

# Title 35

## CITIES AND TOWNS

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Adjoining state, eminent domain for watershed: RCW 8.28.050.

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Alcoholism, private establishments and institutions, prescription of standards: RCW 71.12.550.

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Assessor's plats: Chapter 58.18 RCW.

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Bankruptcy readjustment and relief from debts: Chapter 39.64 RCW.

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Board of eminent domain commissioners, appointment of: RCW 8.12.260.

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Bribery of public officer: State Constitution Art. 2 § 30.

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**Buildings**

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newly constructed, appraisal by assessor: RCW 36.21.070 and 36.21.080.

Burial of dead, authority to provide for: RCW 68.52.030.

Camping resort contracts—Nonapplicability of certain laws to—Club not subdivision except under city, county powers: RCW 19.105.510.

Cemeteries: Title 68 RCW.

**Charters**

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power of certain cities to frame, procedure: State Constitution Art. 11 § 10 (Amendment 40).

City and town treasurers' duties under Washington Clean Air Act: RCW 70.94.094.

**City attorney**

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eminent domain by cities, military purposes, for, duties: RCW 8.04.170, 8.04.180.

food, drug and cosmetic act violations, prosecution by: RCW 69.04.160.

City council, unincorporated towns on United States land, powers of review: RCW 58.28.520.

City engineer, tidelands and shorelands, records of plats filed with: RCW 79.94.040.

City halls, jointly with county courthouses: RCW 36.64.010 through 36.64.040.

**City treasurer**

bonds, compensation payment in eminent domain proceedings, liability on: RCW 8.12.500.

cemetery improvement funds, deposit with: RCW 68.52.050.

cities of first class, employees' retirement fund custodian: RCW 41.28.080.

city street fund, notice of illegal use: RCW 47.08.100.

firemen's pension board member: RCW 41.16.020.

misappropriation of funds: RCW 42.20.090.

moneys to be deposited with treasurer: State Constitution Art. 11 § 15.

motor vehicle funds, distribution to: RCW 46.68.080.

police relief and pension board member: RCW 41.20.010.

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Civil service, generally: Title 41 RCW.

**Claims**

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**Clerks**

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police relief and pension board of trustees member: RCW 41.20.010.

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**Code of ethics for**

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public officers and employees: Chapter 42.52 RCW.

**Commission form**

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**Comptroller**

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Conditional sales contracts for purchase of real or personal property: RCW 39.30.010.

Continuity of government in event of enemy attack, succession to office of executive heads: RCW 42.14.050.

Contractors' registration, exemption from: RCW 18.27.090(1).

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joint city halls with county courthouses: RCW 36.64.010 through 36.64.040.

parks and recreation cooperation: RCW 67.20.020.

Conveyance of real property by public bodies—Recording: RCW 65.08.095.

Corporate stock or bonds not to be owned by: State Constitution Art. 8 § 7.

Corporation counsel, eminent domain by cities, military purposes, for: RCW 8.04.170, 8.04.180.

Counties, city harbor in two counties, effect upon assessments: RCW 36.08.030.

County highways, open spaces in cities and towns: Chapter 36.89 RCW.

County property, transfer to municipality, approval necessary: RCW 36.34.280.

County roads and bridges, assistance in finances: RCW 36.76.110.

County sewerage, water and drainage systems, authority, procedure: Chapter 36.94 RCW.

Courthouses, jointly with city halls: RCW 36.64.010 through 36.64.040.

Creation by special act prohibited: State Constitution Art. 2 § 28(8).

Credit not to be loaned: State Constitution Art. 8 § 7.

Crimes  
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Drainage districts, inclusion within: RCW 85.06.230.

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Elective officers, recall: State Constitution Art. 1 §§ 33, 34 (Amendment 8), chapter 29.82 RCW.

Electors, qualifications of: State Constitution Art. 6 § 1 (Amendment 63).

Electric  
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Electrical  
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utilities, franchises for electrical utilities on streets: RCW 80.32.010.

Electricity, steam generation: RCW 43.21.250 through 43.21.410.

Elevators, lifting devices, and moving walks: Chapter 70.87 RCW.

Emergency vehicle, authorized, defined: RCW 46.04.040.

Eminent domain  
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Fees, special permits for motor vehicle oversize or overweight movement, fees paid to cities and towns, when: RCW 46.44.096.

Ferries, joint acquisition with counties: RCW 36.54.020.

Financing procedures, validation: Chapter 39.90 RCW.

Fines  
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Fire fighters  
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civil service, qualifications of applicants for positions: RCW 41.08.070.  
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militia duty, exemption: RCW 38.44.030.

Fire fighters' retirement and pension acts: Chapters 41.16, 41.18, 41.24 RCW.

Fire prevention, areas withdrawn from fire protection and emergency medical districts: RCW 52.08.035.

Fire protection districts  
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general, justice and inferior courts act of 1961, bail forfeitures paid into: RCW 3.30.090.  
general, policemen's relief and pension fund, surplus paid into general fund: RCW 41.20.140.  
motor vehicle fund, purposes authorized for use: RCW 36.82.070.  
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Garbage, eminent domain by cities for garbage dumps: RCW 8.12.030.

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Harbor improvements, joint planning for by first class cities and counties: RCW 88.32.240, 88.32.250.

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- Ordinances**
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  - air pollution control: Chapter 70.94 RCW.
  - airport joint operation: RCW 14.08.200(8).
  - combined city-county health department, establishment: RCW 70.08.010.
  - contractor's bond: RCW 39.08.030.
  - declaratory judgment as to: Chapter 7.24 RCW.
  - electrical installations: RCW 19.28.010, 19.28.360.
  - eminent domain, authority to acquire recreational facilities by: RCW 67.20.010.
  - eminent domain, ordinance to provide methods of payment of compensation: RCW 8.12.040.
  - evidence, admissible as, when: RCW 5.44.080.
  - industrial insurance, benefits to injured employees under: RCW 51.12.050.
  - industrial insurance, employer's responsibility for absence of safeguards when required by: RCW 51.48.070.
  - liquor control, power of municipalities to adopt police regulations: RCW 66.08.120.
  - minimum wage law supplementary to: RCW 49.46.120.
  - payment of lower wages than obligated, penalty: RCW 49.52.050.
  - plots resurvey authorized and regulation of: RCW 58.10.030, 58.10.040.
  - port district regulations, adoption: RCW 53.08.220.
  - recording as evidence of passage: RCW 5.44.080.
  - state-wide city employees' retirement, election to join by: RCW 41.44.050, 41.44.090.
  - water distribution system, city may accept conveyance of and agree to maintain by: RCW 57.08.040.
- Organization under general laws required:** State Constitution Art. 11 § 10 (Amendment 40).
- Outdoor recreation land acquisition or improvement under marine recreation land act:** Chapter 43.99 RCW.
- Parks and recreation**
  - authority to acquire and operate: RCW 67.20.010.
  - conditional sales contracts by cities and towns for purchase of property for parks authorized, vote required if exceeds indebtedness: RCW 39.30.010.
  - districts: Chapter 36.69 RCW.
  - eminent domain by cities for: RCW 8.12.030.
  - state tidelands and shorelands: RCW 79.08.080, 79.08.090.
- Peddlers' and hawkers' licenses:** Chapter 36.71 RCW, RCW 73.04.050, 73.04.060.
- Planning commissions**
  - airport zoning commission, appointment as: RCW 14.12.070(2).
  - cemeteries, establishment or extension recommendations concerning: RCW 68.20.080.
- Plats and boundaries:** Title 58 RCW.
- Police**
  - attendance enforcement officer, may act as: RCW 28A.225.050.
  - civil service, qualifications of applicants for positions: RCW 41.12.070.
  - enforcement of traffic laws or regulations: Chapter 46.64 RCW.
  - game laws, duty to enforce: RCW 77.12.070.
  - health regulations by state board of health, duty to enforce, penalty: RCW 43.20.050.
  - jury duty, exempt from: RCW 2.36.080.
  - limited highway access facilities, concurrent jurisdiction: RCW 47.52.200.
  - militia, exemption from service: RCW 38.44.030.
  - motor vehicle accident reports: RCW 46.52.070.
  - motor vehicle dealer's license application, police chief to certify: RCW 46.70.041.
  - motor vehicle wreckers' records, inspection by: RCW 46.80.080, 46.80.150.
  - pawnbroker reports to: RCW 19.60.040.
  - regulations to be enforced: State Constitution Art. 11 § 11.
  - retirement and pensions, first class cities: Chapter 41.20 RCW.
  - retirement and pensions, state-wide city employees' retirement system: Chapter 41.44 RCW.
  - second-hand dealers reports to: RCW 19.60.040.
  - unclaimed property: Chapter 63.32 RCW.
- Pollution control**
  - eminent domain by cities for: RCW 8.12.030.
  - municipal bonding authority: Chapter 70.95A RCW.
- Population determination, generally:** Chapter 43.62 RCW.
- Port district must submit park or recreational plans to municipal park agency:** RCW 53.08.270.
- Port district regulations, adoption as city ordinance:** RCW 53.08.220.
- Powers of county commissioners to alter boundaries inapplicable where boundary review board created:** RCW 36.93.220.
- Prepayment of taxes and assessments:** RCW 35.21.650.
- Printing:** RCW 43.78.130 through 43.78.160.
- Prisons (see Jails).**
- Property**
  - forest lands, conveying to state for forestry purposes: RCW 76.12.040.
  - intergovernmental disposition of: RCW 39.33.010.
  - sale, exchange, or lease to state or political subdivision authorized: RCW 39.33.010.
  - state highway purposes, acquisition for: RCW 47.12.040.
- Public buildings, provision to be made for use by aged and handicapped:** Chapter 70.92 RCW.
- Public contracts and indebtedness, generally:** Title 39 RCW.
- Public employment**
  - civil service and retirement rights preserved when elective office assumed: RCW 41.04.120.
  - subversive person ineligible: RCW 9.81.040.
  - wage deduction for charitable contributions: RCW 41.04.035, 41.04.036.
- Public funds, private use prohibited:** State Constitution Art. 11 § 14.
- Public health pooling fund:** Chapter 70.12 RCW.
- Public lands, assessment against:** Chapter 79.44 RCW.
- Public markets, eminent domain by cities for:** RCW 8.12.030.
- Public utilities, school children of employees, attendance in school district:** RCW 28A.225.190.
- Public utility districts**
  - restrictions on use of power facilities: RCW 54.04.040.
  - tax on revenue: RCW 54.28.070.
- Public works, liens for labor and materials performed:** Chapter 60.28 RCW.
- Purchases**
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  - conditional sales contracts for purchase of real or personal property: RCW 39.30.010.
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- Railroad**
  - crossings, signals and devices, allocations of funds to defray costs of: RCW 81.53.271 through 81.53.275, 81.53.281.
  - industrial crossing, inspection, not applicable within limits of first class cities: RCW 81.54.040.
- Railways, street:** Chapter 81.64 RCW.
- Recall of elective officers:** State Constitution Art. 1 §§ 33, 34 (Amendment 8), chapter 29.82 RCW.
- Reclamation districts:** Chapter 89.30 RCW.
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- Redistricting by local governments and municipal corporations—Census information for—Plan, prepared when, criteria for, hearing on, request for review of, certification, remand—Sanctions when review request frivolous:** RCW 29.70.100.
- Referendum, electric utility transmission line construction and maintenance franchise:** RCW 80.32.040.

**Title 35****Title 35 RCW: Cities and Towns**

*Reincorporation, under general laws permitted to cities under special charter: State Constitution Art. 11 § 10 (Amendment 40).*

*River and harbor improvement districts, planning: RCW 88.32.240.*

*Sanitary regulations may be enforced: State Constitution Art. 11 § 11.*

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**School districts**  
*containing all or part of city or town: RCW 28A.315.250.*  
*educational service districts, agreements with other governmental entities for transportation of students or the public, or for other noncommon school purposes—Limitations: RCW 28A.160.120.*

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*elections, nonpartisan primaries: Chapter 29.21 RCW.*  
*eminent domain by cities, construction of chapter as to second class cities: RCW 8.12.560.*

**Senior citizens programs—Authorization to establish and administer: RCW 36.39.060.**

*Service of summons on, personal service: RCW 4.28.080(2).*

*Sewer and water revenue bonds, mutual savings banks, investment in: RCW 32.20.070, 32.20.100.*

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*abandoned state highways as: RCW 36.75.090.*  
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*as extension of county road, shared maintenance: RCW 36.75.205.*  
*as state highways, jurisdiction, maintenance and control: RCW 47.24.020.*  
*closure or restrictions on traffic authorized: Chapter 47.48 RCW.*  
*collection and removal of glass containers: RCW 47.40.090.*  
*construction and maintenance aid by state or county, procedure: RCW 47.24.050.*  
*county bridges across: RCW 36.75.200.*  
*county may aid in construction and maintenance of: RCW 47.24.050.*  
*dedication of county land for: RCW 36.34.290, 36.34.300.*  
*dedication upon replat: RCW 79.94.110.*  
*defined, motor vehicle law: RCW 46.04.120.*  
*defined, state highway law: RCW 47.04.010(6).*  
*eminent domain, for: RCW 8.12.030.*  
*franchise rights on limited access facility and when joint governmental facility: RCW 47.52.090.*  
*lighting systems, water district powers in regard to: RCW 57.08.060.*  
*limited access facilities, generally: Chapter 47.52 RCW.*  
*obstructing is nuisance: RCW 7.48.120.*  
*obstructing or interfering with, public nuisance, penalty: RCW 9.66.010.*  
*state highways as, franchises across bridges jointly owned and operated: RCW 47.44.040.*  
*state highways as, generally: Chapter 47.24 RCW.*  
*state land, easement or right of way over for city streets: RCW 79.01.340.*  
*street materials, sale of material to cities and towns from public lands, disposition of proceeds: RCW 79.01.176.*  
*telecommunications companies' use of rights of way: RCW 80.36.040.*  
*tidelands and shorelands platting, dedication to public use: RCW 79.93.010.*  
*traffic control devices for, generally: Chapters 46.61, 47.36 RCW.*  
*vacation of by replat: RCW 79.94.120, 79.94.140.*

**Taverns, music permit: RCW 66.28.080.**

**Tax lien, acquisition by governmental unit of property subject to: RCW 84.60.050, 84.60.070.**

**Tax liens, priority of: RCW 84.60.010.**

**Taxation**  
*collection by county treasurer: Chapter 36.29 RCW.*  
*electricity, sale of by public utility districts: RCW 54.28.070.*  
*excess levies authorized, when, procedure: RCW 84.52.052.*  
*firemen's pension fund, property tax for: RCW 41.16.060.*  
*insurance companies, state preemption: RCW 48.14.020(4).*  
*motor vehicle fuel excise tax, preemption by state: RCW 82.36.440.*  
*power of: State Constitution Art. 11 § 12.*  
*preemption, excise taxes: RCW 82.02.020.*  
*preemption, motor vehicle fuel tax: RCW 82.36.440.*  
**property tax**  
*authorized to assess and collect general: State Constitution Art. 7 § 9.*  
*limitation on levies: State Constitution Art. 7 § 2 (Amendments 55, 59), RCW 84.52.050.*  
*local taxes not to be imposed by legislature: State Constitution Art. 11 § 12.*  
*power to assess and collect rests in city: State Constitution Art. 11 § 12.*  
*uniformity in respect to persons and property required: State Constitution Art. 7 § 9.*  
*public utility district's gross revenue: RCW 54.28.070.*  
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**Tidelands**  
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*extension of streets over: State Constitution Art. 15 § 3.*  
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*charter, amendment of by special act, prohibited: State Constitution Art. 2 § 28(8).*  
*corporate stock or bonds not to be owned by: State Constitution Art. 8 § 7.*  
*credit not to be loaned, exception: State Constitution Art. 8 § 7.*  
*indebtedness: State Constitution Art. 8 § 6 (Amendment 27).*  
*limitation upon actions by: RCW 4.16.160.*  
*moneys, deposited with treasurer: State Constitution Art. 11 § 15.*  
*moneys, use of, by official, a felony: State Constitution Art. 11 § 14.*  
*officers, salaries of, not to be changed during term: State Constitution Art. 11 § 8.*  
*officers, vacancies, not to be extended: State Constitution Art. 11 § 8.*  
*organization under general laws required: State Constitution Art. 11 § 10 (Amendment 40).*  
*plats, regulation of surveys and plats: RCW 58.10.040.*  
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*police department, control and direction of: State Constitution Art. 11 § 11.*  
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*service of summons on, personal service: RCW 4.28.080(2).*  
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**Trade centers—Annual service fee—Distribution to cities: RCW 53.29.030.**

**Traffic schools: Chapter 46.83 RCW.**

**Transportation centers authorized: Chapter 81.75 RCW.**

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*motor vehicle fuel tax refunds: RCW 82.36.275.*

**Trees, plants, shrubs or vegetation, duty to disinfect or destroy: RCW 15.08.230.**

*Trusts for employee benefits: Chapter 49.64 RCW.*  
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*Uniform state standard of traffic devices, copy of to be furnished to: RCW 47.36.030.*  
*Urban arterials, planning, construction, funds, bond issue, etc.: Chapter 47.26 RCW.*  
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*Water distribution systems, conveyance by water districts: Chapter 57.08 RCW.*  
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*boundaries identical with, dissolution procedure: RCW 57.04.110.*  
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*water districts, powers in regard to: RCW 57.08.010.*  
*water supply, eminent domain by cities to prevent: RCW 8.12.030.*  
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*vacation of, grounds for, procedure: RCW 79.93.060.*  
**Watersheds**  
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*state land, condemnation or purchase by city or town permitted: RCW 79.01.128.*  
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**Chapter 35.01**

**MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS CLASSIFIED**

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 35.01.020 Second class city.  
 35.01.040 Town.  
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*Metropolitan municipal corporations: Chapter 35.58 RCW.*  
*Second class cities, generally: Chapter 35.23 RCW.*  
*Towns, generally: Chapter 35.27 RCW.*  
*Towns (organized townships): Title 45 RCW.*

**35.01.010 First class city.** A first class city is a city with a population of ten thousand or more at the time of its organization or reorganization that has a charter adopted under Article XI, section 10, of the state Constitution. [1994 c 81 § 3; 1965 c 7 § 35.01.010. Prior: 1955 c 319 § 2; prior: (i) 1890 p 140 § 11, part; RRS § 8932, part. (ii) 1907 c 248 § 1, part; 1890 p 140 § 12, part; RRS § 8933, part.]

**35.01.020 Second class city.** A second class city is a city with a population of more than fifteen hundred at the time of its organization or reorganization that does not have a charter adopted under Article XI, section 10, of the state Constitution, and does not operate under Title 35A RCW. [1994 c 81 § 4; 1965 c 7 § 35.01.020. Prior: 1955 c 319 § 3; prior: (i) 1890 p 140 § 11, part; RRS § 8932, part. (ii) 1907 c 248 § 1, part; 1890 p 140 § 12, part; RRS § 8933, part.]

**35.01.040 Town.** A town has a population of fifteen hundred or less at the time of its organization and does not operate under Title 35A RCW. [1994 c 81 § 5; 1965 c 7 § 35.01.040. Prior: 1963 c 119 § 2; 1955 c 319 § 5; prior: (i) 1890 p 140 § 11, part; RRS § 8932, part. (ii) 1890 p 141 § 13; RRS § 8934.]

**Chapter 35.02**

**INCORPORATION PROCEEDINGS**

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- 35.02.155 Effect of proposed annexation on petition.
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- 35.02.200 Annexation of fire protection district—Ownership of assets of fire protection district—When less than sixty percent (as amended by 1989 c 76).
- 35.02.200 Annexation of fire protection district—Ownership of assets of fire protection district—When less than sixty percent (as amended by 1989 c 267).
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- 35.02.210 Fire protection district and library district—Continuation of services at option of city or town.
- 35.02.220 Duty of county and road, library, and fire districts to continue services during transition period—Road maintenance and law enforcement services.
- 35.02.225 County may contract to provide essential services.
- 35.02.230 Incorporation of city or town located in more than one county—Powers and duties of county after incorporation—Costs.
- 35.02.240 Incorporation of city or town located in more than one county—Taxes—Powers and duties of county after incorporation—Costs.
- 35.02.250 Corporate powers in dealings with federal government.
- 35.02.260 Duty of department of community development to assist newly incorporated cities and towns.
- 35.02.270 Other local governments and state agencies—May assist newly incorporated cities and towns.

*Combined city and county municipal corporations: State Constitution Art. 11 § 16 (Amendment 58).*

*Fire protection districts, effect upon: Chapter 52.22 RCW.*

*Incorporation of municipalities: State Constitution Art. 11 § 10 (Amendment 40).*

*Incorporation proceedings exempt from State Environmental Policy Act: RCW 36.93.170, 43.21C.220.*

**35.02.001 Actions subject to review by boundary review board.** The incorporation of a city or town is subject to review by a boundary review board under chapter 36.93 RCW if a boundary review board exists in the county in which all or any portion of the territory proposed to be incorporated is located. [1994 c 216 § 11; 1989 c 84 § 25.]

**Effective date—1994 c 216:** See note following RCW 35.02.015.

**35.02.005 Purpose.** The purpose of chapter 35.02 RCW is to provide a clear and uniform process for the incorporation of cities or towns operating under either Title 35 or 35A RCW. An incorporation may result in the creation of a second class city or town operating under Title

35 RCW or a noncharter code city operating under Title 35A RCW. [1994 c 81 § 6; 1986 c 234 § 1.]

**35.02.010 Authority for incorporation—Number of inhabitants required.** Any contiguous area containing not less than one thousand five hundred inhabitants lying outside the limits of an incorporated city or town may become incorporated as a city or town operating under Title 35 or 35A RCW as provided in this chapter: **PROVIDED**, That no area which lies within five air miles of the boundary of any city having a population of fifteen thousand or more shall be incorporated which contains less than three thousand inhabitants. [1994 c 216 § 12; 1986 c 234 § 2; 1969 c 48 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.02.010. Prior: 1963 c 57 § 1; 1890 p 131 § 1; 1888 p 221 § 1; 1877 p 173 § 1; 1871 p 51 § 1; RRS § 8883.]

**Effective date—1994 c 216:** See note following RCW 35.02.015.

**Validation—1961 ex.s. c 16:** Validation of certain incorporations and annexations—Municipal corporations of the fourth class: See note following RCW 35.21.010.

**Validating—1899 c 61:** "Any municipal corporation which has been incorporated under the existing laws of this state shall be a valid municipal corporation notwithstanding a failure to publish the notice of the election held or to be held for the purpose of determining whether such city should or shall become incorporated, for the length of time required by law governing such incorporation: **PROVIDED**, A notice fulfilling in other respects the requirements of law shall have been published for one week prior to such election in a newspaper printed and published within the boundaries of the corporation." [1899 c 61 p 103 § 1.]

**Validating—1893 c 80:** "The incorporation of all cities and towns in this state heretofore had or attempted under sections one, two and three of an act entitled 'An act providing for the organization, classification, incorporation and government of municipal corporations, and declaring an emergency,' approved March 24, 1890, and the re-incorporation of all cities and towns in this state heretofore had or attempted under sections one, four and five of said act, under which attempted incorporation or re-incorporation an organized government has been maintained since the date thereof, is hereby for all purposes declared legal and valid, and such cities and towns are hereby declared duly incorporated. And all contracts and obligations heretofore made, entered into or incurred by any such city or town so incorporated or re-incorporated are hereby declared legal and valid and of full force and effect." [1893 c 80 p 183 § 1.]

**Validating—1890 c 7:** "When so incorporated, the debts due from such town, village or city to any person, firm or corporation may be assumed and paid by the municipal authorities of such town, village or city; and all debts due to such town, village or city from any person, firm or corporation shall be deemed ratified, and may be collected in the same manner and in all respects as though such original incorporation were valid." [1890 c 7 p 136 § 7.]

**35.02.015 Proposed incorporations—Notice to county—Boundary review board hearing.** Any person proposing the incorporation of a city or town shall file a notice of the proposed incorporation with the county legislative authority of the county in which all or the major portion of the proposed city or town is located. The notice shall include the matters required to be included in the incorporation petition under RCW 35.02.030 and be accompanied by both a one hundred dollar filing fee and an affidavit from the person stating that he or she is a registered voter residing in the proposed city or town.

The county legislative authority shall promptly notify the boundary review board of the proposed incorporation, which shall hold a public meeting on the proposed incorporation within thirty days of the notice being filed where persons favoring and opposing the proposed incorporation

may state their views. If a boundary review board does not exist in the county, the county legislative authority shall provide the public meeting. The public meeting shall be held at a location in or near the proposed city or town. Notice of the public meeting shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the area proposed to be incorporated at least once ten days prior to the public meeting. [1994 c 216 § 1.]

**Effective date—1994 c 216:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately [April 1, 1994]." [1994 c 216 § 21.]

**35.02.017 County auditor shall provide identification number.** Within one working day after the public meeting under RCW 35.02.015, the county auditor shall provide an identification number for the incorporation effort to the person who made the notice of proposing the incorporation. The identification number shall be included on the petition proposing the incorporation.

The petition proposing the incorporation may retain the proposed boundaries and other matters as described in the notice, or may alter the proposed boundaries and other matters. [1994 c 216 § 2.]

**Effective date—1994 c 216:** See note following RCW 35.02.015.

**35.02.020 Petition for incorporation—Signatures—Filing deadline.** A petition for incorporation must be signed by registered voters resident within the limits of the proposed city or town equal in number to at least ten percent of the number of voters residing within the proposed city or town and filed with the auditor of the county in which all, or the largest portion of, the proposed city or town is located. The petition must be filed with the auditor by no later than one hundred eighty days after the date the public meeting on the proposed incorporation was held under RCW 35.02.015, or the next regular business day following the one hundred eightieth day if the one hundred eightieth day is not a regular business day. [1994 c 216 § 4; 1986 c 234 § 3; 1965 c 7 § 35.02.020. Prior: 1957 c 173 § 2; prior: 1953 c 219 § 1; 1890 p 131 § 2, part; 1888 p 221 §§ 1, 2, part; 1877 p 173 §§ 1, 2, part; 1871 p 51 § 1, part; RRS § 8884, part.]

**Effective date—1994 c 216:** See note following RCW 35.02.015.

**35.02.030 Petition for incorporation—Contents.** The petition for incorporation shall: (1) Indicate whether the proposed city or town shall be a noncharter code city operating under Title 35A RCW, or a city or town operating under Title 35 RCW; (2) indicate the form or plan of government the city or town is to have; (3) set forth and particularly describe the proposed boundaries of the proposed city or town; (4) state the name of the proposed city or town; (5) state the number of inhabitants therein, as nearly as may be; and (6) pray that the city or town be incorporated. The petition shall conform to the requirements for form prescribed in RCW 35A.01.040. The petition shall include the identification number provided under RCW 35.02.017 and state the last date by which the petition may be filed, as determined under RCW 35.02.020.

If the proposed city or town is located in more than one county, the petition shall be prepared in such a manner as to indicate the different counties within which the signators reside.

A city or town operating under Title 35 RCW may have a mayor/council, council/manager, or commission form of government. A city operating under Title 35A RCW may have a mayor/council or council/manager plan of government.

If the petition fails to specify the matters described in subsection (1) of this section, the proposal shall be to incorporate as a noncharter code city. If the petition fails to specify the matter described in subsection (2) of this section, the proposal shall be to incorporate with a mayor/council form or plan of government. [1994 c 216 § 3; 1986 c 234 § 4; 1965 c 7 § 35.02.030. Prior: 1957 c 173 § 3; prior: 1953 c 219 § 2; 1890 p 131 § 2, part; 1888 p 221 §§ 1, 2, part; 1877 p 173 §§ 1, 2, part; 1871 p 51 § 1, part; RRS § 8884, part.]

**Effective date—1994 c 216:** See note following RCW 35.02.015.

**35.02.035 Petition—Auditor's duties.** The county auditor shall within thirty days from the time of receiving said petition determine if the petition contains a sufficient number of valid signatures. If the proposed city or town is located in more than one county, the auditor shall immediately transmit a copy of the petition to the auditor of the other county or counties within which the proposed city or town is located. Each of these other county auditors shall certify the number of valid signatures thereon of voters residing in the county and transmit the certification to the auditor of the county with whom the petition was originally filed. This auditor shall determine if the petition contains a sufficient number of valid signatures. If the petition is certified as having sufficient valid signatures, the county auditor shall transmit said petition, accompanied by the certificate of sufficiency, to the county legislative authority or authorities of the county or counties within which the proposed city or town is located. [1986 c 234 § 5; 1965 c 7 § 35.02.035. Prior: 1953 c 219 § 8.]

**35.02.037 Petition—Notice of certification.** The county auditor who certifies the sufficiency of the petition shall notify the person or persons who submitted the petition of its sufficiency within five days of when the determination of sufficiency is made. Notice shall be by certified mail and may additionally be made by telephone. If a boundary review board or boards exists in the county or counties in which the proposed city or town is located, the petitioners shall file notice of the proposed incorporation with the boundary review board or boards. [1986 c 234 § 6.]

**35.02.039 Public hearing—Time limitations.** (1) The county legislative authority of the county in which the proposed city or town is located shall hold a public hearing on the proposed incorporation if no boundary review board exists in the county. The public hearing shall be held within sixty days of when the county auditor notifies the legislative authority of the sufficiency of the petition if no boundary review board exists in the county, or within ninety days of when notice of the proposal is filed with the boundary

review board if the boundary review board fails to take jurisdiction over the proposal. The public hearing may be continued to other days, not extending more than sixty days beyond the initial hearing date. If the boundary review board takes jurisdiction, the county legislative authority shall not hold a public hearing on the proposal.

(2) If the proposed city or town is located in more than one county, a public hearing shall be held in each of the counties by the county legislative authority or boundary review board. Joint public hearings may be held by two or more county legislative authorities, or two or more boundary review boards. [1994 c 216 § 14; 1986 c 234 § 7.]

**Effective date—1994 c 216:** See note following RCW 35.02.015.

#### **35.02.040 Public hearing—Publication of notice.**

Notice of the public hearing by the county legislative authority on the proposed incorporation shall be by one publication in not more than ten nor less than three days prior to the date set for said hearing in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the area proposed to be incorporated. Said notice shall contain the time and place of said hearing. [1986 c 234 § 8; 1965 c 7 § 35.02.040. Prior: 1957 c 173 § 4; prior: 1953 c 219 § 3; 1890 p 131 § 2, part; 1888 p 221 §§ 1, 2, part; 1877 p 173 §§ 1, 2, part; 1871 p 51 § 1, part; RRS § 8884, part.]

#### **35.02.070 Public hearing by county legislative authority—Establishment of boundaries—Limitations.**

(1) If a county legislative authority holds a public hearing on a proposed incorporation, it shall establish and define the boundaries of the proposed city or town, being authorized to decrease or increase the area proposed in the petition under the same restrictions that a boundary review board may modify the proposed boundaries. The county legislative authority, or the boundary review board if it takes jurisdiction, shall determine the number of inhabitants within the boundaries it has established.

(2) A county legislative authority shall disapprove the proposed incorporation if, without decreasing the area proposed in the petition, it does not conform with RCW 35.02.010. A county legislative authority may not otherwise disapprove a proposed incorporation.

(3) A county legislative authority or boundary review board has jurisdiction only over that portion of a proposed city or town located within the boundaries of the county. [1994 c 216 § 17; 1986 c 234 § 9; 1975 1st ex.s. c 220 § 3; 1965 c 7 § 35.02.070. Prior: 1963 c 57 § 2; 1957 c 173 § 7; prior: 1890 p 131 § 2, part; 1888 p 221 §§ 1, 2, part; 1877 p 173 §§ 1, 2, part; 1871 p 51 § 1, part; RRS § 8884, part.]

**Effective date—1994 c 216:** See note following RCW 35.02.015.

**Legislative finding, intent—1975 1st ex.s. c 220:** See note following RCW 35.02.170.

*Incorporation subject to approval by boundary review board:* RCW 36.93.090.

**35.02.078 Elections—Question of incorporation—Nomination and election of officers.** An election shall be held in the area proposed to be incorporated to determine whether the proposed city or town shall be incorporated when the boundary review board takes action on the propos-

al other than disapproving the proposal, or if the county legislative authority does not disapprove the proposal as provided in RCW 35.02.070. Voters at this election shall determine if the area is to be incorporated.

The initial election on the question of incorporation shall be held at the next special election date specified in RCW 29.13.020 that occurs sixty or more days after the final public hearing by the county legislative authority or authorities, or action by the boundary review board or boards. The county legislative authority or authorities shall call for this election and, if the incorporation is approved, shall call for other elections to elect the elected officials as provided in this section. If the vote in favor of the incorporation receives forty percent or less of the total vote on the question of incorporation, no new election on the question of incorporation for the area or any portion of the area proposed to be incorporated may be held for a period of three years from the date of the election in which the incorporation failed.

If the incorporation is authorized as provided by RCW 35.02.120, separate elections shall be held to nominate and elect persons to fill the various elective offices prescribed by law for the population and type of city or town, and to which it will belong. The primary election to nominate candidates for these elective positions shall be held at the next special election date, as specified in RCW 29.13.020, that occurs sixty or more days after the election on the question of incorporation. The election to fill these elective positions shall be held at the next special election date, as specified in RCW 29.13.020, that occurs thirty or more days after certification of the results of the primary election. [1994 c 216 § 18; 1986 c 234 § 10.]

**Effective date—1994 c 216:** See note following RCW 35.02.015.

**35.02.086 Elections—Candidates—Filing—Withdrawal—Ballot position.** Each candidate for a city or town elective position shall file a declaration of candidacy with the county auditor of the county in which all or the major portion of the city or town is located, not more than forty-five nor less than thirty days prior to the primary election at which the initial elected officials are nominated. The elective positions shall be as provided in law for the type of city or town and form or plan of government specified in the petition to incorporate, and for the population of the city or town as determined by the county legislative authority or boundary review board where applicable. Any candidate may withdraw his or her declaration at any time within five days after the last day allowed for filing declaration of candidacy. All names of candidates to be voted upon shall be printed upon the ballot alphabetically in groups under the designation of the respective titles of offices for which they are candidates. Names of candidates printed upon the ballot need not be rotated. [1986 c 234 § 11; 1965 c 7 § 35.02.086. Prior: 1953 c 219 § 9.]

**35.02.090 Elections—Conduct—Voters' qualifications.** The elections on the proposed incorporation and for the nomination and election of the initial elected officials shall be conducted in accordance with the general election laws of the state, except as provided in this chapter. No person is entitled to vote thereat unless he or she is a

qualified elector of the county, or any of the counties in which the proposed city or town is located, and has resided within the limits of the proposed city or town for at least thirty days next preceding the date of election. [1986 c 234 § 12; 1965 c 7 § 35.02.090. Prior: 1890 p 133 § 3, part; RRS § 8885, part.]

**35.02.100 Election on question of incorporation—Notice—Contents.** The notice of election on the question of the incorporation shall be given as provided by RCW 29.27.080 but shall further describe the boundaries of the proposed city or town, its name, and the number of inhabitants ascertained by the county legislative authority or the boundary review board to reside in it. [1986 c 234 § 13; 1965 c 7 § 35.02.100. Prior: 1957 c 173 § 9; prior: 1953 c 219 § 5; 1890 p 131 § 2, part; 1888 p 221 §§ 1, 2, part; 1877 p 173 §§ 1, 2, part; 1871 p 51 § 1, part; RRS § 8884, part.]

**35.02.110 Election on question of incorporation—Ballots.** The ballots in the initial election on the question of incorporation shall contain the words "for incorporation" and "against incorporation" or words equivalent thereto. [1986 c 234 § 14; 1965 c 7 § 35.02.110. Prior: 1957 c 173 § 10; prior: 1890 p 131 § 2, part; 1888 p 221 §§ 1, 2, part; 1877 p 173 §§ 1, 2, part; 1871 p 51 § 1, part; RRS § 8884, part.]

**35.02.120 Election on question of incorporation—Certification of results.** If the results reveal that a majority of the votes cast are for incorporation, the city or town shall become incorporated as provided in RCW 35.02.130. If the proposed city or town is located in more than one county, the auditors of the county or counties in which the smaller portion or portions of the proposed city or town is located shall forward a certified copy of the election results to the auditor of the county within which the major portion is located. This auditor shall add these totals to the totals in his or her county and certify the results to each of the county legislative authorities. [1986 c 234 § 15; 1965 c 7 § 35.02.120. Prior: 1953 c 219 § 6; 1890 p 133 § 3, part; RRS § 8885, part.]

*Canvassing returns, generally: Chapter 29.62 RCW.*

*Conduct of elections—Canvass: RCW 29.13.040.*

**35.02.125 Newly incorporated city or town—Liability for costs of elections.** A newly incorporated city or town shall be liable for its proportionate share of the costs of all elections, after the election on whether the area should be incorporated, at which an issue relating to the city or town is placed before the voters, as if the city or town was in existence after the election at which voters authorized the area to incorporate. [1991 c 360 § 2.]

**35.02.130 Newly incorporated city or town—Effective date of incorporation—Powers during interim period—Terms of elected officers—First municipal election. (Effective until January 1, 1995.)** The city or town officially shall become incorporated at a date from one hundred eighty days to three hundred sixty days after the date of the election on the question of incorporation. An

interim period shall exist between the time the newly elected officials have been elected and qualified and this official date of incorporation. During this interim period, the newly elected officials are authorized to adopt ordinances and resolutions which shall become effective on or after the official date of incorporation, and to enter into contracts and agreements to facilitate the transition to becoming a city or town and to ensure a continuation of governmental services after the official date of incorporation. Periods of time that would be required to elapse between the enactment and effective date of such ordinances, including but not limited to times for publication or for filing referendums, shall commence upon the date of such enactment as though the city or town were officially incorporated.

During this interim period, the city or town governing body may adopt rules establishing policies and procedures under the state environmental policy act, chapter 43.21C RCW, and may use these rules and procedures in making determinations under the state environmental policy act, chapter 43.21C RCW.

During this interim period, the newly formed city or town and its governing body shall be subject to the following as though the city or town were officially incorporated: RCW 4.24.470 relating to immunity; chapter 42.17 RCW relating to open government; chapter 40.14 RCW relating to the preservation and disposition of public records; chapters 42.20, 42.22, and 42.23 RCW relating to ethics and conflicts of interest; chapters 42.30 and 42.32 RCW relating to open public meetings and minutes; RCW 35.22.288, 35.23.310, 35.24.220, 35.27.300, 35A.12.160, as appropriate, and chapter 35A.65 RCW relating to the publication of notices and ordinances; RCW 35.21.875 and 35A.21.230 relating to the designation of an official newspaper; RCW 36.16.138 relating to liability insurance; RCW 35.22.620, 35.23.352, and 35A.40.210, as appropriate, and statutes referenced therein relating to public contracts and bidding; and chapter 39.34 RCW relating to interlocal cooperation. Tax anticipation or revenue anticipation notes or warrants and other short-term obligations may be issued and funds may be borrowed on the security of these instruments during this interim period, as provided in chapter 39.50 RCW. Funds also may be borrowed from federal, state, and other governmental agencies in the same manner as if the city or town were officially incorporated.

RCW 84.52.020 and 84.52.070 shall apply to the extent that they may be applicable, and the governing body of such city or town may take appropriate action by ordinance during the interim period to adopt the property tax levy for its first full calendar year following the interim period.

The governing body of the new city or town may acquire needed facilities, supplies, equipment, insurance, and staff during this interim period as if the city or town were in existence. An interim city manager or administrator, who shall have such administrative powers and duties as are delegated by the governing body, may be appointed to serve only until the official date of incorporation. After the official date of incorporation the governing body of such a new city organized under the council manager form of government may extend the appointment of such an interim manager or administrator with such limited powers as the governing body determines, for up to ninety days. This governing body may submit ballot propositions to the voters



of the city or town to authorize taxes to be collected on or after the official date of incorporation, or authorize an annexation of the city or town by a fire protection district or library district to be effective immediately upon the effective date of the incorporation as a city or town.

The boundaries of a newly incorporated city or town shall be deemed to be established for purposes of RCW 84.09.030 on the date that the results of the initial election on the question of incorporation are certified or the first day of January following the date of this election if the newly incorporated city or town does not impose property taxes in the same year that the voters approve the incorporation.

The newly elected officials shall take office immediately upon their election and qualification with limited powers during this interim period as provided in this section. They shall acquire their full powers as of the official date of incorporation and shall continue in office until their successors are elected and qualified at the next general municipal election after the official date of incorporation: **PROVIDED**, That if the date of the next general municipal election is less than twelve months after the date of the first election of councilmembers, those initially elected councilmembers shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified at the next following general municipal election as provided in RCW 29.04.170. For purposes of this section, the general municipal election shall be the date on which city and town general elections are held throughout the state of Washington, pursuant to RCW 29.13.020.

The official date of incorporation shall be on a date from one hundred eighty to three hundred sixty days after the date of the election on the question of incorporation, as specified in a resolution adopted by the governing body during this interim period. A copy of the resolution shall be filed with the county legislative authority of the county in which all or the major portion of the newly incorporated city or town is located. If the governing body fails to adopt such a resolution, the official date of incorporation shall be three hundred sixty days after the date of the election on the question of incorporation. The county legislative authority of the county in which all or the major portion of the newly incorporated city or town is located shall file a notice with the county assessor that the city or town has been authorized to be incorporated immediately after the favorable results of the election on the question of incorporation have been certified. The county legislative authority shall file a notice with the secretary of state that the city or town is incorporated as of the official date of incorporation. [1991 c 360 § 3; 1986 c 234 § 16; 1965 c 7 § 35.02.130. Prior: 1953 c 219 § 7; 1890 p 133 § 3, part; RRS § 8885, part.]

*Times for holding elections: Chapter 29.13 RCW.*

**35.02.130 Newly incorporated city or town—Effective date of incorporation—Powers during interim period—Terms of elected officers—First municipal election. (Effective January 1, 1995.)** The city or town officially shall become incorporated at a date from one hundred eighty days to three hundred sixty days after the date of the election on the question of incorporation. An interim period shall exist between the time the newly elected officials have been elected and qualified and this official date of incorporation. During this interim period, the newly

elected officials are authorized to adopt ordinances and resolutions which shall become effective on or after the official date of incorporation, and to enter into contracts and agreements to facilitate the transition to becoming a city or town and to ensure a continuation of governmental services after the official date of incorporation. Periods of time that would be required to elapse between the enactment and effective date of such ordinances, including but not limited to times for publication or for filing referendums, shall commence upon the date of such enactment as though the city or town were officially incorporated.

During this interim period, the city or town governing body may adopt rules establishing policies and procedures under the state environmental policy act, chapter 43.21C RCW, and may use these rules and procedures in making determinations under the state environmental policy act, chapter 43.21C RCW.

During this interim period, the newly formed city or town and its governing body shall be subject to the following as though the city or town were officially incorporated: RCW 4.24.470 relating to immunity; chapter 42.17 RCW relating to open government; chapter 40.14 RCW relating to the preservation and disposition of public records; chapters 42.20 and 42.23 RCW relating to ethics and conflicts of interest; chapters 42.30 and 42.32 RCW relating to open public meetings and minutes; RCW 35.22.288, 35.23.310, \*35.24.220, 35.27.300, 35A.12.160, as appropriate, and chapter 35A.65 RCW relating to the publication of notices and ordinances; RCW 35.21.875 and 35A.21.230 relating to the designation of an official newspaper; RCW 36.16.138 relating to liability insurance; RCW 35.22.620, 35.23.352, and 35A.40.210, as appropriate, and statutes referenced therein relating to public contracts and bidding; and chapter 39.34 RCW relating to interlocal cooperation. Tax anticipation or revenue anticipation notes or warrants and other short-term obligations may be issued and funds may be borrowed on the security of these instruments during this interim period, as provided in chapter 39.50 RCW. Funds also may be borrowed from federal, state, and other governmental agencies in the same manner as if the city or town were officially incorporated.

RCW 84.52.020 and 84.52.070 shall apply to the extent that they may be applicable, and the governing body of such city or town may take appropriate action by ordinance during the interim period to adopt the property tax levy for its first full calendar year following the interim period.

The governing body of the new city or town may acquire needed facilities, supplies, equipment, insurance, and staff during this interim period as if the city or town were in existence. An interim city manager or administrator, who shall have such administrative powers and duties as are delegated by the governing body, may be appointed to serve only until the official date of incorporation. After the official date of incorporation the governing body of such a new city organized under the council manager form of government may extend the appointment of such an interim manager or administrator with such limited powers as the governing body determines, for up to ninety days. This governing body may submit ballot propositions to the voters of the city or town to authorize taxes to be collected on or after the official date of incorporation, or authorize an annexation of the city or town by a fire protection district or



library district to be effective immediately upon the effective date of the incorporation as a city or town.

The boundaries of a newly incorporated city or town shall be deemed to be established for purposes of RCW 84.09.030 on the date that the results of the initial election on the question of incorporation are certified or the first day of January following the date of this election if the newly incorporated city or town does not impose property taxes in the same year that the voters approve the incorporation.

The newly elected officials shall take office immediately upon their election and qualification with limited powers during this interim period as provided in this section. They shall acquire their full powers as of the official date of incorporation and shall continue in office until their successors are elected and qualified at the next general municipal election after the official date of incorporation: PROVIDED, That if the date of the next general municipal election is less than twelve months after the date of the first election of councilmembers, those initially elected councilmembers shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified at the next following general municipal election as provided in RCW 29.04.170. For purposes of this section, the general municipal election shall be the date on which city and town general elections are held throughout the state of Washington, pursuant to RCW 29.13.020.

The official date of incorporation shall be on a date from one hundred eighty to three hundred sixty days after the date of the election on the question of incorporation, as specified in a resolution adopted by the governing body during this interim period. A copy of the resolution shall be filed with the county legislative authority of the county in which all or the major portion of the newly incorporated city or town is located. If the governing body fails to adopt such a resolution, the official date of incorporation shall be three hundred sixty days after the date of the election on the question of incorporation. The county legislative authority of the county in which all or the major portion of the newly incorporated city or town is located shall file a notice with the county assessor that the city or town has been authorized to be incorporated immediately after the favorable results of the election on the question of incorporation have been certified. The county legislative authority shall file a notice with the secretary of state that the city or town is incorporated as of the official date of incorporation. [1994 c 154 § 308; 1991 c 360 § 3; 1986 c 234 § 16; 1965 c 7 § 35.02.130. Prior: 1953 c 219 § 7; 1890 p 133 § 3, part; RRS § 8885, part.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 35.24.220 was recodified as RCW 35.23.221 pursuant to 1994 c 81 § 90.

Parts and captions not law—Effective date—Severability—1994 c 154: See RCW 42.52.902, 42.52.904, and 42.52.905.

Times for holding elections: Chapter 29.13 RCW.

**35.02.132 Newly incorporated city or town—Budgets.** The newly elected officials shall adopt an interim budget for the interim period or until January 1 of the following year, whichever occurs first. A second interim budget shall be adopted for any period between January 1 and the official date of incorporation. These interim budgets shall be adopted in consultation with the office of the state auditor, division of municipal corporations.

The governing body shall adopt a budget for the newly incorporated city or town for the period between the official date of incorporation and January 1 of the following year. The mayor or governing body, whichever is appropriate shall prepare or the governing body may direct the interim city manager to prepare a preliminary budget in detail to be made public at least sixty days before the official date of incorporation as a recommendation for the final budget. The mayor, governing body, or the interim city manager shall submit as a part of the preliminary budget a budget message that contains an explanation of the budget document, an outline of the recommended financial policies and programs of the city or town for the ensuing fiscal year, and a statement of the relation of the recommended appropriation to such policies and programs. Immediately following the release of the preliminary budget, the governing body shall cause to be published a notice once each week for two consecutive weeks of a public hearing to be held at least twenty days before the official date of incorporation on the fixing of the final budget. Any taxpayer may appear and be heard for or against any part of the budget. The governing body may make such adjustments and changes as it deems necessary and may adopt the final budget at the conclusion of the public hearing or at any time before the official date of incorporation. [1991 c 360 § 4.]

**35.02.135 Newly incorporated city or town—May borrow from municipal sales and use tax equalization account.** Upon the certification of election of officers, the governing body may by resolution borrow money from the municipal sales and use tax equalization account, up to one hundred thousand dollars or five dollars per capita based on the population estimate required by RCW 35.02.030, whichever is less.

The loan authorized by this section shall be repaid over a three-year period. The state treasurer shall withhold moneys from the funds otherwise payable to the city or town that has obtained such a loan, either from the municipal sales and use tax equalization account or from sales and use tax entitlements otherwise distributable to such city or town, so that the account is fully reimbursed over the three-year period. The state treasurer shall adopt by rule procedures to accomplish the purpose of this section on a reasonable and equitable basis over the three-year period. [1991 c 360 § 5.]

**35.02.137 Newly incorporated city or town—Moratoria on development permits and approvals.** During the interim period, the governing body of the newly formed city or town may adopt resolutions establishing moratoria during the interim transition period on the filing of applications with the county for development permits or approvals, including, but not limited [to], subdivision approvals, short subdivision approvals, and building permits. [1991 c 360 § 11.]

**35.02.139 Newly incorporated city or town—First general election of councilmembers or commissioners—Initial, subsequent terms.** An election shall be held to elect city or town elected officials at the next municipal general election occurring more than twelve months after the date of the first election of councilmembers or commis-

sioners. Candidates shall run for specific council or commission positions. The staggering of terms of members of the city or town council shall be established at this election, where the simple majority of the persons elected as councilmembers receiving the greatest numbers of votes shall be elected to four-year terms of office and the remainder of the persons elected as councilmembers shall be elected to two-year terms of office. Newly elected councilmembers or newly elected commissioners shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified. The terms of office of newly elected commissioners shall not be staggered, as provided in chapter 35.17 RCW. All councilmembers and commissioners who are elected subsequently shall be elected to four-year terms of office and shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified and assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. [1994 c 223 § 9.]

**35.02.140 Disposition of uncollected road district taxes.** Whenever in any territory forming a part of an incorporated city or town which is part of a road district, and road district regular property taxes are collectable on any property within such territory, the same shall, when collected by the county treasurer, be paid to such city or town and placed in the city or town street fund by the city or town: **PROVIDED**, That this section shall not apply to excess property tax levies securing general indebtedness or any special assessments due in behalf of such property. [1986 c 234 § 20; 1965 c 7 § 35.02.140. Prior: 1957 c 180 § 1.]  
*County road districts: RCW 36.75.060.*

**35.02.150 Pending final disposition of petition no other petition for incorporation to be acted upon—Withdrawal or substitution—Action on petition for annexation authorized.** After the filing of any petition for incorporation with the county auditor, and pending its final disposition as provided for in this chapter, no other petition for incorporation which embraces any of the territory included therein shall be acted upon by the county auditor, the county legislative authority, or the boundary review board, or by any other public official or body that might otherwise be empowered to receive or act upon such a petition: **PROVIDED**, That any petition for incorporation may be withdrawn by a majority of the signers thereof at any time before such petition has been certified by the county auditor to the county legislative authority: **PROVIDED FURTHER**, That a new petition may be substituted therefor that embraces other or different boundaries, incorporation as a city or town operating under a different title of law, or for incorporation as a city or town operating under a different plan or form of government, by a majority of the signers of the original incorporation petition, at any time before the original petition has been certified by the county auditor to the county legislative authority, in which case the same proceedings shall be taken as in the case of an original petition. A boundary review board, county auditor, county legislative authority, or any other public official or body may act upon a petition for annexation before considering or acting upon a petition for incorporation which embraces some or all of the same territory, without regard to priority of filing. [1986 c 234 § 23; 1982 c 220 § 3; 1973 1st ex.s. c 164 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.02.150. Prior: 1961 c 200 § 1.]

**Severability—1982 c 220:** See note following RCW 36.93.100.

**35.02.155 Effect of proposed annexation on petition.** For a period of ninety days after a petition proposing the incorporation of a city or town is filed with the county auditor, a petition or resolution proposing the annexation of any portion of the territory included in the incorporation proposal may be filed or adopted and the proposed annexation may continue following the applicable statutory procedures. Territory that ultimately is annexed, as a result of the filing of such an annexation petition or adoption of such an annexation resolution during this ninety-day period, shall be withdrawn from the incorporation proposal.

A proposed annexation of a portion of the territory included within the proposed incorporation, that is initiated by the filing of an annexation petition or adoption of an annexation resolution after this ninety-day period, shall be held in abeyance and may not occur unless: (1) The boundary review board modifies the boundaries of the proposed incorporation to remove the territory from the proposed incorporation; (2) the boundary review board rejects the proposed incorporation and the proposed city or town has a population of less than seven thousand five hundred; or (3) voters defeat the ballot proposition authorizing the proposed incorporation. [1994 c 216 § 5.]

**Effective date—1994 c 216:** See note following RCW 35.02.015.

**35.02.160 Cancellation, acquisition, of franchise or permit for operation of public service business in territory incorporated.** The incorporation of any territory as a city or town shall cancel, as of the effective date of such incorporation, any franchise or permit theretofore granted to any person, firm or corporation by the state of Washington, or by the governing body of such incorporated territory, authorizing or otherwise permitting the operation of any public transportation, garbage collection and/or disposal or other similar public service business or facility within the limits of the incorporated territory, but the holder of any such franchise or permit canceled pursuant to this section shall be forthwith granted by the incorporating city or town a franchise to continue such business within the incorporated territory for a term of not less than the remaining term of the original franchise or permit, or five years, whichever is the shorter period, and the incorporating city or town, by franchise, permit or public operation, shall not extend similar or competing services to the incorporated territory except upon a proper showing of the inability or refusal of such person, firm or corporation to adequately service said incorporated territory at a reasonable price: **PROVIDED**, That the provisions of this section shall not preclude the purchase by the incorporating city or town of said franchise, business, or facilities at an agreed or negotiated price, or from acquiring the same by condemnation upon payment of damages, including a reasonable amount for the loss of the franchise or permit. In the event that any person, firm or corporation whose franchise or permit has been canceled by the terms of this section shall suffer any measurable damages as a result of any incorporation pursuant to the provisions of chapter 35.02 RCW, such person, firm or corporation shall have a right of action against any city or town causing such damages. [1986 c 234 § 24; 1965 ex.s. c 42 § 1.]

**35.02.170 Use of right of way line as corporate boundary—When right of way may be included.** The right of way line of any public street, road or highway, or any segment thereof, may be used to define a part of a corporate boundary in an incorporation proceeding. The boundaries of a newly incorporated city or town shall not include a portion of the right of way of any public street, road or highway except where the boundary runs from one edge of the right of way to the other edge of the right of way. [1989 c 84 § 7; 1986 c 234 § 25; 1975 1st ex.s. c 220 § 2.]

**Legislative finding, intent—1975 1st ex.s. c 220:** "The legislature finds that the use of centerlines of public streets, roads and highways as boundaries of incorporated cities and towns has resulted in divided jurisdiction over such public ways causing inefficiencies and waste in their construction, improvement and maintenance and impairing effective traffic law enforcement. It is the intent of this act to preclude the use of highway centerlines as corporate boundaries in the future and to encourage counties and cities and towns by agreement to revise existing highway centerline boundaries to coincide with highway right of way lines." [1975 1st ex.s. c 220 § 1.] For codification of 1975 1st ex.s. c 220, see Codification Tables, Volume 0.

*Revision of corporate boundary by substituting right of way lines: RCW 35.21.790.*

**35.02.180 Ownership of county roads to revert to city or town—Territory within city or town to be removed from fire protection, road, and library districts.** The ownership of all county roads located within the boundaries of a newly incorporated city or town shall revert to the city or town and become streets as of the official date of incorporation. However, any special assessments attributable to these county roads shall continue to exist and be collected as if the incorporation had not occurred. Property within the newly incorporated city or town shall continue to be subject to any indebtedness attributable to these roads and any related property tax levies.

The territory included within the newly incorporated city or town shall be removed from the road district as of the official date of incorporation. The territory included within the newly incorporated city or town shall be removed from a fire protection district or districts or library district or districts in which it was located, as of the official date of incorporation, unless the fire protection district or districts have annexed the city or town during the interim period as provided in \*RCW 52.04.160 through 52.04.200, or the library district or districts have annexed the city or town during the interim period as provided in \*\*RCW 27.12.260 through 27.12.290. [1986 c 234 § 17.]

**Reviser's note:** \*(1) RCW 52.04.160 has been decodified and RCW 52.04.170 through 52.04.200 have been recodified as RCW 52.04.061 through 52.04.101, pursuant to 1984 c 230 § 89.

\*\*\*(2) The reference to "RCW 27.12.260 through 27.12.290" appears to be erroneous. RCW 27.12.360 through 27.12.395 relates to annexation of a city or town by a library district.

**35.02.190 Annexation of fire protection district—Transfer of assets when at least sixty percent of assessed valuation is annexed or incorporated in city or town.** If a portion of a fire protection district including at least sixty percent of the assessed valuation of the real property of the district is annexed to or incorporated into a city or town, ownership of all of the assets of the district shall be vested in the city or town, or, if the city or town has been annexed by another fire protection district, in the other fire protection

district, upon payment in cash, properties or contracts for fire protection services to the district within one year of the date on which the city or town withdraws from the fire protection district pursuant to RCW 52.04.161, of a percentage of the value of said assets equal to the percentage of the value of the real property in entire district remaining outside the incorporated or annexed area. The fire protection district may elect, by a vote of a majority of the persons residing outside the annexed or incorporated area who vote on the proposition, to require the annexing or incorporating city or town or fire protection district to assume responsibility for the provision of fire protection, and for the operation and maintenance of the district's property, facilities, and equipment throughout the district and to pay the city or town or fire protection district a reasonable fee for such fire protection, operation, and maintenance. When at least sixty percent, but less than one hundred percent, valuation of the real estate of a district is annexed to or incorporated into a city or town, a proportionate share of the liabilities of the district at the time of such annexation or incorporation, equal to the percentage of the total assessed valuation of the real estate of the district that has been annexed or incorporated, shall be transferred to the annexing or incorporating city or town.

If all of a fire protection district is included in an area that incorporates as a city or town or is annexed to a city or town or fire protection district, all of the assets and liabilities of the fire protection district shall be transferred to the newly incorporated city or town on the date on which the fire protection district ceases to provide fire protection services pursuant to RCW 52.04.161 or to the city or town or fire protection district upon the annexation. [1993 c 262 § 3; 1989 c 76 § 2; 1986 c 234 § 18; 1981 c 332 § 5; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.247. Prior: 1963 c 231 § 3. Formerly RCW 35.13.247.]

**Severability—1981 c 332:** See note following RCW 35.13.165.

**35.02.200 Annexation of fire protection district—Ownership of assets of fire protection district—When less than sixty percent (as amended by 1989 c 76).** (1) If a portion of a fire protection district including less than sixty percent of the assessed value of the real property of the district is annexed to or incorporated into a city or town, the ownership of all assets of the district shall remain in the district and the district shall pay to the city or town, or, if the city or town has been annexed by another fire protection district, to the other fire protection district within one year or within such period of time as the district continues to collect taxes in such incorporated or annexed areas, in cash, properties or contracts for fire protection services, a percentage of the value of said assets equal to the percentage of the value of the real property in the entire district lying within the area so incorporated or annexed: **PROVIDED, That if the area annexed or incorporated includes less than five percent of the assessed value of the real property of the district, no payment shall be made to the city or town or fire protection district.**

(2) As provided in RCW 35.02.210, the fire protection district from which territory is removed as a result of an incorporation or annexation shall provide fire protection to the incorporated or annexed area for such period as the district continues to collect taxes levied in such annexed or incorporated area.

(3) For the purposes of this section, the word "assets" shall mean the total assets of the fire district, reduced by its liabilities, including bonded indebtedness, the same to be determined by usual and accepted accounting methods. The amount of said liability shall be determined by reference to the fire district's balance sheet, produced in the regular course of business, which is nearest in time to the certification of the annexation of fire district territory by the city or town. [1989 c 76 § 3; 1986 c 234 § 19; 1967 c 146 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.248. Prior: 1963 c 231 § 4. Formerly RCW 35.13.248.]

**35.02.200 Annexation of fire protection district—Ownership of assets of fire protection district—When less than sixty percent (as amended by 1989 c 267).** (1) If a portion of a fire protection district including less than sixty percent of the assessed value of the real property of the district is annexed to or incorporated into a city or town, the ownership of all assets of the district shall remain in the district and the district shall pay to the city or town within one year or within such period of time as the district continues to collect taxes in such incorporated or annexed areas, in cash, properties or contracts for fire protection services, a percentage of the value of said assets equal to the percentage of the value of the real property in the entire district lying within the area so incorporated or annexed: PROVIDED, That if the area annexed or incorporated includes less than five percent of the ~~((assessed value of the real property))~~ area of the district, no payment shall be made to the city or town except as provided in RCW 35.02.205.

(2) As provided in RCW 35.02.210, the fire protection district from which territory is removed as a result of an incorporation or annexation shall provide fire protection to the incorporated or annexed area for such period as the district continues to collect taxes levied in such annexed or incorporated area.

(3) For the purposes of this section, the word "assets" shall mean the total assets of the fire district, reduced by its liabilities, including bonded indebtedness, the same to be determined by usual and accepted accounting methods. The amount of said liability shall be determined by reference to the fire district's balance sheet, produced in the regular course of business, which is nearest in time to the certification of the annexation of fire district territory by the city or town. [1989 c 267 § 1; 1986 c 234 § 19; 1967 c 146 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.248. Prior: 1963 c 231 § 4. Formerly RCW 35.13.248.]

**Reviser's note:** RCW 35.02.200 was amended twice during the 1989 legislative session, each without reference to the other. For rule of construction concerning sections amended more than once during the same legislative session, see RCW 1.12.025.

**35.02.202 Annexation of fire protection district—Delay of transfer.** During the interim period, the governing body of the newly formed city or town and the board of fire commissioners may by written agreement delay the transfer of the district's assets and liabilities, and the city's or town's responsibility for the provision of fire protection, that would otherwise occur under RCW 35.02.190 or 35.02.200 for up to one year after the official date of incorporation. During the one-year period, the fire protection district may annex the city or town pursuant to chapter 52.04 RCW and retain the responsibility for fire protection. [1991 c 360 § 7.]

**35.02.205 Annexation of fire protection district—Distribution of assets of district when less than five percent of district annexed—Distribution agreement—Arbitration.** (1) A distribution of assets from the fire protection district to the city or town shall occur as provided in this section upon the annexation or, in the case of an incorporation, on the date on which the city or town withdraws from the fire protection district pursuant to RCW 52.04.161, of an area by the city or town that constitutes less than five percent of the area of the fire protection district upon the adoption of a resolution by the city or town finding that the annexation or incorporation will impose a significant increase in the fire suppression responsibilities of the city or town with a corresponding reduction in fire suppression responsibilities by the fire protection district. Such a resolution must be adopted within sixty days of the effective date of the annexation, or within sixty days of the official date of incorporation of the city. If the fire protection district does not concur in the finding within sixty days of when a copy of the resolution is submitted to the board of

commissioners, arbitration shall proceed under subsection (3) of this section over this issue.

(2) An agreement on the distribution of assets from the fire protection district to the city or town shall be entered into by the city or town and the fire protection district within ninety days of the concurrence by the fire protection district under subsection (1) of this section, or within ninety days of a decision by the arbitrators under subsection (3) of this section that a significant increase in the fire protection responsibilities will be imposed upon the city or town as a result of the incorporation or annexation. A distribution shall be based upon the extent of the increased fire suppression responsibilities with a corresponding reduction in fire suppression responsibilities by the fire protection district, and shall consider the impact of any debt obligation that may exist on the property that is so annexed or incorporated. If an agreement is not entered into after this ninety-day period, arbitration shall proceed under subsection (3) of this section concerning this issue unless both parties have agreed to an extension of this period.

(3) Arbitration shall proceed under this subsection over the issue of whether a significant increase in the fire protection responsibilities will be imposed upon the city or town as a result of the annexation or incorporation with a corresponding reduction in fire suppression responsibilities by the fire protection district, or over the distribution of assets from the fire protection district to the city or town if such a significant increase in fire protection responsibilities will be imposed. A board of arbitrators shall be established for an arbitration that is required under this section. The board of arbitrators shall consist of three persons, one of whom is appointed by the city or town within sixty days of the date when arbitration is required, one of whom is appointed by the fire protection district within sixty days of the date when arbitration is required, and one of whom is appointed by agreement of the other two arbitrators within thirty days of the appointment of the last of these other two arbitrators who is so appointed. If the two are unable to agree on the appointment of the third arbitrator within this thirty-day period, then the third arbitrator shall be appointed by a judge in the superior court of the county within which all or the greatest portion of the area that was so annexed or incorporated lies. The determination by the board of arbitrators shall be binding on both the city or town and the fire protection district. [1993 c 262 § 4; 1989 c 267 § 3.]

**35.02.210 Fire protection district and library district—Continuation of services at option of city or town.** At the option of the governing body of a newly incorporated city or town, any fire protection district or library district serving any part of the area so incorporated shall continue to provide services to such area until the city or town receives its own property tax receipts. [1991 c 360 § 8; 1986 c 234 § 21; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.03.160. Formerly RCW 35A.03.160.]

**35.02.220 Duty of county and road, library, and fire districts to continue services during transition period—Road maintenance and law enforcement services.** The approval of an incorporation by the voters of a proposed city or town, and the existence of a transition period to become

a city or town, shall not remove the responsibility of any county, road district, library district, or fire district, within which the area is located, to continue providing services to the area until the official date of the incorporation.

A county shall continue to provide the following services to a newly incorporated city or town, or that portion of the county within which the newly incorporated city or town is located, at the preincorporation level as follows:

(1) Law enforcement services shall be provided for a period not to exceed sixty days from the official date of the incorporation or until the city or town is receiving or could have begun receiving sales tax distributions under RCW 82.14.030(1), whichever is the shortest time period.

(2) Road maintenance shall be for a period not to exceed sixty days from the official date of the incorporation or until forty percent of the anticipated annual tax distribution from the road district tax levy is made to the newly incorporated city or town pursuant to RCW 35.02.140, whichever is the shorter time period. [1991 c 360 § 9; 1986 c 234 § 22; 1985 c 143 § 1. Formerly RCW 35.21.763.]

**35.02.225 County may contract to provide essential services.** It is the desire of the legislature that the citizens of newly incorporated cities or towns receive uninterrupted and adequate services in the period prior to the city or town government attaining the ability to provide such service levels. In addition to the services provided under RCW 35.02.220, it is the purpose of this section to permit the county or counties in which a newly incorporated city or town is located to contract with the newly incorporated city or town for the continuation of essential services until the newly incorporated city or town has attained the ability to provide such services at least at the levels provided by the county before the incorporation. These essential services may include but are not limited to, law enforcement, road and street maintenance, drainage, and other utility services previously provided by the county before incorporation. The contract should be negotiated on the basis of the county's cost to provide services without consideration of capital assets which do not continue to be amortized for principal and interest or depreciated by the county. The exception for not considering capital assets which are no longer amortized for principal and interest or depreciated is recognition of the preexisting financial investment of citizens of the newly incorporated city or town have made in county capital assets.

Nothing in this section limits the ability of the county and the newly incorporated city or town to contract for higher service levels or for other time periods than those imposed by this section. [1985 c 332 § 7. Formerly RCW 35.21.764.]

**35.02.230 Incorporation of city or town located in more than one county—Powers and duties of county after incorporation—Costs.** After incorporation of a city or town located in more than one county, all purposes essential to the maintenance, operation, and administration of the city or town whenever any action is required or may be performed by the county, county legislative authority, or any county officer or board, such action shall be performed by the respective county, county legislative authority, officer, or board of the county of that part of the city or town in which

the largest number of inhabitants reside as of the date of the incorporation of the proposed city or town except as provided in RCW 35.02.240, and all costs incurred shall be borne proportionately by each county in that ratio which the number of inhabitants residing in that part of each county forming a part of the proposed city or town bears to the total number of inhabitants residing within the whole of the city or town. [1986 c 234 § 26; 1965 c 7 § 35.04.150. Prior: 1955 c 345 § 15. Formerly RCW 35.04.150.]

**35.02.240 Incorporation of city or town located in more than one county—Taxes—Powers and duties of county after incorporation—Costs.** In the case of evaluation, assessment, collection, apportionment, and any other allied power or duty relating to taxes in connection with the city or town, the action shall be performed by the county, county legislative authority, or county officer or board of the county for that area of the city or town which is located within the respective county, and all materials, information, and other data and all moneys collected shall be submitted to the proper officer of the county of that part of the city or town in which the largest number of inhabitants reside. Any power which may be or duty which shall be performed in connection therewith shall be performed by the county, county legislative authority, officer, or board receiving such as though only a city or town in a single county were concerned. All moneys collected from such area constituting a part of such city or town that should be paid to such city or town shall be delivered to the treasurer thereof, and all other materials, information, or data relating to the city or town shall be submitted to the appropriate city or town officials.

Any costs or expenses incurred under this section shall be borne proportionately by each county involved. [1986 c 234 § 27; 1965 c 7 § 35.04.160. Prior: 1955 c 345 § 16. Formerly RCW 35.04.160.]

**35.02.250 Corporate powers in dealings with federal government.** Any city or town incorporated as provided in this chapter shall, in addition to all other powers, duties and benefits of a city or town of the same type or class, be authorized to purchase, acquire, lease, or administer any property, real or personal, or property rights and improvements thereon owned by the federal government on such terms and conditions as may be mutually agreed upon, when authorized to do so by the United States government, and thereafter to sell, transfer, exchange, lease, or otherwise dispose of any such property, and to execute contracts with the federal government with respect to supplying water and for other utility services. [1986 c 234 § 28; 1965 c 7 § 35.04.170. Prior: 1955 c 345 § 17. Formerly RCW 35.04.170.]

**35.02.260 Duty of \*department of community development to assist newly incorporated cities and towns.** The \*department of community development shall identify federal, state, and local agencies that should receive notification that a new city or town is about to incorporate and shall assist newly formed cities and towns during the interim period before the official date of incorporation in

providing such notification to the identified agencies. [1991 c 360 § 6.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Powers, duties, and functions of the department of community development and the department of trade and economic development were transferred to the department of community, trade, and economic development by 1993 c 280, effective July 1, 1994.

**35.02.270 Other local governments and state agencies—May assist newly incorporated cities and towns.** Cities, towns, counties, and other local government agencies and state agencies may make loans of staff and equipment, and technical and financial assistance to the newly formed city or town during the interim period to facilitate the transition to an incorporated city or town. Such loans and assistance may be without compensation. [1991 c 360 § 12.]

## Chapter 35.06

### ADVANCEMENT OF CLASSIFICATION

#### Sections

- 35.06.010 Population requirements for advance in classification.  
 35.06.070 Procedure for advancement—Ballot proposition—Notification of secretary of state.  
 35.06.080 Election of new officers.

*Municipal corporations classified: Chapter 35.01 RCW.*

*Population determinations: Chapter 43.62 RCW.*

**35.06.010 Population requirements for advance in classification.** A city or town which has at least ten thousand inhabitants may become a first class city by adopting a charter under Article XI, section 10, of the state Constitution in chapter 35.22 RCW.

A town which has at least fifteen hundred inhabitants may reorganize and advance its classification to become a second class city as provided in this chapter. [1994 c 81 § 7; 1965 c 7 § 35.06.010. Prior: 1955 c 319 § 6; prior: (i) 1907 c 248 § 1, part; 1890 p 140 § 12, part; RRS § 8933, part. (ii) 1890 p 141 § 14; RRS § 8936.]

*Cities of twenty thousand or more, alternative procedure to become city of first class: RCW 35.21.610.*

**35.06.070 Procedure for advancement—Ballot proposition—Notification of secretary of state.** A ballot proposition authorizing an advancement in classification of a town to a second class city shall be submitted to the voters of the town if either: (1) Petitions proposing the advancement are submitted to the town clerk that have been signed by voters of the town equal in number to at least ten percent of the voters of the town voting at the last municipal general election; or (2) the town council adopts a resolution proposing the advancement. The clerk shall immediately forward the petitions to the county auditor who shall review the signatures and certify the sufficiency of the petitions.

A ballot proposition authorizing an advancement shall be submitted to the town voters at the next municipal general election occurring forty-five or more days after the petitions are submitted if the county auditor certifies the petitions as having sufficient valid signatures. The town shall be advanced to a second class city if the ballot proposition is approved by a simple majority vote, effective when the

corporation is actually reorganized and the new officers are elected and qualified. The county auditor shall notify the secretary of state if the advancement of a town to a second class city is approved. [1994 c 81 § 8; 1965 c 7 § 35.06.070. Prior: 1890 p 142 § 21; RRS § 8942.]

**35.06.080 Election of new officers.** The first election of officers of the new corporation after the advancement of classification is approved shall be at the next general municipal election and the officers of the old corporation, as altered by the election when the advancement was approved, shall remain in office until the officers of the new corporation are elected and qualified and assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. A primary shall be held where necessary to nominate candidates for the elected offices of the corporation as a second class city. Candidates for city council positions shall run for specific council positions. The council of the old corporation may adopt a resolution providing that the offices of city attorney, clerk, and treasurer are appointive.

The three persons who are elected to council positions one through six receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected to four-year terms of office and the other three persons who are elected to council positions one through six, and the person elected to council position seven, shall be elected to two-year terms of office. The person elected as mayor and the persons elected to any other elected office shall be elected to four-year terms of office. All successors to all elected positions, other than council position number seven, shall be elected to four-year terms of office and successors to council position number seven shall be elected to two-year terms of office.

There shall be no election of town offices at this election when the first officers of the new corporation are elected and the offices of the town shall expire when the officers of the new corporation assume office.

The ordinances, bylaws, and resolutions adopted by the old corporation shall, as far as consistent with the provisions of this title, continue in force until repealed by the council of the new corporation.

The council and officers of the town shall, upon demand, deliver to the proper officers of the new corporation all books of record, documents, and papers in their possession belonging to the old corporation. [1994 c 81 § 9; 1965 c 106 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.06.080. Prior: 1890 p 143 § 22; RRS § 8942.]

## Chapter 35.07

### DISINCORPORATION

#### Sections

- 35.07.001 Actions subject to review by boundary review board.  
 35.07.010 Authority for disincorporation.  
 35.07.020 Petition—Requisites.  
 35.07.030 Census.  
 35.07.040 Calling election—Receiver.  
 35.07.050 Notice of election.  
 35.07.060 Ballots.  
 35.07.070 Conduct of election.  
 35.07.080 Canvass of returns.  
 35.07.090 Effect of disincorporation—Powers—Officers.  
 35.07.100 Effect of disincorporation—Existing contracts.  
 35.07.110 Effect of disincorporation—Streets.

- 35.07.120 Receiver—Qualification—Bond.
- 35.07.130 Elected receiver—Failure to qualify—Court to appoint.
- 35.07.140 No receiver elected though indebtedness exists—Procedure.
- 35.07.150 Duties of receiver—Claims—Priority.
- 35.07.160 Receiver may sue and be sued.
- 35.07.170 Receiver—Power to sell property.
- 35.07.180 Receiver—Power to levy taxes.
- 35.07.190 Receiver's compensation.
- 35.07.200 Receiver—Removal for cause.
- 35.07.210 Receiver—Successive appointments.
- 35.07.220 Receiver—Final account and discharge.
- 35.07.230 Involuntary dissolution of towns—Authorized.
- 35.07.240 Involuntary dissolution of towns—Notice of hearing.
- 35.07.250 Involuntary dissolution of towns—Hearing.
- 35.07.260 Involuntary dissolution of towns—Alternative forms of order.

*Census to be made in decennial periods: State Constitution Art. 2 § 3.*

*Obligations of contract: State Constitution Art. 1 § 23.*

*Population determinations: Chapter 43.62 RCW.*

**35.07.001 Actions subject to review by boundary review board.** Actions taken under chapter 35.07 RCW may be subject to potential review by a boundary review board under chapter 36.93 RCW. [1989 c 84 § 26.]

**35.07.010 Authority for disincorporation.** Cities and towns may disincorporate. [1994 c 81 § 10; 1965 c 7 § 35.07.010. Prior: 1897 c 69 § 1; RRS § 8914.]

**35.07.020 Petition—Requisites.** The petition for disincorporation must be signed by a majority of the registered voters thereof and filed with the city or town council. [1965 c 7 § 35.07.020. Prior: 1897 c 69 § 2, part; RRS § 8915, part.]

**35.07.030 Census.** Upon the filing of the petition, the council shall appoint a suitable person to make an enumeration of the inhabitants of the municipality unless an enumeration has been made for the city or town, county, state, or the United States within six months next preceding the filing of the petition showing the city's or town's population to be less than four thousand. An enumeration made hereunder, unless impeached for fraud, shall be conclusive. [1965 c 7 § 35.07.030. Prior: 1897 c 69 § 16; RRS § 8929.]

*Effect of disincorporation on allocation of state funds to a city or town: RCW 43.62.030.*

**35.07.040 Calling election—Receiver.** If the applicable census shows a population of less than four thousand, the council shall cause an election to be called upon the proposition of disincorporation. If the city or town has any indebtedness or outstanding liabilities, it shall order the election of a receiver at the same time. [1965 c 7 § 35.07.040. Prior: 1897 c 69 § 2, part; RRS § 8915, part.]

**35.07.050 Notice of election.** Notice of such election shall be given as provided in RCW 29.27.080. [1965 c 7 § 35.07.050. Prior: 1897 c 69 § 3; RRS § 8916.]

**35.07.060 Ballots.** The ballots for the election shall be printed at the expense of the municipality and there shall be printed thereon the words "for dissolution" in one line and the words "against dissolution" in another line and in

other and separate lines, the names of each of the lawfully nominated candidates for receiver. In all other respects the ballots shall be in conformity with the law regulating elections in such cities and towns. [1965 c 7 § 35.07.060. Prior: 1897 c 69 § 4; RRS § 8917.]

**35.07.070 Conduct of election.** The election shall be conducted as other elections are required by law to be conducted in the city or town except as in this chapter otherwise provided. [1965 c 7 § 35.07.070. Prior: 1897 c 69 § 5; RRS § 8918.]

*Conduct of elections—Canvass: RCW 29.13.040.*

**35.07.080 Canvass of returns.** The result of the election, together with the ballots cast, shall be certified by the canvassing authority to the council which shall meet within one week thereafter and shall declare the result which shall be made a matter of record in the journal of the council proceedings. If the vote "For dissolution" be a majority of the registered voters of such city or town voting at such election, such corporation shall be deemed dissolved. [1965 c 7 § 35.07.080. Prior: 1933 c 128 § 1, part; 1897 c 69 § 6, part; Rem. Supp. § 8919, part.]

*Canvassing returns, generally: Chapter 29.62 RCW.*

**35.07.090 Effect of disincorporation—Powers—Officers.** Upon disincorporation of a city or town, its powers and privileges as such, are surrendered to the state and it is absolved from any further duty to the state or its own inhabitants and all the offices appertaining thereto shall cease to exist immediately upon the entry of the result: PROVIDED, That if a receiver is required, the officers shall continue in the exercise of all their powers until a receiver has qualified as such, and thereupon shall surrender to him all property, money, vouchers, records and books of the city or town including those in any manner pertaining to its business. [1965 c 7 § 35.07.090. Prior: 1933 c 128 § 1, part; 1897 c 69 § 6, part; RRS § 8919, part.]

**35.07.100 Effect of disincorporation—Existing contracts.** Disincorporation shall not impair the obligation of any contract. If any franchise lawfully granted has not expired at the time of disincorporation, the disincorporation does not impair any right thereunder and does not imply any authority to interfere therewith to any greater extent than the city or town might have, if it had remained incorporated. [1965 c 7 § 35.07.100. Prior: 1897 c 69 § 18; RRS § 8931.]

*Obligations of contract shall not be impaired: State Constitution Art. 1 § 23.*

**35.07.110 Effect of disincorporation—Streets.** Upon disincorporation of a city or town, its streets and highways pass to the control of the state and shall remain public highways until closed in pursuance of law; and the territory embraced therein shall be made into a new road district or annexed to adjoining districts as may be ordered by the board of county commissioners of the county embracing such city or town. [1965 c 7 § 35.07.110. Prior: 1897 c 69 § 17; RRS § 8930.]



**35.07.120 Receiver—Qualification—Bond.** The receiver must qualify within ten days after he has been declared elected, by filing with the county auditor a bond equal in penalty to the audited indebtedness and the established liabilities of the city or town with sureties approved by the board of county commissioners, or if the board is not in session, by the judge of the superior court of the county. The bond shall run to the state and shall be conditioned for the faithful performance of his duties as receiver and the prompt payment in the order of their priority of all lawful claims finally established as the funds come into his hands to discharge them. The bond shall be filed with the county auditor and shall be a public record and shall be for the benefit of every person who may be injured by the receiver's failure to discharge his duty. [1965 c 7 § 35.07.120. Prior: 1897 c 69 § 7; RRS § 8920.]

**35.07.130 Elected receiver—Failure to qualify—Court to appoint.** If the person elected receiver fails to qualify as such within the prescribed time, the council shall file in the superior court of the county a petition setting forth the fact of the election, its result and the failure of the person elected receiver to qualify within the prescribed time and praying for the appointment of another person as receiver. Notice of the filing of the petition and of the time fixed for hearing thereon must be served upon the person elected receiver at least three days before the time fixed for the hearing. If he cannot be found within the county, no notice need be served, and the court may proceed with full jurisdiction to determine the matter upon the hearing. Unless good cause to the contrary is shown, the court shall appoint some suitable person to act as receiver, who shall qualify as required by RCW 35.07.120 within ten days from the date of his appointment.

If the council fails to procure the appointment of a receiver, any person qualified to vote in the city or town may file such a petition and make such application. [1965 c 7 § 35.07.130. Prior: 1897 c 69 § 8; RRS § 8921.]

**35.07.140 No receiver elected though indebtedness exists—Procedure.** If no receiver is elected upon the supposition that no indebtedness existed and it transpires that the municipality does have indebtedness or an outstanding liability, any interested person may file a petition in the superior court asking for the appointment of a receiver, and unless the indebtedness or liability is discharged, the court shall appoint some suitable person to act as receiver who shall qualify as required of any other receiver hereunder, within ten days from the date of his appointment. [1965 c 7 § 35.07.140. Prior: 1897 c 69 § 15; RRS § 8928.]

**35.07.150 Duties of receiver—Claims—Priority.** The receiver, upon qualifying, shall take possession of all the property, money, vouchers, records and books of the former municipality including those in any manner pertaining to its business and proceed to wind up its affairs. He shall have authority to pay:

(1) All outstanding warrants and bonds in the order of their maturity with due regard to the fund on which they are properly a charge;

(2) All lawful claims against the corporation which have been audited and allowed by the council;

(3) All lawful claims which may be presented to him within the time limited by law for the presentation of such claims, but no claim shall be allowed or paid which is not presented within six months from the date of the disincorporation election;

(4) All claims that by final adjudication may come to be established as lawful claims against the corporation.

As between warrants, bonds and other claims, their priority shall be determined with regard to the fund on which they are properly a charge. [1965 c 7 § 35.07.150. Prior: 1897 c 69 § 9; RRS § 8922.]

*Accident claims, audits: Chapter 35.31 RCW, RCW 35.23.261.*

**35.07.160 Receiver may sue and be sued.** The receiver shall have the right to sue and be sued in all cases necessary or proper for the purpose of winding up the affairs of the former city or town and shall be subject to suit in all cases wherein the city or town might have been sued, subject to the limitations provided in this chapter. [1965 c 7 § 35.07.160. Prior: 1897 c 69 § 12; RRS § 8925.]

**35.07.170 Receiver—Power to sell property.** The receiver shall be authorized to sell at public auction after such public notice as the sheriff is required to give of like property sold on execution, all the property of the former municipality except such as is necessary for his use in winding up its affairs, and excepting also such as has been dedicated to public use.

Personal property shall be sold for cash.

Real property may be sold for all cash, or for one-half cash and the remainder in deferred payments, the last payment not to be later than one year from date of sale. Title shall not pass until all deferred payments have been fully paid. [1965 c 7 § 35.07.170. Prior: 1897 c 69 § 10, part; RRS § 8923.]

**35.07.180 Receiver—Power to levy taxes.** In the same manner and to the same extent as the proper authorities of the former city or town could have done had it not been disincorporated, the receiver shall be authorized to levy taxes on all taxable property, to receive the taxes when collected and to apply them together with the proceeds arising from sales to the extinguishment of the obligations of the former city or town.

After all the lawful claims against the former city or town have been paid excepting bonds not yet due, no levy greater than fifty cents per thousand dollars of assessed value shall be made; nor shall the levy be greater than sufficient to meet the accruing interest until the bonds mature. [1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 11; 1965 c 7 § 35.07.180. Prior: 1897 c 69 § 10, part; RRS § 8923, part.]

*Severability—Effective dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195: See notes following RCW 84.52.043.*

**35.07.190 Receiver's compensation.** The receiver shall be entitled to deduct from any funds coming into his hands a commission of six percent on the first thousand dollars, five percent on the second thousand and four percent on any amount over two thousand dollars as his full compen-



sation exclusive of necessary traveling expenses and necessary disbursements, but not exclusive of attorney's fees. [1965 c 7 § 35.07.190. Prior: 1897 c 69 § 11; RRS § 8924.]

**35.07.200 Receiver—Removal for cause.** The receiver shall proceed to wind up the affairs of the corporation with diligence and for negligence or misconduct in the discharge of his duties may be removed by the superior court upon a proper showing made by a taxpayer of the former city or town or by an unsatisfied creditor thereof. [1965 c 7 § 35.07.200. Prior: 1897 c 69 § 13, part; RRS § 8926, part.]

**35.07.210 Receiver—Successive appointments.** In the case of removal, death, or resignation of a receiver, the court may appoint a new receiver to take charge of the affairs of the former city or town. [1965 c 7 § 35.07.210. Prior: 1897 c 69 § 13, part; RRS § 8926, part.]

**35.07.220 Receiver—Final account and discharge.** Upon the final payment of all lawful demands against the former city or town, the receiver shall file a final account, together with all vouchers, with the clerk of the superior court. Any funds remaining in his hands shall be paid to the county treasurer for the use of the school district in which the former city or town was situated; and thereupon the receivership shall be at an end. [1965 c 7 § 35.07.220. Prior: 1897 c 69 § 14; RRS § 8927.]

**35.07.230 Involuntary dissolution of towns—Authorized.** If any town fails for two successive years to hold its regular municipal election, or if the officers elected at the regular election of any town fail for two successive years to qualify and the government of the town ceases to function by reason thereof, the state auditor through the division of municipal corporations may petition the superior court of the county for an order, dissolving the town. In addition to stating the facts which would justify the entry of such an order, the petition shall set forth a detailed statement of the assets and liabilities of the town insofar as they can be ascertained. [1965 c 7 § 35.07.230. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 76 § 1; RRS § 8931-1.]

**35.07.240 Involuntary dissolution of towns—Notice of hearing.** Upon the filing of a petition for the involuntary dissolution of a town, the superior court shall enter an order fixing the time for hearing thereon at a date not less than thirty days from date of filing. The state auditor shall give notice of the hearing by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, once a week for three successive weeks, and by posting in three public places in the town, stating therein the purpose of the petition and the date and place of hearing thereon. [1985 c 469 § 18; 1965 c 7 § 35.07.240. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 76 § 2; RRS § 8931-2.]

**35.07.250 Involuntary dissolution of towns—Hearing.** Any person owning property in or qualified to vote in the town may appear at the hearing and file written

objections to the granting of the petition. If the court finds that the town has failed for two successive years to hold its regular municipal election or that its officers elected at a regular election have failed to qualify for two successive years thereby causing the government of the town to cease to function, it shall enter an order for disincorporation of the town. [1965 c 7 § 35.07.250. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 76 § 3, part; RRS § 8931-3, part.]

**35.07.260 Involuntary dissolution of towns—Alternative forms of order.** (1) If the court finds that the town has no indebtedness and no assets, the order of dissolution shall be effective forthwith.

(2) If the court finds that the town has assets, but no indebtedness or liabilities, it shall order a sale of the assets other than cash by the sheriff in the manner provided by law for the sale of property on execution. The proceeds of the sale together with any money on hand in the treasury of the town, after deducting the costs of the proceeding and sale, shall be paid into the county treasury and placed to the credit of the school district in which the town is located.

(3) If the court finds that the town has indebtedness or liabilities and assets other than cash, it shall order the sale of the assets as provided in subsection (2) hereof and that the proceeds thereof and the cash on hand shall be applied to the payment of the indebtedness and liabilities.

(4) If the court finds that the town has indebtedness or liabilities, but no assets or that the assets are insufficient to pay the indebtedness and liabilities, it shall order the board of county commissioners to levy from year to year a tax on the taxable property within the boundaries of the former town until the indebtedness and liabilities are paid. All taxes delinquent at the date of dissolution when collected shall be applied to the payment of the indebtedness and liabilities. Any balance remaining from the collection of delinquent taxes and taxes levied under order of the court, after payment of the indebtedness and liabilities shall be placed to the credit of the school district in which the town is located. [1965 c 7 § 35.07.260. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 76 § 3, part; RRS § 8931-3, part.]

## Chapter 35.10

### CONSOLIDATION AND ANNEXATION OF CITIES AND TOWNS

#### Sections

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*Census to be conducted in decennial periods: State Constitution Art. 2 § 3.*

*Consolidation and annexation exempt from state environmental policy act: RCW 43.21C.225.*

*Population determinations: Chapter 43.62 RCW.*

*Procedure to attack consolidation or annexation affecting a city of the second class: RCW 35.23.545.*

**35.10.001 Actions subject to review by boundary review board.** Actions taken under chapter 35.10 RCW may be subject to potential review by a boundary review board under chapter 36.93 RCW. [1989 c 84 § 27.]

**35.10.203 Purpose.** The purpose of this chapter is to establish clear and uniform provisions of law governing the consolidation of all types and classes of cities. [1985 c 281 § 1.]

**35.10.207 "City" defined.** As used in this chapter, the term "city" means any city or town. [1985 c 281 § 2.]

**35.10.217 Methods for annexation.** The following methods are available for the annexation of all or a part of a city or town to another city or town:

(1) A petition for an election to vote upon the annexation, which proposed annexation is approved by the legislative body of the city or town from which the territory will be taken, may be submitted to the legislative body of the city or town to which annexation is proposed. An annexation under this subsection shall otherwise conform with the requirements for and procedures of a petition and election method of annexing unincorporated territory under chapter 35.13 RCW, except for the requirement for the approval of the annexation by the city or town from which the territory would be taken.

(2) The legislative body of a city or town may on its own initiative by resolution indicate its desire to be annexed

to a city or town either in whole or in part, or the legislative body of a city or town proposing to annex all or part of another city or town may initiate the annexation by adopting a resolution indicating that desire. In case such resolution is passed, such resolution shall be transmitted to the other affected city or town. The annexation is effective if the other city or town adopts a resolution concurring in the annexation, unless the owners of property in the area proposed to be annexed, equal in value to sixty percent or more of the assessed valuation of the property in the area, protest the proposed annexation in writing to the legislative body of the city or town proposing to annex the area, within thirty days of the adoption of the second resolution accepting the annexation. Notices of the public hearing at which the second resolution is adopted shall be mailed to the owners of the property within the area proposed to be annexed in the same manner that notices of a hearing on a proposed local improvement district are required to be mailed by a city or town as provided in chapter 35.43 RCW. An annexation under this subsection shall be potentially subject to review by a boundary review board or other annexation review board after the adoption of the initial resolution, and the second resolution may not be adopted until the proposed annexation has been approved by the board.

(3) The owners of property located in a city or town may petition for annexation to another city or town. An annexation under this subsection shall conform with the requirements for and procedures of a direct petition method of annexing unincorporated territory, except that the legislative body of the city or town from which the territory would be taken must approve the annexation before it may proceed.

(4) All annexations under this section are subject to potential review by the local boundary review board or annexation review board. [1986 c 253 § 1; 1985 c 281 § 15; 1969 ex.s. c 89 § 4.]

**35.10.240 Annexation—Canvass of votes.** In all cases of annexation, the county canvassing board or boards shall canvass the votes cast thereat.

In an election on the question of the annexation of all or a part of a city to another city, the votes cast in the city or portion thereof to be annexed shall be canvassed, and if a majority of the votes cast be in favor of annexation, the results shall be included in a statement indicating the total number of votes cast.

A proposition for the assumption of indebtedness outside the constitutional and/or statutory limits by the other city or cities in which the indebtedness did not originate shall be deemed approved if a majority of at least three-fifths of the voters of each city in which the indebtedness did not originate votes in favor thereof, and the number of persons voting on such proposition constitutes not less than forty percent of the total number of votes cast in such cities in which indebtedness did not originate at the last preceding general election: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That if general obligation bond indebtedness was incurred by action by the city legislative body, a proposition for the assumption of such indebtedness by the other city or cities in which such indebtedness did not originate shall be deemed approved if a majority of the voters of each city in which such indebtedness did not originate votes in favor thereof.

A duly certified copy of such statement of an annexation election shall be filed with the legislative body of each of the cities affected and recorded upon its minutes, and it shall be the duty of the clerk, or other officer performing the duties of clerk, of each of such legislative bodies, to transmit to the secretary of state and the office of financial management a duly certified copy of the record of such statement. [1985 c 281 § 16; 1981 c 157 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 12; 1969 ex.s. c 89 § 7; 1967 c 73 § 17; 1965 c 7 § 35.10.240. Prior: 1929 c 64 § 5; RRS § 8909-5. Formerly RCW 35.10.070.]

