



CITY OF SEATTLE 2015 STATE LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN

March 30, 2015

Number 11

The City of Seattle is committed to being a safe, vibrant, interconnected, and affordable city.

Week Overview

The main highlights of the week were the release on Friday of the House Operating and Capital budgets; and the hearing in the House Transportation Committee on Thursday of the Senate Transportation Package. The House Appropriations Committee had been scheduled to hold a hearing on the Operating budget over the weekend, but delayed that until Tuesday, March 30th to allow for review. The Transportation Committee was again packed with stakeholders wishing to testify, with two overflow rooms necessary to accommodate the crowds. The hearing lasted 3 hours and was dominated by “support with concerns” advocacy. More detail on both issues is provided below.

Priority Areas

Budget and Infrastructure

As noted, the House released its budget in a press conference on Friday, March 27th. The \$39.8 billion proposal’s spending level includes an increase of \$5.3 billion, or 15.7%, from the 2013-15 biennial operating budget of \$33.8 billion. Three new revenue sources are contemplated in the amount of nearly \$1.5 billion. These revenue sources include:

- a 5% Capital Gains Tax on sales over \$50,000 for a couple, \$25,000 for a single person
- a 1.8% increase in the B&O tax service rate, and
- closing 7 tax exemptions including those on bottled water, extracted fuel, royalty income and prescription drugs

The majority party in the Senate reacted by stating that new revenue sources are not needed due to a projected \$3 billion dollar increase over the biennium from current sources. The Senate’s proposed 2015-17 biennial operating budget is expected to reflect that philosophy when it is released in the upcoming week.

[ESB 5921](#), sponsored by Sen. Jim Honeyford (R), which would modify land use permitting re vesting rights, received a hearing in House Judiciary committee on Wednesday, March 25th. Voicing concerns

with the bill in present form, representatives of the City testified to the need for more time to be given for a stakeholder process to fully negotiate an acceptable compromise.

[SB 6027](#), Sen Jeanne Kohl-Welles' (D) bill to increase the motion picture incentive program was heard in a packed hearing of the Senate Ways and Means committee on Wednesday, March 25th. Kate Becker, head of the City's Office of Film and Music, joined many supporters testifying to the need for the incentive.

Also in Ways and Means that day, [SB 5665](#), Sen. Andy Hill's (R) reinstatement of the high-tech research and development tax incentive was heard. The companion bill, Rep. Eric Pettigrew's (D) [HB 1769](#), was subsequently heard on Friday, March 27th in House Finance. Testimony was generally supportive in both hearings and spoke to the increased demands in the global market for high-tech development and jobs.

Education

House budget leaders announced their intention to fund education from "cradle to career", and expressed confidence that their budget would meet the legislature's obligation to meet the McCleary Decision mandate to fully fund basic education, adding \$1.4 billion to K-12 funding this cycle. This amount includes funding to address Initiative 1351, reducing classroom sizes to 17 students. Other highlights of education funding include:

- \$150 million to restore teacher COLA's
- \$227 million in Early learning; including \$114.5 million to fund the Early Start Act programs
- Freezing tuition in the state university system at current levels
- \$53 million in state need grants
- \$12.1 million to support computer science, engineering and other high demand degree programs

Safety Net, Housing and Health Care

The House budget proposes \$100 million in mental health funding increases to increase bed capacity and community placement. It also appears that the House maintained current levels of funding for TANF, HEN and ABD programs. Other highlights include:

- \$80 million for the Housing Trust fund
- \$20 million for low-income weatherization
- \$10 million for AAA Medicaid Case Management
- \$10 million in State Food Assistance grants

The Homeless Youth Act was heard on March 24th in the Senate Human Services Committee. Rep. Ruth Kagi's (D) [2SHB 1436](#) would, among other things, create an Office for Homeless Youth in the Commerce Department. There was no testimony in opposition to the bill.

[ESHB 1745](#), Rep. Luis Moscoso's (D) Voting Rights Act legislation was heard in the Senate Government Operations and Security Committee on Wednesday, March 23rd; and the hearing was carried over to

Monday March 30th as the committee considered amendments. During testimony, members of the committee on both sides of the aisles expressed support for the legislation.

Environment

Responding to recent natural and man-made disasters such as the Oso landslide and oil train derailments, the House budget includes \$13.7 million for oil spill preparedness and response, and \$4.6 million in LiDAR data collection, which helps assess risks of geological hazards such as landslides, earthquakes and tsunamis.

