

Transportation Budget & Policy Updates

Transportation Policy Board

March 13, 2025

Updated
as of
3/5/2025



Puget Sound Regional Council



We are leaders in the region to realize equity for all. Diversity, racial equity and inclusion are integrated into how we carry out all our work.

psrc.org/equity

Federal Updates



- Budget Reconciliation
- Extend Continuing resolution through Sept 30?
- Tomorrow March 14 current Continuing Resolution ends
- New DOT memo



Federal Resources

- [Video: PSRC Executive Board Update \(40:45\)](#)
- [Executive Order Summaries from Holland & Knight](#)
- [PSRC Federal News Post](#)



2025 State Legislative Session



- 2,171 bills introduced
- March 12 House of Origin Cut-off
- Next revenue forecast March 18

2025 Legislative Session Budget Outlook

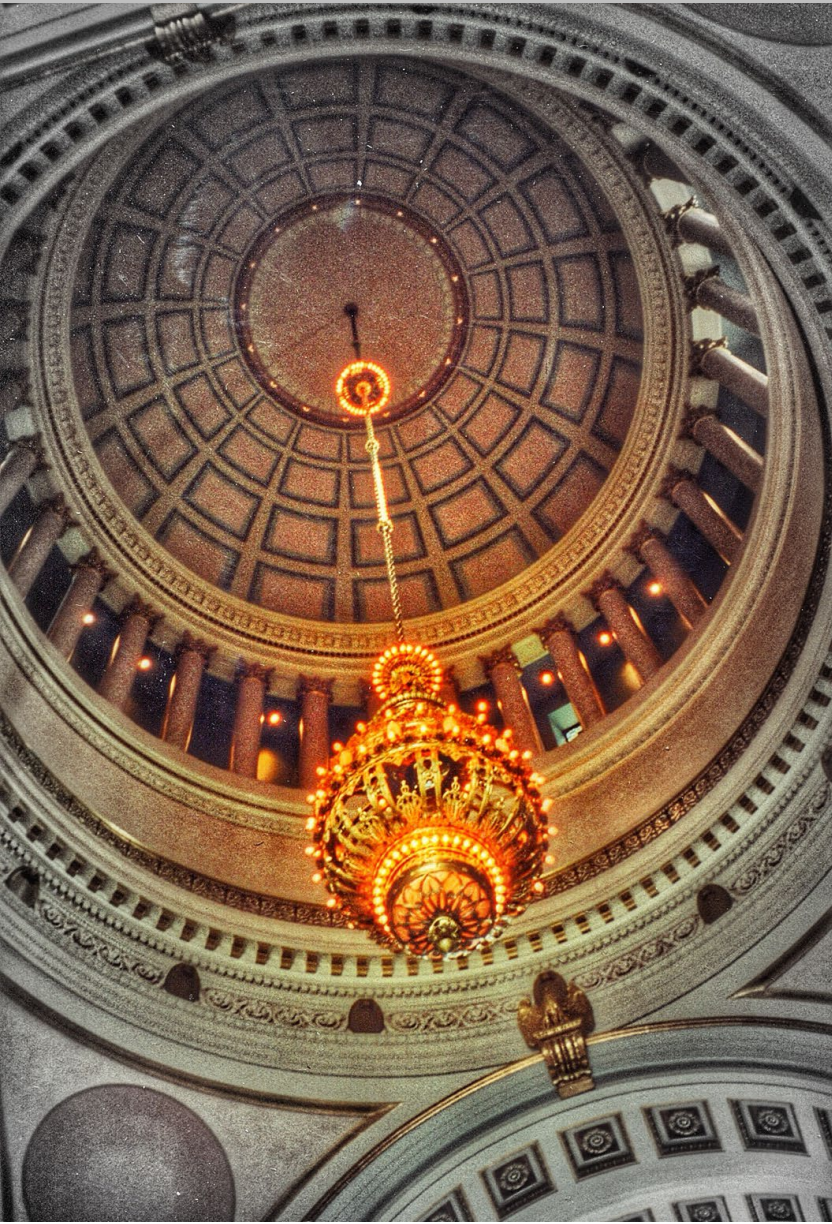
- Operating budget deficit of \$12–\$15 billion
- Transportation budget deficit of \$8 billion, \$1–\$1.8 billion in FY 25–27

Budget Pressures:

- Lawsuits and tort claims
- Federal Funds ~ 30% of state budget
- Economic Outlook last week



Governor and Legislative Proposals and Responses



- \$4 billion new Governor Ferguson [budget reduction plan](#)
- [House Democrats: WA Budget Cuts](#)
- New revenue being discussed by legislature
- Budgets after 3/18 revenue forecast

Transportation Budget: Expected Challenges

- Budget was balanced end of 2024 session
- Revenues down, costs increasing, culverts
- Solutions:
 - Reduce operating and capital
 - Increase Revenue
 - Combination

[House Presentation](#)
[Senate Presentation](#)