**Severability—Effective dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195:** See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

**Validating—1929 c 64:** "That the attempted consolidation of two or more contiguous municipal corporations pursuant to the provisions of either chapter 167 of the Laws of 1927 or chapter 293 of the Laws of 1927 be, and any such consolidation of any such cities or towns, is hereby in all respects validated." [1929 c 64 § 16.]

*Canvassing returns, generally:* Chapter 29.62 RCW.

*Conduct of elections—Canvass:* RCW 29.13.040.

**35.10.265 Annexation—When effective—Ordinance.** Immediately after the filing of the statement of an annexation election, the legislative body of the annexing city may, if it deems it wise or expedient, adopt an ordinance providing for the annexation. Upon the date fixed in the ordinance of annexation, the area annexed shall become a part of the annexing city. The clerk of the annexing city shall transmit a certified copy of this ordinance to the secretary of state and the office of financial management. [1985 c 281 § 17; 1981 c 157 § 3; 1969 ex.s. c 89 § 10.]

**35.10.300 Disposition of property and assets following consolidation or annexation.** Upon the consolidation of two or more cities, or the annexation of any city to another city, as provided in this chapter, the title to all property and assets owned by, or held in trust for, such former city shall vest in such consolidated city, or annexing city, as the case may be: PROVIDED, That if any such former city, shall be indebted, the proceeds of the sale of any such property and assets not required for the use of such consolidated city, or annexing city, shall be applied to the payment of such indebtedness, if any exist at the time of such sale. [1985 c 281 § 18; 1969 ex.s. c 89 § 12; 1965 c 7 § 35.10.300. Prior: 1929 c 64 § 11; RRS § 8909-11. Formerly RCW 35.10.100 and 35.11.080, part.]

**35.10.310 Assets and liabilities of component cities—Taxation to pay claims.** Such consolidation, or annexation, shall in no wise affect or impair the validity of claim or chose in action existing in favor of or against, any such former city so consolidated or annexed, or any proceeding pending in relation thereto, but such consolidated or annexing city shall collect such claims in favor of such former cities, and shall apply the proceeds to the payment of any just claims against them respectively, and shall when necessary levy and collect taxes against the taxable property within any such former city sufficient to pay all just claims against it. [1985 c 281 § 19; 1969 ex.s. c 89 § 13; 1965 c 7 § 35.10.310. Prior: 1929 c 64 § 12; RRS § 8909-12. Formerly RCW 35.10.110, 35.10.130, part, and 35.11.080, part.]

(1994 Ed.)

**35.10.315 Adoption of final budget and levy of property taxes.** Upon the consolidation of two or more cities, or the annexation of any city after March 1st and prior to the date of adopting the final budget and levying the property tax dollar rate in that year for the next calendar year, the legislative body of the consolidated city or the annexing city is authorized to adopt the final budget and to levy the property tax dollar rate for the consolidated cities and any city annexed. [1985 c 281 § 20; 1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 13; 1969 ex.s. c 89 § 14.]

**Severability—Effective dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195:** See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

**35.10.317 Receipt of state funds.** Upon the consolidation of two or more cities, or the annexation of any city, the consolidated or annexing city shall receive all state funds to which the component cities would have been entitled to receive during the year when such consolidation or annexation became effective. [1985 c 281 § 21; 1969 ex.s. c 89 § 15.]

**35.10.320 Continuation of ordinances.** All ordinances in force within any such former city or cities, at the time of consolidation or annexation, not in conflict with the laws governing the consolidated city, or with the ordinances of the former city having the largest population, as shown by the last determination of the office of financial management shall remain in full force and effect until superseded or repealed by the legislative body of the consolidated or annexing city, and shall be enforced by such city, but all ordinances of such former cities, in conflict with such ordinances shall be deemed repealed by, and from and after, such consolidation or annexation, but nothing in this section shall be construed to discharge any person from any liability, civil or criminal, for any violation of any ordinance of such former city or cities incurred prior to such consolidation or annexation. [1985 c 281 § 22; 1981 c 157 § 4; 1969 ex.s. c 89 § 16; 1965 c 7 § 35.10.320. Prior: 1929 c 64 § 13; RRS § 8909-13. Formerly RCW 35.10.120 and 35.11.080, part.]

**35.10.331 Unassumed indebtedness.** Unless indebtedness approved by the voters, contracted, or incurred prior to the date of consolidation or annexation as provided herein has been assumed by the voters in the other city or cities in which such indebtedness did not originate, such indebtedness continues to be the obligation of the city in which it originated, and the legislative body of the consolidated or annexing city shall continue to levy the necessary taxes within the former city that incurred this indebtedness to amortize such indebtedness. [1985 c 281 § 23; 1969 ex.s. c 89 § 17.]

**35.10.350 Cancellation, acquisition of franchise or permit for operation of public service business in territory annexed.** See RCW 35.13.280.

**35.10.360 Annexation—Transfer of fire department employees.** Upon the annexation of two or more cities or code cities, any employee of the fire department of the former city or cities who (1) was at the time of annexation employed exclusively or principally in performing the

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powers, duties, and functions which are to be performed by the fire department of the annexed city or code city, as the case may be, (2) will, as a direct consequence of annexation, be separated from the employ of the former city, code city or town, and (3) can perform the duties and meet the minimum requirements of the position to be filled, then such employee may transfer employment to the fire department of the annexing city, as provided in this section and RCW 35.10.365 and 35.10.370.

For purposes of this section and RCW 35.10.365 and 35.10.370, employee means an individual whose employment has been terminated because of annexation by a city, code city or town. [1986 c 254 § 4.]

**35.10.365 Annexation—Transfer of fire department employees—Rights and benefits.** (1) An eligible employee may transfer into the civil service system of the annexing city, code city, or town by filing a written request with the city, code city, or town civil service commission. Upon receipt of such request by the civil service commission the transfer of employment shall be made. The employee so transferring will (a) be on probation for the same period as are new employees in the position filled, but if the transferring employee has already completed a probationary period as a fire fighter prior to the transfer, then the employee may only be terminated during the probationary period for failure to adequately perform assigned duties, not meeting the minimum qualifications of the position, or behavior that would otherwise be subject to disciplinary action, (b) be eligible for promotion no later than after completion of the probationary period, (c) receive a salary at least equal to that of other new employees in the position filled, and (d) in all other matters, such as retirement, sick leave, and vacation, have, within the city, code city, or town civil service system, all the rights, benefits, and privileges to which he or she would have been entitled as a member of the annexed city, code city, or town fire department from the beginning of his or her employment with the former city or code city fire department: PROVIDED, That for purposes of layoffs by the annexing city or code city, only the time of service accrued with the annexing city or code city shall apply unless an agreement is reached between the collective bargaining representatives of the employees of the annexing and annexed fire agencies and the annexing and annexed fire agencies. A record of the employee's service with the former city or code city fire department shall be transmitted to the applicable civil service commission which shall be credited to such employee as a part of the period of employment in the annexed city, code city, or town fire department. All accrued benefits are transferable provided that the recipient agency provides comparable benefits. All benefits shall then accrue based on the combined seniority of each employee in the recipient agency.

(2) As many of the transferring employees shall be placed upon the payroll of the annexing city, code city, or town fire department as the department determines are needed to provide services. These needed employees shall be taken in order of seniority and the remaining employees who transfer as provided in this section and RCW 35.10.360 and 35.10.370 shall head the list for employment in the civil service system in order of their seniority, to the end that they

shall be the first to be reemployed in the city, code city, or town fire department when appropriate positions become available: PROVIDED, That employees who are not immediately hired by the city, code city, or town shall be placed on a reemployment list for a period not to exceed thirty-six months unless a longer period is authorized by an agreement reached between the collective bargaining representatives of the employees of the annexing and annexed fire agencies and the annexing and annexed fire agencies. [1994 c 73 § 1; 1986 c 254 § 5.]

**Effective date—1994 c 73:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately [March 23, 1994]." [1994 c 73 § 6.]

**35.10.370 Annexation—Transfer of fire department employees—Notice—Time limitation.** If, as a result of annexation of two or more cities, or code cities any employee is laid off who is eligible to transfer to the city, code city or town fire department under this section and RCW 35.10.360 and 35.10.365 the fire department shall notify the employee of the right to transfer and the employee shall have ninety days to transfer employment to the annexing city or code city fire department. [1986 c 254 § 6.]

**35.10.400 Consolidation.** Two or more contiguous cities located in the same or different counties may consolidate into one city by proceedings in conformity with the provisions of this chapter. When cities are separated by water and/or tide or shore lands they shall be deemed contiguous for all the purposes of this chapter and, upon a consolidation of such cities under the provisions of this chapter, any such intervening water and/or tide or shore lands shall become a part of the consolidated city. The consolidated city shall become a noncharter code city operating under Title 35A RCW. [1985 c 281 § 3.]

**35.10.410 Consolidation—Submission of ballot proposal—Initiation by resolution of legislative body.** The submission of a ballot proposal to the voters of two or more contiguous cities for the consolidation of these contiguous cities may be caused by the adoption of a joint resolution, by a majority vote of each city legislative body, seeking consolidation of such contiguous cities. The joint resolution shall provide for submission of the question to the voters at the next general municipal election, if one is to be held more than ninety days but not more than one hundred eighty days after the passage of the joint resolution, or shall call for a special election to be held for that purpose at the next special election date, as specified in RCW 29.13.020, that occurs ninety or more days after the passage of the joint resolution. The legislative bodies of the cities also shall notify the county legislative authority of each county in which the cities are located of the proposed consolidation. [1985 c 281 § 4.]

**35.10.420 Consolidation—Submission of ballot proposal—Initiation by petition.** The submission of a ballot proposal to the voters of two or more contiguous cities for the consolidation of these contiguous cities may also be caused by the filing of a petition with the legislative body of

each such city, signed by the voters of each city in number equal to not less than ten percent of the votes cast at the last general municipal election therein, seeking consolidation of such contiguous cities. A copy of the petition shall be forwarded immediately by each city to the auditor of the county or counties within which that city is located.

The county auditor or auditors shall determine the sufficiency of the signatures in each petition within ten days of receipt of the copies and immediately notify the cities proposed to be consolidated of the sufficiency. If each of the petitions is found to have sufficient valid signatures, the auditor or auditors shall call a special election at which the question of whether such cities shall consolidate shall be submitted to the voters of each of such cities. If a general election is to be held more than ninety days but not more than one hundred eighty days after the filing of the last petition, the question shall be submitted at that election. Otherwise the question shall be submitted at a special election to be called for that purpose at the next special election date, as specified in RCW 29.13.020, that occurs ninety or more days after the date when the last petition was filed.

If each of the petitions is found to have sufficient valid signatures, the auditor or auditors also shall notify the county legislative authority of each county in which the cities are located of the proposed consolidation.

Petitions shall conform with the requirements for form prescribed in RCW 35A.01.040, except different colored paper may be used on petitions circulated in the different cities. A legal description of the cities need not be included in the petitions. [1985 c 281 § 5.]

**35.10.430 Consolidation—Form of government.** A joint resolution or petition shall prescribe the form or plan of government of the proposed consolidated city, or shall provide that a ballot proposition to determine the form or plan of government shall be submitted to the voters of the cities proposed to be consolidated. The plans or forms of government include: Mayor/council, council/manager, and commission. If a commission form or plan of government is prescribed or chosen by the voters, the commission shall be subject to chapter 35.17 RCW and the noncharter code city shall be assumed to have had a commission plan or form of government prior to its becoming a noncharter code city, as provided in RCW 35A.02.130. However, three commissioners would be elected at the election provided in RCW 35.10.480. [1985 c 281 § 6.]

**35.10.440 Consolidation—Assumption of general obligation indebtedness.** A joint resolution or a petition may contain a proposal that a general obligation indebtedness of one or more of the cities proposed to be consolidated shall be assumed by the proposed consolidated city, in which event, the joint resolution or petition shall specify the improvement or service for which such general obligation indebtedness was incurred and state the amount of any such indebtedness then outstanding and the rate of interest payable thereon. [1985 c 281 § 7.]

**35.10.450 Consolidation—Public meetings on proposal—Role of boundary review board.** The county legislative authority, or the county legislative authorities

jointly, shall set the date, time, and place for one or more public meetings on the proposed consolidation, and name a person or persons to chair the meetings. There shall be at least one public meeting in each county in which one or more of the cities proposed to be consolidated is located. A county legislative authority may name the members of the boundary review board, if one exists in the county, to chair one or more of the public meetings held in that county. In addition to any meeting held by the county, a boundary review board, if requested by a majority of the county legislative authority, may hold a public meeting on proposed consolidation of cities. The meeting shall be limited to receiving comments and written materials from citizens and city officials on the proposed consolidation of that portion of cities located in the county which the boundary review board serves. The record and proceedings of the boundary review board are supplemental and advisory to the consolidation of cities. If a boundary review board meets pursuant to this section, the boundary review board may include, as part of its record, comments pertaining to the probable environmental impact of the proposed consolidation. The record of the meeting and advisory comments of the board, if any, must be filed with the county legislative authority no later than twenty days before the date of the election at which the question of consolidating the cities is presented to the voters. The boundary review board shall not have any authority or jurisdiction on city consolidations under chapter 36.93 RCW. A public meeting shall be held at each specified date, time, and place. The public meetings of the county or the boundary review board shall be held at least twenty but not more than forty-five days before the date of the election at which the question of consolidating the cities is presented to the voters.

At each public meeting, each city proposed to be consolidated shall present testimony and written materials concerning the following topics: (1) The rate or rates of property taxes imposed by the city, and the purposes of these levies; (2) the excise taxes imposed by the city, including the tax bases and rates; and (3) the indebtedness of the city, including general indebtedness, both voter-approved and nonvoter-approved, as well as the city's special indebtedness, such as revenue bond indebtedness. Any interested person, including the officials of the cities proposed to be consolidated, may present information concerning the proposed consolidation and testify for or against the proposed consolidations.

Notice of each public meeting shall be published by the county within whose boundaries the public meeting is held in the normal manner notices of county hearings are published. [1985 c 281 § 8.]

**35.10.460 Consolidation—Ballot titles.** Ballot titles on the questions shall be prepared as provided in \*RCW 35A.29.120. If a proposal for assumption of indebtedness is to be submitted to the voters of a city in which the indebtedness did not originate, the proposal shall be separately stated and the ballots shall contain, as a separate proposition to be voted on, the words "For Assumption of Indebtedness" and "Against Assumption of Indebtedness" or words equivalent thereto. If the question of the form or plan of government is to be submitted to the voters, the question shall be

separately stated and the ballots shall contain, as a separate proposition to be voted on, the option of a voter to select one of the three forms or plans of government. [1985 c 281 § 9.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 35A.29.120 was repealed by 1994 c 223 § 92.

**35.10.470 Consolidation—Canvass of votes.** The county canvassing board in each county involved shall canvass the returns in each election. The votes cast in each of such cities shall be canvassed separately, and the statement shall show the whole number of votes cast, the number of votes cast in each city for consolidation, and the number of votes cast in each city against such consolidation. If a proposal for assumption or indebtedness was voted upon in a city in which the indebtedness did not originate, the statement shall show the number of votes cast in such a city for assumption of indebtedness and the number of votes cast against assumption of indebtedness. If a question of the form or plan of government was voted upon, the statement shall show the number of votes cast in each city for each of the optional forms or plans of government. A certified copy of such statement shall be filed with the legislative body of each of the cities proposed to be consolidated.

If it appears from such statement of canvass that a majority of the votes cast in each of the cities were in favor of consolidation, the consolidation shall be authorized and shall be effective when the newly elected legislative body members assume office, as provided in RCW 35.10.480.

If a question of the form or plan of government was voted upon, that form or plan receiving the greatest combined number of votes shall become the form or plan of government for the consolidated city. If two or three of the forms or plans of government received the same highest number of votes, the form or plan of government shall be chosen by lot between those receiving the same highest number, where the mayor of the largest of the cities proposed to be consolidated draws the lot at a public meeting.

If a proposition to assume indebtedness was submitted to voters of a city in which the indebtedness did not originate, the proposition shall be deemed approved if approved by a majority of at least three-fifths of the voters of the city, and the number of persons voting on the proposition constitutes not less than forty percent of the number of votes cast in the city at the last preceding general election. However, if the general indebtedness in question was incurred by action of a city legislative body, a proposition for assuming the indebtedness need only be approved by a simple majority vote of the voters of the city in which such indebtedness did not originate. [1985 c 281 § 10.]

**35.10.480 Consolidation—Elections of officials—Effective date of consolidation.** If the voters of each of the cities proposed to consolidate approve the consolidation, elections to nominate and elect the elected officials of the consolidated city shall be held at times specified in RCW 35A.02.050. Terms shall be established as if the city is initially incorporating.

The newly elected officials shall take office immediately upon their qualification. The effective date of the consolidation shall be when a majority of the newly elected members of the legislative body assume office. The clerk of the

newly consolidated city shall transmit a duly certified copy of an abstract of the votes to authorize the consolidation and of the election of the newly elected city officials to the secretary of state and the office of financial management. [1985 c 281 § 11.]

**35.10.490 Consolidation—Name of city.** A newly consolidated city shall be known as the city of . . . . . (listing the names of the cities that were consolidated in alphabetical order). The legislative body of the newly consolidated city may present another name or two names for the newly consolidated city to the city voters for their approval or rejection at the next municipal general election held after the effective date of the consolidation. If only one alternative name is submitted, this alternative name shall become the name of the consolidated city if approved by a simple majority vote of the voters voting on the question. If two alternative names are submitted, the name receiving the simple majority vote of the voters voting on the question shall become the name of the consolidated city. [1985 c 281 § 12.]

**35.10.500 Consolidation—Costs of election and public meetings.** If consolidation is authorized, the costs of such election and the public meetings shall be borne by the city formed by such consolidation. If the consolidation is not authorized, the costs of election and the public meetings shall be borne proportionately by each city affected, in that ratio in which the number of inhabitants residing in the total area in which the election was held, as shown by the figures released at the most recent state or federal census or by a determination of the office of financial management. [1985 c 281 § 13.]

**35.10.510 Consolidation—Transfer of fire department employees.** Upon the consolidation of two or more cities or code cities, any employee of the fire department of the former city or cities who (1) was at the time of consolidation employed exclusively or principally in performing the powers, duties, and functions which are to be performed by the fire department of the consolidated city or code city, as the case may be, (2) will, as a direct consequence of consolidation, be separated from the employ of the former city, code city or town, and (3) can perform the duties and meet the minimum requirements of the position to be filled, then such employee may transfer employment to the fire department of the consolidated city, as provided in this section and RCW 35.10.520 and 35.10.530.

For purposes of this section and RCW 35.10.520 and 35.10.530, employee means an individual whose employment has been terminated because of a consolidation of two or more cities, code cities or towns. [1986 c 254 § 1.]

**Effective date—Legislative study—1986 c 254 §§ 1-3:** "Sections 1 through 3 of this act shall take effect July 1, 1987. The appropriate committees of the senate and house of representatives shall conduct a study of the transfer rights of employees during the consolidation of cities and code cities and make recommendations to the legislature at the start of the 1987 legislative session." [1986 c 254 § 16.]

**35.10.520 Consolidation—Transfer of fire department employees—Rights and benefits.** (1) An eligible employee may transfer into the civil service system of the

consolidated city or code city by filing a written request with the civil service commission of the consolidated city. Upon receipt of such request by the civil service commission the transfer of employment shall be made. The employee so transferring will (a) be on probation for the same period as are new employees in the position filled, but if the transferring employee has already completed a probationary period as a fire fighter prior to the transfer, then the employee may only be terminated during the probationary period for failure to adequately perform assigned duties, not meeting the minimum qualifications of the position, or behavior that would otherwise be subject to disciplinary action, (b) be eligible for promotion no later than after completion of the probationary period, (c) receive a salary at least equal to that of other new employees in the position filled, and (d) in all other matters, such as retirement, sick leave, and vacation, have, within the city or code city civil service system, all the rights, benefits, and privileges to which he or she would have been entitled as a member of the consolidated city fire department from the beginning of his or her employment with the former city or code city fire department: PROVIDED, That for purposes of layoffs by the consolidated city or code city, only the time of service accrued with the consolidated city or code city shall apply unless an agreement is reached between the collective bargaining representatives of the employees of the consolidating fire agencies and consolidated agencies and the consolidating and consolidated fire agencies. A record of the employee's service with the former city or code city fire department shall be transmitted to the applicable civil service commission and shall be credited to such employee as a part of the period of employment in the consolidated city fire department. All accrued benefits are transferable provided that the recipient agency provides comparable benefits. All benefits shall then accrue based on the combined seniority of each employee in the recipient agency.

(2) As many of the transferring employees shall be placed upon the payroll of the consolidated city or code city fire department as the department determines are needed to provide services. These needed employees shall be taken in order of greatest seniority from any of the seniority lists of the consolidating city or code city and the remaining employees who transfer as provided in this section and RCW 35.10.510 and 35.10.530 shall head the list for employment in the civil service system in order of their seniority, to the end that they shall be the first to be reemployed in the fire department when appropriate positions become available: PROVIDED, That employees who are not immediately hired by the city, code city, or town shall be placed on a reemployment list for a period not to exceed thirty-six months unless a longer period is authorized by an agreement reached between the collective bargaining representatives of the employees of the consolidating fire agencies and consolidated fire agency and the consolidating and consolidated fire agencies.

(3) The consolidated city or code city shall retain the right to select the fire chief and assistant fire chiefs regardless of seniority. [1994 c 73 § 2; 1986 c 254 § 2.]

Effective date—1994 c 73: See note following RCW 35.10.365.

Effective date—Legislative study—1986 c 254 §§ 1-3: See note following RCW 35.10.510.

**35.10.530 Consolidation—Transfer of fire department employees—Notice—Time limitation.** If, as a result of consolidation of two or more cities, or code cities, any employee is laid off who is eligible to transfer to the city fire department pursuant to this section and RCW 35.10.510 and 35.10.520, the city fire department shall notify the employee of the right to so transfer and the employee shall have ninety days to transfer employment to the consolidating city, or code city fire department. [1986 c 254 § 3.]

Effective date—Legislative study—1986 c 254 §§ 1-3: See note following RCW 35.10.510.

**35.10.540 Consolidation—Creation of community municipal corporation.** Voters of one or more of the cities that are proposed to be consolidated may have a ballot proposition submitted to them authorizing the simultaneous creation of a community municipal corporation and election of community council members as provided for under chapter 35.14 RCW. The joint resolution that initiates a consolidation under RCW 35.10.410 may provide for the question of whether a community municipal corporation shall be created to be submitted to the voters of one or more of the cities that are proposed to be consolidated as a separate ballot measure from the ballot measure authorizing the consolidation or as part of the same ballot measure authorizing the consolidation. The petitions that are signed by the voters of each of the cities that are proposed to be consolidated under RCW 35.10.420 may provide for the question of whether to create a community municipal corporation to be submitted to the voters of that city as a separate ballot measure from the ballot measure authorizing the consolidation or as part of the same ballot measure authorizing the consolidation.

The ballots shall contain the words "For consolidation and creation of community municipal corporation" and "Against consolidation and creation of community municipal corporation," or "For creation of community municipal corporation" and "Against creation of community municipal corporation," as the case may be. Approval of either optional ballot proposition shall be by simple majority vote of the voters voting on the proposition, but the consolidation must be authorized by the voters of each city proposed to be consolidated before a community municipal corporation is created. [1993 c 75 § 2.]

**35.10.900 Severability—1969 ex.s. c 89.** If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1969 ex.s. c 89 § 19.]

**35.10.905 Severability—1985 c 281.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1985 c 281 § 31.]



## Chapter 35.13

## ANNEXATION OF UNINCORPORATED AREAS

## Sections

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*Annexation of fire protection district territory: RCW 35.02.190 through 35.02.205.*

*Consolidation and annexation of cities and towns: Chapter 35.10 RCW.*

*Local governmental organizations, actions affecting boundaries, review by boundary review board: Chapter 36.93 RCW.*

*Population determinations: Chapter 43.62 RCW.*

*Provisions relating to city annexation review boards not applicable where boundary review board created: RCW 36.93.220.*

**35.13.001 Actions subject to review by boundary review board.** Actions taken under chapter 35.13 RCW may be subject to potential review by a boundary review board under chapter 36.93 RCW. [1989 c 84 § 28.]

**35.13.005 Annexations beyond urban growth areas prohibited.** No city or town located in a county in which urban growth areas have been designated under RCW 36.70A.110 may annex territory beyond an urban growth area. [1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 30.]

**Severability—Part, section headings not law—1990 1st ex.s. c 17:** See RCW 36.70A.900 and 36.70A.901.

**35.13.010 Authority for annexation—Consent of county commissioners for certain property.** Any portion of a county not incorporated as part of a city or town but lying contiguous thereto may become a part of the city or town by annexation: PROVIDED, That property owned by a county, and used for the purpose of an agricultural fair as provided in chapter 15.76 RCW or chapter 36.37 RCW shall not be subject to annexation without the consent of the majority of the board of county commissioners. An area proposed to be annexed to a city or town shall be deemed contiguous thereto even though separated by water or tide or shore lands on which no bona fide residence is maintained by any person. [1965 c 7 § 35.13.010. Prior: 1959 c 311



§ 1; prior: (i) 1937 c 110 § 1; 1907 c 245 § 1; RRS § 8896. (ii) 1945 c 128 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 8909-10.]

**Validation—1961 ex.s. c 16:** Validation of certain incorporations and annexations—Municipal corporations of the fourth class: See note following RCW 35.21.010.

**35.13.015 Election method—Resolution for election—Contents of resolution.** In addition to the method prescribed by RCW 35.13.020 for the commencement of annexation proceedings, the legislative body of any city or town may, whenever it shall determine by resolution that the best interests and general welfare of such city or town would be served by the annexation of unincorporated territory contiguous to such city or town, file a certified copy of the resolution with the board of county commissioners of the county in which said territory is located. The resolution of the city or town initiating such election shall, subject to RCW 35.02.170, describe the boundaries of the area to be annexed, as nearly as may be state the number of voters residing therein, pray for the calling of an election to be held among the qualified voters therein upon the question of annexation, and provide that said city or town will pay the cost of the annexation election. The resolution may require that there also be submitted to the electorate of the territory sought to be annexed a proposition that all property within the area annexed shall, upon annexation, be assessed and taxed at the same rate and on the same basis as the property of such annexing city or town is assessed and taxed to pay for all or any portion of the then outstanding indebtedness of the city or town to which said area is annexed, approved by the voters, contracted, or incurred prior to, or existing at, the date of annexation. Whenever a city or town has prepared and filed a comprehensive plan for the area to be annexed as provided for in RCW 35.13.177 and 35.13.178, the resolution initiating the election may also provide for the simultaneous adoption of the comprehensive plan upon approval of annexation by the electorate of the area to be annexed. The resolution initiating the election may also provide for the simultaneous creation of a community municipal corporation and election of community council members as provided for in RCW 35.14.010 through 35.14.060 upon approval of annexation by the electorate of the area to be annexed. In cities under the optional municipal code the resolution initiating the election may also provide for the simultaneous inclusion of the annexed area into a named existing community municipal corporation. The proposition for the creation of a community municipal corporation may be submitted as part of the annexation proposition or may be submitted as a separate proposition. The proposition for inclusion within a named existing community municipal corporation shall be submitted as part of the annexation proposition. [1975 1st ex.s. c 220 § 6; 1973 1st ex.s. c 164 § 2; 1970 ex.s. c 52 § 6; 1967 c 73 § 7; 1965 ex.s. c 88 § 3; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.015. Prior: 1961 c 282 § 1.]

**Legislative finding, intent—1975 1st ex.s. c 220:** See note following RCW 35.02.170.

*Community municipal corporations: Chapter 35.14 RCW.*

**35.13.020 Election method—Petition for election—Signers—Rate of assessment in annexed area—Comprehensive plan—Community municipal corpora-**

**tion—Filing and approval—Costs.** A petition for an election to vote upon the annexation of a portion of a county to a contiguous city or town signed by qualified voters resident in the area equal in number to twenty percent of the votes cast at the last election may be filed in the office of the board of county commissioners: PROVIDED, That any such petition shall first be submitted to the prosecuting attorney who shall, within twenty-one days after submission, certify or refuse to certify the petition as set forth in \*RCW 35.13.025. If the prosecuting attorney certifies the petition, it shall be filed with the legislative body of the city or town to which the annexation is proposed, and such legislative body shall, by resolution entered within sixty days from the date of presentation, notify the petitioners, either by mail or by publication in the same manner notice of hearing is required by RCW 35.13.040 to be published, of its approval or rejection of the proposed action. The petition may also provide for the simultaneous creation of a community municipal corporation and election of community council members as provided for in RCW 35.14.010 through 35.14.060. In approving the proposed action, the legislative body may require that there also be submitted to the electorate of the territory to be annexed, a proposition that all property within the area to be annexed shall, upon annexation be assessed and taxed at the same rate and on the same basis as the property of such annexing city or town is assessed and taxed to pay for all or any portion of the then outstanding indebtedness of the city or town to which said area is annexed, approved by the voters, contracted, or incurred prior to, or existing at, the date of annexation. Only after the legislative body has completed preparation and filing of a comprehensive plan for the area to be annexed as provided for in RCW 35.13.177 and 35.13.178, the legislative body in approving the proposed action, may require that the comprehensive plan be simultaneously adopted upon approval of annexation by the electorate of the area to be annexed. The approval of the legislative body shall be a condition precedent to the filing of such petition with the board of county commissioners as hereinafter provided. The costs of conducting such election shall be a charge against the city or town concerned. The proposition or questions provided for in this section may be submitted to the voters either separately or as a single proposition. [1981 c 332 § 3; 1973 1st ex.s. c 164 § 3; 1967 c 73 § 8; 1965 ex.s. c 88 § 4; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.020. Prior: 1961 c 282 § 7; prior: 1951 c 248 § 6; 1907 c 245 § 2, part; RRS § 8897, part.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 35.13.025 was repealed by 1989 c 351 § 10.

**Severability—1981 c 332:** See note following RCW 35.13.165.

**35.13.030 Election method—Petition for election—Content.** A petition filed with the county commissioners to call an annexation election shall, subject to RCW 35.02.170, particularly describe the boundaries of the area proposed to be annexed, state the number of voters residing therein as nearly as may be, state the provisions, if any there be, relating to assumption of debt by the owners of property of the area proposed to be annexed, and/or the simultaneous adoption of a comprehensive plan for the area proposed to be annexed, and shall pray for the calling of an election to be held among the qualified voters therein upon the question

of annexation. If the petition also provides for the creation of a community municipal corporation and election of community council members, the petition shall also describe the boundaries of the proposed service area, state the number of voters residing therein as nearly as may be, and pray for the election of community council members by the qualified voters residing in the service area. [1975 1st ex.s. c 220 § 7; 1967 c 73 § 9; 1965 ex.s. c 88 § 5; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.030. Prior: 1961 c 282 § 8; prior: 1907 c 245 § 2, part; RRS § 8897, part.]

**Legislative finding, intent—1975 1st ex.s. c 220:** See note following RCW 35.02.170.

### 35.13.040 Election method—Hearing—Notice.

Upon the filing of approval by the review board of a twenty percent annexation petition under the election method to call an annexation election, the board of county commissioners at its next meeting shall fix a date for hearing thereon to be held not less than two weeks nor more than four weeks thereafter, of which hearing the petitioners must give notice by publication once each week at least two weeks prior thereto in some newspaper of general circulation in the area proposed to be annexed. Upon the day fixed, the board shall hear the petition, and if it complies with the requirements of law and has been approved by the review board, shall grant it. The hearing may be continued from time to time for an aggregate period not exceeding two weeks. [1973 1st ex.s. c 164 § 4; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.040. Prior: 1961 c 282 § 9; prior: 1907 c 245 § 2, part; RRS § 8897, part.]

**35.13.050 Election method—Petition or resolution for election—Others covering same area barred from consideration, withdrawal.** After the filing with the board of county commissioners of a petition or resolution pursuant to RCW 35.13.015 to call an annexation election, pending the hearing under the twenty percent annexation petition under the election method and pending the election to be called thereunder, the board of county commissioners shall not consider any other petition or resolution involving any portion of the territory embraced therein: **PROVIDED,** That the petition or resolution may be withdrawn or a new petition or resolution embracing other or different boundaries substituted therefor by a majority of the signers thereof, or in the case of a resolution, by the legislative body of the city or town, and the same proceeding shall be taken as in the case of an original petition or resolution. [1973 1st ex.s. c 164 § 5; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.050. Prior: 1961 c 282 § 10; prior: 1907 c 245 § 2, part; RRS § 8897, part.]

### 35.13.060 Election method—Fixing date of election.

Upon granting the petition under the twenty percent annexation petition under the election method, and after the auditor has certified the petition as being sufficient, the legislative body of the city or town shall indicate to the county auditor its preference for the date of the election on the annexation to be held, which shall be one of the dates for special elections provided under RCW 29.13.020 that is sixty or more days after the date the preference is indicated. The county auditor shall call the special election at the special election date indicated by the city or town. [1989 c 351 § 2; 1973 1st ex.s. c 164 § 6; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.060. Prior:

1961 c 282 § 12; prior: 1907 c 245 § 3, part; RRS § 8898, part.]

*Election method, date for annexation election if review board's determination favorable: RCW 35.13.174.*

### 35.13.070 Election method—Conduct of election.

An annexation election shall be held in accordance with the general election laws of the state, and only registered voters who have resided in the area proposed to be annexed for ninety days immediately preceding the election shall be allowed to vote therein. [1965 c 7 § 35.13.070. Prior: 1961 c 282 § 15; prior: 1907 c 245 § 4, part; RRS § 8899, part.]

*Conduct of elections: RCW 29.13.040.*

### 35.13.080 Election method—Notice of election.

Notice of an annexation election shall particularly describe the boundaries of the area proposed to be annexed, describe the boundaries of the proposed service area if the simultaneous creation of a community municipal corporation is provided for, state the objects of the election as prayed in the petition or as stated in the resolution and require the voters to cast ballots which shall contain the words "For annexation" and "Against annexation" or words equivalent thereto, or contain the words "For annexation and adoption of comprehensive plan" and "Against annexation and adoption of comprehensive plan" or words equivalent thereto in case the simultaneous adoption of a comprehensive plan is proposed, and, if appropriate, the words "For creation of community municipal corporation" and "Against creation of community municipal corporation" or words equivalent thereto, or contain the words "For annexation and creation of community municipal corporation" and "Against annexation and creation of community municipal corporation" or words equivalent thereto in case the simultaneous creation of a community municipal corporation is proposed, and which in case the assumption of indebtedness is proposed, shall contain as a separate proposition, the words "For assumption of indebtedness" and "Against assumption of indebtedness" or words equivalent thereto and if only a portion of the indebtedness of the annexing city or town is to be assumed, an appropriate separate proposition for and against the assumption of such portion of the indebtedness shall be submitted to the voters. If the creation of a community municipal corporation and election of community council members is provided for, the notice shall also require the voters within the service area to cast ballots for candidates for positions on such council. The notice shall be posted for at least two weeks prior to the date of election in four public places within the area proposed to be annexed and published in accordance with the notice required by RCW 29.27.080 prior to the date of election in a newspaper of general circulation in the area proposed to be annexed. [1973 1st ex.s. c 164 § 7; 1967 c 73 § 10; 1965 ex.s. c 88 § 6; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.080. Prior: 1961 c 282 § 13; prior: 1907 c 245 § 3, part; RRS § 8898, part.]

**35.13.090 Election method—Canvass—Vote required for annexation or annexation and comprehensive plan or for or against creation of community municipal corporation—Proposition for assumption of indebted-**

**ness—Certification.** On the Monday next succeeding the annexation election, the county canvassing board shall proceed to canvass the returns thereof and shall submit the statement of canvass to the board of county commissioners.

The proposition for or against annexation or for or against annexation and adoption of the comprehensive plan, or for or against creation of a community municipal corporation, or any combination thereof, as the case may be, shall be deemed approved if a majority of the votes cast on that proposition are cast in favor of annexation or in favor of annexation and adoption of the comprehensive plan, or for creation of the community municipal corporation, or any combination thereof, as the case may be. If a proposition for or against assumption of all or any portion of indebtedness was submitted to the electorate, it shall be deemed approved if a majority of at least three-fifths of the electors of the territory proposed to be annexed voting on such proposition vote in favor thereof, and the number of persons voting on such proposition constitutes not less than forty percent of the total number of votes cast in such territory at the last preceding general election. If either or both propositions were approved by the electors, the board shall enter a finding to that effect on its minutes, a certified copy of which shall be forthwith transmitted to and filed with the clerk of the city or town to which annexation is proposed, together with a certified abstract of the vote showing the whole number who voted at the election, the number of votes cast for annexation and the number cast against annexation or for annexation and adoption of the comprehensive plan and the number cast against annexation and adoption of the comprehensive plan or for creation of a community municipal corporation and the number cast against creation of a community municipal corporation, or any combination thereof, as the case may be, and if a proposition for assumption of all or of any portion of indebtedness was submitted to the electorate, the abstract shall include the number of votes cast for assumption of indebtedness and the number of votes cast against assumption of indebtedness, together with a statement of the total number of votes cast in such territory at the last preceding general election. If the proposition for creation of a community municipal corporation was submitted and approved, the abstract shall include the number of votes cast for the candidates for community council positions and certificates of election shall be issued to the successful candidates who shall assume office within ten days after the election. [1973 1st ex.s. c 164 § 8; 1967 c 73 § 11; 1965 ex.s. c 88 § 7; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.090. Prior: 1961 c 282 § 16; prior: 1907 c 245 § 4, part; RRS § 8899, part.]

**35.13.095 Election method—Vote required for annexation with assumption of indebtedness—Without assumption of indebtedness.** A city or town may cause a proposition authorizing an area to be annexed to the city or town to be submitted to the qualified voters of the area proposed to be annexed in the same ballot proposition as the question to authorize an assumption of indebtedness. If the measures are combined, the annexation and the assumption of indebtedness shall be authorized only if the proposition is approved by at least three-fifths of the voters of the area proposed to be annexed voting on the proposition, and the

number of persons voting on the proposition constitutes not less than forty percent of the total number of votes cast in the area at the last preceding general election.

However, the city or town council may adopt a resolution accepting the annexation, without the assumption of indebtedness, where the combined ballot proposition is approved by a simple majority vote of the voters voting on the proposition. [1989 c 84 § 22.]

**35.13.100 Election method—Ordinance providing for annexation or annexation and adoption of comprehensive plan or annexation and creation of community municipal corporation—Assumption of indebtedness.** Upon filing of the certified copy of the finding of the board of county commissioners, the clerk shall transmit it to the legislative body of the city or town at the next regular meeting or as soon thereafter as practicable. If a proposition relating to annexation or annexation and adoption of the comprehensive plan or creation of a community municipal corporation, or both, as the case may be was submitted to the voters and such proposition was approved, the legislative body shall adopt an ordinance providing for the annexation or adopt ordinances providing for the annexation and adoption of the comprehensive plan, or adopt an ordinance providing for the annexation and creation of a community municipal corporation, as the case may be. If a proposition for annexation or annexation and adoption of the comprehensive plan or creation of a community municipal corporation, as the case may be, and a proposition for assumption of all or of any portion of indebtedness were both submitted, and were approved, the legislative body shall adopt an ordinance providing for the annexation or annexation and adoption of the comprehensive plan or annexation and creation of a community municipal corporation including the assumption of all or of any portion of indebtedness. If the propositions were submitted and only the annexation or annexation and adoption of the comprehensive plan or annexation and creation of a community municipal corporation proposition was approved, the legislative body may, if it deems it wise or expedient, adopt an ordinance providing for the annexation or adopt ordinances providing for the annexation and adoption of the comprehensive plan, or adopt ordinances providing for the annexation and creation of a community municipal corporation, as the case may be. [1973 1st ex.s. c 164 § 9; 1967 c 73 § 12; 1965 ex.s. c 88 § 8; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.100. Prior: 1961 c 282 § 17; 1957 c 239 § 2; prior: 1907 c 245 § 5, part; RRS § 8900, part.]

**35.13.110 Election method—Effective date of annexation or annexation and comprehensive plan or annexation and creation of community municipal corporation, taxation of area annexed.** Upon the date fixed in the ordinance of annexation, the area annexed shall become a part of the city or town. Upon the date fixed in the ordinances of annexation and adoption of the comprehensive plan, the area annexed shall become a part of the city or town and property in the annexed area shall be subject to and a part of the comprehensive plan, as prepared and filed as provided for in RCW 35.13.177 and 35.13.178. Upon the date fixed in the ordinances of annexation and creation of a community municipal corporation, the area annexed shall

become a part of the city or town, the community municipal corporation shall be deemed organized, and property in the service area shall be deemed subject to the powers granted to such corporation as provided for in \*this 1967 amendatory act. All property within the territory hereafter annexed shall, if the proposition approved by the people so provides after June 12, 1957, be assessed and taxed at the same rate and on the same basis as the property of such annexing city is assessed and taxed to pay for all or any portion of the then outstanding indebtedness of the city or town to which said area is annexed, approved by the voters, contracted, or incurred prior to, or existing at, the date of annexation. [1973 1st ex.s. c 164 § 10; 1967 c 73 § 13; 1965 ex.s. c 88 § 9; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.110. Prior: 1957 c 239 § 3; prior: 1907 c 245 § 5, part; RRS § 8900, part.]

\*Reviser's note: The language "this 1967 amendatory act" first appeared in the amendment to this section by section 13, chapter 73, Laws of 1967. For the codification of chapter 73, Laws of 1967, see note following RCW 35.14.010.

**35.13.120 Election method is alternative.** The method of annexation provided for in RCW 35.13.020 to 35.13.110 shall be an alternative method, not superseding any other. [1965 c 7 § 35.13.120. Prior: 1937 c 110 § 2; 1907 c 245 § 6; RRS § 8901.]

**35.13.125 Petition method—Commencement of proceedings—Notice to legislative body—Meeting—Assumption of indebtedness—Comprehensive plan.** Proceedings for the annexation of territory pursuant to RCW 35.13.130, 35.13.140, 35.13.150, 35.13.160 and 35.13.170 shall be commenced as provided in this section. Prior to the circulation of a petition for annexation, the initiating party or parties who, except as provided in RCW 28A.335.110, shall be either not less than ten percent of the residents of the area to be annexed or the owners of not less than ten percent in value, according to the assessed valuation for general taxation of the property for which annexation is petitioned, shall notify the legislative body of the city or town in writing of their intention to commence annexation proceedings. The legislative body shall set a date, not later than sixty days after the filing of the request, for a meeting with the initiating parties to determine whether the city or town will accept, reject, or geographically modify the proposed annexation, whether it shall require the simultaneous adoption of the comprehensive plan if such plan has been prepared and filed for the area to be annexed as provided for in RCW 35.13.177 and 35.13.178, and whether it shall require the assumption of all or of any portion of existing city or town indebtedness by the area to be annexed. If the legislative body requires the assumption of all or of any portion of indebtedness and/or the adoption of a comprehensive plan, it shall record this action in its minutes and the petition for annexation shall be so drawn as to clearly indicate this fact. There shall be no appeal from the decision of the legislative body. [1990 c 33 § 565; 1989 c 351 § 3; 1973 1st ex.s. c 164 § 11; 1971 c 69 § 1; 1965 ex.s. c 88 § 10; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.125. Prior: 1961 c 282 § 18.]

**Purpose—Statutory references—Severability—1990 c 33:** See RCW 28A.900.100 through 28A.900.102.

**Severability—1971 c 69:** "If any provision of this 1971 amendatory act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1971 c 69 § 5.]

**35.13.130 Petition method—Petition—Signers—Content.** A petition for annexation of an area contiguous to a city or town may be made in writing addressed to and filed with the legislative body of the municipality to which annexation is desired. Except where all the property sought to be annexed is property of a school district, and the school directors thereof file the petition for annexation as in RCW 28A.335.110 authorized, the petition must be signed by the owners of not less than seventy-five percent in value according to the assessed valuation for general taxation of the property for which annexation is petitioned: **PROVIDED,** That in cities and towns with populations greater than one hundred sixty thousand located east of the Cascade mountains, the owner of tax exempt property may sign an annexation petition and have the tax exempt property annexed into the city or town, but the value of the tax exempt property shall not be used in calculating the sufficiency of the required property owner signatures unless only tax exempt property is proposed to be annexed into the city or town. The petition shall set forth a description of the property according to government legal subdivisions or legal plats which is in compliance with RCW 35.02.170, and shall be accompanied by a plat which outlines the boundaries of the property sought to be annexed. If the legislative body has required the assumption of all or of any portion of city or town indebtedness by the area annexed, and/or the adoption of a comprehensive plan for the area to be annexed, these facts, together with a quotation of the minute entry of such requirement or requirements shall be set forth in the petition. [1990 c 33 § 566; 1981 c 66 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 220 § 8; 1973 1st ex.s. c 164 § 12; 1971 c 69 § 2; 1965 ex.s. c 88 § 11; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.130. Prior: 1961 c 282 § 19; 1945 c 128 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 8908-12.]

**Purpose—Statutory references—Severability—1990 c 33:** See RCW 28A.900.100 through 28A.900.102.

**Severability—1981 c 66:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1981 c 66 § 2.]

**Legislative finding, intent—1975 1st ex.s. c 220:** See note following RCW 35.02.170.

**Severability—1971 c 69:** See note following RCW 35.13.125.

**35.13.140 Petition method—Notice of hearing.** Whenever a petition for annexation is filed with the city or town council, or commission in those cities having a commission form of government, which meets the requirements herein specified, of which fact satisfactory proof may be required by the council or commission, the council or commission may entertain the same, fix a date for a public hearing thereon and cause notice of the hearing to be published in one issue of a newspaper of general circulation in the city or town. The notice shall also be posted in three public places within the territory proposed for annexation, and shall specify the time and place of hearing and invite interested persons to appear and voice approval or disapproval of the annexation. The expense of publication and posting of the notice shall be borne by the signers of the petition.

[1965 c 7 § 35.13.140. Prior: 1945 c 128 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 8908-11.] [SLC-RO-8.]

**35.13.150 Petition method—Ordinance providing for annexation.** Following the hearing, the council or commission shall determine by ordinance whether annexation shall be made. Subject to RCW 35.02.170, they may annex all or any portion of the proposed area but may not include in the annexation any property not described in the petition. Upon passage of the ordinance a certified copy shall be filed with the board of county commissioners of the county in which the annexed property is located. [1975 1st ex.s. c 220 § 9; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.150. Prior: 1957 c 239 § 5; prior: 1945 c 128 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 8908-13, part.]

**Legislative finding, intent—1975 1st ex.s. c 220:** See note following RCW 35.02.170.

**35.13.160 Petition method—Effective date of annexation or annexation and comprehensive plan—Assessment, taxation of territory annexed.** Upon the date fixed in the ordinance of annexation the area annexed shall become part of the city or town. All property within the territory hereafter annexed shall, if the annexation petition so provided, be assessed and taxed at the same rate and on the same basis as the property of such annexing city or town is assessed and taxed to pay for all or of any portion of the then outstanding indebtedness of the city or town to which said area is annexed, approved by the voters, contracted, or incurred prior to, or existing at, the date of annexation. If the annexation petition so provided, all property in the annexed area shall be subject to and a part of the comprehensive plan as prepared and filed as provided for in RCW 35.13.177 and 35.13.178. [1973 1st ex.s. c 164 § 13; 1965 ex.s. c 88 § 12; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.160. Prior: 1961 c 282 § 20; 1957 c 239 § 6; prior: (i) 1945 c 128 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 8908-13, part. (ii) 1945 c 128 § 5; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 8908-14.]

**35.13.165 Termination of annexation proceedings in cities over four hundred thousand—Declarations of termination filed by property owners.** At any time before the date is set for an annexation election under RCW 35.13.060 or 35.13.174, all further proceedings to annex shall be terminated upon the filing of verified declarations of termination signed by:

(1) Owners of real property consisting of at least sixty percent of the assessed valuation in the area proposed to be annexed; or

(2) Sixty percent of the owners of real property in the area proposed to be annexed.

As used in this subsection, the term "owner" shall include individuals and corporate owners. In determining who is a real property owner for purposes of this section, all owners of a single parcel shall be considered as one owner. No owner may be entitled to sign more than one declaration of termination.

Following the termination of such proceedings, no other petition for annexation affecting any portion of the same property may be considered by any government body for a period of five years from the date of filing.

The provisions of this section shall apply only to cities with a population greater than four hundred thousand. [1989 c 351 § 7; 1981 c 332 § 2.]

**Severability—1981 c 332:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1981 c 332 § 11.]

**35.13.170 Petition method is alternative.** The method of annexation provided for in RCW 35.13.130 to 35.13.160 shall be an alternative method, not superseding any other. [1965 c 7 § 35.13.170. Prior: 1945 c 128 § 6; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 8908-15.]

**35.13.171 Review board—Convening—Composition.** Within thirty days after the filing of a city's or town's annexation resolution pursuant to RCW 35.13.015 with the board of county commissioners or within thirty days after filing with the county commissioners a petition calling for an election on annexation, as provided in RCW 35.13.020, or within thirty days after approval by the legislative body of a city or town of a petition of property owners calling for annexation, as provided in RCW 35.13.130, the mayor of the city or town concerned that is not subject to the jurisdiction of a boundary review board under chapter 36.93 RCW, shall convene a review board composed of the following persons:

(1) The mayor of the city or town initiating the annexation by resolution, or the mayor in the event of a twenty percent annexation petition pursuant to RCW 35.13.020, or an alternate designated by him;

(2) The chairman of the board of county commissioners of the county wherein the property to be annexed is situated, or an alternate designated by him;

(3) The \*director of community development, or an alternate designated by him;

Two additional members to be designated, one by the mayor of the annexing city, which member shall be a resident property owner of the city, and one by the chairman of the county legislative authority, which member shall be a resident of and a property owner or a resident or a property owner if there be no resident property owner in the area proposed to be annexed, shall be added to the original membership and the full board thereafter convened upon call of the mayor: PROVIDED FURTHER, That three members of the board shall constitute a quorum. [1985 c 6 § 2; 1973 1st ex.s. c 164 § 14; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.171. Prior: 1961 c 282 § 2.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Powers, duties, and functions of the department of community development and the department of trade and economic development were transferred to the department of community, trade, and economic development by 1993 c 280, effective July 1, 1994.

**35.13.172 When review procedure may be dispensed with.** Whenever a petition is filed as provided in RCW 35.13.020 or a resolution is adopted by the city or town council, as provided in RCW 35.13.015, and the area proposed for annexation is less than ten acres and less than eight hundred thousand dollars in assessed valuation, such review procedures shall be dispensed with. [1981 c 260 § 6. Prior: 1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 14; 1973 1st ex.s. c 164 § 15; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.172; prior: 1961 c 282 § 3.]

**Severability—Effective dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195:**  
See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

**35.13.173 Determination by review board—Factors considered—Filing of findings.** The review board shall by majority action, within three months, determine whether the property proposed to be annexed is of such character that such annexation would be in the public interest and for the public welfare, and in the best interest of the city, county, and other political subdivisions affected. The governing officials of the city, county, and other political subdivisions of the state shall assist the review board insofar as their offices can, and all relevant information and records shall be furnished by such offices to the review board. In making their determination the review board shall be guided, but not limited, by their findings with respect to the following factors:

- (1) The immediate and prospective populations of the area to be annexed;
- (2) The assessed valuation of the area to be annexed, and its relationship to population;
- (3) The history of and prospects for construction of improvements in the area to be annexed;
- (4) The needs and possibilities for geographical expansion of the city;
- (5) The present and anticipated need for governmental services in the area proposed to be annexed, including but not limited to water supply, sewage and garbage disposal, zoning, streets and alleys, curbs, sidewalks, police and fire protection, playgrounds, parks, and other municipal services, and transportation and drainage;
- (6) The relative capabilities of the city, county, and other political subdivisions to provide governmental services when the need arises;
- (7) The existence of special districts except school districts within the area proposed to be annexed, and the impact of annexation upon such districts;
- (8) The elimination of isolated unincorporated areas existing without adequate economical governmental services;
- (9) The immediate and potential revenues that would be derived by the city as a result of annexation, and their relation to the cost of providing service to the area.

Whether the review board determines for or against annexation, its reasons therefor, along with its findings on the specified factors and other material considerations shall:

- (1) In the case of a petition signed by registered voters calling for an election on annexation, be filed with the board of county commissioners;
- (2) In the case of a resolution of a city or town initiating annexation proceedings pursuant to RCW 35.13.015, be filed with the board of county commissioners.

Such findings need not include specific data on every point listed, but shall indicate that all factors were considered.

A favorable determination by the review board is an essential condition precedent to the annexation of territory to a city or town under either the resolution method pursuant to RCW 35.13.015, or under the twenty percent annexation petition under the election method. [1973 1st ex.s. c 164 § 16; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.173. Prior: 1961 c 282 § 4.]

**35.13.174 Date for annexation election if review board's determination favorable.** Upon receipt by the board of county commissioners of a determination by a majority of the review board favoring annexation of the proposed area that has been initiated by resolution pursuant to RCW 35.13.015 by the city or town legislative body, the board of county commissioners shall fix a date on which an annexation election shall be held, which date will be not less than thirty days nor more than sixty days thereafter. [1973 1st ex.s. c 164 § 17; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.174. Prior: 1961 c 282 § 5.]

*Petition method—Fixing date of annexation election:* RCW 35.13.060.

*Times for holding elections:* Chapter 29.13 RCW.

**35.13.176 Territory subject to annexation proposal—When annexation by another city or incorporation allowed.** After a petition proposing an annexation by a city or town is filed with the city or town or the governing body of the city or town, or after a resolution proposing an annexation by a city or town has been adopted by the city or town governing body, no territory included in the proposed annexation may be annexed by another city or town or incorporated into a city or town unless: (1) The boundary review board modifies the boundaries of the proposed annexation and removes the territory; (2) the boundary review board or review board created under RCW 35.13.171 rejects the proposed annexation; or (3) the city or town governing body rejects the proposed annexation or voters defeat the ballot proposition authorizing the annexation. [1994 c 216 § 7.]

**Effective date—1994 c 216:** See note following RCW 35.02.015.

**35.13.177 Comprehensive land use plan for area to be annexed—Contents—Purpose.** The legislative body of any city or town acting through a planning commission created pursuant to chapter 35.63 RCW, or pursuant to its granted powers, may prepare a comprehensive land use plan to become effective upon the annexation of any area which might reasonably be expected to be annexed by the city or town at any future time. Such comprehensive plan, to the extent deemed reasonably necessary by the legislative body to be in the interest of health, safety, morals and the general welfare may provide, among other things, for:

- (1) The regulation and restriction within the area to be annexed of the location and the use of buildings, structures and land for residence, trade, industrial and other purposes; the height, number of stories, size, construction and design of buildings and other structures; the size of yards, courts and other open spaces on the lot or tract; the density of population; the set-back of buildings along highways, parks or public water frontages; and the subdivision and development of land;
- (2) The division of the area to be annexed into districts or zones of any size or shape, and within such districts or zones regulate and restrict the erection, construction, reconstruction, alteration, repair or use of buildings, structures or land;
- (3) The appointment of a board of adjustment, to make, in appropriate cases and subject to appropriate conditions and safeguards established by ordinance, special exceptions

in harmony with the general purposes and intent of the comprehensive plan; and

(4) The time interval following an annexation during which the ordinance or resolution adopting any such plan or regulations, or any part thereof must remain in effect before it may be amended, supplemented or modified by subsequent ordinance or resolution adopted by the annexing city or town.

All such regulations and restrictions shall be designed, among other things, to encourage the most appropriate use of land throughout the area to be annexed; to lessen traffic congestion and accidents; to secure safety from fire; to provide adequate light and air; to prevent overcrowding of land; to avoid undue concentration of population; to promote a coordinated development of the unbuilt areas; to encourage the formation of neighborhood or community units; to secure an appropriate allotment of land area in new developments for all the requirements of community life; to conserve and restore natural beauty and other natural resources; to facilitate the adequate provision of transportation, water, sewerage and other public uses and requirements. [1965 ex.s. c 88 § 1.]

**35.13.178 Comprehensive land use plan for area to be annexed—Hearings on proposed plan—Notice—Filing.** The legislative body of the city or town shall hold two or more public hearings, to be held at least thirty days apart, upon the proposed comprehensive plan, giving notice of the time and place thereof by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the annexing city or town and the area to be annexed. A copy of the ordinance or resolution adopting or embodying such proposed plan or any part thereof or any amendment thereto, duly certified as a true copy by the clerk of the annexing city or town, shall be filed with the county auditor. A like certified copy of any map or plat referred to or adopted by the ordinance or resolution shall likewise be filed with the county auditor. The auditor shall record the ordinance or resolution and keep on file the map or plat. [1965 ex.s. c 88 § 2.]

**35.13.180 Annexation for municipal purposes.** City and town councils of second class cities and towns may by a majority vote annex new unincorporated territory outside the city or town limits, whether contiguous or noncontiguous for park, cemetery, or other municipal purposes when such territory is owned by the city or town or all of the owners of the real property in the territory give their written consent to the annexation. [1994 c 81 § 11; 1983 1st ex.s. c 68 § 1; 1981 c 332 § 4; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.180. Prior: 1907 c 228 § 4; RRS § 9202.]

**Severability—1981 c 332:** See note following RCW 35.13.165.

**35.13.185 Annexation of federal areas by first class city.** Any unincorporated area contiguous to a first class city may be annexed thereto by an ordinance accepting a gift, grant, lease or cession of jurisdiction from the government of the United States of the right to occupy or control it. [1965 c 7 § 35.13.185. Prior: 1957 c 239 § 7.]

**35.13.190 Annexation of federal areas by second class cities and towns.** Any unincorporated area contiguous

to a second class city or town may be annexed thereto by an ordinance accepting a gift, grant, or lease from the government of the United States of the right to occupy, control, improve it or sublet it for commercial, manufacturing, or industrial purposes: PROVIDED, That this shall not apply to any territory more than four miles from the corporate limits existing before such annexation. [1994 c 81 § 12; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.190. Prior: 1915 c 13 § 1, part; RRS § 8906, part.]

**Validating—1915 c 13:** "All ordinances heretofore passed by the legislative authority of any such incorporated city for the purpose of accepting any gift, grant or lease of or annexing any territory as hereinabove provided are hereby validated." [1915 c 13 § 3.]

**35.13.200 Annexation of federal areas by second class cities and towns—Annexation ordinance—Provisions.** In the ordinance annexing territory pursuant to a gift, grant, or lease from the government of the United States, a second class city or town may include such tide and shore lands as may be necessary or convenient for the use thereof, may include in the ordinance an acceptance of the terms and conditions attached to the gift, grant, or lease and may provide in the ordinance for the annexed territory to become a separate ward of the city or town or part or parts of adjacent wards. [1994 c 81 § 13; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.200. Prior: (i) 1915 c 13 § 1, part; RRS § 8906, part. (ii) 1915 c 13 § 2, part; RRS § 8907, part.]

**35.13.210 Annexation of federal areas by second class cities and towns—Authority over annexed territory.** A second class city or town may cause territory annexed pursuant to a gift, grant, or lease of the government of the United States to be surveyed, subdivided and platted into lots, blocks, or tracts and lay out, reserve for public use, and improve streets, roads, alleys, slips, and other public places. It may grant or sublet any lot, block, or tract therein for commercial, manufacturing, or industrial purposes and reserve, receive and collect rents therefrom. It may expend the rents received therefrom in making and maintaining public improvements therein, and if any surplus remains at the end of any fiscal year, may transfer it to the city's or town's current expense fund. [1994 c 81 § 14; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.210. Prior: 1915 c 13 § 2, part; RRS § 8907, part.]

**35.13.215 Annexation of fire districts—Transfer of employees.** If any portion of a fire protection district is annexed to or incorporated into a city, code city or town, any employee of the fire protection district who (1) was at the time of such annexation or incorporation employed exclusively or principally in performing the powers, duties, and functions which are to be performed by the city, code city or town fire department (2) will, as a direct consequence of annexation or incorporation, be separated from the employ of the fire protection district, and (3) can perform the duties and meet the minimum requirements of the position to be filled, then such employee may transfer employment to the civil service system of the city, code city or town fire department as provided for in this section and RCW 35.13.225 and 35.13.235.

For purposes of this section and RCW 35.13.225 and 35.13.235, employee means an individual whose employment



with a fire protection district has been terminated because the fire protection district was annexed by a city, code city or town for purposes of fire protection. [1986 c 254 § 7.]

**35.13.225 Annexation of fire districts—Transfer of employees—Rights and benefits.** (1) An eligible employee may transfer into the civil service system of the city, code city, or town fire department by filing a written request with the city, code city, or town civil service commission and by giving written notice thereof to the board of commissioners of the fire protection district. Upon receipt of such request by the civil service commission the transfer of employment shall be made. The employee so transferring will (a) be on probation for the same period as are new employees of the city, code city, or town fire department in the position filled, but if the transferring employee has already completed a probationary period as a fire fighter prior to the transfer, then the employee may only be terminated during the probationary period for failure to adequately perform assigned duties, not meeting the minimum qualifications of the position, or behavior that would otherwise be subject to disciplinary action, (b) be eligible for promotion no later than after completion of the probationary period, (c) receive a salary at least equal to that of other new employees of the city, code city, or town fire department in the position filled, and (d) in all other matters, such as retirement, sick leave, and vacation, have, within the city, code city, or town civil service system, all the rights, benefits, and privileges to which he or she would have been entitled as a member of the city, code city, or town fire department from the beginning of employment with the fire protection district: **PROVIDED**, That for purposes of layoffs by the annexing fire agency, only the time of service accrued with the annexing agency shall apply unless an agreement is reached between the collective bargaining representatives of the employees of the annexing and annexed fire agencies and the annexing and annexed fire agencies. The board of commissioners of the fire protection district shall, upon receipt of such notice, transmit to any applicable civil service commission a record of the employee's service with the fire protection district which shall be credited to such employee as a part of the period of employment in the city, code city, or town fire department. All accrued benefits are transferable provided that the recipient agency provides comparable benefits. All benefits shall then accrue based on the combined seniority of each employee in the recipient agency.

(2) As many of the transferring employees shall be placed upon the payroll of the city, code city, or town fire department as the department determines are needed to provide services. These needed employees shall be taken in order of seniority and the remaining employees who transfer as provided in this section and RCW 35.13.215 and 35.13.235 shall head the list for employment in the civil service system in order of their seniority, to the end that they shall be the first to be reemployed in the city, code city, or town fire department when appropriate positions become available: **PROVIDED**, That employees who are not immediately hired by the city, code city, or town shall be placed on a reemployment list for a period not to exceed thirty-six months unless a longer period is authorized by an agreement reached between the collective bargaining

representatives of the employees of the annexing and annexed fire agencies and the annexing and annexed fire agencies. [1994 c 73 § 3; 1986 c 254 § 8.]

Effective date—1994 c 73: See note following RCW 35.10.365.

**35.13.235 Annexation of fire districts—Transfer of employees—Notice—Time limitation.** If any portion of a fire protection district is annexed to or incorporated into a city, code city or town, and as a result any employee is laid off who is eligible to transfer to the city, code city or town fire department under this section and RCW 35.13.215 and 35.13.225 the fire protection district shall notify the employee of the right to transfer and the employee shall have ninety days to transfer employment to the city, code city or town fire department. [1986 c 254 § 9.]

**35.13.249 Annexation of fire districts—Ownership of assets of fire protection district—Outstanding indebtedness not affected.** When any portion of a fire protection district is annexed by or incorporated into a city or town, any outstanding indebtedness, bonded or otherwise, shall remain an obligation of the taxable property annexed or incorporated as if the annexation or incorporation had not occurred. [1965 c 7 § 35.13.249. Prior: 1963 c 231 § 5.]

**35.13.260 Determining population of annexed territory—Certificate—As basis for allocation of state funds—Revised certificate.** Whenever any territory is annexed to a city or town, a certificate as hereinafter provided shall be submitted in triplicate to the office of financial management, hereinafter in this section referred to as "the office", within thirty days of the effective date of annexation specified in the relevant ordinance. After approval of the certificate, the office shall retain the original copy in its files, and transmit the second copy to the department of transportation and return the third copy to the city or town. Such certificates shall be in such form and contain such information as shall be prescribed by the office. A copy of the complete ordinance containing a legal description and a map showing specifically the boundaries of the annexed territory shall be attached to each of the three copies of the certificate. The certificate shall be signed by the mayor and attested by the city clerk. Upon request, the office shall furnish certification forms to any city or town.

The resident population of the annexed territory shall be determined by, or under the direction of, the mayor of the city or town. Such population determination shall consist of an actual enumeration of the population which shall be made in accordance with practices and policies, and subject to the approval of, the office. The population shall be determined as of the effective date of annexation as specified in the relevant ordinance.

Until an annexation certificate is filed and approved as provided herein, such annexed territory shall not be considered by the office in determining the population of such city or town.

Upon approval of the annexation certificate, the office shall forward to each state official or department responsible for making allocations or payments to cities or towns, a revised certificate reflecting the increase in population due to such annexation. Upon and after the date of the com-



commencement of the next quarterly period, the population determination indicated in such revised certificate shall be used as the basis for the allocation and payment of state funds to such city or town.

For the purposes of this section, each quarterly period shall commence on the first day of the months of January, April, July, and October. Whenever a revised certificate is forwarded by the office thirty days or less prior to the commencement of the next quarterly period, the population of the annexed territory shall not be considered until the commencement of the following quarterly period. [1979 c 151 § 25; 1975 1st ex.s. c 31 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 50 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 42 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.260. Prior: 1961 c 51 § 1; 1957 c 175 § 14; prior: 1951 c 248 § 5, part.]

**Effective date—1967 ex.s. c 42:** See note following RCW 3.30.010.

**Savings—1967 ex.s. c 42:** See note following RCW 3.30.010.

*Allocations to cities and towns from motor vehicle fund:* RCW 46.68.100, 46.68.110.

*Census to be conducted in decennial periods:* State Constitution Art. 2 § 3.

*Population determinations, office of financial management:* Chapter 43.62 RCW.

**35.13.270 Road district taxes collected in annexed territory—Disposition.** Whenever any territory is annexed to a city which is part of a road district of the county and road district taxes have been levied but not collected on any property within the annexed territory, the same shall when collected by the county treasurer be paid to the city and by the city placed in the city street fund. [1965 c 7 § 35.13.270. Prior: 1957 c 175 § 15; prior: 1951 c 248 § 5, part.]

**35.13.280 Cancellation, acquisition of franchise or permit for operation of public service business in territory annexed.** The annexation by any city or town of any territory pursuant to those provisions of chapter 35.10 RCW which relate to the annexation of a city or town to a city or town, or pursuant to the provisions of chapter 35.13 RCW shall cancel, as of the effective date of such annexation, any franchise or permit theretofore granted to any person, firm or corporation by the state of Washington, or by the governing body of such annexed territory, authorizing or otherwise permitting the operation of any public transportation, garbage collection and/or disposal or other similar public service business or facility within the limits of the annexed territory, but the holder of any such franchise or permit canceled pursuant to this section shall be forthwith granted by the annexing city or town a franchise to continue such business within the annexed territory for a term of not less than five years from the date of issuance thereof, and the annexing city or town, by franchise, permit or public operation, shall not extend similar or competing services to the annexed territory except upon a proper showing of the inability or refusal of such person, firm or corporation to adequately service said annexed territory at a reasonable price: **PROVIDED**, That the provisions of this section shall not preclude the purchase by the annexing city or town of said franchise, business, or facilities at an agreed or negotiated price, or from acquiring the same by condemnation upon payment of damages, including a reasonable amount for the loss of the

franchise or permit. In the event that any person, firm or corporation whose franchise or permit has been canceled by the terms of this section shall suffer any measurable damages as a result of any annexation pursuant to the provisions of the laws above-mentioned, such person, firm or corporation shall have a right of action against any city or town causing such damages. [1994 c 81 § 15; 1983 c 3 § 54; 1965 c 7 § 35.13.280. Prior: 1957 c 282 § 1.]

**35.13.290 When right of way may be included—Use of right of way line as corporate boundary.** The boundaries of a city or town arising from an annexation of territory shall not include a portion of the right of way of any public street, road, or highway except where the boundary runs from one edge of the right of way to the other edge of the right of way. However, the right of way line of any public street, road, or highway, or any segment thereof, may be used to define a part of a corporate boundary in an annexation proceeding. [1989 c 84 § 8.]

**35.13.300 Boundary line adjustment—Purpose—Definition.** The purpose of RCW 35.13.300 through 35.13.330 is to establish a process for the adjustment of existing or proposed city boundary lines to avoid a situation where a common boundary line is or would be located within a right of way of a public street, road, or highway, or a situation where two cities are separated or would be separated by only the right of way of a public street, road, or highway, other than situations where a boundary line runs from one edge of the right of way to the other edge of the right of way.

As used in RCW 35.13.300 through 35.13.330, "city" includes every city or town in the state, including a code city operating under Title 35A RCW. [1989 c 84 § 12.]

**35.13.310 Boundary line adjustment—Agreement—Not subject to review.** (1) This section provides a method to adjust the boundary lines between two cities where the two cities share a common boundary within a right of way of a public street, road, or highway, or the two cities have a portion of their boundaries separated only by all or part of the right of way of a public street, road, or highway. However, this section does not apply to situations where a boundary line runs from one edge of the right of way to the other edge of the right of way.

(2) The councils of any two cities in a situation described in subsection (1) of this section may enter into an agreement to alter those portions of their boundaries that are necessary to eliminate this situation and create a partial common boundary on either edge of the right of way of the public street, road, or highway. An agreement made under this section shall include only boundary line adjustments between the two cities that are necessary to eliminate the situation described in subsection (1) of this section.

A boundary line adjustment under this section is not subject to potential review by a boundary review board. [1989 c 84 § 13.]

**35.13.320 Boundary line adjustment—When adjustment required—Limitation—Not subject to review.** The councils of any two cities that will be in a situation

described in RCW 35.13.310(1) as the result of a proposed annexation by one of the cities may enter into an agreement to adjust those portions of the annexation proposal and the boundaries of the city that is not proposing the annexation. Such an agreement shall not be effective unless the annexation is made.

The annexation proposal shall proceed if such an agreement were not made, but any resulting boundaries between the two cities that meet the descriptions of RCW 35.13.310(1) shall be adjusted by agreement between the two cities within one hundred eighty days of the effective date of the annexation, or the county legislative authority of the county within which the right of way is located shall adjust the boundaries within a sixty-day period immediately following the one hundred eightieth day.

An agreement or adjustment made by a county under this section shall include only boundary line adjustments between the two cities that are necessary to eliminate the situation described in RCW 35.13.310(1).

A boundary line adjustment under this section is not subject to potential review by a boundary review board. [1989 c 84 § 14.]

**35.13.330 Boundary line adjustment—Agreement pending incorporation—Limitation—Not subject to review.** (1) The purpose of this section is to avoid situations arising where the boundaries of an existing city and a newly incorporated city would create a situation described in RCW 35.13.310(1).

(2) A boundary review board that reviews the boundaries of a proposed incorporation may enter into an agreement with the council of a city, that would be in a situation described in subsection (1) of this section as the result of a proposed incorporation of a city, to adjust the boundary line of the city and those of the city proposed to be incorporated to avoid this situation described in subsection (1) of this section if the incorporation were to be approved by the voters. Such an agreement shall not be effective unless the incorporation occurs.

The incorporation proposal shall proceed if such an agreement were not made, but any resulting boundaries between the two cities that meet create a situation described in RCW 35.13.310(1) shall be adjusted by agreement between the two cities within one hundred eighty days of the official date of the incorporation, or the county legislative authority of the county within which the right of way is located shall adjust the boundaries within a sixty-day period immediately following the one hundred eightieth day.

An agreement or adjustment made by a county under this section shall include only boundary line adjustments between the two cities that are necessary to eliminate the situation described in RCW 35.13.310(1).

A boundary line adjustment under this section is not subject to potential review by a boundary review board. [1989 c 84 § 15.]

**35.13.340 Boundary line adjustment—Inclusion or exclusion of remaining portion of parcel—When subject to review—Definition.** The boundaries of a city shall be adjusted to include or exclude the remaining portion of a parcel of land located partially within and partially without

\*of the boundaries of that city upon the governing body of the city adopting a resolution approving such an adjustment that was requested in a petition signed by the owner of the parcel. A boundary adjustment made pursuant to this section shall not be subject to potential review by the boundary review board of the county within which the parcel is located if the remaining portion of the parcel to be included or excluded from the city is located in the unincorporated area of the county and the adjustment is approved by resolution of the county legislative authority or in writing by a county official or employee of the county who is designated by ordinance of the county to make such approvals.

Where part of a single parcel of land is located within the boundaries of one city, and the remainder of the parcel is located within the boundaries of a second city that is located immediately adjacent to the first city, the boundaries of the two cities may be adjusted so that all of the parcel is located within either of the cities, if the adjustment was requested in a petition signed by the property owner and is approved by both cities. Approval by a city may be through either resolution of its city council, or in writing by an official or employee of the city who has been designated by ordinance of the city to make such approvals. Such an adjustment is not subject to potential review by the boundary review board of the county in which the parcel is located.

Whenever a portion of a public right of way is located on such a parcel, the boundary adjustment shall be made in such a manner as to include all or none of that portion of the public right of way within the boundaries of the city.

As used in this section, "city" shall include any city or town, including a code city. [1989 c 84 § 24.]

\*Reviser's note: The word "of" appears to be unnecessary.

**35.13.350 Providing annexation information to public.** A city or town can provide factual public information on the effects of a pending annexation proposed for the city or town. [1989 c 351 § 8.]

**35.13.360 Transfer of county sheriff's employees—Purpose.** It is the purpose of RCW 35.13.360 through 35.13.400 to require the lateral transfer of any qualified county sheriff's employee who, by reason of annexation or incorporation of an unincorporated area of a county, will or is likely to be laid off due to sheriff's department cutbacks resulting from the loss of the unincorporated law enforcement responsibility. [1993 c 189 § 2.]

**35.13.370 Transfer of county sheriff's employees—When authorized.** When any portion of an unincorporated area of a county is to be annexed or incorporated into a city, code city, or town, any employee of the sheriff's office of the county may transfer his or her employment to the police department of the city, code city, or town as provided in RCW 35.13.360 through 35.13.400 if the employee: (1) Was, at the time the annexation or incorporation occurred, employed exclusively or principally in performing the powers, duties, and functions of the county sheriff's office; (2) will, as a direct consequence of the annexation or incorporation, be separated from the employ of the county; and (3) can perform the duties and meets the city's, code city's

or town's minimum standards and qualifications of the position to be filled within their police department.

Nothing in this section or RCW 35.13.380 requires a city, code city, or town to accept the voluntary transfer of employment of a person who will not be laid off due to his or her seniority status. [1993 c 189 § 3.]

**35.13.380 Transfer of county sheriff's employees—Conditions, limitations.** (1) An eligible employee under RCW 35.13.370 may transfer into the civil service system for the police department by filing a written request with the civil service commission of the affected city, code city, or town and by giving written notice thereof to the legislative authority of the county. Upon receipt of such request by the civil service commission the transfer shall be made. The employee so transferring will: (a) Be on probation for the same period as are new employees in the same classification of the police department; (b) be eligible for promotion after completion of the probationary period in compliance with existing civil service rules pertaining to lateral transfers based upon combined service time; (c) receive a salary at least equal to that of other new employees in the same classification of the police department; and (d) in all other matters, such as sick leave and vacation, have, within the civil service system, all the rights, benefits, and privileges that the employee would have been entitled to had he or she been a member of the police department from the beginning of his or her employment with the county. The county is responsible for compensating an employee for benefits accrued while employed with the sheriff's office unless a different agreement is reached between the county and the city, code city, or town. No accrued benefits are transferable to the recipient agency unless the recipient agency agrees to accept the accrued benefits. All benefits shall then accrue based on the combined seniority of each employee in the recipient agency. The county shall, upon receipt of such notice, transmit to the civil service commission a record of the employee's service with the county which shall be credited to the employee as a part of his or her period of employment in the police department. For purposes of layoffs by the city, code city, or town, only the time of service accrued with the city, code city, or town shall apply unless an agreement is reached between the collective bargaining representatives of the police department and sheriff's office employees and the police department and sheriff's office.

(2) Only as many of the transferring employees shall be placed upon the payroll of the police department as the city, code city, or town determines are needed to provide an adequate level of law enforcement service. The needed employees shall be taken in order of seniority and the remaining employees who transfer as provided in RCW 35.13.360 through 35.13.400 shall head the list of their respective class or job listing exclusive of rank in the civil service system in order of their seniority, so that they shall be the first to be employed in the police department as vacancies become available. Employees who are not immediately hired by the city, code city, or town shall be placed on a reemployment list for a period not to exceed thirty-six months unless a longer period is authorized by an agreement reached between the collective bargaining representatives of

the police department and sheriff's office employees and the police department and sheriff's office. The county sheriff's office must rehire former employees who are placed on the city's reemployment list before it can hire anyone else to perform the same duties previously performed by these employees who were laid off.

(3) The thirty-six month period contained in subsection (2) of this section shall commence:

(a) On the effective date of the annexation in cases of annexation; and

(b) On the date when the city creates its own police department in cases of incorporation.

(4) The city, code city, or town shall retain the right to select the police chief regardless of seniority. [1993 c 189 § 4.]

**35.13.390 Transfer of county sheriff's employees—Rules.** In addition to its other duties prescribed by law, the civil service commission shall make rules necessary to provide for the orderly integration of employees of a county sheriff's office to the police department of the city, code city, or town pursuant to RCW 35.13.360 through 35.13.400. [1993 c 189 § 5.]

**35.13.400 Transfer of county sheriff's employees—Notification of right to transfer—Time for filing transfer request.** When any portion of an unincorporated area of a county is to be annexed or incorporated into a city, code city, or town and layoffs will result in the county sheriff's office, employees so affected shall be notified of their right to transfer. The affected employees shall have ninety days after the commencement of the thirty-six month period as specified in RCW 35.13.380(3) to file a request to transfer their employment to the police department of the city, code city, or town under RCW 35.13.360 through 35.13.400. [1993 c 189 § 6.]

## Chapter 35.13A

### WATER OR SEWER DISTRICTS—ASSUMPTION OF JURISDICTION

#### Sections

- 35.13A.010 Definitions.
- 35.13A.020 Assumption authorized—Disposition of properties and rights—Outstanding indebtedness—Management and control.
- 35.13A.030 Assumption of control if sixty percent or more of area or valuation within city.
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- 35.13A.050 Territory containing facilities within or without city—Duties of city or district—Rates and charges—Assumption of responsibility—Outstanding indebtedness—Properties and rights.
- 35.13A.060 District in more than one city—Assumption of responsibilities—Duties of cities.
- 35.13A.070 Contracts.
- 35.13A.080 Dissolution of water district or sewer district.
- 35.13A.090 Employment and rights of district employees.
- 35.13A.100 Assumption of substandard water system—Limited immunity from liability.
- 35.13A.900 Severability—1971 ex.s. c 95.

**35.13A.010 Definitions.** Whenever used in this chapter, the following words shall have the following meanings:

(1) The word "district" shall mean a water district or sewer district as indicated by the context of the section in which used.

(2) The word "city" shall mean a city or town of any class and shall also include any code city as defined in chapter 35A.01 RCW.

(3) The words "included with" shall mean the inclusion of all or part of the territory of a district, as indicated by the context, within the corporate limits of a city either by incorporation of a city, annexation to a city, consolidation of cities or any combination thereof.

(4) The word "indebtedness" shall include general obligation, revenue, and special indebtedness and temporary, emergency, and interim loans. [1971 ex.s. c 95 § 1.]

**35.13A.020 Assumption authorized—Disposition of properties and rights—Outstanding indebtedness—Management and control.** Whenever all of the territory of a water district or sewer district is included within the corporate boundaries of a city, and the city legislative body has elected by resolution or ordinance to assume jurisdiction thereof, all real and personal property, franchises, rights, assets, taxes levied but not collected for the district for other than indebtedness, water and sewer lines, and all other facilities and equipment of the district shall become the property of such city subject to all financial, statutory, or contractual obligations of the district for the security or performance of which such property may have been pledged. Such city, in addition to its other powers, shall have the power to manage, control, maintain and operate such property, facilities and equipment and to fix and collect service and other charges from owners and occupants of properties so served by the city, subject, however, to any outstanding indebtedness, bonded or otherwise, of the district payable from taxes, assessments or revenues of any kind or nature and to any other contractual obligations of the district.

Such city may by resolution of its legislative body, assume the obligation of paying such district indebtedness and of levying and of collecting or causing to be collected such district taxes, assessments and utility rates and charges of any kind or nature to pay and secure the payment of such indebtedness, according to all of the terms, conditions and covenants incident to such indebtedness, and shall assume and perform all other outstanding contractual obligation of the district in accordance with all of its terms, conditions and covenants. No such assumption shall be deemed to impair the obligation of any indebtedness or other contractual obligation entered into after August 9, 1971. During the period until the outstanding indebtedness of the district has been discharged, the territory of the district and the owners and occupants of property therein, shall continue to be liable for its and their proportionate share of such indebtedness, including any outstanding assessments levied within any local improvement district or utility local improvement district thereof. The city shall assume the obligation of causing the payment of such indebtedness, collecting such taxes, assessments and charges and observing and performing the other district contractual obligations. The legislative

body of the city shall act as the officers of the district for the purpose of certifying the amount of any property tax to be levied and collected therein, and causing service and other charges and assessments to be collected from such property or owners or occupants thereof, enforcing such collection and performing all other acts necessary to insure performance of the district's contractual obligations in the same manner and by the same means as if the territory of the district had not been included within the boundaries of a city.

When a city assumes the obligation of paying the outstanding indebtedness, and if property taxes or assessments have been levied and service and other charges have accrued for such purpose but have not been collected by the district prior to such election, the same when collected shall belong and be paid to the city and be used by such city so far as necessary for payment of the indebtedness of the district existing and unpaid on the date such city elects to assume the indebtedness. Any funds received by the city which have been collected for the purpose of paying any bonded or other indebtedness of the district, shall be used for the purpose for which they were collected and for no other purpose. Any outstanding indebtedness shall be paid as provided in the bond covenants. All funds of the district on deposit with the county treasurer at the time of title transfer shall be used by the city solely for the benefit of the utility and shall not be transferred to or used for the benefit of the city's general fund. [1971 ex.s. c 95 § 2.]

**35.13A.030 Assumption of control if sixty percent or more of area or valuation within city.** Whenever a portion of a water district or sewer district equal to at least sixty percent of the area or sixty percent of the assessed valuation of the real property lying within such district, is included within the corporate boundaries of a city, the city may assume by ordinance the full and complete management and control of that portion of the entire district not included within another city, whereupon the provisions of RCW 35.13A.020 shall be operative; or the city may proceed directly under the provisions of RCW 35.13A.050. [1971 ex.s. c 95 § 3.]

**35.13A.040 Assumption of control if less than sixty percent of area or valuation within city.** Whenever the portion of a water or sewer district included within the corporate boundaries of a city is less than sixty percent of the area of the district and less than sixty percent of the assessed valuation of the real property within the district, the city may elect to proceed under the provisions of RCW 35.13A.050. [1971 ex.s. c 95 § 4.]

**35.13A.050 Territory containing facilities within or without city—Duties of city or district—Rates and charges—Assumption of responsibility—Outstanding indebtedness—Properties and rights.** When electing under RCW 35.13A.030 or 35.13A.040 to proceed under this section, the city may assume, by ordinance, jurisdiction of the district's responsibilities, property, facilities and equipment within the corporate limits of the city: PROVIDED, That if on the effective date of such an ordinance the territory of the district included within the city contains any

facilities serving or designed to serve any portion of the district outside the corporate limits of the city or if the territory lying within the district and outside the city contains any facilities serving or designed to serve territory included within the city (which facilities are hereafter in this section called the "serving facilities"), the city or district shall for the economically useful life of any such serving facilities make available sufficient capacity therein to serve the sewage or water requirements of such territory, to the extent that such facilities were designed to serve such territory at a rate charged to the municipality being served which is reasonable to all parties.

In the event a city proceeds under this section, the district may elect upon a favorable vote of a majority of all voters within the district voting upon such propositions to require the city to assume responsibility for the operation and maintenance of the district's property, facilities and equipment throughout the entire district and to pay the city a charge for such operation and maintenance which is reasonable under all of the circumstances.

A city acquiring property, facilities and equipment under the provisions of this section shall acquire such property, facilities and equipment, and fix and collect service and other charges from owners and occupants of properties served by the city, subject, to any contractual obligations of the district which relate to the property, facilities, or equipment so acquired by the city or which are secured by taxes, assessments or revenues from the territory of the district included within the city. In such cases, the property included within the city and the owners and occupants thereof shall continue to be liable for payment of its and their proportionate share of any outstanding district indebtedness. The district and its officers shall continue to levy taxes and assessments on and to collect service and other charges from such property, or owners or occupants thereof, to enforce such collections, and to perform all other acts necessary to insure performance of the district's contractual obligations in the same manner and by the same means as if the territory of the district had not been included within the boundaries of a city. [1971 ex.s. c 95 § 5.]

**35.13A.060 District in more than one city—Assumption of responsibilities—Duties of cities.** Whenever more than one city, in whole or in part, is included within a water district or sewer district, the city which has within its boundaries sixty percent or more of the area of the assessed valuation of the district (in this section referred to as the "principal city") may, with the approval of any other city containing part of such district, assume responsibility for operation and maintenance of the district's property, facilities and equipment within such other city and make and enforce such charges for operation, maintenance and retirement of indebtedness as may be reasonable under all the circumstances.

Any other city having less than sixty percent in area or assessed valuation of such district, within its boundaries may install facilities and create local improvement districts or otherwise finance the cost of installation of such facilities and if such facilities have been installed in accordance with reasonable standards fixed by the principal city, such other city may connect such facilities to the utility system of such

district operated by the principal city upon providing for payment by the owners or occupants of properties served thereby, of such charges established by the principal city as may be reasonable under the circumstances. [1971 ex.s. c 95 § 6.]

**35.13A.070 Contracts.** Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the contrary, one or more cities and one or more water districts or sewer districts may, through their legislative authorities, authorize a contract with respect to the rights, powers, duties and obligation of such cities, or districts with regard to the use and ownership of property, the providing of services, the maintenance and operation of facilities, allocation of cost, financing and construction of new facilities, application and use of assets, disposition of liabilities and debts, the performance of contractual obligations and any other matters arising out of the inclusion, in whole or in part, of the district or districts within any city or cities. The contract may provide for the furnishing of services by any party thereto and the use of city or district facilities or real estate for such purpose, and may also provide for the time during which such district or districts may continue to exercise any rights, privileges, powers and functions provided by law for such district or districts as if the district or districts or portions thereof were not included within a city, including but not by way of limitation, the right to promulgate rules and regulations, to levy and collect special assessments, rates, charges, service charges and connection fees, and to adopt and carry out the provisions of a comprehensive plan, and amendments thereto, for a system of improvements and to issue general obligation bonds or revenue bonds in the manner provided by law. The contract may provide for the transfer to a city of district facilities, property, rights and powers as provided in RCW 35.13A.030 and 35.13A.050, whether or not sixty percent of the area or assessed valuation of real estate lying within the district or districts is included within such city. The contract may provide that any party thereto may authorize, issue and sell revenue bonds to provide funds for new water or sewer improvements or to refund any water revenue, sewer revenue or combined water and sewer revenue bonds outstanding of any city, or district which is a party to such contract if such refunding is deemed necessary, providing such refunding will not increase interest costs. The contract may provide that any party thereto may authorize and issue, in the manner provided by law, general obligation or revenue bonds of like amounts, terms, conditions and covenants as the outstanding bonds of any other party to the contract, and such new bonds may be substituted or exchanged for such outstanding bonds: PROVIDED, That no such exchange or substitution shall be effected in such a manner as to impair the obligation or security of any such outstanding bonds. [1971 ex.s. c 95 § 7.]

**35.13A.080 Dissolution of water district or sewer district.** In any of the cases provided for in RCW 35.13A.020, 35.13A.030, and 35.13A.050, and notwithstanding any other method of dissolution provided by law, dissolution proceedings may be initiated by either the city or the district, or both, when the legislative body of the city and

the governing body of the district agree to, and petition for, dissolution of the district.

The petition for dissolution shall be signed by the chief administrative officer of the city and the district, upon authorization of the legislative body of the city and the governing body of the district, respectively and such petition shall be presented to the superior court of the county in which the city is situated.

If the petition is thus authorized by both the city and district, and title to the property, facilities and equipment of the district has passed to the city pursuant to action taken under this chapter, all indebtedness and local improvement district or utility local improvement district assessments of the district have been discharged or assumed by and transferred to the city, and the petition contains a statement of the distribution of assets and liabilities mutually agreed upon by the city and the district and a copy of the agreement between such city and the district is attached thereto, a hearing shall not be required and the court shall, if the interests of all interested parties have been protected, enter an order dissolving the district.

In any of the cases provided for in RCW 35.13A.020 and 35.13A.030, if the petition for an order of dissolution is signed on behalf of the city alone or the district alone, or there is no mutual agreement on the distribution of assets and liabilities, the superior court shall enter an order fixing a hearing date not less than sixty days from the day the petition is filed, and the clerk of the court of the county shall give notice of such hearing by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the district once a week for three successive weeks and by posting in three public places in the district at least twenty-one days before the hearing. The notice shall set forth the filing of the petition, its purposes, and the date and place of hearing thereon.

After the hearing the court shall enter its order with respect to the dissolution of the district. If the court finds that such district should be dissolved and the functions performed by the city, the court shall provide for the transfer of assets and liabilities to the city. The court may provide for the dissolution of the district upon such conditions as the court may deem appropriate. A certified copy of the court order dissolving the district shall be filed with the county auditor. If the court does not dissolve the district, it shall state the reasons for declining to do so. [1971 ex.s. c 95 § 8.]

**35.13A.090 Employment and rights of district employees.** Whenever a city acquires all of the facilities of a water district or sewer district, pursuant to this chapter, such a city shall offer to employ every full time employee of the district who is engaged in the operation of such a district's facilities on the date on which such city acquires the district facilities. When a city acquires any portion of the facilities of such a district, such a city shall offer to employ full time employees of the district as of the date of the acquisition of the facilities of the district who are not longer needed by the district.

Whenever a city employs a person who was employed immediately prior thereto by the district, arrangements shall be made:

(1) For the retention of service credits under the pension plan of the district pursuant to \*RCW 41.04.070 through 41.04.110.

(2) For the retention of all sick leave standing to the employee's credit in the plan of such district.

(3) For a vacation with pay during the first year of employment equivalent to that to which he would have been entitled if he had remained in the employment of the district. [1971 ex.s. c 95 § 9.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 41.04.070 through 41.04.100 were repealed by 1980 c 29 § 3.

**35.13A.100 Assumption of substandard water system—Limited immunity from liability.** A city assuming responsibility for a water system that is not in compliance with state or federal requirements for public drinking water systems, and its agents and employees, are immune from lawsuits or causes of action, based on noncompliance with state or federal requirements for public drinking water systems, which predate the date of assuming responsibility and continue after the date of assuming responsibility, provided that the city has submitted and is complying with a plan and schedule of improvements approved by the department of health. This immunity shall expire on the earlier of the date the plan of improvements is completed or four years from the date of assuming responsibility. This immunity does not apply to intentional injuries, fraud, or bad faith. [1994 c 292 § 5.]

Findings—Intent—1994 c 292: See note following RCW 57.04.050.

**35.13A.900 Severability—1971 ex.s. c 95.** If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1971 ex.s. c 95 § 12.]

## Chapter 35.14

### COMMUNITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS

#### Sections

- 35.14.010 When community municipal corporation may be organized—Service areas—Territory.
- 35.14.020 Community council—Membership—Election—Terms.
- 35.14.030 Community council—Employees—Office—Officers—Quorum—Meetings—Compensation and expenses.
- 35.14.040 Ordinances or resolutions of city applying to land, buildings or structures within corporation, effectiveness—Zoning ordinances, resolutions or land use controls to remain in effect upon annexation or consolidation—Comprehensive plan.
- 35.14.050 Powers and duties of community municipal corporation.
- 35.14.060 Original term of existence of community municipal corporation—Continuation of existence—Procedure.

**35.14.010 When community municipal corporation may be organized—Service areas—Territory.** Whenever unincorporated territory is annexed by a city or town pursuant to the provisions of chapter 35.13 RCW, or whenever unincorporated territory is annexed to a code city pursuant to the provisions of chapter 35A.14 RCW, community municipal corporations may be organized for the territory comprised of all or a part of an unincorporated area annexed to a city or town pursuant to chapter 35.13 or 35A.14 RCW,

if: (1) The service area is such as would be eligible for incorporation as a city or town; or (2) the service area has a minimum population of not less than three hundred inhabitants and ten percent of the population of the annexing city or town; or (3) the service area has a minimum population of not less than one thousand inhabitants.

Whenever two or more cities are consolidated pursuant to the provisions of chapter 35.10 RCW, a community municipal corporation may be organized within one or more of the consolidating cities.

