

The Senate Highways & Transportation 2003-05 Biennial Budget and Investment Package

A Comprehensive Package of Reforms, Funding Options and Investments

1. Improving the Delivery of Transportation Services:

The Senate package starts by improving the accountability and oversight of our state's transportation agencies. Efficiency measures reform prevailing wage and contracting laws to ensure that new revenues are spent wisely. Regional options allow local governments to directly address congestion problems and partner with the state's investment package.

Accountability

- √ Performance audits (SSB 5748 – in House Transportation)
- √ Strengthening the state transportation planning process (SSB 5987 – in House Transportation)
- √ Have legislators directly involved in project planning process (ESB 5245 – in House Transportation)

Efficiency

- √ Contracting out, prevailing wage reforms and transportation efficiencies (SSB 5248 – in House Rules)
- √ Agency reorganization (PSSB 5527 – Senate Rules)
- √ Permit efficiency streamlining (SB 5279 – in House Transportation)
- √ Ferry terminal alternative contracting (SSB 5520 – in House Transportation)
- √ Maintaining passenger ferry service (ESSB 5850 – in House Transportation)
- √ Exercising sound business practices to enhance revenues for WA State Ferries (PSSB 5974 – in House Transportation)

Regional Options

- √ Implementing the Regional Transportation Investment District (RTID) for King/Snohomish/Pierce counties
- √ Regional Transportation Investment District Bonding (SB 5769 – in House Transportation)
- √ Local gas tax (SSB 5247 – in House Transportation)
- √ Provide local regions opportunities for local control (Transportation Benefit Districts, PSSB 5585 – Senate Rules)

Senate Package Continued:

2. New Transportation Revenues:

(Ten-Year Estimates – Dollars in Thousands)

Revenues Restricted to Highway Use (18th Amendment to Constitution)

▪ 5 Cent Gas Tax Increase	\$1,747,250
▪ 15% Increase to Weight Fees (Incl. Motor Homes)	\$ 206,728

Total Cash Revenue	\$1,953,978
Bond Proceeds	\$2,600,000
Debt Service on New Bonds	(\$943,969)

Revenues Available for any Transportation Investment

▪ Sales Tax on Motor Vehicles (Three tenths of one percent)	\$ 347,797
▪ General Obligation Bond for Rail	\$ 120,000

Total 10-Year Investment Package **\$4,077,806**

Revenue Comparison 2003-05 Biennium:

2003-05 Revenue Source (Dollars in Millions)	Existing Revenue	New Revenue	Total Revenue
Gas Tax	\$1,066	\$301	\$1367
Federal Funding	\$770		\$770
License, Permits and Fees	\$659		\$659
Re-appropriations	\$742		\$742
Bonds	\$242	\$280	\$522
Ferry Fares	\$270		\$270
Driver License Fees	\$122		\$122
Sales Tax on Vehicles		\$58	\$58
Miscellaneous	\$56		\$56
Rental Car Tax	\$45		\$45
Local Funds	\$35		\$35
15% Weight Fee Increase		\$39	\$39
Total	\$4,007		\$4,685

Senate Package Continued:

3. New Transportation Investments:

The Senate Package is sized to fix congestion problems in the 36 counties and be the foundation for RTID in the Puget Sound region. The package makes specific project appropriations to hold the Department of Transportation to cost estimates and timelines. New revenue is kept separate to make sure that it is dedicated only to identified projects. New revenue goes away when projects are completed.

Senate New Revenue Project Selection Criteria:

1. Safety benefits, including high accident locations
2. Measurable congestion relief benefits
3. Freight benefit
4. Direct economic development benefit
5. Transit/pedestrian benefit
6. Water/habitat fix
7. Partner funding
8. Special federal program
9. Cost benefit

Highlights of Senate New Revenue Projects:

- 266 New Lane Miles Added
 - FINISHES 97 Highway Construction Projects addressing:
 - Congestion relief, freight mobility & economic development
- 9 Projects that include HOV lanes
(\$660 million in HOV projects)
- 10 New interchanges
- 17 Interchange improvements

Senate Package Continued:

10-YEAR NEW REVENUE EXPENDITURE PLAN

(Dollars in Millions)

TOTAL PROPOSAL - ALL FUNDS	\$ 4,100
TOTAL - 18th Amendment	\$ 3,655
TOTAL HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION	\$ 3,407
3 COUNTY CONSTRUCTION *	\$ 2,200
Snohomish	465
King	1,176
Pierce	502
Safety	57
36 COUNTY CONSTRUCTION	\$ 1,207
36 Counties Projects	1,057
Safety	150
WASHINGTON STATE FERRIES	\$ 248
New Vessels - Auto	67
Vessel and Terminal Preservation	36
Terminal Improvements	145
TOTAL - Flexible Funds	\$ 445
PASSENGER AND FREIGHT RAIL OPERATING & CAPITAL PROJECTS	\$ 210
Rail Capital Projects that Improve Freight Movement	45
Seattle-Vancouver WA Track Improvements	127
Seattle-Bellingham Track Improvements	21
Additional Service to Portland	17
WASHINGTON STATE FERRIES	\$ 50
Terminal Improvements	50
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS AND GRANTS	\$ 185
Commute Trip Reduction Grants and Tax Credits	30
Rural Mobility Grants	75
Special Needs Transportation Grants	50
Vanpools	30

