



CITY OF SEATTLE 2013 STATE LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN

MARCH 25, 2013

NUMBER 10

Week Overview

The legislature continued hearing and voting on bills in committee, in anticipation of the April 3rd policy committee, opposite house cutoff. On Wednesday, March 20th, the state's revenue forecast was released. Although revenues are up slightly this quarter, when taking into consideration the caseload forecast, the legislature is now facing a \$1.3 billion gap for the 2013-2015 biennium. The Senate Majority is expected to release their budget over the next week, and the House will likely release their budget proposal the following week.

Areas of Primary Focus

Protecting the most vulnerable families and individuals

Affordable Housing

[HB 1563](#): Concerning the disposition of surplus property for the development of affordable housing.

Sponsor: Representative Jessyn Farrell

Co-Sponsors: Wylie, McCoy, Orwall, Seaquist, Bergquist, Springer, Pedersen, O'Ban, Kochmar, Moeller, Fitzgibbon, Appleton, Ryu, Stanford, Maxwell, Jinkins, Hunt, Fey, Pollet, Goodman, Habib, Santos

Summary: HB 1563 would allow surplus property to more easily be used for the development of affordable housing.

Status: HB 1563 passed out of the House in a 51-46 (1 excused) vote on March 6th. The bill will be heard in the Senate Financial Intuitions, Housing, and Insurance Committee on March 26th.

Education

[HB 1680](#): Implementing strategies to close the educational opportunity gap, based on the recommendations of the educational opportunity gap oversight and accountability committee.

Sponsor: Representative Sharon Tomiko Santos

Co-Sponsors: Upthegrove, Maxwell, Ryu, Bergquist

Summary: HB 1680 adopts policies and programs to help close the educational opportunity gap in early learning, third grade reading, and attendance.

Status: HB 1680 passed the House 54 to 44. The Senate heard the bill in the Early Learning & K-12 Committee on March 15th.

[HB 1505](#): Raising the minimum state funding assistance percentage for the school construction assistance program.

Sponsor: Representative Jamie Pedersen

Co-Sponsors: Carlyle, Warnick, Lytton, Pollet, Maxwell, Santos, Dunshee, Farrell, Sullivan, Hunter, Fitzgibbon, Cody, Kagi, Van De Wege, Tharinger, Bergquist, Hudgins, Tarleton, Goodman, Pettigrew, Springer, Ryu, Morrell

Summary: HB 1505 would assist local school districts with construction capacity by requiring the Superintendent of Public Instruction to set the minimum funding assistance percentage at 30 percent of project costs for the School Construction Assistance Program, instead of the current 20 percent.

Status: HB 1505 is still in committee.

Companion Bill: [SB 5642](#)

Sponsor: Senator David Frockt

Co-Sponsors: Murray, Nelson, Kohl-Welles, Hasegawa, Chase, Kline

Status: SB 5642 is still in committee.

City Position: Seattle supports this legislation.

[HB 1723](#): Concerning early learning opportunities.

Sponsor: Representative Ruth Kagi

Co-Sponsors: Walsh, Farrell, Maxwell, Roberts, Freeman, Goodman, Sawyer, Sullivan, Jinkins, Seaquist, Lytton, Haigh, Hunter, Morrell, Sells, Ryu, Morris, McCoy, Reykdal, Tarleton, Tharinger, Pollet, Fey, Moscoso, Bergquist, Ormsby, Santos

Summary: HB 1723 addresses funding for home visits to expectant mothers and parents of newborns, increasing subsidies for high quality child care, and expanding preschool education. **Status:** HB 1723 passed out of the House 59-38 (with one excused). The bill is in the Senate Early Learning & K-12 Education Committee.

City Position: Seattle supports the policy of this legislation.

Transportation, Economic Development, and Infrastructure

Transportation Revenue

[HB 1954](#): Proposes a statewide transportation package.

Sponsor: Representative Judy Clibborn

Co-Sponsors: Moscoso, Fey, Ryu, Riccelli, Farrell, Lias, Pollet, Ormsby, Tarleton, Roberts, Wylie, Morris, Bergquist, Moeller

Summary: This transportation proposal would raise approximately \$10 billion over the next ten years, primarily through a gas tax and a statewide MVET. The package would primarily fund large state projects with some revenue going to towards maintenance, transit, and local needs.