No territory shall be included in the service area of more than one community municipal corporation. Whenever a new community municipal corporation is formed embracing all of the territory of an existing community municipal corporation, the prior existing community municipal corporation shall be deemed to be dissolved on the effective date of the new corporation. [1993 c 75 § 1; 1985 c 281 § 24; 1967 c 73 § 1.]

**Severability—1985 c 281:** See RCW 35.10.905.

**35.14.020 Community council—Membership—Election—Terms.** A community municipal corporation shall be governed by a community council composed of five members. Initial council members shall be elected concurrently with the annexation election to consecutively numbered positions from qualified electors residing within the service area. Declarations of candidacy and withdrawals shall be in the same manner as is provided for members of the city council or other legislative body of the city to which annexation is proposed. Subsequent council membership shall be the same in number as the initial council and such members shall be elected to consecutively numbered positions at the continuation election pursuant to RCW 35.14.060 from qualified electors residing within the service area.

Terms of original council members shall be coexistent with the original term of existence of the community municipal corporation and until their successors are elected and qualified. Vacancies in any council shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term by a majority vote of the remaining members. [1985 c 281 § 25; 1967 c 73 § 2.]

**Severability—1985 c 281:** See RCW 35.10.905.

**35.14.030 Community council—Employees—Office—Officers—Quorum—Meetings—Compensation and expenses.** Each community council shall be staffed by a deputy to the city clerk of the city with which the service area is consolidated or annexed and shall be provided with such other clerical and technical assistance and a properly equipped office as may be necessary to carry out its functions.

Each community council shall elect a chairman and vice chairman from its membership. A majority of the council shall constitute a quorum. Each action of the community municipal corporation shall be by resolution approved by vote of the majority of all the members of the community council. Meetings shall be held at such times and places as provided in the rules of the community council. Members of the community council shall receive no compensation.

The necessary expenses of the community council shall be budgeted and paid by the city. [1967 c 73 § 3.]

**35.14.040 Ordinances or resolutions of city applying to land, buildings or structures within corporation, effectiveness—Zoning ordinances, resolutions or land use controls to remain in effect upon annexation or consolidation—Comprehensive plan.** The adoption, approval, enactment, amendment, granting or authorization by the city council or commission of any ordinance or resolution applying to land, buildings or structures within any community council corporation shall become effective within such community municipal corporation either on approval by the community council, or by failure of the community council to disapprove within sixty days of final enactment, with respect to the following:

- (1) Comprehensive plan;
- (2) Zoning ordinance;
- (3) Conditional use permit, special exception or variance;
- (4) Subdivision ordinance;
- (5) Subdivision plat;
- (6) Planned unit development.

Disapproval by the community council shall not affect the application of any ordinance or resolution affecting areas outside the community municipal corporation.

Upon annexation or consolidation, pending the effective enactment or amendment of a zoning or land use control ordinance, without disapproval of the community municipal corporation, affecting land, buildings, or structures within a community municipal corporation, the zoning ordinance, resolution or land use controls applicable to the annexed or consolidated area, prior to the annexation or consolidation, shall remain in effect within the community municipal corporation and be enforced by the city to which the area is annexed or consolidated.

Whenever the comprehensive plan of the city, insofar as it affects the area of the community municipal corporation has been submitted as part of an annexation proposition and approved by the voters of the area proposed for annexation pursuant to \*chapter 88, Laws of 1965 extraordinary session, such action shall have the same force and effect as approval by the community council of the comprehensive plan, zoning ordinance and subdivision ordinance. [1967 c 73 § 4.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Chapter 88, Laws of 1965 ex. sess. is codified as RCW 35.13.015, 35.13.020, 35.13.030, 35.13.080, 35.13.090, 35.13.100, 35.13.110, 35.13.125, 35.13.130, 35.13.160, 35.13.177, and 35.13.178.

**35.14.050 Powers and duties of community municipal corporation.** In addition to powers and duties relating to approval of zoning regulations and restrictions as set forth in RCW 35.14.040, a community municipal corporation acting through its community council may:

- (1) Make recommendations concerning any proposed comprehensive plan or other proposal which directly or indirectly affects the use of property or land within the service area;
- (2) Provide a forum for consideration of the conservation, improvement or development of property or land within the service area; and
- (3) Advise, consult, and cooperate with the legislative authority of the city on any local matters directly or indirectly affecting the service area. [1967 c 73 § 5.]



**35.14.060 Original term of existence of community municipal corporation—Continuation of existence—Procedure.** The original terms of existence of any community municipal corporation shall be for at least four years and until the first Monday in January next following a regular municipal election held in the city.

Any such community municipal corporation may be continued thereafter for additional periods of four years' duration with the approval of the voters at an election held and conducted in the manner provided for in this section.

Authorization for a community municipal corporation to continue its term of existence for each additional period of four years may be initiated pursuant to a resolution or a petition in the following manner:

(1) A resolution praying for such continuation may be adopted by the community council and shall be filed not less than seven months prior to the end of the term of existence of such corporation with the city council or other legislative body of the city in which the service area is located.

(2) A petition for continuation shall be signed by at least ten percent of the registered voters residing within the service area and shall be filed not less than six months prior to the end of the term of existence of such corporation with the city council or other legislative body of the city in which the service area is located.

At the same election at which a proposition is submitted to the voters of the service area for the continuation of the community municipal corporation for an additional period of four years, the community council members of such municipal corporation shall be elected. The positions on such council shall be the same in number as the original or initial council and shall be numbered consecutively and elected at large. Declarations of candidacy and withdrawals shall be in the same manner as is provided for members of the city council or other legislative body of the city.

Upon receipt of a petition, the city clerk shall examine the signatures thereon and certify to the sufficiency thereof. No person may withdraw his name from a petition after it has been filed.

Upon receipt of a valid resolution or upon duly certifying a petition for continuation of a community municipal corporation, the city clerk with whom the resolution or petition was filed shall cause a proposition on continuation of the term of existence of the community municipal corporation to be placed on the ballot at the next city general election. No person shall be eligible to vote on such proposition at such election unless he is a qualified voter and resident of the service area.

The ballots shall contain the words "For continuation of community municipal corporation" and "Against continuation of community municipal corporation" or words equivalent thereto, and shall also contain the names of the candidates to be voted for to fill the positions on the community council. The names of all candidates to be voted upon shall be printed on the ballot alphabetically in groups under the numbered position on the council for which they are candidates.

If the results of the election as certified by the county canvassing board reveal that a majority of the votes cast are for continuation, the municipal corporation shall continue in existence for an additional period of four years, and certificates of election shall be issued to the successful candidates

who shall assume office at the same time as members of the city council or other legislative body of the city. [1967 c 73 § 6.]

## Chapter 35.16

### REDUCTION OF CITY LIMITS

#### Sections

35.16.001	Actions subject to review by boundary review board.
35.16.010	Petition, resolution for election.
35.16.020	Notice of election.
35.16.030	Canvassing the returns—Abstract of vote.
35.16.040	Ordinance to reduce boundaries.
35.16.050	Recording of ordinance and plat on effective date of reduction.
35.16.060	Effect of exclusion as to liability for indebtedness.
35.16.070	Previously granted franchises in excluded territory.

**35.16.001 Actions subject to review by boundary review board.** Actions taken under chapter 35.16 RCW may be subject to potential review by a boundary review board under chapter 36.93 RCW. [1989 c 84 § 29.]

**35.16.010 Petition, resolution for election.** Upon the filing of a petition which is sufficient as determined by RCW 35A.01.040 requesting the exclusion from the boundaries of a city or town of an area described by metes and bounds or by reference to a recorded plat or government survey, signed by qualified voters of the city or town equal in number to not less than ten percent of the number of voters voting at the last general municipal election, the city or town legislative body shall submit the question to the voters. As an alternate method, the legislative body of the city or town may by resolution submit a proposal to the voters for excluding such a described area from the boundaries of the city or town. The question shall be submitted at the next general municipal election if one is to be held within one hundred eighty days or at a special election called for that purpose not less than ninety days nor more than one hundred eighty days after the certification of sufficiency of the petition or the passage of the resolution. The petition or resolution shall set out and describe the territory to be excluded from the city or town, together with the boundaries of the city or town as it will exist after such change is made. [1994 c 273 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.16.010. Prior: (i) 1895 c 93 § 1, part; RRS § 8902, part. (ii) 1895 c 93 § 4, part; RRS § 8905, part.]

*Times for holding elections: Chapter 29.13 RCW.*

**35.16.020 Notice of election.** Notice of a corporate limit reduction election shall be published at least once each week for two consecutive weeks prior to the election in the official newspaper of the city or town. The notice shall distinctly state the proposition to be submitted, shall designate specifically the area proposed to be excluded and the boundaries of the city or town as they would be after the proposed exclusion of territory therefrom. The ballots shall contain the words "For reduction of city limits" and "Against reduction of city limits" or words equivalent thereto. [1994 c 273 § 2; 1985 c 469 § 19; 1965 c 7 § 35.16.020. Prior: 1895 c 92 § 1, part; RRS § 8902, part.]

**35.16.030 Canvassing the returns—Abstract of vote.**

The election returns shall be canvassed as provided in RCW 29.13.040. If three-fifths of the votes cast on the proposition favor the reduction of the corporate limits, the legislative body of the city or town, by an order entered on its minutes, shall direct the clerk to make and transmit to the office of the secretary of state a certified abstract of the vote. The abstract shall show the total number of voters voting, the number of votes cast for reduction and the number of votes cast against reduction. [1994 c 273 § 3; 1965 c 7 § 35.16.030. Prior: 1895 c 93 § 1, part; RRS § 8902, part.]

*Canvassing returns, generally: Chapter 29.62 RCW.*

*Conduct of election—Canvass: RCW 29.13.040.*

**35.16.040 Ordinance to reduce boundaries.** Promptly after the filing of the abstract of votes with the office of the secretary of state, the legislative body of the city or town shall adopt an ordinance defining and fixing the corporate limits after excluding the area as determined by the election. The ordinance shall also describe the excluded territory by metes and bounds or by reference to a recorded plat or government survey and declare it no longer a part of the city or town. [1994 c 273 § 4; 1965 c 7 § 35.16.040. Prior: 1895 c 93 § 2; RRS § 8903.]

**35.16.050 Recording of ordinance and plat on effective date of reduction.** A certified copy of the ordinance defining the reduced city or town limits together with a map showing the corporate limits as altered shall be filed and recorded in the office of the county auditor of the county in which the city or town is situated, upon the effective date of the ordinance. The new boundaries of the city or town shall take effect immediately after they are filed and recorded with the county auditor. [1994 c 273 § 5; 1965 c 7 § 35.16.050. Prior: 1895 c 93 § 3; RRS § 8904.]

**35.16.060 Effect of exclusion as to liability for indebtedness.** The exclusion of an area from the boundaries of a city or town shall not exempt any real property therein from taxation for the purpose of paying any indebtedness of the city or town existing at the time of its exclusion, and the interest thereon. [1965 c 7 § 35.16.060. Prior: 1895 c 93 § 4, part; RRS § 8905, part.]

**35.16.070 Previously granted franchises in excluded territory.** In regard to franchises previously granted for operation of any public service business or facility within the territory excluded from a city or town by proceedings under this chapter, the rights, obligations, and duties of the legislative body of the county or other political subdivision having jurisdiction over such territory and of the franchise holder shall be as provided in RCW 35.02.160, relating to inclusion of territory by an incorporation. [1994 c 273 § 6.]

**Chapter 35.17****COMMISSION FORM OF GOVERNMENT**

## Sections

- 35.17.010 Definition of commission form.
- 35.17.020 Elections—Terms of commissioners—Vacancies.
- 35.17.030 Laws applicable.
- 35.17.035 Second class cities, parking meter revenue for revenue bonds.
- 35.17.040 Offices.
- 35.17.050 Meetings.
- 35.17.060 President.
- 35.17.070 Vice president.
- 35.17.080 Employees of commission.
- 35.17.090 Distribution of powers—Assignment of duties.
- 35.17.100 Bonds of commissioners and employees.
- 35.17.105 Clerk may take acknowledgments.
- 35.17.108 Salaries of mayor and commissioners.
- 35.17.120 Officers and employees—Salaries and wages.
- 35.17.130 Officers and employees—Creation—Removal—Changes in compensation.
- 35.17.150 Officers and employees—Passes, free services prohibited, exceptions—Penalty.
- 35.17.160 Officers and employees—Political activity forbidden.
- 35.17.170 Financial statements—Monthly—Annual.
- 35.17.180 Legislative power—How exercised.
- 35.17.190 Legislative ordinances and resolutions.
- 35.17.200 Legislative—Appropriations of money.
- 35.17.210 Legislative—Street improvements.
- 35.17.220 Legislative—Franchises—Referendum.
- 35.17.230 Legislative—Ordinances—Time of going into effect.
- 35.17.240 Legislative—Referendum—Filing suspends ordinance.
- 35.17.250 Legislative—Referendum—Petitions and conduct of elections.
- 35.17.260 Legislative—Ordinances by initiative petition.
- 35.17.270 Legislative—Initiative petition—Requirements.
- 35.17.280 Legislative—Initiative petition—Checking by clerk.
- 35.17.290 Legislative—Initiative petition—Appeal to court.
- 35.17.300 Legislative—Initiative—Conduct of election.
- 35.17.310 Legislative—Initiative—Notice of election.
- 35.17.330 Legislative—Initiative—Effective date—Record.
- 35.17.340 Legislative—Initiative—Repeal or amendment.
- 35.17.350 Legislative—Initiative—Repeal or amendment—Method.
- 35.17.360 Legislative—Initiative—Repeal or amendment—Record.
- 35.17.370 Organization on commission form—Eligibility—Census.
- 35.17.380 Organization—Petition.
- 35.17.390 Organization—Ballots.
- 35.17.400 Organization—Election of officers—Term.
- 35.17.410 Organization—Effect on ordinances—Boundaries—Property.
- 35.17.420 Organization—Revision of appropriations.
- 35.17.430 Abandonment of commission form.
- 35.17.440 Abandonment—Method.
- 35.17.450 Abandonment—Conduct of election—Canvass.
- 35.17.460 Abandonment—Effect.

*Imposition or increase of business and occupation tax—Referendum procedure required—Exclusive procedure: RCW 35.21.706.*

*Population determinations: Chapter 43.62 RCW.*

**35.17.010 Definition of commission form.** The commission form of city government means a city government in which the legislative powers and duties are exercised by a commission of three, consisting of a mayor, a commissioner of finance and accounting, and a commissioner of streets and public improvements, and in which the executive and administrative powers and duties are distributed among the three departments as follows:

- (1) Department of public safety of which the mayor shall be the superintendent;
- (2) Department of finance and accounting of which the commissioner of finance and accounting shall be the superintendent;

(3) Department of streets and public improvements of which the commissioner of streets and public improvement shall be the superintendent. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.010. Prior: (i) 1911 c 116 § 11, part; RRS § 9100, part. (ii) 1943 c 25 § 3, part; 1911 c 116 § 12, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9101, part.]

**35.17.020 Elections—Terms of commissioners—Vacancies.** (1) All regular elections in cities organized under the statutory commission form of government shall be held quadrennially in the odd-numbered years on the dates provided in RCW 29.13.020. However, after commissioners are elected at the next general election occurring in 1995 or 1997, regular elections in cities organized under a statutory commission form of government shall be held biennially at municipal general elections.

(2) The commissioners shall be nominated and elected at large. Their terms shall be for four years and until their successors are elected and qualified and assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. However, at the next regular election of a city organized under a statutory commission form of government, the terms of office of commissioners shall occur with the person who is elected as a commissioner receiving the least number of votes being elected to a two-year term of office and the other two persons who are elected being elected to four-year terms of office. Thereafter, commissioners shall be elected to four-year terms of office.

(3) Vacancies on a commission shall occur and shall be filled as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW, except that in every instance a person shall be elected to fill the remainder of the unexpired term at the next general municipal election that occurs twenty-eight or more days after the occurrence of the vacancy. [1994 c 223 § 10; 1994 c 119 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 126 § 17; 1965 c 7 § 35.17.020. Prior: 1963 c 200 § 12; 1959 c 86 § 2; 1955 c 55 § 9; prior: (i) 1911 c 116 § 5; RRS § 9094. (ii) 1943 c 25 § 1, part; 1911 c 116 § 3, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9092, part.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 1994 c 119 § 1 and by 1994 c 223 § 10, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section pursuant to RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Purpose—1979 ex.s. c 126:** See RCW 29.04.170(1).

**35.17.030 Laws applicable.** Cities organized under the commission form have all the powers of cities of the second class and shall be governed by the statutes applicable to cities of that class to the extent to which they are appropriate and not in conflict with provisions specifically applicable to cities organized under the commission form. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.030. Prior: (i) 1911 c 116 § 11, part; RRS § 9100, part. (ii) 1911 c 116 § 4, part; RRS § 9093, part.]

*Second class cities: Chapter 35.23 RCW.*

**35.17.035 Second class cities, parking meter revenue for revenue bonds.** See RCW 35.23.454.

**35.17.040 Offices.** The commission shall have and maintain an office at the city hall, or such other place as the city may provide. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.040. Prior: 1955 c

309 § 3; prior: 1943 c 25 § 4, part; 1911 c 116 § 14, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9103, part.]

**35.17.050 Meetings.** Regular meetings of the commission shall be held on the second Monday after the election of the commissioners and thereafter at least once each week on a day to be fixed by ordinance. Special meetings may be called by the mayor or two commissioners. All meetings of the commission shall be open to the public. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.050. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 15, part; RRS § 9104, part.]

**35.17.060 President.** The mayor shall be president of the commission. He shall preside at its meetings when present and shall oversee all departments and recommend to the commission, action on all matters requiring attention in any department. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.060. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 15, part; RRS § 9104, part.]

**35.17.070 Vice president.** The commissioner of finance and accounting shall be vice president of the commission. In the absence or inability of the mayor, he shall perform the duties of president. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.070. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 15, part; RRS § 9104, part.]

**35.17.080 Employees of commission.** The commission shall appoint by a majority vote a city clerk and such other officers and employees as the commission may by ordinance provide. Any officer or employee appointed by the commission may be discharged at any time by vote of a majority of the members of the commission. Any commissioner may perform any duties pertaining to his department but without additional compensation therefor. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.080. Prior: 1943 c 25 § 3, part; 1911 c 116 § 12, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9101, part.]

**35.17.090 Distribution of powers—Assignment of duties.** The commission by ordinance shall determine what powers and duties are to be performed in each department, shall prescribe the powers and duties of the various officers and employees and make such rules and regulations for the efficient and economical conduct of the business of the city as it may deem necessary and proper. The commission may assign particular officers and employees to one or more departments and may require an officer or employee to perform duties in two or more departments. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.090. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 11, part; RRS § 9100, part.]

**35.17.100 Bonds of commissioners and employees.** Every member of the city commission, before qualifying, shall give a good and sufficient bond to the city in a sum equivalent to five times the amount of his annual salary, conditioned for the faithful performance of the duties of his office. The bonds must be approved by a judge of the superior court for the county in which the city is located and filed with the clerk thereof. The commission, by resolution, may require any of its appointees to give bond to be fixed and approved by the commission and filed with the mayor. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.100. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 6; RRS § 9095.]

**35.17.105 Clerk may take acknowledgments.** The clerk or deputy clerk of any city having a commission form of government shall, without charge, take acknowledgments and administer oaths required by law on all claims and demands against the city. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.105.]

**35.17.108 Salaries of mayor and commissioners.** The annual salaries of the mayor and the commissioners of any city operating under a commission form of government shall be as fixed by charter or ordinance of said city. The power and authority conferred by this section shall be construed as in addition and supplemental to powers or authority conferred by any other law, and nothing contained herein shall be construed as limiting any other powers or authority of any such city. [1967 c 100 § 1.]

**35.17.120 Officers and employees—Salaries and wages.** All appointive officers and employees shall receive such compensation as the commission shall fix by ordinance, payable monthly or at such shorter periods as the commission may determine. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.120. Prior: 1943 c 25 § 4, part; 1911 c 116 § 14, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9103, part.]

**35.17.130 Officers and employees—Creation—Removal—Changes in compensation.** The commission shall have power from time to time to create, fill and discontinue offices and employments other than those herein prescribed, according to their judgment of the needs of the city; and may, by majority vote of all the members, remove any such officer or employees, except as otherwise provided for in this chapter; and may by resolution, or otherwise, prescribe, limit or change the compensation of such officers or employees. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.130. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 13; RRS § 9102.]

**35.17.150 Officers and employees—Passes, free services prohibited, exceptions—Penalty.** No officer or employee, elected or appointed, shall receive from any enterprise operating under a public franchise any frank, free ticket, or free service or receive any service upon terms more favorable than are granted to the public generally: PROVIDED, That the provisions of this section shall not apply to free transportation furnished to policemen and firemen in uniform nor to free service to city officials provided for in the franchise itself.

Any violation of the provisions of this section shall be a misdemeanor. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.150. Prior: 1961 c 268 § 11; prior: 1911 c 116 § 17, part; RRS § 9106, part.]

**35.17.160 Officers and employees—Political activity forbidden.** Any appointive officer or employee of the city who in any manner exerts his influence to induce other officers or employees of the city to favor any particular candidate for any city office or who contributes anything in any way to any person for election purposes shall be discharged by the commission. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.160. Prior: 1961 c 268 § 12; prior: 1911 c 116 § 17, part; RRS § 9106, part.]

*Code of ethics for public officers and employees: Chapters 42.23 and 42.52 RCW.*

*Political activities of public employees: RCW 41.06.250.*

**35.17.170 Financial statements—Monthly—Annual.** The commission shall each month print in pamphlet form a detailed itemized statement of all receipts and expenses of the city and a summary of its proceedings during the preceding month and furnish copies thereof to the state library, the city library, the newspapers of the city, and to persons who apply therefor at the office of the city clerk. At the end of each year the commission shall cause a complete examination of all the books and accounts of the city to be made by competent accountants and shall publish the result of such examination to be made in the manner above provided for publication of statements of monthly expenditures. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.170. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 18; RRS § 9107.]

**35.17.180 Legislative power—How exercised.** Each member of the commission shall have the right to vote on all questions coming before the commission. Two members of the commission shall constitute a quorum and the affirmative vote of at least two members shall be necessary to adopt any motion, resolution, ordinance, or course of action.

Every measure shall be reduced to writing and read before the vote is taken and upon every vote the yeas and nays shall be called and recorded. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.180. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 10, part; RRS § 9099, part.]

**35.17.190 Legislative ordinances and resolutions.** Every resolution and ordinance adopted by the commission shall be signed by the mayor or by two members of the commission and filed and recorded within five days of its passage. The mayor shall have no veto power. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.190. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 10, part; RRS § 9099, part.]

**35.17.200 Legislative—Appropriations of money.** No money shall be appropriated except by ordinance and every such ordinance complete in the form in which it is finally passed shall remain on file with the city clerk for public inspection at least one week before final passage. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.200. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 16, part; RRS § 9105, part.]

**35.17.210 Legislative—Street improvements.** Every ordinance or resolution ordering any street improvement or sewer complete in the form in which it is finally passed shall remain on file with the city clerk for public inspection at least one week before final passage. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.210. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 16, part; RRS § 9105, part.]

**35.17.220 Legislative—Franchises—Referendum.** No franchise or right to occupy or use the streets, highways, bridges or other public places shall be granted, renewed, or extended except by ordinance and every such ordinance complete in the form in which it is finally passed shall remain on file with the city clerk for at least one week before final passage and if the franchise or grant is for interurban or street railways, gas or water works, electric light or power plants, heating plants, telegraph or telephone systems or other public service utilities, the ordinance must be submitted to a vote of the people at a general or special

election and approved by a majority of those voting thereon. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.220. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 16, part; RRS § 9105, part.]

*Times for holding elections: Chapter 29.13 RCW.*

**35.17.230 Legislative—Ordinances—Time of going into effect.** Ordinances shall not go into effect before thirty days from the time of final passage and are subject to referendum during the interim except:

- (1) Ordinances initiated by petition;
- (2) Ordinances necessary for immediate preservation of public peace, health, and safety which contain a statement of urgency and are passed by unanimous vote of all the commissioners;
- (3) Ordinances providing for local improvement districts. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.230. Prior: (i) 1911 c 116 § 22, part; RRS § 9111, part. (ii) 1911 c 116 § 21, part; RRS § 9110, part.]

**35.17.240 Legislative—Referendum—Filing suspends ordinance.** Upon the filing of a referendum petition praying therefor, the commission shall reconsider an ordinance subject to referendum and upon reconsideration shall defeat it in its entirety or shall submit it to a vote of the people. The operation of an ordinance so protested against shall be suspended until the referendum petition is finally found insufficient or until the ordinance protested against has received a majority of the votes cast thereon at the election. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.240. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 22, part; RRS § 9111, part.]

**35.17.250 Legislative—Referendum—Petitions and conduct of elections.** All provisions applicable to the character, form, and number of signatures required for an initiative petition, to the examination and certification thereof, and to the submission to the vote of the people of the ordinance proposed thereby, shall apply to a referendum petition and to the ordinance sought to be defeated thereby. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.250. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 22, part; RRS § 9111, part.]

**35.17.260 Legislative—Ordinances by initiative petition.** Ordinances may be initiated by petition of electors of the city filed with the commission. If the petition accompanying the proposed ordinance is signed by the registered voters in the city equal in number to twenty-five percent of the votes cast for all candidates for mayor at the last preceding city election, and if it contains a request that, unless passed by the commission, the ordinance be submitted to a vote of the people, the commission shall either:

- (1) Pass the proposed ordinance without alteration within twenty days after the city clerk's certificate that the number of signatures on the petition are sufficient; or
- (2) Immediately after the clerk's certificate of sufficiency is attached to the petition, cause to be called a special election to be held not less than thirty nor more than sixty days thereafter, for submission of the proposed ordinance without alteration, to a vote of the people unless a general election will occur within ninety days, in which event submission must be made thereat. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.260. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 21, part; RRS § 9110, part.]

**35.17.270 Legislative—Initiative petition—Requirements.** Every signer to a petition submitting a proposed ordinance to the commission shall add to his signature his place of residence giving street and number. The signatures need not all be appended to one paper, but one of the signers on each paper must attach thereto an affidavit stating the number of signatures thereon, that each signature thereon is a genuine signature of the person whose name it purports to be and that the statements therein made are true as he believes. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.270. Prior: (i) 1911 c 116 § 21, part; RRS § 9110, part. (ii) 1911 c 116 § 20, part; RRS § 9109, part. (iii) 1911 c 116 § 24; RRS § 9113.]

**35.17.280 Legislative—Initiative petition—Checking by clerk.** Within ten days from the filing of a petition submitting a proposed ordinance the city clerk shall ascertain and append to the petition his certificate stating whether or not it is signed by a sufficient number of registered voters, using the registration records and returns of the preceding municipal election for his sources of information, and the commission shall allow him extra help for that purpose, if necessary. If the signatures are found by the clerk to be insufficient the petition may be amended in that respect within ten days from the date of the certificate. Within ten days after submission of the amended petition the clerk shall make an examination thereof and append his certificate thereto in the same manner as before. If the second certificate shall also show the number of signatures to be insufficient, the petition shall be returned to the person filing it. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.280. Prior: (i) 1911 c 116 § 20, part; RRS § 9109, part. (ii) 1911 c 116 § 21, part; RRS § 9110, part.]

**35.17.290 Legislative—Initiative petition—Appeal to court.** If the clerk finds the petition insufficient or if the commission refuses either to pass an initiative ordinance or order an election thereon, any taxpayer may commence an action in the superior court against the city and procure a decree ordering an election to be held in the city for the purpose of voting upon the proposed ordinance if the court finds the petition to be sufficient. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.290. Prior: (i) 1911 c 116 § 20, part; RRS § 9109, part. (ii) 1911 c 116 § 21, part; RRS § 9110, part.]

**35.17.300 Legislative—Initiative—Conduct of election.** Publication of notice, the election, the canvass of the returns and declaration of the results, shall be conducted in all respects as are other city elections. Any number of proposed ordinances may be voted on at the same election, but there shall not be more than one special election for that purpose during any one six-month period. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.300. Prior: (i) 1911 c 116 § 20, part; RRS § 9109, part. (ii) 1911 c 116 § 21, part; RRS § 9110, part.]

*Canvassing returns, generally: Chapter 29.62 RCW.*

*Conduct of elections—Canvass: RCW 29.13.040.*

**35.17.310 Legislative—Initiative—Notice of election.** The city clerk shall cause any ordinance or proposition required to be submitted to the voters at an election to be published once in each of the daily newspapers in the city not less than five nor more than twenty days before the

election, or if no daily newspaper is published in the city, publication shall be made in each of the weekly newspapers published therein. This publication shall be in addition to the notice required in chapter 29.27 RCW. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.310. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 21, part; RRS § 9110, part.]

**35.17.330 Legislative—Initiative—Effective date—Record.** If the number of votes cast thereon favor the proposed ordinance, it shall become effective immediately and shall be made a part of the record of ordinances of the city. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.330. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 21, part; RRS § 9110, part.]

**35.17.340 Legislative—Initiative—Repeal or amendment.** Upon the adoption of an ordinance initiated by petition, the city clerk shall write on the margin of the record thereof "ordinance by petition No. . . .," or "ordinance by vote of the people," and it cannot be repealed or amended except by a vote of the people. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.340. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 21, part; RRS § 9110, part.]

**35.17.350 Legislative—Initiative—Repeal or amendment—Method.** The commission may by means of an ordinance submit a proposition for the repeal or amendment of an ordinance, initiated by petition, by submitting it to a vote of the people at any general election and if a majority of the votes cast upon the proposition favor it, the ordinance shall be repealed or amended accordingly.

A proposition of repeal or amendment must be published before the election thereon as is an ordinance initiated by petition when submitted to election. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.350. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 21, part; RRS § 9110, part.]

**35.17.360 Legislative—Initiative—Repeal or amendment—Record.** Upon the adoption of a proposition to repeal or amend an ordinance initiated by petition, the city clerk shall write upon the margin of the record of the ordinance "repealed (or amended) by ordinance No. . . .," or "repealed (or amended) by vote of the people." [1965 c 7 § 35.17.360. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 21, part; RRS § 9110, part.]

**35.17.370 Organization on commission form—Eligibility—Census.** Any city having a population of two thousand and less than thirty thousand may organize as a city under the commission form of government. The requisite population shall be determined by the last preceding state or federal census or the council may cause a census to be taken by one or more suitable persons, in which the full name of each person in the city shall be plainly written, the names alphabetically arranged and regularly numbered in a complete series, verified before an officer authorized to administer oaths and filed with the city clerk. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.370. Prior: 1927 c 210 § 1; 1911 c 116 § 1; RRS § 9090.]

*Census to be conducted in decennial periods: State Constitution Art. 2 § 3.*

*Determination of population: Chapter 43.62 RCW.*

**35.17.380 Organization—Petition.** Upon petition of electors in any city equal in number to twenty-five percent

of the votes cast for all candidates for mayor at the last preceding city election therein, the mayor by proclamation shall cause to be submitted the question of organizing the city under the commission form of government at a special election at a time specified therein and within sixty days after the filing of the petition. If the plan is not adopted at the special election called, it shall not be resubmitted to the voters of the city for adoption within two years thereafter. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.380. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 2, part; RRS § 9091, part.]

**35.17.390 Organization—Ballots.** The proposition on the ballot shall be: "Shall the proposition to organize the city of (name of city) under the commission form of government be adopted?" followed by the words: "For organization as a city under commission form" and "against organization as a city under commission form." The election shall be conducted, the vote canvassed, and the result declared in the same manner as provided by law in respect to other city elections. If a majority of the votes cast are in favor thereof the city shall proceed to elect a mayor and two commissioners. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.390. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 2, part; RRS § 9091, part.]

*Canvassing returns, generally: Chapter 29.62 RCW.*

*Conduct of elections—Canvass: RCW 29.13.040.*

*Notice of election: RCW 29.27.080.*

**35.17.400 Organization—Election of officers—Term.** The first election of commissioners shall be held at the next special election that occurs at least sixty days after the election results are certified where the proposition to organize under the commission form was approved by city voters, and the commission first elected shall commence to serve as soon as they have been elected and have qualified and shall continue to serve until their successors have been elected and qualified and have assumed office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. The date of the second election for commissioners shall be in accordance with RCW 29.13.020 such that the term of the first commissioners will be as near as possible to, but not in excess of, four years calculated from the first day in January in the year after the year in which the first commissioners were elected. [1994 c 223 § 11; 1979 ex.s. c 126 § 18; 1965 c 7 § 35.17.400. Prior: 1963 c 200 § 13; 1955 c 55 § 10; prior: 1943 c 25 § 1, part; 1911 c 116 § 3, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9092, part.]

*Purpose—1979 ex.s. c 126: See RCW 29.04.170(1).*

**35.17.410 Organization—Effect on ordinances—Boundaries—Property.** All bylaws, ordinances and resolutions in force when a city organizes under the commission form shall remain in force until amended or repealed.

The boundaries of a city reorganized under the commission form shall not be changed thereby.

All rights and property vested in the city before reorganization under the commission form shall vest in the city as reorganized and no right or liability either in favor of or against it, existing at the time and no suit or prosecution shall be affected by the change. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.410. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 4, part; RRS § 9093, part.]

**35.17.420 Organization—Revision of appropriations.** If, at the beginning of the term of office of the first commission elected in a city organized under the commission form, the appropriations for the expenditures of the city for the current fiscal year have been made, the commission, by ordinance, may revise them. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.420. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 19; RRS § 9108.]

**35.17.430 Abandonment of commission form.** Any city which has operated under the commission form for more than six years may again reorganize as a noncommission city without changing its classification unless it desires to do so. [1965 ex.s. c 47 § 3; 1965 c 7 § 35.17.430. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 23, part; RRS § 9112, part.]

**35.17.440 Abandonment—Method.** Upon the filing of a petition praying therefor, signed by not less than twenty-five percent of the registered voters resident in the city, a special election shall be called at which the following proposition only shall be submitted: "Shall the city of (name of city) abandon its organization as a city under the commission form and become a city under the general laws governing cities of like population?" [1965 c 7 § 35.17.440. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 23, part; RRS § 9112, part.]

**35.17.450 Abandonment—Conduct of election—Canvass.** The sufficiency of the petition for the abandonment of the commission form of city government shall be determined, the election ordered and conducted, the returns canvassed and the results declared as required by the provisions applicable to the proceedings for the enactment of an ordinance by initiative petition to the extent to which they are appropriate. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.450. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 23, part; RRS § 9112, part.]

**35.17.460 Abandonment—Effect.** If a majority of the votes cast upon the proposition of abandoning the commission form of city government favor the proposition, the city shall be reorganized under general laws immediately upon the first election of city officers, which shall be held on the date of the next general city election of cities of its class. The change in form of government shall not affect the property, rights, or liabilities of the city. [1965 c 7 § 35.17.460. Prior: 1911 c 116 § 23, part; RRS § 9112, part.]

## Chapter 35.18

### COUNCIL-MANAGER PLAN

#### Sections

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**35.18.005 Definition—"Councilman."** As used in this title, the term "councilman" or "councilmen" means councilmember or councilmembers. [1981 c 213 § 1.]

**35.18.010 The council-manager plan.** Under the council-manager plan of city government, the councilmen shall be the only elective officials. The council shall appoint an officer whose title shall be "city manager" who shall be the chief executive officer and head of the administrative branch of city or town government. The city manager shall be responsible to the council for the proper administration of all affairs of the city or town. [1965 c 7 § 35.18.010. Prior: 1955 c 337 § 2; prior: (i) 1943 c 271 § 8, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-17, part. (ii) 1943 c 271 § 12, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-21, part. (iii) 1949 c 84 § 2, part; 1943 c 271 § 17, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9198-26, part.]

**35.18.020 Number of councilmembers—Wards, districts—Terms—Vacancies.** (1) The number of councilmembers in a city or town operating with a council-manager plan of government shall be based upon the latest population of the city or town that is determined by the office of financial management as follows:

- (a) A city or town having not more than two thousand inhabitants, five councilmembers; and
- (b) A city or town having more than two thousand, seven councilmembers.

(2) Except for the initial staggering of terms, councilmembers shall serve for four-year terms of office. All councilmembers shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified and assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. Councilmembers may be elected on a city-wide or town-wide basis, or from wards or districts, or any combination of these alternatives. Candidates shall run for specific positions. Wards or districts shall be redrawn as provided in chapter 29.70 RCW. Wards or districts shall be used as follows: (a) Only a resident of the ward or district may be a candidate for, or hold office as, a councilmember of the ward or district; and (b) only voters of the ward or



district may vote at a primary to nominate candidates for a councilmember of the ward or district. Voters of the entire city or town may vote at the general election to elect a councilmember of a ward or district, unless the city or town had prior to January 1, 1994, limited the voting in the general election for any or all council positions to only voters residing within the ward or district associated with the council positions. If a city or town had so limited the voting in the general election to only voters residing within the ward or district, then the city or town shall be authorized to continue to do so.

(3) When a city or town has qualified for an increase in the number of councilmembers from five to seven by virtue of the next succeeding population determination made by the office of financial management, two additional council positions shall be filled at the next municipal general election with the person elected to one of the new council positions receiving the greatest number of votes being elected for a four-year term of office and the person elected to the other additional council position being elected for a two-year term of office. The two additional councilmembers shall assume office immediately when qualified in accordance with RCW 29.01.135, but the term of office shall be computed from the first day of January after the year in which they are elected. Their successors shall be elected to four-year terms of office.

Prior to the election of the two new councilmembers, the city or town council shall fill the additional positions by appointment not later than forty-five days following the release of the population determination, and each appointee shall hold office only until the new position is filled by election.

(4) When a city or town has qualified for a decrease in the number of councilmembers from seven to five by virtue of the next succeeding population determination made by the office of financial management, two council positions shall be eliminated at the next municipal general election if four council positions normally would be filled at that election, or one council position shall be eliminated at each of the next two succeeding municipal general elections if three council positions normally would be filled at the first municipal general election after the population determination. The council shall by ordinance indicate which, if any, of the remaining positions shall be elected at-large or from wards or districts.

(5) Vacancies on a council shall occur and shall be filled as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW. [1994 c 223 § 12; 1981 c 260 § 7. Prior: 1979 ex.s. c 126 § 19; 1979 c 151 § 26; 1956 c 7 § 35.18.020; prior: 1959 c 76 § 1; 1955 c 337 § 3; prior: (i) 1943 c 271 § 6; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-15. (ii) 1943 c 271 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-13, part.]

**Purpose—1979 ex.s. c 126:** See RCW 29.04.170(1).

*Population determinations, office of financial management: Chapter 43.62 RCW.*

*Times for holding elections: Chapter 29.13 RCW.*

**35.18.030 Laws applicable to council-manager cities—Civil service.** A city or town organized under the council-manager plan shall have all the powers which cities of its class have and shall be governed by the statutes appli-

cable to such cities to the extent to which they are appropriate and not in conflict with the provisions specifically applicable to cities organized under the council-manager plan.

Any city adopting a council-manager form of government may adopt any system of civil service which would be available to it under any other form of city government. Any state law relative to civil service in cities of the class of a city under the council-manager type of government shall be applicable thereto. [1965 c 7 § 35.18.030. Prior: (i) 1949 c 84 § 4; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9198-33. (ii) 1943 c 271 § 10, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-19, part. (iii) 1943 c 271 § 21; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-30.]

**35.18.035 Second class cities, parking meter revenue for revenue bonds.** See RCW 35.23.454.

**35.18.040 City manager—Qualifications.** The city manager need not be a resident. He shall be chosen by the council solely on the basis of his executive and administrative qualifications with special reference to his actual experience in, or his knowledge of, accepted practice in respect to the duties of his office. No person elected to membership on the council shall be eligible for appointment as city manager until one year has elapsed following the expiration of the term for which he was elected. [1965 c 7 § 35.18.040. Prior: 1955 c 337 § 4; prior: (i) 1949 c 84 § 2, part; 1943 c 271 § 17, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9198-26, part. (ii) 1943 c 271 § 12, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-21, part.]

**35.18.050 City manager—Bond and oath.** Before entering upon the duties of his office the city manager shall take the official oath for the support of the government and the faithful performance of his duties and shall execute and file with the clerk of the council a bond in favor of the city or town in such sum as may be fixed by the council. [1965 c 7 § 35.18.050. Prior: 1955 c 337 § 5; prior: 1943 c 271 § 12, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-21, part.]

**35.18.060 City manager—Authority.** The powers and duties of the city manager shall be:

(1) To have general supervision over the administrative affairs of the municipality;

(2) To appoint and remove at any time all department heads, officers, and employees of the city or town, except members of the council, and subject to the provisions of any applicable law, rule, or regulation relating to civil service: PROVIDED, That the council may provide for the appointment by the mayor, subject to confirmation by the council, of the city planning commission, and other advisory citizens' committees, commissions and boards advisory to the city council: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the city manager shall appoint the municipal judge to a term of four years, subject to confirmation by the council. The municipal judge may be removed only on conviction of malfeasance or misconduct in office, or because of physical or mental disability rendering him incapable of performing the duties of his office. The council may cause an audit to be made of any department or office of the city or town government and

may select the persons to make it, without the advice or consent of the city manager;

(3) To attend all meetings of the council at which his attendance may be required by that body;

(4) To see that all laws and ordinances are faithfully executed, subject to the authority which the council may grant the mayor to maintain law and order in times of emergency;

(5) To recommend for adoption by the council such measures as he may deem necessary or expedient;

(6) To prepare and submit to the council such reports as may be required by that body or as he may deem it advisable to submit;

(7) To keep the council fully advised of the financial condition of the city or town and its future needs;

(8) To prepare and submit to the council a tentative budget for the fiscal year;

(9) To perform such other duties as the council may determine by ordinance or resolution. [1987 c 3 § 5; 1965 ex.s. c 116 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.18.060. Prior: 1955 c 337 § 6; prior: (i) 1949 c 84 § 2, part; 1943 c 271 § 17, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9198-26, part. (ii) 1949 c 84 § 1; 1943 c 271 § 15; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9198-24. (iii) 1949 c 84 § 3, part; 1943 c 271 § 18, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9198-27, part.]

**Severability—1987 c 3:** See note following RCW 3.46.020.

**35.18.070 City manager—May serve two or more cities.** Whether the city manager shall devote his full time to the affairs of one city or town shall be determined by the council. A city manager may serve two or more cities or towns in that capacity at the same time. [1965 c 7 § 35.18.070. Prior: 1943 c 271 § 13; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-22.]

**35.18.080 City manager—Creation of departments.** On recommendation of the city manager, the council may create such departments, offices and employments as may be found necessary and may determine the powers and duties of each department or office. [1965 c 7 § 35.18.080. Prior: 1943 c 271 § 16; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-25.]

**35.18.090 City manager—Department heads—Authority.** The city manager may authorize the head of a department or office responsible to him to appoint and remove subordinates in such department or office. Any officer or employee who may be appointed by the city manager, or by the head of a department or office, except one who holds his position subject to civil service, may be removed by the manager or other such appointing officer at any time. Subject to the provisions of RCW 35.18.060, the decision of the manager or other appointing officer, shall be final and there shall be no appeal therefrom to any other office, body, or court whatsoever. [1965 c 7 § 35.18.090. Prior: 1955 c 337 § 7; prior: (i) 1949 c 84 § 2, part; 1943 c 271 § 17, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9198-26, part. (ii) 1949 c 84 § 3, part; 1943 c 271 § 18, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9198-27, part.]

**35.18.100 City manager—Appointment of subordinates—Qualifications—Terms.** Appointments made by or

under the authority of the city manager shall be on the basis of executive and administrative ability and of the training and experience of the appointees in the work which they are to perform. Residence within the city or town shall not be a requirement. All such appointments shall be without definite term. [1965 c 7 § 35.18.100. Prior: 1955 c 337 § 8; prior: 1949 c 84 § 2, part; 1943 c 271 § 17, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9198-26, part.]

**35.18.110 City manager—Interference by councilmembers.** Neither the council, nor any of its committees or members shall direct or request the appointment of any person to, or his removal from, office by the city manager or any of his subordinates. Except for the purpose of inquiry, the council and its members shall deal with the administrative service solely through the manager and neither the council nor any committee or member thereof shall give orders to any subordinate of the city manager, either publicly or privately: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit the council, while in open session, from fully and freely discussing with the city manager anything pertaining to appointments and removals of city officers and employees and city affairs. [1965 c 7 § 35.18.110. Prior: 1955 c 337 § 14; prior: 1943 c 271 § 19, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-28, part.]

**35.18.120 City manager—Removal—Resolution and notice.** The city manager shall be appointed for an indefinite term and may be removed by a majority vote of the council.

At least thirty days before the effective date of his removal, the city manager must be furnished with a formal statement in the form of a resolution passed by a majority vote of the city council stating the council's intention to remove him and the reasons therefor. Upon passage of the resolution stating the council's intention to remove the manager, the council by a similar vote may suspend him from duty, but his pay shall continue until his removal becomes effective. [1965 c 7 § 35.18.120. Prior: 1955 c 337 § 17; prior: 1943 c 271 § 14, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-23, part.]

**35.18.130 City manager—Removal—Reply and hearing.** The city manager may, within thirty days from the date of service upon him of a copy thereof, reply in writing to the resolution stating the council's intention to remove him. In the event no reply is timely filed, the resolution shall upon the thirty-first day from the date of such service, constitute the final resolution removing the manager, and his services shall terminate upon that day. If a reply shall be timely filed with its clerk, the council shall fix a time for a public hearing upon the question of the manager's removal and a final resolution removing the manager shall not be adopted until a public hearing has been had. The action of the council in removing the manager shall be final. [1965 c 7 § 35.18.130. Prior: 1955 c 337 § 18; prior: 1943 c 271 § 14, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-23, part.]

**35.18.140 City manager—Substitute.** The council may designate a qualified administrative officer of the city or town to perform the duties of manager:

- (1) Upon the adoption of the council-manager plan, pending the selection and appointment of a manager; or
- (2) Upon the termination of the services of a manager, pending the selection and appointment of a new manager; or
- (3) During the absence, disability, or suspension of the manager. [1965 c 7 § 35.18.140. Prior: 1955 c 337 § 19; prior: 1943 c 271 § 14, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-23, part.]

**35.18.150 Council—Eligibility.** Only a qualified elector of the city or town may be a member of the council and upon ceasing to be such, or upon being convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude, or of violating the provisions of RCW 35.18.110, he shall immediately forfeit his office. [1965 c 7 § 35.18.150. Prior: 1955 c 337 § 15; prior: (i) 1943 c 271 § 19, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-28, part. (ii) 1943 c 271 § 9, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-18, part.]

**35.18.160 Council—Authority.** The council shall have all of the powers which inhere in the city or town not reserved to the people or vested in the city manager, including but not restricted to the authority to adopt ordinances and resolutions. [1965 c 7 § 35.18.160. Prior: (i) 1943 c 271 § 9, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-18, part. (ii) 1943 c 271 § 10, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-19, part.]

**35.18.170 Council meetings.** The council shall meet at the times and places fixed by ordinance but must hold at least one regular meeting each month. The clerk shall call special meetings of the council upon request of the mayor or any two members. At all meetings of the city council, a majority of the councilmen shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a less number may adjourn from time to time and may compel the attendance of absent members in such manner and under such penalties as may be prescribed by ordinance. Requests for special meetings shall state the subject to be considered and no other subject shall be considered at a special meeting.

All meetings of the council and of committees thereof shall be open to the public and the rules of the council shall provide that citizens of the city or town shall have a reasonable opportunity to be heard at any meetings in regard to any matter being considered thereat. [1965 c 7 § 35.18.170. Prior: 1955 c 337 § 20; prior: 1943 c 271 § 7; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-16.]

**35.18.180 Council—Ordinances—Recording.** No ordinance, resolution, or order, including those granting a franchise or valuable privilege, shall have any validity or effect unless passed by the affirmative vote of at least a majority of the members of the city or town council. Every ordinance or resolution adopted shall be signed by the mayor or two members, filed with the clerk within two days and by him recorded. [1965 c 7 § 35.18.180. Prior: 1959 c 76 § 3; 1943 c 271 § 11; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-20.]

**35.18.190 Mayor—Election—Vacancy.** Biennially at the first meeting of the new council the members thereof

shall choose a chairman from among their number who shall have the title of mayor. In addition to the powers conferred upon him as mayor, he shall continue to have all the rights, privileges and immunities of a member of the council. If a vacancy occurs in the office of mayor, the members of the council at their next regular meeting shall select a mayor from among their number for the unexpired term. [1969 c 101 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.18.190. Prior: 1955 c 337 § 9; prior: 1943 c 271 § 8, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-17, part.]

**35.18.200 Mayor—Duties.** The mayor shall preside at meetings of the council, and be recognized as the head of the city or town for all ceremonial purposes and by the governor for purposes of military law.

He shall have no regular administrative duties, but in time of public danger or emergency, if so authorized by the council, shall take command of the police, maintain law, and enforce order. [1965 c 7 § 35.18.200. Prior: 1955 c 337 § 10; prior: 1943 c 271 § 8, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-17, part.]

**35.18.210 Mayor pro tempore.** In case of the mayor's absence, a mayor pro tempore selected by the members of the council from among their number shall act as mayor during the continuance of the absence. [1969 c 101 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.18.210. Prior: 1955 c 337 § 11; prior: 1943 c 271 § 8, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-17, part.]

**35.18.220 Salaries.** Each member of the council shall receive such compensation as may be provided by law to cities of the class to which it belongs. The city manager and other officers or assistants shall receive such salary or compensation as the council shall fix by ordinance and shall be payable at such times as the council may determine. [1965 c 7 § 35.18.220. Prior: (i) 1943 c 271 § 9, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-18, part. (ii) 1943 c 271 § 20; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-29.]

**35.18.230 Organization on council-manager plan—Eligibility.** Any city or town having a population of less than thirty thousand may be organized as a council-manager city or town under this chapter. [1965 c 7 § 35.18.230. Prior: 1959 c 76 § 2; 1943 c 271 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-10.]

**35.18.240 Organization—Petition.** Petitions to reorganize a city or town on the council-manager plan must be signed by registered voters resident therein equal in number to at least twenty percent of the votes cast for all candidates for mayor at the last preceding municipal election. In addition to the signature and residence addresses of the petitioners thereon, a petition must contain an affidavit stating the number of signers thereon at the time the affidavit is made.

Petitions containing the required number of signatures shall be accepted by the city or town clerk as prima facie valid until their invalidity has been proved.

A variation on such petitions between the signatures on the petition and that on the voter's permanent registration

caused by the substitution of initials instead of the first or middle names or both shall not invalidate the signature on the petition if the surname and handwriting are the same. Signatures, including the original, of any voter who has signed such petitions two or more times shall be stricken. [1965 c 7 § 35.18.240. Prior: 1955 c 337 § 22; prior: (i) 1943 c 271 § 2, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-11, part. (ii) 1943 c 271 § 5; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-14.]

**35.18.250 Organization—Election procedure.** Upon the filing of a petition for the adoption of the council-manager plan of government, or upon resolution of the council to that effect, the mayor, only after the petition has been found to be valid, by proclamation issued within ten days after the filing of the petition or the resolution with the clerk, shall cause the question to be submitted at a special election to be held at a time specified in the proclamation, which shall be as soon as possible after the sufficiency of the petition has been determined or after the said resolution of the council has been enacted, but in no event shall said special election be held during the ninety day period immediately preceding any regular municipal election therein. All acts necessary to hold this election, including legal notice, jurisdiction and canvassing of returns, shall be conducted in accordance with existing law. [1965 c 7 § 35.18.250. Prior: 1959 c 76 § 4; 1955 c 337 § 23; prior: 1943 c 271 § 2, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-11, part.]

*Canvassing returns, generally: Chapter 29.62 RCW.*

*Conduct of elections—Canvass: RCW 29.13.040.*

*Notice of election: RCW 29.27.080.*

*Times for holding elections: Chapter 29.13 RCW.*

**35.18.260 Organization—Ballots.** At the election for organization on the council-manager plan, the proposition on the ballots shall be: "Shall the city (or town) of . . . . . adopt the council-manager plan of municipal government?" followed by the words:

"For organization as a council-manager city or town . . . . ."

"Against organization as a council-manager city or town . . . . ."

The election shall be conducted, the vote canvassed and the results declared in the same manner as provided by law in respect to other municipal elections. [1965 c 7 § 35.18.260. Prior: 1943 c 271 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-12.]

**35.18.270 Organization—Election of council, procedure.** If the majority of the votes cast at a special election for organization on the council-manager plan favor the plan, the city or town shall elect the council required under the council-manager plan in number according to its population at the next municipal general election. However, special elections shall be held to nominate and elect the new city councilmembers at the next primary and general election held in an even-numbered year if the next municipal general election is more than one year after the date of the election at which the voters approved the council-manager plan. The staggering of terms of office shall occur at the election when the new councilmembers are elected, where the simple majority of the persons elected as councilmembers receiving

the greatest numbers of votes shall be elected to four-year terms of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year, or three-year terms of office if the election is held in an even-numbered year, and the remainder of the persons elected as councilmembers shall be elected to two-year terms of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year, or one-year terms of office if the election is held in an even-numbered year. The initial councilmembers shall take office immediately when they are elected and qualified, but the lengths of their terms of office shall be calculated from the first day in January in the year following the election. [1994 c 223 § 13; 1979 ex.s. c 126 § 20; 1965 c 7 § 35.18.270. Prior: 1959 c 76 § 5; 1955 c 337 § 12; prior: (i) 1943 c 271 § 8, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-17, part. (ii) 1943 c 271 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-13, part.]

**Purpose—1979 ex.s. c 126:** See RCW 29.04.170(1).

**35.18.280 Organization—Holding over by incumbent officials and employees.** Councilmen shall take office at the times provided by RCW 35.18.270 as now or hereafter amended. The other city officials and employees who are incumbent at the time the council-manager plan takes effect shall hold office until their successors have been selected in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. [1965 c 7 § 35.18.280. Prior: 1943 c 271 § 8, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-17, part.]

**35.18.285 Organization—First council may revise budget.** If, at the beginning of the term of office of the first council elected in a city organized under the council-manager plan, the appropriations for the expenditures of the city for the current fiscal year have been made, the council, by ordinance, may revise them but may not exceed the total appropriations for expenditures already specified in the budget for the year. [1965 c 7 § 35.18.285. Prior: 1955 c 337 § 24.]

**35.18.290 Abandonment of council-manager plan.** Any city or town which has operated under the council-manager plan for more than six years may abandon such organization and accept the provisions of the general laws then applicable to municipalities upon the petition of not less than twenty percent of the registered voters therein, without changing its classification unless it desires to do so. [1965 ex.s. c 47 § 4; 1965 c 7 § 35.18.290. Prior: 1943 c 271 § 22, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-31, part.]

**35.18.300 Abandonment—Method.** The sufficiency of the petition for abandonment of the council-manager form of government shall be determined, the election ordered and conducted, and the results declared generally as provided for the procedure for reorganizing under the council-manager plan so far as those provisions are applicable. [1965 c 7 § 35.18.300. Prior: 1943 c 271 § 23, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-32, part.]

*Organization on council-manager plan: RCW 35.18.240 through 35.18.285.*

**35.18.310 Abandonment—Special election necessary.** The proposition to abandon the council-manager plan must be voted on at a special election called for that purpose

at which the only proposition to be voted on shall be: "Shall the city (or town) of . . . . . abandon its organization under the council-manager plan and become a city (or town) under the general law governing cities (or towns) of . . . . . class?" [1965 c 7 § 35.18.310. Prior: 1943 c 271 § 22 part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-31, part.]

**35.18.320 Abandonment—Effect.** If a majority of votes cast at the special election favor the abandonment of the council-manager form of government, the officers elected at the next succeeding biennial election shall be those then prescribed for cities or towns of like class. Upon the qualification of such officers, the municipality shall again become organized under the general laws of the state, but such change shall not affect in any manner or degree the property, rights, or liabilities of the corporation but shall merely extend to such change in its form of government. [1965 c 7 § 35.18.320. Prior: 1943 c 271 § 23, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9198-32, part.]

**Chapter 35.20  
MUNICIPAL COURTS—CITIES OVER FOUR  
HUNDRED THOUSAND**

Sections

- 35.20.010 Municipal court established—Termination of court—Agreement covering costs of handling resulting criminal cases—Arbitration.
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- 35.20.910 Construction of other laws.
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*Rules of court: See Rules for Appeal of Decisions of Courts of Limited Jurisdiction (RALJ).*

*Courts of limited jurisdiction: Title 3 RCW.*

*Courts of record: Title 2 RCW.*

*Rights of accused: State Constitution Art. 1 § 22 (Amendment 10).*

*Rules for courts of limited jurisdiction: Volume 0.*

**35.20.010 Municipal court established—Termination of court—Agreement covering costs of handling resulting criminal cases—Arbitration.** (1) There is hereby created and established in each incorporated city of this state having a population of more than four hundred thousand inhabitants, as shown by the federal or state census, whichever is the later, a municipal court, which shall be styled "The Municipal Court of . . . . . (name of city)," hereinafter designated and referred to as the municipal court, which court shall have jurisdiction and shall exercise all the powers by this chapter declared to be vested in such municipal court, together with such powers and jurisdiction as is generally conferred in this state either by common law or statute.

(2) A municipality operating a municipal court under this section may terminate that court if the municipality has reached an agreement with the county under chapter 39.34 RCW under which the county is to be paid a reasonable amount for costs associated with prosecution, adjudication, and sentencing in criminal cases filed in district court as a result of the termination. The agreement shall provide for periodic review and renewal of the terms of the agreement. If the municipality and the county are unable to agree on the terms for renewal of the agreement, they shall be deemed to have entered into an agreement to submit the issue to arbitration under chapter 7.04 RCW. Pending conclusion of the arbitration proceeding, the terms of the agreement shall remain in effect. The municipality and the county have the same rights and are subject to the same duties as other parties who have agreed to submit to arbitration under chapter 7.04 RCW. [1984 c 258 § 201; 1975 c 33 § 4; 1965 c 7 § 35.20.010. Prior: 1955 c 290 § 1.]

**Court Improvement Act of 1984—Effective dates—Severability—Short title—1984 c 258:** See notes following RCW 3.30.010.

**Severability—1975 c 33:** See note following RCW 35.21.780.

**35.20.020 Sessions—Judges may act as magistrates—Night court.** The municipal court shall be always open except on nonjudicial days. It shall hold regular and special sessions at such times as may be prescribed by the judges thereof. The judges shall have the power to act as magistrates in accordance with the provisions of chapter 10.16 RCW. The legislative body of the city may by ordinance authorize a department of the municipal court to act as a night court, and shall appropriate the necessary funds therefor. [1965 c 7 § 35.20.020. Prior: 1955 c 290 § 2.]

**35.20.030 Jurisdiction—Maximum penalties for criminal violations—Review—Costs.** The municipal court shall have jurisdiction to try violations of all city ordinances and all other actions brought to enforce or recover license penalties or forfeitures declared or given by any such ordinances. It is empowered to forfeit cash bail or bail bonds and issue execution thereon, to hear and determine all causes, civil or criminal, arising under such ordinances, and to pronounce judgment in accordance therewith: **PROVIDED,** That for a violation of the criminal provisions of an ordinance no greater punishment shall be imposed than a fine of five thousand dollars or imprisonment in the city jail not to exceed one year, or both such fine and imprisonment,

but the punishment for any criminal ordinance shall be the same as the punishment provided in state law for the same crime. All civil and criminal proceedings in municipal court, and judgments rendered therein, shall be subject to review in the superior court by writ of review or on appeal: PROVIDED, That an appeal from the court's determination or order in a traffic infraction proceeding may be taken only in accordance with RCW 46.63.090(5). Costs in civil and criminal cases may be taxed as provided in district courts. [1993 c 83 § 3; 1984 c 258 § 801; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 23; 1965 c 7 § 35.20.030. Prior: 1955 c 290 § 3.]

**Effective date—1993 c 83:** See note following RCW 35.21.163.

**Court Improvement Act of 1984—Effective dates—Severability—Short title—1984 c 258:** See notes following RCW 3.30.010.

**Effective date—Severability—1979 ex.s. c 136:** See notes following RCW 46.63.010.

**35.20.090 Trial by jury—Juror's fees.** In all civil cases and criminal cases where jurisdiction is concurrent with district courts as provided in RCW 35.20.250, within the jurisdiction of the municipal court, the plaintiff or defendant may demand a jury, which shall consist of six citizens of the state who shall be impaneled and sworn as in cases before district courts, or the trial may be by a judge of the municipal court: PROVIDED, That no jury trial may be held on a proceeding involving a traffic infraction. A defendant requesting a jury shall pay to the court a fee which shall be the same as that for a jury in district court. Where there is more than one defendant in an action and one or more of them requests a jury, only one jury fee shall be collected by the court. Each juror may receive up to twenty-five dollars but in no case less than ten dollars for each day in attendance upon the municipal court, and in addition thereto shall receive mileage at the rate determined under RCW 43.03.060: PROVIDED, That the compensation paid jurors shall be determined by the legislative authority of the city and shall be uniformly applied. Trial by jury shall be allowed in criminal cases involving violations of city ordinances commencing January 1, 1972, unless such incorporated city affected by this chapter has made provision therefor prior to January 1, 1972. [1987 c 202 § 195; 1980 c 148 § 6. Prior: 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 24; 1979 ex.s. c 135 § 8; prior: 1977 ex.s. c 248 § 3; 1977 ex.s. c 53 § 3; 1969 ex.s. c 147 § 8; 1965 c 7 § 35.20.090; prior: 1955 c 290 § 9.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**Effective date—1980 c 148:** See note following RCW 46.10.090.

**Effective date—Severability—1979 ex.s. c 136:** See notes following RCW 46.63.010.

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 135:** See note following RCW 2.36.080.

**35.20.100 Departments of court—Change of venue—Presiding judge—Costs of election.** There shall be three departments of the municipal court, which shall be designated as Department Nos. 1, 2 and 3: PROVIDED, That when the administration of justice and the accomplishment of the work of the court make additional departments necessary, the legislative body of the city may create additional departments as they are needed. The departments shall be established in such places as may be provided by the legislative body of the city, and each department shall be

presided over by a municipal judge. The judges shall select, by majority vote, one of their number to act as presiding judge of the municipal court for a term of one year, and he shall be responsible for administration of the court and assignment of calendars to all departments. A change of venue from one department of the municipal court to another department shall be allowed in accordance with the provisions of RCW 3.66.090 in all civil and criminal proceedings. The city shall assume the costs of the elections of the municipal judges in accordance with the provisions of RCW 29.13.045. [1984 c 258 § 71; 1972 ex.s. c 32 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 147 § 1; 1967 c 241 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.20.100. Prior: 1955 c 290 § 10.]

**Court Improvement Act of 1984—Effective dates—Severability—Short title—1984 c 258:** See notes following RCW 3.30.010.

**Application—1967 c 241:** See note following RCW 3.66.090.

**Severability—1967 c 241:** See RCW 3.74.932.

**35.20.105 Court administrator.** There shall be a court administrator of the municipal court appointed by the judges of the municipal court, subject to confirmation by a majority of the legislative body of the city, and removable by the judges of the municipal court subject to like confirmation. Before entering upon the duties of his office the court administrator shall take and subscribe an oath the same as required for officers of the city, and shall execute a penal bond in such sum and with such sureties as the legislative body of the city may direct and subject to their approval, conditioned for the faithful performance of his duties, and that he will pay over to the treasurer of said city all moneys belonging to the city which shall come into his hands as such court administrator. The court administrator shall be paid such compensation as the legislative body of the city may deem reasonable. The court administrator shall act under the supervision and control of the presiding judge of the municipal court and shall supervise the functions of the chief clerk and director of the traffic violations bureau or similar agency of the city, and perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the presiding judge of the municipal court. [1969 ex.s. c 147 § 2.]

**35.20.110 Seal of court—Extent of process.** The municipal court shall have a seal which shall be the vignette of George Washington, with the words "Seal of The Municipal Court of . . . . . (name of city), State of Washington," surrounding the vignette. All process from such court shall issue under the seal thereof and shall run throughout the state. [1965 c 7 § 35.20.110. Prior: 1955 c 290 § 11.]

**35.20.120 Expenses of court.** All blanks, books, papers, stationery and furniture necessary for the transaction of business and the keeping of records of the court shall be furnished at the expense of the city, except those expenses incidental to the operation of the court in matters brought before the court because of concurrent jurisdiction with the district court, which expense shall be borne by the county and paid out of the county treasury. All other expenses on account of such court which may be authorized by the city council or the county commissioners and which are not specifically mentioned in this chapter, shall be paid respec-

tively out of the city treasury and county treasury. [1987 c 202 § 196; 1965 c 7 § 35.20.120. Prior: 1955 c 290 § 12.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**35.20.131 Director of traffic violations.** There shall be a director of the traffic violations bureau or such similar agency of the city as may be created by ordinance of said city. Said director shall be appointed by the judges of the municipal court subject to such civil service laws and rules as may be provided in such city. Said director shall act under the supervision of the court administrator of the municipal court and shall be responsible for the supervision of the traffic violations bureau or similar agency of the city. Upon \*this 1969 amendatory act becoming effective those employees connected with the traffic violations bureau under civil service status shall be continued in such employment and such classification. Before entering upon the duties of his office said director shall take and subscribe an oath the same as required for officers of the city and shall execute a penal bond in such sum and with such sureties as the legislative body of the city may direct and subject to their approval, conditioned for the faithful performance of his duties, and that he will faithfully account to and pay over to the treasurer of said city all moneys belonging to the city which shall come into his hands as such director. Said director shall be paid such compensation as the legislative body of the city may deem reasonable. [1969 ex.s. c 147 § 3.]

**\*Reviser's note:** "this 1969 amendatory act" [1969 ex.s. c 147] became effective August 11, 1969.

**35.20.140 Monthly meeting of judges—Rules and regulations of court.** It shall be the duty of the judges to meet together at least once each month, except during the months of July and August, at such hour and place as they may designate, and at such other times as they may desire, for the consideration of such matters pertaining to the administration of justice in said court as may be brought before them. At these meetings they shall receive and investigate, or cause to be investigated, all complaints presented to them pertaining to the court and the employees thereof, and shall take such action as they may deem necessary or proper with respect thereto. They shall have power and it shall be their duty to adopt, or cause to be adopted, rules and regulations for the proper administration of justice in said court. [1965 c 7 § 35.20.140. Prior: 1955 c 290 § 14.]

**35.20.150 Election of judges—Vacancies.** The municipal judges shall be elected on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 1958, and on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November every fourth year thereafter by the electorate of the city in which the court is located. The auditor of the county concerned shall designate by number each position to be filled in the municipal court, and each candidate at the time of the filing of his declaration of candidacy shall designate by number so assigned the position for which he is a candidate, and the name of such candidate shall appear on the ballot only for such position. The name of the person who receives the greatest number of votes and of the person who receives the

next greatest number of votes at the primary for a single nonpartisan position shall appear on the general election ballot under the designation therefor. Elections for municipal judge shall be nonpartisan. They shall hold office for a term of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified. The term of office shall start on the second Monday in January following such election. Any vacancy in the municipal court due to a death, disability or resignation of a municipal court judge shall be filled by the mayor, to serve out the unexpired term. Such appointment shall be subject to confirmation by the legislative body of the city. [1975-'76 2nd ex.s.:c 120 § 7; 1965 c 7 § 35.20.150. Prior: 1961 c 213 § 1; 1955 c 290 § 15.]

**Severability—1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 120:** See note following RCW 29.21.010.

*Times for holding elections: Chapter 29.13 RCW.*

**35.20.160 Judges' salaries.** The total of the salaries of each municipal judge under this chapter shall be fixed by the legislative body of the city at not less than nine thousand dollars per annum, to be paid in monthly or semimonthly installments as for other officials of the city, and such total salaries shall not be more than the salaries paid the superior court judges in the county in which the court is located. [1965 c 147 § 3; 1965 c 7 § 35.20.160. Prior: 1955 c 290 § 16.]

*Cities over four hundred thousand, district court judges' salaries: RCW 3.58.010.*

**35.20.170 Qualifications of judges—Practice of law prohibited.** No person shall be eligible to the office of judge of the municipal court unless he shall have been admitted to practice law before the courts of record of this state and is an elector of the city in which he files for office. No judge of said court during his term of office shall engage either directly or indirectly in the practice of law. [1965 c 7 § 35.20.170. Prior: 1955 c 290 § 17.]

**35.20.180 Judges' oath of office, official bonds.** Every judge of such municipal court, before he enters upon the duties of his office, shall take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Washington, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of judge of the municipal court of the city of . . . . (naming such city) according to the best of my ability; and I do further certify that I do not advocate, nor am I a member of an organization that advocates, the overthrow of the government of the United States by force or violence." The oath shall be filed in the office of the county auditor. He shall also give such bonds to the state and city for the faithful performance of his duties as may be by law or ordinance directed. [1965 c 7 § 35.20.180. Prior: 1955 c 290 § 18.]

**35.20.190 Additional judge.** Whenever the number of departments of the municipal court is increased, the mayor of such city shall appoint a qualified person as provided in RCW 35.20.170 to act as municipal judge until the next general election. He shall be paid salaries in accordance with the provisions of this chapter and provided



with the necessary court, office space and personnel as authorized herein. [1967 c 241 § 4; 1965 c 7 § 35.20.190. Prior: 1955 c 290 § 19.]

**Application—1967 c 241:** See note following RCW 3.66.090.

**Severability—1967 c 241:** See RCW 3.74.932.

**35.20.200 Judges pro tempore.** The mayor shall, from attorneys residing in the city and qualified to hold the position of judge of the municipal court as provided in RCW 35.20.170, appoint judges pro tempore who shall act in the absence of the regular judges of the court or in addition to the regular judges when the administration of justice and the accomplishment of the work of the court make it necessary. The mayor may appoint, as judges pro tempore, any full-time district court judges serving in the county in which the city is situated. The judges of the municipal court shall promulgate rules establishing general standards for the use of judges pro tempore. A copy of said rules shall be filed with the legislative authority of the city at the time of budget consideration. Such appointments of attorneys shall be made from a list of attorneys in accordance herewith furnished by the judges of the municipal court, which list shall contain not less than five names in addition to the number of judges pro tempore requested. Appointment of judges pro tempore shall be for the term of office of the regular judges unless sooner removed in the same manner as they were appointed. While acting as judge of the court judges pro tempore shall have all of the powers of the regular judges. Before entering upon his or her duties, each judge pro tempore shall take, subscribe and file an oath as is taken by a municipal judge. Judges pro tempore shall not practice before the municipal court during their term of office as judge pro tempore. Such municipal judges pro tempore shall receive such compensation as shall be fixed by ordinance by the legislative body of the city and such compensation shall be paid by the city except that district court judges shall not be compensated by the city other than pursuant to an interlocal agreement. [1990 c 182 § 1; 1972 ex.s. c 32 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.20.200. Prior: 1955 c 290 § 20.]

**35.20.205 Judicial officers—Hearing examiner.** The judges of the municipal court may employ judicial officers to assist in the administration of justice and the accomplishment of the work of the court as said work may be assigned to it by statute or ordinance. The duties and responsibilities of such officers shall be judicial in nature and shall be fixed by court rule as adopted by the municipal court judges or fixed by ordinance of the city. The judicial officers may be authorized to hear and determine cases involving the commission of traffic infractions as provided in chapter 46.63 RCW. The mayor may appoint the judicial officers as judges pro tempore pursuant to RCW 35.20.200: PROVIDED, That the judicial officer need not be a resident of the city.

To utilize the services of such judicial officers for the purpose of hearing contested matters relating to the interest of the city and its citizens and the operation of the various departments of the city, the city may by ordinance create the office of hearing examiner in the municipal court and assign to it judicial duties and responsibilities. [1980 c 128 § 7; 1975 1st ex.s. c 214 § 1.]

**Effective date—Severability—1980 c 128:** See notes following RCW 46.63.060.

**35.20.210 Clerks of court.** There shall be a chief clerk of the municipal court appointed by the judges of the municipal court subject to such civil service laws and rules as may be provided in such city. After August 11, 1969, those employees connected with the court under civil service status shall be continued in such employment and such classification. Before the chief clerk enters upon the duties of the chief clerk's office, the chief clerk shall take and subscribe an oath the same as required for officers of the city, and shall execute a penal bond in such sum and with such sureties as the legislative body of the city may direct and subject to their approval, conditioned that the chief clerk will faithfully account to and pay over to the treasurer of said city all moneys coming into his or her hands as such clerk, and that he or she will faithfully perform the duties of his or her office to the best of his or her knowledge and ability. Upon the recommendation of the judges of the municipal court, the legislative body of the city may provide for the appointment of such assistant clerks of the municipal court as said legislative body deems necessary, with such compensation as said legislative body may deem reasonable and such assistant clerks shall be subject to such civil service as may be provided in such city: PROVIDED, That the judges of the municipal court shall appoint such clerks as the board of county commissioners may determine to handle cases involving violations of state law, wherein the court has concurrent jurisdiction with the district and superior court. All clerks of the court shall have power to administer oaths, swear and acknowledge signatures of those persons filing complaints with the court, take testimony in any action, suit or proceeding in the court relating to the city or county for which they are appointed, and may certify any records and documents of the court pertaining thereto. They shall give bond for the faithful performance of their duties as required by law. [1987 c 202 § 197; 1969 ex.s. c 147 § 4; 1965 c 7 § 35.20.210. Prior: 1955 c 290 § 21.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**35.20.220 Powers and duties of chief clerk—Remittance by city treasurer.** (1) The chief clerk, under the supervision and direction of the court administrator of the municipal court, shall have the custody and care of the books, papers and records of said court; he shall be present by himself or deputy during the session of said court, and shall have the power to swear all witnesses and jurors, and administer oaths and affidavits, and take acknowledgments. He shall keep the records of said court, and shall issue all process under his hand and the seal of said court, and shall do and perform all things and have the same powers pertaining to his office as the clerks of the superior courts have in their office. He shall receive all fines, penalties and fees of every kind, and keep a full, accurate and detailed account of the same; and shall on each day pay into the city treasury all money received for said city during the day previous, with a detailed account of the same, and taking the treasurer's receipt therefor.

(2) The city treasurer shall remit monthly thirty-two percent of the money received under this section, other than for parking infractions and certain costs to the state treasurer.

"Certain costs" as used in this subsection, means those costs awarded to prevailing parties in civil actions under RCW 4.84.010 or 36.18.040, or those costs awarded against convicted defendants in criminal actions under RCW 10.01.160, 10.46.190, or 36.18.040, or other similar statutes if such costs are specifically designated as costs by the court and are awarded for the specific reimbursement of costs incurred by the state, county, city, or town in the prosecution of the case, including the fees of defense counsel. Money remitted under this subsection to the state treasurer shall be deposited as provided in RCW 43.08.250.

(3) The balance of the money received under this section shall be retained by the city and deposited as provided by law. [1988 c 169 § 6; 1985 c 389 § 8; 1984 c 258 § 319; 1969 ex.s. c 147 § 5; 1965 c 7 § 35.20.220. Prior: 1955 c 290 § 22.]

**Effective date—1985 c 389:** See note following RCW 27.24.070.

**Court Improvement Act of 1984—Effective dates—Severability—Short title—1984 c 258:** See notes following RCW 3.30.010.

**Intent—1984 c 258:** See note following RCW 3.46.120.

**35.20.230 Director of probation services—Probation officers—Bailiffs.** The judges of the municipal court shall appoint a director of probation services who shall under the supervision of the presiding judge of the municipal court supervise the probation officers of the municipal court. The judges of the municipal court shall also appoint a bailiff for the court, together with such number of probation officers and additional bailiffs as may be authorized by the legislative body of the city. Said director of probation services, probation officers, and bailiff or bailiffs shall be paid by the city treasurer in such amount as is deemed reasonable by the legislative body of the city: PROVIDED, That such additional probation officers and bailiffs of the court as may be authorized by the county commissioners shall be paid from the county treasury. [1969 ex.s. c 147 § 6; 1965 c 7 § 35.20.230. Prior: 1955 c 290 § 23.]

**35.20.240 First judges—Transfer of equipment.** Upon the effective date of this chapter (June 8, 1955), any justice of the peace who was the duly appointed and acting police justice of the city shall become a judge of the municipal court upon his filing his oath of office and bond as required by this chapter, and shall serve as a judge of said municipal court until the regularly elected judges of the court shall qualify following their election in 1958, or thereafter as provided in RCW 35.20.150. Such judge shall be paid salaries in accordance with this chapter while so serving. Such salaries from the city and county shall be in lieu of those now (June 8, 1955) being paid to the justice of the peace acting as police justice of the city court: PROVIDED, That upon the justices of the peace qualifying as municipal judges under this chapter, the number of justices of the peace for such city shall be reduced accordingly as provided in RCW 35.20.190. Should any justice of the peace acting as police judge fail to qualify as a judge of the municipal court, the mayor of such city shall designate one of the other justices of the peace of that city to act as municipal judge until the next general election in November, 1958, and the qualifying of the regularly elected judge. All furniture and equipment belonging to the city and county in which the

court is situated, now under the care and custody of the justice of the peace and municipal judge, shall be transferred to the municipal court for use in the operation and maintenance of such court. [1965 c 7 § 35.20.240. Prior: 1955 c 290 § 24.]

**Reviser's note:** Justices of the peace and courts to be construed to mean district judges and courts. See RCW 3.30.015.

**35.20.250 Concurrent jurisdiction with superior court and district court.** The municipal court shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the superior court and district court in all civil and criminal matters as now provided by law for district judges, and a judge thereof may sit in preliminary hearings as magistrate. Fines, penalties, and forfeitures before the court under the provisions of this section shall be paid to the county treasurer as provided for district court and commitments shall be to the county jail. Appeals from judgment or order of the court in such cases shall be governed by the law pertaining to appeals from judgments or orders of district judges operating under chapter 3.30 RCW. [1987 c 202 § 198; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 25; 1969 ex.s. c 147 § 7; 1965 c 7 § 35.20.250. Prior: 1955 c 290 § 25.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**Effective date—Severability—1979 ex.s. c 136:** See notes following RCW 46.63.010.

**35.20.255 Deferral or suspension of sentences—Probation—Maximum term.** Judges of the municipal court, in their discretion, shall have the power in all criminal proceedings within their jurisdiction including violations of city ordinances, to defer imposition of any sentence, suspend all or part of any sentence, fix the terms of any such deferral or suspension, and provide for such probation and parole as in their opinion is reasonable and necessary under the circumstances of the case, but in no case shall it extend for more than two years from the date of conviction. [1983 c 156 § 8; 1969 ex.s. c 147 § 9.]

**35.20.260 Subpoenas—Witness fees.** The court shall have authority to subpoena witnesses as now authorized in superior courts throughout the state. Such witnesses shall be paid according to law with mileage as authorized for witnesses to such cases. [1965 c 7 § 35.20.260. Prior: 1955 c 290 § 26.]

**35.20.270 Warrant officer—Position created—Authority—Service of criminal and civil process—Jurisdiction—Costs.** (1) The position of warrant officer is hereby created and shall be maintained by the city within the city police department. The number and qualifications of warrant officers shall be fixed by ordinance, and their compensation shall be paid by the city.

(2) Warrant officers shall be vested only with the special authority to make arrests authorized by warrants and other arrests as are authorized by ordinance.

(3) All criminal and civil process issuing out of courts created under this title shall be directed to the chief of police of the city served by the court and/or to the sheriff of the county in which the court is held and/or the warrant officers

and be by them executed according to law in any county of this state.

(4) No process of courts created under this title shall be executed outside the corporate limits of the city served by the court unless the person authorized by the process first contacts the applicable law enforcement agency in whose jurisdiction the process is to be served.

(5) Upon a defendant being arrested in another city or county the cost of arresting or serving process thereon shall be borne by the court issuing the process including the cost of returning the defendant from any county of the state to the city.

(6) Warrant officers shall not be entitled to death, disability, or retirement benefits pursuant to chapter 41.26 RCW on the basis of service as a warrant officer as described in this section. [1992 c 99 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 108 § 1.]

**35.20.910 Construction of other laws.** All acts or parts of acts which are inconsistent or conflicting with the provisions of this chapter, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly. No provision of this chapter shall be construed as repealing or anywise limiting or affecting the jurisdiction of district judges under the general laws of this state. [1987 c 202 § 199; 1965 c 7 § 35.20.910. Prior: 1955 c 290 § 28.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**35.20.921 Severability—1969 ex.s. c 147.** If any provision of \*this 1969 amendatory act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1969 ex.s. c 147 § 11.]

**\*Reviser's note:** "this 1969 amendatory act" [1969 ex.s. c 147] consists of RCW 35.20.105, 35.20.131, 35.20.255, 35.20.921, the 1969 amendments to RCW 35.20.090, 35.20.100, 35.20.210, 35.20.220, 35.20.230, and 35.20.250, and the repeal of RCW 35.20.130.

## Chapter 35.21

### MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS AFFECTING ALL CITIES AND TOWNS

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*Dog handler using dog in line of duty—Immunity:* RCW 4.24.410.

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*Flood control maintenance, state participation in:* Chapter 86.26 RCW.

*Hospitals, joint operation with counties:* RCW 36.62.030, 36.62.110.

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*Townships, organized townships, generally:* Title 45 RCW.

*Transfer of real property or contract for use for park and recreational purposes:* RCW 39.33.060.

*Unclaimed property in hands of city police:* Chapter 63.32 RCW.

*Water districts:* Title 57 RCW.

*Weeds, duty to destroy, extermination areas:* RCW 17.04.160.

**35.21.010 General corporate powers—Towns, restrictions as to area.** Municipal corporations now or hereafter organized are bodies politic and corporate under the name of the city of . . . . ., or the town of . . . . ., as the case may be, and as such may sue and be sued, contract or be contracted with, acquire, hold, possess and dispose of property, subject to the restrictions contained in other chapters of this title, having a common seal, and change or alter the same at pleasure, and exercise such other powers, and have such other privileges as are conferred by this title: PROVIDED, That not more than two square miles in area

shall be included within the corporate limits of a town having a population of fifteen hundred or less, or located in a county with a population of one million or more, and not more than three square miles in area shall be included within the corporate limits of a town having a population of more than fifteen hundred in a county with a population of less than one million, nor shall more than twenty acres of unplatted land belonging to any one person be taken within the corporate limits of a town without the consent of the owner of such unplatted land: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the original incorporation of a town shall be limited to an area of not more than one square mile and a population as prescribed in RCW 35.01.040. [1991 c 363 § 37; 1965 c 138 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.21.010. Prior: 1963 c 119 § 1; 1890 p 141 § 15, part; RRS § 8935.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**Validation of certain incorporations and annexations—Municipal corporations of the fourth class—1961 ex.s. c 16:** "Any incorporation of a municipal corporation of the fourth class and any annexation of territory to a municipal corporation of the fourth class prior to March 31, 1961, which is otherwise valid except for compliance with the limitation to the area of one square mile as prescribed by section 15, page 141, Laws of 1889-90, is hereby validated and declared to be a valid incorporation or annexation in all respects." [1961 ex.s. c 16 § 1.]

**35.21.020 Auditoriums, art museums, swimming pools, etc.—Power to acquire.** Any city or town in this state acting through its council or other legislative body, and any separately organized park district acting through its board of park commissioners or other governing officers, shall have power to acquire by donation, purchase or condemnation, and to construct and maintain public auditoriums, art museums, swimming pools, and athletic and recreational fields, including golf courses, buildings and facilities within or without its parks, and to use or let the same for such public and private purposes for such compensation and rental and upon such conditions as its council or other legislative body or board of park commissioners shall from time to time prescribe. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.020. Prior: 1947 c 28 § 1; 1937 c 98 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 8981-4.]

*Acquisition of property for parks, recreational, viewpoint, greenbelt, conservation, historic, scenic or view purposes:* RCW 36.34.340.

**35.21.030 Auxiliary water systems for protection from fire.** Any city or town shall have power to provide for the protection of such city or town, or any part thereof, from fire, and to establish, construct and maintain an auxiliary water system, or systems, or extensions thereof, or additions thereto, and the structures and works necessary therefor or forming a part thereof, including the acquisition or damaging of lands, rights-of-way, rights, property, water rights, and the necessary sources of supply of water for such purposes, within or without the corporate limits of such city or town, and to manage, regulate and control the same. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.030. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 5; RRS § 9356.]

**35.21.070 Cumulative reserve fund—Authority to create.** Any city or town may establish by ordinance a cumulative reserve fund in general terms for several different municipal purposes as well as for a very specific municipal purpose, including that of buying any specified supplies,

material or equipment, or the construction, alteration or repair of any public building or work, or the making of any public improvement, or for creation of a revenue stabilization fund for future operations. The ordinance shall designate the fund as "cumulative reserve fund for . . . . . (naming purpose or purposes for which fund is to be accumulated and expended)." The moneys in the fund may be allowed to accumulate from year to year until the legislative authority of the city or town shall determine to expend the moneys in the fund for the purpose or purposes specified: PROVIDED, That any moneys in the fund shall never be expended for any other purpose or purposes than those specified, without an approving vote by a two-thirds majority of the members of the legislative authority of the city or town. [1983 c 173 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.21.070. Prior: 1953 c 38 § 1; 1941 c 60 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9213-5.]

**35.21.080 Cumulative reserve fund—Annual levy for—Application of budget law.** An item for said cumulative reserve fund may be included in the city or town's annual budget or estimate of amounts required to meet public expense for the ensuing year and a tax levy made within the limits and as authorized by law for said item; and said item and levy may be repeated from year to year until, in the judgment of the legislative body of the city or town, the amount required for the specified purpose or purposes has been raised or accumulated. Any moneys in said fund at the end of the fiscal year shall not lapse nor shall the same be a surplus available or which may be used for any other purpose or purposes than those specified, except as herein provided. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.080. Prior: 1953 c 38 § 2; 1941 c 60 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9213-6.]

**35.21.085 Payrolls fund—Claims fund.** The legislative authority of any city or town is authorized to create the following special funds:

(1) Payrolls—into which moneys may be placed from time to time as directed by the legislative authority from any funds available and upon which warrants may be drawn and cashed for the purpose of paying any moneys due city employees for salaries and wages. The accounts of the city or town shall be so kept that they shall show the department or departments and amounts to which the payment is properly chargeable.

(2) Claims—into which may be paid moneys from time to time from any funds which are available and upon which warrants may be issued and paid in payment of claims against the city or town for any purpose. The accounts of the city or town shall be so kept that they shall show the department or departments and the respective amounts for which the warrant is issued and paid. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.085. Prior: 1953 c 27 § 1.]

**35.21.086 Payrolls fund—Transfers from insolvent funds.** Transfers from an insolvent fund to the payrolls fund or claims fund shall be by warrant. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.086. Prior: 1953 c 27 § 2.]

**35.21.087 Employee checks, drafts, warrants—City, town may cash.** Any city or town is hereby authorized, at its option and after the adoption of the appropriate ordinance,

to accept in exchange for cash a payroll check, draft, or warrant; expense check, draft, or warrant; or personal check from a city or town employee in accordance with the following conditions:

(1) The check, warrant, or draft must be drawn to the order of cash or bearer and be immediately payable by a drawee financial institution;

(2) The person presenting the check, draft, or warrant to the city or town must produce identification as outlined by the city or town in the authorizing ordinance;

(3) The payroll check, draft, or warrant or expense check, draft, or warrant must have been issued by the city or town; and

(4) Personal checks cashed pursuant to this authorization cannot exceed two hundred dollars.

In the event that any personal check cashed for a city or town employee by the city or town under this section is dishonored by the drawee financial institution when presented for payment, the city or town is authorized, after notice to the drawer or endorser of the dishonor, to withhold from the drawer's or endorser's next payroll check, draft, or warrant the full amount of the dishonored check. [1991 c 185 § 1.]

**35.21.088 Equipment rental fund.** Any city or town may create, by ordinance, an "equipment rental fund," hereinafter referred to as "the fund," in any department of the city or town to be used as a revolving fund to be expended for salaries, wages, and operations required for the repair, replacement, purchase, and operation of equipment, and for the purchase of equipment, materials, and supplies to be used in the administration and operation of the fund.

The legislative authority of a city or town may transfer any equipment, materials or supplies of any office or department to the equipment rental fund either without charge, or may grant a credit to such office or department equivalent to the value of the equipment, materials or supplies transferred. An office or department receiving such a credit may use it any time thereafter for renting or purchasing equipment, materials, supplies or services from the equipment rental fund.

Money may be placed in the fund from time to time by the legislative authority of the city or town. Cities and towns may purchase and sell equipment, materials and supplies by use of such fund, subject to any laws governing the purchase and sale of property. Such equipment, materials and supplies may be rented for the use of various offices and departments of any city or town or may be rented by any such city or town to governmental agencies. The proceeds received by any city or town from the sale or rental of such property shall be placed in the fund, and the purchase price of any such property or rental payments made by a city or town shall be made from moneys available in the fund. The ordinance creating the fund shall designate the official or body that is to administer the fund and the terms and charges for the rental for the use of any such property which has not been purchased for its own use out of its own funds and may from time to time amend such ordinance.

There shall be paid monthly into the fund out of the moneys available to the department using any equipment, materials, and/or supplies, which have not been purchased by

that department for its own use and out of its own funds, reasonable rental charges fixed by the legislative authority of the city or town, and moneys in the fund shall be retained there from year to year so long as the legislative authority of the city or town desires to do so.

Every city having a population of more than eight thousand, according to the last official census, shall establish such an equipment rental fund in its street department or any other department of city government. Such fund shall acquire the equipment necessary to serve the needs of the city street department. Such fund may, in addition, be created to service any other departments of city government or other governmental agencies as authorized hereinabove. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.088. Prior: 1963 c 115 § 7; 1953 c 67 § 1.]

*Census to be conducted in decennial periods: State Constitution Art. 2 § 3.*

*Determination of population: Chapter 43.62 RCW.*

**35.21.090 Dikes, levees, embankments—Authority to construct.** Any city or town shall have power to provide for the protection of such city or town, or any part thereof, from overflow, and to establish, construct and maintain dikes, levees, embankments, or other structures and works, or to open, deepen, straighten or otherwise enlarge natural watercourses, waterways and other channels, including the acquisition or damaging of lands, rights-of-way, rights and property therefor, within or without the corporate limits of such city or town, and to manage, regulate and control the same. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.090. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 4; 1907 c 241 § 68; RRS § 9355.]

*Eminent domain: Chapter 8.12 RCW.*

**35.21.100 Donations—Authority to accept and use.** Every city and town by ordinance may accept any money or property donated, devised, or bequeathed to it and carry out the terms of the donation, devise, or bequest, if within the powers granted by law. If no terms or conditions are attached to the donation, devise, or bequest, the city or town may expend or use it for any municipal purpose. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.100. Prior: 1941 c 80 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9213-8.]

**35.21.110 Ferries—Authority to acquire and maintain.** Any incorporated city or town within the state is authorized to construct, or condemn and purchase, or purchase, and to maintain a ferry across any unfordable stream adjoining and within one mile of its limits, together with all necessary grounds, roads, approaches and landings necessary or appertaining thereto located within one mile of the limits of such city or town, with full jurisdiction and authority to manage, regulate and control the same beyond the limits of the corporation and to operate the same free or for toll. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.110. Prior: 1895 c 130 § 1; RRS § 5476.]

**35.21.120 Solid waste handling system—Contracts.** A city or town may by ordinance provide for the establishment of a system or systems of solid waste handling for the entire city or town or for portions thereof. A city or town may provide for solid waste handling by or under the

direction of officials and employees of the city or town or may award contracts for any service related to solid waste handling including contracts entered into under RCW 35.21.152. Contracts for solid waste handling may provide that a city or town provide for a minimum periodic fee or other method of compensation in consideration of the operational availability of a solid waste handling system, plant, site, or other facility at a specified minimum level, without regard to the ownership of the system, plant, site, or other facility, or the amount of solid waste actually handled during all or any part of the contract period. When a minimum level of solid waste is specified in a contract for solid waste handling, there shall be a specific allocation of financial responsibility in the event the amount of solid waste handled falls below the minimum level provided in the contract.

As used in this chapter, the terms "solid waste" and "solid waste handling" shall be as defined in RCW 70.95.030. [1989 c 399 § 1; 1986 c 282 § 18; 1965 c 7 § 35.21.120. Prior: 1943 c 270 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9504-1, part.]

**Severability—Legislative findings—Construction—Liberal construction—Supplemental powers—1986 c 282:** See notes following RCW 35.21.156.

*Contracts with vendors for solid waste handling: RCW 35.21.156.*

**35.21.130 Solid waste or recyclable materials collection—Ordinance.** A solid waste or recyclable materials collection ordinance may:

(1) Require property owners and occupants of premises to use the solid waste collection and disposal system or recyclable materials collection and disposal system, and to dispose of their solid waste and recyclable materials as provided in the ordinance: PROVIDED, That a solid waste or recycling ordinance shall not require any retail enterprise engaged in the sale of consumer-packaged products to locate or place a public recycling collection site or buy-back center upon or within a certain distance of the retail establishment as a condition of engaging in the sale of consumer-packaged products; and

(2) Fix charges for solid waste collection and disposal, recyclable materials collection and disposal, or both, and the manner and time of payment therefor including therein a provision that upon failure to pay the charges, the amount thereof shall become a lien against the property for which the solid waste or recyclable materials collection service is rendered. The ordinance may also provide penalties for its violation. [1989 c 431 § 51; 1965 c 7 § 35.21.130. Prior: 1943 c 270 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9504-1, part.]

