

Streamlining the Toll Rate Setting Process

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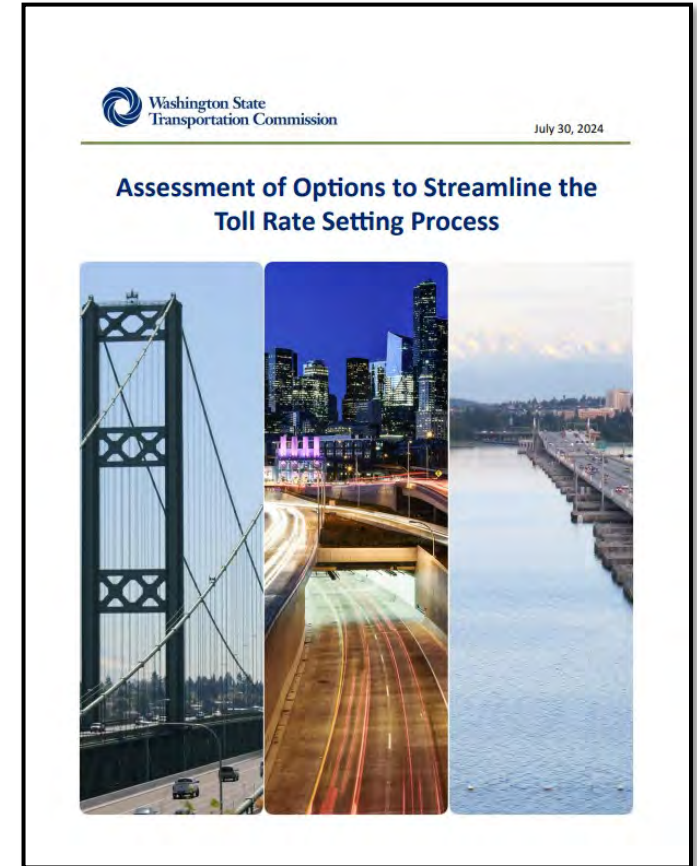
June 17, 2025

Background

The current process for setting toll rates in Washington State is governed by the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), which presents a number of challenges due to its inflexibility and lengthy timeline.

In 2024, the WSTC conducted an assessment aimed at determining ways the toll rate setting process could be streamlined.

The final report was delivered to the Legislature in July 2024 and **recommended that a new toll rate setting process be created outside of the APA structure.**



New Law Enacted in 2025 to Support Streamlining the Process

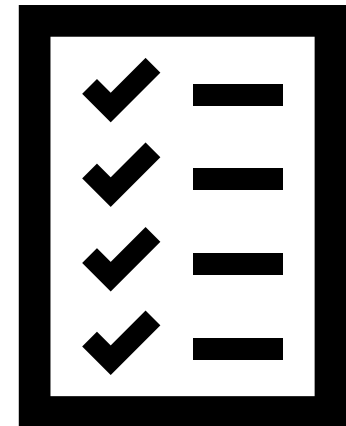
[SB 5702](#) authorizes the Commission to carry out toll setting via a new process to be set forth by the Commission. This new law takes effect on **January 1, 2026**.

The law provides guidance on what the new process must include, at a minimum:

- Issue a written public notice at least 30 days before any proposed rates would take effect.
- Carry out a public outreach process on possible toll rate or options under consideration.
- Adopt toll rates at an open public meeting.
- Notify the public and stakeholder agencies of the toll rates and providing the updated information on the WSTC website within one week of adoption.
- Post all current toll rates and toll rate policies on its website.

Major Milestones

- Initial kick off presentation – today
- Develop new process – Summer-Fall
- Provide update on process – July WSTC meeting
- Incorporate toll rates and toll rate policies onto WSTC website – Winter 2025/26
- Implement new process – Winter 2025/26



Questions / Contact

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