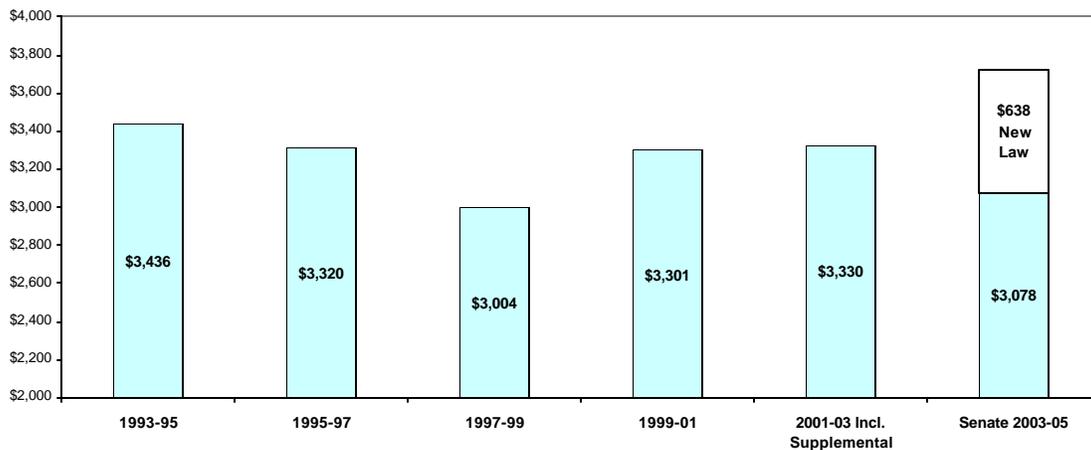
Senate Package Continued:

4. The 2003-05 Biennium Transportation Budget

(Includes New Revenue Expenditures)

The 2003-05 transportation budget appropriates \$3.078 billion in current resources (revenue and bonds) for the operation and maintenance of the state transportation system. In addition to reappropriations from the prior biennium, the Senate Revenue Package provides \$638 million for the construction of new highways, ferries and for funding of additional public transportation services.

Transportation Budget History
(Does not include Toll-Funded Facilities - Dollars in Millions)



Department of Transportation Highway Activities:

- **\$974 million** is provided for the design, right of way and construction of projects that improve mobility, safety and efficiency of moving freight and goods on the state highway system. A highway improvement project list can be found in Section 5.
- **\$289 million** is provided for maintenance activities on the state highway system. Maintenance activities include damage repair, installation of drainage systems and maintenance on bridges, tunnels and rest areas.
- **\$657 million** is provided to preserve the structural integrity of the state highway system. This funding is used to repair, repave and restripe highways as well as to restore existing safety features.

Senate Package Continued:

Ferry and Rail Activities:

- **\$309 million** is provided for the administrative support, maintenance and daily operation of Washington State Ferry boats and terminals.
- **\$181 million** is provided for investment in vessels, terminals and emergency repairs. Funding includes new revenue projects identified in Section 5 of this document.
- **\$81 million** is provided for the operations and construction of passenger rail and construction of freight rail activities as well as the additional new law capital projects included on the list in Section 5 of this document.
 - **\$21 million** is provided for track improvements from Seattle to Bellingham.
 - **\$9 million** is provided for freight rail projects that keep trucks off the highway system.

Other WSDOT Activities:

- **\$43 million** is provided for traffic operations, including the continuation of the expanded incident response program.
- **\$1.9 million** is provided for grants to preserve the existing infrastructure of airports that are ineligible to receive federal funding.
- **\$2 million** is provided for support Regional Transportation Planning Organization and long range planning efforts.
- **\$8 million** is provided to assist the Regional Transportation Investment District with project oversight and to provide an external review of RTID project cost estimates.
- **\$6 million** is provided for grants for special needs transportation.
- **\$10 million** is provided for rural mobility grants.
- **\$6 million** is provided for commute trip reduction tax credits and grants.
- **\$2 million** is provided for vanpools.

Senate Package Continued:

Other Transportation Agency Highlights:

Department of Licensing:

- **\$8.2 million** is provided to enable the agency to move data and computer applications to a server-computing environment
- **\$586 thousand** is provided to enable the agency to improve network security
- **\$609 thousand** is provided for the agency to participate in the National Title Information System
- **\$64 thousand** is provided to enable the agency to replace server hardware and perform server and software maintenance.

Washington State Patrol:

- **\$1.7 million** is provided for 13 troopers to continue service levels established after the September 11th attack
- **\$3.2 million** is provided for mobile and portable radios
- **\$1.0 million** is provided for new servers
- **\$2.8 million** is provided for Capital improvements; including funding for the Shelton Academy's share of the Shelton water and sewer plan

Washington Traffic Safety Commission:

- **\$1.6 million** is provided for school zone safety enforcement activities and educational programs to improve traffic safety in school zones

Local Boards Coordinated Program:

Existing staff for the Transportation Improvement Board and County Road Administration Board are combined into the Local Boards Coordinated Program under Substitute Senate Bill 5527.

- **\$160 thousand** is provided to assist local agencies in complying with the Endangered Species Act regarding road maintenance functions
- **\$342 thousand** is provided for training to local agencies on how to conduct roadway maintenance activities in compliance with regulations contained in the Endangered Species Act