



Puget Sound Regional Council



2025–2027 WASHINGTON TRANSPORTATION BUDGET

The **2025–27 Transportation Budget SB 5161** provides **\$15.5 billion** in spending authority for the biennium and balances for four years. The budget assumes a combination of new funding sources and bonding of about **\$3.3 billion**. [Read the Budget Summary.](#)

Budget highlights:

- \$125m for fish passage barrier removal in 2025–27 and a total of \$1.12b in new funding
- Preservation funded at the same level for the biennium but increase of \$200 million for the 2027–29 biennium
- \$49m additional funding for local governments in 2025–27 and an additional increase of \$101m in the 2027–29 biennium
- \$30m to support driver safety (\$18m for speed camera & 10m young driver safety)
- \$25m for grants for vehicle charging and refueling infrastructure
- \$7.6m for traffic operations activities and \$14m for enhanced transit activities during the 2026 World Cup
- Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) \$6.8 million for Cascadia SAF institute to promote market adoption of SAF & \$8.3m for Paine Field Research & Development Center

Select Climate Commitment Act Investments — \$1.3b total

- \$26.2m for port electrification competitive grants
- \$7.5m for high-speed rail program
- \$316m for active transportation including \$25m Sandy Williams Connecting Communities
- \$461m public transportation

Ferries:

- Capital investments for new vessels and dock replacement
- \$100m in additional funding for ferry preservation
- Delays Jumbo Mark II ferry conversions
- \$11.9m for Washington State Ferries (WSF) workforce development activities
- \$6.9m for overtime incurred by engine, deck and terminal staff
- \$855k for a workforce development pilot at Seattle Maritime Academy
- \$19.7m for WSF to increase deck and engine positions across system

Maintains funding for many major transportation projects including:

- \$902m in the biennium for the Puget Sound Gateway project, total of \$2.8b
- \$586m for the west end of the SR 520 project, total of \$2.6b
- \$580m for Interstate Bridge Replacement project for biennium & \$1b state funding commitment

Delays funding for projects not under contract including:

- SR 3/Gorst Widening
- SR 167/SR 410 to SR 18 Congestion Management

Studies & Commissions

- Per mile fee program feasibility
- Assessment of passenger & air cargo forecasts
- Alternative project delivery methods
- WSDOT must present on cost estimating & risk assessment practices
- Maximizing transportation system performance
- Alternative fuel & zero emission fuel infrastructure programs
- TOD and HB 1491 implementation recommendations
- Long-range tolling feasibility
- WSDOT report on sustainable aviation projects for funding
- Commercial Aviation Group
- I-5 master plan & seismic vulnerability analyses
- SR-167 implementation plan
- High-speed rail corridor
- WSF report on staffing to maintain ferry service

Transportation Revenue – [SB 5801](#) and [SB 5802](#)

- **Fuel Tax:** 6 cent increase in FY 26 and 2% increase each year after
- **Special Fuel (Diesel):** 3 cent increase
- **Sales Tax Transfer (SB 5802):** .1% of Sales and Use Tax to transportation budget
- **Vehicle Registration fees:** Truck weight, passenger vehicle weight, filing, title & registration, abandoned recreational vehicle
- **Sales and Use Taxes**
 - Motor vehicle sales and use tax from .3 to .5%
 - Rental car tax 5.9 to 11.9%
 - Peer to peer car sharing
 - Recreational Vessels, Luxury Vehicle, Luxury Aircraft

Other Fees and Related provisions

- Tire disposal
- Large event facility
- WSDOT Work Zone Violations
- Driver's License and Identicards
- Remove toll exemption for transit and ride share vehicles
- Increases ferry capital vessel surcharge from 50 cents to \$1, adds 10 cents in 2027 & 2029
- Authorizes tolling on entire 520 corridor including exits, not just floating bridge

View Details: [Revenue Summary SB 5801](#) and [Other Resource Related Provisions SB 5801](#)

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