works projects by making loans, financing guarantees, and technical assistance available to local governments for these projects.

[Statutory Authority: 1985 c 446 § 10. 85-24-072 (Order 85-17), § 399-10-010, filed 12/4/85.]

WAC 399-10-020 Board meeting. (1) Notice of the times and places of the regular meetings will be published annually in a January edition of the Washington State Register. A copy of the schedule of regular meetings may also be obtained upon request from the board.

(2) Special meetings of the board may be called at any time by the chairman of the board or by a majority of the board members. Notice of such meetings will be as provided by law.

[Statutory Authority: 1985 c 446 § 10. 85-24-072 (Order 85-17), § 399-10-020, filed 12/4/85.]

Title 399 WAC
PUBLIC WORKS BOARD

Chapter 399-20 WAC
PUBLIC RECORDS

WAC 399-20-010 Purpose. The purpose of this chapter shall be to ensure the compliance by the public works board with the provisions of chapter 1, Laws of 1973, Initiative Measure No. 276, and in particular sections 25 through 32 of that act, and RCW 42.17.250 through 42.17.320 concerning disclosure of public records.

[Statutory Authority: 1985 c 446 § 10. 85-24-072 (Order 85-17), § 399-20-010, filed 12/4/85.]

WAC 399-20-020 Definitions. The following definitions shall apply to this chapter:

(1) "Public record" includes any writing containing information relating to the conduct of government or the performance of any governmental or proprietary function prepared, owned, used, or retained by the board regardless of physical form or characteristics.

(2) "Writing" means handwriting, typewriting, printing, photostating and every other means of recording any form of communication or representation, including letters, words, pictures, sounds, symbols, or combinations thereof, and all paper, maps, magnetic or paper tapes, photographic films and prints, magnetic or punched cards, discs, drums and other documents.

[Statutory Authority: 1985 c 446 § 10. 85-24-072 (Order 85-17), § 399-20-020, filed 12/4/85.]

(1986 Ed.)
WAC 399-20-070 Requests for public records. In accordance with the requirements of chapter 42.17 RCW that agencies prevent unreasonable invasions of privacy, and to protect public records from damage or disorganization, and to prevent excessive interference with essential functions of the board, public records may be inspected or copied, or copies of such records may be obtained by members of the public, upon compliance with the following procedures:

(1) A request shall be made in writing upon a form prescribed by the board which shall be available at the board's offices, or by writing or calling the board. The form shall be presented or mailed to the public records officer, or to any member of the board's staff, if the public records officer is not available, at the board's offices during normal office hours. The request shall include the following information:

(a) The name, address, and organization represented, if any, of the person requesting the record;

(b) The calendar date on which the request was made, and, when presented in person, the time of day;

(c) The nature of the request;

(d) If the matter requested is referred to within the current index maintained by the records officer, a reference to the requested record as it is described in such current index.

(2) In all cases in which a member of the public is making a request, it shall be the obligation of the public records officer or staff member to assist the member of the public in appropriately identifying the public record requested.

WAC 399-20-080 Copying. No fee shall be charged for the inspection of public records. The board may charge a fee of ten cents per page for providing copies of public records, when copies of more than ten pages are provided, and for use of the department's copy equipment. This charge is the amount necessary to reimburse the department for its actual cost incident to such copying.

WAC 399-20-090 Exemptions. (1) The board reserves the right to determine that a public record requested in accordance with the procedures outlined in WAC 399-20-070 is exempt from disclosure under the provisions of RCW 42.17.260 and 42.17.310.

(2) Pursuant to RCW 42.17.260, the board reserves the right to delete identifying details when it makes available or publishes any public record, in any case where there is reason to believe that disclosure of such details would be an invasion of personal privacy protected by chapter 42.17 RCW. The public records officer will fully justify such deletion in writing.

(3) All denials of requests for public records shall be accompanied by a written statement specifying the reason for the denial.
WAC 399-20-100 Review of denials of public records requests. (1) Any person who objects to the denial of a request for public records may petition for prompt review of such decision by submitting a written request for review. The written request shall specifically refer to the written statement by the public records officer or other staff member which constituted or accompanied the denial.

(2) Following receipt of a written request for review of a decision denying a request from public records, the public records officer or other authorized staff member denying the request shall refer it to the chairman of the board or his designee. The chairman or his designee shall immediately consider the matter and either affirm or reverse such denial. The request shall be returned with the final decision, within two business days following receipt of the request for review.

(3) Administrative remedies shall not be considered exhausted until the request has been returned with a decision or until the close of the second business day following the denial of inspection, whichever occurs first.

