



**COMMISSION
AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

Item No. 11c

BRIEFING ITEM

Date of Meeting June 9, 2026

DATE: June 9, 2025
TO: Steve Metruck, Executive Director
FROM: John Flanagan, Sr. State Govt Relations Manager
SUBJECT: **2026 State Legislative Session Review**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this briefing is to provide the Port of Seattle Commission, Executive Director, and Executive Leadership Team with a summary of the 2026 State Legislative Session, with specific attention given to the Port’s 2026 State Legislative Agenda.

On March 12th the State Legislature adjourned the 60-day supplemental legislative session. Following the official end of session in March, the work to ensure that Governor Ferguson signed the Port’s various priority bills and the three State budgets without excising any beneficial spending continued until April 1st. As a reminder, we began the 2026 legislative session facing a significant revenue shortfall (~\$2.3 billion) even after enacting the largest revenue package in the State’s history (~\$12 billion) at the close of the 2025 session.

In total, 1,669 bills were introduced in 2026 (not including the several thousand dead bills that became active when the session began). Of that, 267 passed the Legislature. Governor Ferguson issued partial vetoes on 7 bills (including all 3 budgets). For the second year in a row, our State Govt. Relations team was forced to mainly ‘play defense’ on many fronts due to the challenging fiscal environment, the Legislature’s reticence to invest in new projects and programs, and the threat of useful spending being clawed back. Regardless, we’re able to report on several successes and areas where we’ve laid the groundwork for renewed efforts in 2027.

This memo provides a high-level overview of the bills and provisos that the Port supported, monitored, and otherwise engaged with. The below is mainly intended to summarize enacted policy, but also occasionally addresses policy items that did not pass if they are expected to re-surface in the future. The upcoming 105-day session is scheduled to begin on January 11th, 2027.

Staff will be joined remotely during the Commission briefing by our contract lobbyists, Brooke Davies and Nick Streuli.

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**Tourism**

- Self-supported assessment program for statewide tourism (HB 2325) – Enacted - Implementing recommendations of the tourism industry work group created by legislation passed last session. Creates a Tourism Assessment Program (TAP) to promote tourism throughout the state, requires an annual fee/assessment on certain tourism-related industries, and creates an oversight board (industry reps) to propose the assessment and budget expenditures. Assessment amount and industries still to be determined. Early fiscal analysis predicts between \$25M and \$55M annually for the program.
- Seattle International Public Market - \$1.33M
- Statewide creative districts program - \$79k

World Cup

- Transportation operations - \$7.65M total
- State Patrol staffing and equipment at international border. Directed to facilitate crossings, screen for human trafficking, narcotics, unlawful crossings, and other illegal activity. - \$600k
- Commerce contract for public safety and security activities - \$2.75M
- SR99 activities to prep and maintain facilities - \$2.0M
- Enhanced transit services - \$9.0M
- Intercity bus expansion - \$5.0M
- LCB implementation HB 1515 (2025) – Alcohol service in public places - \$1.37M

Supports for business

- Statewide economic development and competitiveness strategic plan - \$300k
- Associate development organizations - \$4.0M
- Strategic growth areas & key sectors - \$1.22M
- Microenterprise grants and technical assistance - \$700k
- Keep WA Working capacity building - \$200k
- Maximizing access to federal incentives and grants - \$7.5M
- State match funds and programming for economic development (HB 2186) – Not enacted – Requiring Commerce to support applicants seeking federal funds with state match and creating a new account to effectuate.
- WA Main Street program - \$350k
- Public bank work group - \$300k
- Just and rapid transition climate tech program - \$200k
- UW center for international trade in forest products - \$102k
- Joint center for aerospace innovation technology - \$3.06M
- Strategic reserve account sweep - \$17.14M (eliminated)
- Manufacturing cluster accelerator account sweep - \$2.8M (eliminated)

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- Sector lead program – Unfunded
- Manufacturing site readiness grants – Unfunded
- Small business development center – Unfunded
- Commerce small business assistance & training – Unfunded

