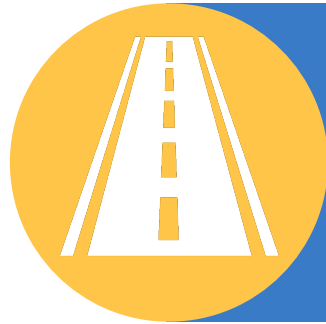


2022 Legislative Recap

Washington State Transportation Commission

May 17, 2022





Pass a transportation package

Adopt a new transportation revenue package that emphasizes maintenance/preservation funding and provides an equitable level of local funding and additional long-term, sustainable revenue options for cities.



Ensure basic infrastructure funding

Provide flexible state and federal dollars through programs like the Public Works Assistance Account to help cities finance basic infrastructure such as drinking water and wastewater.



Protect Transportation Benefit District funding authority

Support expanded local authority for Transportation Benefit Districts (TBDs) so cities can continue using the sales tax funding tool beyond the current time limitations.

AWC 2022 Legislative Priorities

2022 Legislative Session: City legislative priorities & outcomes

The 2022 Legislature addressed AWC's legislative priorities.
Read the pros and cons for cities.



Pass a transportation package:

Adopt a new revenue package that emphasizes maintenance/preservation funding and provides an equitable level of local funding and additional long-term, sustainable revenue options.

Pro: Passed a 16-year statewide transportation package titled Move Ahead WA.

Pro: Adopted expanded local options for a border fuel tax and councilmanic authority to increase local Transportation Benefit District (TBD) sales and use tax.

Pro: Expanded authority for traffic safety cameras; including authority for more cities to place one camera per 10,000 residents.

Pro/Con: Invested in city preservation and maintenance; but only at **\$5 million** in additional annual funding through the Transportation Improvement Board and **\$3 million** to the Complete Streets program for FY 2021-23.

Con: Swept **\$57 million** annually from the Public Works Assistance Account (PWAA) between FY 2024 and FY 2038.

Con: Addressed state-owned fish blocking culverts, but failed to provide additional funding for locally owned fish-blocking culverts. This undermines yearslong city efforts advocating for a watershed approach.



Protect Transportation Benefit District funding authority:

Support expanded local authority for TBDs so cities can continue using the sales tax funding tool beyond the current time limitations.

Pro: Adopted expanded authority in the Move Ahead WA transportation package to:

- Allow voters to reauthorize 10-year extensions of local TBD sales and use tax; and
- Provide councilmanic authority to increase the tax by 0.1%.



Ensure basic infrastructure funding:

Provide flexible state and federal dollars through programs like the Public Works Assistance Account to help cities finance basic infrastructure such as drinking water and wastewater.

Pro: Allocated an additional **\$88.3 million** to the Drinking Water Assistance Account.

Pro: Allocated an additional **\$236 million** to the Water Pollution Control Revolving Account.

Con: Swept the PWAA at **\$57 million** annually from FY 2024 to FY 2038.



Other significant issues:

Cities identified several significant policies to focus on during the 2022 session.

Pro: Adopted necessary modifications to the emergency provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act (**HB 1329**).

Pro: Adopted important clarifications related to police reform:

- **HB 2037** defines use of physical force and allows force, when necessary, during an investigative detention;
- **HB 1735** allows physical force, when necessary, during community caretaking functions and to assist with transporting individuals in crisis; and
- **HB 1719** allows use of all less-lethal alternatives, such as rubber bullets from a .50 caliber rifle.

Pro: Funded a total of **19.5 classes** in 2022 and **23.5 classes** in 2023 to address wait times at the Basic Law Enforcement Academy. Funded an online training platform for law enforcement training.

Pro: Provided cities with **\$21.5 million** to address costs associated with *Blake* decision; **\$4.9 million** to develop and expand therapeutic courts; and **\$2 million** to create alternative response teams.

Pro: Appropriated **\$100 million** for low-income customer utility assistance.

Pro: Directed a joint legislative taskforce, that includes city representation, to review and recommend best practices related to broadband deployment and local permitting.

Pro: Increased cannabis revenue sharing with cities and counties to **\$45 million**, representing an additional **\$5 million** for FY 2023. Ongoing increases are based on revenue percentages, instead of a capped amount (**SB 5796**).

Pro: Defeated multiple zoning mandate proposals (**SB 5670/HB 1782 & HB 1660**) preempting local land use authority for certain housing. Instead, the Legislature provided a **\$7.5 million** competitive grant program incentive for cities that want to adopt missing middle housing zoning ordinances.

Pro: Passed reforms to the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) in **SB 5818** to facilitate housing development by expanding SEPA categorical exemptions and providing appeal protections for development regulations that increase housing capacity and affordability.

Pro: Created dedicated and ongoing planning funding of **\$10 million** annually for cities to complete Growth Management Act (GMA) comprehensive planning updates, including implementing 2021's **HB 1220**.

Pro: Created historic **\$430 million** capital investment in rapid acquisition of housing for shelter, crisis stabilization, and housing construction under the Housing Trust Fund.

Pro: Appropriated **\$52 million** to transition encamped individuals living on state-owned rights-of-way to permanent housing and remove debris.

Con: Did not pass **HB 1099**, a GMA proposal aimed at integrating climate change and resiliency planning into the comprehensive planning process. It would have provided planning funding for cities and a new, sustainable revenue incentive to address missing middle housing types.

Con: Declined to pass **HB 1117**, a GMA bill that would have integrated salmon recovery planning into the comprehensive planning process and provided planning funding for cities.

Mixed Results for Cities in Move Ahead Package

- **Pro:** passed a 16-year statewide transportation package
- **Pro:** adopted expanded authority for border fuel tax and councilmanic authority to increase Transportation Benefit District (TBD) sales and use tax
- **Pro:** expanded authority for traffic safety cameras; including authority for more cities to place one camera per 10, 000 residents
- **Pro/Con:** invested in city preservation and maintenance; but only at \$5 million in additional annual funding through TIB and \$3 million in Complete Streets program for FY 2021-23
- **Con:** swept \$57 million annually in Public Works Assistance Account for duration of package
- **Con:** addressed state-owned fish blocking culverts but failed to provide additional funding for locally-owned culverts.

Other Transportation Issues

Passed:

- **HB 2076** – Statewide regulations for Transportation Network Companies (TNCs).
- **SB 5687** – Permits cities to establish a 20-mph speed limit on non-arterial highways.

Did not pass:

- **HB 1595** – Authorizes cities to install signs on or near bridges to deter jumping.
- **HB 1605** – Creates a program to provide for improved safety on roadways to prevent vehicle lane departures*.
- **SB 5510** – Allows voters within a Transportation Benefit District (TBD) to reauthorize multiple extensions of a sales and use tax*.

*Incorporated into the Move Ahead WA transportation package.

Looking Ahead to 2023

- Local preservation and maintenance needs
- Truck parking
- RUC and other reliable revenue sources for city transportation funding needs
- Protect and preserve the Public Works Assistance Account

Questions

Brandy DeLange, Government Relations Advocate

brandyd@awcnet.org

360-515-8360