WAC 399-20-110 Protection of public records. In order to properly protect the public records in the custody of the board, the following guidelines shall be adhered to by any person inspecting such public records:

(1) No public records shall be removed from the offices of the board;

(2) Inspection of any public records shall be conducted in the presence of a designated board or department employee;

(3) No public records may be marked or defaced in any manner during inspection;

(4) Public records which are maintained in a file jacket, or in a chronological order, may not be dismantled except for purposes of copying and then only by a designated employee of the board or department; and

(5) Access to file cabinets, shelves, vaults, etc., is restricted to board or department personnel.

WAC 399-20-120 Adoption of form. The board hereby adopts for use by all persons requesting inspection or copying of its records, the form set out below, entitled "request for public records."

In order to request copies of our public records, please complete the attached form and return it with the proper payment to the address below. We will forward to you those requested copies which are not exempt from disclosure when we receive this form. Thank you.

(1986 Ed.)

[Title 399 WAC—p 3]
Chapter 399-30 WAC
PUBLIC WORKS LOANS AND PLEDGES

WAC 399-30-010 Purpose. (1) Pursuant to authority derived from chapter 446, Laws of 1985, the public works board may make low-interest or interest-free loans to local governments from the public works assistance account or other funds and accounts for the purpose of assisting local governments in financing public works projects. The board may also pledge money to the repayment of all or a portion of the principal of or interest on obligations issued by local governments to finance public works projects.

(2) The purpose of this chapter is to prescribe the form and manner in which local governments may make application to the board for financial assistance, and to provide for the consideration and disposition of such applications.

WAC 399-30-020 Definitions. Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Board" means the public works board.

(2) "Department" means the department of community development.

(3) "Financing guarantees" means the pledge of money in the public works assistance account, or money to be received by the public works assistance account, to the repayment of all or a portion of the principal of or interest on obligations issued by local governments to finance public works projects.

(4) "Local governments" means cities, towns, counties, special purpose districts, and any other municipal corporations or quasi-municipal corporations in the state excluding school districts and port districts.

(5) "Public works project" means a project of a local government for the planning, acquisition, construction, repair, reconstruction, replacement, rehabilitation, or improvement of streets and roads, bridges, water systems, or storm and sanitary sewage systems.

WAC 399-30-030 Loan and financing guarantee applications. (1) Applications for loans and/or financing guarantees to assist in the financing of critical public works projects may be made by any local government in the state of Washington.

(2) All applicants must meet the following conditions:
   (a) Applicant cities and counties must be imposing a real estate excise tax under chapter 82.46 RCW at a rate of at least one-quarter of one percent;
   (b) Applicant local governments must have developed a long-term plan for financing public works needs; and
   (c) Applicant local governments must be using all local revenue sources that are reasonably available for funding public works, taking into consideration local employment and economic factors.

(3) Direct costs eligible for public works loans are those costs which are directly attributable to a specific project and shall include:
   (a) Direct labor (engineering and/or construction) including related employee benefits:
      (i) Salaries and wages (at actual or average rates) covering productive labor hours of the local government employees (excluding the administrative organization of the operating unit involved) for periods of time, actively engaged in (A) engineering, (B) acquisition of rights-of-way, (C) actual construction activities. The cost of services rendered by employees generally classified as administrative are considered a direct cost only when such employees are assigned for short periods of time to perform on a full-time basis the types of services described above and when similar procedures are followed;
      (ii) Employee benefits relating to direct labor are considered a direct cost of construction projects. The following items may be included as employee benefits: (A) F.I.C.A. (Social Security) – employer’s share; (B) Retirement benefits; (C) Hospital, health, dental, and other welfare insurance; (D) Life insurance; (E) Industrial and medical insurance; (F) Vacation; (G) Holiday; (H) Sick leave; and (I) Military leave and jury duty.
   Employee benefits shall be calculated as a percentage of direct labor dollars. The computation of predetermined percentage rates to be applied to current labor costs shall be based upon the average of total employee benefits and total labor costs for the prior fiscal year and adjusted by known current year variations.
   (b) Contract engineering services.
   (c) Right-of-way acquisition costs including:
      (i) Purchase of land and easements acquired for and devoted to the project;
      (ii) Purchase of improvements;
      (iii) Adjustment or reestablishment of improvements;
      (iv) Salaries, expenses or fees of appraisers, negotiators or attorneys;
      (v) Removal or demolition of improvement;
      (vi) Other direct costs in connection with the acquisition. Amounts received from the sale of excess real

[Title 399 WAC—p 4]
property or improvements and from any rentals shall be a reduction of the direct cost.

(d) Contract construction work.

