



JTC Studies 2019-20

September 19, 2019

Dave Catterson, Committee Coordinator

1. East – west intercity passenger rail feasibility

ESHB 1160, Sec, 204(3) directs the JTC to study the feasibility of an east-west intercity passenger rail system for Washington State.

The study will look specifically at the Stampede Pass corridor and service to Auburn, Cle-Elum, Yakima, Ellensburg, Tri-Cities, Toppenish and Spokane.

The study will include the following elements:

- Projections of potential ridership
- Assessment of current infrastructure conditions, including station stop locations
- Assessment of community support
- Identification of equipment needs
- Identification of operator options

JTC Staff: Dave Catterson, David Ward

STC & HTC Staff: Danny Masterson; Jennifer Harris

Report due date: June 30, 2020

Current status: A consultant team is under contract – [Steer](#). The first Staff Workgroup meeting was held on September 18.

2. Statewide transportation needs assessment

ESHB 1160, Sec, 204(1) directs the JTC to conduct a comprehensive assessment of statewide transportation needs and priorities, and existing and potential transportation funding mechanisms to address those needs and priorities.

This study includes two phases. Phase I is to be completed by June 30, 2020 and will include:

- Recommendations on the critical state and local transportation projects, programs, and services over the next ten years;
- A comprehensive menu of funding options for the legislature to consider; and
- An analysis of the economic impacts of transportation investments.

For Phase II a JTC-appointed panel will review the Phase I assessment and make recommendations to the legislature for consideration during the 2021 legislative session on a realistic, achievable plan for funding transportation programs, projects, and services over the next ten years.

JTC Staff: David Ward, Dave Catterson

STC & HTC Staff: Hayley Gamble; Amy Skei

Report due date: Phase I - June 30, 2020, Phase II – December 31, 2020

Current status: Consultant contract will be signed next week – BERK Consulting

3. Vehicle sub-agents

ESHB 1160, Sec, 204(4) directs the JTC to conduct a study of vehicle subagents in Washington State.

The study must consider and include recommendations, as necessary, on the following:

- The current process of selecting and authorizing a vehicle subagent, including the change of ownership process and the identification of any barriers to entry into the vehicle subagent market;
- The annual business expenditures borne by each of the vehicle subagent businesses since fiscal year 2010 and identification of any materials, including office equipment and supplies, provided by the department of licensing to each vehicle subagent since fiscal year 2010;
- The oversight provided by the county auditors and/or DOL over the vehicle subagent businesses;
- The history of service fees, how increases to the service fee rate are made, and how the requested fee increase is determined;
- The online vehicle registration renewal process and potential improvements to the online process;
- The Department of Licensing's ability to provide more vehicle licensing services directly, particularly taking into account the increase in online vehicle renewal transactions;
- The potential expansion of services that can be performed by vehicle subagents;

JTC Staff: Paul Neal, David Ward

STC & HTC Staff: Bryon Moore; Beth Redfield

Report due date: September 30, 2020

Current status: Consultant interviews took place this week. Contract signed in two to three weeks.

4. Electrification of public vehicle fleets

ESHB 1160, Sec, 204(2) directs the JTC to conduct an analysis of the electrification of public fleets in Washington State. (State of Washington, cities, counties and transit agencies).

Elements of the study will include:

- An inventory of existing fleets that includes fuel, engine and vehicle type
- A review of electric vehicle alternatives
- The projected costs of achieving substantial conversion to battery and/or fuel cell electric vehicles by 2025, 2030 and 2035
- Identification and analysis of financing mechanisms that could be used to finance the transition of publicly owned vehicles to battery and fuel cell electric vehicles
- Identification of areas of the state that would benefit the most from vehicle emission reductions resulting from fleet conversion.
- The predicted number and location profile of electric vehicle fueling stations needed statewide to provide fueling for the public fleets.

JTC Staff: Dave Catterson, Paul Neal

STC & HTC Staff: Kim Johnson; Dave Munnecke

Report due date: September 30, 2020

Current status: Consultant proposals were due on September 17 and are being reviewed. Oral interviews will take place on October 8. Contract should be signed by late October.