Freight / Supply chain

- FMSIB projects - \$49.2M
- Accelerating local projects for Natl. Highway Freight System - \$43.47M
- NWSA facility off-hour gate operations study - \$200k
- Review of methodology to designate strategic freight corridors - \$100k
- Small business export assistance - \$1.34M
 - \$400k to address impacts of tariffs on jobs and exports

Infrastructure

- Improving regulatory efficiency of state permitting and licensing processes (HB 2198 / SB 5968) – Not enacted – Requiring executive agencies to track all credentials and permits issued, document timelines, and incrementally publish decision times. Requires refunds if an agency violates established timeline.
- Public Works Board grants and loans - \$279.5M
 - Public works assistance account sweep - \$375M
 - Backfilled with new capital budget bonding authority
- Treasurer’s office enhancing local govt access to infrastructure financing - \$250k

Community Preservation and Development Authorities

- Revenue for CDPAs (HB 1408) – Enacted – Requires 30% of sales tax collected at stadiums in SoDo to go into CDPA account and establishes reporting requirements.
- Central district - \$2.88M
- Pioneer Square – International District - \$2.88M

WORKFORCE, EDUCATION, AND LABOR

Childcare

- Early childhood education and assistance program (ECEAP) - \$305.3M - DCYF directed to increase available slots by 10,000 with use of new pre-K promise dollars from Ballmer Foundation.
- PreK Promise Account (SB 5872) – Enacted – Creating the PreK Promise Account to receive any gifts, grants, or donations made to support the ECEAP program.
- Working Connections Childcare (WCCC) program - \$353.4M
 - WCCC enhancements - \$337.25M
 - WCCC recipients at community, technical, and tribal colleges - \$13.17M
 - WCCC covered subsidy reimbursements - \$353.4M
- WCCC updates (HB 2689) – Enacted

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- Various changes to WCCC program to increase used base, eliminate barrier to entry, and strengthen solvency of the program at full implementation.
- Childcare subsidy base rate adjustment was delayed. Will become effective July 1, 2026.
- Early learning facilities grants and loans (Capital) - \$51.0M
- Minor renovation grants (Capital) - \$14.9M
- Washington early learning loan fund (Capital) - \$9.0M
- Insurance Commissioner study on property and liability insurance coverage for childcare and other facilities - \$350k
- Early achievers completing early childhood qualifications - \$1.6M
- Creating an early childhood education degree program at WWU - \$700k
- Establishing a childcare workforce board (HB 1128) – Enacted – Self-explanatory

Training, Apprenticeships, Career Connected Learning

- Regional apprenticeship programs - \$68k
- Regional apprentice pathways program - \$1.0M
- State registered apprentice program - \$441k
- Job skills program - \$10.45M
- CTE careers work group - \$51k
- State Ferries - Directed to increase outreach and recruitment of populations underrepresented in maritime careers and to expand apprenticeship and internship programs.
- Seattle Maritime Academy workforce development pilot - \$855k
- Bellingham Tech College maritime apprentice program - \$200k
- Seattle Central College & Seattle Maritime Academy partnership - \$854k
- New program in marine, coastal, and watershed sciences at WWU - \$1.3M
- Composite wing incumbent worker training (WA aerospace training & research center) - \$1.5M
- Peninsula school district aviation academy - unfunded
- Aerospace center of excellence - unfunded
- Aerospace and aerospace supply chain workforce development grants - \$1.7M
- Continuing state-registered apprentice study - \$205k
- Apprenticeship utilization - \$607k
- Responsible bidder criteria implementation - \$1.25M
- Career connected learning grants - \$4.68M
- Interagency agreement (SBCTC & ESD) to increase capacity at organizations serving workforce innovation and opportunity act (WIOA) participants - \$2.71M
- Higher ed and workforce landscape analysis - \$200k
- WA State labor education and research center (South Seattle College) - \$338k
- WA college grant apprentices - \$850k
- Workforce board operations - \$356k - Directed to expand industry-aligned high-demand degrees program
- Clean energy technology workforce advisory committee - \$377k

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- Apprenticeships / wellness (HB 2492) – Enacted – Requiring state registered apprenticeships in the building trades to provide behavioral health and wellness training.