(e) Direct vehicle and equipment charges at the actual rental cost paid for the equipment or, in the case of city or county-owned equipment, at the rental rates established by the local government’s "equipment rental and revolving fund" following the methods prescribed by the division of municipal corporations: Provided, That such costs shall be charged on a uniform basis to equipment used for all projects regardless of the source of funding. Cities with a population of eight thousand or less which may not use this type of fund shall be allowed the same rates as used by the department of transportation.

(f) Direct materials and supplies. The cost of materials used in projects shall be based upon methods prescribed for the "equipment rental and revolving fund" by the division of municipal corporations.

(i) An overhead rate or "loading factor" shall not be considered an appropriate additive to the actual cost of materials and supplies used on construction projects unless the factor is readily and properly supportable by the governmental unit's accounting records.

(ii) The cost, or reasonable estimate thereof, of materials paid for as contract estimate items, but not used, shall be considered a reduction of direct costs. Any material which may be salvaged in connection with a project shall be assigned a reasonable value and considered a reduction of direct costs.

(g) Interdepartmental charges for work performed by the local government’s departments, other than the road or street department, for the benefit of specific construction projects shall be limited to direct costs plus an allocation of indirect costs based upon ten percent of direct labor dollars, excluding employee benefits.

(h) Other direct costs incurred for materials or services acquired for a specific project shall be eligible for participation by public works loan funds and may include, but shall not be limited to such items as:

(i) Telephone charges;

(ii) Reproduction and photogrammetry costs;

(iii) Computer usage; and

(iv) Printing and advertising.

(4) Applications shall be submitted to the board in writing, on such forms as may be prescribed by and obtained from the board, and shall contain but not be limited to the following information:

(a) Name and address of the local government making the application;

(b) Complete description of the public works project for which financing assistance is sought;

(c) Demonstration of the applicant jurisdiction’s critical need for the project;

(d) The applicant jurisdiction’s financing proposal for the proposed project;

(e) If the application is being made for a loan, a repayment plan;

(f) The number of communities to be served by the proposed project;

(g) Tax rates imposed by the applicant local government for taxes whose revenues can be used to finance public works projects; and

(h) Utility rates charged for sewerage, water, garbage, and other utilities.

(5) Any application for financial assistance submitted to the board shall be signed and verified by a responsible official of the applicant jurisdiction. Such official shall also provide the board with any additional materials or information in support of the application which the board or its staff may request.

[Statutory Authority: 1985 c 446 § 10. 85-24-072 (Order 85-17), § 399-30-030, filed 12/4/85.]

WAC 399-30-040 Board deliberations. (1) The board will consider and prioritize, or disapprove, all applications for loans or financing guarantees at regular or special meetings of the board. The applicant will be notified of meetings at which its application will be considered.

(2) Applications will be evaluated and prioritized in accordance with the following procedures:

(a) Staff will log in all applications as received.

(b) Staff will review all applications for compliance with the minimum qualification requirements of WAC 399-30-030(2) in application Form A. Jurisdictions whose applications do not meet the minimum qualification requirements will be notified in writing of the disqualification.

(c) Staff will perform a preliminary evaluation of all applications which meet the requirements of WAC 399-30-030(2). Applications will be scored according to the number of points awarded for responses provided in the statements of local effort and project need.

(i) Up to two hundred fifty points may be awarded in the evaluation of each application's demonstration of need for the proposed project:

(A) Responses to questions 10 through 21 will be evaluated to determine this score.

(B) Up to two hundred and forty-five points may be awarded in the evaluation of the extent and severity of public works problems provided in applicant responses to questions 10 through 13 and 16 through 21. Extent and severity referred to include health and safety, emergency needs, high maintenance and operation costs and community and regional benefit.

(C) Up to five points may be awarded in the evaluation of coordinated projects provided in applicant responses to question 14.

(ii) Up to two hundred points may be awarded in the evaluation of the applicant jurisdiction's demonstration that it is making a reasonable effort to meet its public works needs:

(A) Responses to questions 22 through 38 will be evaluated to determine this score.

(B) In the case of nonrate-based projects, up to one hundred and fifty points may be awarded in the evaluation of the management initiatives undertaken by applicant jurisdictions provided in applicant responses to questions 22 through 26.

(1986 Ed.)
(C) In the case of nonrate-based projects, up to fifty points may be awarded in the evaluation of local option tax measures charged by applicant jurisdictions provided in applicant responses to questions 27, 28, 29, 30 and 31.

(D) In the case of rate-based projects, up to one hundred points may be awarded in the evaluation of the management initiatives undertaken by applicant jurisdictions provided in applicant responses to questions 22 through 26.

(E) In the case of rate-based projects, up to one hundred points may be awarded in the evaluation of rates charged by applicant jurisdictions provided in applicant responses to questions 27, 28, and 32 through 38.