**Severability—1989 c 431:** See RCW 70.95.901.

**35.21.135 Solid waste or recyclable materials collection—Curbside recycling—Reduced rate.** (1) Each city or town providing by ordinance or resolution a reduced solid waste collection rate to residents participating in a residential curbside recycling program implemented under RCW 70.95.090, may provide a similar reduced rate to residents participating in any other recycling program, if such program is approved by the jurisdiction. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to reduce the authority of a city to adopt ordinances under RCW 35.21.130(1).



(2) For the purposes of this section, "reduced rate" means a residential solid waste collection rate incorporating a rebate, refund, or discount. Reduced rate shall not include residential solid waste collection rate based on the volume or weight of solid waste set out for collection. [1991 c 319 § 404.]

**Severability—Part headings not law—1991 c 319:** See RCW 70.95F.900 and 70.95F.901.

**35.21.140 Garbage—Notice of lien—Foreclosure.** A notice of the city's or town's lien for garbage collection and disposal service specifying the charges, the period covered by the charges and giving the legal description of the premises sought to be charged, shall be filed with the county auditor within the time required and shall be foreclosed in the manner and within the time prescribed for liens for labor and material. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.140. Prior: 1943 c 270 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9504-1, part.]

**35.21.150 Garbage—Lien—Priority.** The garbage collection and disposal service lien shall be prior to all liens and encumbrances filed subsequent to the filing of the notice of it with the county auditor, except the lien of general taxes and local improvement assessments whether levied prior or subsequent thereto. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.150. Prior: 1943 c 270 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9504-1, part.]

**35.21.152 Solid waste handling—Agreements—Purposes—Terms and conditions.** A city or town may construct, lease, condemn, purchase, acquire, add to, alter, and extend systems, plants, sites, or other facilities for solid waste handling, and shall have full jurisdiction and authority to manage, regulate, maintain, utilize, operate, control, and establish the rates and charges for those solid waste handling systems, plants, sites, or other facilities owned or operated by the city or town. A city or town may enter into agreements with public or private parties to: (1) Construct, lease, purchase, acquire, manage, maintain, utilize, or operate publicly or privately owned or operated solid waste handling systems, plants, sites, or other facilities; (2) establish rates and charges for those systems, plants, sites, or other facilities; (3) designate particular publicly or privately owned or operated systems, plants, sites, or other facilities as disposal sites; and (4) sell the materials or products of those systems, plants, or other facilities. Any agreement entered into shall be for such term and under such conditions as may be determined by the legislative authority of the city or town. [1989 c 399 § 2; 1977 ex.s. c 164 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 208 § 1.]

**35.21.154 Solid waste—Compliance with chapter 70.95 RCW required.** Nothing in RCW 35.21.152 will relieve a city or town of its obligations to comply with the requirements of chapter 70.95 RCW. [1989 c 399 § 3; 1975 1st ex.s. c 208 § 3.]

**35.21.156 Solid waste—Contracts with vendors for solid waste handling systems, plants, sites, or facilities—Requirements—Vendor selection procedures.** (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of any city charter, or any law to the contrary, and in addition to any other authority

provided by law, the legislative authority of a city or town may contract with one or more vendors for one or more of the design, construction, or operation of, or other service related to, the systems, plants, sites, or other facilities for solid waste handling in accordance with the procedures set forth in this section. Solid waste handling systems, plants, sites, or other facilities constructed, purchased, acquired, leased, added to, altered, extended, maintained, managed, utilized, or operated pursuant to this section, RCW 35.21.120 and 35.21.152, whether publicly or privately owned, shall be in substantial compliance with the solid waste management plan applicable to the city or town adopted pursuant to chapter 70.95 RCW. Agreements relating to such solid waste handling systems, plants, sites, or other facilities may be for such term and may contain such covenants, conditions, and remedies as the legislative authority of a city or town may deem necessary or appropriate. When a contract for design services is entered into separately from other services permitted under this section, procurement shall be in accordance with chapter 39.80 RCW.

(2) If the legislative authority of the city or town decides to proceed with the consideration of qualifications or proposals for services from vendors, the city or town shall publish notice of its requirements and request submission of qualifications statements or proposals. The notice shall be published in the official newspaper of the city or town at least once a week for two weeks not less than sixty days before the final date for the submission of qualifications statements or proposals. The notice shall state in summary form (a) the general scope and nature of the design, construction, operation, or other service, (b) the name and address of a representative of the city or town who can provide further details, (c) the final date for the submission of qualifications statements or proposals, (d) an estimated schedule for the consideration of qualifications, the selection of vendors, and the negotiation of a contract or contracts for services, (e) the location at which a copy of any request for qualifications or request for proposals will be made available, and (f) the criteria established by the legislative authority to select a vendor or vendors, which may include but shall not be limited to the vendor's prior experience, including design, construction, or operation of other similar facilities; respondent's management capability, schedule availability and financial resources; cost of the services, nature of facility design proposed by the vendor; system reliability; performance standards required for the facilities; compatibility with existing service facilities operated by the public body or other providers of service to the public; project performance guarantees; penalty and other enforcement provisions; environmental protection measures to be used; consistency with the applicable comprehensive solid waste management plan; and allocation of project risks.

(3) If the legislative authority of the city or town decides to proceed with the consideration of qualifications or proposals, it may designate a representative to evaluate the vendors who submitted qualifications statements or proposals and conduct discussions regarding qualifications or proposals with one or more vendors. The legislative authority or representative may request submission of qualifications statements and may later request more detailed proposals from one or more vendors who have submitted qualifications statements, or may request detailed proposals without having

first received and evaluated qualifications statements. The legislative authority or its representative shall evaluate the qualifications or proposals, as applicable. If two or more vendors submit qualifications or proposals that meet the criteria established by the legislative authority of the city or town, discussions and interviews shall be held with at least two vendors. Any revisions to a request for qualifications or request for proposals shall be made available to all vendors then under consideration by the city or town and shall be made available to any other person who has requested receipt of that information.

(4) Based on criteria established by the legislative authority of the city or town, the representative shall recommend to the legislative authority a vendor or vendors that are initially determined to be the best qualified to provide one or more of the design, construction or operation of, or other service related to, the proposed project or services. The legislative authority may select one or more qualified vendors for one or more of the design, construction, or operation of, or other service related to, the proposed project or services.

(5) The legislative authority or its representative may attempt to negotiate a contract with the vendor or vendors selected for one or more of the design, construction, or operation of, or other service related to, the proposed project or services on terms that the legislative authority determines to be fair and reasonable and in the best interest of the city or town. If the legislative authority or its representative is unable to negotiate such a contract with any one or more of the vendors first selected on terms that it determines to be fair and reasonable and in the best interest of the city or town, negotiations with any one or more of the vendors shall be terminated or suspended and another qualified vendor or vendors may be selected in accordance with the procedures set forth in this section. If the legislative authority decides to continue the process of selection, negotiations shall continue with a qualified vendor or vendors in accordance with this section at the sole discretion of the legislative authority until an agreement is reached with one or more qualified vendors, or the process is terminated by the legislative authority. The process may be repeated until an agreement is reached.

(6) Prior to entering into a contract with a vendor, the legislative authority of the city or town shall make written findings, after holding a public hearing on the proposal, that it is in the public interest to enter into the contract, that the contract is financially sound, and that it is advantageous for the city or town to use this method for awarding contracts compared to other methods.

(7) Each contract shall include a project performance bond or bonds or other security by the vendor that in the judgment of the legislative authority of the city or town is sufficient to secure adequate performance by the vendor.

(8) The provisions of chapters 39.12, 39.19, and \*39.25 RCW shall apply to a contract entered into under this section to the same extent as if the systems and plants were owned by a public body.

(9) The vendor selection process permitted by this section shall be supplemental to and shall not be construed as a repeal of or limitation on any other authority granted by law.

The alternative selection process provided by this section may not be used in the selection of a person or entity to construct a publicly owned facility for the storage or transfer of solid waste or solid waste handling equipment unless the facility is either (a) privately operated pursuant to a contract greater than five years, or (b) an integral part of a solid waste processing facility located on the same site. Instead, the applicable provisions of RCW 35.22.620, and 35.23.352, and chapters 39.04 and 39.30 RCW shall be followed. [1989 c 399 § 7; 1986 c 282 § 17. Formerly RCW 35.92.024.]

\*Reviser's note: Chapter 39.25 RCW was repealed by 1994 c 138 § 2.

**Legislative findings—Construction—1986 c 282 §§ 17-20:** "The legislature finds that the regulation, management, and disposal of solid waste through waste reduction, recycling, and the use of resource recovery facilities of the kind described in RCW 35.92.022 and 36.58.040 should be conducted in a manner substantially consistent with the priorities and policies of the solid waste management act, chapter 70.95 RCW. Nothing contained in sections 17 through 20 of this act shall detract from the powers, duties, and functions given to the utilities and transportation commission in chapter 81.77 RCW." [1986 c 282 § 16.]

**Liberal construction—Supplemental powers—1986 c 282 §§ 16-20:** "Sections 16 through 20 of this act, being necessary for the health and welfare of the state and its inhabitants, shall be liberally construed to effect its purposes. Sections 16 through 20 of this act shall be deemed to provide an alternative method for the performance of those subjects authorized by these sections and shall be regarded as supplemental and additional to powers conferred by the Washington state Constitution, other state laws, and the charter of any city or county." [1986 c 282 § 21.]

**Severability—1986 c 282:** See RCW 82.18.900.

**35.21.157 Solid waste collection—Rate increase notice.** (1) A city that contracts for the collection of solid waste, or provides for the collection of solid waste directly, shall notify the public of each proposed rate increase for a solid waste handling service. The notice may be mailed to each affected ratepayer or published once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the collection area. The notice shall be available to affected ratepayers at least forty-five days prior to the proposed effective date of the rate increase.

(2) For purposes of this section, "solid waste handling" has the same meaning as provided in RCW 70.95.030. [1994 c 161 § 2.]

**Findings—Declaration—1994 c 161:** "The legislature finds that local governments and private waste management companies have significantly changed solid waste management services in an effort to preserve landfill space and to avoid costly environmental cleanups of municipal landfills. The legislature recognizes that these new services have enabled the state to achieve one of the nation's highest recycling rates.

The legislature also finds that the need to pay for the cleanup of past disposal practices and to provide new recycling services has caused solid waste rates to increase substantially. The legislature further finds that private solid waste collection companies regulated by the utilities and transportation commission are required to provide public notice but that city-managed solid waste collection systems are not. The legislature declares it to be in the public interest for city-managed systems to provide public notice of solid waste rate increases." [1994 c 161 § 1.]

**35.21.158 Collection and transportation of recyclable materials by recycling companies or nonprofit entities—Reuse or reclamation—Application of chapter.** Nothing in this chapter shall prevent a recycling company or nonprofit entity from collecting and transporting recyclable materials from a buy-back center, drop-box, or from a

commercial or industrial generator of recyclable materials, or upon agreement with a solid waste collection company.

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as prohibiting a commercial or industrial generator of commercial recyclable materials from selling, conveying, or arranging for transportation of such material to a recycler for reuse or reclamation. [1989 c 431 § 33.]

**Severability—1989 c 431:** See RCW 70.95.901.

**35.21.160 Jurisdiction over adjacent waters.** The powers and jurisdiction of all incorporated cities and towns of the state having their boundaries or any part thereof adjacent to or fronting on any bay or bays, lake or lakes, sound or sounds, river or rivers, or other navigable waters are hereby extended into and over such waters and over any tidelands intervening between any such boundary and any such waters to the middle of such bays, sounds, lakes, rivers, or other waters in every manner and for every purpose that such powers and jurisdiction could be exercised if the waters were within the city or town limits. In calculating the area of any town for the purpose of determining compliance with the limitation on the area of a town prescribed by RCW 35.21.010, the area over which jurisdiction is conferred by this section shall not be included. [1969 c 124 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.21.160. Prior: 1961 c 277 § 4; 1909 c 111 § 1; RRS § 8892.]

**35.21.163 Penalty for act constituting a crime under state law—Limitation.** Except as limited by the maximum penalty authorized by law, no city, code city, or town, may establish a penalty for an act that constitutes a crime under state law that is different from the penalty prescribed for that crime by state statute. [1993 c 83 § 1.]

**Effective date—1993 c 83:** "This act shall take effect July 1, 1994." [1993 c 83 § 11.]

**35.21.165 Driving while under the influence of liquor or drug—Minimum penalties.** Except as limited by the maximum penalties authorized by law, no city or town may establish a penalty for an act that constitutes the crime of driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, as provided in RCW 46.61.502, or the crime of being in actual physical control of a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, as provided in RCW 46.61.504, that is less than the penalties prescribed for those crimes in RCW 46.61.5051, 46.61.5052, and 46.61.5053. [1994 c 275 § 36; 1983 c 165 § 40.]

**Short title—Effective date—1994 c 275:** See notes following RCW 46.04.015.

**Legislative finding, intent—Effective dates—Severability—1983 c 165:** See notes following RCW 46.20.308.

**35.21.175 Offices to be open certain days and hours.** All city and town offices shall be kept open for the transaction of business during such days and hours as the municipal legislative authority shall by ordinance prescribe. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.175. Prior: 1955 ex.s. c 9 § 4; prior: 1951 c 100 § 2.]

**35.21.180 Ordinances—Adoption of codes by reference.** Ordinances passed by cities or towns must be

posted or published in a newspaper as required by their respective charters or the general laws: PROVIDED, That ordinances may by reference adopt Washington state statutes and codes, including fire codes and ordinances relating to the construction of buildings, the installation of plumbing, the installation of electric wiring, health and sanitation, the slaughtering, processing and selling of meats and meat products for human consumption, the production, pasteurizing and sale of milk and milk products, or other subjects, may adopt by reference, any printed code or compilation, or portions thereof, together with amendments thereof or additions thereto, on the subject of the ordinance; and where publications of ordinances in a newspaper is required, such Washington state statutes or codes or other codes or compilations so adopted need not be published therein: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That not less than one copy of such statute, code or compilation and amendments and additions thereto adopted by reference shall be filed for use and examination by the public, in the office of the city or town clerk of said city, or town prior to adoption thereof. Any city or town ordinance heretofore adopting any state law or any such codes or compilations by reference are hereby ratified and validated. [1982 c 226 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.21.180. Prior: 1963 c 184 § 1; 1943 c 213 § 1; 1935 c 32 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9199-1.]

**Effective date—1982 c 226:** "This act shall take effect on July 1, 1982." [1982 c 226 § 8.]

**35.21.190 Parkways, park drives and boulevards.** Any city or town council upon request of the board of park commissioners, shall have authority to designate such streets as they may see fit as parkways, park drives, and boulevards, and to transfer all care, maintenance and improvement of the surface thereof to the board of park commissioners, or to such authority of such city or town as may have the care and management of the parks, parkways, boulevards and park drives of the city.

Any city or town may acquire, either by gift, purchase or the right of eminent domain, the right to limit the class, character and extent of traffic that may be carried on such parkways, park drives and boulevards, and to prescribe that the improvement of the surface thereof shall be made wholly in accordance with plans of such board of park commissioners, but that the setting over of all such streets for such purposes shall not in any wise limit the right and authority of the city council to construct underneath the surface thereof any and all public utilities nor to deprive the council of the right to levy assessments for special benefits. In the construction of any such utilities, any damages done to the surface of such parkways, park drives or boulevards shall not be borne by any park funds of such city or town. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.190. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 57; RRS § 9410.]

**35.21.200 Residence qualifications of appointive officials and employees.** Any city or town may by ordinance of its legislative authority determine whether there shall be any residential qualifications for any or all of its appointive officials or for preference in employment of its employees, but residence of an employee outside the limits of such city or town shall not be grounds for discharge of any regularly appointed civil service employee otherwise

qualified: PROVIDED, That this section shall not authorize a city or town to change any residential qualifications prescribed in any city charter for any appointive official or employee: PROVIDED, FURTHER, That all employees appointed prior to the enactment of any ordinance establishing such residence qualifications as provided herein or who shall have been appointed or employed by such cities or towns having waived such residential requirements shall not be discharged by reason of such appointive officials or employees having established their residence outside the limits of such city or town: PROVIDED, FURTHER, That this section shall not authorize a city or town to change the residential requirements with respect to employees of private public utilities acquired by public utility districts or by the city or town. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.200. Prior: 1951 c 162 § 1; 1941 c 25 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9213-3.]

**35.21.203 Recall sufficiency hearing—Payment of defense expenses.** The necessary expenses of defending an elective city or town official in a judicial hearing to determine the sufficiency of a recall charge as provided in RCW 29.82.023 shall be paid by the city or town if the official requests such defense and approval is granted by the city or town council. The expenses paid by the city or town may include costs associated with an appeal of the decision rendered by the superior court concerning the sufficiency of the recall charge. [1989 c 250 § 2.]

**35.21.205 Liability insurance for officials and employees.** Each city or town may purchase liability insurance with such limits as it may deem reasonable for the purpose of protecting its officials and employees against liability for personal or bodily injuries and property damage arising from their acts or omissions while performing or in good faith purporting to perform their official duties. [1973 c 125 § 2.]

*Dog handler using dog in line of duty—Immunity: RCW 4.24.410.*

**35.21.207 Liability insurance for officers and employees authorized.** See RCW 36.16.138.

**35.21.209 Liability insurance and workers' compensation for offenders performing court-ordered community service.** The legislative authority of a city or town may purchase liability insurance in an amount it deems reasonable to protect the city or town, its officers, and employees against liability for the wrongful acts of offenders or injury or damage incurred by offenders in the course of court-ordered community service, and may elect to treat offenders as employees and/or workers under Title 51 RCW. [1984 c 24 § 1.]

*Workers' compensation coverage of offenders performing community service: RCW 51.12.045.*

**35.21.210 Sewerage, drainage and water supply.** Any city or town shall have power to provide for the sewerage, drainage and water supply thereof, and to establish, construct and maintain a system or systems of sewers and drains and a system or systems of water supply, within or without the corporate limits of such city or town, and to

control, regulate and manage the same. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.210. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 3; RRS § 9354.]

**35.21.220 Sidewalks—Regulation of use of.** Cities of several classes in this state shall be empowered to regulate the use of sidewalks within their limits, and may in their discretion and under such terms and conditions as they may determine permit a use of the same by abutting owners, provided such use does not in their judgment unduly and unreasonably impair passage thereon, to and fro, by the public. Such permission shall not be considered as establishing a prescriptive right, and the right may be revoked at any time by the authorities of such cities. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.220. Prior: 1927 c 261 § 1; RRS § 9213-1.]

**35.21.225 Transportation benefit districts.** The legislative authority of a city may establish one or more transportation benefit districts within a city for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, improving, providing, and funding any city street, county road, or state highway improvement that is (1) consistent with state, regional, and local transportation plans, (2) necessitated by existing or reasonably foreseeable congestion levels attributable to economic growth, and (3) partially funded by local government or private developer contributions, or a combination of such contributions. Such transportation improvements shall be owned by the city of jurisdiction if located in an incorporated area, by the county of jurisdiction if located in an unincorporated area, or by the state in cases where the transportation improvement is or becomes a state highway; and all such transportation improvements shall be administered as other public streets, roads, and highways. The district may include any area within the corporate limits of another city if that city has agreed to the inclusion pursuant to chapter 39.34 RCW. The district may include any unincorporated area if the county legislative authority has agreed to the inclusion pursuant to chapter 39.34 RCW. The agreement shall specify the area and such other powers as may be granted to the benefit district.

The members of the city legislative authority, acting ex officio and independently, shall compose the governing body of the district. The city treasurer shall act as the ex officio treasurer of the district: PROVIDED, That where a transportation benefit district includes any unincorporated area or portion of another city, the district may be governed as provided in an interlocal agreement adopted pursuant to chapter 39.34 RCW. The electors of the district shall all be registered voters residing within the district. For the purposes of this section, the term "city" means both cities and towns. [1989 c 53 § 2; 1987 c 327 § 3.]

*Severability—1989 c 53: See note following RCW 36.73.020.*

*Transportation benefit districts: Chapter 36.73 RCW.*

**35.21.230 Streets over tidelands declared public highways.** All streets in any incorporated city in this state, extending from high tide into the navigable waters of the state, are hereby declared public highways. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.230. Prior: 1890 p 733 § 1; RRS § 9293.]

*Public highways: Title 47 RCW.*

**35.21.240 Streets over tidelands—Control of.** All streets declared public highways under the provisions of RCW 35.21.230 shall be under the control of the corporate authorities of the respective cities. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.240. Prior: 1890 p 733 § 2; RRS § 9294.]

**35.21.250 Streets and alleys over first class tidelands—Control of.** All streets and alleys, which have been heretofore or may hereafter be established upon, or across tide and shore lands of the first class shall be under the supervision and control of the cities within whose corporate limits such tide and shore lands are situated, to the same extent as are all other streets and alleys of such cities. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.250. Prior: 1901 c 149 § 1; RRS § 9295.]

**35.21.260 Streets—Annual report to secretary of transportation.** The governing authority of each city and town on or before March 31st of each year shall submit such records and reports regarding street operations in the city or town to the secretary of transportation on forms furnished by him as are necessary to enable him to compile an annual report thereon. [1984 c 7 § 19; 1977 c 75 § 29; 1965 c 7 § 35.21.260. Prior: 1943 c 82 § 12; 1937 c 187 § 64; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6450-64.]

**Severability—1984 c 7:** See note following RCW 47.01.141.

**35.21.270 Streets—Records of funds received and used for construction, repair, maintenance.** The city engineer or the city clerk of each city or town shall maintain records of the receipt and expenditure of all moneys used for construction, repair, or maintenance of streets and arterial highways.

To assist in maintaining uniformity in such records, the division of municipal corporations, with the advice and assistance of the department of transportation, shall prescribe forms and types of records to be so maintained. [1984 c 7 § 20; 1965 c 7 § 35.21.270. Prior: 1949 c 164 § 5; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9300-5.]

**Severability—1984 c 7:** See note following RCW 47.01.141.

**35.21.275 Street improvements—Provision of supplies or materials.** Any city or town may assist a street abutter in improving the street serving the abutter's premises by providing asphalt, concrete, or other supplies or materials. The furnishing of supplies or materials or paying to the abutter the cost thereof and the providing of municipal inspectors and other incidental personnel shall not render the street improvements a public work or improvement subject to competitive bidding. The legislative authority of such city or town shall approve any such assistance at a public meeting and shall maintain a public register of any such assistance setting forth the value, nature, purpose, date and location of the assistance and the name of the beneficiary. [1983 c 103 § 1.]

**35.21.278 Contracts with community service organizations for public improvements—Limitations.** (1) Without regard to competitive bidding laws for public works, a county, city, town, school district, metropolitan park district, park and recreation district, or park and recreation

service area may contract with a chamber of commerce, a service organization, a community, youth, or athletic association, or other similar association located and providing service in the immediate neighborhood, for drawing design plans, making improvements to a park, school playground, or public square, installing equipment or artworks, or providing maintenance services for the facility as a community or neighborhood project, and may reimburse the contracting association its expense. The contracting association may use volunteers in the project and provide the volunteers with clothing or tools; meals or refreshments; accident/injury insurance coverage; and reimbursement of their expenses. The consideration to be received by the public entity through the value of the improvements, artworks, equipment, or maintenance shall have a value at least equal to three times that of the payment to the contracting association. All payments made by a public entity under the authority of this section for all such contracts in any one year shall not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars or two dollars per resident within the boundaries of the public entity, whichever is greater.

(2) A county, city, town, school district, metropolitan park district, park and recreation district, or park and recreation service area may ratify an agreement, which qualifies under subsection (1) of this section and was made before June 9, 1988. [1988 c 233 § 1.]

**35.21.280 Tax on admissions—Exception as to schools.** Every city and town may levy and fix a tax of not more than one cent on twenty cents or fraction thereof to be paid by the person who pays an admission charge to any place: PROVIDED, No city or town shall impose such tax on persons paying an admission to any activity of any elementary or secondary school. This includes a tax on persons who are admitted free of charge or at reduced rates to any place for which other persons pay a charge or a regular higher charge for the same privileges or accommodations. The city or town may require anyone who receives payment for an admission charge to collect and remit the tax to the city or town.

The term "admission charge" includes:

- (1) A charge made for season tickets or subscriptions;
- (2) A cover charge, or a charge made for use of seats and tables reserved or otherwise, and other similar accommodations;
- (3) A charge made for food and refreshment in any place where free entertainment, recreation or amusement is provided;
- (4) A charge made for rental or use of equipment or facilities for purposes of recreation or amusement; if the rental of the equipment or facilities is necessary to the enjoyment of a privilege for which a general admission is charged, the combined charges shall be considered as the admission charge;
- (5) Automobile parking charges if the amount of the charge is determined according to the number of passengers in the automobile. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.280. Prior: 1957 c 126 § 1; 1951 c 35 § 1; 1943 c 80 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 8370-44a.]

**35.21.290 Utility services—Lien for.** Cities and towns owning their own waterworks, or electric light or power plants shall have a lien against the premises to which water, electric light, or power services were furnished for four months charges therefor due or to become due, but not for any charges more than four months past due: PROVIDED, That the owner of the premises or the owner of a delinquent mortgage thereon may give written notice to the superintendent or other head of such works or plant to cut off service to such premises accompanied by payment or tender of payment of the then delinquent and unpaid charges for such service against the premises together with the cut-off charge, whereupon the city or town shall have no lien against the premises for charges for such service thereafter furnished, nor shall the owner of the premises or the owner of a delinquent mortgage thereon be held for the payment thereof. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.290. Prior: 1933 c 135 § 1; 1909 c 161 § 1; RRS § 9471.]

**35.21.300 Utility services—Enforcement of lien—Limitations on termination of service for residential heating.** (1) The lien for charges for service by a city waterworks, or electric light or power plant may be enforced only by cutting off the service until the delinquent and unpaid charges are paid, except that until June 30, 1991, utility service for residential space heating may be terminated between November 15 and March 15 only as provided in subsections (2) and (4) of this section. In the event of a disputed account and tender by the owner of the premises of the amount he claims to be due before the service is cut off, the right to refuse service to any premises shall not accrue until suit has been entered by the city and judgment entered in the case.

(2) Utility service for residential space heating shall not be terminated between November 15 through March 15 if the customer:

(a) Notifies the utility of the inability to pay the bill, including a security deposit. This notice should be provided within five business days of receiving a payment overdue notice unless there are extenuating circumstances. If the customer fails to notify the utility within five business days and service is terminated, the customer can, by paying reconnection charges, if any, and fulfilling the requirements of this section, receive the protections of this chapter;

(b) Provides self-certification of household income for the prior twelve months to a grantee of the \*department of community development which administers federally funded energy assistance programs. The grantee shall determine that the household income does not exceed the maximum allowed for eligibility under the state's plan for low-income energy assistance under 42 U.S.C. 8624 and shall provide a dollar figure that is seven percent of household income. The grantee may verify information in the self-certification;

(c) Has applied for home heating assistance from applicable government and private sector organizations and certifies that any assistance received will be applied to the current bill and future utility bills;

(d) Has applied for low-income weatherization assistance to the utility or other appropriate agency if such assistance is available for the dwelling;

(e) Agrees to a payment plan and agrees to maintain the payment plan. The plan will be designed both to pay the past due bill by the following October 15 and to pay for continued utility service. If the past due bill is not paid by the following October 15, the customer shall not be eligible for protections under this chapter until the past due bill is paid. The plan shall not require monthly payments in excess of seven percent of the customer's monthly income plus one-twelfth of any arrearage accrued from the date application is made and thereafter during November 15 through March 15. A customer may agree to pay a higher percentage during this period, but shall not be in default unless payment during this period is less than seven percent of monthly income plus one-twelfth of any arrearage accrued from the date application is made and thereafter. If assistance payments are received by the customer subsequent to implementation of the plan, the customer shall contact the utility to reformulate the plan; and

(f) Agrees to pay the moneys owed even if he or she moves.

(3) The utility shall:

(a) Include in any notice that an account is delinquent and that service may be subject to termination, a description of the customer's duties in this section;

(b) Assist the customer in fulfilling the requirements under this section;

(c) Be authorized to transfer an account to a new residence when a customer who has established a plan under this section moves from one residence to another within the same utility service area;

(d) Be permitted to disconnect service if the customer fails to honor the payment program. Utilities may continue to disconnect service for those practices authorized by law other than for nonpayment as provided for in this section. Customers who qualify for payment plans under this section who default on their payment plans and are disconnected can be reconnected and maintain the protections afforded under this chapter by paying reconnection charges, if any, and by paying all amounts that would have been due and owing under the terms of the applicable payment plan, absent default, on the date on which service is reconnected; and

(e) Advise the customer in writing at the time it disconnects service that it will restore service if the customer contacts the utility and fulfills the other requirements of this section.

(4) All municipal utilities shall offer residential customers the option of a budget billing or equal payment plan. The budget billing or equal payment plan shall be offered low-income customers eligible under the state's plan for low-income energy assistance prepared in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 8624(C)(1) without limiting availability to certain months of the year, without regard to the length of time the customer has occupied the premises, and without regard to whether the customer is the tenant or owner of the premises occupied.

(5) An agreement between the customer and the utility, whether oral or written, shall not waive the protections afforded under this chapter. [1991 c 165 § 2; 1990 1st ex.s. c 1 § 1; 1987 c 356 § 1; 1986 c 245 § 1; 1985 c 6 § 3; 1984 c 251 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.21.300. Prior: 1909 c 161 § 2; RRS § 9472.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Powers, duties, and functions of the department of community development and the department of trade and economic development were transferred to the department of community, trade, and economic development by 1993 c 280, effective July 1, 1994.

**Findings—1991 c 165:** "The legislature finds that the health and welfare of the people of the state of Washington require that all citizens receive essential levels of heat and electric service regardless of economic circumstance and that rising energy costs have had a negative effect on the affordability of housing for low-income citizens and have made it difficult for low-income citizens of the state to afford adequate fuel for residential space heat. The legislature further finds that level payment plans, the protection against winter heating shutoff, and house weatherization programs have all been beneficial to low-income persons." [1991 c 165 § 1.]

**35.21.310 Removal of overhanging or obstructing vegetation—Removal, destroying debris.** Any city or town may by general ordinance require the owner of any property therein to remove or destroy all trees, plants, shrubs or vegetation, or parts thereof, which overhang any sidewalk or street or which are growing thereon in such manner as to obstruct or impair the free and full use of the sidewalk or street by the public; and may further so require the owner of any property therein to remove or destroy all grass, weeds, shrubs, bushes, trees or vegetation growing or which has grown and died, and to remove or destroy all debris, upon property owned or occupied by them and which are a fire hazard or a menace to public health, safety or welfare. The ordinance shall require the proceedings therefor to be initiated by a resolution of the governing body of the city or town, adopted after not less than five days' notice to the owner, which shall describe the property involved and the hazardous condition, and require the owner to make such removal or destruction after notice given as required by said ordinance. The ordinance may provide that if such removal or destruction is not made by the owner after notice given as required by the ordinance in any of the above cases, that the city or town will cause the removal or destruction thereof and may also provide that the cost to the city or town shall become a charge against the owner of the property and a lien against the property. Notice of the lien herein authorized shall as nearly as practicable be in substantially the same form, filed with the same officer within the same time and manner, and enforced and foreclosed as is provided by law for liens for labor and materials.

The provisions of this section are supplemental and additional to any other powers granted or held by any city or town on the same or a similar subject. [1969 c 20 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.21.310. Prior: 1949 c 113 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9213-10.]

*Weeds, duty of city or town, extermination areas: RCW 17.04.160.*

**35.21.315 Amateur radio antennas—Local regulation to conform with federal law.** No city or town shall enact or enforce an ordinance or regulation that fails to conform to the limited preemption entitled "Amateur Radio Preemption, 101 FCC 2nd 952 (1985)" issued by the federal communications commission. An ordinance or regulation adopted by a city or town with respect to amateur radio antennas shall conform to the limited federal preemption, that states local regulations that involve placement, screening, or height of antennas based on health, safety, or aesthetic considerations must be crafted to reasonably accommodate amateur communications, and to represent the

minimal practicable regulation to accomplish the local authority's legitimate purpose. [1994 c 50 § 1.]

**Effective date—1994 c 50:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately [March 23, 1994]." [1994 c 50 § 4.]

**35.21.320 Warrants—Interest rate—Payment.** All city and town warrants shall draw interest from and after their presentation to the treasurer, but no compound interest shall be paid on any warrant directly or indirectly. The city or town treasurer shall pay all warrants in the order of their number and date of issue whenever there are sufficient funds in the treasury applicable to the payment. If five hundred dollars (or any sum less than five hundred dollars as may be prescribed by ordinance) is accumulated in any fund having warrants outstanding against it, the city or town treasurer shall publish a call for warrants to that amount in the next issue of the official newspaper of the city or town. The notice shall describe the warrants so called by number and specifying the fund upon which they were drawn: PROVIDED, That no call need be made until the amount accumulated is equal to the amount due on the warrant longest outstanding: PROVIDED FURTHER, That no more than two calls shall be made in any one month.

Any city or town treasurer who knowingly fails to call for or pay any warrant in accordance with the provisions of this section shall be fined not less than twenty-five dollars nor more than five hundred dollars and conviction thereof shall be sufficient cause for removal from office. [1985 c 469 § 20; 1965 c 7 § 35.21.320. Prior: (i) 1893 c 48 § 1, part; RRS § 4116, part. (ii) 1895 c 152 § 2, part; RRS § 4119, part. (iii) 1895 c 152 § 1, part; RRS § 4118, part.]

**35.21.333 Chief of police or marshal—Eligibility requirements.** (1) A person seeking appointment to the office of chief of police or marshal, of a city or town, including a code city, with a population in excess of one thousand, is ineligible unless that person:

- (a) Is a citizen of the United States of America;
- (b) Has obtained a high school diploma or general equivalency diploma;
- (c) Has not been convicted under the laws of this state, another state, or the United States of a felony;
- (d) Has not been convicted of a gross misdemeanor or any crime involving moral turpitude within five years of the date of application;
- (e) Has received at least a general discharge under honorable conditions from any branch of the armed services for any military service if the person was in the military service;
- (f) Has completed at least two years of regular, uninterrupted, full-time commissioned law enforcement employment involving enforcement responsibilities with a government law enforcement agency; and
- (g) The person has been certified as a regular and commissioned enforcement officer through compliance with this state's basic training requirement or equivalency.

(2) A person seeking appointment to the office of chief of police or marshal, of a city or town, including a code city, with a population of one thousand or less, is ineligible unless that person conforms with the requirements of subsection (1)



(a) through (e) of this section. A person so appointed as chief of police or marshal must successfully complete the state's basic training requirement or equivalency within nine months after such appointment, unless an extension has been granted by the criminal justice training commission.

(3) A person seeking appointment to the office of chief of police or marshal shall provide a sworn statement under penalty of perjury to the appointing authority stating that the person meets the requirements of this section. [1987 c 339 § 4.]

**Intent—1987 c 339:** "The intent of this act is to require certain qualifications for candidates for the office of chief of police or marshal, which position in whole or in part oversees law enforcement personnel or activities for a city or town.

The legislature finds that over the past century the field of law enforcement has become increasingly complex and many new techniques and resources have evolved both socially and technically. In addition the ever-changing requirements of law, both constitutional and statutory provisions protecting the individual and imposing responsibilities and legal liabilities of law enforcement officers and the government of which they represent, require an increased level of training and experience in the field of law enforcement.

The legislature, therefore finds that minimum requirements are reasonable and necessary to seek and hold the offices or office of chief of police or marshal, and that such requirements are in the public interest." [1987 c 339 § 3.]

**Severability—1987 c 339:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1987 c 339 § 8.]

**Effective date—1987 c 339:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect July 1, 1987." [1987 c 339 § 9.]

**35.21.334 Chief of police or marshal—Background investigation.** Before making an appointment in the office of chief of police or marshal, the appointing agency shall complete a thorough background investigation of the candidate. The Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs shall develop advisory procedures which may be used by the appointing authority in completing its background investigation of candidates for the office of chief of police or marshal. [1987 c 339 § 5.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective date—1987 c 339:** See notes following RCW 35.21.333.

**35.21.335 Chief of police or marshal—Vacancy.** In the case of a vacancy in the office of chief of police or marshal, all requirements and procedures of RCW 35.21.333 and 35.21.334 shall be followed in filling the vacancy. [1987 c 339 § 6.]

**Intent—Severability—Effective date—1987 c 339:** See notes following RCW 35.21.333.

**35.21.340 Cemeteries and funeral facilities.** See chapter 68.52 RCW.

**35.21.350 Civil service in police and fire departments.** See Title 41 RCW.

**35.21.360 Eminent domain by cities and towns.** See chapter 8.12 RCW.

**35.21.370 Joint county and city hospitals.** See chapter 36.62 RCW.

**35.21.380 Joint county and city buildings.** See chapter 36.64 RCW.

**35.21.385 Counties with a population of two hundred ten thousand or more may contract with cities concerning buildings and related improvements.** See RCW 36.64.070.

**35.21.390 Public employment, civil service and pensions.** See Title 41 RCW.

**35.21.395 Historic preservation—Authorization to acquire property, borrow money, issue bonds, etc.** Any city or town may acquire title to or any interest in real and personal property for the purpose of historic preservation and may restore, improve, maintain, manage, and lease the property for public or private use and may enter into contracts, borrow money, and issue bonds and other obligations for such purposes. This authorization shall not expand the eminent domain powers of cities or towns. [1984 c 203 § 3.]

**Severability—1984 c 203:** See note following RCW 35.43.140.

**35.21.400 City may acquire property for parks, recreational, viewpoint, greenbelt, conservation, historic, scenic, or view purposes.** See RCW 36.34.340.

**35.21.403 City may establish lake management districts.** Any city or town may establish lake management districts within its boundaries as provided in chapter 36.61 RCW. When a city or town establishes a lake management district pursuant to chapter 36.61 RCW, the term "county legislative authority" shall be deemed to mean the city or town governing body, the term "county" shall be deemed to mean the city or town, and the term "county treasurer" shall be deemed to mean the city or town treasurer or other fiscal officer. [1985 c 398 § 27.]

**35.21.405 Moorage facilities—Regulations authorized—Port charges, delinquency—Abandoned vessels, public sale.** See RCW 53.08.310 and 53.08.320.

**35.21.410 Nonpolluting power generation by individual—Exemption from regulation—Authorization to contract with utility.** See chapter 80.58 RCW.

**35.21.412 Hydroelectric resources—Separate legal authority—Creation by irrigation districts and cities, towns, or public utility districts.** See RCW 87.03.825 through 87.03.840.

**35.21.415 Electrical utilities—Civil immunity of officials and employees for good faith mistakes and errors of judgment.** Officials and employees of cities and towns shall be immune from civil liability for mistakes and errors of judgment in the good faith performance of acts

within the scope of their official duties involving the exercise of judgment and discretion which relate solely to their responsibilities for electrical utilities. This grant of immunity shall not be construed as modifying the liability of the city or town. [1983 1st ex.s. c 48 § 1.]

**Severability—1983 1st ex.s. c 48:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1983 1st ex.s. c 48 § 4.]

**35.21.417 Hydroelectric reservoir extending across international boundary—Agreement with Province of British Columbia.** To carry out a treaty between the United States of America and Canada, a city that maintains hydroelectric facilities with a reservoir which extends across the international boundary, may enter into an agreement with the Province of British Columbia for enhancing recreational opportunities and protecting environmental resources of the watershed of the river or rivers which forms the reservoir. The agreement may provide for establishment of and payments into an environmental endowment fund and establishment of an administering commission to implement the purpose of the treaty and the agreement. [1984 c 1 § 1.]

**35.21.418 Hydroelectric reservoir extending across international boundary—Commission—Powers. (Effective until January 1, 1995.)** A commission, established by an agreement between a Washington municipality and the Province of British Columbia to carry out a treaty between the United States of America and Canada as authorized in RCW 35.21.417, shall be public and shall have all powers and capacity necessary and appropriate for the purposes of performing its functions under the agreement, including, but not limited to, the following powers and capacity: To acquire and dispose of real property other than by condemnation; to enter into contracts; to sue and be sued in either Canada or the United States; to establish an endowment fund in either or both the United States and Canada and to invest the endowment fund in either or both countries; to solicit, accept, and use donations, grants, bequests, or devises intended for furthering the functions of the endowment; to adopt such rules or procedures as it deems desirable for performing its functions; to engage advisors and consultants; to establish committees and subcommittees; to adopt rules for its governance; to enter into agreements with public and private entities; and to engage in activities necessary and appropriate for implementing the agreement and the treaty.

The endowment fund and commission may not be subject to state or local taxation. A commission, so established, may not be subject to statutes and laws governing Washington cities and municipalities in the conduct of its internal affairs: PROVIDED, That all commission members appointed by the municipality shall comply with chapter 42.22 RCW, and: PROVIDED FURTHER, That all commission meetings held within the state of Washington shall be held in compliance with chapter 42.30 RCW. All obligations or liabilities incurred by the commission shall be satisfied exclusively from its own assets and insurance. [1984 c 1 § 2.]

**35.21.418 Hydroelectric reservoir extending across international boundary—Commission—Powers. (Effective January 1, 1995.)** A commission, established by an agreement between a Washington municipality and the Province of British Columbia to carry out a treaty between the United States of America and Canada as authorized in RCW 35.21.417, shall be public and shall have all powers and capacity necessary and appropriate for the purposes of performing its functions under the agreement, including, but not limited to, the following powers and capacity: To acquire and dispose of real property other than by condemnation; to enter into contracts; to sue and be sued in either Canada or the United States; to establish an endowment fund in either or both the United States and Canada and to invest the endowment fund in either or both countries; to solicit, accept, and use donations, grants, bequests, or devises intended for furthering the functions of the endowment; to adopt such rules or procedures as it deems desirable for performing its functions; to engage advisors and consultants; to establish committees and subcommittees; to adopt rules for its governance; to enter into agreements with public and private entities; and to engage in activities necessary and appropriate for implementing the agreement and the treaty.

The endowment fund and commission may not be subject to state or local taxation. A commission, so established, may not be subject to statutes and laws governing Washington cities and municipalities in the conduct of its internal affairs: PROVIDED, That all commission members appointed by the municipality shall comply with chapter 42.52 RCW, and: PROVIDED FURTHER, That all commission meetings held within the state of Washington shall be held in compliance with chapter 42.30 RCW. All obligations or liabilities incurred by the commission shall be satisfied exclusively from its own assets and insurance. [1994 c 154 § 309; 1984 c 1 § 2.]

**Parts and captions not law—Effective date—Severability—1994 c 154:** See RCW 42.52.902, 42.52.904, and 42.52.905.

**35.21.420 Utilities—City may support county in which generating plant located.** Any city owning and operating a public utility and having facilities for the generation of electricity located in a county other than that in which the city is located, may provide for the public peace, health, safety and welfare of such county as concerns the facilities and the personnel employed in connection therewith, by contributing to the support of the county government of any such county and enter into contracts with any such county therefor. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.420. Prior: 1951 c 104 § 1.]

**35.21.422 Utilities—Cities in a county with a population of two hundred ten thousand or more west of Cascades may support cities, towns, counties and taxing districts in which facilities located.** Any city, located within a county with a population of two hundred ten thousand or more west of the Cascades, owning and operating a public utility and having facilities for the distribution of electricity located outside its city limits, may provide for the support of cities, towns, counties and taxing districts in which such facilities are located, and enter into contracts with such county therefor. Such contribution shall be based

upon the amount of retail sales of electricity, other than to governmental agencies, made by such city in the areas of such cities, towns, counties or taxing districts in which such facilities are located, and shall be divided among them on the same basis as taxes on real and personal property therein are divided. [1991 c 363 § 38; 1967 ex.s. c 52 § 1.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**35.21.425 City constructing generating facility in other county—Reimbursement of county or school district.** Whenever after March 17, 1955, any city shall construct hydroelectric generating facilities or acquire land for the purpose of constructing the same in a county other than the county in which such city is located, and by reason of such construction or acquisition shall (1) cause loss of revenue and/or place a financial burden in providing for the public peace, health, safety, welfare, and added road maintenance in such county, in addition to road construction or relocation as set forth in RCW 90.28.010 and/or (2) shall cause any loss of revenues and/or increase the financial burden of any school district affected by the construction because of an increase in the number of pupils by reason of the construction or the operation of said generating facilities, the city shall enter into an agreement with said county and/or the particular school district or districts affected for the payment of moneys to recompense such losses or to provide for such increased financial burden, upon such terms and conditions as may be mutually agreeable to the city and the county and/or school district or districts. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.425. Prior: 1955 c 252 § 1.]

**35.21.426 City constructing generating facility in other county—Notice of loss—Negotiations—Arbitration.** Whenever a county or school district affected by the project sustains such financial loss or is affected by an increased financial burden as above set forth or it appears that such a financial loss or burden will occur beginning not later than within the next three months, such county or school district shall immediately notify the city in writing setting forth the particular losses or increased burden and the city shall immediately enter into negotiations to effect a contract. In the event the city and the county or school district are unable to agree upon terms and conditions for such contract, then in that event, within sixty days after such notification, the matter shall be submitted to a board of three arbitrators, one of whom shall be appointed by the city council of the city concerned; one by the board of county commissioners for the county concerned or by the school board for the school district concerned, and one by the two arbitrators so appointed. In the event such arbitrators are unable to agree on a third arbitrator within ten days after their appointment then the third arbitrator shall be selected by the state auditor. The board of arbitrators shall determine the loss of revenue and/or the cost of the increased financial burden placed upon the county or school district and its findings shall be binding upon such city and county or school district and the parties shall enter into a contract for reimbursement by the city in accordance with such findings, with the payment under such findings to be retroactive to the date when the city was first

notified in writing. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.426. Prior: 1955 c 252 § 2.]

**35.21.427 City constructing generating facility in other county—Additional findings—Renegotiation.** The findings provided for in RCW 35.21.426 may also provide for varying payments based on formulas to be stated in the findings, and for varying payments for different stated periods. The findings shall also state a future time at which the agreement shall be renegotiated or, in event of failure to agree on such renegotiation, be arbitrated as provided in RCW 35.21.426. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.427. Prior: 1955 c 252 § 3.]

**35.21.430 Utilities—City may pay taxing districts involved after acquisition of private power facilities.** On and after January 1, 1951, whenever a city or town shall acquire electric generation, transmission and/or distribution properties which at the time of acquisition were in private ownership, the legislative body thereof may each year order payments made to all taxing districts within which any part of the acquired properties are located, in amounts not greater than the taxes, exclusive of excess levies voted by the people and/or levies made for the payment of bonded indebtedness pursuant to the provisions of Article VII, section 2 of the Constitution of this state, as now or hereafter amended, and/or by statutory provision, imposed on such properties in the last tax year in which said properties were in private ownership. [1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 15; 1965 c 7 § 35.21.430. Prior: 1951 c 217 § 1.]

**Severability—Effective dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195:** See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

**35.21.440 Utilities—Additional payments to school districts having bonded indebtedness.** In the event any portion of such property shall be situated in any school district which, at the time of acquisition, has an outstanding bonded indebtedness, the city or town may in addition to the payments authorized in RCW 35.21.430, make annual payments to such school district which shall be applied to the retirement of the principal and interest of such bonds. Such payments shall be computed in the proportion which the assessed valuation of utility property so acquired shall bear to the total assessed valuation of the district at the time of the acquisition. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.440. Prior: 1951 c 217 § 2.]

**35.21.450 Utilities—Payment of taxes.** Annual payments shall be ordered by an ordinance or ordinances of the legislative body. The ordinance shall further order a designated officer to notify in writing the county assessor of each county in which any portion of such property is located, of the city's intention to make such payments. The county assessor shall thereupon enter upon the tax rolls of the county the amount to which any taxing district of the county is entitled under the provisions of RCW 35.21.430 to 35.21.450, inclusive; and upon delivery of the tax rolls to the county treasurer as provided by law, the amount of the tax as hereinbefore authorized and determined shall become due and payable by the city or town the same as real property taxes. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.450. Prior: 1951 c 217 § 3.]

**35.21.470 Building construction projects—City or town prohibited from requiring state agencies or local governments to provide bond or other security as a condition for issuance of permit.** A city or town may not require any state agency or unit of local government to secure the performance of a permit requirement with a surety bond or other financial security device, including cash or assigned account, as a condition of issuing a permit to that unit of local government for a building construction project.

As used in this section, "building construction project" includes, in addition to its usual meaning, associated landscaping, street alteration, pedestrian or vehicular access alteration, or other amenities or alterations necessarily associated with the project. [1993 c 439 § 1.]

**35.21.500 Compilation, codification, revision of city or town ordinances—Scope of codification.** "Codification" means the editing, rearrangement and/or grouping of ordinances under appropriate titles, parts, chapters and sections and includes but is not limited to the following:

(1) Editing ordinances to the extent deemed necessary or desirable, for the purpose of modernizing and clarifying the language of such ordinances, but without changing the meaning of any such ordinance.

(2) Substituting for the term "this ordinance," where necessary the term "section," "part," "code," "chapter," "title," or reference to specific section or chapter numbers, as the case may require.

(3) Correcting manifest errors in reference to other ordinances, laws and statutes, and manifest spelling, clerical or typographical errors, additions, or omissions.

(4) Dividing long sections into two or more sections and rearranging the order of sections to insure a logical arrangement of subject matter.

(5) Changing the wording of section captions, if any, and providing captions to new chapters and sections.

(6) Striking provisions manifestly obsolete and eliminating conflicts and inconsistencies so as to give effect to the legislative intent. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.500. Prior: 1957 c 97 § 1.]

**35.21.510 Compilation, codification, revision of city or town ordinances—Authorized.** Any city or town may prepare or cause to be prepared a codification of its ordinances. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.510. Prior: 1957 c 97 § 2.]

**35.21.520 Compilation, codification, revision of city or town ordinances—Adoption as official code of city.** Any city or town having heretofore prepared or caused to be prepared, or now preparing or causing to be prepared, or that hereafter prepares or causes to be prepared, a codification of its ordinances may adopt such codification by enacting an ordinance adopting such codification as the official code of the city, provided the procedure and requirements of RCW 35.21.500 through 35.21.570 are complied with. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.520. Prior: 1957 c 97 § 3.]

**35.21.530 Compilation, codification, revision of city or town ordinances—Filing—Notice of hearing.** When a city or town codifies its ordinances, it shall file a typewritten or printed copy of the codification in the office of the city or

town clerk. After the first reading of the title of the adopting ordinance and of the title of the code to be adopted thereby, the legislative body of the city or town shall schedule a public hearing thereon. Notice of the hearing shall be published once not more than fifteen nor less than ten days prior to the hearing in the official newspaper of the city, indicating that its ordinances have been compiled, or codified and that a copy of such compilation or codification is on file in the city or town clerk's office for inspection. The notice shall state the time and place of the hearing. [1985 c 469 § 21; 1965 c 7 § 35.21.530. Prior: 1957 c 97 § 4.]

**35.21.540 Compilation, codification, revision of city or town ordinances—Legislative body may amend, adopt, or reject adopting ordinance—When official code.** After the hearing, the legislative body may amend, adopt, or reject the adopting ordinance in the same manner in which it is empowered to act in the case of other ordinances. Upon the enactment of such adopting ordinance, the codification shall be the official code of ordinances of the city or town. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.540. Prior: 1957 c 97 § 5.]

**35.21.550 Compilation, codification, revision of city or town ordinances—Copies as proof of ordinances.** Copies of such codes in published form shall be received without further proof as the ordinances of permanent and general effect of the city or town in all courts and administrative tribunals of this state. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.550. Prior: 1957 c 97 § 6.]

*Ordinances, admissibility as evidence: RCW 5.44.080.*

**35.21.560 Compilation, codification, revision of city or town ordinances—Adoption of new material.** New material shall be adopted by the city or town legislative body as separate ordinances prior to the inclusion thereof in such codification: PROVIDED, That any ordinance amending the codification shall set forth in full the section or sections, or subsection or subsections of the codification being amended, as the case may be, and this shall constitute a sufficient compliance with any statutory or charter requirement that no ordinance or any section thereof shall be revised or amended unless the new ordinance sets forth the revised ordinance or amended section in full. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.560. Prior: 1961 c 70 § 1; 1957 c 97 § 7.]

**35.21.570 Compilation, codification, revision of city or town ordinances—Codification satisfies single subject, title, and amendment requirements of statute or charter.** When a city or town shall make a codification of its ordinances in accordance with RCW 35.21.500 through 35.21.570 that shall constitute a sufficient compliance with any statutory or charter requirements that no ordinance shall contain more than one subject which shall be clearly expressed in its title and that no ordinance or any section thereof shall be revised or amended unless the new ordinance sets forth the revised ordinance or amended section in full. [1965 c 7 § 35.21.570. Prior: 1957 c 97 § 8.]

**35.21.590 Executory conditional sales contracts for purchase of property—Limit on indebtedness—Election, when.** See RCW 39.30.010.

**35.21.600 Powers of cities having ten thousand or more population—Power to frame charter—"Population" defined.** Any city of ten thousand or more population shall have all power to conduct its affairs consistent with and subject to state law, including the power to frame a charter for its own government in accordance with RCW 35.22.030 through 35.22.200, as now or hereafter amended. "Population" means the number of residents as shown by the figures released for the most recent official state, federal, or county census, or population determination made under the direction of the office of financial management. Once any city has ten thousand or more population, any subsequent decrease in population below ten thousand shall not affect any powers theretofore acquired under this section. [1979 c 151 § 27; 1965 ex.s. c 47 § 6; 1965 c 7 § 35.21.600. Prior: 1963 c 222 § 1.]

**35.21.610 Cities having ten thousand or more population may frame charter without changing classification—Alternative procedure to become city of first class for cities having twenty thousand or more population.** Notwithstanding any other provision of chapters 35.01 and 35.06 RCW, any city having a population of ten thousand inhabitants, or more, may elect to frame a charter for its own government in the same manner as is provided for in RCW 35.22.030 through 35.22.200, as now or hereafter amended, without changing its classification unless it desires to do so by taking the action provided therefor in chapter 35.06 RCW: PROVIDED, That if a city has a population of twenty thousand inhabitants, or more, and desires to become a city of the first class, it may do so in accordance with chapter 35.22 RCW without following the procedure prescribed by chapter 35.06 RCW to effect a change in its classification. [1965 ex.s. c 47 § 1.]

*Cities of ten thousand or more may frame charters: State Constitution Art. 11 § 10 (Amendment 40), RCW 35.22.030.*

**35.21.620 Powers of cities adopting charters.** Any city adopting a charter under Article XI, section 10 of the Constitution of the state of Washington, as amended by amendment 40, shall have all of the powers which are conferred upon incorporated cities and towns by Title 35 RCW, or other laws of the state, and all such powers as are usually exercised by municipal corporations of like character and degree. [1965 ex.s. c 47 § 2.]

*Legislative powers of charter city: RCW 35.22.200.*

**35.21.630 Youth agencies—Establishment authorized.** Any city, town, or county may establish a youth agency to investigate, advise and act on, within the powers of that municipality, problems relating to the youth of that community, including employment, educational, economic and recreational opportunities, juvenile delinquency and dependency, and other youth problems and activities as that municipality may determine. Any city, town, or county may contract with any other city, town, or county to jointly establish such a youth agency. [1965 ex.s. c 84 § 5.]

**35.21.635 Juvenile curfews.** (1) Any city or town has the authority to enact an ordinance, for the purpose of preserving the public safety or reducing acts of violence by or against juveniles that are occurring at such rates as to be beyond the capacity of the police to assure public safety, establishing times and conditions under which juveniles may be present on the public streets, in the public parks, or in any other public place during specified hours.

(2) The ordinance shall not contain any criminal sanctions for a violation of the ordinance. [1994 1st sp.s. c 7 § 502.]

*Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 1st sp.s. c 7: See notes following RCW 43.70.540.*

**35.21.640 Conferences to study regional and governmental problems, counties and cities may establish.** See RCW 36.64.080.

**35.21.650 Prepayment of taxes or assessments authorized.** All moneys, assessments and taxes belonging to or collected for the use of any city or town, including any amounts representing estimates for future assessments and taxes, may be deposited by any taxpayer prior to the due date thereof with the treasurer or other legal depository for the benefit of the funds to which they belong to be credited against any future tax or assessment that may be levied or become due from the taxpayer: PROVIDED, That the taxpayer may with the concurrence of the treasurer designate a particular fund of such city or town against which such prepayment of tax or assessment is made. [1967 ex.s. c 66 § 1.]

**35.21.660 Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act—Agreements with federal government—Scope of authority.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all cities shall have the power and authority to enter into agreements with the United States or any department or agency thereof, to carry out the purposes of the Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966 (PL 89-754; 80 Stat. 1255), and to plan, organize and administer programs provided for in such contracts. This power and authority shall include, but not be limited to, the power and authority to create public corporations, commissions and authorities to perform duties arising under and administer programs provided for in such contracts and to limit the liability of said public corporations, commissions, and authorities, in order to prevent recourse to such cities, their assets, or their credit. [1971 ex.s. c 177 § 5; 1970 ex.s. c 77 § 1.]

*Establishment of public corporations to administer federal grants and programs: RCW 35.21.730 through 35.21.755.*

**35.21.670 Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act—Powers and limitations of public corporations, commissions or authorities created.** Any public corporation, commission or authority created as provided in RCW 35.21.660, may be empowered to own and sell real and personal property; to contract with individuals, associations and corporations, and the state and the United States; to sue and be sued; to loan and borrow funds; to do anything a natural person may do; and to perform all manner

and type of community services and activities in furtherance of an agreement by a city or by the public corporation, commission or authority with the United States to carry out the purposes of the Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act of 1966: PROVIDED, That

(1) All liabilities incurred by such public corporation, commission or authority shall be satisfied exclusively from the assets and credit of such public corporation, commission or authority; and no creditor or other person shall have any recourse to the assets, credit or services of the municipal corporation creating the same on account of any debts, obligations or liabilities of such public corporation, commission or authority;

(2) Such public corporation, commission or authority shall have no power of eminent domain nor any power to levy taxes or special assessments;

(3) The name, the organization, the purposes and scope of activities, the powers and duties of the officers, and the disposition of property upon dissolution of such public corporation, commission or authority shall be set forth in its charter of incorporation or organization, or in a general ordinance of the city or both. [1971 ex.s. c 177 § 7.]

**35.21.680 Participation in Economic Opportunity Act programs.** The legislative body of any city or town, is hereby authorized and empowered in its discretion by resolution or ordinance passed by a majority of the legislative body, to take whatever action it deems necessary to enable the city or town to participate in the programs set forth in the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 (Public Law 88-452; 78 Stat. 508), as amended. Such participation may be engaged in as a sole city or town operation or in conjunction or cooperation with the state, any other city or town, county, or municipal corporation, or any private corporation qualified under said Economic Opportunity Act. [1971 ex.s. c 177 § 3.]

**35.21.685 Low-income housing—Loans and grants.** A city or town may assist in the development or preservation of publicly or privately owned housing for persons of low income by providing loans or grants of general municipal funds to the owners or developers of the housing. The loans or grants shall be authorized by the legislative authority of the city or town. They may be made to finance all or a portion of the cost of construction, reconstruction, acquisition, or rehabilitation of housing that will be occupied by a person or family of low income. As used in this section, "low income" means income that does not exceed eighty percent of the median income for the standard metropolitan statistical area in which the city or town is located. Housing constructed with loans or grants made under this section shall not be considered public works or improvements subject to competitive bidding or a purchase of services subject to the prohibition against advance payment for services: PROVIDED, That whenever feasible the borrower or grantee shall make every reasonable and practicable effort to utilize a competitive public bidding process. [1986 c 248 § 1.]

**35.21.687 Affordable housing—Inventory of suitable housing.** (1) Every city and town, including every code city

operating under Title 35A RCW, shall identify and catalog real property owned by the city or town that is no longer required for its purposes and is suitable for the development of affordable housing for very low-income, low-income, and moderate-income households as defined in RCW 43.63A.510. The inventory shall include the location, approximate size, and current zoning classification of the property. Every city and town shall provide a copy of the inventory to the \*department of community development by November 1, 1993, with inventory revisions each November 1 thereafter.

(2) By November 1 of each year, beginning in 1994, every city and town, including every code city operating under Title 35A RCW, shall purge the inventory of real property of sites that are no longer available for the development of affordable housing. The inventory revision shall also contain a list of real property that has become available since the last update. As used in this section, "real property" means buildings, land, or buildings and land. [1993 c 461 § 4.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Powers, duties, and functions of the department of community development and the department of trade and economic development were transferred to the department of community, trade, and economic development by 1993 c 280, effective July 1, 1994.

**Finding—1993 c 461:** See note following RCW 43.63A.510.

**35.21.690 Authority to regulate auctioneers—Limitations.** A city or town shall not license auctioneers that are licensed by the state under chapter 18.11 RCW other than by requiring an auctioneer to obtain a general city or town business license and by subjecting an auctioneer to a city or town business and occupation tax. A city or town shall not require auctioneers that are licensed by the state under chapter 18.11 RCW to obtain bonding in addition to the bonding required by the state. [1984 c 189 § 2.]

**35.21.692 Authority to regulate massage practitioners—Limitations.** (1) A state licensed massage practitioner seeking a city or town license to operate a massage business must provide verification of his or her state massage license as provided for in RCW 18.108.030.

(2) The city or town may charge a licensing or operating fee, but the fee charged a state licensed massage practitioner shall not exceed the licensing or operating fee imposed on similar health care providers, such as physical therapists or occupational therapists, operating within the same city or town.

(3) A state licensed massage practitioner is not subject to additional licensing requirements not currently imposed on similar health care providers, such as physical therapists or occupational therapists. [1991 c 182 § 1.]

**35.21.695 Authority to own and operate professional sports franchise.** (1) Any city, code city, or county, individually or collectively, may own and operate an existing professional sports franchise when the owners of such franchises announce their intention to sell or move a franchise.

(2) If a city, code city, or county purchases a professional sports franchise, a public corporation shall be created to manage and operate the franchise. The public corporation

created under this section shall have all of the authorities granted by RCW 35.21.730 through 35.21.757. [1987 c 32 § 2.]

**Legislative declaration—1987 c 32:** "The legislature hereby declares and finds that professional sports franchises are economic, cultural, and entertainment assets to the state and that unilateral actions by the owners of such franchises to move franchises to other locations result in a loss of direct and indirect employment and national visibility for the state. The legislature finds that the retention of professional sports franchises and the enabling authority created by RCW 35.21.695 are public purposes and that RCW 35.21.695 shall not be construed in any manner contrary to the provisions of Article VIII, section 7, of the Washington state Constitution." [1987 c 32 § 1.]

**35.21.696 Newspaper carrier regulation.** A city or town, including a code city, may not license newspaper carriers under eighteen years of age for either regulatory or revenue-generating purposes. [1994 c 112 § 3.]

**35.21.700 Tourist promotion.** Any city or town in this state acting through its council or other legislative body shall have power to expend moneys and conduct promotion of resources and facilities in the city or town, or general area, by advertising, publicizing, or otherwise distributing information for the purpose of attracting visitors and encouraging tourist expansion. [1971 ex.s. c 61 § 2.]

**35.21.703 Economic development programs.** It shall be in the public purpose for all cities to engage in economic development programs. In addition, cities may contract with nonprofit corporations in furtherance of this and other acts relating to economic development. [1985 c 92 § 1.]

**35.21.706 Imposition or increase of business and occupation tax—Referendum procedure required—Exclusive procedure.** Every city and town first imposing a business and occupation tax or increasing the rate of the tax after April 22, 1983, shall provide for a referendum procedure to apply to an ordinance imposing the tax or increasing the rate of the tax. This referendum procedure shall specify that a referendum petition may be filed within seven days of passage of the ordinance with a filing officer, as identified in the ordinance. Within ten days, the filing officer shall confer with the petitioner concerning form and style of the petition, issue the petition an identification number, and secure an accurate, concise, and positive ballot title from the designated local official. The petitioner shall have thirty days in which to secure the signatures of not less than fifteen percent of the registered voters of the city, as of the last municipal general election, upon petition forms which contain the ballot title and the full text of the measure to be referred. The filing officer shall verify the sufficiency of the signatures on the petition and, if sufficient valid signatures are properly submitted, shall certify the referendum measure to the next election ballot within the city or at a special election ballot as provided pursuant to RCW 35.17.260(2).

This referendum procedure shall be exclusive in all instances for any city ordinance imposing a business and occupation tax or increasing the rate of the tax and shall supersede the procedures provided under chapters 35.17 and 35A.11 RCW and all other statutory or charter provisions for

initiative or referendum which might otherwise apply. [1983 c 99 § 6.]

**Severability—1983 c 99:** See note following RCW 82.14.200.

**35.21.710 License fees or taxes on certain business activities—Uniform rate required—Maximum rate established.** Any city which imposes a license fee or tax upon business activities consisting of the making of retail sales of tangible personal property which are measured by gross receipts or gross income from such sales, shall impose such tax at a single uniform rate upon all such business activities. The taxing authority granted to cities for taxes upon business activities measured by gross receipts or gross income from sales shall not exceed a rate of .0020; except that any city with an adopted ordinance at a higher rate, as of January 1, 1982 shall be limited to a maximum increase of ten percent of the January 1982 rate, not to exceed an annual incremental increase of two percent of current rate: PROVIDED, That any adopted ordinance which classifies according to different types of business or services shall be subject to both the ten percent and the two percent annual incremental increase limitation on each tax rate: PROVIDED FURTHER, That all surtaxes on business and occupation classifications in effect as of January 1, 1982, shall expire no later than December 31, 1982, or by expiration date established by local ordinance. Cities which impose a license fee or tax upon business activities consisting of the making of retail sales of tangible personal property which are measured by gross receipts or gross income from such sales shall be required to submit an annual report to the state auditor identifying the rate established and the revenues received from each fee or tax. This section shall not apply to any business activities subject to the tax imposed by chapter 82.16 RCW. For purposes of this section, the providing to consumers of competitive telephone service, as defined in RCW 82.04.065, shall be deemed to be the retail sale of tangible personal property. [1983 2nd ex.s. c 3 § 33; 1983 c 99 § 7; 1982 1st ex.s. c 49 § 7; 1981 c 144 § 6; 1972 ex.s. c 134 § 6.]

**Construction—Severability—Effective dates—1983 2nd ex.s. c 3:** See notes following RCW 82.04.255.

**Severability—1983 c 99:** See note following RCW 82.14.200.

**Intent—1982 1st ex.s. c 49:** "The legislature hereby recognizes the concern of local governmental entities regarding the financing of vital services to residents of this state. The legislature finds that local governments are an efficient and responsive means of providing these vital services to the citizens of this state. It is the intent of the legislature that vital services such as public safety, public health, and fire protection be recognized by all local governmental entities in this state as top priorities of the citizens of Washington." [1982 1st ex.s. c 49 § 1.]

**Construction—1982 1st ex.s. c 49:** "Nothing in this act precludes the imposition of business and occupation taxes by cities and towns, or of sales and use taxes. However, nothing in this act authorizes the imposition of a business and occupation tax by any county." [1982 1st ex.s. c 49 § 6.]

**Effective date—1982 1st ex.s. c 49:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately, except section 5 of this act shall take effect July 1, 1982." [1982 1st ex.s. c 49 § 25.] "Section 5 of this act" is the 1982 1st ex.s. c 49 amendment to RCW 82.02.020.

**Fire district funding—1982 1st ex.s. c 49:** "County legislative authorities who levy optional taxes pursuant to this act shall fully consider funding for fire districts within their respective jurisdictions during the county budget process.



The local government committees of the legislature shall study fire district services and funding and shall report back to the Washington State Legislature by December 31, 1982." [1982 1st ex.s. c 49 § 23.]

The above four annotations apply to 1982 1st ex.s. c 49. For codification of that act, see Codification Tables, Volume 0.

**Intent—Severability—Effective date—1981 c 144:** See notes following RCW 82.16.010.

*License fees and taxes on financial institutions: Chapter 82.14A RCW.*

**35.21.711 License fees or taxes on certain business activities—Excess rates authorized by voters.** The qualified voters of any city or town may by majority vote approve rates in excess of the provisions of RCW 35.21.710. [1982 1st ex.s. c 49 § 8.]

**Intent—Construction—Effective date—Fire district funding—1982 1st ex.s. c 49:** See notes following RCW 35.21.710.

**35.21.712 License fees or taxes on telephone business to be at uniform rate.** Any city which imposes a license fee or tax upon the business activity of engaging in the telephone business, as defined in RCW 82.04.065, which is measured by gross receipts or gross income from the business shall impose the tax at a uniform rate on all persons engaged in the telephone business in the city.

This section does not apply to the providing of competitive telephone service as defined in RCW 82.04.065. [1983 2nd ex.s. c 3 § 35; 1981 c 144 § 8.]

**Construction—Severability—Effective dates—1983 2nd ex.s. c 3:** See notes following RCW 82.04.255.

**Intent—Severability—Effective date—1981 c 144:** See notes following RCW 82.16.010.

**35.21.714 License fees or taxes on telephone business—Imposition on certain gross revenues authorized—Limitations.** Any city which imposes a license fee or tax upon the business activity of engaging in the telephone business, as defined in RCW 82.04.065, which is measured by gross receipts or gross income may impose the fee or tax, if it desires, on one hundred percent of the total gross revenue derived from intrastate toll telephone services subject to the fee or tax: PROVIDED, That the city shall not impose the fee or tax on that portion of network telephone service, as defined in RCW 82.04.065, which represents charges to another telecommunications company, as defined in RCW 80.04.010, for connecting fees, switching charges, or carrier access charges relating to intrastate toll telephone services, or for access to, or charges for, interstate services, or charges for network telephone service that is purchased for the purpose of resale. [1989 c 103 § 1; 1986 c 70 § 1; 1983 2nd ex.s. c 3 § 37; 1981 c 144 § 10.]

**Severability—1989 c 103:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1989 c 103 § 5.]

**Effective date—1986 c 70 §§ 1, 2, 4, 5:** "Sections 1, 2, 4, and 5 of this act shall take effect on January 1, 1987." [1986 c 70 § 8.]

**Construction—Severability—Effective dates—1983 2nd ex.s. c 3:** See notes following RCW 82.04.255.

**Intent—Severability—Effective date—1981 c 144:** See notes following RCW 82.16.010.

**35.21.715 Taxes on network telephone services.** Notwithstanding RCW 35.21.714 or 35A.82.060, any city or

town which imposes a tax upon business activities measured by gross receipts or gross income from sales, may impose such tax on that portion of network telephone service, as defined in RCW 82.04.065, which represents charges to another telecommunications company, as defined in RCW 80.04.010, for connecting fees, switching charges, or carrier access charges relating to intrastate toll services, or charges for network telephone service that is purchased for the purpose of resale. Such tax shall be levied at the same rate as is applicable to other competitive telephone service as defined in RCW 82.04.065. [1989 c 103 § 2; 1986 c 70 § 2.]

**Severability—1989 c 103:** See note following RCW 35.21.714.

**Effective date—1986 c 70 §§ 1, 2, 4, 5:** See note following RCW 35.21.714.

**35.21.720 City contracts to obtain sheriff's office law enforcement services.** See RCW 41.14.250 through 41.14.280.

**35.21.730 Public corporations—Powers of cities, towns, and counties—Administration.** In order to improve the administration of authorized federal grants or programs, to improve governmental efficiency and services, or to improve the general living conditions in the urban areas of the state, any city, town, or county may by lawfully adopted ordinance or resolution:

(1) Transfer to any public corporation, commission, or authority created hereunder, with or without consideration, any funds, real or personal property, property interests, or services;

(2) Organize and participate in joint operations or cooperative organizations funded by the federal government when acting solely as coordinators or agents of the federal government;

(3) Continue federally-assisted programs, projects, and activities after expiration of contractual term or after expending allocated federal funds as deemed appropriate to fulfill contracts made in connection with such agreements or as may be proper to permit an orderly readjustment by participating corporations, associations, or individuals;

(4) Create public corporations, commissions, and authorities to: Administer and execute federal grants or programs; receive and administer private funds, goods, or services for any lawful public purpose; and perform any lawful public purpose or public function. The ordinance or resolution shall limit the liability of such public corporations, commissions, and authorities to the assets and properties of such public corporation, commission, or authority in order to prevent recourse to such cities, towns, or counties or their assets or credit. [1985 c 332 § 1; 1974 ex.s. c 37 § 2.]

**35.21.735 Public corporations—Declaration of public purpose—Power and authority to enter into agreements—Receive and expend funds.** The legislature hereby declares that carrying out the purposes of federal grants or programs is both a public purpose and an appropriate function for such a public corporation. The provisions of RCW 35.21.730 through 35.21.755 and RCW 35.21.660 and 35.21.670 and the enabling authority herein conferred to

implement these provisions shall be construed to accomplish the purposes of RCW 35.21.730 through 35.21.755.

All cities, towns and counties shall have the power and authority to enter into agreements with the United States or any agency or department thereof, or any agency of the state government or its political subdivisions, and pursuant to such agreements may receive and expend federal or private funds for any lawful public purpose. [1985 c 332 § 3; 1974 ex.s. c 37 § 3.]

**35.21.740 Public corporations—Exercise of powers, authorities, or rights—Territorial jurisdiction.** Powers, authorities, or rights expressly or impliedly granted to any city, town, or county or their agents under any provision of RCW 35.21.730 through 35.21.755 shall not be operable or applicable, or have any effect beyond the limits of the incorporated area of any city or town implementing RCW 35.21.730 through 35.21.755, unless so provided by contract between the city and another city or county. [1985 c 332 § 4; 1974 ex.s. c 37 § 4.]

**35.21.745 Public corporations—Provision for, control over—Powers.** Any city, town, or county which shall create a public corporation, commission, or authority pursuant to RCW 35.21.730 or 35.21.660, shall provide for its organization and operations and shall control and oversee its operation and funds in order to correct any deficiency and to assure that the purposes of each program undertaken are reasonably accomplished.

Any public corporation, commission, or authority created as provided in RCW 35.21.730 may be empowered to own and sell real and personal property; to contract with individuals, associations, and corporations, and the state and the United States; to sue and be sued; to loan and borrow funds and issue bonds and other instruments evidencing indebtedness; transfer any funds, real or personal property, property interests, or services; to do anything a natural person may do; and to perform all manner and type of community services: PROVIDED, That such public corporation, commission, or authority shall have no power of eminent domain nor any power to levy taxes or special assessments. [1985 c 332 § 2; 1974 ex.s. c 37 § 5.]

**35.21.747 Public corporations—Real property transferred by city, town, or county—Restrictions, notice, public meeting.** (1) In transferring real property to a public corporation, commission, or authority under RCW 35.21.730, the city, town, or county creating such public corporation, commission, or authority shall impose appropriate deed restrictions necessary to ensure the continued use of such property for the public purpose or purposes for which such property is transferred.

(2) The city, town, or county that creates a public corporation, commission, or authority under RCW 35.21.730 shall require of such public corporation, commission, or authority thirty days' advance written notice of any proposed sale or encumbrance of any real property transferred by such city, town, or county to such public corporation, commission, or authority pursuant to RCW 35.21.730(1). At a minimum, such notice shall be provided by such public corporation, commission, or authority to the chief executive or adminis-

trative officer of such city, town, or county, and to all members of its legislative body, and to each local newspaper of general circulation, and to each local radio or television station or other news medium which has on file with such corporation, commission, or authority a written request to be notified.

(3) Any property transferred by the city, town, or county that created such public corporation, commission, or authority may be sold or encumbered by such public corporation, commission, or authority only after approval of such sale or encumbrance by the governing body of the public corporation, commission, or authority at a public meeting of which notice was provided pursuant to RCW 42.30.080. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent the governing body of the public corporation, commission, or authority from holding an executive session during a regular or special meeting in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(1)(c). In addition, the public corporation, commission, or authority shall advertise notice of the meeting in a local newspaper of general circulation at least twice no less than seven days and no more than two weeks before the public meeting. [1990 c 189 § 1.]

**35.21.750 Public corporations—Insolvency or dissolution.** In the event of the insolvency or dissolution of a public corporation, commission, or authority, the superior court of the county in which the public corporation, commission, or authority is or was operating shall have jurisdiction and authority to appoint trustees or receivers of corporate property and assets and supervise such trusteeship or receivership: PROVIDED, That all liabilities incurred by such public corporation, commission, or authority shall be satisfied exclusively from the assets and properties of such public corporation, commission, or authority and no creditor or other person shall have any right of action against the city, town, or county creating such corporation, commission or authority on account of any debts, obligations, or liabilities of such public corporation, commission, or authority. [1974 ex.s. c 37 § 6.]

**35.21.755 Public corporations—Exemption or immunity from taxation—In lieu excise tax.** (1) A public corporation, commission, or authority created pursuant to RCW 35.21.730 or 35.21.660 shall receive the same immunity or exemption from taxation as that of the city, town, or county creating the same: PROVIDED, That, except for (a) any property within a special review district established by ordinance prior to January 1, 1976, or listed on or which is within a district listed on any federal or state register of historical sites or (b) any property owned, operated, or controlled by a public corporation that is used primarily for low-income housing, or that is used as a convention center, performing arts center, public assembly hall, or public meeting place, any such public corporation, commission, or authority shall pay to the county treasurer an annual excise tax equal to the amounts which would be paid upon real property and personal property devoted to the purposes of such public corporation, commission, or authority were it in private ownership, and such real property and personal property is acquired and/or operated under RCW 35.21.730 through 35.21.755, and the proceeds of such excise tax shall

be allocated by the county treasurer to the various taxing authorities in which such property is situated, in the same manner as though the property were in private ownership: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the provisions of chapter 82.29A RCW shall not apply to property within a special review district established by ordinance prior to January 1, 1976, or listed on or which is within a district listed on any federal or state register of historical sites and which is controlled by a public corporation, commission, or authority created pursuant to RCW 35.21.730 or 35.21.660, which was in existence prior to January 1, 1987: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That property within a special review district established by ordinance prior to January 1, 1976, or property which is listed on any federal or state register of historical sites and controlled by a public corporation, commission, or authority created pursuant to RCW 35.21.730 or 35.21.660, which was in existence prior to January 1, 1976, shall receive the same immunity or exemption from taxation as if such property had been within a district listed on any such federal or state register of historical sites as of January 1, 1976, and controlled by a public corporation, commission, or authority created pursuant to RCW 35.21.730 or 35.21.660 which was in existence prior to January 1, 1976.

(2) As used in this section:

(a) "Low-income" means a total annual income, adjusted for family size, not exceeding fifty percent of the area median income.

(b) "Area median income" means:

(i) For an area within a standard metropolitan statistical area, the area median income reported by the United States department of housing and urban development for that standard metropolitan statistical area; or

(ii) For an area not within a standard metropolitan statistical area, the county median income reported by the \*department of community development. [1993 c 220 § 1; 1990 c 131 § 1; 1987 c 282 § 1; 1985 c 332 § 5; 1984 c 116 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 196 § 9; 1977 ex.s. c 35 § 1; 1974 ex.s. c 37 § 7.]

\*Reviser's note: Powers, duties, and functions of the department of community development and the department of trade and economic development were transferred to the department of community, trade, and economic development by 1993 c 280, effective July 1, 1994.

Effective date—1979 ex.s. c 196: See note following RCW 82.04.240.

Effective date—1977 ex.s. c 35: "This 1977 amendatory act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect July 1, 1977." [1977 ex.s. c 35 § 2.]

**35.21.757 Public corporations—Statutes to be construed consistent with state Constitution.** Nothing in RCW 35.21.730 through 35.21.755 shall be construed in any manner contrary to the provisions of Article VIII, section 7, of the Washington state Constitution. [1985 c 332 § 6.]

**35.21.760 Legal interns—Employment authorized.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the city attorney, corporation counsel, or other chief legal officer of any city or town may employ legal interns as otherwise authorized by statute or court rule. [1974 ex.s. c 7 § 1.]

**35.21.762 Urban emergency medical service districts—Creation authorized in city or town with territory in two counties.** The council of a city or town that has territory included in two counties may adopt an ordinance creating an urban emergency medical service district in all of the portion of the city or town that is located in one of the two counties if: (1) The county in which the urban emergency medical service district is located does not impose an emergency medical service levy authorized under RCW 84.52.069; and (2) the other county in which the city or town is located does impose an emergency medical service levy authorized under RCW 84.52.069. The ordinance creating the district may only be adopted after a public hearing has been held on the creation of the district and the council makes a finding that it is in the public interest to create the district. The members of the city or town council, acting in an ex officio capacity and independently, shall compose the governing body of the urban emergency medical service district. The voters of an urban emergency medical service district shall be all registered voters residing within the urban emergency medical service district.

An urban emergency medical service district shall be a quasi-municipal corporation and an independent taxing "authority" within the meaning of Article VII, section 1 of the state Constitution. Urban emergency medical service districts shall also be "taxing districts" within the meaning of Article VII, section 2 of the state Constitution.

An urban emergency medical service district shall have the authority to contract under chapter 39.34 RCW with a county, city, town, fire protection district, public hospital district, or emergency medical service district to have emergency medical services provided within its boundaries.

Territory located in the same county as an urban emergency medical service district that is annexed by the city or town must automatically be annexed to the urban emergency medical service district. [1994 c 79 § 1.]

*Levy for emergency medical care and services: RCW 84.52.069.*

**35.21.765 Fire protection, ambulance or other emergency services provided by municipal corporation within county—Financial and other assistance by county authorized.** See RCW 36.32.470.

**35.21.766 Ambulance services—Establishment authorized.** Whenever the legislative authority of any city or town determines that the city or town or a substantial portion of the city or town is not adequately served by existing private ambulance service, the legislative authority may by appropriate legislation provide for the establishment of a system of ambulance service to be operated as a public utility of the city or town or operated by contract after a call for bids. [1975 1st ex.s. c 24 § 1.]

*Ambulance services by counties authorized: RCW 36.01.100.*

**35.21.768 Ambulance services—Excise taxes authorized—Use of proceeds.** The legislative authority of any city or town is authorized to adopt ordinances for the levy and collection of excise taxes and/or for the imposition of an additional tax for the act or privilege of engaging in the ambulance business. Such business and occupation tax

shall be imposed in such amounts as fixed and determined by the legislative authority.

The excise taxes other than the business and occupation tax authorized by this section shall be levied and collected from all persons, businesses, and industries who are served and billed for said ambulance service owned and operated or contracted for by the city or town in such amounts as shall be fixed and determined by the legislative authority of the city or town.

All taxes authorized pursuant to this section shall be construed to be taxes other than a retail sales tax defined in chapter 82.08 RCW and a use tax defined in chapter 82.12 RCW, and the city or town shall appropriate and use the proceeds derived from all taxes authorized by this section only for the operation, maintenance and capital needs of its municipally owned, operated, leased or contracted for ambulance service. [1975 1st ex.s. c 24 § 2.]

**35.21.769 Levy for emergency medical care and services.** See RCW 84.52.069.

**35.21.770 Members of legislative bodies authorized to serve as volunteer fire fighters or reserve law enforcement officers.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the legislative body of any city or town, by resolution adopted by a two-thirds vote of the full legislative body, may authorize any of its members to serve as volunteer fire fighters or reserve law enforcement officers, or both, and to receive the same compensation, insurance and other benefits as are applicable to other volunteer fire fighters or reserve law enforcement officers employed by the city or town. [1993 c 303 § 1; 1974 ex.s. c 60 § 1.]

**35.21.775 Provision of fire protection services to state-owned facilities.** Subject to the provisions of RCW 35.21.779, whenever a city or town has located within its territorial limits facilities, except those leased to a nontax-exempt person or organization, owned by the state or an agency or institution of the state, the state or agency or institution owning such facilities and the city or town may contract for an equitable share of fire protection services for the protection and safety of personnel and property, pursuant to chapter 39.34 RCW, as now or hereafter amended. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require the state, or any state agency or institution, to contract for services which are performed by the staff and equipment of such an entity or by a fire protection district pursuant to RCW 52.30.020. [1992 c 117 § 4; 1985 c 6 § 4; 1984 c 230 § 82; 1983 c 146 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 102 § 1.]

**Findings—1992 c 117:** "The legislature finds that certain state-owned facilities and institutions impose a financial burden on the cities and towns responsible for providing fire protection services to those state facilities. The legislature endeavors pursuant to chapter 117, Laws of 1992, to establish a process whereby cities and towns that have a significant share of their total assessed valuation taken up by state-owned facilities can enter into fire protection contracts with state agencies or institutions to provide a share of the jurisdiction's fire protection funding." [1992 c 117 § 3.]

**35.21.778 Existing contracts for fire protection services and equipment not abrogated.** Nothing in chapter 117, Laws of 1992, shall be interpreted to abrogate existing contracts for fire protection services and equipment, nor be

deemed to authorize cities and towns to negotiate additional contractual provisions to apply prior to the expiration of such existing contracts. Upon expiration of contracts negotiated prior to March 31, 1992, future contracts between such cities and towns and state agencies and institutions shall be governed by the provisions of RCW 35.21.775 and 35.21.779. [1992 c 117 § 5.]

**Findings—1992 c 117:** See note following RCW 35.21.775.

**35.21.779 Fire protection services for state-owned facilities—Contracts with the \*department of community development—Consolidation of negotiations with multiple state agencies—Arbitration.** (1) In cities or towns where the estimated value of state-owned facilities constitutes ten percent or more of the total assessed valuation, the state agency or institution owning the facilities shall contract with the city or town to pay an equitable share for fire protection services. The contract shall be negotiated as provided in subsections (2) through (6) of this section and shall provide for payment by the agency or institution to the city or town.

(2) A city or town seeking to enter into fire protection contract negotiations shall provide written notification to the \*department of community development and the state agencies or institutions that own property within the jurisdiction, of its intent to contract for fire protection services. Where there are multiple state agencies located within a single jurisdiction, a city may choose to notify only the \*department of community development, which in turn shall notify the agencies or institution that own property within the jurisdiction of the city's intent to contract for fire protection services. Any such notification shall be based on the valuation procedures, based on commonly accepted standards, adopted by the \*department of community development in consultation with the department of general administration and the association of Washington cities.

(3) The \*department of community development shall review any such notification to ensure that the valuation procedures and results are accurate. The department will notify each affected city or town and state agency or institution of the results of their review within thirty days of receipt of notification.

(4) The parties negotiating fire protection contracts under this section shall conduct those negotiations in good faith. Whenever there are multiple state agencies located within a single jurisdiction, every effort shall be made by the state to consolidate negotiations on behalf of all affected agencies.

(5) In the event of notification by one of the parties that an agreement cannot be reached on the terms and conditions of a fire protection contract, the \*director of the department of community development shall mediate a resolution of the disagreement. In the event of a continued impasse, the \*director of the department of community development shall recommend a resolution.

(6) If the parties reject the recommendation of the director and an impasse continues, the director shall direct the parties to arbitration. The parties shall agree on a neutral arbitrator, and the fees and expenses of the arbitrator shall be shared equally between the parties. The arbitration shall be a final offer, total arbitration, with the arbitrator empowered only to pick the final offer of one of the parties or the

recommended resolution by the \*director of the department of community development. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final, binding, and nonappealable on the parties.

(7) The provisions of this section shall not apply if a city or town and a state agency or institution have contracted pursuant to RCW 35.21.775.

(8) The provisions of this section do not apply to cities and towns not meeting the conditions in subsection (1) of this section. Cities and towns not meeting the conditions of subsection (1) of this section may enter into contracts pursuant to RCW 35.21.775. [1992 c 117 § 6.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Powers, duties, and functions of the department of community development and the department of trade and economic development were transferred to the department of community, trade, and economic development by 1993 c 280, effective July 1, 1994.

**Findings—1992 c 117:** See note following RCW 35.21.775.

**35.21.780 Laws, rules and regulations applicable to cities 500,000 or over deemed applicable to cities 400,000 or over.** On and after June 12, 1975, every law and rule or regulation of the state or any agency thereof which immediately prior to June 12, 1975 related to cities of five hundred thousand population or over shall be deemed to be applicable to cities of four hundred thousand population or over. [1975 c 33 § 1.]

**Severability—1975 c 33:** "If any provision of this 1975 amendatory act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1975 c 33 § 7.]

**35.21.790 Revision of corporate boundary within street, road, or highway right of way by substituting right of way line—Not subject to review.** (1) The governing bodies of a county and any city or town located therein may by agreement revise any part of the corporate boundary of the city or town which coincides with the centerline, edge, or any portion of a public street, road or highway right of way by substituting therefor a right of way line of the same public street, road or highway so as fully to include or fully to exclude that segment of the public street, road or highway from the corporate limits of the city or town.

(2) The revision of a corporate boundary as authorized by this section shall become effective when approved by ordinance of the city or town council or commission and by ordinance or resolution of the county legislative authority. Such a boundary revision is not subject to potential review by a boundary review board. [1989 c 84 § 10; 1975 1st ex.s. c 220 § 17.]

**Legislative finding, intent—1975 1st ex.s. c 220:** See note following RCW 35.02.170.

**Boundary line adjustment:** RCW 35.13.300 through 35.13.330.

**Use of right of way line as corporate boundary in incorporation proceeding—When right of way may be included in territory to be incorporated:** RCW 35.02.170.

**When right of way may be included in territory to be incorporated—Use of right of way line as corporate boundary in annexation:** RCW 35.13.290.

**35.21.800 Foreign trade zones—Legislative finding, intent.** It is the finding of the legislature that foreign trade zones serve an important public purpose by the creation of employment opportunities within the state and that the establishment of zones designed to accomplish this purpose

is to be encouraged. It is the further intent of the legislature that the department of trade and economic development provide assistance to entities planning to apply to the United States for permission to establish such zones. [1985 c 466 § 43; 1977 ex.s. c 196 § 3.]

**Effective date—Severability—1985 c 466:** See notes following RCW 43.31.085.

**Effective date—1977 ex.s. c 196:** See note following RCW 24.46.010.

**35.21.805 Foreign trade zones—Authority to apply for permission to establish, operate and maintain.** A city or town, as zone sponsor, may apply to the United States for permission to establish, operate, and maintain foreign trade zones: PROVIDED, That nothing herein shall be construed to prevent these zones from being operated and financed by a private corporation(s) on behalf of a city or town acting as zone sponsor. [1977 ex.s. c 196 § 4.]

**Effective date—1977 ex.s. c 196:** See note following RCW 24.46.010.

**35.21.810 Hydroplane races—Providing for restrooms and other services in public parks for spectators—Admission fees—Authorized.** Any city or town may provide restrooms and other services in its public parks to be used by spectators of any hydroplane race held on a lake or river which is located adjacent to or within the city or town, and in addition any city or town may charge admission fees for persons to observe a hydroplane race from public park property which is sufficient to defray the costs of the city or town accommodating spectators, cleaning up after the race, and other costs related to the hydroplane race. Any city or town may authorize the organization which sponsors a hydroplane race to provide restroom and other services for the public on park property and may authorize the organization to collect any admission fees charged by the city or town. [1979 c 26 § 1.]

**35.21.815 Hydroplane races—Levying of admission charges declared public park purpose—Reversion prohibited.** It is hereby declared to be a legitimate public park purpose for any city or town to levy an admission charge for spectators to view hydroplane races from park property. Property which has been conveyed to a city or town by the state for exclusive use in the city's or town's public park system or exclusively for public park, parkway, and boulevard purposes shall not revert to the state upon the levying of admission fees authorized in RCW 35.21.810. [1979 c 26 § 2.]

**35.21.820 Acquisition and disposal of vehicles for commuter ride sharing by city employees.** The power of any city, town, county, other municipal corporation, or quasi municipal corporation to acquire, hold, use, possess, and dispose of motor vehicles for official business shall include, but not be limited to, the power to acquire, hold, use, possess, and dispose of motor vehicles for commuter ride sharing by its employees, so long as such use is economical and advantageous to the city, town, county, other municipal corporation. [1979 c 111 § 11.]

**Severability—1979 c 111:** See note following RCW 46.74.010.

*Ride sharing: Chapter 46.74 RCW.*

**35.21.830 Controls on rent for residential structures—Prohibited—Exceptions.** The imposition of controls on rent is of state-wide significance and is preempted by the state. No city or town of any class may enact, maintain, or enforce ordinances or other provisions which regulate the amount of rent to be charged for single family or multiple unit residential rental structures or sites other than properties in public ownership, under public management, or properties providing low-income rental housing under joint public-private agreements for the financing or provision of such low-income rental housing. This section shall not be construed as prohibiting any city or town from entering into agreements with private persons which regulate or control the amount of rent to be charged for rental properties. [1981 c 75 § 1.]

**Applicability to floating home moorage sites—1981 c 75:** "Nothing in this act shall be construed to preempt local ordinances that relate to the control of rents or other relationships at floating home moorage sites." [1981 c 75 § 3.] This applies to RCW 35.21.830 and 36.01.130.

**Severability—1981 c 75:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1981 c 75 § 4.]

**35.21.840 Taxation of motor carriers of freight for hire—Allocation of gross receipts.** The following principles shall allocate gross receipts of a motor carrier of freight for hire (called the "motor carrier" in this section) to prevent multiple taxation by two or more municipalities. They shall apply when two or more municipalities in this state impose a license fee or tax for the act or privilege of engaging in business activities; each municipality has a basis in local activity for imposing its tax; and the gross receipts measured by all taxing municipalities, added together, exceed the motor carrier's gross receipts.

