



MOVE AHEAD WASHINGTON

A HISTORIC SHIFT IN TRANSPORTATION FUNDING FOR A MULTIMODAL FUTURE

in the 2022 Legislative session the House and Senate released a proposal to invest **over \$16 billion over 16 years** into Washington's transportation systems, and the historic Move Ahead WA package was passed and signed into law in March 2022. This truly transformative package is a paradigm shift in transportation spending for Washington, adding **over \$4 billion in new investment** for transit and active transportation, and **increases the share of spending relative to roads and highways**, moving from 5% in the last transportation package to 25% now. For the first time ever makes multimodal investment a bigger spending category than new highway capacity. TCC ecstatic about the unprecedented levels of investment in transit and mobility and the benefits they will bring to our communities.

"This package stewards us toward a future where Washington's transportation system is rich with options and where great public transit is equitably accessible and the convenient, obvious choice for people. These investments will connect communities to opportunity and each other and create good, green jobs on a healthy, thriving planet."

- Executive Director, Alex Hudson

INVESTMENTS IN ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

Mobility and accessibility are key to delivering a transportation system that connects everyone. That's why we are excited that Move Ahead WA invests **\$1.3 billion for active transportation**. Highlights of that funding include the **Connecting Communities Grant**, which will invest in communities that have been damaged by transportation choices of the past and strive to make them whole again. The **School-Based Bike Program** gives thousands of free bikes to kids, and **Complete Streets mandates** makes streets safer for people walking, biking, and rolling. Key **multimodal safety and connectivity projects** received over half a billion dollars in investment to make those connections a reality.

\$1.3 billion for Active Transportation

- \$290 million to Safe Routes to School
- \$216 million to School-Based Bike Program
- \$591 million to Bike/Ped Project List & Grants
- \$146 million to Complete Streets
- \$50 million to Connecting Communities Grant

INVESTMENTS IN TRANSIT

Move Ahead Washington State is the largest investment in public transit in Washington State history, with **\$3 billion in dedicated transit funding!** For the first time in 30 years the State is providing operating support to agencies in the **Transit Support Grants**, which resources transit agencies that provide **free transit for every person in Washington 18 and under**, allowing them to expand routes and provide more frequent service. *This is a huge win for the next generation of riders and will lower the transportation costs for families!* Move Ahead WA makes **a brand new commitment to Tribal Nations** by creating a Tribal Transit Mobility Grant. **Green Transit Grants** will support agencies conversion to zero emissions buses to improve air quality for people and the planet.

Over \$3 billion for Transit Programs and Projects

- **\$1.45 billion to Transit Support Grants**
 - Supports agencies that provide free transit for kids 18 and under by October 1, 2022
- **\$80 million for Tribal Transit Mobility Grants**
- **\$244 million for Transit Projects**
- \$600 million for Special Needs Transit Grants
- \$300 million for Bus & Bus Facility Grant Program
- \$300 million for Green Transit Grants
- \$5 million for Transit Coordination Grants
- \$25 million for Transportation Demand Management (incl CTR)

INVESTMENTS IN DECARBONIZATION

Climate Commitment Act funds will directly reduce carbon emissions through electrification and local decarbonization efforts. Complete conversion to zero emissions vehicles of all types—from cars to buses to garbage trucks—is the only way to meet our state's climate goals. Move Ahead WA puts money into **Ultra High Speed Rail**, which if built, would connect Vancouver, Seattle, and Portland like never before. Support allows **fare free rides on ferries and rail for people 18 and under**.