Refugee & Immigrant resettlement

- Employment services for refugees and immigrants - \$2.37M
- Expanding services for new arrivals that don't qualify for federal services - \$25.0M
- SBCTC accommodating refugees and immigrants - \$7.45M

Labor standards

- CPARB prevailing wage study - \$100k
- Public works / prevailing wage (SB 5061) – Not enacted – Requiring wages on public works contracts to be adjusted so that they always meet latest prevailing wage.
- LNI serious work-related injury prevention study - \$516k
- Collective bargaining & AI use (HB 1622) – Not enacted – Requiring employers of public employees to collectively bargain over decisions to adopt or modify use of AI under certain conditions.
- Public employee bargaining info (HB 2091) – Enacted – Extends requirement for public employers to provide bargaining representatives with employee contact information.
- Construction hazard notices (HB 2107) – Enacted – Requiring LNI to make good faith effort to notify employers of identified hazards at worksites.
- Small works roster limit (HB 2420) – Enacted – Establishes escalating small works roster contract limits starting in July 2026. Starts at \$530,000 (from \$350,000) and increasing \$30,000 annually until it hits \$650,000 in 2030.

Unemployment, PFML

- Unemployment insurance program federal revenue shortfall - \$41.29M total
- UI technology system improvements - \$500k
- Increased UI program staffing - \$11.16M
- Increased PFML staffing – \$10.8M
- New requirement for ESD to report on state of PFML. Due Nov. 1, 2026.
- PFML Rates (SB 5292) – Enacted – Requires ESD to set the PFML premium rate based on reporting by the State Actuary and eliminates the existing statutory formula.
- Worker's comp medical care (HB 5487) – Enacted – Making various changes to worker's comp claims treatment provisions. Granting workers greater flexibility in covered medical care.
- Unemployment info reporting (SB 5874) – Enacted – Allows ESD to waive penalties for quarterly unemployment insurance reporting under certain conditions.

Pensions

- Port workers, labor and PERS membership (HB 2179) – Enacted – Addressing discrepancy between PERS statute and Port statute regarding enrollment in state pension versus labor pension programs.

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- LEOFF 1 Restatement (HB 2034) – Restates and terminates the law enforcement and firefighter plan 1 pension system in order to backfill the BSA (Rainy Day Fund) and transfer \$539M to the CCA.
- DRS pension system modernization - \$45.5M

AVIATION

Aircraft noise & mitigation

- Mitigating regional aviation impacts associated with SEA (SB 5652) – Not enacted – Creating various new processes and procedures related to capital construction at SEA.
- Commerce noise abatement program operations - \$67k

Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF)

- Cascadia Accelerator
 - Developing region, partnerships, and promoting adoption - \$6.85M
 - Preconstruction and site readiness at Paine Field - \$2.0M
- UW SAF work - \$288k
- WSDOT sustainable aviation projects – directed to generate report by Oct. 1, 2026 identifying sustainable aviation projects for funding by the legislature.
- Applied sustainable aviation evaluation center - \$5.54M
- Ongoing implementation costs, AJF workgroup operation, and cost to implement incentives shifted to State SAF Account
- Revenue for SAF
 - Duty-free sales fee (HB 2061) – Retained
 - Full luxury aircraft tax repeal (HB 2347) – Not enacted
 - Luxury aircraft tax repeal and replace (HB 2711) – Enacted - Increased aircraft fuel excise tax from 18 to 25 cents with 72% directed to the State aeronautics account and 28% to the SAF airport infrastructure account (new account also created). Aircraft registration fee increased with 50% to aeronautics account and 50% to the SAF account.
- Omnibus SAF incentive package (SB 5601) – Not considered

Air quality

- UW air quality monitoring - \$400k re-appropriation
- School district indoor air quality and energy efficiency - \$45.025M re-appropriation
- FY25/27 classroom indoor air quality projects - \$17.5M total statewide
- Improving air quality in overburdened communities initiative (Ecology) - \$21.4M re-appropriation
- Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (PSCAA) ultra-fine particle monitoring - \$400k re-appropriation
- Increasing access to community health worker asthma interventions for children within 10 miles of SEA - \$592k
- Addressing air quality in overburdened communities - \$2.5M

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Airport siting / regional capacity

- Commercial Aviation Work Group (CAWG) - \$1.774M
- Paine Field expansion study - \$500k
- Bremerton airport commercial service study - \$300k

Aviation fuel tax diversion

SB 5898, 5989, and 6240 – Not enacted - Redirecting aviation fuel tax proceeds back towards aviation purposes. Anticipating action in 2027 that will tie these bills together to provide a universal fix to the longstanding FAA non-compliance while also dedicating funding to aircraft noise and mitigation programming.