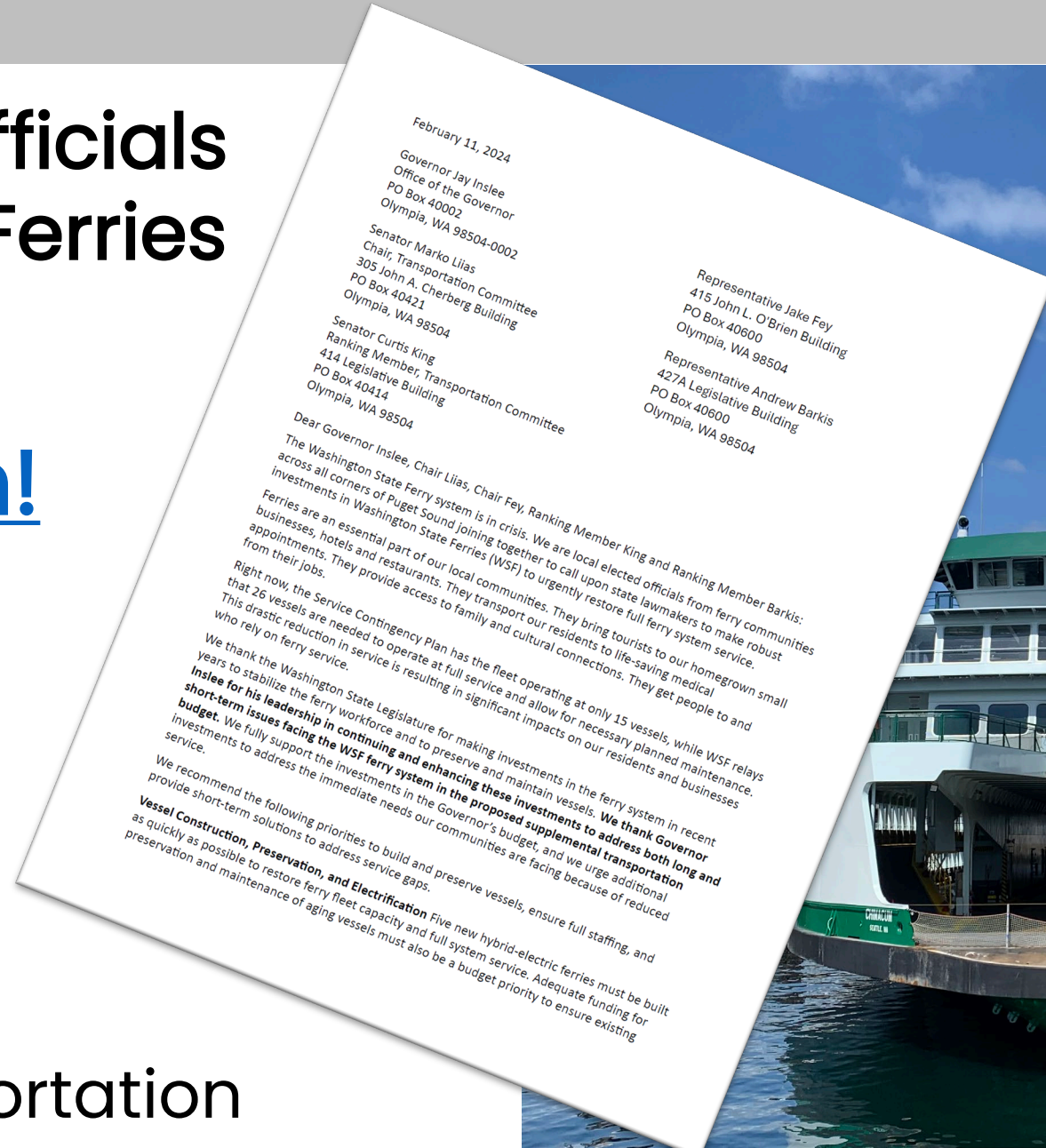


Washington State Ferries

50 Local Elected Officials Support Fund Our Ferries State Letter

Federal Sign-on! State Sign-on!

Next Meeting
Tomorrow:
March 14, 10–11:30
Senator Liias
Chair, Senate Transportation



Mosquito Fleet Act



HB 1923 (Nance)

- Expands types of entities that can form passenger only ferry service district and locations where can be formed