The Governor's request legislation, [ESHB 1472](#) to reduce toxic pollution, had a public hearing in the Senate Energy, Environment & Telecommunications Committee on Tuesday and Wednesday. The legislation, which passed the House (63-35) on March 11th, authorizes and directs the Department of Ecology to select by January 1st, 2018 20 priority chemicals that cause harm, in order to create Chemical Action Plans for each one. While testimony from stakeholders was strongly in favor of the legislation, multiple legislators in committee questioned why this wasn't better left to the federal government. The bill is scheduled for executive session on March 31st.

Transportation

As noted above, the House Transportation Committee held a hearing on the proposed Senate Transportation Package. Mayor Ed Murray testified at the hearing, voicing support for full authorization of the \$15 billion dollar Sound Transit request for ST3, and for the inclusion of funding for the completion of the 520 bridge West End, the Lander St. overpass, and multimodal options. The Mayor joined others in expressing concern over provisions to exempt sales tax on transportation construction and stymieing the Governor's ability to enact clean fuel standards on vehicles. The House is expected to release its own proposal in the next two weeks.

In addition, the House plans to release a Transportation maintenance and operating budget for the 2015-17 biennium on Wednesday, April 1st.

Public Safety

Marijuana

The House Appropriations committee postponed a vote on [HB 2136](#), Rep. Reuven Carlyle's omnibus recreational marijuana bill, until Tuesday, March 31st.

The House budget proposal includes HB 2136's proposed \$6 million per year revenue share with jurisdictions which do not ban the sale of marijuana.

Other

[2SSB 5755](#), the Justice Reinvestment Act sponsored by Sen. Jim Hargrove (D), was heard in the House Public Safety committee on Tuesday, March 24th. The Governor's Office and other stakeholders testified in support of the bill's provisions to increase supervision and reduce jail terms with a goal to decrease

recidivism of perpetrators of property crimes, while opposition stakeholders voiced concerns over funding.

Looking Ahead

All things budget is the anticipated theme of the week, as the Capital Budget is heard on Monday, March 30th and the House Budget receives a hearing on Tuesday the 31st. The Senate is expected to release their proposal mid-week, and possible floor votes could come very soon.

Somewhat overshadowed by the budget rollout, however, is another important milestone on the calendar: the cutoff for bills to move out of committee. That date is Wednesday, April 1st, and all non-fiscal policy bills must be voted out to remain in consideration for the session. Two bills in particular that are facing this deadline are Rep. Jessyn Farrell's (D) bill increasing the minimum wage to \$12, [HB 1355](#); and Rep. Laurie Jinkins' (D) bill granting paid sick leave for all employees, [HB 1356](#). Both bills will be heard on March 30th in the Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.

Live Bill Status Report

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor
SHB 1068 (SB 5225)	Sexual assault exam kits	Concerning sexual assault examination kits.	Mar 16 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Law & Justice. Not yet scheduled for executive session.	Orwall
ESHB 1093	Unmanned aircraft	Concerning unmanned aircraft.	Mar 23 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Law & Justice. Not yet scheduled for executive session	Morris
E2SHB 1174 (SB 5684)	Flame retardants	Concerning flame retardants.	Mar 17 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment & Telecommunications. Not yet scheduled for executive session.	Van De Wege
SHB 1223	Lodging tx/workforce housing	Allowing the use of lodging taxes for financing workforce housing.	Public Hearing in Human Services, Mental Health & Housing (Senate) on 3/30 @ 10:00am	Springer
SHB 1238	Affordable tuition planning	Concerning affordable tuition planning.	Mar 17 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Higher Education. Not yet scheduled for executive session.	Pollet
SHB 1240 (SB 5908)	Student restraint, isolation	Concerning restraint or isolation of students, including students with disabilities, in public schools.	Mar 19 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education. Not yet scheduled for executive session.	Pollet
SHB 1257 (SB 5123)	Tenant screening reports	Concerning tenant screening.	Mar 9 First reading, referred to Financial Institutions & Insurance. Not yet scheduled for executive session.	Walkinshaw
EHB 1258 (E2SSB 5269)	Detention decision review	Concerning court review of detention decisions under the involuntary treatment act.	Mar 23 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Human Services and Mental Health & Housing. Not yet scheduled for executive session.	Walkinshaw
E2SHB 1276	Impaired driving	Concerning impaired driving.	Mar 17 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Law & Justice. Not yet scheduled for executive session.	Klippert