MARITIME

Fishing industry

- Commercial shellfish program audit - \$1.0M
- Implementing recommendations of commercial shellfish fee structure analysis - \$4.72M
- European green crab
 - Research and response - \$542k
 - Eradication - \$6.08M
 - State-owned aquatic lands control measures - \$2.54M
- Quagga mussel response - \$5.43M
- Use of commercial fishing revenues (HB 1806) – Not enacted – Dedicating 50% of enhanced food fish tax to the city where the fish was landed (i.e. not the Port)

Maritime Decarbonization

- Sustainable Maritime Fuels (SMF) strategy - \$250k re-appropriation
- Port electrification grants – \$26.29M
- NWSA shore power demo project - \$25.3M
- California at-berth emissions study - \$274k
- Low-sulfur fuel content requirement / scrubber ban (HB 1652 / SB 5519 – Not enacted – Requiring ocean-going vessels operating in Washington waters to use low-sulfur content fuel and creating various administrative procedures to effect the new requirement.
- Adopting the CA at-berth emissions regulation (HB 1689) – Not enacted – Essentially creating a shore power mandate for ocean-going vessels at port in Washington.

Marinas and harbors

- Reducing impacts from derelict vessels (HB 2199) – Enacted – Updating definitions and appeals process for treatment of derelict vessels. Enhances public entity ability / authority.
- Support to develop Puget Sound harbor safety plan - \$70k
- Boater safety on Lake Union - \$250k
- Zero emission cargo handling (SB 5995) – Enacted – Removing sunset date for prohibition on use of port dollars to purchase fully automated marine container cargo handling equipment. ILWU and maritime labor request.

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Ferries

- Ongoing reporting: status on funded projects; vessel/terminal preservation and improvement; maintenance management implementation.
- Bainbridge and Kingston electrification paused.
- Legislature to consider alternative financing for 5 hybrid electric vessels from WSDOT and State Treasurer. Due Nov. 1, 2026.
- Ending the electric hybrid conversion program - \$17.29M
- Study to establish state-owned or leased dry dock - \$500k
- Passenger-only ferries (HB 1923) – Not enacted – The so-called ‘mosquito fleet’ bill. Expands the types of entities that can form passenger-only ferry service districts and the locations where they can be formed.

TRANSPORTATION

Revenue, contracting, permitting

- New bond proceeds authority - \$300M
- Review of long-term transportation budget sustainability - \$100k
- Maintenance and preservation needs analysis - \$400k
- Updating AWC/WSDOT construction, ops, and maintenance MOU - \$390k
- Continuing alternative project delivery study - \$75k
- DOL per mile fee study - \$50k
- Transpo Commission road usage charge (RUC) research - \$4.62M
- Statewide long-range tolling feasibility - \$600k
- Implementing HB 1902 (2025) - state-level work group to develop recommendations on streamline permitting of transportation projects - \$285k
- Increasing diversity in transportation construction workforce - \$7.4M - WSDOT and OMWBE directed to develop two new business-size thresholds within the office's certification program at \$3M and \$10M in gross receipts.
- High-capacity transit permitting (SB 6309) – Enacted – Giving Sound Transit and other regional transit authorities flexibility in permitting and development. Allows RTA development standards to vary from other local regulations, creating a new permitting process, and allowing RTAs to begin work before acquiring land.

Zero emission cars and EVs

- Community EV Charging – \$36.0M
- FY23/25 Community EV Charging - \$105.0M re-appropriation
- Instant rebates on purchase or lease of EVs for vulnerable populations - \$5.0M
- Clean alt fuel vehicle use in underserved communities and low-income - \$3.4M
- EV charger reliability and accessibility accelerator (repair or replacement of public chargers) – 10.08M
- Zero emission charging and refueling mapping and forecasting tool - \$500k

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- Electric vehicle sales (SB 6354) – Enacted – Allowing direct consumer sales of electric vehicles under certain conditions.