(1) No municipality shall be entitled to an allocation of the gross receipts of a motor carrier on account of the use of its streets or highways when no pick-up or delivery occurs therein.

(2) Gross receipts of a motor carrier derived within a municipality, where it solicits orders and engages in business activities that are a significant factor in holding the market but where it maintains no office or terminal, shall be allocated equally between the municipality providing the local market and the municipality where the motor carrier's office or terminal is located. Where no such local solicitation and business activity occurs, all the gross receipts shall be allocated to the municipality where the office or terminal is located irrespective of the place of pick-up or delivery. The word "terminal" means a location at which any three of the following four occur: Dispatching takes place, from which trucks operate or are serviced, personnel report and receive assignments, and orders are regularly received from the public.

(3) Gross receipts of a motor carrier that are not attributable to transportation services, such as investment income, truck repair, and rental of equipment, shall be allocated to the office or terminal conducting such activities.

(4) Gross receipts of a motor carrier with an office or terminal in two or more municipalities in this state shall be

allocated to the office or terminal at which the transportation services commenced. [1982 c 169 § 1.]

**Applicability—1982 c 169:** "This act applies to motor carriers of freight for hire only. Nothing in this act applies to a person engaged in the business of making sales at retail or wholesale or of providing storage services for tangible personal property." [1982 c 169 § 4.] This applies to RCW 35.21.840, 35.21.845, and 35.21.850.

*Motor freight carriers: Chapter 81.80 RCW.*

*Municipal business and occupation tax authorized: RCW 35.95.040.*

**35.21.845 Taxation of motor carriers of freight for hire—Tax allocation formula.** A motor carrier of freight for hire whose gross receipts are subject to multiple taxation by two or more municipalities in this state may request and thereupon shall be given a joint audit of the taxpayer's books and records by all of the taxing authorities seeking to tax all or part of such gross receipts. Such taxing authorities shall agree upon and establish a tax allocation formula which shall be binding upon the taxpayer and the taxing authorities participating in the audit or receiving a copy of such request from the taxpayer. Payment by the taxpayer of the taxes to each taxing authority in accordance with such tax allocation formula shall be a complete defense in any action by any taxing authority to recover additional taxes, interest, and/or penalties. A taxing municipality, whether or not a party to such joint audit, may seek a revision of the formula by giving written notice to each other taxing municipality concerned and the taxpayer. Any such revision as may be agreed upon by the taxing municipalities, or as may be decreed by a court of competent jurisdiction in an action initiated by one or more taxing authorities, shall apply only to gross receipts of the taxpayer received after the date of any such agreed revision or effective date of the judgment or order of any such court. [1982 c 169 § 2.]

**Applicability—1982 c 169:** See note following RCW 35.21.840.

**35.21.850 Taxation of motor carriers of freight for hire—Limitation—Exceptions.** No demand for a fee or tax or penalty shall be made by a city or town against a motor carrier of freight for hire on gross income derived from providing transportation services more than four years after the close of the year in which the same accrued except (1) against a taxpayer who has been guilty of fraud or misrepresentation of a material fact; or (2) where a taxpayer has executed a written waiver of such limitations; or (3) against a taxpayer who has not registered as required by the ordinance of the city or town imposing such tax or fee, provided this subsection shall not apply to a taxpayer who has registered in any city or town where the taxpayer maintains an office or terminal, or in the case of a taxpayer who has paid a license fee or tax based on such gross receipts to any city or town levying same which may reasonably be construed to be the principal market of the taxpayer but in which he maintains no office or terminal. [1982 c 169 § 3.]

**Applicability—1982 c 169:** See note following RCW 35.21.840.

**35.21.860 Electricity, telephone, or natural gas business—Franchise fees prohibited—Exceptions.** (1) No city or town may impose a franchise fee or any other fee or charge of whatever nature or description upon the light and power, or gas distribution businesses, as defined in RCW

82.16.010, or telephone business, as defined in RCW 82.04.065, except that (a) a tax authorized by RCW 35.21.865 may be imposed and (b) a fee may be charged to such businesses that recovers actual administrative expenses incurred by a city or town that are directly related to receiving and approving a permit, license, and franchise, to inspecting plans and construction, or to the preparation of a detailed statement pursuant to chapter 43.21C RCW.

(2) Subsection (1) of this section does not prohibit franchise fees imposed on an electrical energy, natural gas, or telephone business, by contract existing on April 20, 1982, with a city or town, for the duration of the contract, but the franchise fees shall be considered taxes for the purposes of the limitations established in RCW 35.21.865 and 35.21.870 to the extent the fees exceed the costs allowable under subsection (1) of this section. [1983 2nd ex.s. c 3 § 39; 1982 1st ex.s. c 49 § 2.]

**Construction—Severability—Effective dates—1983 2nd ex.s. c 3:** See notes following RCW 82.04.255.

**Intent—Construction—Effective date—Fire district funding—1982 1st ex.s. c 49:** See notes following RCW 35.21.710.

**35.21.865 Electricity, telephone, or natural gas business—Limitations on tax rate changes.** No city or town may change the rate of tax it imposes on the privilege of conducting an electrical energy, natural gas, or telephone business which change applies to business activities occurring before the effective date of the change, and no rate change may take effect before the expiration of sixty days following the enactment of the ordinance establishing the change except as provided in RCW 35.21.870. [1983 c 99 § 4; 1982 1st ex.s. c 49 § 3.]

**Severability—1983 c 99:** See note following RCW 82.14.200.

**Intent—Construction—Effective date—Fire district funding—1982 1st ex.s. c 49:** See notes following RCW 35.21.710.

**35.21.870 Electricity, telephone, natural gas, or steam energy business—Tax limited to six percent—Exception.** (1) No city or town may impose a tax on the privilege of conducting an electrical energy, natural gas, steam energy, or telephone business at a rate which exceeds six percent unless the rate is first approved by a majority of the voters of the city or town voting on such a proposition.

(2) If a city or town is imposing a rate of tax under subsection (1) of this section in excess of six percent on April 20, 1982, the city or town shall decrease the rate to a rate of six percent or less by reducing the rate each year on or before November 1st by ordinances to be effective on January 1st of the succeeding year, by an amount equal to one-tenth the difference between the tax rate on April 20, 1982, and six percent.

Nothing in this subsection prohibits a city or town from reducing its rates by amounts greater than the amounts required in this subsection.

Voter approved rate increases under subsection (1) of this section shall not be included in the computations under this subsection. [1984 c 225 § 6; 1983 c 99 § 5; 1982 1st ex.s. c 49 § 4.]

**Rules—1984 c 225:** See note following RCW 82.14.210.

**Severability—1983 c 99:** See note following RCW 82.14.200.

**Intent—Construction—Effective date—Fire district funding—1982 1st ex.s. c 49:** See notes following RCW 35.21.710.

**35.21.871 Tax on telephone business—Deferral of rate reduction.** A city or town required by RCW 35.21.870(2) to reduce its rate of taxation on telephone business may defer for one year the required reduction in rates for the year 1987. If the delay in rate reductions authorized by the preceding sentence is inadequate for a city or town to offset the impact of revenue reductions arising from the removal of revenues from connecting fees, switching charges, or carrier access charges under the provisions of RCW 35.21.714, then the legislative body of such city or town may reimpose for 1987 the rates that such city or town had in effect upon telephone business during 1985. In each succeeding year, the city or town shall reduce the rate by one-tenth of the difference between the tax rate on April 20, 1982, and six percent. [1986 c 70 § 3.]

**35.21.875 Designation of official newspaper.** Each city and town shall designate an official newspaper by resolution. The newspaper shall be of general circulation in the city or town and have the qualifications prescribed by chapter 65.16 RCW. [1985 c 469 § 99.]

**35.21.880 Right of way donations—Credit against required improvements.** Where the zoning and planning provisions of a city or town require landscaping, parking, or other improvements as a condition to granting permits for commercial or industrial developments, the city or town may credit donations of right of way in excess of that required for traffic improvement against such landscaping, parking, or other requirements. [1987 c 267 § 7.]

**Severability—1987 c 267:** See RCW 47.14.910.

*Right of way donations: Chapter 47.14 RCW.*

**35.21.890 Boundary changes—Providing factual information—Notice to boundary review board.** A city or town may provide factual information on the effects of a proposed boundary change on the city or town and the area potentially affected by the boundary change. A statement that the city or town has such information available, and copies of any printed materials or information available to be provided to the public shall be filed [filed] with the boundary review board for the board's information. [1989 c 84 § 70.]

## Chapter 35.22

### FIRST CLASS CITIES

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**35.22.010 Laws governing.** Cities of the first class shall be organized and governed according to the law providing for the government of cities having a population of twenty thousand or more inhabitants in accordance with Article 11, section 10 of the state Constitution. [1965 c 7 § 35.22.010. Prior: 1890 p 143 § 23; RRS § 8947.]

*First class city, defined: RCW 35.01.010.*

**35.22.020 Mode of exercising powers, functions and duties.** The form of the organization and the manner and mode in which cities of the first class shall exercise the powers, functions and duties conferred upon them by law, with respect to their own government, shall be as provided in the charters thereof. [1965 c 7 § 35.22.020. Prior: 1911 c 17 § 1; RRS § 8948.]

**35.22.030 Cities having ten thousand or more population may frame charter for own government.** Any city with a population of ten thousand or more inhabitants may frame a charter for its own government. [1965 ex.s. c 47 § 5; 1965 c 7 § 35.22.030. Prior: 1890 p 215 § 1; RRS § 8951.]

*Cities of ten thousand or more*

*may frame charters without change in classification: RCW 35.21.600 through 35.21.620.*

*permitted to frame charters: State Constitution Art. 11 § 10 (Amendment 40).*

**35.22.050 Election of freeholders to frame charter.** Whenever the population of a city is ten thousand or more, the legislative authority thereof shall provide by ordinance for an election to be held therein for the purpose of electing fifteen freeholders for the purpose of framing a charter for the city. The members of the board of freeholders must be qualified electors and must have been residents of the city for a period of at least two years prior to their election. [1965 ex.s. c 47 § 7; 1965 c 7 § 35.22.050. Prior: 1890 p 216 § 3, part; RRS § 8953, part.]

**35.22.055 Election of freeholders in cities of three hundred thousand or more population—Designation of positions—Rotation of names on ballots.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, whenever the population of a city is three hundred thousand persons or more, not less than ten days before the time for filing declarations of candidacy for election of freeholders under Article XI, section 10 (Amendment 40), of the state Constitution, the city clerk shall designate the positions to be filled by consecutive number, commencing with one. The positions to be designated shall be dealt with as separate offices for all election purposes, and each candidate shall file for one, but only one, of the positions so designated.

In the printing of ballots, the positions of the names of candidates for each numbered position shall be changed as many times as there are candidates for the numbered positions, following insofar as applicable the procedure provided for in RCW 29.30.040 for the rotation of names on primary ballots, the intention being that ballots at the polls will reflect as closely as practicable the rotation procedure as provided for therein. [1974 ex.s. c 1 § 1.]

**Severability—1974 ex.s. c 1:** "If any provision of this 1974 amendatory act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held

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invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1974 ex.s. c 1 § 3.]

**35.22.060 Submission of charter—Publication.** The board of freeholders shall convene within ten days after their election and frame a charter for the city and within thirty days thereafter, they, or a majority of them, shall submit the charter to the legislative authority of the city, which, within five days thereafter, shall cause it to be published in the newspaper having the largest general circulation within the city at least once each week for four weeks next preceding the day of submitting the same to the electors for their approval. [1985 c 469 § 22; 1965 ex.s. c 47 § 8; 1965 c 7 § 35.22.060. Prior: 1890 p 216 § 3, part; RRS § 8953, part.]

*Submission of proposed charter, publication: State Constitution Art. 11 § 10 (Amendment 40).*

**35.22.070 Election on adoption of charter—Notice.** Within five days after the filing with the city clerk of affidavits of publication, which affidavits shall be filed immediately after the last publication, the legislative authority of the city shall initiate the proceedings for the submission of the proposed charter to the qualified voters of the city for their adoption or rejection at either a general or special election. At this election the first officers to serve under the provisions of the proposed charter shall also be elected. In electing from wards, the division into wards as specified in the proposed charter shall govern; in all other respects the then existing laws relating to such election shall govern. The notice shall specify the objects for which the election is held, and shall be given as required by law. [1965 ex.s. c 47 § 9; 1965 c 7 § 35.22.070. Prior: (i) 1890 p 216 § 3, part; RRS § 8953, part. (ii) 1890 p 223 § 6, part; RRS § 8977, part.]

*Election on adoption of charter, notice: State Constitution Art. 11 § 10 (Amendment 40).*

**35.22.080 Conduct of elections.** The election of the members of the board of freeholders and that upon the proposition of adopting or rejecting the proposed charter and the officers to be elected thereunder, the returns of both elections, the canvassing thereof and the declaration of the result shall be governed by the laws regulating and controlling elections in the city. [1965 c 7 § 35.22.080. Prior: (i) 1890 p 216 § 3, part; RRS § 8953, part. (ii) 1890 p 223 § 6, part; RRS § 8977, part. (iii) 1890 p 217 § 4, part; RRS § 8954, part.]

*Elections: Title 29 RCW.*

**35.22.090 Form of ballot.** The form of ballot in the election for the adoption or rejection of the proposed charter shall be: "For the proposed charter," "Against the proposed charter." In submitting the proposed charter or amendments thereto, any alternate article or proposition may be presented for the choice of the voters and may be voted on separately without prejudice to others. In submitting such amendment, article or proposition, the form of the ballot shall be: "For article No. . . . of the charter," "Against article No. . . . of the charter." [1965 c 7 § 35.22.090. Prior: 1890 p 216 § 3, part; RRS § 8953, part.]

**35.22.100 Certificates of election to officers.** If a majority of the votes cast at the election upon the adoption of the proposed charter favor it, certificates of election shall be issued to each officer elected at that election. Within ten days after the issuance of the certificates of election, the newly elected officers shall qualify as provided in the charter, and on the tenth day thereafter at twelve o'clock noon of that day, the officers so elected and qualified shall enter upon the duties of the offices to which they were elected and at such time the charter shall be authenticated, recorded, attested and go into effect. When so authenticated, recorded and attested, the charter shall become the organic law of the city and supersede any existing charter and amendments thereto and all special laws inconsistent therewith. [1965 c 7 § 35.22.100. Prior: (i) 1890 p 223 § 6, part; RRS § 8977, part. (ii) 1890 p 217 § 4, part; RRS § 8954, part.]

**35.22.110 Authentication of charter.** The authentication of the charter shall be by certificate of the mayor in substance as follows:

"I . . . . ., mayor of the city of . . . . . do hereby certify that in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and statutes of the State of Washington, the city of . . . . . caused fifteen freeholders to be elected on the . . . . . day of . . . . . 19. . . to prepare a charter for the city; that due notice of that election was given in the manner provided by law and that the following persons were declared elected to prepare and propose a charter for the city, to wit:

That thereafter on the . . . . . day of . . . . . 19. . . the board of freeholders returned a proposed charter for the city of . . . . . signed by the following members thereof:

That thereafter the proposed charter was published in (Indicate name of newspaper in which published) for at least once each week for four weeks next preceding the day of submitting the same to the electors for their approval. (Indicate dates of publication)

That thereafter on the . . . . . day of . . . . . 19. . ., at an election duly called and held, the proposed charter was submitted to the qualified electors thereof, and the returns canvassed resulting as follows: For the proposed charter, . . . . . votes; against the proposed charter, . . . . . votes; majority for the proposed charter, . . . . . votes; whereupon the charter was declared adopted by a majority of the qualified electors voting at the election.

I further certify that the foregoing is a full, true and complete copy of the proposed charter so voted upon and adopted as aforesaid.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and affix the corporate seal of said city at my office this . . . . . day of . . . . . 19. . .

Attest:

..... Mayor of the city of

Clerk of the city of . . . . . (Corporate Seal)."

Immediately after authentication, the authenticated charter shall be recorded by the city clerk in a book provided

for that purpose known as the charter book of the city of . . . . . and when so recorded shall be attested by the clerk and mayor under the corporate seal of the city. All amendments shall be in like manner recorded and attested.

All courts shall take judicial notice of a charter and all amendments thereto when recorded and attested as required in this section. [1965 ex.s. c 47 § 10; 1965 c 7 § 35.22.110. Prior: 1890 p 217 § 4, part; RRS § 8954, part.]

**35.22.120 Petition for submission of charter amendment.** On petition of a number (equal to fifteen percent of the total number of votes cast at the last preceding general state election) of qualified voters of any municipality having adopted a charter under the laws of this state, asking the adoption of a specified charter amendment, providing for any matter within the realm of local affairs, or municipal business, the said amendment shall be submitted to the voters at the next regular municipal election, occurring thirty days or more after said petition is filed, and if approved by a majority of the local electors of the municipality voting upon it, such amendment shall become a part of the charter organic law governing such municipality. [1965 c 7 § 35.22.120. Prior: 1949 c 233 § 1; 1903 c 186 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 8963.]

*Times for holding elections: Chapter 29.13 RCW.*

**35.22.130 Requisites of petition—Effect of favorable vote.** A petition containing the demand for the submission of the proposed charter amendment or for an election to be held for the purpose of electing a board of freeholders for the purpose of preparing a new charter for the city as provided in RCW 35.22.140 shall be filed with the city clerk and each signer shall write his place of residence after his signature. This and RCW 35.22.120 do not deprive city councils of the right to submit proposed charter amendments but affords a concurrent and additional method of submission. [1967 c 123 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.22.130. Prior: (i) 1903 c 186 § 2; RRS § 8964. (ii) 1903 c 186 § 3; RRS § 8965.]

**35.22.140 New or revised charter—Petition—Freeholders.** On the petition of a number of registered voters of a city equal to twenty-five percent of the total votes cast at the last preceding city election, the city council of a charter city shall, or without such petition may, cause an election to be held for the purpose of electing a board of fifteen freeholders for the purpose of preparing a new charter for the city by altering, revising, adding to or repealing the existing charter including all amendments thereto. The members of the board of freeholders must be qualified electors and must have been residents in the city for a period of at least two years prior to their election. At such election the proposition of whether or not a board of freeholders shall be created at all shall be separately stated on the ballots and unless a majority of the votes cast upon that proposition favor it, no further steps shall be taken in the proceedings. [1965 ex.s. c 47 § 11; 1965 c 7 § 35.22.140. Prior: 1945 c 55 1, part; 1925 ex.s. c 137 § 1, part; 1895 c 27 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 8955, part.]

*Amendment of charter: State Constitution Art. 11 § 10 (Amendment 40).*

**35.22.150 Submission of new charter.** Within ten days after the results of the election have been determined, if a majority of the votes cast favor the proceeding, the members of the board of freeholders elected thereat shall convene and prepare a new charter by altering, revising, adding to, or repealing the existing charter including all amendments thereto and within one year thereafter file it with the city clerk. [1974 ex.s. c 1 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.22.150. Prior: 1945 c 55 § 1, part; 1925 ex.s. c 137 § 1, part; 1895 c 27 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 8955, part.]

**Severability—1974 ex.s. c 1:** See note following RCW 35.22.055.

**35.22.160 Election on adoption of new charter.** Upon the filing of the proposed new, altered, changed or revised charter with the city clerk, it shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the city at an election to be called therefor pursuant to the provisions of law applicable to the holding of elections in such city. [1965 c 7 § 35.22.160. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 137 § 2, part; 1895 c 27 § 2, part; RRS § 8956, part.]

*Times for holding elections: Chapter 29.13 RCW.*

**35.22.170 Publication of proposed charter.** The proposed new, altered or revised charter shall be published in the newspaper having the largest general circulation within the city at least once each week for four weeks next preceding the day of submitting the same to the electors for their approval. [1985 c 469 § 23; 1965 ex.s. c 47 § 12; 1965 c 7 § 35.22.170. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 137 § 3; 1895 c 27 § 3; RRS § 8957.]

*Publication of amendments to charter: State Constitution Art. 11 § 10 (Amendment 40).*

**35.22.180 Conduct of elections.** The election of the board of freeholders and that upon the proposition of adopting the proposed new, altered or revised charter, may be general or special elections and except as herein provided, said elections, the returns, the canvassing thereof and the declaration of the result shall be governed by the laws regulating and controlling elections in the city. In both cases the notice specifying the object of the election must be given at least ten days before the day of election. [1965 c 7 § 35.22.180. Prior: (i) 1895 c 27 § 4; RRS § 8958. (ii) 1895 c 27 § 5; RRS § 8959.]

*Election on amendment to charter: State Constitution Art. 11 § 10 (Amendment 40).*

**35.22.190 Effect of favorable vote.** If a majority of the voters voting upon the adoption of the proposed new, altered or revised charter favor it, it shall become the charter of the city and the organic law thereof, superseding any existing charter. All bodies or offices abolished or dispensed with by the new, altered or revised charter, together with the emoluments thereof shall immediately cease to exist, and any new offices created shall be filled by appointment of the mayor until the next general election subject to such approval by the city council as may be required by the new, altered or revised charter. [1965 c 7 § 35.22.190. Prior: (i) 1925 ex.s. c 137 § 2, part; 1895 c 27 § 2, part; RRS § 8956, part. (ii) 1895 c 27 § 6; RRS § 8962.]

*Times for holding elections: Chapter 29.13 RCW.*

**35.22.200 Legislative powers of charter city—Where vested—Direct legislation.** The legislative powers of a charter city shall be vested in a mayor and a city council, to consist of such number of members and to have such powers as may be provided for in its charter. The charter may provide for direct legislation by the people through the initiative and referendum upon any matter within the scope of the powers, functions, or duties of the city. The mayor and council and such other elective officers as may be provided for in such charter shall be elected at such times and in such manner as provided in Title 29 RCW, and for such terms and shall perform such duties and receive such compensation as may be prescribed in the charter. [1965 ex.s. c 47 § 13; 1965 c 7 § 35.22.200. Prior: (i) 1890 p 223 § 6, part; RRS § 8977, part. (ii) 1927 c 52 § 1; 1911 c 17 § 2; RRS § 8949.]

*Powers of cities adopting charters: RCW 35.21.600, 35.21.620.*

**35.22.205 Compensation and hours of mayor and elected officials.** The compensation and the time to be devoted to the performance of the duties of the mayor and elected officials of all cities of the first class shall be as fixed by ordinance of said city irrespective of any city charter provisions. [1965 c 7 § 35.22.205. Prior: 1957 c 113 § 1; 1955 c 354 § 1.]

**35.22.210 Separate designation of councilmen in certain first class cities.** Any city of the first class having a population less than one hundred thousand by the last federal census and having a charter providing that each of its councilmen shall be the commissioner of an administrative department of such city, may by ordinance provide for the separate designation of such councilmen as officers, in accordance with such administrative departments, and for their filing for and election to office under such separate designations. [1965 c 7 § 35.22.210. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 61 § 1; RRS § 8948-1.]

**35.22.220 Repeal of separate designation.** Whenever any such city shall have passed such an ordinance providing for such separate designations and for filing for and election to office in accordance therewith, such city shall have no power to repeal the same except by ordinance passed by the council of such city and submitted to the voters thereof at a general or special election and ratified by a majority of the voters voting thereon. [1965 c 7 § 35.22.220. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 61 § 2; RRS § 8948-2.]

*Times for holding elections: Chapter 29.13 RCW.*

**35.22.280 Specific powers enumerated.** Any city of the first class shall have power:

- (1) To provide for general and special elections, for questions to be voted upon, and for the election of officers;
- (2) To provide for levying and collecting taxes on real and personal property for its corporate uses and purposes, and to provide for the payment of the debts and expenses of the corporation;
- (3) To control the finances and property of the corporation, and to acquire, by purchase or otherwise, such lands and other property as may be necessary for any part of the corporate uses provided for by its charter, and to dispose of

any such property as the interests of the corporation may, from time to time, require;

(4) To borrow money for corporate purposes on the credit of the corporation, and to issue negotiable bonds therefor, on such conditions and in such manner as shall be prescribed in its charter; but no city shall, in any manner or for any purpose, become indebted to an amount in the aggregate to exceed the limitation of indebtedness prescribed by chapter 39.36 RCW as now or hereafter amended;

(5) To issue bonds in place of or to supply means to meet maturing bonds or other indebtedness, or for the consolidation or funding of the same;

(6) To purchase or appropriate private property within or without its corporate limits, for its corporate uses, upon making just compensation to the owners thereof, and to institute and maintain such proceedings as may be authorized by the general laws of the state for the appropriation of private property for public use;

(7) To lay out, establish, open, alter, widen, extend, grade, pave, plank, establish grades, or otherwise improve streets, alleys, avenues, sidewalks, wharves, parks, and other public grounds, and to regulate and control the use thereof, and to vacate the same, and to authorize or prohibit the use of electricity at, in, or upon any of said streets, or for other purposes, and to prescribe the terms and conditions upon which the same may be so used, and to regulate the use thereof;

(8) To change the grade of any street, highway, or alley within its corporate limits, and to provide for the payment of damages to any abutting owner or owners who shall have built or made other improvements upon such street, highway, or alley at any point opposite to the point where such change shall be made with reference to the grade of such street, highway, or alley as the same existed prior to such change;

(9) To authorize or prohibit the locating and constructing of any railroad or street railroad in any street, alley, or public place in such city, and to prescribe the terms and conditions upon which any such railroad or street railroad shall be located or constructed; to provide for the alteration, change of grade, or removal thereof; to regulate the moving and operation of railroad and street railroad trains, cars, and locomotives within the corporate limits of said city; and to provide by ordinance for the protection of all persons and property against injury in the use of such railroads or street railroads;

(10) To provide for making local improvements, and to levy and collect special assessments on property benefited thereby, and for paying for the same or any portion thereof;

(11) To acquire, by purchase or otherwise, lands for public parks within or without the limits of such city, and to improve the same. When the language of any instrument by which any property is so acquired limits the use of said property to park purposes and contains a reservation of interest in favor of the grantor or any other person, and where it is found that the property so acquired is not needed for park purposes and that an exchange thereof for other property to be dedicated for park purposes is in the public interest, the city may, with the consent of the grantor or such other person, his heirs, successors, or assigns, exchange such property for other property to be dedicated for park purposes, and may make, execute, and deliver proper conveyances to effect the exchange. In any case where, owing to death

or lapse of time, there is neither donor, heir, successor, or assignee to give consent, this consent may be executed by the city and filed for record with an affidavit setting forth all efforts made to locate people entitled to give such consent together with the facts which establish that no consent by such persons is attainable. Title to property so conveyed by the city shall vest in the grantee free and clear of any trust in favor of the public arising out of any prior dedication for park purposes, but the right of the public shall be transferred and preserved with like force and effect to the property received by the city in such exchange;

(12) To construct and keep in repair bridges, viaducts, and tunnels, and to regulate the use thereof;

(13) To determine what work shall be done or improvements made at the expense, in whole or in part, of the owners of the adjoining contiguous, or proximate property, or others specially benefited thereby; and to provide for the manner of making and collecting assessments therefor;

(14) To provide for erecting, purchasing, or otherwise acquiring waterworks, within or without the corporate limits of said city, to supply said city and its inhabitants with water, or authorize the construction of same by others when deemed for the best interests of such city and its inhabitants, and to regulate and control the use and price of the water so supplied;

(15) To provide for lighting the streets and all public places, and for furnishing the inhabitants thereof with gas or other lights, and to erect, or otherwise acquire, and to maintain the same, or to authorize the erection and maintenance of such works as may be necessary and convenient therefor, and to regulate and control the use thereof;

(16) To establish and regulate markets, and to provide for the weighing, measuring, and inspection of all articles of food and drink offered for sale thereat, or at any other place within its limits, by proper penalties, and to enforce the keeping of proper legal weights and measures by all vendors in such city, and to provide for the inspection thereof. Whenever the words "public markets" are used in this chapter, and the public market is managed in whole or in part by a public corporation created by a city, the words shall be construed to include all real or personal property located in a district or area designated by a city as a public market and traditionally devoted to providing farmers, crafts vendors and other merchants with retail space to market their wares to the public. Property located in such a district or area need not be exclusively or primarily used for such traditional public market retail activities and may include property used for other public purposes including, but not limited to, the provision of human services and low-income or moderate-income housing;

(17) To erect and establish hospitals and pesthouses, and to control and regulate the same;

(18) To provide for establishing and maintaining reform schools for juvenile offenders;

(19) To provide for the establishment and maintenance of public libraries, and to appropriate, annually, such percent of all moneys collected for fines, penalties, and licenses as shall be prescribed by its charter, for the support of a city library, which shall, under such regulations as shall be prescribed by ordinance, be open for use by the public;

(20) To regulate the burial of the dead, and to establish and regulate cemeteries within or without the corporate

limits, and to acquire land therefor by purchase or otherwise; to cause cemeteries to be removed beyond the limits of the corporation, and to prohibit their establishment within two miles of the boundaries thereof;

(21) To direct the location and construction of all buildings in which any trade or occupation offensive to the senses or deleterious to public health or safety shall be carried on, and to regulate the management thereof; and to prohibit the erection or maintenance of such buildings or structures, or the carrying on of such trade or occupation within the limits of such corporation, or within the distance of two miles beyond the boundaries thereof;

(22) To provide for the prevention and extinguishment of fires and to regulate or prohibit the transportation, keeping, or storage of all combustible or explosive materials within its corporate limits, and to regulate and restrain the use of fireworks;

(23) To establish fire limits and to make all such regulations for the erection and maintenance of buildings or other structures within its corporate limits as the safety of persons or property may require, and to cause all such buildings and places as may from any cause be in a dangerous state to be put in safe condition;

(24) To regulate the manner in which stone, brick, and other buildings, party walls, and partition fences shall be constructed and maintained;

(25) To deepen, widen, dock, cover, wall, alter, or change the channels of waterways and courses, and to provide for the construction and maintenance of all such works as may be required for the accommodation of commerce, including canals, slips, public landing places, wharves, docks, and levees, and to control and regulate the use thereof;

(26) To control, regulate, or prohibit the anchorage, moorage, and landing of all watercrafts and their cargoes within the jurisdiction of the corporation;

(27) To fix the rates of wharfage and dockage, and to provide for the collection thereof, and to provide for the imposition and collection of such harbor fees as may be consistent with the laws of the United States;

(28) To license, regulate, control, or restrain wharf boats, tugs, and other boats used about the harbor or within such jurisdiction;

(29) To require the owners of public halls or other buildings to provide suitable means of exit; to provide for the prevention and abatement of nuisances, for the cleaning and purification of watercourses and canals, for the drainage and filling up of ponds on private property within its limits, when the same shall be offensive to the senses or dangerous to health; to regulate and control, and to prevent and punish, the defilement or pollution of all streams running through or into its corporate limits, and for the distance of five miles beyond its corporate limits, and on any stream or lake from which the water supply of said city is taken, for a distance of five miles beyond its source of supply; to provide for the cleaning of areas, vaults, and other places within its corporate limits which may be so kept as to become offensive to the senses or dangerous to health, and to make all such quarantine or other regulations as may be necessary for the preservation of the public health, and to remove all persons afflicted with any infectious or contagious disease to some suitable place to be provided for that purpose;

(30) To declare what shall be a nuisance, and to abate the same, and to impose fines upon parties who may create, continue, or suffer nuisances to exist;

(31) To regulate the selling or giving away of intoxicating, malt, vinous, mixed, or fermented liquors as authorized by the general laws of the state: PROVIDED, That no license shall be granted to any person or persons who shall not first comply with the general laws of the state in force at the time the same is granted;

(32) To grant licenses for any lawful purpose, and to fix by ordinance the amount to be paid therefor, and to provide for revoking the same: PROVIDED, That no license shall be granted to continue for longer than one year from the date thereof;

(33) To regulate the carrying on within its corporate limits of all occupations which are of such a nature as to affect the public health or the good order of said city, or to disturb the public peace, and which are not prohibited by law, and to provide for the punishment of all persons violating such regulations, and of all persons who knowingly permit the same to be violated in any building or upon any premises owned or controlled by them;

(34) To restrain and provide for the punishment of vagrants, mendicants, prostitutes, and other disorderly persons;

(35) To provide for the punishment of all disorderly conduct, and of all practices dangerous to public health or safety, and to make all regulations necessary for the preservation of public morality, health, peace, and good order within its limits, and to provide for the arrest, trial, and punishment of all persons charged with violating any of the ordinances of said city. The punishment shall not exceed a fine of five thousand dollars or imprisonment in the city jail for one year, or both such fine and imprisonment. The punishment for any criminal ordinance shall be the same as the punishment provided in state law for the same crime. Such cities alternatively may provide that violations of ordinances constitute a civil violation subject to monetary penalties, but no act which is a state crime may be made a civil violation;

(36) To project or extend its streets over and across any tidelands within its corporate limits, and along or across the harbor areas of such city, in such manner as will best promote the interests of commerce;

(37) To provide in their respective charters for a method to propose and adopt amendments thereto. [1993 c 83 § 4; 1990 c 189 § 3; 1986 c 278 § 3; 1984 c 258 § 802; 1977 ex.s. c 316 § 20; 1971 ex.s. c 16 § 1; 1965 ex.s. c 116 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.22.280. Prior: 1890 p 218 § 5; RRS § 8966.]

**Effective date—1993 c 83:** See note following RCW 35.21.163.

**Severability—1986 c 278:** See note following RCW 36.01.010.

**Court Improvement Act of 1984—Effective dates—Severability—Short title—1984 c 258:** See notes following RCW 3.30.010.

**Severability—1977 ex.s. c 316:** See note following RCW 70.48.020.

**35.22.282 City and town license fees and taxes on financial institutions.** See chapter 82.14A RCW.

**35.22.283 City license fees or taxes on certain business activities to be at a single uniform rate.** See RCW 35.21.710.

**35.22.284 Association of sheriffs and police chiefs.** See chapter 36.28A RCW.

**35.22.285 Nonpolluting power generation by individual—Exemption from regulation—Authorization to contract with utility.** See chapter 80.58 RCW.

**35.22.287 Hydroelectric resources—Separate legal authority—Creation by irrigation districts and cities, towns, or public utility districts.** See RCW 87.03.825 through 87.03.840.

**35.22.288 Publication of ordinances or summary—Public notice of hearings and meeting agendas.** Promptly after adoption, the text of each ordinance or a summary of the content of each ordinance shall be published at least once in the official newspaper of the city. For purposes of this section, a summary shall mean a brief description which succinctly describes the main points of the ordinance. Publication of the title of an ordinance authorizing the issuance of bonds, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness shall constitute publication of a summary of that ordinance. When the city publishes a summary, the publication shall include a statement that the full text of the ordinance will be mailed upon request.

An inadvertent mistake or omission in publishing the text or a summary of the content of an ordinance shall not render the ordinance invalid.

In addition to the requirement that a city publish the text or a summary of the content of each adopted ordinance, every city shall establish a procedure for notifying the public of upcoming hearings and the preliminary agenda for the forthcoming council meeting. Such procedure may include, but not be limited to, written notification to the city's official newspaper, publication of a notice in the official newspaper, posting of upcoming council meeting agendas, or such other processes as the city determines will satisfy the intent of this requirement. [1994 c 273 § 7; 1988 c 168 § 1; 1985 c 469 § 100.]

**35.22.290 Additional powers—Auditoriums, art museums.** Every city of the first class may lease, purchase, or construct, and maintain public auditoriums and art museums and may use and let them for such public and private purposes for such compensation and rental and upon such conditions as shall be prescribed by ordinance; it may issue negotiable bonds for the purchase and construction thereof on such conditions and in such manner as shall be prescribed by its charter and by general law for the borrowing of money for corporate purposes. [1965 c 7 § 35.22.290. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 81 § 1; 1923 c 179 § 1; RRS § 8981-2.]

**35.22.300 Leasing of land for auditoriums, etc.** If a city of the first class has acquired title to land for public auditoriums or art museums, it may let it or any part thereof, together with the structures and improvements constructed or to be constructed thereon for such term as may be deemed proper and may raise the needed funds for financing the project, in whole or in part, by transferring or pledging the use and income thereof in such manner as the corporate authorities deem proper.

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Any lessee under any such lease may mortgage the leasehold interest and may issue bonds to be secured by the mortgage and may pledge the rent and income of the property to accrue during the term of the lease or any part thereof for the due financing of the project: PROVIDED, That the corporate authorities may specify in any such lease such provisions and restrictions relating thereto as they shall deem proper. [1965 c 7 § 35.22.300. Prior: 1925 c 12 § 1; RRS § 8981-3.]

**35.22.302 Conveyance or lease of space above real property or structures or improvements.** The legislative authority of every city of the first and second class owning real property, not limited by dedication or trust to a particular public use, may convey or lease for public or private use any estate, right or interest in the areas above the surface of the ground of such real property or structures or improvements thereon: PROVIDED, That the estate, right or interest so created and conveyed and the use authorized in connection therewith will not in the judgment of said legislative authority be needed for or be inconsistent with the public purposes for which such property was acquired, is being used, or to which it is to be devoted: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the legislative authority may impose conditions and restrictions on the use to be made of the estate, right or interest conveyed or leased, in the same manner and to the same extent as may be done by any vendor or lessor of real estate.

No conveyance or lease authorized by this section shall permit, authorize or suffer the lessee or grantee to encumber that portion of the real estate devoted to or needed for public purposes. [1967 ex.s. c 99 § 1.]

**35.22.305 Department for administration, etc., of property incident to civic center—Creation authorized—Supervision—Authority.** The legislative authority of any city of the first class of more than four hundred thousand population shall have, notwithstanding any charter or statutory provision to the contrary, authority by ordinance to create a separate department of municipal government for the administration, management and control of any multiple use city property, including improvements thereon, devoted to educational, cultural, recreational, entertainment, athletic, convention and such other uses as shall be declared by ordinance to be incident to a civic center. The supervision of said department shall be by a manager, board or commission to be appointed in the manner, receive such compensation and perform such duties as may be prescribed by ordinance which may include authority to enter into leases, concessions and other agreements on behalf of the city, appoint and remove employees subject to applicable civil service provisions, advertise events and publicize and otherwise promote the use of such civic center facilities, and operate, manage and control municipal off-street parking and public transportation facilities heretofore or hereafter erected primarily to serve such civic center. All expenditures, purchases and improvements made or performed by or under the direction of said department shall be subject to applicable charter provisions and statutes. [1965 c 132 § 1.]



**35.22.310 Cesspools, filling of—Removal of debris, etc.** Every city of the first class is empowered to provide for the filling and closing of cesspools and for the removing of garbage, debris, grass, weeds, and brush on property in the city. [1965 c 7 § 35.22.310. Prior: 1907 c 89 § 1; RRS § 8972.]

**35.22.320 Collection of cost of filling cesspools, etc.** Every city of the first class by general ordinance may prescribe the mode and manner of assessing, levying and collecting assessments upon property for filling and closing cesspools thereon and removing garbage, debris, grass, weeds, and brush and provide that the charges therefor shall be a lien on the property upon which such work is done and collected in such manner as is prescribed in the ordinance. [1965 c 7 § 35.22.320. Prior: 1907 c 89 § 2; RRS § 8973.]

**35.22.330 Radio communication.** Every city of the first class maintaining a harbor department may install, maintain, and operate in connection therewith wireless telegraph stations for the handling of official and commercial messages and for communicating with wireless land and shore stations under such regulations as the corporate authorities may prescribe and in accordance with the statutes and regulations of the federal government. [1965 c 7 § 35.22.330. Prior: 1923 c 92 § 1; RRS § 8981-1.]

**35.22.340 Streets—Railroad franchises in, along, over and across.** Every city of the first class may by ordinance authorize the location, construction, and operation of railroads in, along, over, and across any highway, street, alley, or public place in the city for such term of years and upon such conditions as the city council may by ordinance prescribe notwithstanding any provisions of the city charter limiting the length of terms of franchises or requiring franchises to contain a provision granting the city the right to appropriate by purchase the property of any corporation receiving a franchise, license, privilege, or authority: PROVIDED, That this does not apply to street railroads nor to railroads operated in connection with street railroads in and along the streets of such city. [1965 c 7 § 35.22.340. Prior: 1907 c 41 § 1; RRS § 8971.]

**35.22.350 Utilities—Collective bargaining with employees.** Every city of the first class which owns and operates a waterworks system, a light and power system, a street railway or other public utility, shall have power, through its proper officers, to deal with and to enter into contracts for periods not exceeding one year with its employees engaged in the construction, maintenance, or operation thereof through the accredited representatives of the employees including any labor organization or organizations authorized to act for them concerning wages, hours and conditions of labor in such employment, and every city having not less than one hundred forty thousand nor more than one hundred and seventy thousand population is empowered and authorized to immediately place in effect any adjustment or change in such wages, hours and conditions of labor of such employees as may be required to conform to the provisions of any such contract, irrespective of the provisions of any annual budget or act relating thereto: PROVIDED, That not

more than one such contract not in conformity with any annual budget shall be made during any budget year, nor shall any such adjustment or change be made which would result in an excess of expenditures over revenues of such public utility. [1965 c 7 § 35.22.350. Prior: 1955 c 145 § 1; 1951 c 21 § 1; 1935 c 37 § 1; RRS § 8966-5.]

*Labor regulations: Title 49 RCW.*

**35.22.360 Utilities—Wage adjustments.** Notwithstanding any annual budget or statute relating thereto, any city of the first class owning and operating a public utility, or the city's public utility department, may make an adjustment or change of the rate of daily wages of employees of any such public utility if such adjustment or change is accompanied by or is approximately coincidental with a shortening of the work week of the employees and if the adjustment or change will not result in any increase in pay per week, or excess of expenditures of the public utility over its revenues. [1965 c 7 § 35.22.360. Prior: 1937 c 16 § 1; RRS § 9000-22a.]

**35.22.362 Nuclear thermal power facilities—Joint development with public utility districts and electrical companies.** See chapter 54.44 RCW.

**35.22.365 Public transportation systems in cities and metropolitan municipal corporations—Financing.** See chapter 35.95 RCW.

**35.22.370 Wards—Division of city.** Notwithstanding that the charter of a city of the first class may forbid the city council from redividing the city into wards except at stated periods, if the city has failed to redivide the city into wards during any such period, the city council by ordinance may do so at any time thereafter: PROVIDED, That there shall not be more than one redivision into wards during any one period specified in the charter. [1965 c 7 § 35.22.370. Prior: 1903 c 141 § 1; RRS § 8970.]

**35.22.410 Wharves—City may let wharves or privileges thereon.** Every city of the first class may let the whole or any part of a wharf, or the privileges thereon owned by the city, for periods not to exceed one year in such manner, and upon such terms, as may be prescribed by a general ordinance. [1965 c 7 § 35.22.410. Prior: 1911 c 67 § 1; RRS § 8967.]

**35.22.415 Municipal airport located in unincorporated area—Subject to county comprehensive plan and zoning ordinances.** Whenever a first class city owns and operates a municipal airport which is located in an unincorporated area of a county, the airport shall be subject to the county's comprehensive plan and zoning ordinances in the same manner as if the airport were privately owned and operated. [1979 ex.s. c 124 § 10.]

*Severability—1979 ex.s. c 124: See note following RCW 35A.14.015.*

**35.22.425 Criminal code repeals by city operating municipal court—Agreement covering costs of handling**

**resulting criminal cases—Arbitration.** A city of the first class operating a municipal court may not repeal in its entirety that portion of its municipal code defining crimes or repeal a provision of its municipal code which defines a crime equivalent to an offense listed in RCW 46.63.020 unless the municipality has reached an agreement with the appropriate county under chapter 39.34 RCW under which the county is to be paid a reasonable amount for costs associated with prosecution, adjudication, and sentencing in criminal cases filed in district court as a result of the repeal. The agreement shall include provisions for periodic review and renewal of the terms of the agreement. If the municipality and the county are unable to agree on the terms for renewal of the agreement, they shall be deemed to have entered into an agreement to submit the issue to arbitration under chapter 7.04 RCW. Pending conclusion of the arbitration proceeding, the terms of the agreement shall remain in effect. The municipality and the county have the same rights and are subject to the same duties as other parties who have agreed to submit to arbitration under chapter 7.04 RCW. [1984 c 258 § 204.]

**Court Improvement Act of 1984—Effective dates—Severability—Short title—1984 c 258:** See notes following RCW 3.30.010.

**35.22.570 Omnibus grant of powers to first class cities.** Any city adopting a charter under the provisions of this chapter shall have all the powers which are conferred upon incorporated cities and towns by this title or other laws of the state, and all such powers as are usually exercised by municipal corporations of like character and degree. [1965 c 7 § 35.22.570. Prior: 1890 p 224 § 7; RRS § 8981.]

**35.22.580 Diversion of local improvement moneys prohibited—Refund of excess.** Whenever any city of the first class shall levy and collect moneys by sale of bonds or otherwise for any local improvement by special assessment therefor, the same shall be carried in a special fund to be used for said purpose, and no part thereof shall be transferred or diverted to any other fund or use: **PROVIDED,** That any funds remaining after the payment of the whole cost and expense of such improvement, in excess of the total sum required to defray all the expenditures by the city on account thereof, shall be refunded on demand to the amount of such overpayment: **PROVIDED FURTHER,** That this section shall not be deemed to require the refunding of any balance in any local improvement fund after the payment of all outstanding obligations issued against such fund, where such balance accrues from any saving in interest or from penalties collected upon delinquent assessments, but any such balance may be turned into the general fund or otherwise disposed of, as the legislative authority of such city may direct by ordinance. The provisions of this section relating to the refund of excess local improvement district funds shall not apply to any district whose obligations are guaranteed by the local improvement guaranty fund. [1965 c 7 § 35.22.580. Prior: 1917 c 58 § 1; 1915 c 17 § 1; RRS § 8983. Formerly RCW 35.45.100.]

**35.22.590 Bonds voted by people—Transfer of excess to redemption fund.** (1) Whenever the issuance or sale of bonds or other obligations of any city of the first

class has been authorized by vote of the people, as provided by any existing charter or laws, for any special improvement or purpose, the proceeds of the sale of such bonds including premiums if any shall be carried in a special fund to be devoted to the purpose for which such bonds were authorized, and no portion of such bonds shall be transferred or diverted to any other fund or purpose: **PROVIDED,** That nothing herein shall be held to prevent the transfer to the interest and redemption fund of any balance remaining in the treasury after the completion of such improvement or purpose so authorized: **PROVIDED FURTHER,** That nothing herein shall prevent the city council from disposing of such bonds, or any portion thereof, in such amounts and at such times as it shall direct, but no such bonds shall be sold for less than par. Such bonds may be in any form, including bearer bonds or registered bonds as provided in RCW 39.46.030.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, such bonds may be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1983 c 167 § 35; 1965 c 7 § 35.22.590. Prior: 1915 c 17 § 2; RRS § 8984. Formerly RCW 35.45.110.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**Elections:** Title 29 RCW.

**35.22.600 Liability for violations of RCW 35.22.580 or 35.22.590.** Any ordinance, resolution, order or other action of any city council, board or officer, and every city warrant or other instrument in writing made in violation of any of the provisions of RCW 35.22.580 or 35.22.590 shall be void, and every officer, agent or employee of any such city, or member of the city council, or other board thereof, and every private person or corporation who knowingly commits any violation thereof or knowingly aids in such violation, shall be liable to the city concerned for all moneys so transferred, diverted or paid out, which liability shall also attach to and be enforceable against the official bond (if any) of any such officer, agent, employee, member of city council or board. [1965 c 7 § 35.22.600. Prior: 1915 c 17 § 3; RRS § 8985. Formerly RCW 35.45.120.]

**35.22.610 Police officers—Appointment without regard to residence authorized.** Notwithstanding the provisions of RCW 35.21.200, as now or hereafter amended, all cities of the first class shall have the right and authority to appoint and employ a person as a regular or special police officer of said city regardless of his place of residence or domicile at the date of his appointment.

This provision shall supersede any provision of any city charter to the contrary. [1967 ex.s. c 37 § 1.]

**Residence requirements for appointive city officials and employees:** RCW 35.21.200.

**35.22.620 Public works or improvements—Limitations on work by public employees—Small works roster—Purchase of reused or recycled materials or products.** (1) As used in this section, the term "public works" means as defined in RCW 39.04.010.

(2) A first class city may have public works performed by contract pursuant to public notice and call for competitive

bids. As limited by subsection (3) of this section, a first class city may have public works performed by city employees in any annual or biennial budget period equal to a dollar value not exceeding ten percent of the public works construction budget, including any amount in a supplemental public works construction budget, over the budget period. The amount of public works that a first class city has a county perform for it under RCW 35.77.020 shall be included within this ten percent limitation.

If a first class city has public works performed by public employees in any budget period that are in excess of this ten percent limitation, the amount in excess of the permitted amount shall be reduced from the otherwise permitted amount of public works that may be performed by public employees for that city in its next budget period. Twenty percent of the motor vehicle fuel tax distributions to that city shall be withheld if two years after the year in which the excess amount of work occurred, the city has failed to so reduce the amount of public works that it has performed by public employees. The amount so withheld shall be distributed to the city when it has demonstrated in its reports to the state auditor that the amount of public works it has performed by public employees has been so reduced.

Whenever a first class city has had public works performed in any budget period up to the maximum permitted amount for that budget period, all remaining public works within that budget period shall be done by contract pursuant to public notice and call for competitive bids.

The state auditor shall report to the state treasurer any first class city that exceeds this amount and the extent to which the city has or has not reduced the amount of public works it has performed by public employees in subsequent years.

(3) In addition to the percentage limitation provided in subsection (2) of this section, a first class city with a population in excess of one hundred fifty thousand shall not have public employees perform a public works project in excess of fifty thousand dollars if more than a single craft or trade is involved with the public works project, or a public works project in excess of twenty-five thousand dollars if only a single craft or trade is involved with the public works project or the public works project is street signalization or street lighting. In addition to the percentage limitation provided in subsection (2) of this section, a first class city with a population of one hundred fifty thousand or less shall not have public employees perform a public works project in excess of thirty-five thousand dollars if more than one craft or trade is involved with the public works project, or a public works project in excess of twenty thousand dollars if only a single craft or trade is involved with the public works project or the public works project is street signalization or street lighting. A public works project means a complete project. The restrictions in this subsection do not permit the division of the project into units of work or classes of work to avoid the restriction on work that may be performed by day labor on a single project.

(4) In addition to the accounting and record-keeping requirements contained in RCW 39.04.070, every first class city annually shall prepare a report for the state auditor indicating the total public works construction budget and supplemental public works construction budget for that year,

the total construction costs of public works performed by public employees for that year, and the amount of public works that is performed by public employees above or below ten percent of the total construction budget. However, if a city budgets on a biennial basis, this annual report shall indicate the amount of public works that is performed by public employees within the current biennial period that is above or below ten percent of the total biennial construction budget.

After September 1, 1987, each first class city with a population of one hundred fifty thousand or less shall use the form required by RCW 43.09.205 to account and record costs of public works in excess of five thousand dollars that are not let by contract.

(5) The cost of a separate public works project shall be the costs of materials, supplies, equipment, and labor on the construction of that project. The value of the public works budget shall be the value of all the separate public works projects within the budget.

(6) When any emergency shall require the immediate execution of such public work, upon the finding of the existence of such emergency by the authority having power to direct such public work to be done and duly entered of record, publication of description and estimate may be made within seven days after the commencement of the work. Within two weeks of the finding that such an emergency existed, the city council shall adopt a resolution certifying the existence of this emergency situation.

(7) In lieu of the procedures of subsections (2) and (6) of this section, a first class city may use a small works roster process and award contracts for public works projects with an estimated value of one hundred thousand dollars or less as provided in RCW 39.04.155.

Whenever possible, the city shall invite at least one proposal from a minority or woman contractor who shall otherwise qualify under this section.

(8) The allocation of public works projects to be performed by city employees shall not be subject to a collective bargaining agreement.

(9) This section does not apply to performance-based contracts, as defined in RCW 39.35A.020(3), that are negotiated under chapter 39.35A RCW.

(10) Nothing in this section shall prohibit any first class city from allowing for preferential purchase of products made from recycled materials or products that may be recycled or reused. [1993 c 198 § 9; 1989 c 431 § 59; 1987 c 120 § 1. Prior: 1985 c 219 § 1; 1985 c 169 § 6; 1979 ex.s. c 89 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 56 § 1.]

**Severability—1989 c 431:** See RCW 70.95.901.

*Competitive bidding violations by municipal officer, penalties:* RCW 39.30.020.

*Subcontractors to be identified by bidder, when:* RCW 39.30.060.

**35.22.625 Public works or improvements—Inapplicability of RCW 35.22.620 to certain agreements relating to water pollution control, solid waste handling facilities.** RCW 35.22.620 does not apply to the selection of persons or entities to construct or develop water pollution control facilities or to provide water pollution control services under RCW 70.150.040 or the selection of persons or entities to construct or develop solid waste handling

facilities or to provide solid waste handling services under RCW 35.21.156. [1989 c 399 § 4; 1987 c 436 § 8.]

**35.22.630 Public works or improvements—Cost amounts—How determined.** The cost of any public work or improvement for the purposes of RCW 35.22.620 and 35.22.640 shall be the aggregate of all amounts to be paid for labor, material, and equipment on one continuous or interrelated project where work is to be performed simultaneously or in close sequence: PROVIDED, That the cost of water services and metering equipment furnished by any first class city in the course of a water service installation from the utility-owned main to and including the meter box assembly shall not be included as part of the aggregate cost as provided herein. The breaking down of any public work or improvement into units or accomplishing any public work or improvement by phases for the purpose of avoiding the minimum dollar amount prescribed in RCW 35.22.620 is contrary to public policy and is prohibited. [1975 1st ex.s. c 56 § 2.]

**35.22.640 Public works or improvements—Electrical distribution and generating systems—Customer may contract with qualified electrical contractor.** Cities of the first class are relieved from complying with the provisions of RCW 35.22.620 with respect to any public work or improvement relating solely to electrical distribution and generating systems on public rights of way or on municipally owned property: PROVIDED, That if a city-owned electrical utility directly assesses its customers a service installation charge for a temporary service, permanent service, or expanded service, the customer may, with the written approval of the city-owned electric utility, contract with a qualified electrical contractor licensed under chapter 19.28 RCW to install any material or equipment in lieu of having city utility personnel perform the installation. In the event the city-owned electric utility denies the customer's request to utilize a private electrical contractor for such installation work, it shall provide the customer with written reasons for such denial: PROVIDED FURTHER, That nothing herein shall prevent any first class city from operating a solid waste department utilizing its own personnel.

If a customer elects to employ a private electrical contractor as provided in this section, the private electrical contractor shall be solely responsible for any damages resulting from the installation of any temporary service, permanent service, or expanded service and the city-owned electrical utility shall be immune from any tortious conduct actions as to that installation. [1983 c 217 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 56 § 3.]

**35.22.650 Public works or improvements—Minority business, employees—Contract, contents.** All contracts by and between a first class city and contractors for any public work or improvement exceeding the sum of ten thousand dollars, or fifteen thousand dollars for construction of water mains, shall contain the following clause:

"Contractor agrees that he shall actively solicit the employment of minority group members. Contractor further agrees that he shall actively solicit bids for the subcontract-

ing of goods or services from qualified minority businesses. Contractor shall furnish evidence of his compliance with these requirements of minority employment and solicitation. Contractor further agrees to consider the grant of subcontracts to said minority bidders on the basis of substantially equal proposals in the light most favorable to said minority businesses. The contractor shall be required to submit evidence of compliance with this section as part of the bid."

As used in this section, the term "minority business" means a business at least fifty-one percent of which is owned by minority group members. Minority group members include, but are not limited to, blacks, women, native Americans, Orientals, Eskimos, Aleuts, and Spanish Americans. [1975 1st ex.s. c 56 § 4.]

**35.22.660 Child care facilities—Review of need and demand—Adoption of ordinances.** If a first class city zones pursuant to its inherent charter authority and not pursuant to chapter 35.63 RCW, and does not provide for the siting of family day care homes in zones or areas that are designated for single family or other residential uses, and for the siting of mini-day care centers and day care centers in zones or areas that are designated for any residential or commercial uses, the city shall conduct a review of the need and demand for child care facilities, including the cost of any conditional or special use permit that may be required. The review shall be completed by August 30, 1990. A copy of the findings, conclusions, and recommendations resulting from the review shall be sent to the \*department of community development by September 30, 1990.

On or before June 30, 1991, each municipality that plans and zones under this chapter shall have adopted an ordinance or ordinances that are necessary to implement the findings of this review, if the findings indicate that such changes are necessary, or shall notify the \*department of community development as to why such implementing ordinances were not adopted. [1989 c 335 § 7.]

\*Reviser's note: Powers, duties, and functions of the department of community development and the department of trade and economic development were transferred to the department of community, trade, and economic development by 1993 c 280, effective July 1, 1994.

~~Findings—Purpose—Severability—1989 c.335:~~ See notes following RCW 35.63.170.

Definitions for RCW 35.22.660: See RCW 35.63.170.

**35.22.680 Residential care facilities—Review of need and demand—Adoption of ordinances.** If a first class city zones pursuant to its inherent charter authority and not pursuant to chapter 35.63 RCW, and does not provide for the siting of residential care facilities in zones or areas that are designated for single family or other residential uses, the city shall conduct a review of the need and demand for the facilities, including the cost of any conditional or special use permit that may be required. The review shall be completed by August 30, 1990. A copy of the findings, conclusions, and recommendations resulting from the review shall be sent to the \*department of community development by September 30, 1990.

On or before June 30, 1991, each municipality that plans and zones under this chapter shall have adopted an ordinance or ordinances that are necessary to implement the findings of this review, if the findings indicate that such

changes are necessary, or shall notify the \*department of community development as to why such implementing ordinances were not adopted. [1989 c 427 § 39.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Powers, duties, and functions of the department of community development and the department of trade and economic development were transferred to the department of community, trade, and economic development by 1993 c 280, effective July 1, 1994.

**Severability—1989 c 427:** See RCW 74.39.900.

*Report to legislature, model ordinance:* RCW 70.128.180.

**35.22.690 First class cities subject to limitations on moratoria, interim zoning controls.** A first class city that plans under the authority of its charter is subject to the provisions of RCW 35.63.200. [1992 c 207 § 2.]

**35.22.700 Conformance with chapter 43.97 RCW required.** With respect to the National Scenic Area, as defined in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act, P.L. 99-663, the exercise of any power or authority by a city pursuant to this chapter shall be subject to and in conformity with the requirements of chapter 43.97 RCW, including the Interstate Compact adopted by RCW 43.97.015, and with the management plan regulations and ordinances adopted by the Columbia River Gorge commission pursuant to the Compact. [1987 c 499 § 5.]

**35.22.900 Liberal construction.** The rule that statutes in derogation of the common law are to be strictly construed shall have no application to this chapter, but the same shall be liberally construed for the purpose of carrying out the objects for which this chapter is intended. [1965 c 7 § 35.22.900. Prior: 1890 p 224 § 8.]

**Chapter 35.23  
SECOND CLASS CITIES**

Sections

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- 35.23.021 City officers enumerated—Compensation—Appointment and removal.
- 35.23.051 Elections—Terms of office—Wards (as amended by 1994 c 81).
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- 35.23.800 Code city retaining former second class city plan—Elective officers.
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- 35.23.850 Code city retaining former second class city plan—Wards—Division of city into (as amended by 1994 c 81).
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*Accident claims against:* RCW 35.31.040, 35.31.050.

*Actions against*

*public corporations:* RCW 4.08.120.  
*state:* Chapter 4.92 RCW.

*Actions by in corporate name:* RCW 4.08.110.

*Advancement in classification:* RCW 35.06.010.

*Annexation*

*for municipal purposes:* RCW 35.13.180.  
*of federal areas:* RCW 35.13.190 through 35.13.210.

*Classification as:* RCW 35.01.020.

*Code of ethics for public officers and employees:* Chapters 42.23 and 42.52 RCW.

*Eminent domain by cities, construction of chapter as to second class cities:* RCW 8.12.560.

*Inhabitants at time of organization:* RCW 35.01.020.

*Judgment against local governmental entity, enforcement:* RCW 6.17.080.

*Limitations on indebtedness:* State Constitution Art. 7 § 2 (Amendments 55, 59), Art. 8 § 6 (Amendment 27), chapter 39.36 RCW, RCW 84.52.050.

*Lost and found property:* Chapter 63.21 RCW.

*Lowlands, local improvement:* Chapters 35.55, 35.56 RCW.

*Municipal utilities:* Chapter 35.92 RCW.

*Municipal water and sewer facilities act:* Chapter 35.91 RCW.

*Officers, salaries of, not to be changed during term:* State Constitution Art. 11 § 8 (Amendment 57).

*Organization under general laws required:* State Constitution Art. 11 § 10 (Amendment 40).

*Parking, off-street facilities:* Chapter 35.86 RCW.

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*Sanitary fills:* Chapter 35.73 RCW.

*Service of summons on, personal service:* RCW 4.28.080.

*Sidewalks, construction and reconstruction, generally:* Chapter 35.69 RCW.

*Streets and alleys, grades at higher elevation, drainage impracticable on private abutting land, effect:* Chapter 35.73 RCW.

*Unclaimed property in hands of city police:* Chapter 63.32 RCW.

**35.23.010 Rights, powers and privileges—Exchange of park purpose property.** Every city of the second class shall be entitled "City of . . . ." (naming it), and by such name shall have perpetual succession; may sue and be sued in all courts and in all proceedings; shall have and use a common seal which it may alter at pleasure; may acquire, hold, lease, use and enjoy property of every kind and control and dispose of it for the common benefit; and, upon making a finding that any property acquired for park purposes is not useful for such purposes and that an exchange thereof for other property to be dedicated for park purposes is in the public interest, may, with the consent of the dedicator or donor, his heirs, successors or assigns, exchange such property for other property to be dedicated for park purposes and make, execute and deliver proper conveyances to effect the exchange. In any case where owing to death or lapse of time there is neither donor, heir, successor, nor assigns to

give consent to the exchange, then this consent may be executed by the grantee. Title to property so conveyed by the city shall vest in the grantee free and clear of any trust in favor of the public arising out of any prior dedication for park purposes. [1965 c 7 § 35.23.010. Prior: 1953 c 190 § 1; 1907 c 241 § 1; RRS § 9006.]

**35.23.021 City officers enumerated—Compensation—Appointment and removal.** The government of a second class city shall be vested in a mayor, a city council of seven members, a city attorney, a clerk, a treasurer, all elective; and a chief of police, municipal judge, city engineer, street superintendent, health officer and such other appointive officers as may be provided for by ordinance: PROVIDED, That the council may enact an ordinance providing for the appointment of the city clerk, city attorney, and treasurer by the mayor, which appointment shall be subject to confirmation by a majority vote of the city council. Such ordinance shall be enacted and become effective not later than thirty days prior to the first day allowed for filing declarations of candidacy for such offices when such offices are subject to an approaching city primary election. Elective incumbent city clerks, city attorneys, and city treasurers shall serve for the remainder of their unexpired term notwithstanding any appointment made pursuant to this section and RCW 35.23.051. If a free public library and reading room is established, five library trustees shall be appointed. The city council by ordinance shall prescribe the duties and fix the compensation of all officers and employees: PROVIDED, That the provisions of any such ordinance shall not be inconsistent with any statute: PROVIDED FURTHER, That where the city council finds that the appointment of a full time city engineer is unnecessary, it may in lieu of such appointment, by resolution provide for the performance of necessary engineering services on either a part time, temporary or periodic basis by a qualified engineering firm, pursuant to any reasonable contract.

The mayor shall appoint and at his or her pleasure may remove all appointive officers except as otherwise provided herein: PROVIDED, That municipal judges shall be removed only upon conviction of misconduct or malfeasance in office, or because of physical or mental disability rendering the judge incapable of performing the duties of his or her office. Every appointment or removal must be in writing signed by the mayor and filed with the city clerk. [1994 c 81 § 35; 1993 c 47 § 1; 1987 c 3 § 9; 1969 c 116 § 1; 1965 ex.s. c 116 § 9; 1965 c 7 § 35.24.020. Prior: 1961 c 81 § 1; 1955 c 365 § 2; 1955 c 55 § 5; prior: (i) 1915 c 184 § 2; 1891 c 156 § 4; 1890 p 179 § 105; RRS § 9115. (ii) 1929 c 182 § 1, part; 1927 c 159 § 1; 1915 c 184 § 3, part; 1893 c 57 § 1; 1891 c 156 § 1; 1890 p 179 § 106; RRS § 9116, part. (iii) 1915 c 184 § 28; 1890 p 196 § 137; RRS § 9142. Formerly RCW 35.24.020.]

**Severability—1987 c 3:** See note following RCW 3.46.020.

**35.23.051 Elections—Terms of office—Wards (as amended by 1994 c 81).** General municipal elections in ~~(third)~~ second class cities not operating under the commission form of government shall be held biennially in the odd-numbered years ~~((as provided in RCW 29.13.020))~~ and shall be subject to general election law.

The terms of office of the mayor, city attorney, clerk, and treasurer shall be four years and until their successors are elected and qualified and assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170: PROVIDED, That if the



offices of city attorney, clerk, and treasurer are made appointive, the city attorney, clerk, and treasurer shall not be appointed for a definite term: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the term of the elected treasurer shall not commence in the same biennium in which the term of the mayor commences, nor in which the terms of the city attorney and clerk commence if they are elected.

~~((A councilman at large shall be elected biennially for a two-year term and until his or her successor is elected and qualified and assumes office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. Of the other six councilmen, three shall be elected in each biennial general municipal election for terms of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified and assume))~~ Council positions shall be numbered in each second class city so that council position seven has a two-year term of office and council positions one through six shall each have four-year terms of office. Each councilmember shall remain in office until a successor is elected and qualified and assumes office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170.

In its discretion the council of a second class city may divide the city by ordinance, into a convenient number of wards, not exceeding six, fix the boundaries of the wards, and change the ward boundaries from time to time and as provided in RCW 29.70.100. No change in the boundaries of any ward shall be made within one hundred twenty days next before the date of a general municipal election, nor within twenty months after the wards have been established or altered. Whenever such city is so divided into wards, the city council shall designate by ordinance the number of councilmembers to be elected from each ward, apportioning the same in proportion to the population of the wards. Thereafter the councilmembers so designated shall be elected by the voters resident in such ward, or by general vote of the whole city as may be designated in such ordinance. Council position seven shall not be associated with a ward and the person elected to that position may reside anywhere in the city and voters throughout the city may vote at a primary to nominate candidates for position seven, when a primary is necessary, and at a general election to elect the person to council position seven. When additional territory is added to the city it may by act of the council, be annexed to contiguous wards without affecting the right to redistrict at the expiration of twenty months after last previous division. The removal of a councilmember from the ward for which he or she was elected shall create a vacancy in such office. [1994 c 81 § 36; 1979 ex.s. c 126 § 22; 1969 c 116 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.24.050. Prior: 1963 c 200 § 15; 1959 c 86 § 4; 1955 c 365 § 3; 1955 c 55 § 6; prior: (i) 1929 c 182 § 1, part; 1927 c 159 § 1; 1915 c 184 § 3, part; 1893 c 57 § 1; 1891 c 156 § 1; 1890 p 179 § 106; RRS § 9116, part. (ii) 1941 c 108 § 1; 1939 c 87 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9116-1. Formerly RCW 35.24.050.]

**35.23.051 Elections—Terms of office—Positions and wards (as amended by 1994 c 233).** General municipal elections in third class cities not operating under the commission form of government shall be held biennially in the odd-numbered years ~~((as provided in RCW 29.13.020))~~ and shall be subject to general election law.

The terms of office of the mayor, city attorney, clerk, and treasurer shall be four years and until their successors are elected and qualified and assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170: PROVIDED, That if the offices of city attorney, clerk, and treasurer are made appointive, the city attorney, clerk, and treasurer shall not be appointed for a definite term: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the term of the elected treasurer shall not commence in the same biennium in which the term of the mayor commences, nor in which the terms of the city attorney and clerk commence if they are elected.

~~((A councilman at large shall be elected biennially for a two-year term and until his or her successor is elected and qualified and assumes office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. Of the other six councilmen, three shall be elected in each biennial general municipal election for terms of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified and assume))~~ Council positions shall be numbered in each third class city so that council position seven has a two-year term of office and council positions one through six shall each have four-year terms of office. Each councilmember shall remain in office until a successor is elected and qualified and assumes office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170.

In its discretion the council of a third class city may divide the city by ordinance into a convenient number of wards, not exceeding six, fix the boundaries of the wards, and change the ward boundaries from time to time and as provided in RCW 29.70.100. No change in the boundaries of any ward shall be made within one hundred twenty days next before the date of a general municipal election, nor within twenty months after the wards have been established or altered. However, if a boundary change results in one ward being represented by more councilmembers than the number to which

it is entitled, those having the shortest unexpired terms shall be assigned by the council to wards where there is a vacancy, and the councilmembers so assigned shall be deemed to be residents of the wards to which they are assigned for purposes of determining whether those positions are vacant. Whenever such city is so divided into wards, the city council shall designate by ordinance the number of councilmembers to be elected from each ward, apportioning the same in proportion to the population of the wards. Council position seven shall not be associated with a ward and the person elected to that position may reside anywhere in the city and voters throughout the city may vote at a primary to nominate candidates for position seven, when a primary is necessary, and at a general election to elect the person to council position seven. When additional territory is added to the city it may by act of the council, be annexed to contiguous wards without affecting the right to redistrict at the expiration of twenty months after last previous division. Wards shall be redrawn as provided in chapter 29.70 RCW. Wards shall be used as follows: (1) Only a resident of the ward may be a candidate for, or hold office as, a councilmember of the ward; and (2) only voters of the ward may vote at a primary to nominate candidates for a councilmember of the ward. Voters of the entire city may vote at the general election to elect a councilmember of a ward, unless the city had prior to January 1, 1994, limited the voting in the general election for any or all council positions to only voters residing within the ward associated with the council positions. If a city had so limited the voting in the general election to only voters residing within the ward, then the city shall be authorized to continue to do so. The elections for the remaining council position or council positions that are not associated with a ward shall be conducted as if the wards did not exist. [1994 c 223 § 17; 1979 ex.s. c 126 § 22; 1969 c 116 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.24.050. Prior: 1963 c 200 § 15; 1959 c 86 § 4; 1955 c 365 § 3; 1955 c 55 § 6; prior: (i) 1929 c 182 § 1, part; 1927 c 159 § 1; 1915 c 184 § 3, part; 1893 c 57 § 1; 1891 c 156 § 1; 1890 p 179 § 106; RRS § 9116, part. (ii) 1941 c 108 § 1; 1939 c 87 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9116-1. Formerly RCW 35.24.050.]

**Reviser's note:** RCW 35.24.050 was amended twice, and recodified as RCW 35.23.051, during the 1994 legislative session, each without reference to the other. For rule of construction concerning sections amended more than once during the same legislative session, see RCW 1.12.025.

**Purpose—1979 ex.s. c 126:** See RCW 29.04.170(1).

**35.23.081 Oath and bond of officers.** In a city of the second class, the treasurer, city attorney, clerk, chief of police, and such other officers as the council may require shall each, before entering upon the duties of office, take an oath of office and execute and file with the clerk an official bond in such penal sum as the council shall determine, conditioned for the faithful performance of his or her duties and otherwise conditioned as may be provided by ordinance. The oath of office shall be filed with the county auditor. [1994 c 81 § 37; 1987 c 3 § 10; 1986 c 167 § 18; 1965 c 7 § 35.24.080. Prior: 1915 c 184 § 5; 1893 c 70 § 1; 1890 p 179 § 107; RRS § 9118. Formerly RCW 35.24.080.]

**Severability—1987 c 3:** See note following RCW 3.46.020.

**Severability—1986 c 167:** See note following RCW 29.01.055.

**35.23.091 Compensation of officers—Expenses—Nonstate pensions.** The mayor and the members of the city council may be reimbursed for actual expenses incurred in the discharge of their official duties, upon presentation of a claim therefor, after allowance and approval thereof, by resolution of the city council; and each city councilmember may be paid for attending council meetings an amount which shall be fixed by ordinance and may be revised from time to time by ordinance, but any increase or reduction in the compensation attaching to an office shall not be applicable to the term then being served by the incumbent.

The city attorney, clerk and treasurer, if elective, shall severally receive at stated times a compensation to be fixed by ordinance by the city council.



The mayor and other officers shall receive such compensation as may be fixed by the city council at the time the estimates are made as provided by law.

Any city that provides a pension for any of its employees under a plan not administered by the state must notify the state auditor of the existence of the plan at the time of an audit of the city by the auditor. No city may establish a pension plan for its employees that is not administered by the state, except that any defined contribution plan in existence as of January 1, 1990, is deemed to have been authorized. No city that provides a defined contribution plan for its employees as authorized by this section may make any material changes in the terms or conditions of the plan after June 7, 1990. [1990 c 212 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 87 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 270 § 8; 1965 c 105 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.24.090. Prior: 1961 c 89 § 7; 1941 c 115 § 1; 1915 c 184 § 7; 1893 c 70 § 2; 1890 p 180 § 109; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9120. Formerly RCW 35.24.090.]

**35.23.101 Vacancies (as amended by 1994 c 81).** ~~((In cities of the third class if a member of the city council absents himself))~~ The council of a second class city may declare a council position vacant if the councilmember is absent for three consecutive regular meetings ((thereof, unless by)) without permission of the council((-his office may be declared vacant by the council)). Vacancies in all elected offices shall accrue as provided in RCW 42.12.010.

Vacancies in the city council or in the office of mayor shall be filled by majority vote of the council. Vacancies in offices other than that of mayor or city ~~((councilman))~~ councilmember shall be filled by appointment of the mayor.

If a vacancy occurs in an elective office the appointee shall hold office only until the next ~~((regular))~~ municipal general election occurring within thirty or more days from the date of the occurrence of the vacancy at which a person shall be elected to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.

If there is a temporary vacancy in an appointive office due to illness, absence from the city or other temporary inability to act, the mayor may appoint a temporary appointee to exercise the duties of the office until the temporary disability of the incumbent is removed. [1994 c 81 § 38; 1965 c 7 § 35.24.100. Prior: (i) 1919 c 113 § 1; 1915 c 184 § 6; 1890 p 180 § 108; RRS § 9119. (ii) 1907 c 228 § 5, part; RRS § 9203, part. Formerly RCW 35.24.100.]

**35.23.101 Vacancies (as amended by 1994 c 223).** ~~((In cities of))~~ The council of a third class city may declare a council position vacant if ((a member of the city council absents himself)) that councilmember is absent for three consecutive regular meetings ((thereof, unless by)) without the permission of the council((-his office may be declared vacant by the council).

Vacancies in the city council or in the office of mayor shall be filled by majority vote of the council)). In addition, a vacancy in an elective office shall occur and shall be filled as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW.

Vacancies in offices other than that of mayor or city ~~((councilman))~~ councilmember shall be filled by appointment of the mayor.

~~((If a vacancy occurs in an elective office the appointee shall hold office only until the next regular election at which a person shall be elected to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.))~~

If there is a temporary vacancy in an appointive office due to illness, absence from the city or other temporary inability to act, the mayor may appoint a temporary appointee to exercise the duties of the office until the temporary disability of the incumbent is removed. [1994 c 223 § 19; 1965 c 7 § 35.24.100. Prior: (i) 1919 c 113 § 1; 1915 c 184 § 6; 1890 p 180 § 108; RRS § 9119. (ii) 1907 c 228 § 5, part; RRS § 9203, part. Formerly RCW 35.24.100.]

**Reviser's note:** RCW 35.24.100 was amended twice, and recodified as RCW 35.23.101, during the 1994 legislative session, each without reference to the other. For rule of construction concerning sections amended more than once during the same legislative session, see RCW 1.12.025.

*Vacancies in office of mayor filled from among city council members: RCW 35.23.191.*

**35.23.111 City attorney—Duties.** The city attorney shall advise the city authorities and officers in all legal matters pertaining to the business of the city and shall approve all ordinances as to form. He shall represent the city in all actions brought by or against the city or against city officials in their official capacity. He shall perform such other duties as the city council by ordinance may direct. [1965 c 7 § 35.24.110. Prior: 1915 c 184 § 26; 1893 c 70 § 11; 1890 p 192 § 132; RRS § 9140. Formerly RCW 35.24.110.]

*Employment of legal interns: RCW 35.21.760.*

**35.23.121 City clerk—Duties—Deputies.** The city clerk shall keep a full and true record of every act and proceeding of the city council and keep such books, accounts and make such reports as may be required by the division of municipal corporations in the office of the state auditor. The city clerk shall record all ordinances, annexing thereto his certificate giving the number and title of the ordinance, stating that the ordinance was published and posted according to law and that the record is a true and correct copy thereof. The record copy with the clerk's certificate shall be prima facie evidence of the contents of the ordinance and of its passage and publication and shall be admissible as such evidence in any court or proceeding.

The city clerk shall be custodian of the seal of the city and shall have authority to acknowledge the execution of all instruments by the city which require acknowledgment.

The city clerk may appoint a deputy for whose acts he and his bondsmen shall be responsible, and he and his deputy shall have authority to take all necessary affidavits to claims against the city and certify them without charge.

The city clerk shall perform such other duties as may be required by statute or ordinance. [1965 c 7 § 35.24.120. Prior: 1915 c 184 § 25; RRS § 9139. Formerly RCW 35.24.120.]

**35.23.131 City treasurer—Duties.** The city treasurer shall receive and safely keep all money which comes into his hands as treasurer, for all of which he shall execute triplicate receipts, one to be filed with the city clerk. He shall receive all money due the city and disburse it on warrants issued by the clerk countersigned by the mayor, and not otherwise. He shall make monthly settlements with the city clerk at which time he shall deliver to the clerk the duplicate receipts for all money received and all canceled warrants as evidence of money paid. [1965 c 7 § 35.24.130. Prior: 1915 c 184 § 24; 1893 c 70 § 8; 1890 p 192 § 132; RRS § 9138. Formerly RCW 35.24.130.]

**35.23.134 Association of sheriffs and police chiefs.** See chapter 36.28A RCW.

**35.23.141 Duty of officers collecting moneys.** Every officer collecting or receiving any money belonging to or for the use of the city shall settle with the clerk and immediately pay it into the treasury on the order of the clerk to be credited to the fund to which it belongs. [1965 c 7 § 35.24.140. Prior: 1915 c 184 § 30; 1890 p 197 § 139; RRS § 9144. Formerly RCW 35.24.140.]

**35.23.142 Combination of offices of treasurer with clerk—Authorized.** The city council of any city of the second class is authorized to provide by ordinance that the office of treasurer shall be combined with that of clerk, or that the office of clerk shall be combined with that of treasurer: PROVIDED, That such ordinance shall not be voted upon until the next regular meeting after its introduction. [1994 c 81 § 39; 1969 c 116 § 3. Formerly RCW 35.24.142.]

**35.23.144 Combination of offices of treasurer with clerk—Powers of clerk.** In the event that the office of treasurer is combined with the office of clerk so as to become the office of clerk-treasurer, the clerk shall exercise all the powers vested in and perform all the duties required to be performed by the treasurer, and in cases where the law requires the treasurer to sign or execute any papers or documents, it shall not be necessary for the clerk to sign as treasurer, but shall be sufficient if he signs as clerk. [1969 c 116 § 4. Formerly RCW 35.24.144.]

**35.23.146 Combination of offices of treasurer with clerk—Powers of treasurer.** In the event that the office of clerk is combined with the office of treasurer so as to become the office of treasurer-clerk, the treasurer shall exercise all the powers vested in and perform all the duties required to be performed by the clerk. [1969 c 116 § 5. Formerly RCW 35.24.146.]

**35.23.148 Combination of offices of treasurer with clerk—Ordinance—Termination of combined offices.** The ordinance provided for combining said offices shall provide the date when the combination shall become effective, which date shall not be less than three months from the date when the ordinance becomes effective; and on and after said date the office of treasurer or clerk, as the case may be, shall be abolished. Any city which as herein provided, combined the office of treasurer with that of clerk or the office of clerk with that of treasurer may terminate such combination by ordinance, fixing the time when the combination shall cease and thereafter the duties of the offices shall be performed by separate officials: PROVIDED, That if the office of treasurer was combined with that of clerk, or an elective office of clerk was combined with the office of treasurer, the mayor shall appoint a treasurer and clerk who shall serve until the next regular municipal general election when a treasurer and clerk shall be elected for the term as provided by law unless such city has enacted an ordinance in accordance with \*RCW 35.24.020. [1969 c 116 § 6. Formerly RCW 35.24.148.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 35.24.020 was recodified as RCW 35.23.021 pursuant to 1994 c 81 § 90.

**35.23.161 Chief of police and police department.** The department of police in a city of the second class shall be under the direction and control of the chief of police subject to the direction of the mayor. Any police officer may pursue and arrest violators of city ordinances beyond the city limits.

Every citizen shall lend the police chief aid, when required, for the arrest of offenders and maintenance of

public order. With the concurrence of the mayor, the police chief may appoint additional police officers to serve for one day only under orders of the chief in the preservation of public order.

The police chief shall have the same authority as that conferred upon sheriffs for the suppression of any riot, public tumult, disturbance of the peace, or resistance against the laws or the public authorities in the lawful exercise of their functions and shall be entitled to the same protection.

The police chief shall perform such other services as may be required by statute or ordinances of the city. [1994 c 81 § 40; 1987 c 3 § 11; 1977 ex.s. c 316 § 22; 1965 c 7 § 35.24.160. Prior: 1915 c 184 § 27; 1893 c 70 § 12; 1890 p 195 § 136; RRS § 9141. Formerly RCW 35.24.160.]

**Severability—1987 c 3:** See note following RCW 3.46.020.

**Severability—1977 ex.s. c 316:** See note following RCW 70.48.020.

*Commencement of actions:* Chapter 4.28 RCW.

*Duties of chief law enforcement officer receiving found property:* RCW 63.21.050.

*Law enforcement chaplains authorized:* Chapter 41.22 RCW.

*Unclaimed property in hands of city police:* Chapter 63.32 RCW.

**35.23.170 Park commissioners.** Councils of second class cities and towns may provide by ordinance, for a board of park commissioners, not to exceed seven in number, to be appointed by the mayor, with the consent of the city council, from citizens of recognized fitness for such position. No commissioner shall receive any compensation. The first commissioners shall determine by lot whose term of office shall expire each year, and a new commissioner shall be appointed annually to serve for a term of years corresponding in number to the number of commissioners in order that one term shall expire each year. Such board of park commissioners shall have only such powers and authority with respect to the management, supervision, and control of parks and recreational facilities and programs as are granted to it by the council. [1994 c 81 § 16; 1973 c 76 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.23.170. Prior: 1953 c 86 § 1; 1925 ex.s. c 121 § 1; 1907 c 228 § 2; RRS § 9200.]

**35.23.181 City council—Oath—Meetings.** The city council and mayor shall meet in January next succeeding the date of each general municipal election, and shall take the oath of office, and shall hold regular meetings at least once during each month but not to exceed one regular meeting in each week, at such times as may be fixed by ordinance.

Special meetings may be called by the mayor by written notice as provided in RCW 42.30.080. No ordinances shall be passed or contract let or entered into, or bill for the payment of money allowed at any special meeting.

All meetings of the city council shall be held at such place as may be designated by the city council. All final actions on resolutions and ordinances must take place within the corporate limits of the city. All meetings of the city council must be public. [1993 c 199 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.24.180. Prior: 1915 c 184 § 10, part; 1893 c 70 § 3; 1890 p 181 § 113; RRS § 9123, part. Formerly RCW 35.24.180.]

**35.23.191 City council—Mayor pro tempore.** The members of the city council, at their first meeting each

calendar year and thereafter whenever a vacancy occurs in the office of mayor pro tempore, shall elect from among their number a mayor pro tempore, who shall hold office at the pleasure of the council and in case of the absence of the mayor, perform the duties of mayor except that he or she shall not have the power to appoint or remove any officer or to veto any ordinance. If a vacancy occurs in the office of mayor, the city council at their next regular meeting shall elect from among their number a mayor, who shall serve until a mayor is elected and certified at the next municipal election.

The mayor and the mayor pro tempore shall have power to administer oaths and affirmations, take affidavits and certify them. The mayor or the mayor pro tempore when acting as mayor, shall sign all conveyances made by the city and all instruments which require the seal of the city. [1994 c 81 § 41; 1969 c 101 § 3; 1965 c 7 § 35.24.190. Prior: (i) 1915 c 184 § 10, part; 1893 c 70 § 3; 1890 p 181 § 113; RRS § 9123, part. (ii) 1915 c 184 § 23; RRS § 9137. Formerly RCW 35.24.190.]

**35.23.201 City council—Meetings—Journal.** All meetings of the council shall be presided over by the mayor, or, in the mayor's absence, by the mayor pro tempore. The mayor shall have a vote only in the case of a tie in the votes of the councilmembers. If the clerk is absent from a council meeting, the mayor or mayor pro tempore shall appoint one of the members of the council as clerk pro tempore. The appointment of a councilmember as mayor pro tempore or clerk pro tempore shall not in any way abridge the councilmember's right to vote upon all questions coming before the council.

The clerk shall keep a correct journal of all proceedings and at the desire of any member the ayes and noes shall be taken on any question and entered in the journal. [1994 c 81 § 42; 1965 c 107 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.24.200. Prior: (i) 1915 c 184 § 13, part; 1890 p 182 § 115; RRS § 9126, part. (ii) 1915 c 184 § 11, part; 1891 c 156 § 2; 1890 p 182 § 114; RRS § 9124, part. Formerly RCW 35.24.200.]

**35.23.211 Ordinances—Style—Requisites—Veto.** The enacting clause of all ordinances in a second class city shall be as follows: "The city council of the city of . . . . do ordain as follows:"

No ordinance shall contain more than one subject and that must be clearly expressed in its title.

No ordinance or any section thereof shall be revised or amended unless the new ordinance sets forth the revised ordinance or the amended section at full length.

No ordinance and no resolution or order shall have any validity or effect unless passed by the votes of at least four councilmembers.

No ordinance shall take effect until five days after the date of its publication unless otherwise provided in this title.

Every ordinance which passes the council in order to become valid must be presented to the mayor; if the mayor approves it, the mayor shall sign it, but if not, the mayor shall return it with written objections to the council and the council shall cause the mayor's objections to be entered at large upon the journal and proceed to a reconsideration thereof. If upon reconsideration five members of the council

voting upon a call of yeas and nays favor its passage, the ordinance shall become valid notwithstanding the mayor's veto. If the mayor fails for ten days to either approve or veto an ordinance, it shall become valid without the approval of the mayor.

Every ordinance shall be signed by the mayor and attested by the clerk. [1994 c 81 § 43; 1965 c 7 § 35.24.210. Prior: (i) 1915 c 184 § 11, part; 1891 c 156 § 2; 1890 p 182 § 114; RRS § 9124, part. (ii) 1915 c 184 § 12, part; 1893 c 70 § 4; 1890 p 182 § 116; RRS § 9125, part. (iii) 1915 c 184 § 18, part; 1890 p 186 § 118; RRS § 9132, part. Formerly RCW 35.24.210.]

*Codification of city or town ordinances: RCW 35.21.500 through 35.21.570.*

**35.23.221 Ordinances—Publication—Summary—Public notice of hearings and meeting agendas.** Promptly after adoption, the text of each ordinance or a summary of the content of each ordinance shall be published at least once in the city's official newspaper.

For purposes of this section, a summary shall mean a brief description which succinctly describes the main points of the ordinance. Publication of the title of an ordinance authorizing the issuance of bonds, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness shall constitute publication of a summary of that ordinance. When the city publishes a summary, the publication shall include a statement that the full text of the ordinance will be mailed upon request.

An inadvertent mistake or omission in publishing the text or a summary of the content of an ordinance shall not render the ordinance invalid.

In addition to the requirement that a city publish the text or a summary of the content of each adopted ordinance, every city shall establish a procedure for notifying the public of upcoming hearings and the preliminary agenda for the forthcoming council meeting. Such procedure may include, but not be limited to, written notification to the city's official newspaper, publication of a notice in the official newspaper, posting of upcoming council meeting agendas, or such other processes as the city determines will satisfy the intent of this requirement. [1994 c 273 § 10; 1988 c 168 § 4; 1987 c 400 § 1; 1985 c 469 § 25; 1965 c 7 § 35.24.220. Prior: (i) 1915 c 184 § 18, part; 1890 p 186 § 118; RRS § 9132, part. (ii) 1915 c 184 § 12, part; 1893 c 70 § 4; 1890 p 182 § 116; RRS § 9125, part. Formerly RCW 35.24.220.]

**35.23.251 Ordinances granting franchises—Requisites.** No ordinance or resolution granting any franchise for any purpose shall be passed by the city council on the day of its introduction, nor for five days thereafter, nor at any other than a regular meeting nor without first being submitted to the city attorney.

No franchise or valuable privilege shall be granted unless by the vote of at least five members of the city council.

The city council may require a bond in a reasonable amount for any person or corporation obtaining a franchise from the city conditioned for the faithful performance of the conditions and terms of the franchise and providing a recovery on the bond in case of failure to perform the terms and conditions of franchise. [1965 c 7 § 35.24.250. Prior:

(i) 1915 c 184 § 12, part; 1893 c 70 § 4; 1890 p 182 § 116; RRS § 9125, part. (ii) 1907 c 228 § 1, part; RRS § 9199, part. Formerly RCW 35.24.250.]

**35.23.261 Audit and allowance of demands against city.** All demands against the city shall be presented to and audited by the city council in accordance with such regulations as it may by ordinance prescribe; and upon the allowance of a demand, the clerk shall draw a warrant upon the treasurer for it, which warrant shall be countersigned by the mayor and shall specify for what purpose it is drawn and out of which fund it is to be paid. [1965 c 7 § 35.24.260. Prior: 1915 c 184 § 19; 1890 p 186 § 119; RRS § 9133. Formerly RCW 35.24.260.]

**35.23.270 City council—Quorum—Rules—Journal, etc.** A majority of the councilmembers shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. A less number may compel the attendance of absent members and may adjourn from time to time. The council shall determine its rules of proceedings. The council may punish their members for disorderly conduct and upon written charges entered upon 127 the journal therefor, may, after trial, expel a member by two-thirds vote of all the members elected. All orders of the city council shall be entered upon the journal of its proceedings, which journal shall be signed by the officer who presided at the meeting. The journal shall be kept by the clerk under the council's direction. [1994 c 81 § 17; 1965 c 7 § 35.23.270. Prior: (i) 1907 c 241 § 28, part; 1890 p 148 § 37; RRS § 9033, part. (ii) 1907 c 241 § 59; 1890 p 159 § 49; RRS § 9062.]

**35.23.290 City council—Entry of ayes and noes on journal.** At any time, at the request of any two members the ayes and noes on any question may be taken and entered upon the journal and they must be so taken and entered upon the passage of all ordinances appropriating money, imposing taxes, abolishing licenses, increasing or lessening the amount to be paid for licenses. [1965 c 7 § 35.23.290. Prior: (i) 1907 c 241 § 28, part; 1890 p 148 § 37; RRS § 9033, part. (ii) 1907 c 241 § 60; 1890 p 159 § 50; RRS § 9063.]

**35.23.310 Ordinances—Publication—Summary—Copy as evidence—Public notice of hearings and meeting agendas.** Promptly after adoption, the text of each ordinance or a summary of the content of each ordinance shall be published at least once in the official newspaper of the city. For purposes of this section, a summary shall mean a brief description which succinctly describes the main points of the ordinance. Publication of the title of an ordinance authorizing the issuance of bonds, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness shall constitute publication of a summary of that ordinance. When the city publishes a summary, the publication shall include a statement that the full text of the ordinance will be mailed upon request.

An inadvertent mistake or omission in publishing the text or a summary of the content of an ordinance shall not render the ordinance invalid.

In addition to the requirement that a city publish the text or a summary of the content of each adopted ordinance, every city shall establish a procedure for notifying the public of upcoming hearings and the preliminary agenda for the forthcoming council meeting. Such procedure may include, but not be limited to, written notification to the city's official newspaper, publication of a notice in the official newspaper, posting of upcoming council meeting agendas, or such other processes as the city determines will satisfy the intent of this requirement.

A certified copy of any ordinance certified to by the clerk, or a printed copy of any ordinance or compilation printed by authority of the city council and attested by the clerk shall be competent evidence in any court. [1994 c 273 § 8; 1988 c 168 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.23.310. Prior: (i) 1907 c 241 § 57, part; 1890 p 158 § 47; RRS § 9060, part. (ii) 1907 c 241 § 58, part; 1890 p 158 § 48; RRS § 9061, part.]

**Reviser's note:** RCW 35.23.310 was also repealed by 1994 c 81 § 89 without cognizance of its amendment by 1994 c 273 § 8.

*Ordinances, recording as evidence of passage:* RCW 5.44.080.

**35.23.310 Ordinances—Publication—Copy as evidence—Public notice of hearings and meeting agendas.** [1988 c 168 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.23.310. Prior: (i) 1907 c 241 § 57, part; 1890 p 158 § 47; RRS § 9060, part. (ii) 1907 c 241 § 58, part; 1890 p 158 § 48; RRS § 9061, part.] Repealed by 1994 c 81 § 89.

