Title 399 WAC
PUBLIC WORKS BOARD

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 at 906 Columbia Street S.W., P.O. Box 48319, Olympia, Washington 98504-8319; 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.

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 chair of the board or by a majority of the board members. Notice of such meetings will be as provided by law.

WAC 399-10-030 Communications with the board. Any and all written communications with the board, including but not limited to requests for information or copies of agency records, or submittals of any nature, shall be addressed to the public works board, in care of the chair, at the address which appears in WAC 399-10-010(3). Telephonic communications may be initiated by calling the phone number also listed in WAC 399-10-010(3).

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.

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.

(3) "Board" means the public works board, created pursuant to chapter 446, Laws of 1985, and shall also refer to the board's officers and staff, where appropriate.
(4) "Department" means the department of community development, and shall also refer to the department’s staff, where appropriate.

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

WAC 399-20-030 Public records available. All public records of the board are deemed to be available for public inspection and copying, except as otherwise provided by RCW 42.17.260 and 42.17.310 as now or may hereafter be amended, and by WAC 399-20-090.

[Statutory Authority: 1985 c 446 § 10. 85-24-072 (Order 85-17), § 399-20-030, filed 12/4/85.]

WAC 399-20-040 Public records officer. The department’s public records officer shall be the public records officer for the board. The public records officer shall be responsible for implementation of the board’s rules and regulations regarding inspection and copying of public records, and for ensuring compliance by the staff with the public records disclosure requirements of chapter 42.17 RCW.

[Statutory Authority: 1985 c 446 § 10. 85-24-072 (Order 85-17), § 399-20-040, filed 12/4/85.]

WAC 399-20-050 Records index. (1) The board will make available to any person upon request a current index which provides identifying information as to the following records:

(a) Those statements of policy and interpretations of policy, statutes and regulations which have been adopted by the board;
(b) Administrative staff manuals and instructions to staff that affect a member of the public;
(c) Planning policies and goals, and interim and final planning decisions;
(d) Factual staff reports and studies, factual consultant’s reports and studies, specific reports and studies and any other factual information derived from tests, studies, reports or surveys, whether conducted by public employees or others; and
(e) Correspondence and materials relating to any responsibilities of the board.

(2) The current index promulgated by the board shall be available to all persons under the same rules and on the same conditions as are applied to the public records available for inspection and copying.

[Statutory Authority: 1985 c 446 § 10. 85-24-072 (Order 85-17), § 399-20-050, filed 12/4/85.]

WAC 399-20-060 Office hours. Public records shall be available for inspection and copying during the department’s normal office hours. For purposes of this chapter, normal office hours shall be from 9:00 a.m. to noon and from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

[Statutory Authority: 1985 c 446 § 10. 85-24-072 (Order 85-17), § 399-20-060, filed 12/4/85.]

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.

[Statutory Authority: 1985 c 446 § 10. 85-24-072 (Order 85-17), § 399-20-070, filed 12/4/85.]

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.

[Statutory Authority: 1985 c 446 § 10. 85-24-072 (Order 85-17), § 399-20-080, filed 12/4/85.]

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.

[Statutory Authority: 1985 c 446 § 10. 85-24-072 (Order 85-17), § 399-20-090, filed 12/4/85.]
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.

[Statutory Authority: 1985 c 446 § 10. 85-24-072 (Order 85-17), § 399-20-100, filed 12/4/85.]

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) Inspections 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.

[Statutory Authority: 1985 c 446 § 10. 85-24-072 (Order 85-17), § 399-20-110, filed 12/4/85.]

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REQUEST FOR PUBLIC RECORDS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NAME OF REQUESTOR:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHONE:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Statutory Authority: 1985 c 446 § 10. 85-24-072 (Order 85-17), § 399-20-120, filed 12/4/85.]

Chapter 399-30 WAC
PUBLIC WORKS LOANS AND PLEDGES

WAC 399-30-010  Purpose.
399-30-020  Definitions.
399-30-030  Loan and financing guarantee applications.

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Chapter 399-30

Title 399 WAC: Public Works Board

(a) Applicant cities and counties must be imposing a real estate excise tax under RCW 82.46.010 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 as further described in the loan application package; 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 or incidentally engaged in (A) engineering, (B) acquisition of rights-of-way, (C) construction inspection 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 and planning 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 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) Interepartmental charges for work performed by the local government 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) Video and photography for project documentation;
(iv) Computer usage; and
(v) Printing and advertising.

Applications shall be submitted to the board in writing, on such forms as may be prescribed by and obtained from the board for the current funding cycle.

(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.

WAC 399-30-040 Application evaluation procedure and 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). 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 management efforts and project need.

(i) Up to twenty points may be awarded in the evaluation of each application's demonstration of need for the proposed project. Responses to questions 3.04, 4.01, 4.02, 4.03, 4.04, and 4.05 will be evaluated to determine this score.
(ii) Up to sixty points may be awarded in the evaluation of the applicant jurisdiction's demonstration of local management effort. Responses to questions 5.01 through 5.14 will be evaluated to determine this score.

(d) Staff will provide the board with preliminary evaluation and scoring of the applications. 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 may adjust the ranked list in consideration of the following factors:

(i) Geographical balance;
(ii) Economic distress;
(iii) Type of projects;
(iv) Type of jurisdiction;
(v) Other criteria that the board considers advisable.