Trucking

- ZEV & alternative fuels charging / refueling infrastructure - \$27M
- MHD ZEV point-of-sale vouchers - \$125.8M
- NWSA zero emission drayage demonstration project - \$6.3M
- Hydrogen truck refueling - \$10.49M
- Hydrogen technical assistance - \$1M
- West coast truck corridor project - state match - \$790k
- West coast truck corridor project – I-5 ZEV chargers and hydrogen refueling - \$3.16M
- I-90 / North Bend truck parking feasibility - \$200k
- Online truck parking availability system - \$7.2M
- Establishing a commercial truck safety and education council (HB 2410) – Enacted – Self-explanatory.

Megaprojects & State Highways

- Gateway - \$980.99M (funded, no delays)
- SR520 - \$640.84M - WSDOT will cease all non-essential projects and sell or transfer surplus property. Deferred sales and use tax - \$159.5M.
- SR18 widening - \$15M
- SR522 - \$23.02M
- I-5 Planning - \$5.4M
- Revive I-5 Mitigation - \$12M (via federal fund exchange pilot)
- 405/167 implementation plan - \$1.5M
- Reconnect South Park study - \$140k
- SR900 safety improvements - \$5.48M
- Low-cost enhancement projects - \$6.0M
- Fish passage barrier removal - \$1.083B
- Sandy Williams connecting communities pilot - \$46.42M
- Finalize I-5 Lid Feasibility - \$200k

Highway preservation and maintenance

- Highway system preservation - \$300M
 - Stated intent for another \$500M in 27/29
- ‘Essential maintenance activity’ - \$40M
- Bridge preservation and replacement – WSDOT directed to submit annual report regarding top projects for six-year investment program starting in 2027.

Transit options for SEA workers / Local projects

- Regional mobility grants - \$133.45M statewide - Legislative intent to provide funding for new planned grants for regional mobility projects in 27/29 and 29/31.

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- Extending the commute trip reduction credit (HB 1043) – Not enacted – Extending the existing CTR credit until 2035, increasing the benefit per employee, and raising cap on overall program.
- Commute trip reduction time requirements (HB 2307) – Not enacted – Removing the current 6am-9am timeframe for determining major employers, commute trips, major employment installations, and major worksites.

State Ferries

- Vessel preservation work group - \$750k
- Renewable diesel demo project - must develop project for a representative group of diesel vessels, make recommendations for usage, and study fuel procurement.
- Traffic control at ferry terminals - \$600k

Autonomous Vehicles

- City of Seattle to report on ‘digital conflict area awareness management program’ funded in 23/25

Rail

- High-speed rail - \$37.15M - To support WSDOT’s work on service development plan for new ultra high-speed ground transportation corridor. Next report due Dec. 1, 2026.
- Emergent freight rail assistance projects - \$6.9M
- Freight rail investment bank (FRIB) loans - \$1.5M
- Cascades corridor - \$11.6M

ENERGY

Clean energy & Renewables (siting, financing, capacity)

- Local govt siting and permitting support (Commerce) - \$490k
- Washington Builds (State Green Bank re-brand) - \$25.0M - \$5.8M for residential credit enhancement model. \$17.4M for commercial energy efficiency (allowable uses: clean buildings compliance, procuring clean energy, fleet electrification)
- Clean Energy and Energy Freedom program - \$40.4M re-appropriation
- Clean Energy Funds 3 - \$43.7M re-appropriation
- Clean Energy Transition 4 - \$32.6M re-appropriation
- FY23/25 Clean Energy Fund Program - \$50.0M re-appropriation
- Green Jobs and Infrastructure grants - \$25.0M re-appropriation
- Hard-to-Decarbonize grants - \$49.8M re-appropriation
- Tribal clean energy capacity grants - \$24.5M
- UW Clean Energy Testbeds - \$7.5M re-appropriation
- Offshore wind supply chain - \$500k re-appropriation
- EFSEC preapplication development and technical assistance - \$1.03M
- UW battery fabrication testbed - \$2.0M

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- Urban area tax preference (HB 1210) – Enacted – Updating the targeted urban area property tax exemption for clean energy facilities. Mainly benefitting development of nuclear energy facilities in Eastern WA.
- Utility joint use agreements (HB 1302) – Enacted – Allowing municipal utilities to waive connection fees on properties engaged in industrial symbiosis.