**Reviser's note:** This section was also amended by 1994 c 273 § 8 without cognizance of the repeal thereof.

**35.23.311 Eminent domain.** Whenever it shall become necessary for the city to take or damage private property for the purpose of establishing, laying out, extending and widening streets and other public highways and places within the city, or for the purpose of securing rights-of-way for drains, sewers and aqueducts, and for the purpose of widening, straightening or diverting the channels of streams and the improvement of waterfronts, or any other public purpose, and the city council cannot agree with the owner thereof as to the price to be paid, the city council may proceed to acquire, take or damage the same in the manner provided by chapter 8.12 RCW or by chapter 8.20 RCW. [1965 c 7 § 35.24.310. Prior: 1915 c 184 § 22; RRS § 9136. Formerly RCW 35.24.310.]

**35.23.330 Limitation on allowance of claims, warrants, etc.** No claim shall be allowed against the city by the city council, nor shall the city council order any warrants to be drawn except at a general meeting of the council. The council shall never allow, make valid, or recognize any demand against the city which was not a valid claim against it when the obligation was created, nor authorize to be paid any demand which without such action would be invalid or which is then barred by the statute of limitations, or for which the city was never liable, and any such action shall be void. [1965 c 7 § 35.23.330. Prior: (i) 1907 c 241 § 35; RRS § 9042. (ii) 1907 c 241 § 72, part; RRS § 9075, part.]

**35.23.331 Nuisances.** Every act or thing done or being within the limits of a second class city which is declared by law or by ordinance to be a nuisance shall be a nuisance and shall be so considered in all actions and proceedings. All remedies given by law for the prevention and abatement of nuisances shall apply thereto. [1994 c 81 § 46; 1965 c 7 § 35.24.330. Prior: 1915 c 184 § 21; 1890 p 187 § 123; RRS § 9135. Formerly RCW 35.24.330.]

*Public nuisances:* Chapter 9.66 RCW.

**35.23.351 Application of RCW 35.23.352 to certain agreements relating to water pollution control, solid waste handling facilities.** RCW 35.23.352 does not apply to the selection of persons or entities to construct or develop water pollution control facilities or to provide water pollution control services under RCW 70.150.040 or the selection of persons or entities to construct or develop solid waste

handling facilities or to provide solid waste handling services under RCW 35.21.156. [1989 c 399 § 5; 1986 c 244 § 10.]

Severability—1986 c 244: See RCW 70.150.905.

**35.23.352 Public works—Contracts—Bids—Small works roster—Purchasing requirements, recycled or reused materials or products.** (1) Any second class city or any town may construct any public works, as defined in RCW 39.04.010, by contract or day labor without calling for bids therefor whenever the estimated cost of the work or improvement, including cost of materials, supplies and equipment will not exceed the sum of thirty thousand dollars if more than one craft or trade is involved with the public works, or twenty thousand dollars if a single craft or trade is involved with the public works or the public works project is street signalization or street lighting. A public works project means a complete project. The restrictions in this subsection do not permit the division of the project into units of work or classes of work to avoid the restriction on work that may be performed by day labor on a single project.

Whenever the cost of the public work or improvement, including materials, supplies and equipment, will exceed these figures, the same shall be done by contract. All such contracts shall be let at public bidding upon publication of notice calling for sealed bids upon the work. The notice shall be published in the official newspaper, or a newspaper of general circulation most likely to bring responsive bids, at least thirteen days prior to the last date upon which bids will be received. The notice shall generally state the nature of the work to be done that plans and specifications therefor shall then be on file in the city or town hall for public inspections, and require that bids be sealed and filed with the council or commission within the time specified therein. Each bid shall be accompanied by a bid proposal deposit in the form of a cashier's check, postal money order, or surety bond to the council or commission for a sum of not less than five percent of the amount of the bid, and no bid shall be considered unless accompanied by such bid proposal deposit. The council or commission of the city or town shall let the contract to the lowest responsible bidder or shall have power by resolution to reject any or all bids and to make further calls for bids in the same manner as the original call.

When the contract is let then all bid proposal deposits shall be returned to the bidders except that of the successful bidder which shall be retained until a contract is entered into and a bond to perform the work furnished, with surety satisfactory to the council or commission, in accordance with RCW 39.08.030. If the bidder fails to enter into the contract in accordance with his or her bid and furnish a bond within ten days from the date at which he or she is notified that he or she is the successful bidder, the check or postal money order and the amount thereof shall be forfeited to the council or commission or the council or commission shall recover the amount of the surety bond.

If no bid is received on the first call the council or commission may readvertise and make a second call, or may enter into a contract without any further call or may purchase the supplies, material or equipment and perform the work or improvement by day labor.

(2) The allocation of public works projects to be performed by city or town employees shall not be subject to a collective bargaining agreement.

(3) In lieu of the procedures of subsection (1) of this section, a second class city or a town may use the small works roster process provided in RCW 39.04.155 to award public works contracts with an estimated value of one hundred thousand dollars or less.

Whenever possible, the city or town shall invite at least one proposal from a minority or woman contractor who shall otherwise qualify under this section.

(4) The form required by RCW 43.09.205 shall be to account and record costs of public works in excess of five thousand dollars that are not let by contract.

(5) The cost of a separate public works project shall be the costs of the materials, equipment, supplies, and labor on that construction project.

(6) Any purchase of supplies, material, or equipment, except for public work or improvement, where the cost thereof exceeds seven thousand five hundred dollars shall be made upon call for bids.

(7) Bids shall be called annually and at a time and in the manner prescribed by ordinance for the publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the city or town of all notices or newspaper publications required by law. The contract shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder.

(8) For advertisement and formal sealed bidding to be dispensed with as to purchases between seven thousand five hundred and fifteen thousand dollars, the council or commission must authorize by resolution, use of the uniform procedure provided in RCW 39.04.190.

(9) These requirements for purchasing may be waived by resolution of the city or town council or commission which declared that the purchase is clearly and legitimately limited to a single source or supply within the near vicinity, or the materials, supplies, equipment, or services are subject to special market conditions, and recites why this situation exists. Such actions are subject to RCW 39.30.020.

(10) This section does not apply to performance-based contracts, as defined in RCW 39.35A.020(3), that are negotiated under chapter 39.35A RCW.

(11) Nothing in this section shall prohibit any second class city or any town from allowing for preferential purchase of products made from recycled materials or products that may be recycled or reused. [1994 c 273 § 9; 1994 c 81 § 18; 1993 c 198 § 10; 1989 c 431 § 56; 1988 c 168 § 3; 1987 c 120 § 2. Prior: 1985 c 469 § 24; 1985 c 219 § 2; 1985 c 169 § 7; 1979 ex.s. c 89 § 2; 1977 ex.s. c 41 § 1; 1974 ex.s. c 74 § 2; 1965 c 114 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.23.352; prior: 1957 c 121 § 1; 1951 c 211 § 1; prior: (i) 1907 c 241 § 52; RRS § 9055. (ii) 1915 c 184 § 31; RRS § 9145. (iii) 1947 c 151 § 1; 1890 p 209 § 166; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 9185.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 1994 c 81 § 18 and by 1994 c 273 § 9, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section pursuant to RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

Severability—1989 c 431: See RCW 70.95.901.

*Competitive bidding violations by municipal officer, penalties:* RCW 39.30.020.

*Subcontractors to be identified by bidder, when:* RCW 39.30.060.

**35.23.371 Taxation—Street poll tax.** A second class city may impose upon and collect from every inhabitant of the city over the age of eighteen years an annual street poll tax not exceeding two dollars and no other road poll tax shall be collected within the limits of the city. [1994 c 81 § 47; 1973 1st ex.s. c 154 § 51; 1971 ex.s. c 292 § 61; 1965 c 7 § 35.24.370. Prior: 1905 c 75 § 1, part; 1890 p 201 § 154; RRS § 9210, part. Formerly RCW 35.24.370.]

**Severability—1973 1st ex.s. c 154:** See note following RCW 2.12.030.

**Severability—1971 ex.s. c 292:** See note following RCW 26.28.010.

**35.23.380 Exclusive franchises prohibited.** No exclusive franchise or privilege shall be granted for the use of any street, alley, highway, or public place or any part thereof. [1965 c 7 § 35.23.380. Prior: 1907 c 241 § 32; RRS § 9039.]

**35.23.390 Requisites to granting of franchises—Rates—Bond.** No franchise or privilege shall be created or granted by the city council otherwise than by ordinance nor shall it be passed on the day of the introduction nor for thirty days thereafter and then only upon the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the councilmen elected. The city council may fix the rates and tolls to be charged within the city by any public service corporation enjoying a franchise granted by the city subject to review by any court of competent jurisdiction as to the reasonableness thereof. The city council may require a bond in a reasonable amount from any person or corporation obtaining a franchise from the city conditioned for the faithful performance of the conditions and terms of the franchise and providing a recovery on the bond in case of failure to perform the terms and conditions of the franchise. [1965 c 7 § 35.23.390. Prior: (i) 1907 c 241 § 31, part; RRS § 9038, part. (ii) 1907 c 228 § 1, part; RRS § 9199, part. (iii) 1907 c 241 § 67, part; RRS § 9070, part.]

**35.23.400 Franchise ordinances—Publication before passage.** No ordinance granting a franchise or privilege and no ordinance amending a prior ordinance granting a franchise or privilege shall be passed until it has been published in at least one issue of the official newspaper of the city: PROVIDED, That ordinances or amendments thereto granting a franchise to lay spur railroad tracks connecting manufacturing plants, warehouses, or other private property with a main line of railroad need not be published before they are passed by the council. No ordinance required to be published before passage shall be amended after publication by an amendment which imposes terms, conditions, or privileges less favorable to the city than those in the proposed ordinance as published, but amendments favorable to the city may be made at any time before passage.

All publications of ordinances granting a franchise or ordinance amending ordinances granting a franchise, both before and after passage shall be made at the expense of the applicant or proposed grantee. [1965 c 7 § 35.23.400. Prior: 1907 c 241 § 31, part; RRS § 9038, part.]

**35.23.410 Leasing of street ends on waterfront.** The city council may lease for business purposes portions of the

ends of streets terminating in the waterfront or navigable waters of the city with the written consent of all the property owners whose properties abut upon the portion proposed to be leased. The lease may be made for any period not exceeding fifteen years but must provide that at intervals of every five years during the term, the rental to be paid by the lessee shall be readjusted between him and the city by mutual agreement, or if they cannot agree by a board of arbitration, one to be chosen by the city, one by the lessee and the third by the other two, their decision to be final. The vote of two-thirds of all the councilmen elected is necessary to authorize such a lease. [1965 c 7 § 35.23.410. Prior: 1907 c 241 § 67, part; RRS § 9070, part.]

**35.23.420 Notice of lease to be published before execution.** No lease of a portion of the end of a street terminating in the waterfront or navigable waters of the city shall be made until a notice describing the portion of the street proposed to be leased, to whom and for what purpose leased and the proposed rental to be paid has been published by the city clerk in the official newspaper at least fifteen days prior to the execution of the lease. [1965 c 7 § 35.23.420. Prior: 1907 c 241 § 67, part; RRS § 9070, part.]

**35.23.430 Railroads in streets to be assessed for street improvement.** If an improvement is made upon a street occupied by a street railway or any railroad enjoying a franchise on the street, the city council shall assess against the railroad its just proportion of making the improvement which shall be not less than the expense of improving the space between the rails of the railroad and for a distance of one foot on each side. The assessment against the railroad shall be made on the rolls of the improvement district the same as against other property in the district and shall be a lien on that portion of the railroad within the district from the time of the equalization of the roll. The lien may be foreclosed by a civil action in superior court and the same period of redemption from any sale on foreclosure shall be allowed as is allowed in cases of sale of real estate upon execution. [1965 c 7 § 35.23.430. Prior: 1907 c 241 § 65; RRS § 9068.]

**35.23.440 Specific powers enumerated.** The city council of each second class city shall have power and authority:

(1) Ordinances: To make and pass all ordinances, orders, and resolutions not repugnant to the Constitution of the United States or the state of Washington, or the provisions of this title, necessary for the municipal government and management of the affairs of the city, for the execution of the powers vested in said body corporate, and for the carrying into effect of the provisions of this title.

(2) License of shows: To fix and collect a license tax, for the purposes of revenue and regulation, on theatres, melodeons, balls, concerts, dances, theatrical, circus, or other performances, and all performances where an admission fee is charged, or which may be held in any house or place where wines or liquors are sold to the participators; also all shows, billiard tables, pool tables, bowling alleys, exhibitions, or amusements.

(3) Hotels, etc., licenses: To fix and collect a license tax for the purposes of revenue and regulation on and to regulate all taverns, hotels, restaurants, banks, brokers, manufactories, livery stables, express companies and persons engaged in transmitting letters or packages, railroad, stage, and steamboat companies or owners, whose principal place of business is in such city, or who have an agency therein.

(4) Peddlers', etc., licenses: To license, for the purposes of revenue and regulation, tax, prohibit, suppress, and regulate all raffles, hawkers, peddlers, pawnbrokers, refreshment or coffee stands, booths, or sheds; and to regulate as authorized by state law all tipping houses, dram shops, saloons, bars, and barrooms.

(5) Dance houses: To prohibit or suppress, or to license and regulate all dance houses, fandango houses, or any exhibition or show of any animal or animals.

(6) License vehicles: To license for the purposes of revenue and regulation, and to tax hackney coaches, cabs, omnibuses, drays, market wagons, and all other vehicles used for hire, and to regulate their stands, and to fix the rates to be charged for the transportation of persons, baggage, and property.

(7) Hotel runners: To license or suppress runners for steamboats, taverns, or hotels.

(8) License generally: To fix and collect a license tax for the purposes of revenue and regulation, upon all occupations and trades, and all and every kind of business authorized by law not heretofore specified: PROVIDED, That on any business, trade, or calling not provided by law to be licensed for state and county purposes, the amount of license shall be fixed at the discretion of the city council, as they may deem the interests and good order of the city may require.

(9) Riots: To prevent and restrain any riot or riotous assemblages, disturbance of the peace, or disorderly conduct in any place, house, or street in the city.

(10) Nuisances: To declare what shall be deemed nuisances; to prevent, remove, and abate nuisances at the expense of the parties creating, causing, or committing or maintaining the same, and to levy a special assessment on the land or premises whereon the nuisance is situated to defray the cost or to reimburse the city for the cost of abating the same.

(11) Stock pound: To establish, maintain, and regulate a common pound for estrays, and to appoint a poundkeeper, who shall be paid out of the fines and fees imposed and collected of the owners of any animals impounded, and from no other source; to prevent and regulate the running at large of any and all domestic animals within the city limits or any parts thereof, and to regulate or prevent the keeping of such animals within any part of the city.

(12) Control of certain trades: To control and regulate slaughterhouses, washhouses, laundries, tanneries, forges, and offensive trades, and to provide for their exclusion or removal from the city limits, or from any part thereof.

(13) Street cleaning: To provide, by regulation, for the prevention and summary removal of all filth and garbage in streets, sloughs, alleys, back yards, or public grounds of such city, or elsewhere therein.

(14) Gambling, etc.: To prohibit and suppress all gaming and all gambling or disorderly houses, and houses of

ill fame, and all immoral and indecent amusements, exhibitions, and shows.

(15) Markets: To establish and regulate markets and market places.

(16) Speed of railroad cars: To fix and regulate the speed at which any railroad cars, streetcars, automobiles, or other vehicles may run within the city limits, or any portion thereof.

(17) City commons: To provide for and regulate the commons of the city.

(18) Fast driving: To regulate or prohibit fast driving or riding in any portion of the city.

(19) Combustibles: To regulate or prohibit the loading or storage of gunpowder and combustible or explosive materials in the city, or transporting the same through its streets or over its waters.

(20) Property: To have, purchase, hold, use, and enjoy property of every name or kind whatsoever, and to sell, lease, transfer, mortgage, convey, control, or improve the same; to build, erect, or construct houses, buildings, or structures of any kind needful for the use or purposes of such city.

(21) Fire department: To establish, continue, regulate, and maintain a fire department for such city, to change or reorganize the same, and to disband any company or companies of the said department; also, to discontinue and disband said fire department, and to create, organize, establish, and maintain a paid fire department for such city.

(22) Water supply: To adopt, enter into, and carry out means for securing a supply of water for the use of such city or its inhabitants, or for irrigation purposes therein.

(23) Overflow of water: To prevent the overflow of the city or to secure its drainage, and to assess the cost thereof to the property benefited.

(24) House numbers: To provide for the numbering of houses.

(25) Health board: To establish a board of health; to prevent the introduction and spread of disease; to establish a city infirmary and to provide for the indigent sick; and to provide and enforce regulations for the protection of health, cleanliness, peace, and good order of the city; to establish and maintain hospitals within or without the city limits; to control and regulate interments and to prohibit them within the city limits.

(26) Harbors and wharves: To build, alter, improve, keep in repair, and control the waterfront; to erect, regulate, and repair wharves, and to fix the rate of wharfage and transit of wharf, and levy dues upon vessels and commodities; and to provide for the regulation of berths, landing, stationing, and removing steamboats, sail vessels, rafts, barges, and all other watercraft; to fix the rate of speed at which steamboats and other steam watercraft may run along the waterfront of the city; to build bridges so as not to interfere with navigation; to provide for the removal of obstructions to the navigation of any channel or watercourses or channels.

(27) License of steamers: To license steamers, boats, and vessels used in any watercourse in the city, and to fix and collect a license tax thereon.

(28) Ferry licenses: To license ferries and toll bridges under the law regulating the granting of such license.



(29) Penalty for violation of ordinances: To provide that violations of ordinances with the punishment for any offense not exceeding a fine of five thousand dollars or imprisonment for more than one year, or both fine and imprisonment, but the punishment for any criminal ordinance shall be the same as the punishment provided in state law for the same crime. Alternatively, such a city may provide that a violation of an ordinance constitutes a civil violation subject to monetary penalties or to determine and impose fines for forfeitures and penalties, but no act which is a state crime may be made a civil violation. A violation of an order, regulation, or ordinance relating to traffic including parking, standing, stopping, and pedestrian offenses is a traffic infraction, except that violation of an order, regulation, or ordinance equivalent to those provisions of Title 46 RCW set forth in RCW 46.63.020 remains a misdemeanor.

(30) Police department: To create and establish a city police; to prescribe their duties and their compensation; and to provide for the regulation and government of the same.

(31) Examine official accounts: To examine, either in open session or by committee, the accounts or doings of all officers or other persons having the care, management, or disposition of moneys, property, or business of the city.

(32) Contracts: To make all appropriations, contracts, or agreements for the use or benefit of the city and in the city's name.

(33) Streets and sidewalks: To provide by ordinance for the opening, laying out, altering, extending, repairing, grading, paving, planking, graveling, macadamizing, or otherwise improving of public streets, avenues, and other public ways, or any portion of any thereof; and for the construction, regulation, and repair of sidewalks and other street improvements, all at the expense of the property to be benefited thereby, without any recourse, in any event, upon the city for any portion of the expense of such work, or any delinquency of the property holders or owners, and to provide for the forced sale thereof for such purposes; to establish a uniform grade for streets, avenues, sidewalks, and squares, and to enforce the observance thereof.

(34) Waterways: To clear, cleanse, alter, straighten, widen, fill up, or close any waterway, drain, or sewer, or any watercourse in such city when not declared by law to be navigable, and to assess the expense thereof, in whole or in part, to the property specially benefited.

(35) Sewerage: To adopt, provide for, establish, and maintain a general system of sewerage, draining, or both, and the regulation thereof; to provide funds by local assessments on the property benefited for the purpose aforesaid and to determine the manner, terms, and place of connection with main or central lines of pipes, sewers, or drains established, and compel compliance with and conformity to such general system of sewerage or drainage, or both, and the regulations of said council thereto relating, by the infliction of suitable penalties and forfeitures against persons and property, or either, for nonconformity to, or failure to comply with the provisions of such system and regulations or either.

(36) Buildings and parks: To provide for all public buildings, public parks, or squares, necessary or proper for the use of the city.

(37) Franchises: To permit the use of the streets for railroad or other public service purposes.

(38) Payment of judgments: To order paid any final judgment against such city, but none of its lands or property of any kind or nature, taxes, revenue, franchise, or rights, or interest, shall be attached, levied upon, or sold in or under any process whatsoever.

(39) Weighing of fuel: To regulate the sale of coal and wood in such city, and may appoint a measurer of wood and weigher of coal for the city, and define his duties, and may prescribe his term of office, and the fees he shall receive for his services: PROVIDED, That such fees shall in all cases be paid by the parties requiring such service.

(40) Hospitals, etc.: To erect and establish hospitals and pesthouses and to control and regulate the same.

(41) Waterworks: To provide for the erection, purchase, or otherwise acquiring of waterworks within or without the corporate limits of the city to supply such city and its inhabitants with water, and to regulate and control the use and price of the water so supplied.

(42) City lights: To provide for lighting the streets and all public places of the city and for furnishing the inhabitants of the city with gas, electric, or other light, and for the ownership, purchase or acquisition, construction, or maintenance of such works as may be necessary or convenient therefor: PROVIDED, That no purchase of any such water plant or light plant shall be made without first submitting the question of such purchase to the electors of the city.

(43) Parks: To acquire by purchase or otherwise land for public parks, within or without the limits of the city, and to improve the same.

(44) Bridges: To construct and keep in repair bridges, and to regulate the use thereof.

(45) Power of eminent domain: In the name of and for the use and benefit of the city, to exercise the right of eminent domain, and to condemn lands and property for the purposes of streets, alleys, parks, public grounds, waterworks, or for any other municipal purpose and to acquire by purchase or otherwise such lands and property as may be deemed necessary for any of the corporate uses provided for by this title, as the interests of the city may from time to time require.

(46) To provide for the assessment of taxes: To provide for the assessment, levying, and collecting of taxes on real and personal property for the corporate uses and purposes of the city and to provide for the payment of the debts and expenses of the corporation.

(47) Local improvements: To provide for making local improvements, and to levy and collect special assessments on the property benefited thereby and for paying the same or any portion thereof; to determine what work shall be done or improvements made, at the expense, in whole or in part, of the adjoining, contiguous, or proximate property, and to provide for the manner of making and collecting assessments therefor.

(48) Cemeteries: To regulate the burial of the dead and to establish and regulate cemeteries, within or without the corporate limits, and to acquire lands therefor by purchase or otherwise.

(49) Fire limits: To establish fire limits with proper regulations and to make all needful regulations for the erection and maintenance of buildings or other structures within the corporate limits as safety of persons or property may require, and to cause all such buildings and places as

may from any cause be in a dangerous state to be put in a safe condition; to regulate the manner in which stone, brick, and other buildings, party walls, and partition fences shall be constructed and maintained.

(50) Safety and sanitary measures: To require the owners of public halls, theaters, hotels, and other buildings to provide suitable means of exit and proper fire escapes; to provide for the cleaning and purification of watercourses and canals and for the draining and filling up of ponds on private property within its limits when the same shall be offensive to the senses or dangerous to the health, and to charge the expense thereof to the property specially benefited, and to regulate and control and provide for the prevention and punishment of the defilement or pollution of all streams running in or through its corporate limits and a distance of five miles beyond its corporate limits, and of any stream or lake from which the water supply of the city is or may be taken and for a distance of five miles beyond its source of supply, and to make all quarantine and other regulations as may be necessary for the preservation of the public health and to remove all persons afflicted with any contagious disease to some suitable place to be provided for that purpose.

(51) To regulate liquor traffic: To regulate the selling or giving away of intoxicating, spirituous, malt, vinous, mixed, or fermented liquors as authorized by the general laws of the state.

(52) To establish streets on tidelands: To project or extend or establish streets over and across any tidelands within the limits of such city.

(53) To provide for the general welfare. [1994 c 81 § 19; 1993 c 83 § 5; 1986 c 278 § 4. Prior: 1984 c 258 § 803; 1984 c 189 § 5; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 28; 1977 ex.s. c 316 § 21; 1965 ex.s. c 116 § 7; 1965 c 7 § 35.23.440; prior: 1907 c 241 § 29; 1890 p 148 § 38; RRS § 9034.]

**Effective date—1994 c 81 § 19:** "Section 19 of this act shall take effect July 1, 1994." [1994 c 81 § 91.]

**Effective date—1993 c 83:** See note following RCW 35.21.163.

**Severability—1986 c 278:** See note following RCW 36.01.010.

**Court Improvement Act of 1984—Effective dates—Severability—Short title—1984 c 258:** See notes following RCW 3.30.010.

**Effective date—Severability—1979 ex.s. c 136:** See notes following RCW 46.63.010.

**Severability—1977 ex.s. c 316:** See note following RCW 70.48.020.

**35.23.442 City and town license fees and taxes on financial institutions.** See chapter 82.14A RCW.

**35.23.443 City license fees or taxes on certain business activities to be at a single uniform rate.** See RCW 35.21.710.

**35.23.444 Nonpolluting power generation by individual—Exemption from regulation—Authorization to contract with utility.** See chapter 80.58 RCW.

**35.23.445 Hydroelectric resources—Separate legal authority—Creation by irrigation districts and cities, towns, or public utility districts.** See RCW 87.03.825 through 87.03.840.

**35.23.452 Additional powers—Acquisition, control, and disposition of property.** The city council of such city shall have power to purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire real estate and personal property necessary or proper for municipal purposes and to control, lease, sublease, convey or otherwise dispose of the same; to acquire and plat land for cemeteries and parks and provide for the regulation thereof, including but not limited to the right to lease any waterfront and other lands adjacent thereto owned by it for manufacturing, commercial or other business purposes; including but not limited to the right to lease for wharf, dock and other purposes of navigation and commerce such portions of its streets which bound upon or terminate in its waterfront or the navigable waters of such city, subject, however, to the written consent of the lessees of a majority of the square feet frontage of the harbor area abutting on any street proposed to be so leased. No lease of streets or waterfront shall be for longer than ten years and the rental therefor shall be fixed by the city council. Every such lease shall contain a clause that at intervals of every five years during the term thereof the rental to be paid by the lessee shall be readjusted between the lessee and the city by mutual agreement, or in default of such mutual agreement that the rental shall be fixed by arbitrators to be appointed one by the city council, one by the lessee and the third by the two thus appointed. No such lease shall be made until the city council has first caused notice thereof to be published in the official newspaper of such city at least fifteen days and in one issue thereof each week prior to the making of such lease, which notice shall describe the portion of the street proposed to be leased, to whom, for what purpose, and the rental to be charged therefor. The city may improve part of such waterfront or street extensions by building inclines, wharves, gridirons and other accommodations for shipping, commerce and navigation and may charge and collect for service and use thereof reasonable rates and tolls. [1965 c 7 § 35.24.300. Prior: 1963 c 155 § 1; 1915 c 184 § 15; RRS § 9128. Formerly RCW 35.24.300.]

**35.23.454 Additional powers—Parking meter revenue for revenue bonds.** All second class cities and towns are authorized to use parking meter revenue as a base for obtaining revenue bonds for use in improvement of streets, roads, alleys, and such other related public works. [1994 c 81 § 44; 1965 c 7 § 35.24.305. Prior: 1957 c 166 § 1. Formerly RCW 35.24.305.]

**35.23.455 Additional powers—Construction and operation of boat harbors, marinas, docks, etc.** The legislative body of any second class city or town which contains, or abuts upon, any bay, lake, sound, river or other navigable waters, may construct, operate and maintain any boat harbor, marina, dock or other public improvement, for the purposes of commerce, recreation or navigation. [1994 c 81 § 20; 1965 c 154 § 1.]

**35.23.456 Additional powers—Ambulances and first aid equipment.** A second class city, where commercial ambulance service is not readily available, shall have the power:

(1) To authorize the operation of municipally-owned ambulances which may serve the city and may serve for emergencies surrounding rural areas;

(2) To authorize the operation of other municipally-owned first aid equipment which may serve the city and surrounding rural areas;

(3) To contract with the county or with another municipality for emergency use of city-owned ambulances or other first aid equipment: PROVIDED, That the county or other municipality shall contribute at least the cost of maintenance and operation of the equipment attributable to its use thereof; and

(4) To provide that such ambulance service may be used to transport persons in need of emergency hospital care to hospitals beyond the city limits.

The council may, in its discretion, make a charge for the service authorized by this section: PROVIDED, That such ambulance service shall not enter into competition or competitive bidding where private ambulance service is available. [1994 c 81 § 45; 1965 c 7 § 35.24.306. Prior: 1963 c 131 § 1. Formerly RCW 35.24.306.]

**35.23.457 Conveyance or lease of space above real property or structures or improvements.** See RCW 35.22.302.

**35.23.460 Employees' group insurance—False arrest insurance.** Subject to chapter 48.62 RCW, any second class city or town may contract with an insurance company authorized to do business in this state to provide group insurance for its employees including group false arrest insurance for its law enforcement personnel, and pursuant thereto may use a portion of its revenues to pay an employer's portion of the premium for such insurance, and may make deductions from the payrolls of employees for the amount of the employees' contribution and may apply the amount deducted in payment of the employees' portion of the premium. [1994 c 81 § 21; 1991 sp.s. c 30 § 19; 1965 c 7 § 35.23.460. Prior: 1963 c 127 § 1; 1947 c 162 § 1; RRS § 9592-160.]

**Effective date, implementation, application—Severability—1991 sp.s. c 30:** See RCW 48.62.900 and 48.62.901.

**35.23.470 Publicity fund.** Every city of the second class may create a publicity fund to be used exclusively for exploiting and advertising the general advantages and opportunities of the city and its vicinity. After providing by ordinance for a publicity fund the city council may use therefor an annual amount not exceeding sixty-two and one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation of the taxable property in the city. [1994 c 81 § 22; 1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 16; 1965 c 7 § 35.23.470. Prior: 1913 c 57 § 1; RRS § 9035.]

**Severability—Effective dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195:** See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

**35.23.480 Publicity board.** The publicity board administering the publicity fund shall consist of three members nominated by a recognized commercial organization in the city, then appointed by the mayor and confirmed by at least a two-thirds vote of the city council. The

commercial organization must be incorporated, must be representative and public, devoted exclusively to the work usually devolving upon such organizations and have not less than two hundred bona fide dues-paying members; if more than one organization in the city meets the qualifications, the oldest one shall be designated to make the nominations.

Members of the publicity board must be resident property owners and voters in the city and after their appointment and confirmation must qualify by taking the oath of office and filing a bond with the city in the sum of one thousand dollars conditioned upon the faithful performance of their duties. They shall be appointed in December and their terms shall be for one year commencing on the second Monday in January after their appointment and until their successors are appointed and qualified. Any member of the board may be removed by the mayor at the request of the organization which nominated the members after a majority vote of the entire membership of the organization favoring the removal, taken at a regular meeting.

Members of the publicity board shall serve without remuneration. [1965 c 7 § 35.23.480. Prior: 1913 c 57 § 2, part; RRS § 9036, part.]

**35.23.490 Limitations on use of publicity fund.** All expenditures shall be made under direction of the board of publicity. No part of the publicity fund shall ever be paid to any newspaper, magazine, or periodical published within the city or county in which the city is situated, for advertising, or write-ups or for any other service or purpose and no part of the fund shall be expended for the purpose of making exhibits at any fair, exposition or the like. [1965 c 7 § 35.23.490. Prior: 1913 c 57 § 2, part; RRS § 9036, part.]

**35.23.505 Local improvement guaranty fund—Investment in city's own guaranteed bonds.** The city treasurer of any second class city, by and with the consent of the city council or finance committee of the city council, may invest any portion of its local improvement guaranty fund in the city's own guaranteed local improvement bonds in an amount not to exceed ten percent of the total issue of bonds in any one local improvement district: PROVIDED, That no such investment shall be made in an amount which will affect the ability of the local improvement guaranty fund to meet its obligations as they accrue, and that if all the bonds have the same maturity, the bonds having the highest numbers shall be purchased.

The interest received shall be credited to the local improvement guaranty fund. [1994 c 81 § 48; 1965 c 7 § 35.24.400. Prior: 1941 c 145 § 2; RRS § 9138-2. Formerly RCW 35.24.400.]

*Local improvements*

*bonds and warrants: Chapter 35.45 RCW.*

*nonguaranteed bonds: Chapter 35.48 RCW.*

**35.23.515 Utilities—City may contract for service or construct own facilities.** The city council of every city of the second class may contract for supplying the city with water, light, power, and heat for municipal purposes; and within or without the city may acquire, construct, repair, and manage pumps, aqueducts, reservoirs, plants, or other works necessary or proper for irrigation purposes or for supplying

water, light, power, or heat or any byproduct thereof for the use of the city and any person within the city and dispose of any excess of its supply to any person without the city. [1994 c 81 § 49; 1965 c 7 § 35.24.410. Prior: 1917 c 124 § 1, part; 1915 c 184 § 16, part; RRS § 9129, part. Formerly RCW 35.24.410.]

**35.23.525 Utilities—Method of acquisition—Bonds.**

To pay the original cost of water, light, power, or heat systems, every city of the second class may issue:

(1) General bonds to be retired by general tax levies against all the property within the city limits then existing or as they may thereafter be extended; or

(2) Utility bonds under the general authority given to all cities for the acquisition or construction of public utilities.

Extensions to plants may be made either

(1) By general bond issue,

(2) By general tax levies, or

(3) By creating local improvement districts in accordance with statutes governing their establishment. [1994 c 81 § 50; 1965 c 7 § 35.24.420. Prior: 1917 c 124 § 1, part; 1915 c 184 § 16, part; RRS § 9129, part. Formerly RCW 35.24.420.]

**35.23.535 Utilities—Maintenance and operation—Rates.** No taxes shall be imposed for maintenance and operating charges of city owned water, light, power, or heating works or systems.

Rates shall be fixed by ordinance for supplying water, light, power, or heat for commercial, domestic, or irrigation purposes sufficient to pay for all operating and maintenance charges. If the rates in force produce a greater amount than is necessary to meet operating and maintenance charges, the rates may be reduced or the excess income may be transferred to the city's current expense fund.

Complete separate accounts for municipal utilities must be kept under the system and on forms prescribed by the division of municipal corporations in the office of the state auditor.

The term "maintenance and operating charges," as used in this section includes all necessary repairs, replacement, interest on any debts incurred in acquiring, constructing, repairing and operating plants and departments and all depreciation charges. This term shall also include an annual charge equal to four percent on the cost of the plant or system, as determined by the division of municipal corporations in the office of the state auditor to be paid into the current expense fund, except that where utility bonds have been or may hereafter be issued and are unpaid no payment shall be required into the current expense fund until such bonds are paid. [1965 c 7 § 35.24.430. Prior: 1917 c 124 § 1, part; 1915 c 184 § 16, part; RRS § 9129, part. Formerly RCW 35.24.430.]

**35.23.545 Procedure to attack consolidation or annexation of territory.** Proceedings attacking the validity of the consolidation of a city of the second class or the annexation of territory to a city of the second class shall be by quo warranto only, instituted by the prosecuting attorney of the county in which the city is located or by a person interested in the proceedings whose interest must clearly be

shown. The quo warranto proceedings must be commenced within one year after the consolidation or annexation proceedings complained of and no error, irregularity, or defect of any kind shall be the basis for invalidating a consolidation or annexation after one year. [1994 c 81 § 51; 1965 c 7 § 35.24.440. Prior: 1923 c 153 § 1; RRS § 8913-1. Formerly RCW 35.24.440.]

**Validating—1923 c 153:** "All proceedings for the consolidation of cities of the third class and for the annexation of any unincorporated territory described in any abstract filed with the secretary of state in any such annexation proceeding to a city of the third class heretofore had, or attempted to be had, and over which such consolidated cities or annexed territory such city has exercised jurisdiction for a period of one year after the filing of such abstract with the secretary of state, are hereby ratified and validated as of the date of filing such abstract, irrespective of the fact that such consolidated cities, or any part thereof, are separated by a body of navigable water or that such annexed territory, or any part thereof, is separated from such city by a body of navigable water, and irrespective of any failure to file a petition for such consolidation or annexation, or to give proper notice of election or of any other defect occurring in such consolidation or annexation proceedings, and all territory so sought to be annexed is hereby declared to be a part of such annexing city as of the date of filing such abstract, and such cities so consolidated are hereby declared to be one municipal corporation as of the date of filing such abstract. All proceedings since the date of the filing of such abstract heretofore had or attempted to be had by any such city within or including such annexed territory, or any part thereof, in the creation of local improvement districts and the making of local improvements, the levying of special assessments and the issuance of bonds therein and also in the levy of taxes, making of contracts, incurring of indebtedness and the issuance of bonds therefor are hereby ratified, validated and confirmed. PROVIDED, That nothing in this act contained shall affect the rights of any parties in any proceedings now pending in any court of record in this state and the rights of such parties therein shall be determined and adjudicated as the same existed prior to the passage of this act." [1923 c 153 § 2.] This applies to RCW 35.23.545.

**35.23.555 Criminal code repeals by city operating municipal court—Agreement covering costs of handling resulting criminal cases—Arbitration.** A city of the second class operating a municipal court may not repeal in its entirety that portion of its municipal code defining crimes or repeal a provision of its municipal code which defines a crime equivalent to an offense listed in RCW 46.63.020 unless the municipality has reached an agreement with the appropriate county under chapter 39.34 RCW under which the county is to be paid a reasonable amount for costs associated with prosecution, adjudication, and sentencing in criminal cases filed in district court as a result of the repeal. The agreement shall include provisions for periodic review and renewal of the terms of the agreement. If the municipality and the county are unable to agree on the terms for renewal of the agreement, they shall be deemed to have entered into an agreement to submit the issue to arbitration under chapter 7.04 RCW. Pending conclusion of the arbitration proceeding, the terms of the agreement shall remain in effect. The municipality and the county have the same rights and are subject to the same duties as other parties who have agreed to submit to arbitration under chapter 7.04 RCW. [1994 c 81 § 52; 1984 c 258 § 206. Formerly RCW 35.24.455.]

**County Improvement Act of 1984—Effective dates—Severability—Short title—1984 c 258:** See notes following RCW 3.30.010.

**35.23.560 Waterworks—Construction by city or by district assessments.** All cities and towns within the state, other than cities of the first class, which are empowered to

construct waterworks for irrigation and domestic purposes, may do so either by the entire city or by assessment districts as the mayor and council may determine. [1965 c 7 § 35.23.560. Prior: 1901 c 117 § 1; RRS § 9526.]

**35.23.570 Waterworks—Plans—Special assessments.** Before letting any contract for the construction of any waterworks for irrigation and domestic purposes, the mayor and council shall by ordinance or resolution adopt the plans therefor and shall fix and establish the assessment district, if the same is to be constructed at the expense of the district, and such cities and towns are authorized to charge the expense of such waterworks for irrigation and domestic purposes to all the property included within such district which is contiguous or proximate to any streets in which any main pipe or lateral pipe of such waterworks for irrigation and domestic purposes, is to be placed, and to levy special assessments upon such property to pay therefor, which assessment shall be levied in accordance with the last general assessment of the property within said district for city purposes. [1994 c 81 § 23; 1965 c 7 § 35.23.570. Prior: 1901 c 117 § 2; RRS § 9527.]

**35.23.580 Waterworks—Procedure—Bonds.** For the purpose of providing for, constructing and maintaining such waterworks for irrigation and domestic purposes and issuing bonds to pay therefor, such cities and towns may proceed in all ways in accordance with, and apply all the provisions of, law relating to local improvement assessments. [1965 c 7 § 35.23.580. Prior: 1901 c 117 § 3; RRS § 9528.]

**35.23.680 Cities of ten thousand or more may frame charter without changing classification.** See RCW 35.21.600 through 35.21.620, chapter 35.22 RCW.

**35.23.800 Code city retaining former second class city plan—Elective officers.** In a city initially classified as a second class city prior to January 1, 1993, that retained its second class city plan of government when the city reorganized as a noncharter code city, the elective officers shall consist of a mayor, twelve councilmembers, a city clerk, and a city treasurer. [1994 c 81 § 24; 1987 c 3 § 6; 1965 c 7 § 35.23.020. Prior: 1949 c 83 § 1; 1907 c 241 § 2; RRS § 9007. Formerly RCW 35.23.020.]

**Severability—1987 c 3:** See note following RCW 3.46.020.

**35.23.805 Code city retaining former second class city plan—Elections—Terms of office.** In a city initially classified as a second class city prior to January 1, 1993, that retained its second class city plan of government when the city reorganized as a noncharter code city, the terms of office of mayor, city clerk, city treasurer and councilmembers shall be four years, and until their successors are elected and qualified and assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170, but not more than six councilmembers normally shall be elected in any one year to fill a full term. [1994 c 81 § 25; 1987 c 3 § 7; 1979 ex.s. c 126 § 21; 1965 c 7 § 35.23.040. Prior: 1963 c 200 § 14; 1959 c 86 § 3; prior: (i) 1951 c 71 § 1; 1909 c 120 § 4;

1907 c 241 § 3; RRS § 9008. (ii) 1951 c 71 § 1; 1907 c 241 § 4; RRS § 9009. Formerly RCW 35.23.040.]

**Severability—1987 c 3:** See note following RCW 3.46.020.

**Purpose—1979 ex.s. c 126:** See RCW 29.04.170(1).

**35.23.810 Code city retaining former second class city plan—Mayor—General duties.** In a city initially classified as a second class city prior to January 1, 1993, that retained its second class city plan of government when the city reorganized as a noncharter code city, the mayor shall be the chief executive officer of the city and shall:

- (1) Have general supervision over the several departments of the city government and over all its interests;
- (2) Preside over the city council when present;
- (3) Once in three months, submit a general statement of the condition of the various departments and recommend to the city council such measures as the mayor deems expedient for the public health or improvement of the city, its finances or government; and
- (4) Countersign all warrants and licenses, deeds, leases and contracts requiring signature issued under and by authority of the city.

If there is a vacancy in the office of mayor or the mayor is absent from the city, or is unable from any cause to discharge the duties of the office, the president of the council shall act as mayor, exercise all the powers and be subject to all the duties of the mayor. [1994 c 81 § 26; 1965 c 7 § 35.23.080. Prior: (i) 1907 c 241 § 16, part; RRS § 9021, part. (ii) 1907 c 241 § 17, part; RRS § 9022, part. Formerly RCW 35.23.080.]

**35.23.815 Code city retaining former second class city plan—Appointive officers.** In a city initially classified as a second class city prior to January 1, 1993, that retained its second class city plan of government when the city reorganized as a noncharter code city, the appointive officers shall be a chief of police, city attorney, health officer, and street commissioner; the council may also create by ordinance the offices of superintendent of irrigation, city engineer, harbor master, pound keeper, city jailer, chief of the fire department, and any other offices necessary to discharge the functions of the city and for whose election or appointment no other provision is made. If a paid fire department is established therein a chief engineer and one or more assistant engineers may be appointed. If a free library and reading room is established therein five library trustees shall be appointed. The council by ordinance shall prescribe the duties of the officers and fix their compensation subject to the provisions of any statutes pertaining thereto. [1994 c 81 § 27; 1965 c 7 § 35.23.120. Prior: 1949 c 83 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9007A. Formerly RCW 35.23.120.]

**35.23.820 Code city retaining former second class city plan—Health officer.** In a city initially classified as a second class city prior to January 1, 1993, that retained its second class city plan of government when the city reorganized as a noncharter code city, the council shall create the office of city health officer, prescribe the duties and qualifications of this office and fix the compensation for the office. [1994 c 81 § 28; 1965 c 7 § 35.23.150. Prior: 1907 c 241 § 64; RRS § 9067. Formerly RCW 35.23.150.]

**35.23.825 Code city retaining former second class city plan—Street commissioner.** In a city initially classified as a second class city prior to January 1, 1993, that retained its second class city plan of government when the city reorganized as a noncharter code city, the street commissioner shall be under the direction of the mayor and city council shall have control of the streets and public places of the city and shall perform such duties as the city council may prescribe. [1994 c 81 § 29; 1965 c 7 § 35.23.160. Prior: 1907 c 241 § 23; RRS § 9028. Formerly RCW 35.23.160.]

**35.23.830 Code city retaining former second class city plan—Appointment of officers—Confirmation.** In a city initially classified as a second class city prior to January 1, 1993, that retained its second class city plan of government when the city reorganized as a noncharter code city, the mayor shall appoint all the appointive officers of the city subject to confirmation by the city council. If the council refuses to confirm any nomination of the mayor, the mayor shall nominate another person for that office within ten days thereafter, and may continue to so nominate until a nominee is confirmed. If the mayor fails to make another nomination for the same office within ten days after the rejection of a nominee, the city council shall elect a suitable person to fill the office during the term. The affirmative vote of not less than seven councilmembers is necessary to confirm any nomination made by the mayor. [1994 c 81 § 30; 1965 c 7 § 35.23.180. Prior: 1907 c 241 § 8, part; 1890 p 145 § 25; RRS § 9013, part. Formerly RCW 35.23.180.]

**35.23.835 Code city retaining former second class city plan—Oath and bond of officers.** Before entering upon official duties and within ten days after receiving notice of being elected or appointed to city office, every officer of a city initially classified as a second class city prior to January 1, 1993, that retained its second class city plan of government when the city reorganized as a noncharter code city shall qualify by taking the oath of office and by filing such bond duly approved as may be required. The oath of office shall be filed with the county auditor. If no notice of election or appointment was received, the officer must qualify on or before the date fixed for the assumption of the duties of the office. The city council shall fix the amount of all official bonds and may designate what officers shall be required to give bonds in addition to those required to do so by statute.

All official bonds shall be approved by the city council and when so approved shall be filed with the city clerk except the city clerk's which shall be filed with the mayor. No city officer shall be eligible as a surety upon any bond running to the city as obligee.

The city council may require a new or additional bond of any officer whenever it deems it expedient. [1994 c 81 § 31; 1987 c 3 § 8; 1986 c 167 § 17; 1965 c 7 § 35.23.190. Prior: (i) 1907 c 241 § 10, part; 1890 p 145 § 29; RRS § 9015, part. (ii) 1907 c 241 § 11; 1890 p 145 § 29; RRS § 9016. Formerly RCW 35.23.190.]

Severability—1987 c 3: See note following RCW 3.46.020.

Severability—1986 c 167: See note following RCW 29.01.055.

**35.23.840 Code city retaining former second class city plan—City council—How constituted.** In a city initially classified as a second class city prior to January 1, 1993, that retained its second class city plan of government when the city reorganized as a noncharter code city, the mayor and twelve councilmembers shall constitute the city council. At the first council meeting in each calendar year, the city council shall elect one of their own body to serve as president of the council.

The mayor shall preside at all meetings at which the mayor is present. In the absence of the mayor, the president of the council shall preside. In the absence of both the mayor and the president of the council, the council may elect a president pro tempore from its own body. The president pro tempore shall have all the powers of the president of the council during the session of the council at which the president pro tempore is presiding. [1994 c 81 § 32; 1965 c 7 § 35.23.250. Prior: (i) 1907 c 241 § 17, part; RRS § 9022, part. (ii) 1907 c 247 § 27; RRS § 9032. (iii) 1907 c 241 § 28, part; 1890 p 148 § 37; RRS § 9033, part. Formerly RCW 35.23.250.]

**35.23.845 Code city retaining former second class city plan—City council—Presiding officer—Voting rights.** In a city initially classified as a second class city prior to January 1, 1993, that retained its second class city plan of government when the city reorganized as a noncharter code city, the mayor shall have a vote only in the case of a tie in the votes of the councilmembers. The president of the council while presiding or the president pro tempore shall have the right to vote upon all questions coming before the council.

A majority of all the members elected shall be necessary to pass any ordinance appropriating for any purpose the sum of five hundred dollars or upwards or any ordinance imposing any assessment, tax, or license or in any wise increasing or diminishing the city revenue. [1994 c 81 § 33; 1965 c 7 § 35.23.280. Prior: (i) 1907 c 241 § 28, part; 1890 p 148 § 37; RRS § 9033, part. (ii) 1907 c 241 § 61; 1890 p 159 § 51; RRS § 9064. Formerly RCW 35.23.280.]

**35.23.850 Code city retaining former second class city plan—Wards—Division of city into (as amended by 1994 c 81).** ~~((At any time not within three months previous to an annual election the city council of a second class city))~~ In any city initially classified as a second class city prior to January 1, 1993, that retained its second class city plan of government when the city reorganized as a noncharter code city, the city council may divide the city into wards, not exceeding six in all, or change the boundaries of existing wards at any time less than one hundred twenty days before a municipal general election. No change in the boundaries of wards shall affect the term of any ((councilman, but he shall serve out his term in the ward of his residence at the time of his election)) councilmember: PROVIDED, That if this results in one ward being represented by more ((councilmen)) councilmembers than the number to which it is entitled those having the shortest unexpired terms shall be assigned by the council to wards where there is a vacancy. Wards shall be redrawn as provided in RCW 29.70.100.

The representation of each ward in the city council shall be in proportion to the population as nearly as is practicable.

No person shall be eligible to the office of ~~((councilman))~~ councilmember unless ((he)) the councilmember resides in the ward for which ((he)) the councilmember is elected on the date of ((his)) the election and removal of ((his)) the councilmember's residence from the ward for which ((he)) the councilmember was elected renders ((his)) the office vacant. [1994 c 81 § 34; 1965 c 7 § 35.23.530. Prior: 1907 c 241 § 14; 1890 p 147 § 35; RRS § 9019. Formerly RCW 35.23.530.]

**35.23.850 Code city retaining former second class city plan—Wards—Division of city into** (as amended by 1994 c 223). At any time not within three months previous to an annual election the city council of a second class city may divide the city into wards, not exceeding six in all, or change the boundaries of existing wards. No change in the boundaries of wards shall affect the term of any ~~((councilman, but he))~~ councilmember, and councilmembers shall serve out ((his)) their terms in the wards of ((his)) their residences at the time of ((his election. PROVIDED, That if this results)) their elections. However, if these boundary changes result in one ward being represented by more ((councilmen)) councilmembers than the number to which it is entitled, those having the shortest unexpired terms shall be assigned by the council to wards where there is a vacancy, and the councilmembers so assigned shall be deemed to be residents of the wards to which they are assigned for purposes of determining whether those positions are vacant.

The representation of each ward in the city council shall be in proportion to the population as nearly as is practicable.

~~((No person shall be eligible to the office of councilman unless he resides in the ward for which he is elected on the date of his election and removal of his residence from the ward for which he was elected renders his office vacant.))~~

Wards shall be redrawn as provided in chapter 29.70 RCW. Wards shall be used as follows: (1) Only a resident of the ward may be a candidate for, or hold office as, a councilmember of the ward; and (2) only voters of the ward may vote at a primary to nominate candidates for a councilmember of the ward. Voters of the entire city may vote at the general election to elect a councilmember of a ward, unless the city had prior to January 1, 1994, limited the voting in the general election for any or all council positions to only voters residing within the ward associated with the council positions. If a city had so limited the voting in the general election to only voters residing within the ward, then the city shall be authorized to continue to do so. The elections for the remaining council position or council positions that are not associated with a ward shall be conducted as if the wards did not exist. [1994 c 223 § 16; 1965 c 7 § 35.23.530. Prior: 1907 c 241 § 14; 1890 p 147 § 35; RRS § 9019. Former RCW 35.23.530.]

Reviser's note: RCW 35.23.530 was amended twice, and recodified as RCW 35.23.850, during the 1994 legislative session, each without reference to the other. For rule of construction concerning sections amended more than once during the same legislative session, see RCW 1.12.025.

**Chapter 35.27  
TOWNS**

Sections

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*Accident claims against: RCW 35.31.040, 35.31.050.*

*Acquisition of interests in land for conservation, protection, preservation, or open space purposes by towns: RCW 64.04.130.*

*Actions against public corporations: RCW 4.08.120. state: Chapter 4.92 RCW.*

*Actions by in corporate name: RCW 4.08.110.*

*Advancement in classification: RCW 35.06.010.*

*Classification as: RCW 35.01.040.*

*Code of ethics for public officers and employees: Chapters 42.23 and 42.52 RCW.*

*Corporate stock or bonds not to be owned by: State Constitution Art. 8 § 7.*

*Credit not to be loaned, exception: State Constitution Art. 8 § 7.*

*Group false arrest insurance: RCW 35.23.460.*

*Incorporation and annexation restrictions as to area: RCW 35.21.010.*

*Inhabitants at time of organization: RCW 35.01.040.*

*Insurance, group for employees: RCW 35.23.460.*

*Judgment against public corporations, enforcement: RCW 6.17.080.*

*Limitation upon actions by public corporations: RCW 4.16.160.*

*Limitations on indebtedness: State Constitution Art. 7 § 2 (Amendments 55, 59), Art. 8 § 6 (Amendment 27), chapter 39.36 RCW, RCW 84.52.050.*

*Lost and found property: Chapter 63.21 RCW.*

*Metropolitan park districts, withdrawal from: RCW 35.61.010.*

*Municipal utilities: Chapter 35.92 RCW.*

*Municipal water and sewer facilities act: Chapter 35.91 RCW.*

*Organization under general laws required: State Constitution Art. 11 § 10 (Amendment 40).*



*Park commissioners: RCW 35.23.170.*

*Parking meter revenue, basis for revenue bonds: RCW 35.23.454.*

*Plats*

*regulation of surveys and plats: RCW 58.10.040.*

*resurvey and correction of: RCW 58.10.030.*

*Revenue bonds, parking meter revenue as basis for: RCW 35.23.454.*

*School districts, educational service districts, agreements with other governmental entities for transportation of students or the public, or for other noncommon school purposes—Limitations: RCW 28A.160.120.*

*Service of summons on, personal service: RCW 4.28.080.*

*Sidewalks, construction, initial: Chapter 35.70 RCW.*

*Taxes, power of municipalities: State Constitution Art. 11 § 12.*

*Unclaimed property in hands of city police: Chapter 63.32 RCW.*

**35.27.010 Rights, powers, and privileges.** Every town shall be entitled the "Town of . . . ." (naming it), and by such name shall have perpetual succession, may sue, and be sued in all courts and places, and in all proceedings whatever; shall have and use a common seal, alterable at the pleasure of the town authorities, and may purchase, lease, receive, hold, and enjoy real and personal property and control, lease, sublease, convey, or otherwise dispose of the same for the common benefit. [1994 c 273 § 11; 1994 c 81 § 53; 1965 c 7 § 35.27.010. Prior: 1890 p 198 § 142; RRS § 9163.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 1994 c 81 § 53 and by 1994 c 273 § 11, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section pursuant to RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**35.27.030 Uncertain boundaries—Petition—Request for examination.** Whenever a petition is presented to the council of any incorporated town in this state, signed by not less than five electors of such town, setting forth that in the belief of the petitioners, the boundaries of said town are indefinite and uncertain and that on account of such indefiniteness and uncertainty the legality of the taxes levied within such town are in danger of being affected, and setting forth the particular causes or reasons of such alleged indefiniteness or uncertainty, it shall be the duty of the town council to cause the petition to be filed and recorded by the clerk, and to cause a copy of the same to be made and certified by the clerk and the corporate seal of such town to be attached to said certificate, and the mayor of such town shall forthwith present said certified copy of the petition to the board of county commissioners of the county wherein said town is situated, with a written request to be signed by him as such mayor that the said board of county commissioners proceed to examine the boundaries of such town or city, and make the same definite and certain. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.030. Prior: 1899 c 79 § 1; RRS § 9195.]

**35.27.040 Duty of county commissioners.** The board of county commissioners upon receipt of the certified copy of said petition, and the request aforesaid, shall cause the same to be filed in the office of the county auditor and forthwith proceed to examine the boundaries of the town and make the same definite and certain. For this purpose they may employ a competent surveyor, and shall commence at some recognized and undisputed point on the boundary line of the town, if such there be, and if there is no such recog-

nized and undisputed point, they shall establish a starting point from the best data at their command and from such starting point they shall run a boundary line by courses and distances around such town, in one tract or body. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.040. Prior: 1899 c 79 § 2; RRS § 9196.]

**35.27.050 Report of survey.** The board of county commissioners, without unnecessary delay, shall make and file a report of their doings in the premises in the office of the county auditor, who shall transmit a certified copy thereof under the seal of the county, to the clerk of the town, and the clerk shall record the same in the records of the town, and keep the copy on file in his office. The report shall contain the description of the boundary of the town, as fixed by the board, written in plain words and figures and the boundaries so made and fixed shall be the boundaries of the town, and all the territory included within the boundary lines so established shall be included in the town, and be a part thereof. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.050. Prior: 1899 c 79 § 3; RRS § 9197.]

**35.27.060 Expense of proceedings.** The expense of such proceedings shall be paid by the town at whose request the same is incurred. The county commissioners shall each receive as compensation, an amount not exceeding the amount allowed by law for their usual services as commissioners, and, any surveyor or other assistants employed by them, a reasonable compensation to be fixed and certified by said commissioners. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.060. Prior: 1899 c 79 § 4; RRS § 9198.]

**35.27.070 Town officers enumerated.** The government of a town shall be vested in a mayor and a council consisting of five members and a treasurer, all elective; the mayor shall appoint a clerk and a marshal; and may appoint a town attorney, pound master, street superintendent, a civil engineer, and such police and other subordinate officers and employees as may be provided for by ordinance. All appointive officers and employees shall hold office at the pleasure of the mayor and shall not be subject to confirmation by the town council. [1993 c 47 § 2; 1987 c 3 § 12; 1965 ex.s. c 116 § 14; 1965 c 7 § 35.27.070. Prior: 1961 c 89 § 3; prior: (i) 1903 c 113 § 4; 1890 p 198 § 143; RRS § 9164. (ii) 1941 c 108 § 2; 1939 c 87 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9165-1a. (iii) 1943 c 183 § 1, part; 1941 c 91 § 1, part; 1911 c 33 § 1, part; 1903 c 113 § 5, part; 1890 p 198 § 144, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9165.]

**Severability—1987 c 3:** See note following RCW 3.46.020.

**35.27.080 Eligibility to hold elective office.** No person shall be eligible to or hold an elective office in a town unless he is a resident and elector therein. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.080. Prior: 1890 p 200 § 149; RRS § 9170.]

**35.27.090 Elections—Terms of office.** All general municipal elections in towns shall be held biennially in the odd-numbered years as provided in RCW 29.13.020. The term of office of the mayor and treasurer shall be four years and until their successors are elected and qualified and assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170: PRO-

VIDED, That the term of the treasurer shall not commence in the same biennium in which the term of the mayor commences. Councilmen shall be elected for four year terms and until their successors are elected and qualified and assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170; three at one election and two at the next succeeding biennial election. [1979 ex.s. c 126 § 23; 1965 c 7 § 35.27.090. Prior: 1963 c 200 § 16; 1961 c 89 § 4; prior: 1955 c 55 § 7; 1943 c 183 § 1, part; 1941 c 91 § 1, part; 1911 c 33 § 1, part; 1903 c 113 § 5, part; 1890 p 198 § 144, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9165, part.]

**Purpose—1979 ex.s. c 126:** See RCW 29.04.170(1).

**35.27.100 Conduct of elections.** All elections in towns shall be held in accordance with the general election laws of the state. [1994 c 223 § 21; 1965 c 7 § 35.27.100. Prior: 1890 p 200 § 148; RRS § 9169.]

*Elections: Title 29 RCW.*

**35.27.120 Oath and bond of officers.** Every officer of a town before entering upon the duties of his office shall take and file with the county auditor his oath of office. The clerk, treasurer, and marshal before entering upon their respective duties shall also each execute a bond approved by the council in such penal sum as the council by ordinance may determine, conditioned for the faithful performance of his duties including in the same bond the duties of all offices of which he is made ex officio incumbent.

All bonds, when approved, shall be filed with the town clerk, except the bonds of the clerk which shall be filed with the mayor. [1986 c 167 § 19; 1965 c 7 § 35.27.120. Prior: 1890 p 199 § 145; RRS § 9166.]

**Severability—1986 c 167:** See note following RCW 29.01.055.

**35.27.130 Compensation of officers and employees—Expenses—Nonstate pensions.** The mayor and members of the town council may be reimbursed for actual expenses incurred in the discharge of their official duties upon presentation of a claim therefor and its allowance and approval by resolution of the town council. The mayor and members of the council may also receive such salary as the council may fix by ordinance.

The treasurer and treasurer-clerk shall severally receive at stated times a compensation to be fixed by ordinance.

The compensation of all other officers and employees shall be fixed from time to time by the council.

Any town that provides a pension for any of its employees under a plan not administered by the state must notify the state auditor of the existence of the plan at the time of an audit of the town by the auditor. No town may establish a pension plan for its employees that is not administered by the state, except that any defined contribution plan in existence as of January 1, 1990, is deemed to have been authorized. No town that provides a defined contribution plan for its employees as authorized by this section may make any material changes in the terms or conditions of the plan after June 7, 1990. [1993 c 47 § 3; 1990 c 212 § 2; 1973 1st ex.s. c 87 § 2; 1969 ex.s. c 270 § 9; 1965 c 105 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.27.130. Prior: 1961 c 89 § 5; prior: (i) 1941 c 115 § 2; 1890 p 200 § 147; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9168. (ii) 1921 c 24 § 1, part; 1890 p 209 § 168, part; RRS

§ 9187, part. (iii) 1890 p 214 § 173; RRS § 9191. (iv) 1943 c 183 § 1, part; 1941 c 91 § 1, part; 1911 c 33 § 1, part; 1903 c 113 § 5, part; 1890 p 198 § 144, part; RRS § 9165, part.]

**35.27.140 Vacancies.** The council of a town may declare a council position vacant if that councilmember is absent from the town for three consecutive council meetings without the permission of the council. In addition, a vacancy in an elective office shall occur and shall be filled as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW.

A vacancy in any other office shall be filled by appointment by the mayor. [1994 c 223 § 22; 1965 c 7 § 35.27.140. Prior: (i) 1903 c 113 § 6; 1890 p 199 § 146; RRS § 9167. (ii) 1907 c 228 § 5, part; RRS § 9203, part.]

**35.27.160 Mayor—Duties—Powers—Mayor pro tempore.** The mayor shall preside over all meetings of the council at which he or she is present. A mayor pro tempore may be chosen by the council for a specified period of time, not to exceed six months, to act as the mayor in the absence of the mayor. The mayor shall sign all warrants drawn on the treasurer and shall sign all written contracts entered into by the town. The mayor may administer oaths and affirmations, and take affidavits and certify them. The mayor shall sign all conveyances made by the town and all instruments which require the seal of the town.

The mayor is authorized to acknowledge the execution of all instruments executed by the town which require acknowledgment. [1988 c 196 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.27.160. Prior: 1890 p 209 § 167; RRS § 9186.]

**35.27.170 Town treasurer—Duties.** The town treasurer shall receive and safely keep all money which comes into his hands as treasurer, for all of which he shall give duplicate receipts, one of which shall be filed with the clerk. He shall pay out the money on warrants signed by the mayor and countersigned by the clerk and not otherwise. He shall make monthly settlements with the clerk. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.170. Prior: 1961 c 89 § 6; prior: 1921 c 24 § 1, part; 1890 p 209 § 168, part; RRS § 9187, part.]

**35.27.180 Treasurer and clerk may be combined.** The council of every town may provide by ordinance that the office of treasurer be combined with that of clerk or that the office of clerk be combined with that of treasurer. This ordinance shall not be voted upon until the next regular meeting after its introduction and shall require the vote of at least two-thirds of the council. The ordinance shall provide the date when the consolidation shall take place which date shall be not less than three months from the date the ordinance goes into effect. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.180. Prior: (i) 1945 c 58 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 9177-1. (ii) 1945 c 58 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 9177-4, part.]

**35.27.190 Effect of consolidation of offices.** Upon the consolidation of the office of treasurer with that of clerk, the office of treasurer shall be abolished and the clerk shall exercise all the powers and perform all the duties required by statute or ordinance to be performed by the treasurer; in

the execution of any papers his designation as clerk shall be sufficient.

Upon the consolidation of the office of clerk with that of treasurer, the treasurer shall exercise all the powers vested in and perform all the duties required to be performed by the clerk. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.190. Prior: (i) 1945 c 58 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 9177-2. (ii) 1945 c 58 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 9177-3.]

**35.27.200 Abandonment of consolidation.** Every town which has combined the office of treasurer with that of clerk or the office of clerk with that of treasurer may terminate the combination by ordinance, fixing the time when the combination shall cease and providing that the duties thereafter be performed by separate officials. If the office of treasurer was combined with that of clerk, the mayor shall appoint a treasurer who shall serve until the next town election when a treasurer shall be elected for the term as provided by law. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.200. Prior: 1945 c 58 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 9177-4, part.]

**35.27.210 Duty of officers collecting moneys.** Every officer collecting or receiving any money belonging to a town shall settle for it with the clerk on the first Monday of each month and immediately pay it into the treasury on the order of the clerk to be credited to the fund to which it belongs. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.210. Prior: 1890 p 214 § 175; RRS § 9193.]

**35.27.220 Town clerk—Duties.** The town clerk shall be custodian of the seal of the town. He may appoint a deputy for whose acts he and his bondsmen shall be responsible; he and his deputy may administer oaths or affirmations and certify to them, and may take affidavits and depositions to be used in any court or proceeding in the state.

He shall make a quarterly statement in writing showing the receipts and expenditures of the town for the preceding quarter and the amount remaining in the treasury.

At the end of every fiscal year he shall make a full and detailed statement of receipts and expenditures of the preceding year and a full statement of the financial condition of the town which shall be published.

He shall perform such other services as may be required by statute or by ordinances of the town council.

He shall keep a full and true account of all the proceedings of the council. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.220. Prior: 1890 p 210 § 170, part; RRS § 9188, part.]

**35.27.230 Records to be kept by clerk.** The proceedings of the town council shall be kept in a book marked "records of council."

The town clerk shall keep a book marked "town accounts," in which shall be entered on the debit side all moneys received by the town including but not limited to proceeds from licenses and general taxes and in which shall be entered on the credit side all warrants drawn on the treasury.

He shall also keep a book marked "marshal's account" in which he shall charge the marshal with all licenses delivered to him and credit him with all money collected and paid in.

He shall also keep a book marked "treasurer's account" in which he shall keep a full account of the transactions of the town with the treasurer.

He shall also keep a book marked "licenses" in which he shall enter all licenses issued by him—the date thereof, to whom issued, for what, the time they expire, and the amount paid.

Each of the foregoing books, except the records of the council, shall have a general index sufficiently comprehensive to enable a person readily to ascertain matters contained therein.

He shall also keep a book marked "demands and warrants" in which he shall enter every demand against the town at the time of filing it. He shall state therein the final disposition of each demand and if it is allowed and a warrant drawn, he shall state the number of the warrant and its date. This book shall contain an index in which reference shall be made to each demand. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.230. Prior: 1890 p 210 § 170, part; RRS § 9188, part.]

**35.27.240 Town marshal—Police department.** The department of police in a town shall be under the direction and control of the marshal subject to the direction of the mayor. He may pursue and arrest violators of town ordinances beyond the town limits.

His lawful orders shall be promptly executed by deputies, police officers and watchmen. Every citizen shall lend him aid, when required, for the arrest of offenders and maintenance of public order. He may appoint, subject to the approval of the mayor, one or more deputies, for whose acts he and his bondsmen shall be responsible, whose compensation shall be fixed by the council. With the concurrence of the mayor, he may appoint additional policemen for one day only when necessary for the preservation of public order.

He shall have the same authority as that conferred upon sheriffs for the suppression of any riot, public tumult, disturbance of the peace, or resistance against the laws or public authorities in the lawful exercise of their functions and shall be entitled to the same protection.

He shall execute and return all process issued and directed to him by any legal authority and for his services shall receive the same fees as are paid to constables. He shall perform such other services as the council by ordinance may require. [1987 c 3 § 13; 1977 ex.s. c 316 § 24; 1965 c 125 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.27.240. Prior: 1963 c 191 § 1; 1890 p 213 § 172; RRS § 9190.]

*Severability—1987 c 3:* See note following RCW 3.46.020.

*Severability—1977 ex.s. c 316:* See note following RCW 70.48.020.

**35.27.250 Town attorney—Duties.** The town attorney shall advise the town authorities and officers in all legal matters pertaining to the business of the town. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.250. Prior: 1890 p 212 § 171; RRS § 9189.]

*Employment of legal interns:* RCW 35.21.760.

**35.27.260 Park commissioners.** See RCW 35.23.170.

**35.27.270 Town council—Oath—Meetings.** The town council shall meet in January succeeding the date of the general municipal election, shall take the oath of office, and shall hold regular meetings at least once each month at

such times as may be fixed by ordinance. Special meetings may be called at any time by the mayor or by three councilmembers, by written notice as provided in RCW 42.30.080. No resolution or order for the payment of money shall be passed at any other than a regular meeting. No such resolution or order shall be valid unless passed by the votes of at least three councilmembers.

All meetings of the council shall be held at such places as may be designated by the town council. All final actions on resolutions and ordinances must take place within the corporate limits of the town. All meetings of the town council must be public. [1993 c 199 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.27.270. Prior: (i) 1890 p 200 § 150; RRS § 9171. (ii) 1890 p 201 § 153, part; RRS § 9174, part.]

*Times for holding elections: Chapter 29.13 RCW.*

**35.27.280 Town council—Quorum—Rules—Journal.** A majority of the councilmen shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a lesser number may adjourn from time to time and may compel the attendance of absent members in such manner and under such penalties as may be prescribed by ordinance.

The mayor shall preside at all meetings of the council. The mayor shall have a vote only in case of a tie in the votes of the councilmen. In the absence of the mayor the council may appoint a president pro tempore; in the absence of the clerk, the mayor or president pro tempore, shall appoint one of the council members as clerk pro tempore. The council may establish rules for the conduct of its proceedings and punish any members or other person for disorderly behavior at any meeting. At the desire of any member, the ayes and noes shall be taken on any question and entered in the journal. [1965 c 107 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.27.280. Prior: (i) 1890 p 201 § 151; RRS § 9172. (ii) 1890 p 201 § 152, part; RRS § 9173, part.]

**35.27.290 Ordinances—Style—Signatures.** The enacting clause of all ordinances shall be as follows: "Be it ordained by the council of the town of . . . ."

Every ordinance shall be signed by the mayor and attested by the clerk. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.290. Prior: 1917 c 99 § 1, part; 1890 p 204 § 155, part; RRS § 9178, part.]

**35.27.300 Ordinances—Publication—Summary—Public notice of hearings and meeting agendas.** Promptly after adoption, the text of each ordinance or a summary of the content of each ordinance shall be published at least once in the official newspaper of the town.

For purposes of this section, a summary shall mean a brief description which succinctly describes the main points of the ordinance. Publication of the title of an ordinance authorizing the issuance of bonds, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness shall constitute publication of a summary of that ordinance. When the town publishes a summary, the publication shall include a statement that the full text of the ordinance will be mailed upon request.

An inadvertent mistake or omission in publishing the text or a summary of the content of an ordinance shall not render the ordinance invalid.

In addition to the requirement that a town publish the text or a summary of the content of each adopted ordinance,

every town shall establish a procedure for notifying the public of upcoming hearings and the preliminary agenda for the forthcoming council meeting. Such procedure may include, but not be limited to, written notification to the town's official newspaper, publication of a notice in the official newspaper, posting of upcoming council meeting agendas, or such other processes as the town determines will satisfy the intent of this requirement. [1994 c 273 § 12; 1988 c 168 § 5; 1987 c 400 § 2; 1985 c 469 § 26; 1965 c 7 § 35.27.300. Prior: 1917 c 99 § 1, part; 1890 p 204 § 155, part; RRS § 9178, part.]

**35.27.310 Ordinances—Clerk to keep book of ordinances.** The town clerk shall keep a book marked "ordinances" into which he shall copy all town ordinances, with his certificate annexed to said copy stating that the foregoing ordinance is a true and correct copy of an ordinance of the town, and giving the number and title of the ordinance, and stating that it has been published or posted according to law. Such record copy, with the clerk's certificate, shall be prima facie evidence of the contents of the ordinance and of its passage and publication, and shall be admissible as such in any court or proceeding. Such record shall not be filed in any case but shall be returned to the custody of the clerk. Nothing herein shall be construed to prevent the proof of the passage and publication of ordinances in the usual way. The book of ordinances shall have a general index sufficiently comprehensive to enable a person readily to ascertain matters contained therein. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.310. Prior: 1890 p 210 § 170, part; RRS § 9188, part.]

**35.27.330 Ordinances granting franchises—Requisites.** No ordinance or resolution granting any franchise for any purpose shall be passed by the council on the day of its introduction, nor within five days thereafter, nor at any other than a regular meeting, and no such ordinance or resolution shall have any validity or effect unless passed by the vote of at least three councilmen. The town council may require a bond in a reasonable amount from any persons and corporations obtaining a franchise from the town conditioned for the faithful performance of the conditions and terms of the franchise and providing a recovery on the bond in case of failure to perform the terms and conditions of the franchise. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.330. Prior: (i) 1890 p 201 § 153, part; RRS § 9174, part. (ii) 1907 c 228 § 1, part; RRS § 9199, part.]

**35.27.340 Audit and allowance of demands against town.** All demands against a town shall be presented to and audited by the council in accordance with such regulations as they may by ordinance prescribe. Upon allowance of a demand the mayor shall draw a warrant therefor upon the treasurer; the warrant shall be countersigned by the clerk and shall specify the purpose for which it is drawn.

The town clerk and his deputy shall take all necessary affidavits to claims against the town and certify them. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.340. Prior: (i) 1890 p 210 § 170, part; RRS § 9188, part. (ii) 1890 p 204 § 156; RRS § 9179.]

**35.27.350 Contract for town printing.** Every town may designate any daily or weekly newspaper published or of general circulation therein as its official newspaper and all notices published in that newspaper for the period and in the manner provided by law or the ordinances of the town shall be due and legal notice. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.350. Prior: 1903 c 120 § 1; RRS § 9177.]

**35.27.362 Contracts, purchases, advertising—Call for bids—Exceptions.** See RCW 35.23.352.

**35.27.370 Specific powers enumerated.** The council of said town shall have power:

(1) To pass ordinances not in conflict with the Constitution and laws of this state, or of the United States;

(2) To purchase, lease or receive such real estate and personal property as may be necessary or proper for municipal purposes, and to control, dispose of and convey the same for the benefit of the town; to acquire, own, and hold real estate for cemetery purposes either within or without the corporate limits, to sell and dispose of such real estate, to plat or replat such real estate into cemetery lots and to sell and dispose of any and all lots therein, and to operate, improve and maintain the same as a cemetery;

(3) To contract for supplying the town with water for municipal purposes, or to acquire, construct, repair and manage pumps, aqueducts, reservoirs, or other works necessary or proper for supplying water for use of such town or its inhabitants, or for irrigating purposes therein;

(4) To establish, build and repair bridges, to establish, lay out, alter, widen, extend, keep open, improve, and repair streets, sidewalks, alleys, squares and other public highways and places within the town, and to drain, sprinkle and light the same; to remove all obstructions therefrom; to establish the grades thereof; to grade, pave, plank, macadamize, gravel and curb the same, in whole or in part, and to construct gutters, culverts, sidewalks and crosswalks therein, or on any part thereof; to cause to be planted, set out and cultivated trees therein, and generally to manage and control all such highways and places;

(5) To establish, construct and maintain drains and sewers, and shall have power to compel all property owners on streets along which sewers are constructed to make proper connections therewith, and to use the same for proper purposes when such property is improved by the erection thereon of a building or buildings; and in case the owners of such improved property on such streets shall fail to make such connections within the time fixed by such council, they may cause such connections to be made, and to assess against the property in front of which such connections are made the costs and expenses thereof;

(6) To provide fire engines and all other necessary or proper apparatus for the prevention and extinguishment of fires;

(7) To impose and collect an annual license on every dog within the limits of the town, to prohibit dogs running at large, and to provide for the killing of all dogs found at large and not duly licensed;

(8) To levy and collect annually a property tax, for the payment of current expenses and for the payment of indebtedness (if any indebtedness exists) within the limits authorized by law;

edness (if any indebtedness exists) within the limits authorized by law;

(9) To license, for purposes of regulation and revenue, all and every kind of business, authorized by law and transacted and carried on in such town; and all shows, exhibitions and lawful games carried on therein and within one mile of the corporate limits thereof; to fix the rate of license tax upon the same, and to provide for the collection of the same, by suit or otherwise; to regulate, restrain, or prohibit the running at large of any and all domestic animals within the city limits, or any part or parts thereof, and to regulate the keeping of such animals within any part of the city; to establish, maintain and regulate a common pound for estrays, and to appoint a poundkeeper, who shall be paid out of the fines and fees imposed on, and collected from, the owners of any impounded stock;

(10) To improve the rivers and streams flowing through such town or adjoining the same; to widen, straighten and deepen the channels thereof, and to remove obstructions therefrom; to prevent the pollution of streams or water running through such town, and for this purpose shall have jurisdiction for two miles in either direction; to improve the waterfront of the town, and to construct and maintain embankments and other works to protect such town from overflow;

(11) To erect and maintain buildings for municipal purposes;

(12) To grant franchises or permits to use and occupy the surface, the overhead and the underground of streets, alleys and other public ways, under such terms and conditions as it shall deem fit, for any and all purposes, including but not being limited to the construction, maintenance and operation of railroads, street railways, transportation systems, water, gas and steam systems, telephone and telegraph systems, electric lines, signal systems, surface, aerial and underground tramways;

(13) To punish the keepers and inmates and lessors of houses of ill fame, and keepers and lessors of gambling houses and rooms and other places where gambling is carried on or permitted, gamblers and keepers of gambling tables;

(14) To impose fines, penalties and forfeitures for any and all violations of ordinances, and for any breach or violation of any ordinance, to fix the penalty by fine or imprisonment, or both; but no such fine shall exceed five thousand dollars, nor the term of imprisonment exceed one year, except that the punishment for any criminal ordinance shall be the same as the punishment provided in state law for the same crime; or to provide that violations of ordinances constitute a civil violation subject to a monetary penalty, but no act which is a state crime may be made a civil violation;

(15) To operate ambulance service which may serve the town and surrounding rural areas and, in the discretion of the council, to make a charge for such service;

(16) To make all such ordinances, bylaws, rules, regulations and resolutions not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of the state of Washington, as may be deemed expedient to maintain the peace, good government and welfare of the town and its trade, commerce and manufacturers, and to do and perform any and all other acts and things necessary or proper to carry out the provisions of this chapter. [1993 c 83 § 7; 1986 c 278 § 6; 1984 c 258 §

805; 1977 ex.s. c 316 § 25; 1965 ex.s. c 116 § 15; 1965 c 127 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.27.370. Prior: 1955 c 378 § 4; 1949 c 151 § 1; 1945 c 214 § 1; 1941 c 74 § 1; 1927 c 207 § 1; 1925 ex.s. c 159 § 1; 1895 c 32 § 1; 1890 p 201 § 154; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9175.]

**Effective date—1993 c 83:** See note following RCW 35.21.163.

**Severability—1986 c 278:** See note following RCW 36.01.010.

**Court Improvement Act of 1984—Effective dates—Severability—Short title—1984 c 258:** See notes following RCW 3.30.010.

**Severability—1977 ex.s. c 316:** See note following RCW 70.48.020.

**Validating—1925 ex.s. c 159:** "All franchises, permits and rights of way heretofore granted by any municipality of the fourth class to any person, firm or corporation, to construct, maintain or operate surface, underground and aerial tramways and other means of conveyance over, above, across, upon and along its streets, highways and alleys are hereby validated, ratified and confirmed." [1925 ex.s. c 159 § 2.]

**35.27.372 City and town license fees and taxes on financial institutions.** See chapter 82.14A RCW.

**35.27.373 City license fees or taxes on certain business activities to be at a single uniform rate.** See RCW 35.21.710.

**35.27.375 Additional powers—Parking meter revenue for revenue bonds.** See RCW 35.23.454.

**35.27.376 Nonpolluting power generation by individual—Exemption from regulation—Authorization to contract with utility.** See chapter 80.58 RCW.

**35.27.377 Hydroelectric resources—Separate legal authority—Creation by irrigation districts and cities, towns, or public utility districts.** See RCW 87.03.825 through 87.03.840.

**35.27.380 Additional powers—Eminent domain.** Whenever it becomes necessary for a town to take or damage private property for the purpose of establishing, laying out, extending, and widening streets and other public highways and places within the town, or for the purpose of rights-of-way for drains, sewers, and aqueducts, and for the purpose of widening, straightening, or diverting the channels of streams and the improvement of waterfronts, and the council cannot agree with the owner thereof as to the price to be paid, the council may direct proceedings to be taken under the general laws of the state to procure the same. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.380. Prior: 1890 p 207 § 162; RRS § 9182.]

*Eminent domain: Chapter 8.12 RCW.*

**35.27.385 Additional powers—Construction and operation of boat harbors, marinas, docks, etc.** See RCW 35.23.455.

**35.27.390 Employees' group insurance.** See RCW 35.23.460.

**35.27.400 Fire limits—Parks.** Towns are hereby given the power to establish fire limits with proper regula-

tions; to acquire by purchase or otherwise, lands for public parks within or without the limits of the town, and to improve the same. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.400. Prior: 1961 c 58 § 1; 1899 c 103 § 1; RRS § 9176.]

**35.27.410 Nuisances.** Every act or thing done or being within the limits of a town, which is declared by law or by ordinance to be a nuisance shall be a nuisance and shall be so considered in all actions and proceedings. All remedies given by law for the prevention and abatement of nuisances shall apply thereto. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.410. Prior: 1890 p 205 § 160; RRS § 9181.]

*Nuisances: Chapter 9.66 RCW.*

**35.27.500 Taxation—Street poll tax.** A town may impose upon and collect from every inhabitant of the town over eighteen years of age an annual street poll tax not exceeding two dollars and no other road poll tax shall be collected within the limits of the town. [1973 1st ex.s. c 154 § 52; 1971 ex.s. c 292 § 62; 1965 c 7 § 35.27.500. Prior: 1905 c 75 § 1, part; RRS § 9210, part.]

**Severability—1973 1st ex.s. c 154:** See note following RCW 2.12.030.

**Severability—1971 ex.s. c 292:** See note following RCW 26.28.010.

**35.27.510 Utilities—Transfer of part of net earnings to current expense fund.** When any special fund of a public utility department of a town has retired all bond and warrant indebtedness and is on a cash basis, if a reserve or depreciation fund has been created in an amount satisfactory to the division of municipal corporations in the office of the state auditor and if the fixing of the rates of the utility is governed by contract with the supplier of water, electrical energy, or other commodity sold by the town to its inhabitants, and the rates are at the lowest possible figure, the town council may set aside such portion of the net earnings of the utility as it may deem advisable and transfer it to the town's current expense fund: PROVIDED, That no amount in excess of fifty percent of the net earnings shall be so set aside and transferred except with the unanimous approval of the council and mayor. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.510. Prior: 1939 c 96 § 1; 1929 c 98 § 1; RRS § 9185-1.]

**35.27.515 Criminal code repeals by town operating municipal court—Agreement covering costs of handling resulting criminal cases—Arbitration.** A town operating a municipal court may not repeal in its entirety that portion of its municipal code defining crimes or repeal a provision of its municipal code which defines a crime equivalent to an offense listed in RCW 46.63.020 unless the municipality has reached an agreement with the appropriate county under chapter 39.34 RCW under which the county is to be paid a reasonable amount for costs associated with prosecution, adjudication, and sentencing in criminal cases filed in district court as a result of the repeal. The agreement shall include provisions for periodic review and renewal of the terms of the agreement. If the municipality and the county are unable to agree on the terms for renewal of the agreement, they shall be deemed to have entered into an agreement to submit the issue to arbitration under chapter 7.04 RCW. Pending conclusion of the arbitration proceeding, the terms of the

agreement shall remain in effect. The municipality and the county have the same rights and are subject to the same duties as other parties who have agreed to submit to arbitration under chapter 7.04 RCW. [1984 c 258 § 207.]

**Court Improvement Act of 1984—Effective dates—Severability—Short title—1984 c 258:** See notes following RCW 3.30.010.

**35.27.550 Off-street parking space and facilities—Authorized—Declared public use.** Towns are authorized to provide off-street parking space and facilities for motor vehicles, and the use of real property for such purpose is declared to be a public use. [1994 c 81 § 54; 1965 c 7 § 35.27.550. Prior: 1961 c 33 § 1.]

*Off-street parking facilities, cities of the first, second, and third classes: Chapter 35.86 RCW.*

**35.27.560 Off-street parking space and facilities—Financing.** In order to provide for off-street parking space and/or facilities, such towns are authorized, in addition to their powers for financing public improvements, to finance their acquisition through the issuance and sale of revenue bonds and general obligation bonds. Any bonds issued by such towns pursuant to this section shall be issued in the manner and within the limitations prescribed by the Constitution and the laws of this state. In addition local improvement districts may be created and their financing procedures used for this purpose in accordance with the provisions of Title 35 RCW, as now or hereafter amended. Such towns may finance from their general budget, costs of land acquisition, planning, engineering, location, design and construction to the off-street parking. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.560. Prior: 1961 c 33 § 2.]

**35.27.570 Off-street parking space and facilities—Acquisition and disposition of real property.** Such towns are authorized to obtain by lease, purchase, donation and/or gift, or by eminent domain in the manner provided by law for the exercise of this power by cities, such real property for off-street parking as the legislative bodies thereof determine to be necessary by ordinance. Such property may be sold, transferred, exchanged, leased, or otherwise disposed of by the town when its legislative body has determined by ordinance such property is no longer necessary for off-street parking purposes. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.570. Prior: 1961 c 33 § 3.]

*Eminent domain: Chapter 8.12 RCW.*

**35.27.580 Off-street parking space and facilities—Operation—Lease.** Such towns are authorized to establish the methods of operation of off-street parking space and/or facilities by ordinance, which may include leasing or municipal operation. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.580. Prior: 1961 c 33 § 4.]

**35.27.590 Off-street parking space and facilities—Hearing prior to establishment.** Before the establishment of any off-street parking space and/or facilities, the town shall hold a public hearing thereon, prior to the adoption of any ordinance relating to the leasing or acquisition of property, and for the financing thereof for this purpose. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.590. Prior: 1961 c 33 § 5.]

[Title 35 RCW—page 120]

**35.27.600 Off-street parking space and facilities—Construction.** Insofar as the provisions of RCW 35.27.550 through 35.27.600 are inconsistent with the provisions of any other law, the provisions of RCW 35.27.550 through 35.27.600 shall be controlling. [1965 c 7 § 35.27.600. Prior: 1961 c 33 § 7.]

## Chapter 35.30

### UNCLASSIFIED CITIES

#### Sections

35.30.010	Additional powers.
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35.30.040	Limitation of indebtedness.
35.30.050	Additional indebtedness with popular vote.
35.30.060	Additional indebtedness for municipal utilities.
35.30.100	Criminal code repeal by city operating municipal court—Agreement covering costs of handling resulting criminal cases—Arbitration.

**35.30.010 Additional powers.** The council, or other legislative body, of all cities within the state of Washington which were created by special charter prior to the adoption of the state Constitution, and which have not since reincorporated under any general statute, shall have, in addition to the powers specially granted by the charter of such cities, the following powers:

(1) To construct, establish and maintain drains and sewers.

(2) To impose and collect an annual license not exceeding two dollars on every dog owned or harbored within the limits of the city.

(3) To levy and collect annually a property tax on all property within such city.

(4) To license all shows, exhibitions and lawful games carried on therein; and to fix the rates of license tax upon the same, and to provide for the collection of the same by suit or otherwise.

(5) To permit, under such restrictions as they may deem proper, the construction and maintenance of telephone, telegraph and electric light lines therein.

(6) To impose fines, penalties and forfeitures for any and all violations of ordinances; and for any breach or violation of any ordinance, to fix the penalty by fine or imprisonment or both, but no such fine shall exceed five thousand dollars nor the term of imprisonment exceed one year.

(7) To cause all persons imprisoned for violation of any ordinance to labor on the streets or other public property or works within the city.

(8) To make all such ordinances, bylaws and regulations, not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of the state of Washington, as may be deemed expedient to maintain the peace, good government and welfare of the city, and to do and perform any and all other acts and things necessary and proper to carry out the purposes of the mu-



municipal corporation. [1984 c 258 § 806; 1965 c 7 § 35.30.010. Prior: 1899 c 69 § 1; RRS § 8944.]

**Court Improvement Act of 1984—Effective dates—Severability—Short title—1984 c 258:** See notes following RCW 3.30.010.

**35.30.011 Nonpolluting power generation by individual—Exemption from regulation—Authorization to contract with utility.** See chapter 80.58 RCW.

**35.30.014 Hydroelectric resources—Separate legal authority—Creation by irrigation districts and cities, towns, or public utility districts.** See RCW 87.03.825 through 87.03.840.

**35.30.018 Publication of ordinances or summary—Public notice of hearings and meeting agendas.** Promptly after adoption, the text of each ordinance or a summary of the content of each ordinance shall be published at least once in the official newspaper of the city.

For purposes of this section, a summary shall mean a brief description which succinctly describes the main points of the ordinance. Publication of the title of an ordinance authorizing the issuance of bonds, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness shall constitute publication of a summary of that ordinance. When the city publishes a summary, the publication shall include a statement that the full text of the ordinance will be mailed upon request.

An inadvertent mistake or omission in publishing the text or a summary of the content of an ordinance shall not render the ordinance invalid.

In addition to the requirement that a city publish the text or a summary of the content of each adopted ordinance, every city shall establish a procedure for notifying the public of upcoming hearings and the preliminary agenda for the forthcoming council meeting. Such procedure may include, but not be limited to, written notification to the city's official newspaper, publication of a notice in the official newspaper, posting of upcoming council meeting agendas, or such other processes as the city determines will satisfy the intent of this requirement. [1994 c 273 § 13; 1988 c 168 § 6; 1985 c 469 § 101.]

**35.30.020 Sewer systems—Sewer fund.** The city council of all unclassified cities in this state are authorized to construct a sewer or system of sewers and to keep the same in repair; the cost of such sewer or sewers shall be paid from a special fund to be known as the "sewer fund" to be provided by the city council, which fund shall be created by a tax on all the property within the limits of such city: PROVIDED, That such tax shall not exceed one dollar and twenty-five cents per thousand dollars of the assessed value of all real and personal property within such city for any one year. Whenever it shall become necessary for the city to take or damage private property for the purpose of making or repairing sewers, and the city council cannot agree with the owner as to the price to be paid, the city council may direct proceedings to be taken by law for the condemnation of such property for such purpose. [1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 18; 1965 c 7 § 35.30.020. Prior: 1899 c 69 § 2; RRS § 8945.]

**Severability—Effective dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195:** See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

**35.30.030 Assessment, levy and collection of taxes.** The city council shall have power to provide by ordinance a complete system for the assessment, levy, and collection of all city taxes. All taxes assessed together with any percentage imposed for delinquency and the cost of collection, shall constitute liens on the property assessed from and after the first day of November each year; which liens may be enforced by a summary sale of such property, and the execution and delivery of all necessary certificates and deeds therefor, under such regulations as may be prescribed by ordinance or by action in any court of competent jurisdiction to foreclose such liens: PROVIDED, That any property sold for taxes shall be subject to redemption within the time and within the manner provided or that may hereafter be provided by law for the redemption of property sold for state and county taxes. [1965 c 7 § 35.30.030. Prior: 1899 c 69 § 3; RRS § 8946.]

**35.30.040 Limitation of indebtedness.** Whenever it is deemed advisable to do so by the city council thereof, any city having a corporate existence in this state at the time of the adoption of the Constitution thereof is hereby authorized and empowered to borrow money and to contract indebtedness in any other manner for general municipal purposes, not exceeding in amount, together with the existing general indebtedness of the city, the amount of indebtedness authorized by chapter 39.36 RCW, as now or hereafter amended, to be incurred without the assent of the voters. [1965 c 7 § 35.30.040. Prior: 1890 p 225 § 1; RRS § 9532.]

**Construction—1890 p 227:** "That when this act comes in conflict with any provision, limitation or restriction in any local or special law or charter existing at the time that the Constitution of the State of Washington was adopted, this statute shall govern and control." [1890 p 227 § 6.] This applies to RCW 35.30.040 through 35.30.060.

**Limitations upon indebtedness:** *State Constitution Art. 7 § 2 (Amendments 55, 59), Art. 8 § 6 (Amendment 27), chapter 39.36 RCW, RCW 84.52.050.*

**35.30.050 Additional indebtedness with popular vote.** Any such city may borrow money or contract indebtedness for strictly municipal purposes over the amount specified in RCW 35.30.040, but not exceeding in amount, together with existing general indebtedness, the amount of indebtedness authorized by chapter 39.36 RCW as now or hereafter amended, to be incurred with the assent of the voters, through the council of the city, whenever three-fifths of the voters assent thereto, at an election to be held for that purpose, at such time, upon such reasonable notice, and in the manner presented by the city council, not inconsistent with the general election laws. [1965 c 7 § 35.30.050. Prior: 1890 p 225 § 2; RRS § 9533.]

**Elections:** *Title 29 RCW.*

**35.30.060 Additional indebtedness for municipal utilities.** In addition to the powers granted in RCW 35.30.040 and 35.30.050, any such city, through its council may borrow money or contract indebtedness not exceeding in amount the amount of indebtedness authorized by chapter 39.36 RCW, as now or hereafter amended, for the purpose

of supplying the city with water, artificial light, or sewers, when the plants used therefor are owned and controlled by the city, whenever three-fifths of the voters assent thereto at an election to be held for that purpose, according to the provisions of RCW 35.30.050. [1965 c 7 § 35.30.060. Prior: 1890 p 225 § 3; RRS § 9534.]

