

Side by Side - Regional Transportation Governance Bills

Issue Area	HB 2871	HB 2491	HB 2955	SB 6599
<i>New governance?</i>	Regional Transportation Commission is created to govern system planning and funding of broadly defined transportation projects, including transit. §§2(11), 4, 10-14.	Effective January 1, 2008, if approved by voters, Authority Council is created to govern Regional Transportation System Authority -- oversee RTID, ST, and Monorail. §201.	7-member commission appointed by Governor to develop regional governance proposal for voter approval alongside RTID and ST plans at 2007 general election. §§7, 8, 11.	7-member commission appointed by Governor to develop regional governance proposal for voter approval alongside RTID and ST (RTA) plans at 2007 general election. §§6, 7, 10.
<i>May RTID or Sound Transit (ST) go to ballot in 2006?</i>	RTID is repealed and may not go to ballot. § 62.  ST may go to ballot. §§39, 41-43.	Yes, but only a plan developed jointly by ST and RTID <u>and</u> adopted by county legislative authorities. §§501(7), 503(3)-(4), 504(1)	No. §§7, 11.	No. §§6, 10.
<i>May RTID or Sound Transit go to ballot in 2007?</i>	ST may submit proposal through RTC, to be contained in the integrated regional transportation investment plan submitted to voters. Until January 2009, any such plan is also subject to approval of county legislative authorities. §§43, 14.	In 2007, RTID and ST may go to ballot if plan is developed jointly and adopted by county legislative authorities.  Beginning in 2008, Authority Council governs planning of RTID and ST and must approve joint plan to be submitted to voters. §102, 201.	Yes, required. Neither RTID nor ST's plan may be approved separately; both must pass for each to be considered approved. §§7, 11.	Yes, required. Neither RTID nor ST's plan may be approved separately; both must pass for each to be considered approved. §§6, 10.

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<b><i>What role for PSRC?</i></b>	PSRC's MPO and RTPO functions are assumed by RTC. §10, 14.	Effective Jan. 1, 2008, Authority Council assumes PSRC's MPO and RTPO functions. §201. PSRC plan must be based on the Council's guidelines. §615.	RTID and ST plans must be consistent with PSRC regional transportation plan. §2(7).	RTID and ST plans must be consistent with PSRC regional transportation plan. §1(7).
<b><i>Boundaries?</i></b>  <i>(Under current law, RTID's boundaries would be countywide.)</i>	May be set by RTC; as RTC may deem appropriate, will be at least urban growth area boundaries. §§3, 41.	Proposed by RTID; must at least include the contiguous RTA boundaries; county legislative authorities must approve by ordinance; voters may approve additions. Peninsula may be excluded. §502.	Proposed by RTID and at least include contiguous RTA boundaries and reflect existing or proposed transp. corridors; county leg. authorities must approve by ordinance. §5.	Proposed by RTID and at least include the contiguous RTA boundaries; county legislative authorities must approve by ordinance. Kitsap may opt in by annexation. Peninsula may be excluded. §4.
<b><i>Accountability &amp; Audit?</i></b>	RTC may change projects or revenue, subject to voter approval, and must develop material change policy and submit annual report. §§23, 24.  State Auditor to audit RTC and RTA every four years. §52.	District Auditor is elected at large every four years; first election in 2007. Must continuously investigate and audit the Authority. §106.	State Auditor to audit governance commission, RTID, and RTA every four years. §18.	Not provided.

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<i>Project Eligibility?</i>				
<i>RTID projects eligible:</i>	N/A	Expanded to include operation, preservation and maintenance of toll facilities where revenues have been pledged for payment of contracts. §501(8)(d).	Expanded to include any project contained in PSRC's regional transportation plan, and to include operation, preservation and maintenance of toll facilities where revenues have been pledged for payment of contracts. §2(8)(d).	Expanded to include preservation and maintenance of any eligible facilities, and operation, preservation and maintenance of toll facilities where revenues have been pledged for payment of contracts. §1(8)(d).
<i>New Governing Entity:</i>	In the integrated plan, RTC may include any projects of regional or statewide significance, road and transit, including operation, preservation, and maintenance. §§2(11), 11(2)-(6).	N/A	N/A	N/A
<i>Local match for arterial projects?</i> <i>(currently "one third")</i>	Not provided. §2(11).	Unchanged. §501.	Reduced to 15% of total cost of local project. § 2(8)(iii).	Reduced to 15% of total cost of local project. §1(8)(iii).