Status: This bill has not yet been heard and would be necessary to implement the budget.

Local Transportation Options

[HB 1959](#): Concerning local transportation options.

Sponsor: Representative Jessyn Farrell

Co-Sponsors: Fitzgibbon, Kagi, Pedersen, Bergquist, Pollet, Tarleton, Cody, Ryu, Fey

Summary: HB 1959 provides for a 1.5% MVET in King County and councilmanic authority for TBDs to increase vehicle fees from \$20 to \$40. The legislation would help preserve essential bus service in King County and provide needed resources to repair and maintain local roads and bridges.

Status: HB 1959 is considered necessary to implement the budget.

City Position: Seattle supports this legislation.

Capital Budget

[HB 1089](#): Governor Gregoire's proposed capital budget.

Sponsor: Representative Hans Dunshee

Co-Sponsors: Warnick

Summary: AWC testified on behalf of cities about the need to continue to fully fund MTCA. Governor Gregoire's proposed budget swept a significant portion of MTCA, which would result in fewer toxic cleanup projects being funded.

Status: This budget bill is in House Capital Budget Committee and will continue to be worked on through the session.

Companion Bill: [SB 5035](#)

Sponsor: Senator Jim Honeyford

Co-Sponsors: Nelson, Shin

Status: This budget bill is in Senate Ways and Means Committee and will continue to be worked on through the session.

Infrastructure

SB 5378: Creating a six-year time frame for substantial building code amendments.

Sponsors: Benton, Schoesler, Bailey, Carrell, Becker, Holmquist Newbry, Sheldon, Ericksen, Dammeier

Summary: 5378 extends the time requirements so that substantial revisions to the building codes occur every six years instead of every 3 years.

Status: SB 5378 passed out of the Senate in a 33-14 vote. The bill had a public hearing in the House Local Government Committee on March 19th, where a member of Seattle's Department of Planning and Development spoke, and it will be considered for a vote in committee in the next week.

City Position: Seattle opposes this legislation.

Public Safety

HB 1114: Addressing criminal incompetency and civil commitment.

Sponsor: Representative Jamie Pedersen

Co-Sponsors: Rodne, Morrell, Nealey, Green, Jinkins

Summary: In previous iterations, HB 1114 would have, in part, ensured that a state hospital evaluates defendants charged with serious non-felony crimes who have been found to be not competent to stand trial. Due to fiscal concerns, this portion of the bill was removed in the substitute version that was passed out of the House Appropriations Committee, and the bill is currently silent on this issue. However, work on the fiscal note continues.

Status: HB 1114 passed out of the House in an 87-11 vote. The bill will be heard in the Senate Human Services and Corrections Committee on March 25th.

Companion Bill: [SB 5176](#)

Sponsor: Senator Jim Hargrove

Summary: There are some concerns with the current version of this bill in regards to evaluations for those found not competent to stand trial. When the bill was heard in the House committee on March 13th, the city joined other entities in testifying to the need to make all resources for beds available by requiring both local evaluation and treatment centers and state hospitals to conduct these evaluations and potential treatments.

Status: SB 5176 passed out of the Senate in a 49-0 vote. The bill is scheduled for a committee vote in the House Judiciary Committee on March 26th.

HB 1045: Authorizing certain local authorities to establish maximum speed limits on certain non-arterial highways.

Sponsor: Representative Cindy Ryu

Co-Sponsors: Angel, Moscoso, Clibborn, Upthegrove, Fitzgibbon, Liias, Pedersen, Stanford, Farrell, Morrell, Pollet, Bergquist, Fey

Summary: HB 1045 would allow cities to lower the speed limits on certain streets to 20 MPH.

Status: HB 1045 passed the House on a vote of 86 to 10 (with 2 excused). HB 1045 passed out of the Senate Transportation Committee on March 20th and is now in the Rules Committee.

[HB 1047](#): Concerning photographs, microphotographs, and electronic images from traffic safety cameras and toll systems.

Sponsor: Representative Cathy Dahlquist

Co-Sponsors: Hurst, Magendanz

Summary: HB 1047 would allow images from traffic safety cameras to be used for prosecuting crimes if a warrant is obtained. Deputy Police Chief Nick Metz joined King County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Satterberg to give public testimony in support of this bill.

Status: The bill passed the House 78-18 and was referred to the Senate Law and Justice Committee.