Transmission, electric & regional capacity

- Statewide electric transmission authority (SB 6355) – Enacted – Creates a statewide transmission authority, sets duties of the authority, and appoints a controlling board. Amongst other duties, the authority will establish and maintain high priority transmission corridors, streamline permitting, and ensure adequate capacity throughout the State.
- Transmission capacity financing recommendations - \$300k
- Seattle Energy District electrification - \$4.0M
- Lower Snake river dam energy replacement analysis - \$800k
- Renewables and transmission project tribal/overburdened engagement - \$2.5M
 - \$2.0M to tribal collaborative
 - \$500k to overburdened community engagement to plan transmission corridors
- Quantifying water and energy usage for large energy use facilities (data centers) - \$50k
- Renewable energy excise tax and local investments (HB 1960) – Enacted – Creating new renewables tax that pays into local community reinvestment and tribal capacity grants.
- Subjecting port district utilities to CETA (SB 5982) – Enacted – Expands entities covered by CETA to include consumer-owned utilities (COUs) controlled and operated by port districts.

Clean Buildings Compliance

- District Energy Campus Upgrades Committee - \$650k - Commerce convenes committee to make decisions about prioritization of capital decarbonization projects for state campus district energy systems and to generate list of priority projects for funding in 2028.
- Clean Building Performance grants - \$45.0M re-appropriation
- Investment grade energy audit grants - \$11.45M
- Buy Clean Buy Fair implementation - \$1.68M

Transportation Decarb

- Volkswagen Settlement projects - \$134.7M
- Alternative fuel and zero emissions vehicle program analysis - \$250k
- Fuel conversion activity program evaluation - \$640k
- Low-carbon transpo construction materials program - \$1.5M

Hydrogen

- DOE Hydrogen Hub State Match - \$20.0M re-appropriation
- Port of Chehalis Hydrogen Fueling Station and Production Facility - \$2.0M

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- Hydrogen combustion NOx testing and feasibility - \$1.08M

ENVIRONMENT

Environmental Justice (EJ)

- Integrating environmental justice into SEPA (HB 1303) – Not enacted – Creating new EJ requirements as part of the SEPA process.
- Commerce HEAL Act implementation - \$1.5M re-appropriation
- Incorporating EJ into state agency grants - \$127k
- Environmental Justice Council – eliminated
- Tribal/Overburdened capacity grants to inform HEAL and health disparities map - \$3.82M
- Implementing existing EJ requirements - \$1.15M
- UW grant writing to advance EJ - \$263k
- Health disparities map maintenance – eliminated
- Health equity zone support – eliminated

Marine environment

- Small spill prevention and education - \$600k
- Responding to ocean acidification - \$204k
- State marine management plan and coastal marine advisory council - \$150k
- Marine environment debris maintenance, zooplankton and eelgrass monitoring - \$4.2M
- UW study marine organisms and ocean acidification - \$520k
- WA ocean acidification center monitoring assistance - \$300k
- UW grant to Friday Harbor labs (endangered starfish / kelp & eelgrass) - \$100k