**35.30.100 Criminal code repeal by city operating municipal court—Agreement covering costs of handling resulting criminal cases—Arbitration.** A city operating a municipal court may not repeal in its entirety that portion of its municipal code defining crimes unless the municipality has reached an agreement with the appropriate county under chapter 39.34 RCW under which the county is to be paid a reasonable amount for costs associated with prosecution, adjudication, and sentencing in criminal cases filed in district court as a result of the repeal. The agreement shall include provisions for periodic review and renewal of the terms of the agreement. If the municipality and the county are unable to agree on the terms for renewal of the agreement, they shall be deemed to have entered into an agreement to submit the issue to arbitration under chapter 7.04 RCW. Pending conclusion of the arbitration proceeding, the terms of the agreement shall remain in effect. The municipality and the county have the same rights and are subject to the same duties as other parties who have agreed to submit to arbitration under chapter 7.04 RCW. [1984 c 258 § 208.]

**Court Improvement Act of 1984—Effective dates—Severability—Short title—1984 c 258:** See notes following RCW 3.30.010.

## Chapter 35.31

### ACCIDENT CLAIMS AND FUNDS

#### Sections

- 35.31.020 Charter cities—Manner of filing.
- 35.31.040 Noncharter cities and towns—Manner of filing—Report.
- 35.31.050 Accident fund—Warrants for judgments.
- 35.31.060 Tax levy for fund.
- 35.31.070 Surplus to current expense fund.

#### Actions against

*public corporations:* RCW 4.08.120.  
*state:* Chapter 4.92 RCW.

*Claims, reports, etc., filing:* RCW 1.12.070.

*Tortious conduct of political subdivision, municipal corporations and quasi municipal corporations, liability for damages:* Chapter 4.96 RCW.

**35.31.020 Charter cities—Manner of filing.** The provisions of chapter 35.31 RCW shall be applied notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary in any charter of any city permitted by law to have a charter; however, charter provisions not inconsistent herewith shall continue to apply. All claims for damages against a charter city shall be filed in the manner set forth in chapter 4.96 RCW. [1993 c 449 § 7; 1967 c 164 § 12; 1965 c 7 § 35.31.020. Prior: 1957 c 224 § 3; 1917 c 96 § 1; 1915 c 148 § 1; 1909 c 83 § 2; RRS § 9479.]

**Purpose—Severability—1993 c 449:** See notes following RCW 4.96.010.

**Purpose—Severability—1967 c 164:** See notes following RCW 4.96.010.

*Tortious conduct of political subdivisions and municipal corporations, liability for damages:* Chapter 4.96 RCW.

**35.31.040 Noncharter cities and towns—Manner of filing—Report.** All claims for damages against noncharter cities and towns shall be filed in the manner set forth in chapter 4.96 RCW.

No ordinance or resolution shall be passed allowing such claim or any part thereof, or appropriating any money or other property to pay or satisfy the same or any part thereof, until the claim has first been referred to the proper department or committee, nor until such department or committee has made its report to the council thereon pursuant to such reference. [1993 c 449 § 8; 1989 c 74 § 1; 1967 c 164 § 13; 1965 c 7 § 35.31.040. Prior: 1957 c 224 § 4; 1915 c 148 § 2; 1909 c 167 § 1; RRS § 9481.]

**Purpose—Severability—1993 c 449:** See notes following RCW 4.96.010.

**Purpose—Severability—1967 c 164:** See notes following RCW 4.96.010.

*Actions against political subdivisions, municipal corporations, and quasi municipal corporations:* Chapter 4.96 RCW.

*Limitation of actions:* Chapter 4.16 RCW.

**35.31.050 Accident fund—Warrants for judgments.** Every city of the second class and town may create an accident fund upon which the clerk shall draw warrants for the full amount of any judgment including interest and costs against the city or town on account of personal injuries suffered by any person as shown by a transcript of the judgment duly certified to the clerk. The warrants shall be issued in denominations not less than one hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars; they shall draw interest at the rate of six percent per annum, shall be numbered consecutively and be paid in the order of their issue. [1994 c 81 § 55; 1965 c 7 § 35.31.050. Prior: (i) 1909 c 128 § 1; RRS § 9482. (ii) 1909 c 128 § 2; RRS § 9483. (iii) 1909 c 128 § 5; RRS § 9486.]

**35.31.060 Tax levy for fund.** The city or town council after the drawing of warrants against the accident fund shall estimate the amount necessary to pay the warrants with accrued interest thereon, and shall levy a tax sufficient to pay that amount not exceeding seventy-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value. If a single levy of seventy-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value is not sufficient, an annual levy of seventy-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value shall be made until the warrants and interest are fully paid. [1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 19; 1965 c 7 § 35.31.060. Prior: 1909 c 128 § 3; RRS § 9484.]

**Severability—Effective dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195:** See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

**35.31.070 Surplus to current expense fund.** If there is no judgment outstanding against the city or town for personal injuries the money remaining in the accident fund after the payment of the warrants drawn on that fund and interest in full shall be transferred to the current expense fund. [1965 c 7 § 35.31.070. Prior: 1909 c 128 § 4; RRS § 9485.]

**Chapter 35.32A**  
**BUDGETS IN CITIES OVER 300,000**

**Sections**

- 35.32A.010 Budget to be enacted—Exempted functions or programs.  
 35.32A.020 Budget director.  
 35.32A.030 Estimates of revenues and expenditures—Preparation of proposed budget—Submission to city council—Copies—Publication.  
 35.32A.040 Consideration by city council—Hearings—Revision by council.  
 35.32A.050 Adoption of budget—Expenditure allowances constitute appropriations—Reappropriations—Transfers of allowances.  
 35.32A.060 Emergency fund.  
 35.32A.070 Utilities—Exemption from budgetary control.  
 35.32A.080 Unexpended appropriations—Annual—Operating and maintenance—Capital and betterment outlays.  
 35.32A.090 Budget mandatory—Other expenditures void—Liability of public officials—Penalty.  
 35.32A.900 Short title.  
 35.32A.910 Severability—1967 c 7.

**Budgets**

*expenditures for streets: RCW 35.76.060.*  
*leases with or without option to purchase, budget to provide for payment of rentals: RCW 35.42.220.*

*Limitations upon indebtedness: State Constitution Art. 7 § 2 (Amendments 55, 59), Art. 8 § 6 (Amendment 27), chapter 39.36 RCW, RCW 84.52.050.*

*State auditor's division of municipal corporations: RCW 43.09.190 through 43.09.285.*

**35.32A.010 Budget to be enacted—Exempted functions or programs.** In each city of over three hundred thousand population, there shall be enacted annually by the legislative authority a budget covering all functions or programs of such city except in those cities in which an ordinance has been adopted under RCW 35.34.040 providing for a biennial budget, in which case this chapter does not apply. In addition, this chapter shall not apply to any municipal transportation system managed by a separate commission, the making of expenditures from proceeds of general obligation and revenue bond sales, or the expenditure of moneys derived from grants, gifts, bequests or devises for specified purposes. [1985 c 175 § 3; 1967 c 7 § 3.]

**35.32A.020 Budget director.** There shall be a budget director, appointed by the mayor without regard to civil service rules and regulations and subject to confirmation by a majority of the members of the city council, who shall be in charge of the city budget office and, under the direction of the mayor, shall be responsible for preparing the budget and supervising its execution. The budget director may be removed by the mayor upon filing with the city council a statement of his reasons therefor. [1967 c 7 § 4.]

**35.32A.030 Estimates of revenues and expenditures—Preparation of proposed budget—Submission to city council—Copies—Publication.** The heads of all departments, divisions or agencies of the city government, including the library department, and departments headed by commissions or elected officials shall submit to the mayor estimates of revenues and necessary expenditures for the ensuing fiscal year in such detail, in such form and at such time as the mayor shall prescribe.

The budget director shall assemble all estimates of revenues; necessary departmental expenditures; interest and redemption requirements for any city debt; and other pertinent budgetary information as may be required by uniform regulations of the state auditor; and, under the direction of the mayor, prepare a proposed budget for presentation to the city council.

The revenue estimates shall be based primarily on the collection experience of the first six months of the current fiscal year and the last six months of the preceding fiscal year and shall not include revenue from any source in excess of the amount so collected unless it shall be reasonably anticipated that such excess amounts will in fact be realized. The estimated revenues shall include sources previously established by law and unencumbered fund balances estimated to be available at the close of the current fiscal year. The estimated expenditures in the proposed budget shall, in no event, exceed such estimated revenues: PROVIDED, That the mayor may recommend expenditures exceeding the estimated revenues when accompanied by proposed legislation to raise at least an equivalent amount of additional revenue.

The mayor shall submit the proposed budget to the city council not later than ninety days prior to the beginning of the ensuing fiscal year.

The budget director shall cause sufficient copies of the proposed budget to be prepared and made available to all interested persons and shall cause a summary of the proposed budget to be published at least once in the city official newspaper. [1985 c 175 § 62; 1967 c 7 § 5.]

**35.32A.040 Consideration by city council—Hearings—Revision by council.** The city council shall forthwith consider the proposed budget submitted by the mayor and shall cause such public hearings to be scheduled on two or more days to allow all interested persons to be heard. Such hearings shall be announced by public notice published in the city official newspaper as well as provided to general news media.

The city council may insert new expenditure allowances, increase or decrease expenditure allowances recommended by the mayor, or revise estimates of revenues subject to the same restrictions as are herein imposed on the mayor; but may not adopt a budget in which the total expenditure allowances exceed the total estimated revenues as defined in RCW 35.32A.030 for the ensuing fiscal year. [1985 c 175 § 63; 1967 c 7 § 6.]

**35.32A.050 Adoption of budget—Expenditure allowances constitute appropriations—Reappropriations—Transfers of allowances.** Not later than thirty days prior to the beginning of the ensuing fiscal year the city council shall, by ordinance adopt the budget submitted by the mayor as modified by the city council.

The expenditure allowances as set forth in the enacted budget shall constitute the budget appropriations for the ensuing fiscal year. The city council by ordinance may, during the fiscal year covered by the enacted budget, abrogate or decrease any unexpended allowance contained within the budget and reappropriate such unexpended allowances for other functions or programs. Transfers be-

tween allowances in the budget of any department, division or agency may be made upon approval by the budget director pursuant to such regulations as may be prescribed by ordinance. [1967 c 7 § 7.]

**35.32A.060 Emergency fund.** Every city having a population of over three hundred thousand may maintain an emergency fund, which fund balance shall not exceed thirty-seven and one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed value. Such fund shall be maintained by an annual budget allowance. When the necessity therefor arises transfers may be made to the emergency fund from any tax-supported fund except bond interest and redemption funds.

The city council by an ordinance approved by two-thirds of all of its members may authorize the expenditure of sufficient money from the emergency fund, or other designated funds, to meet the expenses or obligations:

(1) Caused by fire, flood, explosion, storm, earthquake, epidemic, riot, insurrection, act of God, act of the public enemy or any other such happening that could not have been anticipated; or

(2) For the immediate preservation of order or public health or for the restoration to a condition of usefulness of public property the usefulness of which has been destroyed by accident; or

(3) In settlement of approved claims for personal injuries or property damages, exclusive of claims arising from the operation of a public utility owned by the city; or

(4) To meet mandatory expenditures required by laws enacted since the last budget was adopted.

The city council by an ordinance approved by three-fourths of all its members may appropriate from the emergency fund, or other designated funds, an amount sufficient to meet the actual necessary expenditures of the city for which insufficient or no appropriations have been made due to causes which could not reasonably have been foreseen at the time of the making of the budget.

An ordinance authorizing an emergency expenditure shall become effective immediately upon being approved by the mayor or upon being passed over his veto as provided by the city charter. [1985 c 175 § 64; 1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 20; 1967 c 7 § 8.]

**Severability—Effective dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195:** See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

**35.32A.070 Utilities—Exemption from budgetary control.** Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter, the public utilities owned by a city having a population of over three hundred thousand supported wholly by revenues derived from sources other than taxation, may make expenditures for utility purposes not contemplated in the annual budget, as the legislative authority by ordinance shall allow. [1967 c 7 § 9.]

**35.32A.080 Unexpended appropriations—Annual—Operating and maintenance—Capital and betterment outlays.** The whole or any part of any appropriation provided in the budget for operating and maintenance expenses of any department or activity remaining unexpended or unencumbered at the close of the fiscal year shall automatically lapse, except any such appropriation as the city

council shall continue by ordinance. The whole or any part of any appropriation provided in the budget for capital or betterment outlays of any department or activity remaining unexpended or unencumbered at the close of the fiscal year shall remain in full force and effect and shall be held available for the following year, except any such appropriation as the city council by ordinance may have abandoned. [1967 c 7 § 10.]

**35.32A.090 Budget mandatory—Other expenditures void—Liability of public officials—Penalty.** There shall be no orders, authorizations, allowances, contracts or payments made or attempted to be made in excess of the expenditure allowances authorized in the final budget as adopted or modified as provided in this chapter, and any such attempted excess expenditure shall be void and shall never be the foundation of a claim against the city.

Any public official authorizing, auditing, allowing, or paying any claims or demands against the city in violation of the provisions of this chapter shall be jointly and severally liable to the city in person and upon their official bonds to the extent of any payments upon such claims or demands.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter, in addition to any other liability or penalty provided therefor, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [1967 c 7 § 11.]

**35.32A.900 Short title.** This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the budget act for cities over three hundred thousand population. [1967 c 7 § 2.]

**35.32A.910 Severability—1967 c 7.** If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances, is not affected. [1967 c 7 § 12.]

## Chapter 35.33

### BUDGETS IN SECOND AND THIRD CLASS CITIES, TOWNS AND FIRST CLASS CITIES UNDER 300,000

#### Sections

35.33.011	Definitions.
35.33.020	Applicability of chapter.
35.33.031	Budget estimates.
35.33.041	Budget estimates—Classification and segregation.
35.33.051	Budget—Preliminary.
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35.33.057	Budget message—Hearings.
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35.33.071	Budget—Final—Hearing.
35.33.075	Budget—Final—Adoption—Appropriations.
35.33.081	Emergency expenditures—Nondebatable emergencies.
35.33.091	Emergency expenditures—Other emergencies—Hearing.
35.33.101	Emergency warrants.
35.33.106	Registered warrants—Payment.
35.33.107	Adjustment of wages, hours and conditions of employment.
35.33.111	Forms—Accounting—Supervision by state.
35.33.121	Funds—Limitations on expenditures—Transfers.
35.33.123	Administration, oversight, or supervision of utility—Reimbursement from utility budget authorized.
35.33.125	Liabilities incurred in excess of budget.
35.33.131	Funds received from sale of bonds and warrants—Expenditure program.

## Budgets in Second and Third Class Cities, Towns and First Class Cities Under 300,000 Chapter 35.33

- 35.33.135 Revenue estimates—Amount to be raised by ad valorem taxes.
- 35.33.141 Report of expenditures and liabilities against budget appropriations.
- 35.33.145 Contingency fund—Creation—Purpose—Support—Lapse.
- 35.33.147 Contingency fund—Withdrawals.
- 35.33.151 Unexpended appropriations.
- 35.33.170 Violations and penalties.

### *Budgets*

*expenditures for streets:* RCW 35.76.060.  
*leases with or without option to purchase, budget to provide for payment of rentals:* RCW 35.42.220.

*Limitations upon indebtedness:* State Constitution Art. 8 § 6 (Amendment 27), Art. 7 § 2 (Amendments 55, 59), chapter 39.36 RCW, RCW 84.52.050.

*State auditor's division of municipal corporations:* RCW 43.09.190 through 43.09.285.

**35.33.011 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the following words as used in this chapter shall have the meaning herein prescribed:

(1) "Clerk" as used in this chapter includes the officer performing the functions of a finance or budget director, comptroller, auditor, or by whatever title he may be known in any city or town.

(2) "Department" as used in this chapter includes each office, division, service, system or institution of the city or town for which no other statutory or charter provision is made for budgeting and accounting procedures or controls.

(3) "Legislative body" as used in this chapter includes council, commission or any other group of officials serving as the legislative body of a city or town.

(4) "Chief administrative officer" as used in this chapter includes the mayor of cities or towns having a mayor-council form of government, the commissioners in cities or towns having a commission form of government, the city manager, or any other city or town official designated by the charter or ordinances of such city or town under the plan of government governing the same, or the budget or finance officer designated by the mayor, manager or commissioners, to perform the functions, or portions thereof, contemplated by this chapter.

(5) "Fiscal year" as used in this chapter means that fiscal period set by the city or town pursuant to authority given under RCW 1.16.030.

(6) "Fund", as used in this chapter and "funds" where clearly used to indicate the plural of "fund", shall mean the budgeting or accounting entity authorized to provide a sum of money for specified activities or purposes.

(7) "Funds" as used in this chapter where not used to indicate the plural of "fund" shall mean money in hand or available for expenditure or payment of a debt or obligation.

(8) Except as otherwise defined herein, municipal accounting terms used in this chapter shall have the meaning prescribed by the state auditor pursuant to RCW 43.09.200. [1981 c 40 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 95 § 1.]

**35.33.020 Applicability of chapter.** The provisions of this chapter apply to cities of the first class which have a population of less than three hundred thousand, to all cities of the second and third classes, and to all towns, except those cities and towns which have adopted an ordinance under RCW 35.34.040 providing for a biennial budget.

[1985 c 175 § 4; 1969 ex.s. c 95 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.33.020. Prior: 1923 c 158 § 8; RRS § 9000-8.]

**35.33.031 Budget estimates.** On or before the second Monday of the fourth month prior to the beginning of the city's or town's next fiscal year, or at such other time as the city or town may provide by ordinance or charter, the clerk shall notify in writing the head of each department of a city or town to file with the clerk within fourteen days of the receipt of such notification, detailed estimates of the probable revenue from sources other than ad valorem taxation and of all expenditures required by his department for the ensuing fiscal year. The notice shall be accompanied by the proper forms provided by the clerk, prepared in accordance with the requirements and classification established by the division of municipal corporations in the office of the state auditor. The clerk shall prepare the estimates for interest and debt redemption requirements and all other estimates, the preparation of which falls properly within the duties of his office. The chief administrative officers of the city or town shall submit to the clerk detailed estimates of all expenditures proposed to be financed from the proceeds of bonds or warrants not yet authorized, together with a statement of the proposed method of financing them. In the absence or disability of the official or person regularly in charge of a department, the duties herein required shall devolve upon the person next in charge of such department. [1969 ex.s. c 95 § 3.]

**35.33.041 Budget estimates—Classification and segregation.** All estimates of receipts and expenditures for the ensuing year shall be fully detailed in the annual budget and shall be classified and segregated according to a standard classification of accounts to be adopted and prescribed by the state auditor through the division of municipal corporations after consultation with the Washington finance officers association, the association of Washington cities and the association of Washington city managers. [1969 ex.s. c 95 § 4.]

**35.33.051 Budget—Preliminary.** On or before the first business day in the third month prior to the beginning of the fiscal year of a city or town or at such other time as the city or town may provide by ordinance or charter, the clerk or other person designated by the charter, by ordinances, or by the chief administrative officer of the city or town shall submit to the chief administrative officer a proposed preliminary budget which shall set forth the complete financial program of the city or town for the ensuing fiscal year, showing the expenditure program requested by each department and the sources of revenue by which each such program is proposed to be financed.

The revenue section shall set forth in comparative and tabular form for each fund the actual receipts for the last completed fiscal year, the estimated receipts for the current fiscal year and the estimated receipts for the ensuing fiscal year, which shall include the amount to be raised from ad valorem taxes and unencumbered fund balances estimated to be available at the close of the current fiscal year.

The expenditure section shall set forth in comparative and tabular form for each fund and every department

operating within each fund the actual expenditures for the last completed fiscal year, the appropriations for the current fiscal year and the estimated expenditures for the ensuing fiscal year. The salary or salary range for each office, position or job classification shall be set forth separately together with the title or position designation thereof: PROVIDED, That salaries may be set out in total amounts under each department if a detailed schedule of such salaries and positions be attached to and made a part of the budget document. [1969 ex.s. c 95 § 5.]

**35.33.055 Budget—Preliminary—Filing—Copies.**

The chief administrative officer shall prepare the preliminary budget in detail, making any revisions or additions to the reports of the department heads deemed advisable by such chief administrative officer and at least sixty days before the beginning of the city's or town's next fiscal year he shall file it with the clerk as the recommendation of the chief administrative officer for the final budget. The clerk shall provide a sufficient number of copies of such preliminary budget and budget message to meet the reasonable demands of taxpayers therefor and have them available for distribution not later than six weeks before the beginning of the city's or town's next fiscal year. [1969 ex.s. c 95 § 6.]

**35.33.057 Budget message—Hearings.** In every city or town a budget message prepared by or under the direction of the city's or town's chief administrative officer shall be submitted as a part of the preliminary budget to the city's or town's legislative body at least sixty days before the beginning of the city's or town's next fiscal year and shall contain the following:

- (1) An explanation of the budget document;
- (2) An outline of the recommended financial policies and programs of the city for the ensuing fiscal year;
- (3) A statement of the relation of the recommended appropriation to such policies and programs;
- (4) A statement of the reason for salient changes from the previous year in appropriation and revenue items;
- (5) An explanation for any recommended major changes in financial policy.

Prior to the final hearing on the budget, the legislative body or a committee thereof, shall schedule hearings on the budget or parts thereof, and may require the presence of department heads to give information regarding estimates and programs. [1969 ex.s. c 95 § 7.]

**35.33.061 Budget—Notice of hearing on final.**

Immediately following the filing of the preliminary budget with the clerk, the clerk shall publish a notice once each week for two consecutive weeks stating that the preliminary budget for the ensuing fiscal year has been filed with the clerk; that a copy thereof will be furnished to any taxpayer who will call at the clerk's office therefor and that the legislative body of the city or town will meet on or before the first Monday of the month next preceding the beginning of the ensuing fiscal year for the purpose of fixing the final budget, designating the date, time and place of the legislative budget meeting and that any taxpayer may appear thereat and be heard for or against any part of the budget. The publication of the notice shall be made in the official

newspaper of the city or town. [1985 c 469 § 27; 1973 c 67 § 2; 1969 ex.s. c 95 § 8.]

**35.33.071 Budget—Final—Hearing.** The council shall meet on the day fixed by RCW 35.33.061 for the purpose of fixing the final budget of the city or town at the time and place designated in the notice thereof. Any taxpayer may appear and be heard for or against any part of the budget. The hearing may be continued from day to day but not later than the twenty-fifth day prior to commencement of the city's or town's fiscal year. [1969 ex.s. c 95 § 9.]

**35.33.075 Budget—Final—Adoption—Appropriations.** Following conclusion of the hearing, and prior to the beginning of the fiscal year, the legislative body shall make such adjustments and changes as it deems necessary or proper and after determining the allowance in each item, department, classification and fund, and shall by ordinance, adopt the budget in its final form and content. Appropriations shall be limited to the total estimated revenues contained therein including the amount to be raised by ad valorem taxes and the unencumbered fund balances estimated to be available at the close of the current fiscal year. Such ordinances may adopt the final budget by reference: PROVIDED, That the ordinance adopting such budget shall set forth in summary form the totals of estimated revenues and appropriations for each separate fund and the aggregate totals for all such funds combined.

A complete copy of the final budget as adopted shall be transmitted to the division of municipal corporations in the office of the state auditor, and to the association of Washington cities. [1969 ex.s. c 95 § 10.]

**35.33.081 Emergency expenditures—Nondebatable emergencies.** Upon the happening of any emergency caused by violence of nature, casualty, riot, insurrection, war, or other unanticipated occurrence requiring the immediate preservation of order or public health, or for the restoration to a condition of usefulness of any public property which has been damaged or destroyed by accident, or for public relief from calamity, or in settlement of approved claims for personal injuries or property damages, or to meet mandatory expenditures required by laws enacted since the last annual budget was adopted, or to cover expenses incident to preparing for or establishing a new form of government authorized or assumed after adoption of the current budget, including any expenses incident to selection of additional or new officials required thereby, or incident to employee recruitment at any time, the city or town legislative body, upon the adoption of an ordinance, by the vote of one more than the majority of all members of the legislative body, stating the facts constituting the emergency and the estimated amount required to meet it, may make the expenditures therefor without notice or hearing. [1969 ex.s. c 95 § 11.]

**35.33.091 Emergency expenditures—Other emergencies—Hearing.** If a public emergency which could not reasonably have been foreseen at the time of filing the preliminary budget requires the expenditure of money not provided for in the annual budget, and if it is not one of the

emergencies specifically enumerated in RCW 35.33.081, the city or town legislative body before allowing any expenditure therefor shall adopt an ordinance stating the facts constituting the emergency and the estimated amount required to meet it and declaring that an emergency exists.

Such ordinance shall not be voted on until five days have elapsed after its introduction, and for passage shall require the vote of one more than the majority of all members of the legislative body of the city or town.

Any taxpayer may appear at the meeting at which the emergency ordinance is to be voted on and be heard for or against the adoption thereof. [1969 ex.s. c 95 § 12.]

**35.33.101 Emergency warrants.** All expenditures for emergency purposes as provided in this chapter shall be paid by warrants from any available money in the fund properly chargeable with such expenditures. If, at any time, there is insufficient money on hand in a fund with which to pay such warrants as presented, the warrants shall be registered, bear interest and be called in the same manner as other registered warrants as prescribed in RCW 35.33.111. [1969 ex.s. c 95 § 13.]

*Warrants—Interest rate—Payment:* RCW 35.21.320.

**35.33.106 Registered warrants—Payment.** In adopting the final budget for any fiscal year, the legislative body shall appropriate from estimated revenue sources available, a sufficient amount to pay the principal and interest on all outstanding registered warrants issued since the adoption of the last preceding budget except those issued and identified as revenue warrants and except those for which an appropriation previously has been made: PROVIDED, That no portion of the revenues which are restricted in use by law may be appropriated for the redemption of warrants issued against a utility or other special purpose fund of a self-supporting nature: PROVIDED FURTHER, That all or any portion of the city's or town's outstanding registered warrants may be funded into bonds in any manner authorized by law. [1969 ex.s. c 95 § 14.]

**35.33.107 Adjustment of wages, hours and conditions of employment.** Notwithstanding the appropriations for any salary, or salary range of any employee or employees adopted in a final budget, the legislative body of any city or town may, by ordinance, change the wages, hours, and conditions of employment of any or all of its appointive employees if sufficient funds are available for appropriation to such purposes. [1969 ex.s. c 95 § 15.]

**35.33.111 Forms—Accounting—Supervision by state.** The division of municipal corporations in the office of the state auditor is empowered to make and install the forms and classifications required by this chapter to define what expenditures are chargeable to each budget class and to establish the accounting and cost systems necessary to secure accurate budget information. [1969 ex.s. c 95 § 16.]

**35.33.121 Funds—Limitations on expenditures—Transfers.** The expenditures as classified and itemized in the final budget shall constitute the city's or town's appropri-

ations for the ensuing fiscal year. Unless otherwise ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction, and subject to further limitations imposed by ordinance of the city or town, the expenditure of city or town funds or the incurring of current liabilities on behalf of the city or town shall be limited to the following:

(1) The total amount appropriated for each fund in the budget for the current fiscal year, without regard to the individual items contained therein, except that this limitation shall not apply to wage adjustments authorized by RCW 35.33.107; and

(2) The unexpended appropriation balances of a preceding budget which may be carried forward from prior fiscal years pursuant to RCW 35.33.151; and

(3) Funds received from the sale of bonds or warrants which have been duly authorized according to law; and

(4) Funds received in excess of estimated revenues during the current fiscal year, when authorized by an ordinance amending the original budget; and

(5) Expenditures required for emergencies, as authorized in RCW 35.33.081 and 35.33.091.

Transfers between individual appropriations within any one fund may be made during the current fiscal year by order of the city's or town's chief administrative officer subject to such regulations, if any, as may be imposed by the city or town legislative body. Notwithstanding the provisions of RCW 43.09.210 or of any statute to the contrary, transfers, as herein authorized, may be made within the same fund regardless of the various offices, departments or divisions of the city or town which may be affected.

The city or town legislative body, upon a finding that it is to the best interests of the city or town to decrease, revoke or recall all or any portion of the total appropriations provided for any one fund, may, by ordinance, approved by the vote of one more than the majority of all members thereof, stating the facts and findings for doing so, decrease, revoke or recall all or any portion of an unexpended fund balance, and by said ordinance, or a subsequent ordinance adopted by a like majority, the moneys thus released may be reappropriated for another purpose or purposes, without limitation to department, division or fund, unless the use of such moneys is otherwise restricted by law, charter, or ordinance. [1969 ex.s. c 95 § 17.]

**35.33.123 Administration, oversight, or supervision of utility—Reimbursement from utility budget authorized.** Whenever any city or town apportions a percentage of the city manager's, administrator's, or supervisor's time, or the time of other management or general government staff, for administration, oversight, or supervision of a utility operated by the city or town, or to provide services to the utility, the utility budget may identify such services and budget for reimbursement of the city's or town's current expense fund for the value of such services. [1991 c 152 § 1.]

**35.33.125 Liabilities incurred in excess of budget.** Liabilities incurred by any officer or employee of the city or town in excess of any budget appropriations shall not be a liability of the city or town. The clerk shall issue no warrant and the city or town legislative body or other authorized person shall approve no claim for an expenditure in excess



of the total amount appropriated for any individual fund, except upon an order of a court of competent jurisdiction or for emergencies as provided in this chapter. [1969 ex.s. c 95 § 18.]

**35.33.131 Funds received from sale of bonds and warrants—Expenditure program.** Moneys received from the sale of bonds or warrants shall be used for no other purpose than that for which they were issued and no expenditure shall be made for that purpose until the bonds have been duly authorized. If any unexpended fund balance remains from the proceeds realized from the bonds or warrants after the accomplishment of the purpose for which they were issued it shall be used for the redemption of such bond or warrant indebtedness. Where a budget contains an expenditure program to be financed from a bond issue to be authorized thereafter, no such expenditure shall be made or incurred until after the bonds have been duly authorized. [1969 ex.s. c 95 § 19.]

**35.33.135 Revenue estimates—Amount to be raised by ad valorem taxes.** At a time fixed by the city's or town's ordinance or city charter, not later than the first Monday in October of each year, the chief administrative officer shall provide the city's or town's legislative body with current information on estimates of revenues from all sources as adopted in the budget for the current year, together with estimates submitted by the clerk under RCW 35.33.051. The city's or town's legislative body and the city's or town's administrative officer or his designated representative shall consider the city's or town's total anticipated financial requirements for the ensuing fiscal year, and the legislative body shall determine and fix by ordinance the amount to be raised by ad valorem taxes. Upon adoption of the ordinance fixing the amount of ad valorem taxes to be levied, the clerk shall certify the same to the board of county commissioners as required by RCW 84.52.020. [1969 ex.s. c 95 § 20.]

**35.33.141 Report of expenditures and liabilities against budget appropriations.** At such intervals as may be required by city charter or city or town ordinance, however, being not less than quarterly, the clerk shall submit to the city's or town's legislative body and chief administrative officer a report showing the expenditures and liabilities against each separate budget appropriation incurred during the preceding reporting period and like information for the whole of the current fiscal year to the first day of the current reporting period together with the unexpended balance of each appropriation. The report shall also show the receipts from all sources. [1969 ex.s. c 95 § 21.]

**35.33.145 Contingency fund—Creation—Purpose—Support—Lapse.** Every city or town may create and maintain a contingency fund to provide moneys with which to meet any municipal expense, the necessity or extent of which could not have been foreseen or reasonably evaluated at the time of adopting the annual budget, or from which to provide moneys for those emergencies described in RCW 35.33.081 and 35.33.091. Such fund may be supported by a budget appropriation from any tax or other revenue source

not restricted in use by law, or also may be supported by a transfer from other unexpended or decreased funds made available by ordinance as set forth in RCW 35.33.121: PROVIDED, That the total amount accumulated in such fund at any time shall not exceed the equivalent of thirty-seven and one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation of property within the city or town at such time. Any moneys in the contingency fund at the end of the fiscal year shall not lapse except upon reappropriation by the council to another fund in the adoption of a subsequent budget. [1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 21; 1969 ex.s. c 95 § 22.]

**Severability—Effective dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195:** See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

**35.33.147 Contingency fund—Withdrawals.** No money shall be withdrawn from the contingency fund except by transfer to the appropriate operating fund authorized by a resolution or ordinance of the legislative body of the city or town, adopted by a majority vote of the entire legislative body, clearly stating the facts constituting the reason for the withdrawal or the emergency as the case may be, specifying the fund to which the withdrawn money shall be transferred. [1969 ex.s. c 95 § 23.]

**35.33.151 Unexpended appropriations.** All appropriations in any current operating fund shall lapse at the end of each fiscal year: PROVIDED, That this shall not prevent payments in the following year upon uncompleted programs or improvements in progress or on orders subsequently filled or claims subsequently billed for the purchase of material, equipment and supplies or for personal or contractual services not completed or furnished by the end of the fiscal year, all of which have been properly budgeted and contracted for prior to the close of such fiscal year but furnished or completed in due course thereafter.

All appropriations in a special fund authorized by ordinance or by state law to be used only for the purpose or purposes therein specified, including any cumulative reserve funds lawfully established in specific or general terms for any municipal purpose or purposes, or a contingency fund as authorized by RCW 35.33.145, shall not lapse, but shall be carried forward from year to year until fully expended or the purpose has been accomplished or abandoned, without necessity of reappropriation.

The accounts for budgetary control for each fiscal year shall be kept open for twenty days after the close of such fiscal year for the purpose of paying and recording claims for indebtedness incurred during such fiscal year; any claim presented after the twentieth day following the close of the fiscal year shall be paid from appropriations lawfully provided for the ensuing period, including those made available by provisions of this section, and shall be recorded in the accounts for the ensuing fiscal year. [1969 ex.s. c 95 § 24.]

**35.33.170 Violations and penalties.** Upon the conviction of any city or town official, department head or other city or town employee of knowingly failing, or refusing, without just cause, to perform any duty imposed upon such officer or employee by this chapter, or city charter or city or town ordinance, in connection with the

giving of notice, the preparing and filing of estimates of revenues or expenditures or other information required for preparing a budget report in the time and manner required, or of knowingly making expenditures in excess of budget appropriations, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars for each separate violation. [1969 ex.s. c 95 § 25.]

**Chapter 35.34**  
**BIENNIAL BUDGETS**

Sections

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**35.34.010 Legislative intent.** The legislature hereby recognizes that the development and adoption of a budget by a city or town is a lengthy and intense process designed to provide adequate opportunities for public input and sufficient time for deliberation and enactment by the legislative authority. The legislature also recognizes that there are limited amounts of time available and that time committed for budgetary action reduces opportunities for deliberating other issues. It is, therefore, the intent of the legislature to authorize cities and towns to establish by ordinance a biennial budget and to provide the means for modification of such budget. This chapter and chapter 35A.34 RCW shall be known as the municipal biennial budget act. [1985 c 175 § 1.]

**35.34.020 Application of chapter.** This chapter applies to all cities of the first, second, and third classes and towns which have by ordinance adopted this chapter authorizing the adoption of a fiscal biennium budget. [1985 c 175 § 5.]

**35.34.030 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Clerk" includes the officer performing the functions of a finance or budget director, comptroller, auditor, or by whatever title the officer may be known in any city or town. However, for cities over three hundred thousand, "clerk" means the budget director as authorized under RCW 35.32A.020.

(2) "Department" includes each office, division, service, system, or institution of the city or town for which no other statutory or charter provision is made for budgeting and accounting procedures or controls.

(3) "Legislative body" includes the council, commission, or any other group of officials serving as the legislative body of a city or town.

(4) "Chief administrative officer" includes the mayor of cities or towns having a mayor-council form of government, the commissioners in cities or towns having a commission form of government, the manager, or any other city or town official designated by the charter or ordinances of such city or town under the plan of government governing the same, or the budget or finance officer designated by the mayor, manager, or commissioners, to perform the functions, or portions thereof, contemplated by this chapter.

(5) "Fiscal biennium" means the period from January 1 of each odd-numbered year through December 31 of the next succeeding even-numbered year.

(6) "Fund" and "funds" where clearly used to indicate the plural of "fund" means the budgeting or accounting entity authorized to provide a sum of money for specified activities or purposes.

(7) "Funds" where not used to indicate the plural of "fund" means money in hand or available for expenditure or payment of a debt or obligation.

(8) Except as otherwise defined in this chapter, municipal accounting terms used in this chapter have the meaning prescribed by the state auditor pursuant to RCW 43.09.200. [1985 c 175 § 6.]

*"Fiscal biennium" defined: RCW 1.16.020.*

**35.34.040 Biennial budget authorized—Limitations.** All first and second class cities and towns are authorized to establish by ordinance a two-year fiscal biennium budget. The ordinance shall be enacted at least six months prior to commencement of the fiscal biennium and this chapter applies to all cities and towns which utilize a fiscal biennium budget. Cities and towns which establish a fiscal biennium budget are authorized to repeal such ordinance and provide for reversion to a fiscal year budget. The ordinance may only be repealed effective as of the conclusion of a fiscal biennium. However, the city or town shall comply with chapter 35.32A or 35.33 RCW, whichever the case may be, in developing and adopting the budget for the first fiscal year following repeal of the ordinance. [1994 c 81 § 56; 1985 c 175 § 7.]

**35.34.050 Budget estimates—Submittal.** On or before the second Monday of the fourth month prior to the beginning of the city's or town's next fiscal biennium, or at such other time as the city or town may provide by ordi-

nance or charter, the clerk shall notify in writing the head of each department of a city or town to file with the clerk within fourteen days of the receipt of such notification, detailed estimates of the probable revenue from sources other than ad valorem taxation and of all expenditures required by the department for the ensuing fiscal biennium. The notice shall be accompanied by the proper forms provided by the clerk, prepared in accordance with the requirements and classification established by the division of municipal corporations in the office of the state auditor. The clerk shall prepare the estimates for interest and debt redemption requirements and all other estimates, the preparation of which falls properly within the duties of the clerk's office. The chief administrative officers of the city or town shall submit to the clerk detailed estimates of all expenditures proposed to be financed from the proceeds of bonds or warrants not yet authorized, together with a statement of the proposed method of financing them. In the absence or disability of the official or person regularly in charge of a department, the duties required by this section shall devolve upon the person next in charge of such department. [1985 c 175 § 8.]

**35.34.060 Budget estimates—Classification and segregation.** All estimates of receipts and expenditures for the ensuing fiscal biennium shall be fully detailed in the biennial budget and shall be classified and segregated according to a standard classification of accounts to be adopted and prescribed by the state auditor through the division of municipal corporations after consultation with the Washington finance officers association, the association of Washington cities, and the association of Washington city managers. [1985 c 175 § 9.]

**35.34.070 Proposed preliminary budget.** On or before the first business day in the third month prior to the beginning of the biennium of a city or town or at such other time as the city or town may provide by ordinance or charter, the clerk or other person designated by the charter, by ordinances, or by the chief administrative officer of the city or town shall submit to the chief administrative officer a proposed preliminary budget which shall set forth the complete financial program of the city or town for the ensuing fiscal biennium, showing the expenditure program requested by each department and the sources of revenue by which each such program is proposed to be financed.

The revenue section shall set forth in comparative and tabular form for each fund the actual receipts for the last completed fiscal biennium, the estimated receipts for the current fiscal biennium, and the estimated receipts for the ensuing fiscal biennium, which shall include the amount to be raised from ad valorem taxes and unencumbered fund balances estimated to be available at the close of the current fiscal biennium. However, if the city or town was not utilizing a fiscal biennium budget for the previous three years, it shall set forth its fiscal years' revenues to reflect actual and estimated receipts as if it had previously utilized a biennial budgetary process.

The expenditure section shall set forth in comparative and tabular form for each fund and every department operating within each fund the actual expenditures for the

last completed fiscal biennium, the appropriations for the current fiscal biennium, and the estimated expenditures for the ensuing fiscal biennium. However, if the city or town was not utilizing a fiscal biennium budget for the previous three years, it shall set forth its fiscal years' expenditures to reflect actual and estimated levels as if it had previously utilized a biennial budgetary process. The expenditure section shall further set forth separately the salary or salary range for each office, position, or job classification together with the title or position designation thereof. However, salaries may be set out in total amounts under each department if a detailed schedule of such salaries and positions be attached and made a part of the budget document. [1985 c 175 § 10.]

**35.34.080 Preliminary budget.** The chief administrative officer shall prepare the preliminary budget in detail, making any revisions or additions to the reports of the department heads deemed advisable by such chief administrative officer. At least sixty days before the beginning of the city's or town's next fiscal biennium the chief administrative officer shall file it with the clerk as the recommendation of the chief administrative officer for the final budget. The clerk shall provide a sufficient number of copies of such preliminary budget and budget message to meet the reasonable demands of taxpayers therefor and have them available for distribution not later than six weeks before the beginning of the city's or town's next fiscal biennium. [1985 c 175 § 11.]

**35.34.090 Budget message—Hearings.** (1) In every city or town, a budget message prepared by or under the direction of the city's or town's chief administrative officer shall be submitted as a part of the preliminary budget to the city's or town's legislative body at least sixty days before the beginning of the city's or town's next fiscal biennium and shall contain the following:

- (a) An explanation of the budget document;
- (b) An outline of the recommended financial policies and programs of the city or town for the ensuing fiscal biennium;
- (c) A statement of the relation of the recommended appropriation to such policies and programs;
- (d) A statement of the reason for salient changes from the previous biennium in appropriation and revenue items; and
- (e) An explanation for any recommended major changes in financial policy.

(2) Prior to the final hearing on the budget, the legislative body or a committee thereof shall schedule hearings on the budget or parts thereof, and may require the presence of department heads to give information regarding estimates and programs. [1985 c 175 § 12.]

**35.34.100 Budget—Notice of hearing.** Immediately following the filing of the preliminary budget with the clerk, the clerk shall publish a notice once a week for two consecutive weeks stating that the preliminary budget for the ensuing fiscal biennium has been filed with the clerk, that a copy thereof will be made available to any taxpayer who will call at the clerk's office therefor, that the legislative body of the

city or town will meet on or before the first Monday of the month next preceding the beginning of the ensuing fiscal biennium for the purpose of fixing the final budget, designating the date, time, and place of the legislative budget meeting, and that any taxpayer may appear thereat and be heard for or against any part of the budget. The publication of the notice shall be made in the official newspaper of the city or town if there is one, otherwise in a newspaper of general circulation in the city or town. If there is no newspaper of general circulation in the city or town, then notice may be made by posting in three public places fixed by ordinance as the official places for posting the city's or town's official notices. [1985 c 175 § 13.]

**35.34.110 Budget—Hearing.** The legislative body shall meet on the day fixed by RCW 35.34.100 for the purpose of fixing the final budget of the city or town at the time and place designated in the notice thereof. Any taxpayer may appear and be heard for or against any part of the budget. The hearing may be continued from day to day but not later than the twenty-fifth day prior to commencement of the city's or town's fiscal biennium. [1985 c 175 § 14.]

**35.34.120 Budget—Adoption.** Following conclusion of the hearing, and prior to the beginning of the fiscal biennium, the legislative body shall make such adjustments and changes as it deems necessary or proper and, after determining the allowance in each item, department, classification, and fund, shall by ordinance adopt the budget in its final form and content. Appropriations shall be limited to the total estimated revenues contained therein including the amount to be raised by ad valorem taxes and the unencumbered fund balances estimated to be available at the close of the current fiscal biennium. Such ordinances may adopt the final budget by reference. However, the ordinance adopting the budget shall set forth in summary form the totals of estimated revenues and appropriations for each separate fund and the aggregate totals for all such funds combined.

A complete copy of the final budget as adopted shall be transmitted to the division of municipal corporations in the office of the state auditor and to the association of Washington cities. [1985 c 175 § 15.]

**35.34.130 Budget—Mid-biennial review and modification.** The legislative authority of a city or town having adopted the provisions of this chapter shall provide by ordinance for a mid-biennial review and modification of the biennial budget. The ordinance shall provide that such review and modification shall occur no sooner than eight months after the start nor later than conclusion of the first year of the fiscal biennium. The chief administrative officer shall prepare the proposed budget modification and shall provide for publication of notice of hearings consistent with publication of notices for adoption of other city or town ordinances. City or town ordinances providing for a mid-biennial review and modification shall establish procedures for distribution of the proposed modification to members of the city or town legislative authority, procedures for making copies available to the public, and shall provide for public hearings on the proposed budget modification. The budget

modification shall be by ordinance approved in the same manner as are other ordinances of the city or town.

A complete copy of the budget modification as adopted shall be transmitted to the division of municipal corporations in the office of the state auditor and to the association of Washington cities. [1985 c 175 § 16.]

**35.34.140 Emergency expenditures—Nondebtable emergencies.** Upon the happening of any emergency caused by violence of nature, casualty, riot, insurrection, war, or other unanticipated occurrence requiring the immediate preservation of order or public health, or for the property which has been damaged or destroyed by accident, or for public relief from calamity, or in settlement of approved claims for personal injuries or property damages, or to meet mandatory expenditures required by law enacted since the last budget was adopted, or to cover expenses incident to preparing for or establishing a new form of government authorized or assumed after adoption of the current budget, including any expenses incident to selection of additional or new officials required thereby, or incident to employee recruitment at any time, the city or town legislative body, upon the adoption of an ordinance, by the vote of one more than the majority of all members of the legislative body, stating the facts constituting the emergency and the estimated amount required to meet it, may make the expenditures therefor without notice or hearing. [1985 c 175 § 17.]

**35.34.150 Emergency expenditures—Other emergencies—Hearing.** If a public emergency which could not reasonably have been foreseen at the time of filing the preliminary budget requires the expenditure of money not provided for in the budget, and if it is not one of the emergencies specifically enumerated in RCW 35.34.140, the city or town legislative body before allowing any expenditure therefor shall adopt an ordinance stating the facts constituting the emergency and the estimated amount required to meet it and declaring that an emergency exists.

The ordinance shall not be voted on until five days have elapsed after its introduction, and for passage shall require the vote of one more than the majority of all members of the legislative body of the city or town.

Any taxpayer may appear at the meeting at which the emergency ordinance is to be voted on and be heard for or against the adoption thereof. [1985 c 175 § 18.]

**35.34.160 Emergency expenditures—Warrants—Payment.** All expenditures for emergency purposes as provided in this chapter shall be paid by warrants from any available money in the fund properly chargeable with such expenditures. If, at any time, there is insufficient money on hand in a fund with which to pay such warrants as presented, the warrants shall be registered, bear interest, and be called in the same manner as other registered warrants as prescribed in RCW 35.21.320. [1985 c 175 § 19.]

**35.34.170 Registered warrants—Payment.** In adopting the final budget for any fiscal biennium, the legislative body shall appropriate from estimated revenue sources available, a sufficient amount to pay the principal and interest on all outstanding registered warrants issued

since the adoption of the last preceding budget except those issued and identified as revenue warrants and except those for which an appropriation previously has been made. However, no portion of the revenues which are restricted in use by law may be appropriated for the redemption of warrants issued against a utility or other special purpose fund of a self-supporting nature. In addition, all or any portion of the city's or town's outstanding registered warrants may be funded into bonds in any manner authorized by law. [1985 c 175 § 20.]

**35.34.180 Adjustment of wages, hours, and conditions of employment.** Notwithstanding the appropriations for any salary or salary range of any employee or employees adopted in a final budget, the legislative body of any city or town may, by ordinance, change the wages, hours, and conditions of employment of any or all of its appointive employees if sufficient funds are available for appropriation to such purposes. [1985 c 175 § 21.]

**35.34.190 Forms—Accounting—Supervision by state.** The division of municipal corporations in the office of the state auditor is empowered to make and install the forms and classifications required by this chapter to define what expenditures are chargeable to each budget class and to establish the accounting and cost systems necessary to secure accurate budget information. [1985 c 175 § 22.]

**35.34.200 Funds—Limitations on expenditures—Transfers and adjustments.** (1) The expenditures as classified and itemized in the final budget shall constitute the city's or town's appropriations for the ensuing fiscal biennium. Unless otherwise ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction, and subject to further limitations imposed by ordinance of the city or town, the expenditure of city or town funds or the incurring of current liabilities on behalf of the city or town shall be limited to the following:

(a) The total amount appropriated for each fund in the budget for the current fiscal biennium, without regard to the individual items contained therein, except that this limitation does not apply to wage adjustments authorized by RCW 35.34.180;

(b) The unexpended appropriation balances of a preceding budget which may be carried forward from prior fiscal periods pursuant to RCW 35.34.270;

(c) Funds received from the sale of bonds or warrants which have been duly authorized according to law;

(d) Funds received in excess of estimated revenues during the current fiscal biennium, when authorized by an ordinance amending the original budget; and

(e) Expenditures authorized by budget modification as provided by RCW 35.34.130 and those required for emergencies, as authorized by RCW 35.34.140 and 35.34.150.

(2) Transfers between individual appropriations within any one fund may be made during the current fiscal biennium by order of the city's or town's chief administrative officer subject to such regulations, if any, as may be imposed by the city or town legislative body. Notwithstanding the provisions of RCW 43.09.210 or of any statute to the contrary, transfers, as authorized in this section, may be made within the same fund regardless of the various offices,

departments, or divisions of the city or town which may be affected.

(3) The city or town legislative body, upon a finding that it is to the best interests of the city or town to decrease, revoke, or recall all or any portion of the total appropriations provided for any one fund, may, by ordinance, approved by the vote of one more than the majority of all members thereof, stating the facts and findings for doing so, decrease, revoke, or recall all or any portion of an unexpended fund balance, and by said ordinance, or a subsequent ordinance adopted by a like majority, the moneys thus released may be reappropriated for another purpose or purposes, without limitation to department, division, or fund, unless the use of such moneys is otherwise restricted by law, charter, or ordinance. [1985 c 175 § 23.]

**35.34.205 Administration, oversight, or supervision of utility—Reimbursement from utility budget authorized.** Whenever any city or town apportions a percentage of the city manager's, administrator's, or supervisor's time, or the time of other management or general government staff, for administration, oversight, or supervision of a utility operated by the city or town, or to provide services to the utility, the utility budget may identify such services and budget for reimbursement of the city's or town's current expense fund for the value of such services. [1991 c 152 § 2.]

**35.34.210 Liabilities incurred in excess of budget.** Liabilities incurred by any officer or employee of the city or town in excess of any budget appropriations shall not be a liability of the city or town. The clerk shall issue no warrant and the city or town legislative body or other authorized person shall approve no claim for an expenditure in excess of the total amount appropriated for any individual fund, except upon an order of a court of competent jurisdiction or for emergencies as provided in this chapter. [1985 c 175 § 24.]

**35.34.220 Funds received from sales of bonds and warrants—Expenditures.** Moneys received from the sale of bonds or warrants shall be used for no other purpose than that for which they were issued and no expenditure shall be made for that purpose until the bonds have been duly authorized. If any unexpended fund balance remains from the proceeds realized from the bonds or warrants after the accomplishment of the purpose for which they were issued, it shall be used for the redemption of such bond or warrant indebtedness. Where a budget contains an expenditure program to be financed from a bond issue to be authorized thereafter, no such expenditure shall be made or incurred until after the bonds have been duly authorized. [1985 c 175 § 25.]

**35.34.230 Revenue estimates—Amount to be raised by ad valorem taxes.** At a time fixed by the city's or town's ordinance or city charter, not later than the first Monday in October of the second year of each fiscal biennium, the chief administrative officer shall provide the city's or town's legislative body with current information on estimates of revenues from all sources as adopted in the budget for the current biennium, together with estimates submit-

ted by the clerk under RCW 35.34.070. The city's or town's legislative body and the city's or town's administrative officer or the officer's designated representative shall consider the city's or town's total anticipated financial requirements for the ensuing fiscal biennium, and the legislative body shall determine and fix by ordinance the amount to be raised the first year of the biennium by ad valorem taxes. The legislative body shall review such information as is provided by the chief administrative officer and shall adopt an ordinance establishing the amount to be raised by ad valorem taxes during the second year of the biennium. Upon adoption of the ordinance fixing the amount of ad valorem taxes to be levied, the clerk shall certify the same to the county legislative authority as required by RCW 84.52.020. [1985 c 175 § 26.]

**35.34.240 Funds—Quarterly report of status.** At such intervals as may be required by city charter or city or town ordinance, however, being not less than quarterly, the clerk shall submit to the city's or town's legislative body and chief administrative officer a report showing the expenditures and liabilities against each separate budget appropriation incurred during the preceding reporting period and like information for the whole of the current fiscal biennium to the first day of the current reporting period together with the unexpended balance of each appropriation. The report shall also show the receipts from all sources. [1985 c 175 § 27.]

**35.34.250 Contingency fund—Creation.** Every city or town may create and maintain a contingency fund to provide moneys with which to meet any municipal expense, the necessity or extent of which could not have been foreseen or reasonably evaluated at the time of adopting the annual budget, or from which to provide moneys for those emergencies described in RCW 35.34.140 and 35.34.150. Such fund may be supported by a budget appropriation from any tax or other revenue source not restricted in use by law, or also may be supported by a transfer from other unexpended or decreased funds made available by ordinance as set forth in RCW 35.34.200. However, the total amount accumulated in such fund at any time shall not exceed the equivalent of thirty-seven and one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation of property within the city or town at such time. Any moneys in the emergency fund at the end of the fiscal biennium shall not lapse except upon reappropriation by the council to another fund in the adoption of a subsequent budget. [1985 c 175 § 28.]

**35.34.260 Contingency fund—Withdrawals.** No money shall be withdrawn from the contingency fund except by transfer to the appropriate operating fund authorized by a resolution or ordinance of the legislative body of the city or town, adopted by a majority vote of the entire legislative body, clearly stating the facts constituting the reason for the withdrawal or the emergency as the case may be, specifying the fund to which the withdrawn money shall be transferred. [1985 c 175 § 29.]

**35.34.270 Unexpended appropriations.** All appropriations in any current operating fund shall lapse at the end of each fiscal biennium. However, this shall not prevent

payments in the following biennium upon uncompleted programs or improvements in progress or on orders subsequently filled or claims subsequently billed for the purchase of material, equipment, and supplies or for personal or contractual services not completed or furnished by the end of the fiscal biennium, all of which have been properly budgeted and contracted for prior to the close of such fiscal biennium, but furnished or completed in due course thereafter.

All appropriations in a special fund authorized by ordinance or by state law to be used only for the purpose or purposes therein specified, including any cumulative reserve funds lawfully established in specific or general terms for any municipal purpose or purposes, or a contingency fund as authorized by RCW 35.34.250, shall not lapse, but shall be carried forward from biennium to biennium until fully expended or the purpose has been accomplished or abandoned, without necessity of reappropriation.

The accounts for budgetary control for each fiscal biennium shall be kept open for twenty days after the close of such fiscal biennium for the purpose of paying and recording claims for indebtedness incurred during such fiscal biennium; any claim presented after the twentieth day following the close of the fiscal biennium shall be paid from appropriations lawfully provided for the ensuing period, including those made available by provisions of this section, and shall be recorded in the accounts for the ensuing fiscal biennium. [1985 c 175 § 30.]

**35.34.280 Violations and penalties.** Upon the conviction of any city or town official, department head, or other city or town employee of knowingly failing, or refusing, without just cause, to perform any duty imposed upon such officer or employee by this chapter, or city charter or city or town ordinance, in connection with the giving of notice, the preparing and filing of estimates of revenues or expenditures or other information required for preparing a budget report in the time and manner required, or of knowingly making expenditures in excess of budget appropriations, the official or employee shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars for each separate violation. [1985 c 175 § 31.]

## Chapter 35.35

### RETAIL SALES AND USE TAXES

*City and county retail sales and use taxes: Chapter 82.14 RCW.*

## Chapter 35.36

### EXECUTION OF BONDS BY PROXY—FIRST CLASS CITIES

Sections	
35.36.010	Appointment of proxies.
35.36.020	Coupons—Printing facsimile signatures.
35.36.030	Deputies—Exemptions.
35.36.040	Designation of bonds to be signed.
35.36.050	Liability of officer.
35.36.060	Notice to council.
35.36.070	Revocation of proxy.

**35.36.010 Appointment of proxies.** The mayor, city comptroller and city clerk of every city of the first class may each severally designate one or more bonded persons to affix his signature to any bond or bonds requiring his signature.

If the signature of one of these officers is affixed to a bond during his continuance in office by a proxy designated by him whose authority has not been revoked, the bond shall be as binding upon the city and all concerned as though the officer had signed the bond in person.

This chapter shall apply to all bonds, whether they constitute obligations of the city as a whole or of any local improvement or other district or subdivision thereof, whether they call for payment from the general funds of the city or from a local, special or other fund, and whether negotiable or otherwise. [1965 c 7 § 35.36.010. Prior: 1929 c 212 § 1; RRS § 9005-5.]

**35.36.020 Coupons—Printing facsimile signatures.** A facsimile reproduction of the signature of the mayor, city comptroller, or city clerk in every city of the first class may be printed, engraved, or lithographed upon bond coupons with the same effect as though the particular officer had signed the coupon in person. [1965 c 7 § 35.36.020. Prior: 1929 c 212 § 4; RRS § 9005-8.]

**35.36.030 Deputies—Exemptions.** Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as requiring the appointment of deputy comptrollers or deputy city clerks in first class cities to be made in accordance herewith so far as concerns signatures or other doings which may be lawfully made or done by such deputy under the provisions of any other law. [1965 c 7 § 35.36.030. Prior: 1929 c 212 § 5; RRS § 9005-9.]

**35.36.040 Designation of bonds to be signed.** The officer whose duty it is to cause any bonds to be printed, engraved, or lithographed, shall specify in a written order or requisition to the printer, engraver, or lithographer the number of bonds to be printed, engraved, or lithographed and the manner of numbering them.

Every printer, engraver, or lithographer who prints, engraves, or lithographs a greater number of bonds than that specified or who prints, engraves, or lithographs more than one bond bearing the same number shall be guilty of a felony. [1965 c 7 § 35.36.040. Prior: 1929 c 212 § 6; RRS § 9005-10.]

**35.36.050 Liability of officer.** A mayor, comptroller, or clerk authorizing the affixing of his signature to a bond by a proxy shall be subject to the same liability personally and on his bond for any signature so affixed and to the same extent as if he had affixed his signature in person. [1965 c 7 § 35.36.050. Prior: 1929 c 212 § 3; RRS § 9005-7.]

**35.36.060 Notice to council.** In order to designate a proxy to affix his signature to bonds, a mayor, comptroller, or clerk shall address a written notice to the governing body of the city giving the name of the person whom he has selected therefor and stating generally or specifically what bonds are to be so signed.

Attached to or included in the notice shall be a written signature of the officer making the designation executed by the proposed proxy followed by the word "by" and his own signature; or, if the notice so states, the specimen signatures may consist of a facsimile reproduction of the officer's signature impressed by some mechanical process followed by the word "by" and the proxy's own signature.

If the authority is intended to include the signature upon bonds bearing an earlier date than the effective date of the notice, the prior dated bonds must be specifically described by reasonable reference thereto.

The notice designating a proxy shall be filed with the city comptroller or city clerk, together with the specimen signatures attached thereto and a record of the filing shall be made in the journal of the governing body. This record shall note the date and hour of filing and may be made by the official who keeps the journal at any time after filing of the notice, even during a period of recess or adjournment of the governing body. The notice shall be effective from the time of its recording. [1965 c 7 § 35.36.060. Prior: 1929 c 212 § 2, part; RRS § 9005-6, part.]

**35.36.070 Revocation of proxy.** Any designation of a proxy may be revoked by written notice addressed to the governing body of the city signed by the officer who made the designation and filed and recorded in the same manner as the notice of designation. It shall be effective from the time of its recording but shall not affect the validity of any signature theretofore made. [1965 c 7 § 35.36.070. Prior: 1929 c 212 § 2, part; RRS § 9005-6, part.]

## Chapter 35.37

### FISCAL—CITIES UNDER 20,000 AND CITIES OTHER THAN FIRST CLASS—BONDS

#### Sections

35.37.010	Accounting—Funds.
35.37.020	Accounting—Surplus and deficit in utility accounts.
35.37.027	Validation of preexisting obligations by former city.
35.37.030	Applicability of chapter.
35.37.040	Authority to contract debts—Limits.
35.37.050	Excess indebtedness—Authority to contract.
35.37.090	General indebtedness bonds—Issuance and sale.
35.37.110	General indebtedness bonds—Taxation to pay.
35.37.120	General indebtedness bonds—Taxation—Failure to levy—Remedy.

*Limitations upon indebtedness: State Constitution Art. 7 § 2 (Amendments 55, 59), Art. 8 § 6 (Amendment 27), chapter 39.36 RCW, RCW 84.52.050.*

*State auditor's division of municipal corporations: RCW 43.09.190 through 43.09.285.*

**35.37.010 Accounting—Funds.** Every city and town having less than twenty thousand inhabitants shall maintain a current expense fund out of which it must pay current expenses. It shall also maintain an "indebtedness fund," and if it has outstanding general indebtedness bonds, it must maintain a sinking fund therefor. If it maintains waterworks, lighting plant, cemetery, or other public works or institutions from which rent or other revenue is derived it must maintain a separate fund for each utility or institution. All moneys collected by such cities and towns from licenses shall be credited to the current expense fund. [1965 c 7 § 35.37.010.]



Prior: (i) 1897 c 84 § 1; RRS § 5635. (ii) 1897 c 84 § 2; RRS § 5636. (iii) 1897 c 84 § 9; RRS § 5643. (iv) 1897 c 84 § 10, part; RRS § 5644, part.]

**35.37.020 Accounting—Surplus and deficit in utility accounts.** Any deficit for operation and maintenance of utilities and institutions owned and controlled by cities and towns having less than twenty thousand inhabitants, over and above the revenue therefrom, shall be paid out of the current expense fund. Any surplus in the waterworks fund, lighting fund, cemetery fund, or other like funds at the end of the fiscal year shall be paid into the current expense fund except such part as the council by a finding entered into the record of the proceedings may conclude to be necessary for the purpose of:

(1) Extending or repairing the particular utility or institution; or

(2) Paying interest or principal of any indebtedness incurred in the construction or purchase of the particular utility or institution; or

(3) Creating or adding to a sinking fund for the payment of any indebtedness incurred in the construction or purchase of the particular utility or institution. [1965 c 7 § 35.37.020. Prior: 1897 c 84 § 10, part; RRS § 5644, part.]

**35.37.027 Validation of preexisting obligations by former city.** All elections for the validation of any debt created by any city or town which has since become consolidated with any other city or town shall be by ballot, and the vote shall be taken in the new consolidated city as constituted at the time of the election. [1965 c 7 § 35.37.027. Prior: 1897 c 84 § 12; RRS § 5646.]

*Elections: Title 29 RCW.*

**35.37.030 Applicability of chapter.** The provisions of the remainder of this chapter shall not be applied to cities of the first class nor to borrowing money and issuing bonds by any city or town for the purpose of supplying it with water, artificial light, or sewers if the works for supplying the water, artificial light, or sewers are to be owned and controlled by the city or town. [1965 c 7 § 35.37.030. Prior: (i) 1891 c 128 § 10; RRS § 9548. (ii) 1891 c 128 § 11; RRS § 9549.]

**35.37.040 Authority to contract debts—Limits.** Every city and town, may, without a vote of the people, contract indebtedness or borrow money for strictly municipal purposes on the credit of the city or town and issue negotiable bonds therefor in an amount which when added to its existing nonvoter approved indebtedness will not exceed the amount of indebtedness authorized by chapter 39.36 RCW, as now or hereafter amended, to be incurred without the assent of the voters.

When bonds are issued under this section the ordinance providing therefor shall contain a statement showing the value of the taxable property in the city or town, as the term "value of the taxable property" is defined in RCW 39.36.015, together with the amount of the existing nonvoter approved and total indebtedness of the city or town, which indebtedness shall include the amount for which such bonds are issued. [1984 c 186 § 15; 1970 ex.s. c 42 § 12; 1965 c 7 §

35.37.040. Prior: (i) 1891 c 128 § 1; RRS § 9538. (ii) 1891 c 128 § 6, part; RRS § 9544, part.]

**Purpose—1984 c 186:** See note following RCW 39.46.110.

**Severability—Effective date—1970 ex.s. c 42:** See notes following RCW 39.36.015.

**Limitations upon indebtedness:** *State Constitution Art. 7 § 2 (Amendments 55, 59), Art. 8 § 6 (Amendment 27), chapter 39.36 RCW, RCW 84.52.050.*

**35.37.050 Excess indebtedness—Authority to contract.** Every city and town may, when authorized by the voters of the city or town pursuant to Article VIII, section 6 of the state Constitution at an election held pursuant to RCW 39.36.050, contract indebtedness or borrow money for strictly municipal purposes on the credit of the city or town and issue negotiable bonds therefor in an amount which when added to its existing indebtedness will exceed the amount of indebtedness authorized by chapter 39.36 RCW, as now or hereafter amended, to be incurred without the assent of the voters but will not exceed the amounts of indebtedness authorized by chapter 39.36 RCW, as now or hereafter amended, to be incurred with the assent of the voters. [1984 c 186 § 16; 1965 c 7 § 35.37.050. Prior: (i) 1891 c 128 § 2; RRS § 9539. (ii) 1891 c 128 § 4, part; RRS § 9542, part.]

**Purpose—1984 c 186:** See note following RCW 39.46.110.

**Validation—1969 ex.s. c 191:** "Any city or town, which has prior to the effective date of this act [April 25, 1969], submitted to the voters thereof for their ratification or rejection the proposition of incurring indebtedness by the issuance of negotiable bonds in an amount when added to its existing indebtedness will exceed the amount of indebtedness authorized to be incurred without the assent of the voters, but will not exceed the amount of indebtedness authorized by chapter 39.36 RCW, as now or hereafter amended, to be incurred with the assent of the voters, may incur such indebtedness and issue such bonds even though the amount of money desired to be borrowed and the amount of negotiable bonds to be issued therefor were stated in a resolution adopted by the city or town council submitting such proposition to the voters, instead of in an ordinance passed by such council, if all other requirements of law, including, but not limited to the other provisions of RCW 35.37.050 are complied with." [1969 ex.s. c 191 § 1.]

**35.37.090 General indebtedness bonds—Issuance and sale.** All general indebtedness bonds shall be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1984 c 186 § 17; 1983 c 167 § 36; 1965 c 7 § 35.37.090. Prior: (i) 1891 c 128 § 5, part; RRS § 9543, part. (ii) 1891 c 128 § 6, part; RRS § 9544, part.]

**Purpose—1984 c 186:** See note following RCW 39.46.110.

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**35.37.110 General indebtedness bonds—Taxation to pay.** So long as any general indebtedness bonds are outstanding an amount sufficient to pay the interest upon them as it accrues shall be included in each annual levy for municipal purposes and a sufficient amount shall be included in each annual levy for payment of principal so that all bonds may be paid serially as they mature. [1965 c 7 § 35.37.110. Prior: 1891 c 128 § 8; RRS § 9546.]

**35.37.120 General indebtedness bonds—Taxation—Failure to levy—Remedy.** If the council of any city or town which has issued general indebtedness bonds fails to

make any levy necessary to make principal or interest payments due on the bonds, the owner of any bond or interest payment which has been presented to the treasurer and payment thereof refused because of the failure to make a levy may file the bond together with any unpaid coupons with the county auditor, taking his receipt therefor.

The county auditor shall register bonds so filed, and the county legislative authority at its next session at which it levies the annual county tax shall add to the city's or town's levy a sum sufficient to realize the amount of principal and interest past due and to become due prior to the next annual levy to be collected and held by the county treasurer and paid out only upon warrants drawn by the county auditor as the payments mature in favor of the owner of the bond as shown by the auditor's register. Similar levies shall be made in each succeeding year until the bonds and any coupons or interest payments are fully satisfied.

This remedy is alternative and in addition to any other remedy which the owner of such a bond or coupon may have. [1983 c 167 § 38; 1965 c 7 § 35.37.120. Prior: 1891 c 128 § 9; RRS § 9547.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

### Chapter 35.38

#### FISCAL—DEPOSITARIES

##### Sections

- 35.38.010 Designation of depositaries.
- 35.38.040 Segregation of collateral.
- 35.38.050 Treasurer's official bond not affected.
- 35.38.055 City official as officer, employee or stockholder of depositary.
- 35.38.060 Definition—"Financial institution."

*Deposit of public funds: State Constitution Art. 11 § 15.*

*State fiscal agencies: Chapter 43.80 RCW.*

**35.38.010 Designation of depositaries.** The treasurer in all cities and towns shall annually at the end of each fiscal year, or at such other times as may be deemed necessary, designate one or more financial institutions which are qualified public depositaries as set forth by the public deposit protection commission as depositary or depositaries for the moneys required to be kept by the treasurer. [1984 c 177 § 1; 1973 c 126 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 193 § 22; 1965 c 7 § 35.38.010. Prior: 1905 c 103 § 1; RRS § 5568.]

**Construction—Severability—1969 ex.s. c 193:** See notes following RCW 39.58.010.

*Liability of treasurers, public deposits: RCW 39.58.140.*

*Public depositaries, deposit and investment of public funds: Chapter 39.58 RCW.*

**35.38.040 Segregation of collateral.** Before any such designation shall entitle the treasurer to make deposits in any financial institution, each financial institution so designated shall segregate eligible securities as collateral as provided by RCW 39.58.050 as now or hereafter amended. [1984 c 177 § 2; 1973 c 126 § 3; 1969 ex.s. c 193 § 25; 1967 c 132 § 6; 1965 c 7 § 35.38.040. Prior: 1945 c 240 § 2; 1935 c 45 § 3; 1931 c 87 § 5; 1909 c 40 § 1; 1907 c 22 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 5572.]

**Construction—Severability—1969 ex.s. c 193:** See notes following RCW 39.58.010.

**35.38.050 Treasurer's official bond not affected.** The foregoing provisions of this chapter shall in no way affect the duty of a city or town treasurer to give bond to the city or town for the faithful performance of his duties in such amount as may be fixed by the city or town council or other governing body by ordinance. [1965 c 7 § 35.38.050. Prior: (i) 1905 c 103 § 3; RRS § 5570. (ii) 1907 c 22 § 3; RRS § 5573.]

**35.38.055 City official as officer, employee or stockholder of depositary.** Whenever a financial institution is designated by the treasurer in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, as a depositary for funds to be kept by the treasurer of such city or town and such financial institution has filed and had approved a contract with such city or town and complied with chapter 39.58 RCW, such contract shall not be invalid by reason of any official of the city being also an officer, employee, or stockholder of such financial institution. [1984 c 177 § 3; 1965 c 7 § 35.38.055. Prior: 1955 c 81 § 1.]

**35.38.060 Definition—"Financial institution."** "Financial institution," as used in the foregoing provisions of this chapter, means a branch of a bank engaged in banking in this state in accordance with RCW 30.04.300, and any state bank or trust company, national banking association, stock savings bank, mutual savings bank, or savings and loan association, which institution is located in this state and lawfully engaged in business. [1984 c 177 § 4; 1965 c 7 § 35.38.060. Prior: 1907 c 22 § 4; RRS § 5574.]

### Chapter 35.39

#### FISCAL—INVESTMENT OF FUNDS

##### Sections

- 35.39.030 Excess or inactive funds—Investment.
- 35.39.032 Approval of legislative authority—Delegation of authority—Reports.
- 35.39.034 Investment by individual fund or commingling of funds—Investment in United States securities—Validation.
- 35.39.050 Construction—1965 c 7.
- 35.39.060 Investment of pension funds.
- 35.39.070 City retirement system—Registration and custody of securities.
- 35.39.080 City retirement system—Investment advisory committee.
- 35.39.090 City retirement system—Investment advisory committee—Powers and duties.
- 35.39.100 City retirement system—Investment advisory committee—Employment of members.
- 35.39.110 City retirement system—Investment advisory committee—Liability of members.

*Investment of municipal funds in savings and loan associations by county or other municipal corporation treasurer: RCW 36.29.020.*  
*public and trust funds in federal agency bonds: Chapter 39.60 RCW.*  
*Municipal revenue bond act: Chapter 35.41 RCW.*  
*State auditor's division of municipal corporations: RCW 43.09.190 through 43.09.285.*

**35.39.030 Excess or inactive funds—Investment.** Every city and town may invest any portion of the moneys

in its inactive funds or in other funds in excess of current needs in:

- (1) United States bonds;
- (2) United States certificates of indebtedness;
- (3) Bonds or warrants of this state;
- (4) General obligation or utility revenue bonds or warrants of its own or of any other city or town in the state;
- (5) Its own bonds or warrants of a local improvement district which are within the protection of the local improvement guaranty fund law; and
- (6) In any other investments authorized by law for any other taxing districts. [1975 1st ex.s. c 11 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 33 § 1; 1965 ex.s. c 46 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.39.030. Prior: 1943 c 92 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 5646-13.]

**Effective date—1969 ex.s. c 33:** "This 1969 amendatory act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, the support of the state government and its existing political subdivisions; and shall take effect July 1, 1969." [1969 ex.s. c 33 § 4.] This applies to RCW 35.39.030 through 35.39.034.

**Construction—1965 c 7:** See RCW 35.39.050.

**35.39.032 Approval of legislative authority—Delegation of authority—Reports.** No investment shall be made without the approval of the legislative authority of the city or town expressed by ordinance: PROVIDED, That except as otherwise provided by law, the legislative authority may by ordinance authorize a city official or a committee composed of several city officials to determine the amount of money available in each fund for investment purposes and make the investments authorized as indicated in RCW 35.39.030 as now or hereafter amended and the provisions of RCW 35.39.034, without the consent of the legislative authority for each investment. The responsible official or committee shall make a monthly report of all investment transactions to the city legislative authority. The legislative authority of a city or town or city official or committee authorized to invest city or town funds may at any time convert any of its investment securities, or any part thereof, into cash. [1969 ex.s. c 33 § 2.]

**35.39.034 Investment by individual fund or commingling of funds—Investment in United States securities—Validation.** Moneys thus determined available for this purpose may be invested on an individual fund basis or may, unless otherwise restricted by law be commingled within one common investment portfolio for investment. All income derived from such investment shall be apportioned and used for the benefit of the various participating funds or for the benefit of the general or current expense fund as the governing body of the city of [or] town shall determine by ordinance or resolution: PROVIDED, That funds derived from the sale of general obligation bonds or revenue bonds or similar instruments of indebtedness shall be invested, or used in such manner as the initiating ordinances, resolutions, or bond covenants may lawfully prescribe.

Any excess or inactive funds on hand in the city treasury not otherwise invested, or required to be invested by this section, as now or hereafter amended, may be invested by the city treasurer in United States government bonds, notes, bills, certificates of indebtedness, or interim financing warrants of a local improvement district which is within the

protection of the local improvement guaranty fund law for the benefit of the general or current expense fund.

All previous or outstanding investments of city or town funds for the benefit of the city's or town's general or current expense fund which have been or could be made in accordance with the provisions of this section, as now or hereafter amended, are declared valid. [1981 c 218 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 11 § 2; 1969 ex.s. c 33 § 3.]

**35.39.050 Construction—1965 c 7.** RCW 35.39.030 shall be deemed cumulative and not exclusive and shall be additional to any other power or authority granted any city or town. [1983 c 3 § 56; 1965 c 7 § 35.39.050. Prior: 1943 c 92 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 5646-15.]

**35.39.060 Investment of pension funds.** Any city or town now or hereafter operating an employees' pension system with the approval of the board otherwise responsible for management of its respective funds may invest, reinvest, manage, contract, sell, or exchange investments acquired. Investments shall be made in accordance with investment policy duly established and published by the board. In discharging its duties under this section, the board shall act with the care, skill, prudence, and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing that a prudent man acting in a like capacity and familiar with such matters would use in the conduct of an enterprise of a like character and with like aims; shall diversify the investments of the employees' pension system so as to minimize the risk of large losses; and shall act in accordance with the documents and instruments governing the employees' pension system, insofar as such documents and instruments are consistent with the provisions of this title. [1982 c 166 § 1.]

**Effective date—1982 c 166:** "This act shall take effect July 1, 1982." [1982 c 166 § 9.]

**35.39.070 City retirement system—Registration and custody of securities.** The city treasurer may cause any securities in which the city retirement system deals to be registered in the name of a nominee without mention of any fiduciary relationship, except that adequate records shall be maintained to identify the actual owner of the security so registered. The securities so registered shall be held in the physical custody of the city treasurer, the federal reserve system, the designee of the city treasurer, or at the election of the designee and upon approval of the city treasurer, the Pacific Securities Depository Trust Company Inc. or the Depository Trust Company of New York City or its designees.

With respect to the securities, the nominee shall act only on the direction of the retirement board. All rights to the dividends, interest, and sale proceeds from the securities and all voting rights of the securities shall be vested in the actual owners of the securities, and not in the nominee. [1982 c 166 § 2.]

**Effective date—1982 c 166:** See note following RCW 35.39.060.

**35.39.080 City retirement system—Investment advisory committee.** The retirement board of any city which is responsible for the management of an employees' retirement system established to provide retirement benefits

for nonpublic safety employees shall appoint an investment advisory committee consisting of at least three members who are considered experienced and qualified in the field of investments. [1982 c 166 § 3.]

**Effective date—1982 c 166:** See note following RCW 35.39.060.

**35.39.090 City retirement system—Investment advisory committee—Powers and duties.** In addition to its other powers and duties, the investment advisory committee shall:

(1) Make recommendations as to general investment policies, practices, and procedures to the retirement board;

(2) Review the investment transactions of the retirement board annually;

(3) Prepare a written report of its activities during each fiscal year. Each report shall be submitted not more than thirty days after the end of each fiscal year to the retirement board and to any other person who has submitted a request therefor. [1982 c 166 § 4.]

**Effective date—1982 c 166:** See note following RCW 35.39.060.

**35.39.100 City retirement system—Investment advisory committee—Employment of members.** No advisory committee member during the term of appointment may be employed by any investment brokerage or mortgage servicing firm doing business with the retirement board. [1982 c 166 § 5.]

**Effective date—1982 c 166:** See note following RCW 35.39.060.

**35.39.110 City retirement system—Investment advisory committee—Liability of members.** No member of the investment advisory committee is liable for the negligence, default, or failure of any other person or other member of the committee to perform the duties of his or her office, and no member of the committee may be considered or held to be an insurer of the funds or assets of the retirement system nor shall any member be liable for actions performed with the exercise of reasonable diligence within the scope of his or her duly authorized activities as a member of the committee. [1982 c 166 § 6.]

**Effective date—1982 c 166:** See note following RCW 35.39.060.

## Chapter 35.40

### FISCAL—VALIDATION AND FUNDING OF DEBTS

#### Sections

35.40.030 Ratification and funding after consolidation or annexation.

*Funding indebtedness in counties, cities and towns: Chapter 39.52 RCW.  
Metropolitan municipal corporations, funding and refunding bonds: RCW 35.58.470.*

**35.40.030 Ratification and funding after consolidation or annexation.** If, in any case where any city or town in this state has been or may hereafter be formed by the consolidation of two or more cities or towns, or has annexed or may hereafter annex any new territory, an election shall be held, in accordance with the Constitution and laws of this state, for the purpose of submitting to the voters residing within the former corporate limits of either such former city or town, or of such city or town prior to such annexation, for

ratification or disapproval, the attempted incurring on the part of such former city or town or of such city or town prior to such annexation by the corporate authorities thereof, of any indebtedness thereof, such consolidated or existing city or town may submit to all of the voters therein, at the same or a separate election, any proposition to fund such indebtedness so sought to be ratified or any part thereof or any existing indebtedness of such consolidated or existing city or town, or both. The proposition to ratify any such indebtedness so previously attempted to be incurred on the part of either such former city or town, or on the part of such city or town prior to such annexation, and the proposition to fund the same may be submitted, respectively, to the voters residing within the corporate limits of such former city or town or in such city or town prior to such annexation, and to all the voters in such consolidated city or town, respectively, in the same or in separate ordinances, as may be required or permitted by law; but the proposition to fund shall be the subject of a distinct vote in favor of or against the same, separate from the vote upon the proposition to ratify, and separate from the vote upon a proposition to fund any part of such indebtedness as to which a proposition to ratify is not submitted. [1965 c 7 § 35.40.030. Prior: 1893 c 58 § 1; RRS § 9556.]

*Annexation of unincorporated areas: Chapter 35.13 RCW.*

*Consolidation including annexation of third class city or town to first class city: Chapter 35.10 RCW.*

## Chapter 35.41

### FISCAL—MUNICIPAL REVENUE BOND ACT

#### Sections

35.41.010 Special funds—Authorized—Composition.

35.41.030 Revenue bonds authorized—Form, term, etc.

35.41.050 Revenue warrants.

35.41.060 Sale of revenue bonds and warrants—Contract provisions.

35.41.070 Suit to compel city to pay amount into special fund.

35.41.080 Rates and charges for services, use or benefits.

35.41.090 Rates and charges for services, use or benefits—Costs, expenses, interest may be included.

35.41.095 Revenue bonds for water or sewerage system—Pledge of utility local improvement district assessments.

35.41.100 Chapter is alternative and additional method.

35.41.900 Short title.

*Industrial development revenue bonds: Chapter 39.84 RCW.*

*Municipal utilities: Chapter 35.92 RCW.*

#### 35.41.010 Special funds—Authorized—Composition.

For the purpose of providing funds for defraying all or a portion of the costs of planning, purchase, leasing, condemnation, or other acquisition, construction, reconstruction, development, improvement, extension, repair, maintenance, or operation of any municipally owned public land, building, facility, or utility, for which the municipality now has or hereafter is granted authority to acquire, condemn, develop, repair, maintain, or operate, the legislative body of any city or town may authorize, by ordinance, the creation of a special fund or funds into which the city or town shall be obligated to set aside and pay: Any or all municipal license fees specified in such ordinance creating such special fund, and/or any and all revenues derived from any utility or facility specified in said ordinance creating such special fund. The ordinance may provide that the city or town shall

be obligated to set aside and pay into a special fund or funds so created:

- (1) A fixed proportion of any revenues or fees, or
- (2) A fixed amount of, and not to exceed, a fixed proportion of any revenues or fees, or
- (3) A fixed amount without regard to any fixed proportion of any revenues or fees, or
- (4) An amount of such revenues sufficient, together with any other moneys lawfully pledged to be paid into such fund or funds, to meet principal and interest requirements and to accumulate any reserves and additional funds that may be required.

The legislative body may also authorize the creation of a special fund or funds to defray all or part of the costs of planning, purchase, condemnation, or other acquisition, construction, improvement, maintenance or operation of any public park in, upon or above property used or to be used as municipally owned off-street parking space and facilities, whether or not revenues are received or fees charged in the course of public use of such park. Part or all of the otherwise unpledged revenues, fees or charges arising from municipal ownership, operation, lease or license of any off-street parking space and facilities, or arising from municipal license of any off-street parking space, shall be set aside and paid into such special fund or funds in accordance with this section. [1971 ex.s. c 223 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 144 § 12; 1965 c 7 § 35.41.010. Prior: 1957 c 117 § 1.]

**Severability—1967 ex.s. c 144:** See note following RCW 36.900.030.

*Bids for operation of parking space or facilities in or beneath public parks:* RCW 35.86.010.

*"Facilities" defined:* RCW 35.86.010.

*General obligation bonds, use in financing off-street parking space and facilities:* RCW 35.86.020.

**35.41.030 Revenue bonds authorized—Form, term, etc.** If the legislative body of a city or town deems it advisable to purchase, lease, condemn, or otherwise acquire, construct, develop, improve, extend, or operate any land, building, facility, or utility, and adopts an ordinance authorizing such purchase, lease, condemnation, acquisition, construction, development, improvement and to provide funds for defraying all or a portion of the cost thereof from the proceeds of the sale of revenue bonds, and such ordinance has been ratified by the voters of the city or town in those instances where the original acquisition, construction, or development of such facility or utility is required to be ratified by the voters under the provisions of RCW 35.67.030 and 35.92.070, such city or town may issue revenue bonds against the special fund or funds created solely from revenues. The revenue bonds so issued shall:

- (1) Be registered bonds, as provided in RCW 39.46.030, or bearer bonds;
- (2) Be issued in such denominations as determined by the legislative body of the city or town;
- (3) Be numbered from one upwards consecutively;
- (4) Bear the date of their issue;
- (5) Be serial or term bonds and the final maturity thereof shall not extend beyond the reasonable life expectancy of the facility or utility;
- (6) Bear interest at such rate or rates as authorized by the legislative body of the city or town, with interest

coupons attached unless such bonds are registered as to interest, in which no case no interest coupons need be attached;

(7) Be payable as to principal and interest at such place or time as may be designated therein;

(8) State upon their face that they are payable from a special fund, naming it, and the ordinance creating it, and that they do not constitute a general indebtedness of the city or town;

(9) Be signed by the mayor and bear the seal of the city or town and be attested by the clerk: PROVIDED, That the facsimile signatures of the mayor and clerk may be used when the ordinance authorizing the issuance of such bonds provides for the signatures thereof by an authenticating officer; and

(10) Be printed upon good bond paper: PROVIDED, That notwithstanding the provisions of this section, such revenue bonds may be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1983 c 167 § 39; 1971 ex.s. c 223 § 2; 1970 ex.s. c 56 § 34; 1969 ex.s. c 232 § 15; 1965 c 7 § 35.41.030. Prior: 1957 c 117 § 3.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**Purpose—1970 ex.s. c 56:** See note following RCW 39.52.020.

**Validation—Saving—Severability—1969 ex.s. c 232:** See notes following RCW 39.52.020.

**35.41.050 Revenue warrants.** (1) Revenue warrants may be issued and such warrants and interest thereon may be payable out of the special fund or refunded through the proceeds of the sale of revenue bonds. Every revenue warrant and the interest thereon issued against the special fund shall be a valid claim of the owner thereof only as against that fund and the amount of revenue pledged to the fund, and shall not constitute an indebtedness of the city or town. Every revenue warrant shall state on its face that it is payable from a special fund, naming it and the ordinance creating it. Such warrants may be in any form, including bearer warrants or registered warrants as provided in RCW 39.46.030.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, such warrants may be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1983 c 167 § 40; 1965 c 7 § 35.41.050. Prior: 1957 c 117 § 5.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**35.41.060 Sale of revenue bonds and warrants—Contract provisions.** Revenue bonds and warrants may be sold by negotiation or by public or private sale in any manner and for any price the legislative body of any city or town deems to be for the best interest of the city or town. Such legislative body may provide in any contract, for the construction or acquisition of the proposed facility or utility or the maintenance and operation thereof, and that payment therefor shall be made only in revenue bonds and/or warrants at their par value. [1965 c 7 § 35.41.060. Prior: 1957 c 117 § 6.]

**35.41.070 Suit to compel city to pay amount into special fund.** If a city or town fails to set aside and pay

into the special fund created for the payment of revenue bonds and warrants the amount which it has obligated itself in the ordinance creating the fund to set aside and pay therein, the holder of any bond or warrant issued against the bond may bring suit against the city or town to compel it to do so. [1965 c 7 § 35.41.070. Prior: 1957 c 117 § 7.]

**35.41.080 Rates and charges for services, use or benefits.** The legislative body of any city or town may provide by ordinance for revenues by fixing rates and charges for the furnishing of service, use, or benefits to those to whom service, use, or benefits from such facility or utility is available, which rates and charges shall be uniform for the same class of service. And, if revenue bonds or warrants are issued against the revenues thereof, the legislative body of the city or town shall fix charges at rates which will be sufficient, together with any other moneys lawfully pledged therefor, to provide for the payment of bonds and warrants, principal and interest, sinking fund requirements and expenses incidental to the issuance of such revenue bonds or warrants; in fixing such charges the legislative body of the city or town may establish rates sufficient to pay, in addition, the costs of operating and maintaining such facility or utility. [1971 ex.s. c 223 § 3; 1965 c 7 § 35.41.080. Prior: 1959 c 203 § 1; 1957 c 117 § 8.]

**35.41.090 Rates and charges for services, use or benefits—Costs, expenses, interest may be included.** In setting the rates to be charged for the service, use, or benefits derived from such facility or utility, or in determining the cost of the planning, acquisition, construction, reconstruction, development, improvement, extension, repair, maintenance, or operation thereof the legislative body of the city or town may include all costs and estimated costs of the issuance of said bonds, all engineering, inspection, fiscal and legal expense and interest which it is estimated will accrue during the construction period and for such period of time thereafter deemed by the legislative body to be necessary or desirable on money borrowed, or which it is estimated will be borrowed in connection therewith. [1971 ex.s. c 223 § 4; 1965 c 7 § 35.41.090. Prior: 1957 c 117 § 9.]

**35.41.095 Revenue bonds for water or sewerage system—Pledge of utility local improvement district assessments.** The legislative body of any city or town may provide as an additional method for securing the payment of any such bonds issued to pay the whole or a portion of the cost of providing the city or town with a system of water or sewerage as set forth in RCW 35.43.042, that utility local improvement district assessments authorized to be made for the purposes and subject to the limitations contained in RCW 35.43.042 may be pledged to secure the payment of such bonds. [1967 c 52 § 26.]

**Construction—Severability—1967 c 52:** See notes following RCW 35.43.042.

**35.41.100 Chapter is alternative and additional method.** The authority granted by this chapter shall be considered an alternative and additional method of issuing revenue bonds or warrants by cities and towns and no restriction, limitation, or regulation relative to the issuance

of such bonds contained in any other law shall apply to the bonds issued hereunder. [1965 c 7 § 35.41.100. Prior: 1957 c 117 § 10.]

**35.41.900 Short title.** This chapter shall be known as "the municipal revenue bond act." [1965 c 7 § 35.41.900. Prior: 1957 c 117 § 11.]

## Chapter 35.42 LEASES

### Sections

#### LEASING OF SPACE WITH OPTION TO PURCHASE—1959 ACT

- 35.42.010 Purpose.
- 35.42.020 Building defined.
- 35.42.030 Authority to lease.
- 35.42.040 Renewals—Option to purchase.
- 35.42.050 Provisions to pay taxes, insurance, make repairs, improvements, etc.
- 35.42.060 Execution of lease prior to construction—Lessor's bond—City not obligated for construction costs.
- 35.42.070 Lease of city land for building purposes and lease back of building by city.
- 35.42.080 Lease of city land for building purposes and lease back of building by city—Bids.
- 35.42.090 Leases exempted from certain taxes.

#### LEASES OF REAL OR PERSONAL PROPERTY OR PROPERTY RIGHTS WITH OR WITHOUT OPTION TO PURCHASE—1963 ACT

- 35.42.200 Leases authorized—Ballot proposition.
- 35.42.210 Exercise of option to purchase.
- 35.42.220 Budgeting rental payments—Bids—Construction of agreement where rental equals purchase price.

#### LEASING OF SPACE WITH OPTION TO PURCHASE—1959 ACT

**35.42.010 Purpose.** It is the purpose of RCW 35.42.010 through 35.42.090 to supplement existing law for the leasing of space by cities and towns to provide for the leasing of such space through leases with an option to purchase and the acquisition of buildings erected upon land owned by a city or town upon the expiration of a lease of such land. [1965 c 7 § 35.42.010. Prior: 1959 c 80 § 1.]

**35.42.020 Building defined.** The term "building" as used in RCW 35.42.010 through 35.42.090 shall be construed to mean any building or buildings used as a part of, or in connection with, the operation of a city or town, and shall include the site and appurtenances, including but not limited to, heating facilities, water supply, sewage disposal, landscaping, walks, and drives. [1965 c 7 § 35.42.020. Prior: 1959 c 80 § 2.]

**35.42.030 Authority to lease.** Any city or town may, as lessee, lease a building for its use for a term of not to exceed fifty years. [1965 c 7 § 35.42.030. Prior: 1959 c 80 § 3.]

**35.42.040 Renewals—Option to purchase.** A lease of a building executed pursuant to RCW 35.42.010 through

35.42.090 may grant the lessee city or town an option to renew for a further term on like conditions, or an option to purchase the building covered by the lease at any time prior to the expiration of the term. A lease with an option to purchase shall provide that all sums paid as rent up to the time of exercising the option shall be credited toward the payment of the purchase price as of the date of payment. No lease shall provide, nor be construed to provide, that any city or town shall be under any obligation to purchase the leased building. [1965 c 7 § 35.42.040. Prior: 1959 c 80 § 4.]

**35.42.050 Provisions to pay taxes, insurance, make repairs, improvements, etc.** A lease of a building may provide that as a part of the rental, the lessee city or town may pay taxes and assessments on the leased building, maintain insurance thereon for the benefit of the lessor, and assume responsibilities for repair, replacement, alterations, and improvements during the term of the lease. [1965 c 7 § 35.42.050. Prior: 1959 c 80 § 5.]

**35.42.060 Execution of lease prior to construction—Lessor's bond—City not obligated for construction costs.** A city or town may, in anticipation of the acquisition of a site and the construction of a building, execute a lease, as lessee, prior to the actual acquisition of a site and the construction of a building, but the lease shall not require payment of rental by the lessee until the building is ready for occupancy. The lessor shall furnish a bond satisfactory to the lessee conditioned on the delivery of possession of the completed building to the lessee city or town at the time prescribed in the lease, unavoidable delay excepted. The lease shall provide that no part of the cost of construction of the building shall ever become an obligation of the lessee city or town. [1965 c 7 § 35.42.060. Prior: 1959 c 80 § 6.]