(d) Staff will provide the board with preliminary evaluation and scoring of the applications, including a summary of each proposal. All application materials will be available to the board for their deliberations. The board will develop a ranked list of projects based on the information provided to them by the staff and the applications.

(e) The board will then adjust the ranked list in consideration of the following factors:

(i) Geographical balance;
(ii) Economic distress;
(iii) Type of projects;
(iv) Type of jurisdiction.

(f) Staff will verify critical information on each project as required by the board.

(g) The board may consult on any issue it wishes to address, with officials of jurisdictions having projects on the list recommended for funding.

(3) Applicants will be notified in writing of board decisions.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.155.040. 86-18-009 (Resolution No. 86-12), § 399-30-040, filed 8/21/86. Statutory Authority: 1985 c 446 § 10. 86-04-051 (Resolution No. 85-17), § 399-30-040, filed 1/15/86.]

WAC 399-30-050 Recommendations to the legislature. (1) Prior to November 1, 1986, and in each subsequent year, the board shall develop and submit to the ways and means committees of the senate and house of representatives a prioritized list of projects which the board recommends for funding by the legislature. In the board’s first year of operation, the board shall submit this list to the ways and means committees by February 1, 1986.

(2) In addition to the requirements of RCW 43.155.070(6), the list will include such supporting material as the board considers necessary to meet the purposes of this chapter.

[Statutory Authority: 1985 c 446 § 10. 85-24-072 (Order 85-17), § 399-30-050, filed 12/4/85.]

WAC 399-30-060 Loan and financing guarantee contracts. (1) The board shall not sign loan agreements or otherwise financially obligate funds from the public works assistance account until the list and accompanying appropriation are approved by the legislature.

(2) After the legislature has appropriated funds from the public works assistance account for a specific list of public works projects, the loan funds will be disbursed to the applicant local government pursuant to a contract therefor, which will be offered to the local government with such reasonable terms and conditions as the board may determine: Provided, That the amount loaned to a local government shall not exceed ninety percent of eligible proposed project cost: Provided further, That the funds provided by a local government which are considered local financial participation shall consist of locally generated revenues and/or federal and/or state–shared revenues subject to discretionary allocation by the recipient unit of local government: Provided further, That the interest rate for loans shall not exceed three percent per annum: Provided further, That loans may be provided at rates of lower than three percent but greater than one percent if the local government participates to a greater extent than ten percent in financing the project receiving a trust fund loan: Provided further, That loans shall not exceed twenty years in duration, or the useful life of the improvements, whichever is shorter. Exception to these provisions shall be made only in cases of severe economic distress and/or natural disaster.

(3) Public works project loan and/or financing guarantee agreements offered to local governments shall be formally executed by the local government and the department of community development prior to the disbursement of any funds thereunder.

(4) Public works project loan and/or financing guarantee contracts offered to local governments shall be executed by the local government within ninety days of the date a loan agreement is initiated.

(5) Work on public works projects financed through loans or financing guarantees offered to local governments must commence prior to October 1 of the year in which the loan or financing guarantee is offered.

(6) Work on public works projects financed through loans or financing guarantees offered to local governments must be completed within twenty–four months of the date work has begun on such projects, unless a written request for extension is approved by the board.

(7) Funds expended by local governments on projects financed through loans or financing guarantees by the public works assistance account before an agreement has been formally executed by the local government and the department of community development may not be reimbursed with funds from the public works assistance account. Such funds may be used by the local government as an element in its required local participation in a project financed by the public works assistance account.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 43.155.040. 86-18-009 (Resolution No. 86-12), § 399-30-060, filed 8/21/86. Statutory Authority: 1985 c 446 § 10. 85-24-072 (Order 85-17), § 399-30-060, filed 12/4/85.]

Chapter 399-40 WAC

COMPLIANCE WITH STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

WAC

399-40-010 Purpose.
399-40-020 Statement.

(1986 Ed.)
WAC 399-40-010  Purpose. The purpose of this chapter is to comply with RCW 43.21C.120, which requires all agencies of government in the state of Washington, consistent with the rules and guidelines adopted under RCW 43.21C.110, to adopt rules pertaining to the integration of policies and procedures of the State Environmental Policy Act of 1971, into the various programs under their jurisdiction for implementation.

[Statutory Authority: 1985 c 446 § 10. 85-24-072 (Order 85-17), § 399-40-010, filed 12/4/85.]

WAC 399-40-020  Statement. Pursuant to WAC 197-10-800, the public works board has reviewed its authorized activities and has found them all to be exempt under the provisions of chapter 197-10 WAC.