Toxics, Contaminants, Clean ups

- Local solid waste cleanup grants (MTCA operating) - \$24M
- Safer products program (PFAS, contaminants) - \$750k
- 6PPD mitigation - \$8.5M - \$1.1M to UW water and sediment monitoring. \$1.86M to safer alternatives product testing. \$4.43M to identify BMPs to treat 6PPD in stormwater.
- PFAS monitoring, investigation, source control treatment, and cleanup capacity - \$4.0M
- Contaminants of emerging concern - \$6.04M
- MTCA Capital Account sweep - \$60M
- MTCA Operating Account sweep - \$10M
- Prosecuting environmental crimes - \$639k
- Regulating 6PPD and 6PPD substitutes in tires (HB 2421 / SB 6119) – Not enacted – Banning 6PPD in tires by 2035, creating penalties for violation, and dedicating fee revenues. Will be updated and run again in 2027.
- Pollution control appeal efficiency (HB 2426) – Enacted – Authorizes PCHB appeals to be heard by one board member instead of a quorum.
- Environmental crimes (SB 5360) – Not enacted – Elevating penalties for environmental crimes under the water pollution control act, the state clean air act, and the hazardous waste management act. Expected to return in 2027.

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Orca recovery

- Increasing prey abundance - \$2.28M
- Pinniped management - \$560k
- Quiet Sound program - \$350k

OTHER ISSUE AREAS OF NOTE

Tax, Revenue, Budget

- Tax increment financing reform (HB 2451) – Enacted – consensus reform bill negotiated between the cities, counties, special purpose districts, et al. Various updates. Tightens the ‘but for’ analysis, codifies the hold harmless clause, and creates mediation and arbitration processes.
- Tax administration updates (SB 6113) – Enacted – DOR tax administration clean-up bill. Includes codification of DOR guidance on implementation of taxes on advertising enacted in 2025 that impact the Port.
- BSA (Rainy Day Account) sweep - \$880M
- Tax on millionaires (SB 6346) – Enacted

Public records

- Public records task force (HB 2661) – Not enacted – To examine frivolous, retaliatory, and harassing public records requests on state and local agencies.

Land use

- Transit-oriented Development (TOD)
 - TOD-focused programmatic EIS - \$1.0M
 - Continuing TOD conditions study - \$100k
- Increasing middle housing - \$847k
- Local government climate planning - \$22.54M
- Local govt climate resilience assistance - \$1.3M
- WOSCA - WSDOT required to consult with Legislature before making any change constituting more than temporary use and before entering into any negotiations, or signing any contracts regarding WOSCA
- Comp plan implementation grants - \$6.1M
- Local govt permit review process update grants - \$500k
- Archaeological and cultural resource model ordinance - \$175k
- Residential development in commercial and mixed use (SB 6026) – Enacted – Allowing residential development in broader asset of areas while providing specific protections to industrial lands.
- Working economic properties (HB 2679) – Not enacted – Creating new disclosure requirements for real property abutting industrial lands. Intended to eliminate conflicts between residential development and industrial uses.

Public safety & Policing

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- CJTC grants to support law enforcement wellness programs - \$2.5M
- Law enforcement employment eligibility (SB 5068) – Enacted – Allows law enforcement agencies (including POSPD) to consider applications for employment from all persons legally authorized to work in the United States.
- Law enforcement face coverings (SB 5855) – Enacted – Prohibits law enforcement officers from wearing face coverings while interacting with the public in performance of their duties.
- Public defense caseloads (HB 2163 / 5913) – Not enacted – Clarifying public defense caseloads for local jurisdictions. Was not considered. Will be an issue headed into 2027.

Technology, cybersecurity

- Automated license plate readers (SB 6002) – Enacted – Prohibits use of automated license plate reader systems by all state and local government agencies with exceptions. Already flagged for trailer legislation in 2027.
- Employee monitoring notices (HB 2144) – Not enacted – Requiring employers to provide written notice to employees when using electronic monitoring (including AI) to inform performance evaluations.
- Cybersecurity audits of state agencies and local governments - \$2.0M

ATTACHMENTS

- (1) Presentation

PREVIOUS COMMISSION ACTIONS OR BRIEFINGS

December 9, 2025 – The Commission was briefed and adopted the Final 2026 Legislative Agenda

June 24, 2025 – The Commission was briefed on the results of the 2025 Legislative Session

December 10, 2024 - The Commission voted to adopt the Final 2025 Legislative Agenda

November 19, 2024 – The Commission was briefed on the Draft 2025 State Legislative Agenda

January 9, 2024 – The Commission voted to adopt the Final 2024 Legislative Agenda

December 12, 2023 – The Commission was briefed on the Draft 2024 Legislative Agenda