City Position: Seattle supports this legislation.

Human Trafficking

[SB 5488](#): Establishing an enhanced penalty for the use of an internet advertisement to facilitate the commission of a sex-trafficking crime.

Sponsor: Senator Jeanne Kohl-Welles

Co-Sponsors: Padden, Kline, Darneille, Fraser, Ranker, Keiser, Delvin, Carrell, McAuliffe, Chase, Conway

Summary: SB 5488 requires an additional fee of five thousand dollars per offense to be assessed on a person convicted of commercial sexual abuse of a minor, promoting commercial sexual abuse of a minor, or promoting travel for commercial sexual abuse of a minor, when the court finds that an internet advertisement in which the victim of the crime was described or depicted was instrumental in facilitating the commission of the crime.

Assistant Chief Dick Reed and Detective Todd Novidsedlak from SPD both testified on this bill in the Senate and House hearings.

Status: SB 5488 passed out of the Senate in a 49-0 vote. The bill was voted out of the House Public Safety Committee on March 21st.

City Position: Seattle supports this legislation.

[HB 1292](#): Vacating Prostitution Convictions.

Sponsor: Representative Tina Orwall

Co-Sponsors: Goodman, Roberts, Appleton, Green, Hope, Kochmar, Moscoso, Jinkins, Upthegrove, Ryu

Summary: HB 1292 would allow victims to vacate prostitution convictions.

Status: This bill passed out of the House 91 to 1 with 6 excused. The bill has been referred to the Senate Law & Justice Committee.

City Position: Seattle supports this legislation.

[SB 5308](#): Establishing the commercially sexually exploited children statewide coordinating committee.

Sponsor: Senator Jeanne Kohl-Welles

Co-Sponsors: Carrell, Darneille, Padden, Kline, Hargrove, Fraser, Chase, Keiser, Conway, Cleveland, Tom

Summary: SB 5308 will establish a committee to work on this issue.

Status: The bill passed the Senate 49 to 0. The bill is scheduled for a committee vote in the House Public Safety Committee on March 26th.

[SB 5563](#): Regarding training for school employees in the prevention of sexual abuse.

Sponsor: Senator Jeanne Kohl-Welles

Co-Sponsors: Litzow, Rolfes, Keiser, McAuliffe, Kline

Summary: SB 5563 requires the office of the superintendent of public instruction to develop and implement a training program for school employees regarding prevention of sexual abuse, commercial sexual abuse of a minor, and sexual exploitation of a minor.

Status: SB 5563 passed out of the chamber in a 49-0 vote. It is scheduled for a committee vote in the House Education Committee on March 26th.

[HB 1291](#): Concerning Services for Victims of the Sex Trade.

Sponsor: Representative Tina Orwall

Co-Sponsors: Kochmar, Hope, Parker, Goodman, Jinkins, Upthegrove, Ryu, Stanford, Roberts, Hurst, Morrell, Tarleton, Wylie, Bergquist, Ormsby

Summary: HB 1291 directs current offender fees towards services for victims.

Status: HB 1291 passed the House 97 to 0, with 1 excused. The bill was heard in the Senate Law & Justice Committee on March 20th.

City Fiscal Health

[HB 1368](#): Concerning the distribution of state liquor revenues to cities and counties.

Sponsor: Representative Steve Tharinger

Co-Sponsors: Springer, Orcutt, Ryu, Fey, Zeiger, Moscoso, Kochmar, Magendanz, Hayes, Sells, Hargrove, Morrell, Freeman

Summary: HB 1368 would restore the growth in liquor revenues to cities and counties.

Status: This bill is currently in the House Appropriations Committee. This bill could be considered necessary to implement the budget.

Companion Bill: [SB 5703](#)

Sponsor: Senator Steve Hobbs

Status: SB 5703 has been referred to Senate Ways & Means. This issue could be considered necessary to implement the budget.

City Position: Seattle supports this legislation.

Local Revenue Authority

[SB 5688](#): Simplifying definitions and classifications concerning state and local tax systems.

Sponsor: Senator John Braun

Co-Sponsors: Carrell, Dammeier, Rivers, Sheldon, Hobbs

Summary: SB 5688 was amended on the Senate floor and turned into a study bill. It would have representatives from cities, the business community and DOR meet through the interim to discuss and make recommendations regarding state and local B&O tax uniformity, business classifications, apportionment, and nexus. DOR would submit a report detailing recommendations in December.