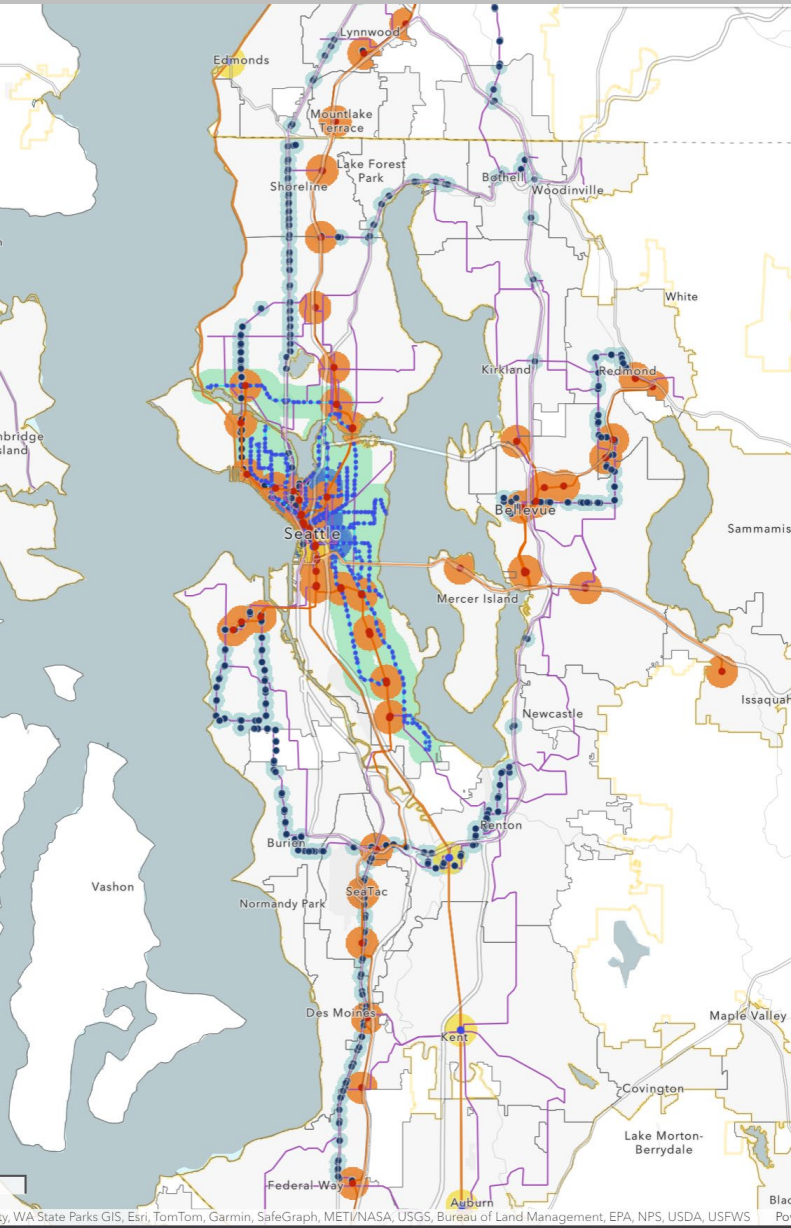
Road Usage Charge

- [HB 1921](#) (Fey) / [SB 5726](#) (Ramos)
- Phased Approach
- 2.6 cents per mile, increased over time linked to fuel tax
- Odometer reporting
- Use restricted to maintenance and preservation protected by the 18th amendment
- 10% road usage assessment to support alternative transportation

[PSRC News Post](#)



Housing Supply: Transit-Oriented Development



Promoting Transit Oriented Housing Development

HB 1491 (Reed)

Creates density requirement in station areas

- 3.5 FAR w/in .5m of rail (.25m in cities <15,000 people)
- 2.5 FAR w/in .25m of BRT

Promoting Transit Oriented Development

SB 5604 **dead** (Liias)

Allows jurisdictions to create MFTE program with 20-year tax exemption in station areas requiring 20% of units in building to be affordable for 50 years.



Traffic Safety

Impaired Driving SB 5067 (Lovick) **dead**

- Lowers the legal blood alcohol concentration (BAC) limit from 0.08 to 0.05.
- Establishes stricter penalties for DUI offenses.



Traffic Safety



Safe System Approach [SB 5581](#) (Shewmake)

- Integrates shared-use paths into certain highway planning, design and construction
- Requires WSDOT to identify if planned active transportation facilities provide equal or better access to destinations



Shared Streets

Shared Streets

[HB 1772](#) (Reed) / [SB 5595](#)
(Alvarado)

- Allows cities to designate shared streets where pedestrians, bicyclists and vehicular traffic share a portion or all of the same street.
- Allows cities to establish a speed limit of 10 mph on a shared street.



Transportation Project Delivery



[HB 1902](#) (Richards) Streamlining Permitting for Transportation Projects

Requires WSDOT, in consultation with Dept. of Ecology, to convene work group to develop recommendations to streamline permitting of transportation projects



Project Delivery

Procurement & Delivery Models

[SB 5773](#) (Liias)

Creates Statutory framework for implementation of public private partnerships for transportation projects to reduce costs and deliver projects faster



EV Charging



Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Crime [SB 5746](#) (J. Wilson)

Requires Departments of Commerce & Transportation to convene advisory committee on electric vehicle charging infrastructure property crime until the end of 2030



Passenger Rail

Intercity Passenger Rail

HB 1837 (Reed) / SB 5667 dead
(Valdez)

- Establishes targets for WSDOT for minimum trip times, roundtrips per day and trip reliability
- ~~2-3~~ hours ~~45~~20mins travel time
Seattle /Vancouver, B.C. and ~~2.5~~ 2
hours 45mins Seattle to Portland
- Requires WSDOT to provide yearly updates on meeting targets





Thank You!

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Puget Sound Regional Council