- \$517 Million for Alternate Fuels and Electrification (State and Local Decarbonization, Carbon Emissions Reduction Local Grants)
- \$435 Million to Ferries (Electrification, 18 & Under Fare Free, and new vessels)
- \$162 Million to Rail (Ultra High Speed Rail, and 18 & Under Fare Free on Amtrak)

Percent of State transportation spending for transit

Before

4%

Now

24%

Percent of State transportation spending for highway expansion

Before

60%

Now

24%

Other Investments

The remaining portions of Move Ahead WA invests \$3 billion into preservation and maintenance of Washington's transportation infrastructure, fully fund our culvert requirements (Fish Barrier Removal) for \$2.4 billion, invest \$1.1 billion into Ferries, and spends \$4 billion on new and existing highway infrastructure. In total, **this bill has five times more for transit and active transportation than the 2015 Connecting Washington package.**

LOCAL TAXING OPTIONS

Included in the bill are **new local taxing options**:

1. A **2% Utility Tax**, for city councils to invest in transportation improvements
2. Increase in a Transportation Benefit District's **city council directed sales tax authority by .1%**
3. Increases the allowed **border area fuel tax by \$.01** subject to voter approval

REVENUE

The Climate Commitment Act (CCA) was a game changer. It created the increased funding and requirements for it to be used on carbon-reducing efforts and laid the foundation for these critical investments in our transportation systems. The \$5.4 billion in expected revenue from the CCA will fund Active Transportation, Transit Programs and Projects, Alternate Fuels and Electrification, Ferries, and Rail. The CCA also requires *a minimum of 35% of these funds benefit communities overburdened by pollution, and 10% of investments are projects supported by Tribal Nations.*

Move Ahead WA is funded by a variety of different revenue sources, the largest being the Climate Commitment Act (\$5.4 billion), the New Surface Transportation reauthorization from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (\$3.4 billion), a one time transfer from the General Fund (\$2 billion), additional transfers from the Public Works Assistance Account and general fund.

ENVIROMENTAL JUSTICE

Move Ahead WA directs the Environmental Justice Council to provide recommendations in the development and implementation of these climate programs, including the Climate Transit Programs Account and the Climate Active Transportation Account. It is critical that frontline communities and carbon emission reduction remain top priorities for these projects, and that a minimum of 35% of funds, with a goal of 40%, are investments in overburdened communities.

ADDITIONAL TRANSPORTATION PROVISIONS

Other notable transportation-related policies or budget provisions included in the Move Ahead WA package and the Supplemental Budget include:

- **\$450,000 for WSDOT to develop a performance-based project evaluation model**
- **\$400,000 for a comprehensive study of nondrivers**
- **Seattle automated traffic safety camera pilot program is extended to 2025**, giving the City an opportunity to learn about the effectiveness of this intervention as well as equity impacts
- **\$250,000 to the joint transportation committee, to conduct a study of statewide transit service benchmarks**
- **\$2.5 million for I-5 Planning Study.** Funding is provided for an **Interstate 5 planning and environmental linkage study**. Additional funding is provided for this item in future years, for a 16-year total of \$40 million.
- \$250,000 to conduct a study examining options for multimodal high capacity transportation (HCT) to serve travelers on the I-5 corridor between central Thurston county (Olympia area) and Pierce County.
- \$600,000 provided solely for the City of Seattle's Office of Planning and Community Development to support an equitable development initiative to **reconnect the South Park neighborhood**, currently divided by State Route 99.
- \$150,000 to provide recommendations for a state program to assist with the establishment of powered **micro-mobility device lending libraries**.
- Joint transportation committee must convene a work group to discuss, collaborate, and develop recommendations to the committee on the **distribution of federal-aid highway formula program funding** from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) to state and local government in future biennia
- \$400,000 to conduct an independent review of an **ultra high-speed ground transportation** corridor between Portland, Oregon and Vancouver, British Columbia.
- \$400,000 of the Cooper Jones active transportation safety account—state appropriation is provided solely for **grant projects or programs for bicycle, pedestrian, and non-motorist safety improvement** ministered by the commission
- Sound Transit-
 - Reduced minimum payment to Dept. of Licensing from \$3.3 million/year to \$668k/ year
 - Allows Sound Transit to compete for Regional Mobility Grants on a permanent basis as long as the board adopts a fare free 18 and under policy by Oct. 1, 2022

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