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor
SHB 1295 (SB 5437)	Breakfast after the bell	Concerning breakfast after the bell programs.	Mar 16 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education. Not yet scheduled for executive session.	Hudgins
HB 1355 (SB 5285)	Minimum hourly wage increase	Increasing the minimum hourly wage to twelve dollars over four years.	Public Hearing in Commerce & Labor (Senate) on 3/30 @ 1:30pm	Farrell
HB 1356 (SB 5306)	Sick & safe employment leave	Establishing minimum standards for sick and safe leave from employment.	Public Hearing in Commerce & Labor (Senate) on 3/30 @ 1:30pm	Jinkins
HB 1389 (SB 5181)	State fire service/disasters	Addressing the scope of state fire service mobilization and ensuring compliance with existing state and federal disaster response policies.	SWays & Means - Referred to Ways & Means. Not yet scheduled for a public hearing.	Goodman
ESHB 1417 (ESSB 5048)	Water-sewer districts	Subjecting a resolution or ordinance adopted by the legislative body of a city or town to assume a water-sewer district to a referendum.	Mar 24 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Government. Not yet scheduled for executive session.	Takko
2SHB 1436 (2SSB 5404)	Homeless youth	Concerning homeless youth prevention and protection.	Mar 24 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Human Services and Mental Health & Housing. Not yet scheduled for executive session.	Kagi
ESHB 1448 (SB 5781)	Suicide threats, response to	Providing procedures for responding to reports of threatened or attempted suicide.	Mar 17 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Human Services. Not yet scheduled for executive session.	Riccelli
ESHB 1449 (SB 5087)	Oil transportation safety	Concerning oil transportation safety.	Exec Session in Energy, Environment & Telecommunications (Senate) on 3/31 @ 1:30pm	Farrell
E2SHB 1472 (SB 5406)	Chemical action plans	Concerning using chemical action plans to require safer chemicals in Washington.	Exec Session in Energy, Environment & Telecommunications (Senate) on 3/31 @ 1:30pm	Fitzgibbon
E2SHB 1491 (E2SSB 5452)	Early care & education system	Improving quality in the early care and education system.	SWays & Means - Referred to Ways & Means. Not yet scheduled for a public hearing.	Kagi

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor
SHB 1511 (SSB 5433)	Tribal history, culture, etc	Requiring Washington's tribal history, culture, and government to be taught in the common schools.	Mar 17 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education. Not yet scheduled for executive session.	Ortiz-Self
ESHB 1553	Opportunity restoration	Encouraging certificates of restoration of opportunity.	Mar 19 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Law & Justice. Not yet scheduled for executive session.	Walkinshaw
HB 1554	Children/guardians, family	Exempting information of guardians or family members of children enrolled in child care, early learning, parks and recreation, after-school, and youth development programs.	SRules 2 - Passed to Rules Committee for second reading.	Stambaugh
ESHB 1571 (SB 5926)	Paint stewardship	Concerning paint stewardship.	Mar 17 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment & Telecommunications. Not yet scheduled for executive session.	Peterson
SHB 1576 (SB 5864)	Annexed areas/sales & use tx	Concerning sales and use tax for cities to offset municipal service costs to newly annexed areas.	SWays & Means - First reading, referred to Ways & Means. Not yet scheduled for a public hearing.	Fitzgibbon
HB 1645 (SB 5573)	E-cigarettes, vapor products	Concerning youth substance use prevention associated with tobacco and drug delivery e-cigarettes and vapor products.	Exec Session in Commerce & Gaming (House) on 3/30 @ 10:00am	Pollet
ESHB 1646 (SB 5630)	Equal pay and opportunities	Enacting the equal pay opportunity act by amending and enhancing enforcement of the equal pay act and protecting worker communications about wages and employment opportunities.	Public Hearing in Commerce & Labor (Senate) on 3/30 @ 1:30pm	Senn
HB 1647 (SB 5574)	Reproductive health care	Concerning health plan coverage of reproductive health care.	SHealth Care - First reading, referred to Health Care. Not yet scheduled for a public hearing.	Cody
ESHB 1713	Mental hlth, chem dependency	Integrating the treatment systems for mental health and chemical dependency.	Mar 23 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Human Services. Not yet scheduled for executive session.	Cody
HB 1720	Healthy housing	Concerning healthy housing.	SRules 2 - Passed to Rules Committee for second reading.	Robinson