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

(g) In order to ensure fair treatment to all applicants, the board will not accept oral testimony from any applicant while deliberating loan priorities, other than information requests initiated by the board as provided in (h) of this subsection.

(h) The board may consult with officials of jurisdictions having projects submitted for funding on any issue it wishes to address.

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

WAC 399-30-042 Application evaluation procedure and board deliberations—Capital planning support. (1) The board will consider and approve, or disapprove, all applications for capital planning support loans at regular or special meetings of the board. The applicant will be notified of meetings at which its application will be considered.

(2) All applications will be evaluated 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). Jurisdictions whose applications do not meet the minimum requirements will be notified in writing of the disqualification.
WAC 399-30-045 Emergency loan program. This section implements RCW 43.155.060 as amended in 1988 to provide that: The board may make low-interest or interest free loans to local governments for emergency public works projects. The emergency loan program is to financially assist eligible communities experiencing the loss of critical public works services or facilities due to an emergency, and that can demonstrate a substantial fiscal need.

(1) Eligible local governments. Applicants must meet the conditions as identified under WAC 399-30-030(2).

(2) Eligible uses of funds. Financial assistance received shall be used for the purpose of restoring the service and/or repair of the public works facilities involved in the emergency. Assistance provided may be used to help fund all or part of an emergency public works project less any reimbursement from any of the following:

(a) Federal disaster or emergency funds, including funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency;
(b) State disaster or emergency funds;
(c) Insurance settlements; or
(d) Litigation.

Reimbursement from the sources listed above shall be made to the department and shall remain an obligation of the assisted local government up to four years after the date of formal project closeout with the department. Local governments receiving funds shall undertake efforts to be reimbursed in a timely manner. Further, that assistance will be offered only for those eligible costs identified in WAC 399-30-030(3).

(3) Availability of funds. Funding will be made available on a first-come first-served basis. Only those funds specifically appropriated by the legislature from the public works assistance account shall be used to make emergency loans. That amount shall not exceed five percent of the total amount appropriated from this account in any biennium.

(4) Application process. The application process shall be in writing on such forms or format as may be prescribed and obtained from the board. The date and time of receipt of the application by the board designated representative shall determine the sequence for application processing.

(5) Board deliberations—Emergency loan applications.

(a) The board will consider and approve or disapprove all eligible applications for emergency financial assistance at regular or special meetings of the board. The applicant will be notified of meetings at which its application will be considered.

(b) All applications will be accepted, evaluated, and prioritized in accordance with the following procedures:

(i) Applications will be accepted only when emergency funding is available.

(ii) Staff will review applications and verify that the applicant is eligible for assistance as set forth in RCW 43.155.070(1).

(iii) Staff will provide the board an evaluation of whether an emergency loan is needed based upon the information documented by the applicant and staff.

(iv) Site visits to the location of the emergency public works project will be carried out at the discretion of the board or staff.

(6) Loan terms. The board shall determine the term and interest rate(s) of emergency loans annually.

(7) Exceptions to public works trust fund policies and procedures. Except as provided in this chapter or specified in annual program guidelines, the emergency program shall follow all general administrative program policies as set for the public works trust fund.

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.

(2) In addition to the requirements of RCW 43.155.070(4), the list will include such supporting material as the board considers necessary to meet the purposes of this chapter.

(3) Before November 1 of each year, the board shall develop and submit to the chairs of the ways and means committees of the senate and house of representatives a description of the emergency loans made under this program as provided in RCW 43.155.070(4), as amended in 1988, and identified in RCW 43.155.065.

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...
Public Works Loans and Pledges 399-30-060

(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 and local share requirements for loans shall be determined annually by the board: Provided further, That loans shall not exceed twenty years in duration, or the useful life of the improvements, whichever is shorter.

(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 scope of work forms shall be completed and returned to the department of community development by the local government within ninety days of the date a scope of work form request is initiated.

(5) 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.

(6) Work on public works projects financed through loans or financing guarantees offered to local governments must commence within sixty days of the date in which the loan or financing guarantee is offered.

(7) Work on public works projects financed through loans or financing guarantees offered to local governments must be completed within thirty months of the date of loan execution, unless a written request for extension is approved by the board.

(8) 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 provided they are used for activities eligible under WAC 399-30-030 and are consistent with the executed loan agreement.

WAC 399-30-065 Emergency loan and financing guarantee contracts. (1) After the legislature has appropriated funds from the public works assistance account for emergency loans, 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, if any: Provided, 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 loans shall not exceed twenty years in duration, or the useful life of the improvements, whichever is shorter.

(2) 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.

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(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) 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.

(6) Work on public works projects financed through loans or financing guarantees offered to local governments must commence within ninety days of the date of loan execution.

(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: Provided, That if the local government has made a formal declaration of an emergency, eligible costs for correction of the emergency incurred from the effective date of such declaration, and approved by the public works board, will be eligible for reimbursement. Such eligible costs not reimbursed but incurred before a loan agreement is approved may be used by the local government as an element of its required local participation, if any, for the emergency public works project.

(8) All public works projects shall comply with the competitive bid requirement of RCW 43.155.060 to the extent feasible and practicable.
Chapter 399-40 WAC

COMPLIANCE WITH STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

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 197-11-800(16), the public works board has reviewed its authorized activities and has found them all to be exempt under the provisions of chapter 197-11 WAC.