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<i>Revenues?</i>				
<i>Imposed by Whom?</i>	RTC. §19. (RTA retains its current revenue sources.)  RTC also has its own bonding authority. §22.	RTID and RTA retain revenue sources. §§405-406. On Jan. 1, 2008, Authority Council becomes governing body of both. §§201, 607, 616.	RTID and RTA retain revenue sources, with some changes. §§6, 21.	RTID and RTA retain revenue sources, with some changes to RTID. §5.
<i>Sales and Use Tax</i> <i>(currently 0.5% authorized for RTID, 1.0% or 0.9% authorized for RTA)</i>	0.2%.  RTA unchanged.	0.5% for RTID, but with 10-year limit. §405. RTA unchanged.	0.2% for RTID. §6. <i>And:</i> 0.1% for RTA. §21.	0.2% for RTID. §5.
<i>MVET</i> <i>(0.3% currently)</i>	0.6%; expands use of MVET revenue for any project in integrated plan. §§26, 27.	Unchanged. §405.	0.8%. §19. Expands use of MVET for any project contained in plan. §13.	Unchanged amount, but expands use of MVET for any project contained in plan. §12.
<i>Tolling Authority</i> <i>(currently authorized, upon voter approval, to impose "vehicle tolls on new or reconstructed facilities")</i>	Broad tolling authority, with voter approval. §20.	Expanded to include local or regional arterials or state or federal highways within the district, if included in voter-approved plan and approved by state transp. commission; specific authority re: Lk. Wash. bridges. §404, 405.	Unchanged, except for allowing administration of tolls to be provided by "contract" in addition to "by law." §6.	Unchanged, except for allowing administration of tolls to be provided by "contract" in addition to "by law." §5.

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<i>Network Value Pricing System</i>	Based on vehicle miles traveled and other factors TBD, subject to voter approval. §21.	Based on vehicle miles traveled and other factors TBD, subject to voter approval. §§402, 405.	Not provided.	Not provided.
<i>Subarea equity principle?</i>	Not included in RTC project funding; eliminated from RTA provisions. §§19, 39.	RTID and (effective Jan. 1, 2008) RTA projects must provide "network benefits" to a participating subarea in proportion to revenue generated in the subarea. §503.	In addition to network benefits principle, must achieve equity in mobility improvements among routes and destinations whether or not they fall completely within a subarea. §11(11).	Retains existing subarea equity principle in RTID and RTA statutes. §§3, 10.
<i>Role for county executives?</i>	Three of the nine seats on RTC dedicated to King, Snohomish, and Pierce county executives. § 4.	Policy Advisory Committee appointed by Council, including local elected officials and others. §§202-203.  Before Authority is formed, county executives must also approve any regional plan by ordinance procedure. §504.	RTID and RTA required to coordinate their activities with affected cities, towns, and other local governments. §§10(g), 12.	RTID and RTA required to coordinate their activities with affected cities, towns, and other local governments. §§9(g), 11.
<i>Role for cities?</i>	RTC may form advisory committee. §11. RTA board is required to form advisory committee of cities within its jurisdiction. §40.	Authority Council to appoint Policy Advisory Committee including local elected officials and others. §§202-203.	RTID and RTA required to coordinate their activities with affected cities, towns, and other local governments. §§10(g), 12.	RTID and RTA required to coordinate their activities with affected cities, towns, and other local governments. §§9(g), 11.

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<i>Local transit agency governance?</i>	<p>All local public transportation providers, except Monorail, folded into RTA. §§45-47.</p> <p>RTA assumes Monorail's taxing authority to fund nonmonorail transit projects after retirement of existing debt. §48.</p>	<p>Effective Jan. 1, 2008, Authority Council assumes role as governing body of Monorail (City Transportation Authority) with corresponding powers. §§602-606.</p>	<p>Unchanged.</p>	<p>Unchanged.</p>