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor
2SHB 1735 (SSB 5740)	Extended foster care	Concerning extended foster care services.	S Ways & Means - Referred to Ways & Means. Not yet scheduled for a public hearing.	Orwall
ESHB 1745 (SB 5668)	Voting rights	Enacting the Washington voting rights act.	Public Hearing in Government Operations & Security (Senate) on 3/30 @ 10:00am	Moscoco
SHB 1783 (SB 5675)	Dual language instruction	Expanding dual language and bilingual instruction for early learners through secondary students.	Mar 17 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education. Not yet scheduled for executive session.	Ortiz-Self
HB 1821 (SB 5710)	For hire, limo, taxi/ind ins	Addressing industrial insurance requirements and options for owners and lessees of for hire vehicles, limousines, and taxicabs.	S Commerce and L - First reading, referred to Commerce & Labor. Not yet scheduled for a public hearing.	Sullivan
2SHB 1916	Chem dependency & mental hlth	Integrating administrative provisions for chemical dependency and mental health.	Exec Session in Human Services, Mental Health & Housing (Senate) on 3/30 @ 10:00am	Pollet
ESHB 1980 (SB 6020)	Sunshine committee rec's	Implementing recommendations of the sunshine committee.	Mar 19 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Government Operations & Security. Not yet scheduled for executive session.	Springer
E2SHB 2060 (SSB 5889)	Competency eval, restoration	Concerning competency evaluation and restoration services.	Mar 23 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Human Services and Mental Health & Housing. Not yet scheduled for executive session.	Jinkins
EHB 2086 (SB 5900)	The homeless/religious orgs	Prohibiting certain limitations on the hosting of the homeless by religious organizations.	Mar 24 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Human Services and Mental Health & Housing. Not yet scheduled for executive session.	McBride
HB 2136	Marijuana market reform T.O.	Relating to comprehensive marijuana market reforms to ensure a well-regulated and taxed marijuana market in Washington state.	Exec Session in Appropriations (House) on 3/31 @ 1:30pm	Carlyle
HB 2194	Cancer research and care	Creating a funding stream and program for cancer research, prevention, and care.	Public Hearing in Technology & Economic Development (House) on 4/1 @ 8:00am	Hunter

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor
HB 2196 (SB 6083)	Marijuana plants	Authorizing the growing of up to six marijuana plants per domicile.	HCommerce & Gam - First reading, referred to Commerce & Gaming. Not yet scheduled for public hearing.	Blake
SSB 5012	Industrial hemp	Authorizing the growing of industrial hemp.	HApprops - Referred to Appropriations. Not yet scheduled for a public hearing.	Hatfield
ESSB 5048 (ESHB 1417)	Water-sewer districts	Subjecting a resolution or ordinance adopted by the legislative body of a city or town to assume a water-sewer district to a referendum.	HRules R - Referred to Rules 2 Review.	Chase
2SSB 5052	Cannabis patient protection	Establishing the cannabis patient protection act.	HRules R - Referred to Rules 2 Review.	Rivers
E2SSB 5057	Hazardous material transport	Concerning the safe transport of hazardous materials.	Exec Session in Environment (House) on 3/30 @ 10:00am	Ericksen
SB 5088 (HB 1182)	Geological hazard assessment	Concerning a geological hazards assessment.	HRules R - Referred to Rules 2 Review.	Pearson
ESB 5091	Nuclear energy as alt energy	Including nuclear energy in the definition of a "qualified alternative energy resource" for the purposes of RCW 19.29A.090.	Mar 25 Public hearing in the House Committee on Technology & Economic Development. Not yet scheduled for executive session.	Brown
SB 5094 (HB 1352)	Hydroelectric generation	Allowing incremental electricity produced as a result of efficiency improvements to hydroelectric generation projects whose energy output is marketed by the Bonneville power administration to qualify as an eligible renewable resource under the energy independence act.	Exec Session in Technology & Economic Development (House) on 4/1 @ 8:00am	Brown
SB 5121	Marijuana research license	Establishing a marijuana research license.	HCOGDPA - COG - Majority; do pass with amendment(s).	Kohl-Welles
E2SSB 5269 (EHB 1258)	Detention decision review	Concerning court review of detention decisions under the involuntary treatment act.	HApprops - Referred to Appropriations. Not yet scheduled for a public hearing.	O'Ban
ESSB 5343 (HB 1751)	Transit construction/parking	Concerning parking impact mitigation from regional transit authority facility construction.	HTrans - First reading, referred to Transportation. Not yet scheduled for a public hearing.	Hasegawa