Status: SB 5688 was moved out of the chamber in a 35-14 vote. The bill has now been referred to the House Finance Committee.

City Position: Seattle **opposes** this legislation.

[SB 5656](#): Revising Business Licensing Systems.

Sponsor: Senator John Braun

Co-Sponsors: Carrell, Rivers, Sheldon, Hobbs, Fain

Summary: SB 5656 was amended on the Senate floor to require cities to join either the state's business licensing system or the five-cities-portal system.

Status: SB 5656 passed out of the chamber in a 33-16 vote. The bill was heard in the House Local Government Committee on March 21st, and it is scheduled for a committee vote next week.

City Position: Seattle opposes this legislation.

Other Issues of Significant Interest

Disabled Parking Placards

[HB 1946](#): Concerning Special Parking Privileges for Persons with Disabilities.

Sponsor: Representative Sam Hunt

Co-Sponsor: Reykdal

Summary: HB 1946 would help reduce disabled parking placard abuse by improving enforcement of illegal use of placards and by establishing a work group that will develop recommendations for other ways to curtail abuse.

Status: HB 1946 passed the House 98-0. The bill was heard in the Senate Transportation Committee on March 19th, and it was voted out of committee on March 21st.

City Position: Seattle supports this legislation.

Towing

[HB 1625](#): Concerning limitations on certain tow truck operator rates.

Sponsor: Representative Gerry Pollet

Co-Sponsors: Clibborn, Kagi, Pedersen, Hunt, Ricelli, Appleton, Hudgins, Moscoso, Fitzgibbon, Morrell, Sells, Bergquist

Summary: The bill would establish statewide maximum rates on private impound tows. The bill was amended on the floor to clarify that Seattle would retain the ability to set rates and related charges should the City prevail in pending litigation.

Status: HB 1625 passed the House 91-7. The bill was heard in the Senate Transportation Committee on March 21st.

Position: Seattle supports this legislation.

Energy Efficiency

[HB 1017](#): Creating new efficiency standards.

Sponsor: Representative Jeff Morris

Co-Sponsors: Fitzgibbon, Fey, Liias, McCoy, Hudgins, Farrell, Morrell, Ormsby, Upthegrove, Pollet

Summary: HB 1017 establishes minimum energy efficiency standards for battery charger systems, quartz halogen lamps, and minimum water conservation performance standards for faucets.

Status: HB 1017 was voted out of the House in a 59-38 vote, with 1 excused. The bill has been referred to the Senate Energy, Environment, and Telecommunications Committee.

City Position: Seattle supports this legislation.

[SB 5438](#): Using conservation achieved by a qualifying utility in excess of its biennial acquisition target under the energy independence act.

Sponsor: Senator Doug Eriksen

Co-Sponsor: Senator Maralyn Chase

Summary: SB 5438 revises the energy independence act to allow conservation achieved by a qualifying utility in excess of its biennial acquisition target to be used to meet its subsequent biennial target. Seattle City Light's Director of Conservation Resources Division, Glenn Atwood testified in support of the legislation.

Status: SB 5438 passed out of the Chamber in a 31-18 vote. The bill was heard in the House Environment Committee on March 21st.

[E2SSB 5802](#): Developing recommendations to achieve the state's greenhouse gas emissions targets.

Sponsor: Senator Kevin Ranker

Co-Sponsors: Litzow, Frockt, Cleveland, Billig, Kohl-Welles, Murray, McAuliffe

Summary: This legislation was requested by Governor Inslee, and it creates the Climate Legislative and Executive Work Group and commissions a report to evaluate approaches to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Status: 5802 passed out of the Senate 37 to 12. It was heard in the House Environment Committee on March 20th and voted out of committee on March 21st. It is now in the Rules Committee.

Product Stewardship

[HB 1364](#): Adopting the Washington Small Rechargeable Battery Stewardship Act.

Sponsor: Representative Steve Tharinger

Co-Sponsors: Zeiger, Moscoso, Crouse, Lias, McCoy, Fitzgibbon, Upthegrove, Maxwell, Morrell, Pollet, Fey

Summary: HB 1364 would help standardize, facilitate and reduce barriers to battery stewardship programs and hold all battery suppliers to the same stewardship obligations.

Status: HB 1364 was passed out of the House in a 57-40 vote, with 1 excused. The bill was heard in the Senate Energy, Environment, and Telecommunications Committee on March 20th.

[SB 5658](#): Concerning mercury-containing lights.

Sponsor: Senator Doug Eriksen

Co-Sponsors: McAuliffe, Hobbs

Summary: SB 5658 repeals the product stewardship program and the product stewardship programs account. Requires producers of mercury-containing lights sold in this state to pay a registration fee and an administration fee to the department of ecology for reimbursement of documented costs for recycling and transportation of unwanted product from covered entities and for administration and enforcement costs.

Status: SB 5658 passed out of the Senate in a 26-23 vote. The bill will heard in the House Environment Committee on March 27th.

City Position: Seattle **opposes** this legislation.

Reducing Toxins

[HB 1294](#): Concerning Flame Retardants.

Sponsor: Representative Kevin Van de Wege

Status: HB 1294 passed out of the House in a 53-44 vote, with 1 excused. HB 1294 was heard in the Senate Energy, Environment, and Telecommunication Committee on March 19th.

Summary: This bill will ban the manufacture, sale, and distribution of children's products with high levels of TDCPP or TCEP flame retardant chemicals.

City Position: Seattle supports this legislation.

Sick Leave

[SB 5726](#): Placing geographic limitations on local paid sick leave and paid safe leave programs.

Sponsor: Senator John Braun

Co-Sponsors: Tom, Bailey, Schoesler, Padden, Benton

Summary: SB 5726 would place limits on Seattle's current law.

Status: SB 5726 passed out of the Senate in a 29-20 vote, with some amendments. SB 5726 is now in the House where it has been assigned to the Labor and Workforce Development Committee.

City Position: Seattle **opposes** this legislation.

Public Works Contracting

HB 1466: Revising Alternative Public Works Contracting Procedures.

Sponsor: Representative Kathy Haigh

Co-Sponsors: Warnick, Dunshee, Fey, Kristiansen, Reykdal

Summary: HB 1466 reauthorizes the alternative public works contracts and makes other changes recommended by the Capital Projects Advisory Review Board (CPARB).

Status: HB 1466 passed the House unanimously, with 3 excused. It was heard in the Senate Governmental Operations Committee on March 21st.

Companion Bill: **SB 5349**

Sponsor: Senator Bruce Dammeier

Status: SB 5349 passed out of the Senate in a 49-0 vote. The bill was heard in the House Capital Budget Committee on March 8th.

Extended Foster Care Services

SB 5405: Concerning Extended Foster Care Services.

Sponsor: Senator Ed Murray

Co-Sponsors: Tom, Kohl-Welles, Darneille, Hobbs, Harper, Frockt

Summary: SB 5405 helps young people aging out of the foster care system who still face numerous and serious challenges by allowing them to choose to extend foster care services until they are 21 years old.

Status: SB 5405 passed out of the chamber unanimously with 1 excused. The bill will be heard in the House Early Learning & Human Services Committee on March 26th.

Companion Bill: **HB 1302**

Sponsor: Representative Mary Helen Roberts

Status: HB 1302 passed the House 91 to 6, with 1 excused. HB 1302 will be heard in the Senate Human Services and Corrections Committee on March 28th.

City Position: Seattle supports this legislation.

Tenant Screening

SB 5568: Concerning the disclosure of certain information when screening tenants.

Sponsor: Senator Steve Hobbs

Co-Sponsors: Kohl-Welles, Billig, Frockt, Chase, Harper, Hasegawa, Keiser, Shin, Kline, Nelson

Summary: This bill continues work that has been done previously on tenant screening to ensure that screening service providers may not disclose an applicant's status as a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking as part of the screening process.

Status: SB 5568 passed the Senate 46 to 3. The bill had a hearing on March 20th in the House Judiciary Committee.

City Position: Seattle supports this legislation.

Looking Ahead

Committee meetings continue through the week. Bills must pass policy committees by April 3rd, then fiscal committees by April 9th. Meanwhile, work continues behind the scenes on the operating, capital and transportation budgets. The Senate Majority Caucus Coalition may release an operating budget sometime in the next week, with the House to follow. Work continues on a smaller version of the transportation package, but few details are available.