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor
SB 5396	Children/guardians, family	Exempting information of guardians or family members of children enrolled in child care, early learning, parks and recreation, after-school, and youth development programs.	Exec Session in State Government (House) on 4/1 @ 8:00am	Roach
2SSB 5404 (2SHB 1436)	Homeless youth	Concerning homeless youth prevention and protection.	HELHSDP - Minority; without recommendation. Majority do pass.	O'Ban
SSB 5433 (SHB 1511)	Tribal history, culture, etc	Requiring Washington's tribal history, culture, and government to be taught in the common schools.	HCDHTDP - CDHT - Majority; do pass.	Litzow
E2SSB 5452 (E2SHB 1491)	Early care & education system	Improving quality in the early care and education system.	Mar 26 Passed out of the House Committee on Early Learning as amended.	Litzow
SSB 5463 (HB 1107)	Cultural & heritage programs	Concerning access to and creation of cultural and heritage programs and facilities.	HRules R - Referred to Rules 2 Review.	Hill
2SSB 5486 (HB 1728)	Parents for parents program	Creating the parents for parents program.	HApprops - Referred to Appropriations. Not yet scheduled for a public hearing.	Frocht
ESSB 5550	Commercial trans. providers	Regulating providers of commercial transportation services.	Public Hearing in Business & Financial Services (House) on 3/31 @ 10:00am Exec Session in Business & Financial Services (House) on 3/31 @ 10:00am	Habib
SSB 5609 (HB 1378)	Synthetic plastic microbeads	Protecting waterways from pollution from synthetic plastic microbeads.	Mar 23 Public hearing in the House Committee on Environment. Not yet scheduled for executive session.	Bailey
SSB 5715	Initiatives, fiscal impact	Including the contents of fiscal impact statements in the ballot title for certain initiative measures.	Mar 18 Public hearing in the House Committee on State Government. Not yet scheduled for executive session.	Fain
ESSB 5735	Carbon reduction investments	Providing incentives for carbon reduction investments.	Exec Session in Technology & Economic Development (House) on 4/1 @ 8:00am	Ericksen
SSB 5740 (2SHB 1735)	Extended foster care	Concerning extended foster care services.	HELHSDPA - Minority; do not pass.	Fain

Bill #	Abbrev. Title	Short Description	Status	Sponsor
ESSB 5748 (HB 2019)	Teacher and principal eval.	Clarifying the teacher and principal evaluation process with the intent of strengthening the process.	Public Hearing in Education (House) on 3/30 @ 10:00am	Litzow
2SSB 5755 (HB 1885)	Property crimes, impacts of	Addressing and mitigating the impacts of property crimes in Washington state.	Exec Session in Public Safety (House) on 3/31 @ 10:00am	Hargrove
SSB 5795 (HB 1911)	Water or sewer facilities	Authorizing municipalities to create assessment reimbursement areas for the construction or improvement of water or sewer facilities.	HRules R - Referred to Rules 2 Review.	Roach
ESSB 5804 (HB 1289)	State energy code, adoption	Modifying the procedure for adoption and amendment of the Washington state energy code.	Public Hearing in Technology & Economic Development (House) on 4/1 @ 8:00am Exec Session in Technology & Economic Development (House) on 4/1 @ 8:00am	Liias
SSB 5889 (E2SHB 2060)	Competency eval. timeliness	Concerning timeliness of competency evaluation and restoration services.	C 5 L 15 - Effective date 7/26/2015.	O'Ban
ESSB 5899 (HB 1922)	Small loans	Addressing small loans and small consumer installment loans.	Mar 25 Passed out of House Committee on Business & Financial Services as amended.	Liias
ESSB 5987	Transportation revenue	Concerning transportation revenue.	Mar 26 Public hearing in the House Committee on Transportation. Not yet scheduled for executive session.	King
ESSB 5988	Additive trans funding	Concerning additive transportation funding and appropriations.	Mar 26 Public hearing in the House Committee on Transportation. Not yet scheduled for executive session.	King
SB 6027	WA motion picture industry	Increasing Washington state's motion picture and film industry viability by increasing the tax credit available to certain motion picture activities.	Mar 25 Public hearing in the Senate Committee on Ways & Means. Not yet scheduled for executive session.	Kohl-Welles
SB 6083 (HB 2196)	Marijuana plants	Authorizing the growing of up to six marijuana plants per domicile.	SCommerce and L - First reading, referred to Commerce & Labor. Not yet scheduled for a public hearing.	Kohl-Welles