**35.42.070 Lease of city land for building purposes and lease back of building by city.** Any city or town desiring to have a building for its use erected on land owned, or to be acquired, by it, may, as lessor, lease the land for a reasonable rental for a term of not to exceed fifty years: PROVIDED, That the city or town shall lease back the building or a portion thereof for the same term. The leases shall contain terms as agreed upon between the parties, and shall include the following provisions:

(1) No part of the cost of construction of the building shall ever be or become an obligation of the city or town.

(2) The city or town shall have a prior right to occupy any or all of the building upon payment of rental as agreed upon by the parties, which rental shall not exceed prevailing rates for comparable space.

(3) During any time that all or any portion of the building is not required for occupancy by the city or town, the lessee of the land may rent the unneeded portion to suitable tenants approved by the city or town.

(4) Upon the expiration of the lease, all buildings and improvements on the land shall become the property of the city or town. [1965 c 7 § 35.42.070. Prior: 1959 c 80 § 7.]

**35.42.080 Lease of city land for building purposes and lease back of building by city—Bids.** A lease and

lease back agreement requiring a lessee to build on city or town property shall be made pursuant to a call for bids upon terms most advantageous to the city or town. The call for bids shall be given by posting notice thereof in a public place in the city or town and by publication in the official newspaper of the city or town once each week for two consecutive weeks before the date fixed for opening the bids. The city council or commission of the city or town may by resolution reject all bids and make further calls for bids in the same manner as the original call. If no bid is received on the first call, the city council or commission may readvertise and make a second call, or may execute a lease without any further call for bids. [1985 c 469 § 28; 1965 c 7 § 35.42.080. Prior: 1959 c 80 § 8.]

**35.42.090 Leases exempted from certain taxes.** All leases executed pursuant to RCW 35.42.010 through 35.42.090 shall be exempt from the tax imposed by chapter 19, Laws of 1951 second extraordinary session, as amended, and \*chapter 82.45 RCW; section 5, chapter 389, Laws of 1955, and RCW 82.04.040; and section 9, chapter 178, Laws of 1941, and RCW 82.08.090, and by rules and regulations of the department of revenue issued pursuant thereto. [1975 1st ex.s. c 278 § 22; 1965 c 7 § 35.42.090. Prior: 1959 c 80 § 9.]

**\*Reviser's note:** This internal reference has been changed from chapter 28A.45 RCW to chapter 82.45 RCW in accordance with 1981 c 148 § 13 and 1981 c 93 § 2. See note following RCW 82.45.010.

**Construction—Severability—1975 1st ex.s. c 278:** See notes following RCW 11.08.160.

#### LEASES OF REAL OR PERSONAL PROPERTY OR PROPERTY RIGHTS WITH OR WITHOUT OPTION TO PURCHASE—1963 ACT

**35.42.200 Leases authorized—Ballot proposition.** Any city or town may execute leases for a period of years with or without an option to purchase with the state or any of its political subdivisions, with the government of the United States, or with any private party for the lease of any real or personal property, or property rights: PROVIDED, That with respect only to leases that finance the acquisition of property by the lessee, the aggregated portions of lease payments over the term of the lease which are allocable to principal shall constitute debt, which shall not result in a total indebtedness in excess of one and one-half percent of the taxable property of such city or town computed in accordance with RCW 39.36.030, unless a proposition in regard to whether or not such a lease may be executed is submitted to the voters for their approval or rejection in the same manner that bond issues for capital purposes are submitted, and the voters approve the same. [1990 c 205 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.42.200. Prior: 1963 c 170 § 1.]

**35.42.210 Exercise of option to purchase.** If at the time an option to purchase is exercised the remaining amount to be paid in order to purchase the real or personal property leased after crediting the rental payments toward the total purchase price therefor does not result in a total indebtedness in excess of one and one-half percent of the taxable property of such city or town computed in accor-



dance with RCW 39.36.030, such a city or town may exercise its option to purchase such property. If such remaining amount to be paid to purchase such leased property will result in a total indebtedness in excess of one and one-half percent of the taxable property of such city or town, a proposition in regard to whether or not to purchase the property shall be submitted to the voters for approval or rejection in the same manner that bond issues for capital purposes are submitted to the voters. [1965 c 7 § 35.42.210. Prior: 1963 c 170 § 2.]

**35.42.220 Budgeting rental payments—Bids—Construction of agreement where rental equals purchase price.** The annual budget of a city shall provide for the payment of rental that falls due in the year for which the budget is applicable: PROVIDED, That if the cost of the real or personal property to be leased exceeds the amounts specified in RCW 35.23.352 prior to the execution of a lease with option to purchase therefor, the city or town shall call for bids in accordance with RCW 35.23.352: PROVIDED, That if at the expiration of a lease with option to purchase a city or town exercises such an option, the fact that the rental payments theretofore made equal the amount of the purchase price of the real or personal property involved in such lease shall not preclude the agreement from being a lease with option to purchase up to the date of the exercising of the option. [1965 c 7 § 35.42.220. Prior: 1963 c 170 § 3.]

### Chapter 35.43

#### LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS—AUTHORITY—INITIATION OF PROCEEDINGS

##### Sections

- 35.43.005 Municipal local improvement statutes applicable to public corporations.
- 35.43.010 Terms defined.
- 35.43.020 Construction.
- 35.43.030 Charters superseded—Application—Ordinances—Districts outside city authorized.
- 35.43.035 Creation of district outside city subject to review by boundary review board.
- 35.43.040 Authority generally.
- 35.43.042 Authority to establish utility local improvement districts—Procedure.
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- 35.43.200 Street railways at expense of property benefited.
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- Water rights, acquisition of: RCW 35.92.220.*

**35.43.005 Municipal local improvement statutes applicable to public corporations.** The provisions of this and the following chapters relating to municipal local improvements apply to local improvements owned or operated by a public corporation or by a public corporation and a city, town, or another public corporation as if they

were owned or operated by a city or town. Whenever a section in such chapters refers to improvements made by, ordered by, owned by, operated by, constructed by, acquired by, or otherwise provided for or undertaken by a city or town or other municipality, it shall be construed to refer also to improvements made by, ordered by, owned by, operated by, constructed by, acquired by, or otherwise provided for or undertaken by a public corporation. [1987 c 242 § 6.]

**Policy—1987 c 242:** "It is declared to be the public policy of the state that public improvements owned and operated by public corporations that confer special benefits on property, including without limitation museum, cultural, or arts facilities or structures, should be able to use the local improvement district financing of municipalities." [1987 c 242 § 1.]

**35.43.010 Terms defined.** Whenever the words "city council" or "town council" are used in this and the following chapters relating to municipal local improvements, they shall be construed to mean the council or other legislative body of such city or town. Whenever the word "mayor" is used therein, it shall be construed to mean the presiding officer of said city or town. Whenever the words "installment" or "installments" are used therein, they shall be construed to include installment or installments of interest. Whenever the words "local improvement," "local improvements," or "municipal local improvements" are used therein, they shall be construed to include improvements owned or operated by a public corporation or by a public corporation and a city, town, or another public corporation. Whenever the words "public corporation" are used therein, they shall mean a public corporation, commission, or authority created pursuant to RCW 35.21.730 through 35.21.755. [1987 c 242 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.43.010. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 117 § 2; 1911 c 98 § 68; RRS § 9421.]

**Policy—1987 c 242:** See note following RCW 35.43.005.

**35.43.020 Construction.** The rule that statutes in derogation of the common law are to be strictly construed shall have no application to this and the following chapters relating to municipal local improvements but the same shall be liberally construed for the purpose of carrying out the objects for which intended. [1965 c 7 § 35.43.020. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 69; RRS § 9422.]

**35.43.030 Charters superseded—Application—Ordinances—Districts outside city authorized.** This and the following chapters relating to municipal local improvements shall supersede the provisions of the charter of any city of the first class.

They shall apply to all incorporated cities and towns, including unclassified cities and towns operating under special charters.

The council of each city and town shall pass such general ordinance or ordinances as may be necessary to carry out their provisions and thereafter all proceedings relating to local improvements shall be conducted in accordance with this and the following chapters relating to municipal local improvements and the ordinance or ordinances of such city or town.

Cities or towns may form local improvement districts or utility local improvement districts composed entirely or in part of unincorporated territory outside of such city or town's corporate limits in the manner provided in this

chapter. [1971 ex.s. c 116 § 4; 1967 c 52 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.43.030. Prior: 1963 c 56 § 1; prior: (i) 1911 c 98 § 60; 1899 c 146 § 1; RRS § 9413. (ii) 1911 c 98 § 67; RRS § 9420. (iii) 1911 c 98 § 71; RRS § 9424.]

**Construction—Severability—1967 c 52:** See notes following RCW 35.43.042.

**35.43.035 Creation of district outside city subject to review by boundary review board.** The creation of a local improvement district outside of the boundaries of a city or town to provide water or sewer facilities may be subject to potential review by a boundary review board under chapter 36.93 RCW. [1989 c 84 § 30.]

**35.43.040 Authority generally.** Whenever the public interest or convenience may require, the legislative authority of any city or town may order the whole or any part of any local improvement including but not restricted to those, or any combination thereof, listed below to be constructed, reconstructed, repaired, or renewed and landscaping including but not restricted to the planting, setting out, cultivating, maintaining, and renewing of shade or ornamental trees and shrubbery thereon; may order any and all work to be done necessary for completion thereof; and may levy and collect special assessments on property specially benefited thereby to pay the whole or any part of the expense thereof, viz:

(1) Alleys, avenues, boulevards, lanes, park drives, parkways, parking facilities, public places, public squares, public streets, their grading, regrading, planking, replanking, paving, repaving, macadamizing, remacadamizing, graveling, regraveling, piling, repiling, capping, recapping, or other improvement; if the management and control of park drives, parkways, and boulevards is vested in a board of park commissioners, the plans and specifications for their improvement must be approved by the board of park commissioners before their adoption;

(2) Auxiliary water systems;

(3) Auditoriums, field houses, gymnasiums, swimming pools, or other recreational, playground, museum, cultural, or arts facilities or structures;

(4) Bridges, culverts, and trestles and approaches thereto;

(5) Bulkheads and retaining walls;

(6) Dikes and embankments;

(7) Drains, sewers, and sewer appurtenances which as to trunk sewers shall include as nearly as possible all the territory which can be drained through the trunk sewer and subsewers connected thereto;

(8) Escalators or moving sidewalks together with the expense of operation and maintenance;

(9) Parks and playgrounds;

(10) Sidewalks, curbing, and crosswalks;

(11) Street lighting systems together with the expense of furnishing electrical energy, maintenance, and operation;

(12) Underground utilities transmission lines;

(13) Water mains, hydrants, and appurtenances which as to trunk water mains shall include as nearly as possible all the territory in the zone or district to which water may be distributed from the trunk water mains through lateral service and distribution mains and services;

(14) Fences, culverts, syphons, or coverings or any other feasible safeguards along, in place of, or over open canals or ditches to protect the public from the hazards thereof;

(15) Roadbeds, trackage, signalization, storage facilities for rolling stock, overhead and underground wiring, and any other stationary equipment reasonably necessary for the operation of an electrified public streetcar line;

(16) Systems of surface, underground, or overhead railways, tramways, buses, or any other means of local transportation except taxis, and including passenger, terminal, station parking, and related facilities and properties, and such other facilities as may be necessary for passenger and vehicular access to and from such terminal, station, parking, and related facilities and properties, together with all lands, rights of way, property, equipment, and accessories necessary for such systems and facilities;

(17) Convention center facilities or structures in cities imposing a special excise tax pursuant to RCW 67.40.100(2). Assessments for purposes of convention center facilities or structures may be levied only to the extent necessary to cover a funding shortfall that occurs when funds received from special excise taxes imposed pursuant to RCW 67.28.180 and 67.40.100(2) are insufficient to fund the annual debt service for such facilities or structures, and may not be levied on property exclusively maintained as single-family or multifamily permanent residences whether they are rented, leased, or owner occupied; and

(18) Programs of aquatic plant control, lake or river restoration, or water quality enhancement. Such programs shall identify all the area of any lake or river which will be improved and shall include the adjacent waterfront property specially benefited by such programs of improvements. Assessments may be levied only on waterfront property including any waterfront property owned by the department of natural resources or any other state agency. Notice of an assessment on a private leasehold in public property shall comply with provisions of chapter 79.44 RCW. Programs under this subsection shall extend for a term of not more than five years. [1989 c 277 § 1; 1985 c 397 § 1; 1983 c 291 § 1; 1981 c 17 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 258 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.43.040. Prior: 1959 c 75 § 1; 1957 c 144 § 2; prior: (i) 1911 c 98 § 1; RRS § 9352. (ii) 1945 c 190 § 1, part; 1915 c 168 § 6, part; 1913 c 131 § 1, part; 1911 c 98 § 6, part; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 9357, part. (iii) 1911 c 98 § 15; RRS § 9367. (iv) 1911 c 98 § 58, part; RRS § 9411, part.]

**Authority supplemental—Severability—1985 c 397:** See RCW 35.51.900 and 35.51.901.

**35.43.042 Authority to establish utility local improvement districts—Procedure.** Whenever the legislative authority of any city or town has provided pursuant to law for the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, purchase, condemnation and purchase, addition to, repair, or renewal of the whole or any portion of a:

(1) System for providing the city or town and the inhabitants thereof with water, which system includes as a whole or as a part thereof water mains, hydrants or appurtenances which are authorized subjects for local improvements under RCW 35.43.040(13) or other law; or a

(2) System for providing the city or town with sewerage and storm or surface water disposal, which system includes as a whole or as a part thereof drains, sewers or sewer

appurtenances which are authorized subjects for local improvements under RCW 35.43.040(7) or other law; or

(3) Off-street parking facilities; and

Has further provided in accordance with any applicable provisions of the Constitution or statutory authority for the issuance and sale of revenue bonds to pay the cost of all or a portion of any such system, such legislative authority shall have the authority to establish utility local improvement districts, and to levy special assessments on all property specially benefited by any such local improvement to pay in whole or in part the damages or costs of any local improvements so provided for.

The initiation and formation of such utility local improvement districts and the levying, collection and enforcement of assessments shall be in the manner and subject to the same procedures and limitations as are now or hereafter provided by law for the initiation and formation of local improvement districts in cities and towns and the levying, collection and enforcement of assessments pursuant thereto.

It must be specified in any petition or resolution initiating the formation of such a utility local improvement district in a city or town and in the ordinance ordered pursuant thereto, that the assessments shall be for the sole purpose of payment into such revenue bond fund as may be specified by the legislative authority for the payment of revenue bonds issued to defray the cost of such system or facilities or any portion thereof as provided for in this section.

Assessments in any such utility local improvement district may be made on the basis of special benefits up to but not in excess of the total cost of the local improvements portion of any system or facilities payable by issuance of revenue bonds. No warrants or bonds shall be issued in any such utility local improvement district, but the collection of interest and principal on all assessments in such utility local improvement district, when collected, shall be paid into any such revenue bond fund.

When in the petition or resolution for establishment of a local improvement district and in the ordinance ordered pursuant thereto, it is specified or provided that the assessments shall be for the sole purpose of payment into a revenue bond fund for the payment of revenue bonds, then the local improvement district shall be designated a "utility local improvement district".

The provisions of chapters 35.45, 35.47 and 35.48 RCW shall have no application to utility local improvement districts created under authority of this section. [1969 ex.s. c 258 § 2; 1967 c 52 § 1.]

**Construction—1967 c 52:** "The authority granted by this 1967 amendatory act shall be considered an alternative and additional method of securing payment of revenue bonds issued for the purposes specified in RCW 35.43.042 and shall not be construed as a restriction or limitation upon any other method for providing for the payment of any such revenue bonds." [1967 c 52 § 27.]

**Severability—1967 c 52:** "If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1967 c 52 § 29.]

The above two annotations apply to 1967 c 52. For codification of that act, see Codification Tables, Volume 0.

**35.43.043 Conversion of local improvement district into utility local improvement district.** The legislative authority of any city or town may by ordinance convert any then existing local improvement district into a utility local improvement district at any time prior to the adoption of an ordinance approving and confirming the final assessment roll of such local improvement district. The ordinance so converting the local improvement district shall provide for the payment of the special assessments levied in that district into the special fund established or to be established for the payment of revenue bonds issued to defray the cost of the local improvement in that district. [1967 c 52 § 28.]

**Construction—Severability—1967 c 52:** See notes following RCW 35.43.042.

**35.43.045 Open canals or ditches—Safeguards.** Every city or town shall have the right of entry upon all irrigation, drainage, or flood control canal or ditch rights of way within its limits for all purposes necessary to safeguard the public from the hazards of such open canals or ditches, and the right to cause to be constructed, installed, and maintained upon or adjacent to such rights of way safeguards as provided in RCW 35.43.040: PROVIDED, That such safeguards must not unreasonably interfere with maintenance of the canal or ditch or with the operation thereof. The city or town, at its option, notwithstanding any laws to the contrary, may require the irrigation, drainage, flood control, or other district, agency, person, corporation, or association maintaining the canal or ditch to supervise the installation and construction of such safeguards, or to maintain the same. If such option is exercised reimbursement must be made by the city or town for all actual costs thereof. [1965 c 7 § 35.43.045. Prior: 1959 c 75 § 2.]

*Safeguarding open canals or ditches, assessments: RCW 35.43.040, 35.43.045, 36.88.015, 36.88.350, 36.88.380 through 36.88.400, 87.03.480, 87.03.526.*

**35.43.050 Authority—Noncontinuous improvements.** When the legislative body of any city or town finds that all of the property within a local improvement district or utility local improvement district will be benefited by the improvements as a whole, a local improvement district or utility local improvement district may include adjoining, vicinal, or neighboring streets, avenues, and alleys or other improvements even though the improvements thus made are not connected or continuous. The assessment rates may be ascertained on the basis of the special benefit of the improvements as a whole to the properties within the entire local improvement district or utility local improvement district, or on the basis of the benefit of each unit of the improvements to the properties specially benefited by that unit, or the assessment rates may be ascertained by a combination of the two bases. Where no finding is made by the legislative body as to the benefit of the improvements as a whole to all of the property within a local improvement district or utility local improvement district, the cost and expense of each continuous unit of the improvements shall be ascertained separately, as near as may be, and the assessment rates shall be computed on the basis of the cost and expense of each unit. In the event of the initiation of a local improvement district authorized by this section or a utility local improvement district authorized by this section,

the legislative body may, in its discretion, eliminate from the district any unit of the improvement which is not connected or continuous and may proceed with the balance of the improvement within the local improvement district or utility local improvement district, as fully and completely as though the eliminated unit had not been included within the improvement district, without the giving of any notices to the property owners remaining within the district, other than such notices as are required by the provisions of this chapter to be given subsequent to such elimination. [1985 c 397 § 2; 1967 c 52 § 3; 1965 c 7 § 35.43.050. Prior: 1957 c 144 § 14; prior: 1947 c 155 § 1, part; 1941 c 90 § 1, part; 1915 c 168 § 2, part; 1911 c 98 § 13, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 9365, part.]

**Authority supplemental—Severability—1985 c 397:** See RCW 35.51.900 and 35.51.901.

**Construction—Severability—1967 c 52:** See notes following RCW 35.43.042.

**35.43.060 Consolidated cities—Procedure.** The city council of any city which is composed of two or more cities or towns which have been or may hereafter be consolidated may make and pass all resolutions, orders and ordinances necessary for any assessment where the improvement was made or was being made by a component city or town prior to consolidation. [1965 c 7 § 35.43.060. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 64; RRS § 9417.]

**35.43.070 Ordinance—Action on petition or resolution.** A local improvement may be ordered only by an ordinance of the city or town council, pursuant to either a resolution or petition therefor. The ordinance must receive the affirmative vote of at least a majority of the members of the council.

Charters of cities of the first class may prescribe further limitations. In cities and towns other than cities of the first class, the ordinance must receive the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the members of the council if, prior to its passage, written objections to its enactment are filed with the city clerk by or on behalf of the owners of a majority of the lineal frontage of the improvement and of the area within the limits of the proposed improvement district. [1965 c 7 § 35.43.070. Prior: (i) 1911 c 98 § 8; RRS § 9359. (ii) 1911 c 98 § 66; RRS § 9419.]

**35.43.075 Petition for district outside city may be denied.** Whenever the formation of a local improvement district or utility local improvement district which lies entirely or in part outside of a city or town's corporate limits is initiated by petition the legislative authority of the city or town may by a majority vote deny the petition and refuse to form the local improvement district or utility local improvement district. [1967 c 52 § 4; 1965 c 7 § 35.43.075. Prior: 1963 c 56 § 3.]

**Construction—Severability—1967 c 52:** See notes following RCW 35.43.042.

**35.43.080 Ordinance—Creation of district.** Every ordinance ordering a local improvement to be paid in whole or in part by assessments against the property specially benefited shall describe the improvement and establish a

local improvement district to be known as "local improvement district No. . . .," or a utility local improvement district to be known as "utility local improvement district No. . . ." which shall embrace as nearly as practicable all the property specially benefited by the improvement. [1969 ex.s. c 258 § 3; 1967 c 52 § 5; 1965 c 7 § 35.43.080. Prior: 1957 c 144 § 15; prior: (i) 1947 c 155 § 1, part; 1941 c 90 § 1, part; 1915 c 168 § 2, part; 1911 c 98 § 13, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 9365, part. (ii) 1929 c 97 § 2; 1911 c 98 § 14; RRS § 9366.]

**Construction—Severability—1967 c 52:** See notes following RCW 35.43.042.

**35.43.100 Ordinance—Finality—Limitation upon challenging jurisdiction or authority to proceed.** The council may continue the hearing upon any petition or resolution provided for in this chapter and shall retain jurisdiction thereof until it is finally disposed of. The action and decision of the council as to all matters passed upon by it in relation to any petition or resolution shall be final and conclusive. No lawsuit whatsoever may be maintained challenging the jurisdiction or authority of the council to proceed with the improvement and creating the local improvement district or in any way challenging the validity thereof or any proceedings relating thereto unless that lawsuit is served and filed no later than thirty days after the date of passage of the ordinance ordering the improvement and creating the district or, when applicable, no later than thirty days after the expiration of the thirty-day protest period provided in RCW 35.43.180. [1969 ex.s. c 258 § 4; 1965 c 7 § 35.43.100. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 19; RRS § 9371.]

**35.43.110 Petition—Mandatory, when.** Proceedings to establish local improvement districts must be initiated by petition in the following cases:

(1) Any local improvement payable in whole or in part by special assessments which includes a charge for the cost and expense of operation and maintenance of escalators or moving sidewalks shall be initiated only upon a petition signed by the owners of two-thirds of the lineal frontage upon the improvement to be made and two-thirds of the area within the limits of the proposed improvement district;

(2) If the management of park drives, parkways, and boulevards of a city has been vested in a board of park commissioners or similar authority: **PROVIDED**, That the proceedings may be initiated by a resolution, if the ordinance is passed at the request of the park board or similar authority therefor specifying the particular drives, parkways, or boulevards, or portions thereof to be improved and the nature of the improvement. [1981 c 313 § 10; 1965 c 7 § 35.43.110. Prior: 1957 c 144 § 3; prior: (i) 1911 c 98 § 58, part; RRS § 9411, part. (ii) 1945 c 190 § 1, part; 1915 c 168 § 6, part; 1913 c 131 § 1, part; 1911 c 98 § 6, part; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 9357, part.]

**Severability—1981 c 313:** See note following RCW 36.94.020.

**35.43.120 Petition—Requirements.** Any local improvement may be initiated upon a petition signed by the owners of property aggregating a majority of the area within the proposed district. The petition must briefly describe: (1) The nature of the proposed improvement, (2) the territorial

extent of the proposed improvement, (3) what proportion of the area within the proposed district is owned by the petitioners as shown by the records in the office of the county auditor, and (4) the fact that actual assessments may vary from assessment estimates so long as they do not exceed a figure equal to the increased true and fair value the improvement, or street lighting, adds to the property.

If any of the property within the area of the proposed district stands in the name of a deceased person, or of any person for whom a guardian has been appointed and not discharged, the signature of the executor, administrator, or guardian, as the case may be, shall be equivalent to the signature of the owner of the property on the petition. The petition must be filed with the clerk or with such other officer as the city or town by charter or ordinance may require. [1989 c 243 § 1; 1981 c 323 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 258 § 5; 1965 c 7 § 35.43.120. Prior: 1957 c 144 § 6; prior: 1911 c 98 § 9, part; RRS § 9360, part.]

**35.43.125 Petition—Notice and public hearing required.** A public hearing shall be held on the creation of a proposed local improvement district or utility local improvement district that is initiated by petition. Notice requirements for this public hearing shall be the same as for the public hearing on the creation of a proposed local improvement district or utility local improvement district that is initiated by resolution. [1987 c 315 § 2.]

**35.43.130 Preliminary estimates and assessment roll.** Upon the filing of a petition or upon the adoption of a resolution, as the case may be, initiating a proceeding for the formation of a local improvement district or utility local improvement district, the proper board, officer, or authority designated by charter or ordinance to make the preliminary estimates and assessment roll shall cause an estimate to be made of the cost and expense of the proposed improvement and certify it to the legislative authority of the city or town together with all papers and information in its possession touching the proposed improvement, a description of the boundaries of the district, and a statement of what portion of the cost and expense of the improvement should be borne by the property within the proposed district.

If the proceedings were initiated by petition the designated board, officer or authority shall also determine the sufficiency of the petition and whether the facts set forth therein are true. If the petition is found to be sufficient and in all proceedings initiated by resolution of the legislative authority of the city or town, the estimates must be accompanied by a diagram showing thereon the lots, tracts, and parcels of land and other property which will be specially benefited by the proposed improvement and the estimated amount of the cost and expense thereof to be borne by each lot, tract, or parcel of land or other property: **PROVIDED**, That no such diagram shall be required where such estimates are on file in the office of the city engineer, or other designated city office, together with a detailed copy of the preliminary assessment roll and the plans and assessment maps of the proposed improvement.

For the purpose of estimating and levying local improvement assessments, the value of property of the United States, of the state, or of any county, city, town, school

district, or other public corporation whose property is not assessed for general taxes shall be computed according to the standards afforded by similarly situated property which is assessed for general taxes. [1983 c 303 § 1; 1967 c 52 § 6; 1965 c 7 § 35.43.130. Prior: 1957 c 144 § 7; prior: 1953 c 26 § 1. (i) 1911 c 98 § 9, part; RRS § 9360, part. (ii) 1929 c 97 § 1, part; 1911 c 98 § 10, part; RRS § 9361, part. (iii) 1949 c 28 § 1, part; 1931 c 85 § 1, part; 1927 c 109 § 1, part; 1923 c 135 § 1, part; 1921 c 128 § 1, part; 1915 c 168 § 1, part; 1911 c 98 § 12, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9363, part. (iv) 1927 c 209 § 4, part; 1923 c 141 § 4, part; RRS § 9351-4, part.]

**Severability—1983 c 303:** See RCW 36.60.905.

**Construction—Severability—1967 c 52:** See notes following RCW 35.43.042.

**35.43.140 Resolutions—Contents, publication—Hearing, by whom held.** Any local improvement to be paid for in whole or in part by the levy and collection of assessments upon the property within the proposed improvement district may be initiated by a resolution of the city or town council or other legislative authority of the city or town, declaring its intention to order the improvement, setting forth the nature and territorial extent of the improvement, containing a statement that actual assessments may vary from assessment estimates so long as they do not exceed a figure equal to the increased true and fair value the improvement, or street lighting, adds to the property, and notifying all persons who may desire to object thereto to appear and present their objections at a time to be fixed therein.

In the case of trunk sewers and trunk water mains the resolution must describe the routes along which the trunk sewer, subsewer and branches of trunk water main and laterals are to be constructed.

In case of dikes or other structures to protect the city or town or any part thereof from overflow or to open, deepen, straighten, or enlarge watercourses, waterways and other channels the resolution must set forth the place of commencement and ending thereof and the route to be used.

In the case of auxiliary water systems, or extensions thereof or additions thereto for protection of the city or town or any part thereof from fire, the resolution must set forth the routes along which the auxiliary water system or extensions thereof or additions thereto are to be constructed and specifications of the structures or works necessary thereto or forming a part thereof.

The resolution shall be published in at least two consecutive issues of the official newspaper of the city or town, the first publication to be at least fifteen days before the day fixed for the hearing.

The hearing herein required may be held before the city or town council, or other legislative authority, or before a committee thereof. The legislative authority of a city or town may designate an officer to conduct the hearings. The committee or hearing officer shall report recommendations on the resolution to the legislative authority for final action. [1994 c 71 § 2; 1989 c 243 § 2; 1985 c 469 § 29; 1984 c 203 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.43.140. Prior: 1957 c 144 § 8; prior: 1953 c 177 § 1. (i) 1929 c 97 § 1, part; 1911 c 98 § 10, part; RRS § 9361, part. (ii) 1911 c 98 § 16, part; RRS

§ 9368, part. (iii) 1911 c 98 § 17, part; RRS § 9369, part. (iv) 1911 c 98 § 18, part; RRS § 9370, part.]

**Severability—1984 c 203:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1984 c 203 § 10.]

**35.43.150 Resolutions—Hearing upon—Notice.** Notice of the hearing upon a resolution declaring the intention of the legislative authority of a city or town to order an improvement shall be given by mail at least fifteen days before the day fixed for hearing to the owners or reputed owners of all lots, tracts, and parcels of land or other property to be specially benefited by the proposed improvement, as shown on the rolls of the county assessor, directed to the address thereon shown.

The notice shall set forth the nature of the proposed improvement, the estimated cost, a statement that actual assessments may vary from assessment estimates so long as they do not exceed a figure equal to the increased true and fair value the improvement, or street lighting, adds to the property, and the estimated benefits of the particular lot, tract, or parcel. [1989 c 243 § 3; 1983 c 303 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.43.150. Prior: 1957 c 144 § 9; prior: 1929 c 97 § 1, part; 1911 c 98 § 10, part; RRS § 9361, part.]

**Severability—1983 c 303:** See RCW 36.60.905.

**35.43.180 Restraint by protest.** The jurisdiction of the legislative authority of a city or town to proceed with any local improvement initiated by resolution shall be divested by a protest filed with the city or town council within thirty days from the date of passage of the ordinance ordering the improvement, signed by the owners of the property within the proposed local improvement district or utility local improvement district subject to sixty percent or more of the total cost of the improvement including federally-owned or other nonassessable property as shown and determined by the preliminary estimates and assessment roll of the proposed improvement district or, if all or part of the local improvement district or utility local improvement district lies outside of the city or town, such jurisdiction shall be divested by a protest filed in the same manner and signed by the owners of property which is within the proposed local improvement district or utility local improvement district but outside the boundaries of the city or town, and which is subject to sixty percent or more of that part of the total cost of the improvement allocable to property within the proposed local improvement district or utility local improvement district but outside the boundaries of the city or town, including federally-owned or other nonassessable property: **PROVIDED,** That such restraint by protest shall not apply to any of the following local improvements, if the legislative body finds and recites in the ordinance or resolution authorizing the improvement that such improvement is necessary for the protection of the public health and safety and such ordinance or resolution is passed by unanimous vote of all members present: (1) Sanitary sewers or water mains where the health officer of the city or town, or department of ecology, files with the legislative authority a report showing the necessity for such improvement; and (2) fire hydrants where the chief of the fire department files a report showing the necessity for such improvement. [1983 c 303 § 3; 1967

c 52 § 8; 1965 c 58 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.43.180. Prior: 1963 c 56 § 2; 1957 c 144 § 12; prior: 1949 c 28 § 1, part; 1931 c 85 § 1, part; 1927 c 109 § 1, part; 1923 c 135 § 1, part; 1921 c 128 § 1, part; 1915 c 168 § 1, part; 1911 c 98 § 12, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9363, part.]

**Severability—1983 c 303:** See RCW 36.60.905.

**Construction—Severability—1967 c 52:** See notes following RCW 35.43.042.

**35.43.182 Waivers of protest—Recording—Limits on enforceability.** If an owner of property enters into an agreement with a city or town waiving the property owner's right under RCW 35.43.180 to protest formation of a local improvement district, the agreement must specify the improvements to be financed by the district and shall set forth the effective term of the agreement, which shall not exceed ten years. The agreement must be recorded with the auditor of the county in which the property is located. It is against public policy and void for an owner, by agreement, as a condition imposed in connection with proposed property development, or otherwise, to waive rights to object to the property owner's individual assessment (including the determination of special benefits allocable to the property), or to appeal to the superior court the decision of the city or town council affirming the final assessment roll. [1988 c 179 § 8.]

**Severability—Prospective application—Section captions—1988 c 179:** See RCW 39.92.900 and 39.92.901.

**35.43.184 Preformation expenditures.** The city or town engineer or other designated official may contract with owners of real property to provide for payment by the owners of the cost of the preparation of engineering plans, surveys, studies, appraisals, legal services, and other expenses associated with improvements to be financed in whole or in part by a local improvement district (not including the cost of actual construction of such improvements), that the owners elect to undertake. The contract may provide for reimbursement to the owner of such costs from the proceeds of bonds issued by the district after formation of a district under this chapter, from assessments paid to the district as appropriate, or by a credit in the amount of such costs against future assessments assessed against such property under the district. Such reimbursement shall be made to the owner of the property at the time of reimbursement. The contract shall also provide that such costs shall not be reimbursed to the owner if a district to construct the specified improvements (as the project may be amended) is not formed within six years of the date of the contract. The contract shall provide that any preformation work shall be conducted only under the direction of the city or town engineer or other appropriate city or town authority. [1988 c 179 § 9.]

**Severability—Prospective application—Section captions—1988 c 179:** See RCW 39.92.900 and 39.92.901.

**35.43.186 Credits for other assessments.** A city or town ordering a local improvement upon which special assessments on property specifically benefited by the improvement are levied and collected, may provide as part of the ordinance creating the local improvement district that

moneys paid or the cost of facilities constructed by a property owner in the district in satisfaction of obligations under chapter 39.92 RCW, shall be credited against assessments due from the owner of such property at the time the credit is made, if those moneys paid or facilities constructed directly defray the cost of the specified improvements under the district and if credit for such amounts is reflected in the final assessment roll confirmed for the district. [1988 c 179 § 10.]

**Severability—Prospective application—Section captions—1988 c 179:** See RCW 39.92.900 and 39.92.901.

**35.43.188 Assessment reimbursement accounts.** A city or town ordering a local improvement upon which special assessments on property specifically benefited by the improvement are levied and collected, may provide as part of the ordinance creating the local improvement district that the payment of an assessment levied for the district on underdeveloped properties may be made by owners of other properties within the district, if they so elect, subject to terms of reimbursement set forth in the ordinance. The terms for reimbursement shall require the owners of underdeveloped properties on whose behalf payments of assessments have been made to reimburse all such assessment payments to the party who made them when those properties are developed or redeveloped, together with interest at a rate specified in the ordinance. The ordinance may provide that reimbursement shall be made on a one-time, lump sum basis, or may provide that reimbursement shall be made over a period not to exceed five years. The ordinance may provide that reimbursement shall be made no later than the time of dissolution of the district, or may provide that no reimbursement is due if the underdeveloped properties are not developed or redeveloped before the dissolution of the district. Reimbursement amounts due from underdeveloped properties under this section are liens upon the underdeveloped properties in the same manner and with like effect as assessments made under this chapter. For the purposes of this section, "underdeveloped properties" may include those properties that, in the discretion of the legislative body of the city or town, (1) are undeveloped or are not developed to their highest and best use, and (2) are likely to be developed or redeveloped before the dissolution of the district. [1988 c 179 § 11.]

**Severability—Prospective application—Section captions—1988 c 179:** See RCW 39.92.900 and 39.92.901.

**35.43.190 Work—By contract or by city or public corporation.** All local improvements, the funds for the making of which are derived in whole or in part from assessments upon property specially benefited shall be made by contract on competitive bids whenever the estimated cost of such improvement including the cost of materials, supplies, labor, and equipment will exceed the sum of five thousand dollars. The city, town, or public corporation may reject any and all bids. The city, town, or public corporation itself may make the local improvements if all the bids received exceed by ten percent preliminary cost estimates prepared by an independent consulting engineer or registered professional engineer retained for that purpose by the city, town, or



public corporation. [1987 c 242 § 3; 1971 ex.s. c 116 § 6; 1965 c 7 § 35.43.190. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 59; RRS § 9412.]

**Policy—1987 c 242:** See note following RCW 35.43.005.

**35.43.200 Street railways at expense of property benefited.** Any city or town in this state owning and operating a municipal street railway over one hundred miles of track shall have power to provide for purchasing, or otherwise acquiring, or constructing and equipping surface, subway and elevated street railways and extensions thereof, and to levy and collect special assessments on property specially benefited thereby, for paying the cost and expense of the same or any portion thereof, as hereinafter provided. [1965 c 7 § 35.43.200. Prior: 1923 c 176 § 1; RRS § 9425-1.]

**35.43.210 Street railways at expense of property benefited—Petition—Assessment district.** Any improvement district created under RCW 35.43.200-35.43.230 shall be created only by ordinance defining its boundaries as specified and described in the petition therefor and specifying the plan or system therein provided for; and shall be initiated only upon a petition therefor, specifying and describing the boundaries of such district and specifying the plan or system of proposed improvement, signed by the owners of at least sixty percent of the lineal frontage upon the proposed improvement and of at least fifty percent of the area within the limits of the proposed improvement district: PROVIDED, That the city council may in its discretion reject any such petition. [1965 c 7 § 35.43.210. Prior: 1923 c 176 § 2; RRS § 9425-2.]

**35.43.220 Street railways at expense of property benefited—Assessment of cost.** The cost and expense of any such improvement shall be distributed and assessed against all the property included in such local improvement district, in accordance with the special benefits conferred thereon. [1965 c 7 § 35.43.220. Prior: 1923 c 176 § 3; RRS § 9425-3.]

**35.43.230 Street railways at expense of property benefited—Procedure.** Except as herein otherwise provided all matters and proceedings relating to such local improvement district, the levying and collecting of assessments, the issuance and redemption of local improvement warrants and bonds, and the enforcement of local assessment liens hereunder shall be governed by the laws relating to local improvements; and all matters and proceedings relating to the purchase, acquisition, or construction and equipment of the improvement and the operation of the same hereunder and the issuance and redemption of utility bonds and warrants, if any, and the use of general or utility funds, if any, in connection with the purchase, acquisition, construction, equipping, or operation of the improvement shall be governed by the laws relating to municipal public utilities. [1965 c 7 § 35.43.230. Prior: 1923 c 176 § 4; RRS § 9425-4.]

**35.43.250 Deferral of collection of assessments for economically disadvantaged persons—Authorized.** Any

city of the first class in this state ordering any local improvement upon which shall be levied and collected special assessments on property specifically benefited thereby may provide as part of the ordinance creating any local improvement district that the collection of any assessment levied therefor may be deferred until a time previous to the dissolution of the district for those economically disadvantaged property owners or other persons who, under the terms of a recorded contract of purchase, recorded mortgage, recorded deed of trust transaction or recorded lease are responsible under penalty of forfeiture, foreclosure or default as between vendor/vendee, mortgagor/mortgagee, grantor and trustor/trustee and grantee, and beneficiary and lender, or lessor and lessee for the payment of local improvement district assessments, and in the manner specified in the ordinance qualify for such deferment, upon assurance of property security for the payment thereof. [1972 ex.s. c 137 § 2.]

**Severability—1972 ex.s. c 137:** See note following RCW 35.49.010.

**35.43.260 Service fees for sewers not constructed within ten years after voter approval—Credit against future assessments, service charges.** Any municipal corporation, quasi municipal corporation, or political subdivision which has the authority to install sewers by establishing local improvement districts, which has charged and collected monthly service fees for sewers, that have been authorized and approved by the voters and have not been constructed for a period of ten or more years since the voter approval, is hereby authorized and directed to grant a credit against the future assessment to be assessed at the time of actual completion of construction of the sewers for each parcel of real property in an amount equal in dollars to the total amount of service fees charged and collected since voter approval for each such parcel, plus interest at six percent compounded annually: PROVIDED, That if such service fees and interest exceed the future assessment for construction of the sewers, such excess funds shall be used to defray future sewer service charge fees.

It is the intent of the legislature that the provisions of this section are procedural and remedial and shall have retroactive effect. [1977 c 72 § 3.]

**35.43.270 Sanitary sewer or potable water facilities—Notice to certain property owners.** Whenever it is proposed that a local improvement district or utility local improvement district finance sanitary sewers or potable water facilities, additional notice of the public hearing on the proposed improvement district shall be mailed to the owners of any property located outside of the proposed improvement district that would be required as a condition of federal housing administration loan qualification, at the time of notice, to be connected to the specific sewer or water facilities installed by the local improvement district. The notice shall include information about this restriction. [1987 c 315 § 1.]

**35.43.280 Settlement of Indian claims.** (1) The settlement of Indian land and other claims against public and private property owners is declared to be in the interest of public health and safety, orderly government, environmental

protection, economic development, and the social well-being of the citizens of this state, and to specifically benefit the properties released from those claims.

It is the purpose of \*this act to encourage the settlement of such Indian land and other claims lawsuits by permitting the establishment and use of local improvement districts to finance all or a portion of the settlement costs of such lawsuits.

(2) A local improvement district may be established by a local government legislative authority to finance all or part of the settlement costs in an Indian land and other claims settlement related to public and private property located within the local government. The settlement of an Indian land claim lawsuit shall be deemed to be an improvement that may be financed in whole or in part through use of a local improvement district.

Except as expressly provided in this section, all matters relating to the establishment and operation of such a local improvement district, the levying and collection of special assessments, the issuance of local improvement district bonds and other obligations, and all related matters, shall be subject to the provisions of chapters 35.43 through 35.54 RCW. The resolution or petition initiating the creation of a local improvement district used to finance all or a portion of an Indian land and other claims settlement shall describe the general nature of the Indian land and other claims and the proposed settlement. The value of a contribution by any person, municipal corporation, political subdivision, or the state of money, real property, or personal property to the settlement of Indian land and other claims shall be credited to any assessment for a local improvement district under this section. [1989 1st ex.s. c 4 § 2.]

**\*Reviser's note:** "This act" consists of the enactment of this section, RCW 36.32.540, and an uncodified section.

**Severability—1989 1st ex.s. c 4:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1989 1st ex.s. c 4 § 4.]

## Chapter 35.44

### LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS—ASSESSMENTS AND REASSESSMENTS

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*Alternative method of assessment—Classification of property: RCW 35.51.030.*

*Deferral of special assessments: Chapter 84.38 RCW.*

**35.44.010 Assessment district—All property to be assessed—Basis.** All property included within the limits of a local improvement district or utility local improvement district shall be considered to be the property specially benefited by the local improvement and shall be the property to be assessed to pay the cost and expense thereof or such part thereof as may be chargeable against the property specially benefited. The cost and expense shall be assessed upon all the property in accordance with the special benefits conferred thereon. [1985 c 397 § 3; 1967 c 52 § 9; 1965 c 7 § 35.44.010. Prior: 1957 c 144 § 16; prior: 1947 c 155 § 1, part; 1941 c 90 § 1, part; 1915 c 168 § 2, part; 1911 c 98 § 13, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 9365, part.]

**Authority supplemental—Severability—1985 c 397:** See RCW 35.51.900 and 35.51.901.

**Construction—Severability—1967 c 52:** See notes following RCW 35.43.042.

**35.44.015 Special benefit assessments for farm and agricultural land—Exemption from assessments, etc.** See RCW 84.34.300 through 84.34.380 and 84.34.922.

**35.44.020 Assessment district—Cost items to be included.** There shall be included in the cost and expense of every local improvement for assessment against the property in the district created to pay the same, or any part thereof:

(1) The cost of all of the construction or improvement authorized for the district including, but not limited to, that portion of the improvement within the street intersections;

(2) The estimated cost and expense of all engineering and surveying necessary for the improvement done under the supervision of the city or town engineer;

(3) The estimated cost and expense of ascertaining the ownership of the lots or parcels of land included in the assessment district;

(4) The estimated cost and expense of advertising, mailing, and publishing all necessary notices;

(5) The estimated cost and expense of accounting, clerical labor, and of books and blanks extended or used on the part of the city or town clerk or city or town treasurer in connection with the improvement;

(6) All cost of the acquisition of rights of way, property, easements, or other facilities or rights, whether by eminent domain, purchase, gift, or in any other manner;

(7) The cost for legal, financial, and appraisal services and any other expenses incurred by the city, town, or public corporation for the district or in the formation thereof, or by the city, town, or public corporation in connection with such construction or improvement and in the financing thereof, including the issuance of any bonds and the cost of providing for increases in the local improvement guaranty fund, or providing for a separate reserve fund or other security for the payment of principal of and interest on such bonds.

Any of the costs set forth in this section may be excluded from the cost and expense to be assessed against the property in such local improvement district and may be paid from any other moneys available therefor if the legislative body of the city or town so designates by ordinance at any time. [1987 c 242 § 4; 1985 c 397 § 4; 1971 ex.s. c 116 § 8; 1969 ex.s. c 258 § 6; 1965 c 7 § 35.44.020. Prior: 1955 c 364 § 1; 1911 c 98 § 55; RRS § 9408.]

**Policy—1987 c 242:** See note following RCW 35.43.005.

**Authority supplemental—Severability—1985 c 397:** See RCW 35.51.900 and 35.51.901.

**35.44.030 Assessment district—Zones.** For the purpose of ascertaining the amount to be assessed against each separate lot, tract, parcel of land or other property therein, the local improvement district or utility local improvement district shall be divided into subdivisions or zones paralleling the margin of the street, avenue, lane, alley, boulevard, park drive, parkway, public place or public square to be improved, numbered respectively first, second, third, fourth, and fifth.

The first subdivision shall include all lands within the district lying between the street margins and lines drawn parallel therewith and thirty feet therefrom.

The second subdivision shall include all lands within the district lying between lines drawn parallel with and thirty and sixty feet respectively from the street margins.

The third subdivision shall include all lands within the district lying between lines drawn parallel with and sixty and ninety feet respectively from the street margins.

The fourth subdivision shall include all lands, if any, within the district lying between lines drawn parallel with and ninety and one hundred twenty feet respectively from the street margins.

The fifth subdivision shall include all lands, if any, within the district lying between a line drawn parallel with and one hundred twenty feet from the street margin and the

outer limit of the improvement district. [1967 c 52 § 10; 1965 c 7 § 35.44.030. Prior: 1957 c 144 § 17; prior: 1947 c 155 § 1, part; 1941 c 90 § 1, part; 1915 c 168 § 2, part; 1911 c 98 § 13, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 9365, part.]

**Construction—Severability—1967 c 52:** See notes following RCW 35.43.042.

**35.44.040 Assessment rate per square foot.** The rate of assessment per square foot in each subdivision of an improvement district shall be fixed on the basis that the special benefits conferred on a square foot of land in subdivisions first, second, third, fourth and fifth, respectively, are related to each other as are the numbers, forty-five, twenty-five, twenty, ten, and five, respectively, and shall be ascertained in the following manner:

(1) The products of the number of square feet in subdivisions first, second, third, fourth, and fifth, respectively, and the numbers forty-five, twenty-five, twenty, ten, and five, respectively, shall be ascertained;

(2) The aggregate sum thereof shall be divided into the total cost and expense of the improvement;

(3) The resultant quotient multiplied by forty-five, twenty-five, twenty, ten, and five, respectively, shall be the respective rate of assessment per square foot for subdivisions first, second, third, fourth and fifth: PROVIDED, That in lieu of the above formula the rate of assessment per square foot in each subdivision of an improvement district may be fixed on the basis that the special benefits conferred on a square foot of land in subdivisions first, second, third, fourth and fifth, respectively, are related to each other as are the numbers 0.015000, 0.008333, 0.006666, 0.003333, and 0.001666, respectively; and the method of determining the assessment on each lot, tract, or parcel of land in the improvement district may be ascertained in the following manner:

(1) The products of the number of square feet in subdivisions first, second, third, fourth and fifth, respectively, for each lot, tract or parcel of land in the improvement district and the numbers 0.015000, 0.008333, 0.006666, 0.003333 and 0.001666, respectively, shall be ascertained. The sum of all such products for each such lot, tract or parcel of land shall be the number of "assessable units of frontage" therein;

(2) The rate for each assessable unit of frontage shall be determined by dividing that portion of the total cost of the improvement representing special benefits by the aggregate sum of all assessable units of frontage;

(3) The assessment for each lot, tract or parcel of land in the improvement district shall be the product of the assessable units of frontage therefor, multiplied by the rate per assessable unit of frontage. [1965 c 7 § 35.44.040. Prior: 1957 c 144 § 18; prior: 1947 c 155 § 1, part; 1941 c 90 § 1, part; 1915 c 168 § 2, part; 1911 c 98 § 13, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 9365, part.]

**35.44.045 Open canals or ditches—Safeguards—Ascertaining assessments.** As an alternative to other methods of ascertaining assessments for local improvements, in a local improvement district established for safeguarding open canals or ditches, the district may be sectioned into subdivisions or zones paralleling the canal or ditch, num-

bered respectively, first, second, third and fourth. Each subdivision shall be equal to one-quarter of the width of the district as measured back from the margin of the canal right of way. The rate of assessment per square foot in each subdivision so formed shall be fixed on the basis that the special benefits conferred on a square foot of land in subdivisions first, second, third, and fourth, respectively, are related to each other as are the numbers, forty, thirty, twenty, and ten, respectively, and shall be ascertained in the following manner:

(1) The products of the number of square feet in subdivisions first, second, third, and fourth, respectively, and the numbers forty, thirty, twenty, and ten, respectively, shall be ascertained;

(2) The aggregate sum thereof shall be divided into the total cost and expense of the local improvement;

(3) The resultant quotient multiplied by forty, thirty, twenty, and ten, respectively, shall be the respective rate of assessment per square foot for each subdivision. [1965 c 7 § 35.44.045. Prior: 1959 c 75 § 3.]

*Safeguarding open canals or ditches, assessments: RCW 35.43.040, 35.43.045, 36.88.015, 36.88.350, 36.88.380 through 36.88.400, 87.03.480, 87.03.526.*

**35.44.047 Other methods of computing assessments may be used.** Notwithstanding the methods of assessment provided in RCW 35.44.030, 35.44.040 and 35.44.045, the city or town may use any other method or combination of methods to compute assessments which may be deemed to more fairly reflect the special benefits to the properties being assessed. The failure of the council to specifically recite in its ordinance ordering the improvement and creating the local improvement district that it will not use the zone and termini method of assessment shall not invalidate the use of any other method or methods of assessment. [1969 ex.s. c 258 § 7.]

**35.44.050 Assessment roll—Entry of assessments against property.** The total assessment thus ascertained against each separate lot, tract, parcel of land, or other property in the district shall be entered upon the assessment roll as the amount to be levied and assessed against each separate lot, tract, parcel of land, or other property. [1965 c 7 § 35.44.050. Prior: 1957 c 144 § 19; prior: 1947 c 155 § 1, part; 1941 c 90 § 1, part; 1915 c 168 § 2, part; 1911 c 98 § 13, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 9365, part.]

**35.44.060 Assessment roll—Diagram on preliminary survey not conclusive.** The diagram or print directed to be submitted to the council shall be in the nature of a preliminary determination by the designated administrative board, officer, or authority upon the method and relative estimated amounts of assessments to be levied upon the property specially benefited by the improvement and shall not be binding or conclusive in any way upon the board, officer, or authority in the preparation of the assessment roll for the improvement or upon the council in any hearing affecting the assessment roll. [1965 c 7 § 35.44.060. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 11; RRS § 9362.]

**35.44.070 Assessment roll—Filing—Hearing, date, by whom held.** The assessment roll for local improvements when prepared as provided by law shall be filed with the city or town clerk. The council or other legislative authority shall thereupon fix a date for a hearing thereon before such legislative authority or may direct that the hearing shall be held before a committee thereof or the legislative authority of any city or town may designate an officer to conduct such hearings. The committee or officer designated shall hold a hearing on the assessment roll and consider all objections filed following which the committee or officer shall make recommendations to such legislative authority which shall either adopt or reject the recommendations of the committee or officer. If a hearing is held before such a committee or officer it shall not be necessary to hold a hearing on the assessment roll before such legislative authority. A local ordinance shall provide for an appeal by any person protesting his or her assessment to the legislative authority of a decision made by such officer. The same procedure may if so directed by such legislative authority be followed with respect to any assessment upon the roll which is raised or changed to include omitted property. Such legislative authority shall direct the clerk to give notice of the hearing and of the time and place thereof. [1994 c 71 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 100 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.44.070. Prior: 1953 c 177 § 2; 1929 c 97 § 3, part; 1911 c 98 § 21, part; RRS § 9373, part.]

**35.44.080 Assessment roll—Notice of hearing.** The notice of hearing upon the assessment roll shall specify the time and place of hearing and shall notify all persons who may desire to object thereto:

(1) To make their objections in writing and to file them with the city or town clerk at or prior to the date fixed for the hearing;

(2) That at the time and place fixed and at times to which the hearing may be adjourned, the council will sit as a board of equalization for the purpose of considering the roll; and

(3) That at the hearing the council or committee or officer will consider the objections made and will correct, revise, raise, lower, change, or modify the roll or any part thereof or set aside the roll and order the assessment to be made de novo.

Following the hearing the council shall confirm the roll by ordinance. [1979 ex.s. c 100 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.44.080. Prior: 1929 c 97 § 3, part; 1911 c 98 § 21, part; RRS § 9373, part.]

**35.44.090 Assessment roll—Notice—Mailing—Publication.** At least fifteen days before the date fixed for hearing, notice thereof shall be mailed to the owner or reputed owner of the property whose name appears on the assessment roll, at the address shown on the tax rolls of the county treasurer for each item of property described on the list. In addition thereto the notice shall be published at least once a week for two consecutive weeks in the official newspaper of the city or town, the last publication to be at least fifteen days before the date fixed for hearing. [1986 c 278 § 48; 1985 c 469 § 30; 1965 c 7 § 35.44.090. Prior:

1929 c 97 § 3, part; 1911 c 98 § 21, part; RRS § 9373, part.]

**Severability—1986 c 278:** See note following RCW 36.01.010.

**35.44.100 Assessment roll—Hearing—Objections—Authority of council.** At the time fixed for hearing objections to the confirmation of the assessment roll, and at the times to which the hearing may be adjourned, the council may correct, revise, raise, lower, change, or modify the roll or any part thereof, or set aside the roll and order the assessment to be made de novo and at the conclusion thereof confirm the roll by ordinance. [1965 c 7 § 35.44.100. Prior: 1929 c 97 § 3, part; 1911 c 98 § 21, part; RRS § 9373, part.]

**35.44.110 Assessment roll—Objections—Timeliness.** All objections to the confirmation of the assessment roll shall state clearly the grounds of objections. Objections not made within the time and in the manner prescribed in this chapter shall be conclusively presumed to have been waived. [1965 c 7 § 35.44.110. Prior: 1929 c 97 § 3, part; 1911 c 98 § 21, part; RRS § 9373, part.]

**35.44.120 Assessment roll—Amendment—Procedure.** If an assessment roll is amended so as to raise any assessment appearing thereon or to include omitted property, a new time and place for hearing shall be fixed and a new notice of hearing on the roll given as in the case of an original hearing: PROVIDED, That as to any property originally entered upon the roll the assessment upon which has not been raised, no objections to confirmation of the assessment roll shall be considered by the council or by any court on appeal unless the objections were made in writing at or prior to the date fixed for the original hearing upon the assessment roll. [1965 c 7 § 35.44.120. Prior: 1929 c 97 § 3, part; 1911 c 98 § 21, part; RRS § 9373, part.]

**35.44.130 City property—Assessment.** Every city and town shall include in its annual tax levy an amount sufficient to pay all unpaid assessments with all interest, penalties, and charges thereon levied against all lands belonging to the city or town. The proceeds of such a portion of the tax levy shall be placed in a separate fund to be known as the "city (or town) property assessments redemption fund" and by the city or town treasurer inviolably applied in payment of any unpaid assessment liens on any lands belonging to the city or town. [1965 c 7 § 35.44.130. Prior: (i) 1929 c 183 § 1; 1909 c 130 § 1; RRS § 9344. (ii) 1929 c 183 § 2, part; 1909 c 130 § 2, part; RRS § 9345, part.]

**35.44.140 County property assessment.** All lands held or owned by any county in fee simple, in trust, or otherwise within the limits of a local improvement district or utility local improvement district of a city or town shall be assessed and charged for their proportion of the cost of the local improvement in the same manner as other property in the district and the county commissioners are authorized to cause the assessments to be paid at the times and in the manner provided by law and the ordinances of the city or

town. This section shall apply to all cities and towns, any charter or ordinance provision to the contrary notwithstanding. [1971 ex.s. c 116 § 9; 1967 c 52 § 11; 1965 c 7 § 35.44.140. Prior: (i) 1905 c 29 § 1; RRS § 9340. (ii) 1907 c 61 § 1; 1905 c 29 § 2; RRS § 9341. (iii) 1929 c 139 § 2; 1905 c 29 § 4; RRS § 9343.]

**Construction—Severability—1967 c 52:** See notes following RCW 35.43.042.

**35.44.150 Harbor area leaseholds—Assessment.** All leasehold rights and interests of private individuals, firms or corporations in or to harbor areas located within the limits of a city or town are declared to be real property for the purpose of assessment for the payment of the cost of local improvements. They may be assessed and reassessed in accordance with the special benefits received, which shall be limited to benefits accruing during the term of the lease, to the property subject to lease immediately abutting upon the improvement and extending one-half block therefrom not exceeding, however, three hundred fifty feet. [1965 c 7 § 35.44.150. Prior: 1915 c 134 § 1; RRS § 9364.]

**35.44.160 Leases on tidelands—Assessment.** All leases of tidelands owned in fee by the state are declared to be real property for the purpose of assessment for the payment of the cost of local improvements. [1965 c 7 § 35.44.160. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 56; RRS § 9409.]

**35.44.170 Metropolitan park district property—Assessment.** All lands held by a metropolitan park district in fee simple, in trust, or otherwise within the limits of a local improvement district in a city or town shall be assessed and charged for their proportion of the cost of all local improvements in the same manner as other property in the district. [1965 c 7 § 35.44.170. Prior: (i) 1929 c 204 § 1; RRS § 9343-1. (ii) 1929 c 204 § 2; RRS § 9343-2.]

**35.44.180 Notices—Mailing—Proof.** The mailing of any notice required in connection with municipal local improvements shall be conclusively proved by the written certificate of the officer, board, or authority directed by the provisions of the charter or ordinance of a city or town to give the notice. [1965 c 7 § 35.44.180. Prior: 1929 c 97 § 4; RRS § 9373-1.]

**35.44.190 Proceedings conclusive—Exceptions—Adjustments to assessments if other funds become available.** Whenever any assessment roll for local improvements has been confirmed by the council, the regularity, validity, and correctness of the proceedings relating to the improvement and to the assessment therefor, including the action of the council upon the assessment roll and the confirmation thereof shall be conclusive in all things upon all parties. They cannot in any manner be contested or questioned in any proceeding by any person unless he filed written objections to the assessment roll in the manner and within the time required by the provisions of this chapter and unless he prosecutes his appeal in the manner and within the time required by the provisions of this chapter.

No proceeding of any kind shall be commenced or prosecuted for the purpose of defeating or contesting any

assessment or the sale of any property to pay an assessment or any certificate of delinquency issued therefor, or the foreclosure of any lien therefor, except that injunction proceedings may be brought to prevent the sale of any real estate upon the ground (1) that the property about to be sold does not appear upon the assessment roll or, (2) that the assessment has been paid.

If federal, local, or state funds become available for a local improvement after the assessment roll has been confirmed by the city legislative authority, the funds may be used to lower the assessments on a uniform basis. Any adjustments to the assessments because of the availability of federal or state funds may be made on the next annual payment. [1985 c 397 § 9; 1965 c 7 § 35.44.190. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 23; RRS § 9375.]

**Severability—1985 c 397:** See RCW 35.51.901.

**35.44.200 Procedure on appeal—Perfecting appeal.** The decision of the council or other legislative body, upon any objections made in the manner and within the time herein prescribed, shall be final and conclusive, subject however to review by the superior court upon appeal. The appeal shall be made by filing written notice of appeal with the city or town clerk and with the clerk of the superior court of the county in which the city or town is situated. [1965 c 7 § 35.44.200. Prior: 1957 c 143 § 2; prior: 1911 c 98 § 22, part; RRS § 9374, part.]

**35.44.210 Procedure on appeal—Notice of appeal.** The notice of appeal must be filed within ten days after the ordinance confirming the assessment roll becomes effective and shall describe the property and set forth the objections of the appellant to the assessment. [1965 c 7 § 35.44.210. Prior: 1957 c 143 § 3; prior: 1911 c 98 § 22, part; RRS § 9374, part.]

**35.44.220 Procedure on appeal—Bond.** At the time of filing the notice of appeal with the clerk of the superior court, the appellant shall execute and file with him a sufficient bond in the penal sum of two hundred dollars, with at least two sureties to be approved by the judge of the court, conditioned to prosecute the appeal without delay and, if unsuccessful, to pay all reasonable costs and expenses which the city or town incurs by reason of the appeal. Upon application therefor, the court may order the appellant to execute and file such additional bonds as the necessity of the case may require. [1971 ex.s. c 116 § 3; 1969 ex.s. c 258 § 8; 1965 c 7 § 35.44.220. Prior: 1957 c 143 § 4; prior: 1911 c 98 § 22, part; RRS § 9374, part.]

**35.44.230 Procedure on appeal—Transcript.** Within ten days from the filing of the notice of appeal, the appellant shall file with the clerk of the superior court a transcript consisting of the assessment roll and his objections thereto, together with the ordinance confirming the assessment roll and the record of the council with reference to the assessment. This transcript, upon payment of the necessary fees therefor, shall be furnished by the city or town clerk and shall be certified by him to contain full, true and correct copies of all matters and proceedings required to be included in the transcript. The fees payable therefor shall be the same

as those payable to the clerk of the superior court for the preparation and certification of transcripts on appeal to the supreme court or the court of appeals in civil actions. [1971 c 81 § 90; 1965 c 7 § 35.44.230. Prior: 1957 c 143 § 5; prior: 1911 c 98 § 22, part; RRS § 9374, part.]

**35.44.240 Procedure on appeal—Notice of hearing.** Within three days after the filing of the transcript with the clerk of the superior court, the appellant shall give notice to the head of the legal department of the city or town and to its clerk that the transcript has been filed. The notice shall also state a time (not less than three days from the date of service thereof) when the appellant will call up the cause for hearing. [1965 c 7 § 35.44.240. Prior: 1957 c 143 § 6; prior: 1911 c 98 § 22, part; RRS § 9374, part.]

**35.44.250 Procedure on appeal—Hearing by superior court.** At the time fixed for hearing in the notice thereof or at such further time as may be fixed by the court, the superior court shall hear and determine the appeal without a jury and the cause shall have preference over all other civil causes except proceedings relating to eminent domain in cities and towns and actions of forcible entry and detainer. The judgment of the court shall confirm, unless the court shall find from the evidence that such assessment is founded upon a fundamentally wrong basis and/or the decision of the council or other legislative body thereon was arbitrary or capricious; in which event the judgment of the court shall correct, change, modify, or annul the assessment insofar as it affects the property of the appellant. [1969 ex.s. c 258 § 9; 1965 c 7 § 35.44.250. Prior: 1957 c 143 § 7; prior: 1911 c 98 § 22, part; RRS § 9374, part.]

**35.44.260 Procedure on appeal—Appellate review.** Appellate review of the judgment of the superior court may be obtained as in other cases if sought within fifteen days after the date of the entry of the judgment in the superior court. [1988 c 202 § 36; 1971 c 81 § 91; 1965 c 7 § 35.44.260. Prior: 1957 c 143 § 8; prior: 1911 c 98 § 22, part; RRS § 9374, part.]

*Rules of court:* Appeal procedures superseded by RAP 2.1, 2.2, 18.22.

**Severability—1988 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.24.050.

**35.44.270 Procedure on appeal—Certified copy of decision or order.** A certified copy of the decision of the superior court pertaining to assessments for local improvements shall be filed with the officer having custody of the assessment roll and he shall modify and correct the assessment roll in accordance with the decision. In the event appellate review of the decision is sought, a certified copy of the court's order shall be filed with the officer having custody of the assessment roll and the officer shall thereupon modify and correct the assessment roll in accordance with the order. [1988 c 202 § 37; 1971 c 81 § 92; 1965 c 7 § 35.44.270. Prior: 1957 c 143 § 9; prior: 1911 c 98 § 22, part; RRS § 9374, part.]

**Severability—1988 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.24.050.

**35.44.280 Reassessments—When authorized.** In all cases of special assessments for local improvements wherein

the assessments are not valid in whole or in part for want of form, or insufficiency, informality, irregularity, or nonconformance with the provisions of law, charter, or ordinance, the city or town council may reassess the assessments and enforce their collection in accordance with the provisions of law and ordinance existing at the time the reassessment is made. This shall apply not only to an original assessment but also to any reassessment, to any assessment upon omitted property and to any supplemental assessment which is declared void and its enforcement refused by any court or which for any cause has been set aside, annulled or declared void by any court either directly or by virtue of any decision thereof. [1965 c 7 § 35.44.280. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 42, part; 1893 c 96 § 3; RRS § 9395, part.]

**35.44.290 Reassessments—Basis—Property included.** Every reassessment shall be made upon the property which has been or will be specially benefited by the local improvement and may be made upon property whether or not it abuts upon, is adjacent to, or proximate to the improvement or was included in the original assessment district.

Property not included in the original improvement district when so assessed shall become a part of the improvement district and all payments of assessments shall be paid into and become part of the local improvement fund to pay for the improvement.

Property in the original local improvement district which is excluded in reassessment need not be entered upon the assessment roll.

Every reassessment must be based upon the actual cost of the improvement at the time of its completion. [1965 c 7 § 35.44.290. Prior: (i) 1911 c 98 § 42, part; 1893 c 96 § 3, part; RRS § 9395, part. (ii) 1911 c 98 § 43, part; 1909 c 71 § 1, part; 1893 c 95 § 2, part; RRS § 9396, part.]

**35.44.300 Reassessments—Irregularities not fatal.** The fact that the contract has been let or that the improvement has been made and completed in whole or in part shall not prevent the reassessment from being made, nor shall the omission or neglect of any office or officers to comply with the law, the charter, or ordinances governing the city or town as to petition, notice, resolution to improve, estimate, survey, diagram, manner of letting contract, or execution of work or any other matter connected with the improvement and the first assessment thereof operate to invalidate or in any way affect the making of a reassessment. [1965 c 7 § 35.44.300. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 43, part; 1909 c 71 § 1, part; 1893 c 95 § 2, part; RRS § 9396, part.]

**35.44.310 Reassessments—Amount thereof.** The reassessment shall be for an amount which shall not exceed the actual cost and expense of the improvement, together with the accrued interest thereon, it being the true intent and meaning of the statutes relating to local improvements to make the cost and expense of local improvements payable by the property specially benefited thereby, notwithstanding the proceedings of the council, board of public works or other board, officer, or authority may be found to be irregular or defective, whether jurisdictional or otherwise. [1965 c 7 §

35.44.310. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 43, part; 1909 c 71 § 1, part; 1893 c 95 § 2, part; RRS § 9396, part.]

**35.44.320 Reassessments—Credit for prior payments.** In case of reassessment, all sums paid on the former attempted assessments shall be credited to the property on account of which they were paid. [1965 c 7 § 35.44.320. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 43, part; 1909 c 71 § 1, part; 1893 c 95 § 2, part; RRS § 9396, part.]

**35.44.330 Reassessments—Payment.** In case of reassessment after the certification of the assessment roll to the city or town treasurer for collection, the same length of time for payment of the assessment thereon without the imposition of any penalties or interest and the notice that the assessments are in the hands of the treasurer for collection shall be given as in case of an original assessment. After delinquency, penalties and interest may be charged as in cases of original assessment and if the original assessment was payable in installments, the new assessment may be divided into equal installments and made payable at such times as the city or town council may prescribe in the ordinance ordering the new assessment. [1965 c 7 § 35.44.330. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 43, part; 1909 c 71 § 1, part; 1893 c 95 § 2, part; RRS § 9396, part.]

**35.44.340 Reassessments—Limitation of time for.** No city or town shall have jurisdiction to proceed with any reassessment unless the ordinance ordering it is passed by the city or town council within ten years from and after the time the original assessment for the same improvement was finally held to be invalid, insufficient or for any cause set aside, in whole or in part or its enforcement denied directly or indirectly by the courts. [1965 c 7 § 35.44.340. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 45, part; RRS § 9398, part.]

**35.44.350 Reassessments, assessments on omitted property, supplemental assessments—Provisions governing.** All of the provisions of law relating to the filing of assessment rolls, time and place for hearing thereon, notice of hearing, the hearing upon the roll, the confirmation of the assessment roll, the time when the assessments become a lien upon the property assessed, the proceedings on appeal from any such assessment, the method of collecting the assessment and all proceedings for enforcing the lien thereof shall be had and conducted the same in the case of reassessments, assessments on omitted property, or supplemental assessments as in the case of an original assessment. [1965 c 7 § 35.44.350. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 44; 1893 c 95 § 1; RRS § 9397.]

**35.44.360 Assessments on omitted property—Authority.** If by reason of mistake, inadvertence, or for any cause, property in a local improvement district or utility local improvement district which except for its omission would have been subject to assessment has been omitted from the assessment roll, the city or town council, upon its own motion, or upon the application of the owner of any property in the district which has been assessed for the improvement, may proceed to assess the property so omitted in accordance with the benefits accruing to it by reason of the improvement



in proportion to the assessments levied upon other property in the district. [1967 c 52 § 12; 1965 c 7 § 35.44.360. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 37, part; RRS § 9390, part.]

**Construction—Severability—1967 c 52:** See notes following RCW 35.43.042.

**35.44.370 Assessments on omitted property—Resolution—Notice.** In case of assessments on omitted property the city or town council shall pass a resolution:

(1) Setting forth that the property therein described was omitted from the assessment;

(2) Notifying all persons who may desire to object thereto to appear at a meeting of the city or town council at a time specified in the resolution and present their objections thereto, and

(3) Directing the proper board, officer, or authority to report to the council at or prior to the date fixed for the hearing the amount which should be borne by each lot, tract, or parcel of land or other property so omitted. The resolution shall be published in all respects as provided for publishing the resolutions for an original assessment. [1965 c 7 § 35.44.370. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 37, part; RRS § 9390, part.]

**35.44.380 Assessments on omitted property—Confirmation ordinance—Collection.** At the conclusion of the hearing or any adjournment thereof upon proposed assessments on omitted property the council shall consider the matter as though the property were included in the original roll and may confirm the roll or any portion thereof by ordinance. Thereupon the roll of omitted property shall be certified to the treasurer for collection as other assessments. [1965 c 7 § 35.44.380. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 37, part; RRS § 9390, part.]

**35.44.390 Supplemental assessments—When authorized.** If by reason of any mistake, inadvertence, or other cause, the amount assessed was not equal to the cost and expense of a local improvement or that portion thereof to be paid by assessment of the property benefited the city or town council shall make supplemental assessments on all the property in the district. The property found to be specially benefited shall not be limited to the property included in the original assessment district.

These assessments shall be made in accordance with the provisions of law, charter, and ordinances existing at the time of the levy. [1965 c 7 § 35.44.390. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 42, part; 1893 c 96 § 3, part; RRS § 9395, part.]

**35.44.400 Supplemental assessments—Limitation of time for.** No city or town shall have jurisdiction to proceed with any supplemental assessment unless the ordinance ordering it is passed by the city or town council within ten years from and after the time that it was finally determined that the total amount of valid assessments levied and assessed on account of a local improvement was insufficient to pay the whole or that portion of the cost and expense thereof to be paid by special assessment. [1965 c 7 § 35.44.400. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 45, part; RRS § 9398, part.]

**35.44.410 Segregation of assessments.** Whenever any land against which there has been levied any special assessment by any city or town shall have been sold in part or subdivided, the legislative authority of that city or town shall have the power to order a segregation of the assessment.

Any person desiring to have such a special assessment against a tract of land segregated to apply to smaller parts thereof shall apply to the city or town which levied the assessment. If the legislative authority thereof determines that a segregation should be made, it shall by resolution order the city or town treasurer to make segregation on the original assessment roll as directed in the resolution. The segregation shall be made as nearly as possible on the same basis as the original assessment was levied, and the total of the segregated parts of the assessment shall equal the assessment before segregation. The resolution shall describe the original tract, the amount and date of the original assessment, and shall define the boundaries of the divided parts and the amount of the assessment chargeable to each part. A certified copy of the resolution shall be delivered to the city or town treasurer who shall proceed to make the segregation ordered upon being tendered a fee of ten dollars for each tract of land for which a segregation is to be made. In addition to such charge the legislative authority of the city or town may require as a condition to the order of segregation that the person seeking it pay the city or town the reasonable engineering and clerical costs incident to making the segregation. No segregation need be made if the legislative authority of the city or town shall find that by such segregation the security of the lien for such assessment will be so jeopardized as to reduce the security for any outstanding local improvement district obligations payable from such assessment. [1969 ex.s. c 258 § 10.]

**35.44.420 Property donations—Credit against assessments.** A city legislative authority may give credit for all or any portion of any property donation against an assessment, charge, or other required financial contribution for transportation improvements within a local improvement district. The credit granted is available against any assessment, charge, or other required financial contribution for any transportation purpose that uses the donated property. [1987 c 267 § 9.]

**Severability—1987 c 267:** See RCW 47.14.910.

*Right of way donations:* Chapter 47.14 RCW.

## Chapter 35.45

### LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS—BONDS AND WARRANTS

#### Sections

35.45.010	Authority to issue bonds.
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**35.45.010 Authority to issue bonds.** The city or town council may provide by ordinance for the payment of the whole or any portion of the cost and expense of any local improvement by bonds of the improvement district, but no bonds shall be issued in excess of the cost and expense of the improvement, nor shall they be issued prior to twenty days after the thirty days allowed for the payment of assessments without penalty or interest. [1965 c 7 § 35.45.010. Prior: (i) 1911 c 98 § 46, part; 1899 c 124 § 1; RRS § 9399, part. (ii) 1917 c 139 § 1, part; 1915 c 168 § 4, part; 1911 c 98 § 47, part; 1899 c 124 § 2, part; RRS § 9400, part. (iii) 1911 c 98 § 50, part; RRS § 9403, part.]

**35.45.020 Bond issue—Due date—Interest.** Local improvement bonds shall be issued pursuant to ordinance and shall be made payable on or before a date not to exceed thirty years from and after the date of issue, which latter date may be fixed by ordinance or resolution of the council, and bear interest at such rate or rates as authorized by the council. The council may, in addition to issuing bonds callable under the provisions of RCW 35.45.050 whenever sufficient moneys are available, issue bonds with a fixed maturity schedule or with a fixed maximum annual retirement schedule. [1971 ex.s. c 116 § 10; 1970 ex.s. c 56 § 35; 1969 ex.s. c 258 § 11; 1969 c 81 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.45.020. Prior: 1917 c 139 § 1, part; 1915 c 168 § 4, part; 1911 c 98 § 47, part; 1899 c 124 § 2, part; RRS § 9400, part.]

**Purpose—1970 ex.s. c 56:** See note following RCW 39.52.020.

**Rights not impaired—1969 c 81:** "No phrase, clause, subdivision or section of this 1969 amendatory act shall be construed to impair the rights of bondholders as to any bonds issued prior to the effective date of this 1969 amendatory act." [1969 c 81 § 2.]

**35.45.030 Bonds—Form—Content.** (1) Local improvement bonds shall be in such denominations as may be provided in the ordinance authorizing their issue and shall be numbered from one upwards consecutively. Each bond shall (a) be signed by the mayor and attested by the clerk, (b) have the seal of the city or town affixed thereto, (c) refer to the improvement to pay for which it is issued and the ordinance ordering it, (d) provide that the principal sum therein named and the interest thereon shall be payable out of the local improvement fund created for the cost and expense of the improvement, or out of the local improvement guaranty fund, or, with respect to interest only, out of the general revenues of the city or town, and not otherwise, (e) provide that the bond owners' remedy in case of nonpayment shall be confined to the enforcement of the special assessments made for the improvement and to the guaranty fund, and (f) be in any form, including bearer bonds or registered bonds as provided in RCW 39.46.030.

Any interest coupons may be signed by the mayor and attested by the clerk, or in lieu thereof, may have printed thereon a facsimile of their signatures.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, but subject to RCW 35.45.010, such bonds may be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1983 c 167 § 41; 1967 ex.s. c 44 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.45.030. Prior: (i) 1917 c 139 § 1, part; 1915 c 168 § 4, part; 1911 c 98 § 47, part; 1899 c 124 § 2; RRS § 9400, part. (ii) 1927 c 209 § 5, part; 1925 ex.s. c 183 § 5, part; 1923 c 141 § 5, part; RRS § 9351-5, part. (iii) 1911 c 98 § 52, part; RRS § 9405, part.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**35.45.040 Bonds—Sale of.** (1) Local improvement bonds may be issued to the contractor or sold by the officers authorized by the ordinance directing their issue to do so, in the manner prescribed therein at the price established by the legislative authority of the city or town. Any portion of the bonds of any issue remaining unsold may be issued to the contractor constructing the improvement in payment thereof.

The proceeds of all sales of bonds shall be applied in payment of the cost and expense of the improvement.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, such bonds may be sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1983 c 167 § 42; 1981 c 323 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.45.040. Prior: (i) 1911 c 98 § 46, part; 1899 c 124 § 1; RRS § 9399, part. (ii) 1911 c 98 § 48; 1899 c 124 § 3; RRS § 9401.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**35.45.050 Call of bonds.** Except when bonds have been issued with a fixed maturity schedule or with a fixed maximum annual retirement schedule as authorized in RCW 35.45.020, the city or town treasurer shall call in and pay the principal of one or more bonds of any issue in their numerical order whenever there is sufficient money in any local improvement fund, against which the bonds have been issued, over and above that which is sufficient for the payment of interest on all unpaid bonds of that issue. The call shall be made for publication in the city or town official newspaper in its first publication following the date of delinquency of any installment of the assessment or as soon thereafter as practicable. The call shall state that bonds No. . . . (giving the serial number or numbers of the bonds called) will be paid on the day the next interest payments are due and that interest on those bonds will cease upon that date. [1983 c 167 § 43; 1971 ex.s. c 116 § 11; 1965 c 7 § 35.45.050. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 54, part; RRS § 9407, part.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**35.45.060 Interest on bonds—How payable.** The city or town treasurer shall pay interest on the bonds issued against local improvement funds out of the local improvement fund from which the bonds are payable. [1965 c 7 § 35.45.060. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 54, part; RRS § 9407, part.]

**35.45.065 Interest on bonds—Payment from general revenues—Authority—Procedure.** The city or town council may provide by ordinance that all or part of the interest upon said bonds shall be paid from the general revenues of the city or town and may create a local improvement district bond interest fund for this purpose. If the city or town council determine that the city or town shall pay all interest on such bonds from its general revenues, the interest coupons attached to the bond shall recite that the interest thereby evidenced is payable from general revenues. If the city or town council determines that the city or town council shall pay a part of the interest on such bonds from its general revenues, the interest coupons representing interest payable from the general revenues of the city or town shall be denominated as "B" coupons and shall recite that the interest payable thereunder is payable from the general revenues of the city or town. [1967 ex.s. c 44 § 2.]

**35.45.070 Nonliability of city or town.** Neither the holder nor owner of any bond, interest coupon, or warrant issued against a local improvement fund shall have any claim therefor against the city or town by which it is issued, except for payment from the special assessments made for the improvement for which the bond or warrant was issued and except also for payment from the local improvement guaranty fund of the city or town as to bonds issued after the creation of a local improvement guaranty fund of that city or town. The city or town shall not be liable to the holder or owner of any bond, interest coupon, or warrant for any loss to the local improvement guaranty fund occurring in the lawful operation thereof. A copy of the foregoing part of this section shall be plainly written, printed or engraved on each bond. [1965 c 7 § 35.45.070. Prior: (i) 1911 c 98 § 52, part; RRS § 9405, part. (ii) 1927 c 209 § 5; 1925 ex.s. c 183 § 5; 1923 c 141 § 5, part; RRS § 9351-5, part.]

**35.45.080 Remedy of bondholders.** If a city or town fails to pay any bonds or to promptly collect any local improvement assessments when due, the owner of the bonds may proceed in his own name to collect the assessment and foreclose the lien thereof in any court of competent jurisdiction and shall recover in addition to the amount of the bond and interest thereon, five percent, together with the cost of suit. Any number of holders of bonds for any single improvement may join as plaintiffs and any number of owners of property upon which the assessments are liens may be joined as defendants in the same suit.

The owners of local improvement bonds issued by a city or town after the creation of a local improvement guaranty fund therein, shall also have recourse against the local improvement guaranty fund of such city or town. [1965 c 7 § 35.45.080. Prior: (i) 1927 c 209 § 5, part; 1925 ex.s. c 183 § 5, part; 1923 c 141 § 5, part; RRS § 9351-5, part. (ii) 1911 c 98 § 51; 1899 c 124 § 6; RRS § 9404.]

**35.45.090 Excess to be refunded—Demand—Right of action.** Any funds in the treasury of any municipal corporation belonging to the fund of any local improvement district after the payment of the whole cost and expense of such improvement, in excess of the total sum required to defray all the expenditures by such municipal corporation on

account thereof, shall be refunded, on demand, to the payers into such fund. Each such payer shall be entitled to such proportion of such excess as his original assessment bears to the entire original assessment levied for such improvement. Such municipal corporation may, after one year from the date on which the last installment becomes due, transfer any balance remaining on hand to the general fund of such municipal corporation, but shall, notwithstanding such transfer remain liable for the refund herein provided for until such refund shall have been made, unless the actual cost involved in making such refund shall exceed the excess in such fund.

Such demand shall be made in writing to the treasurer of such municipal corporation. No action shall be commenced in any court to obtain any such refund, except upon such demand, and until ninety days after making such demand. No excess shall be recovered in any action where the excess in the fund does not average the sum of one dollar in favor of all payers into such fund.

This section shall not be deemed to require the refunding of any balance left in any local improvement fund after the payment of all outstanding obligations issued against such fund, where such balance accrues from any saving in interest or from penalties collected upon delinquent assessments, but any such balance, whether accruing heretofore or hereafter, may be turned into the general fund or otherwise disposed of, as the legislative authority of the city may direct.

The provisions of this chapter relating to the refund of excess local improvement district funds shall not apply to any district whose obligations are guaranteed by the local improvement guaranty fund. [1965 c 7 § 35.45.090. Prior: 1917 c 140 § 1; 1909 c 108 § 1; RRS § 9351.]

**35.45.130 Warrants against local improvement fund authorized.** Every city and town may provide by ordinance for the issuance of warrants in payment of the cost and expense of any local improvement, payable out of the local improvement district fund. The warrants shall bear interest at a rate or rates established by the issuing officer under the direction of the legislative authority of the city or town and shall be redeemed either in cash or by local improvement bonds for the same improvement authorized by ordinance.

All warrants against any local improvement fund sold by the city or town or issued to a contractor and by him sold or hypothecated for a valuable consideration shall be claims and liens against the improvement fund against which they are drawn prior and superior to any right, lien, or claim of any surety upon the bond or bonds given to the city or town by or for the contractor to secure the performance of his contract or to secure the payment of persons who have performed work thereon, furnished materials therefor, or provisions and supplies for the carrying on of the work. [1981 c 323 § 3; 1970 ex.s. c 56 § 36; 1965 c 7 § 35.45.130. Prior: 1953 c 117 § 1; prior: 1915 c 168 § 3; 1911 c 98 § 72; 1899 c 146 § 7; RRS 9425.]

**Purpose—1970 ex.s. c 56:** See note following RCW 39.52.020.

**35.45.140 Warrants acceptable in payment of assessments.** Cities and towns may accept warrants drawn against any local improvement fund upon such conditions as

they may by ordinance or resolution prescribe, in satisfaction of:

(1) Assessments levied to supply such fund, in due order of priority of right;

(2) Judgments rendered against property owners who have become delinquent in the payment of assessments levied to supply such fund; and

(3) In payment of certificates of purchase in cases where property of delinquents has been sold under execution or at tax sale for failure to pay assessments levied to supply such fund. [1965 c 7 § 35.45.140. Prior: (i) 1899 c 97 § 1; RRS § 9346. (ii) 1899 c 97 § 2; RRS § 9347. (iii) 1899 c 97 § 3; RRS § 9348. (iv) 1899 c 97 § 4; RRS § 9349. (v) 1899 c 97 § 5; RRS § 9350.]

### 35.45.150 Installment notes—Interest certificates.

In addition to the issuance of bonds and warrants in payment of the cost and expense of any local improvement, any city or town may also issue and sell installment notes payable out of the local improvement district fund. Such installment notes may be issued any time after the thirty day period allowed by law for the payment of assessments of any district without penalty or interest, and may bear any denomination or denominations, the aggregate of which shall represent the balance of the cost and expense of the local improvement district which is to be borne by the property owners therein.

Application of local improvement district funds for the reduction of the principal and interest amounts due on any notes herein provided to finance said improvement shall be made not less than once each year beginning with the issue date thereof. Appropriate notification of such application of funds shall be made by the city or town treasurer to the registered payees of said notes, except those notes owned by funds of the issuing municipality. Such notes may be registered as provided in RCW 39.46.030. If more than one local improvement installment note is issued for a single district, said notes shall be numbered consecutively. All notes issued shall bear on the face thereof: (1) The name of the payee; (2) the number of the local improvement district from whose funds the notes are payable; (3) the date of issue of each note; (4) the date on which the note, or the final installment thereon shall become due; (5) the rate or rates of interest, as provided by the city or town legislative authority, to be paid on the unpaid balance thereof, and; (6) such manual or facsimile signatures and attestations as are required by state statute or city charter to appear on the warrants of each issuing municipality.

The reverse side of each installment note issued pursuant to this section shall bear a tabular payment record which shall indicate at prescribed installment dates, the receipt of any local improvement district funds for the purpose of servicing the debt evidenced by said notes. Such receipts shall first be applied toward the interest due on the unpaid balance of the note, and any additional moneys shall thereafter apply as a reduction of the principal amount thereof. The tabular payment record shall, in addition to the above, show the unpaid principal balance due on each installment note, together with sufficient space opposite each transaction affecting said note for the manual signature of the city's or town's clerk, treasurer or other properly designated receiving

officer of the municipality, or of any other registered payee presenting said note for such installment payments.

Whenever there are insufficient funds in a local improvement district to meet any payment of installment interest due on any note herein authorized, a noninterest-bearing defaulted installment interest certificate shall be issued by the city or town treasurer which shall consist of a written statement certifying the amount of such defaulted interest installment; the name of the payee of the note to whom the interest is due and the number of the local improvement district from whose funds the note and interest thereon is payable. Such certificates may be registered as provided in RCW 39.46.030. The certificate herein provided shall bear the manual signature of the city or town treasurer or his authorized agent. The defaulted installment interest certificate so issued shall be redeemed for the face amount thereof with any available funds in the local improvement guaranty fund.

Whenever at the date of maturity of any installment note issued pursuant to this section, there are insufficient funds in a local improvement district, due to delinquencies in the collection of assessments, to pay the final installment of the principal due thereon, the note shall be redeemed with any available funds in the local improvement guaranty fund for the amount of said final installment.

All certificates and notes issued pursuant to this section are to become subject to the same redemption privileges as apply to any local improvement district bonds and warrants now accorded the protection of the local improvement guaranty fund as provided in chapter 35.54 RCW, and whenever the certificates or notes issued as herein provided are redeemed by said local improvement guaranty fund, they shall be held therein as investments thereof in the same manner as prescribed for other defaulted local improvement district obligations.

Notwithstanding any other statutory provisions, local improvement installment notes authorized by this section which are within the protection of the local improvement guaranty fund law shall be considered legal investments for any available surplus funds of the issuing municipality which now or hereafter may be authorized to be invested in the city's or town's local improvement districts' bonds or warrants and shall be considered legal investments for all national and state banks, savings and loan institutions, and any and all other commercial banking or financial institutions to the same extent that the local improvement district bonds and any coupons issued pursuant to the provisions of this chapter have been and are legal investments for such institutions. Any such local improvement installment notes may be transferred or sold by said city or town upon such terms or conditions and in such manner as the local governing body of said city or town may determine, or may be issued to another fund of the city or town: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That the same shall not be sold at less than par plus accrued interest.

Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, such notes and certificates may be issued, and such notes may be sold, in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1983 c 167 § 44. Prior: 1981 c 323 § 4; 1981 c 156 § 2; prior: 1970 ex.s. c 93 § 2; 1970 ex.s. c 56 § 37; 1965 c 7 § 35.45.150; prior: 1961 c 165 § 1.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**Severability—1970 ex.s. c 93:** See note following RCW 39.60.050.

**Purpose—1970 ex.s. c 56:** See note following RCW 39.52.020.

*Investment of public funds in notes, debentures:* RCW 39.60.050.

**35.45.155 Installment notes—Refunding.** Any city or town having issued one or more installment notes pursuant to RCW 35.45.150 may refund all of such notes or the principal thereof then outstanding payable from any one local improvement district fund by the issuance of local improvement district bonds pursuant to chapter 35.45 RCW and by the payment into the city or town fund or funds holding such notes the then outstanding principal amount of such notes plus the interest thereon accrued to the date of such refunding. The bonds shall be payable from the same local improvement district fund from which such notes were payable; shall be payable no later than the final payment date of the notes being refunded; shall be in the same total principal amount as the outstanding principal amount of the notes being refunded less any sums in the local improvement district fund the city or town applies to the redemption of such notes; and shall be sold at not less than par plus accrued interest to date of delivery. Any interest payable on the bonds in excess of the interest payable on assessment installments payable into the local improvement district fund shall be paid from the general fund of the city or town in accordance with RCW 35.45.065. The principal proceeds and interest accrued to date of delivery of the bonds shall be paid into the local improvement district fund and the notes shall be redeemed on that date. The city or town shall pay all costs and expenses of such refunding from moneys available therefor. [1969 ex.s. c 258 § 12.]

**35.45.160 Consolidated local improvement districts—Authorized—Purpose.** For the purpose of issuing bonds only, the governing body of any municipality may authorize the establishment of consolidated local improvement districts. The local improvements within such consolidated districts need not be adjoining, vicinal or neighboring. If the governing body orders the creation of such consolidated local improvement districts, the moneys received from the installment payment of the principal of and interest on assessments levied within original local assessment districts shall be deposited in a consolidated local improvement district bond redemption fund to be used to redeem outstanding consolidated local improvement district bonds. [1967 ex.s. c 44 § 3.]

**35.45.170 Refunding bonds—Limitations.** The legislative authority of any city or town may issue and sell bonds to refund outstanding local improvement district or consolidated local improvement district bonds issued after June 7, 1984, on the earliest date such outstanding bonds may be redeemed following the date of issuance of such refunding bonds. Such refunding shall be subject to the following:

(1) The refunding shall result in a net interest cost savings after paying the costs and expenses of the refunding, and the principal amount of the refunding bonds may not exceed the principal balance of the assessment roll or rolls

pledged to pay the bonds being refunded at the time of the refunding.

(2) The refunding bonds shall be paid from the same local improvement fund or bond redemption fund as the bonds being refunded.

(3) The costs and expenses of the refunding shall be paid from the proceeds of the refunding bonds, or the same local improvement district fund or bond redemption fund for the bonds being refunded, except the city or town may advance such costs and expenses to such fund pending the receipt of assessment payments available to reimburse such advances.

(4) The last maturity of the refunding bonds shall be no later than one year after the last maturity of bonds being refunded.

(5) The refunding bonds may be exchanged for the bonds being refunded or may be sold in the same manner permitted at the time of sale for local improvement district bonds.

(6) All other provisions of law applicable to the refunded bonds shall apply to the refunding bonds. [1984 c 186 § 66.]

**Purpose—1984 c 186:** See note following RCW 39.46.110.

## Chapter 35.47

### LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS—PROCEDURE FOR CANCELLATION OF NONGUARANTEED BONDS

#### Sections

- 35.47.010 Distribution of moneys in local improvement funds to holders of bonds and warrants—Notice—Time limitation—Abandonment and transfer to general fund.
- 35.47.020 Declaration of obsolescence and cancellation upon distribution of moneys, untimely presentment, or lack of money in local improvement fund.
- 35.47.030 Cancellation procedure where no money in local improvement fund.
- 35.47.040 Action under RCW 35.47.010 through 35.47.030 unaffected by chapter 35.48 RCW or other law.
- 35.47.900 Severability—1965 ex.s. c 6.

**35.47.010 Distribution of moneys in local improvement funds to holders of bonds and warrants—Notice—Time limitation—Abandonment and transfer to general fund.** Any city or town having any outstanding and unpaid local improvement bonds or warrants issued in connection with a local improvement therein to which the local guaranty fund law is not applicable and that have been delinquent for more than fifteen years, by ordinance, may direct that the money, if any, remaining in a given local improvement fund for which no real property is held in trust shall be distributed by the city or town on a pro rata basis, without any reference to numerical order, to the holders of outstanding bonds or warrants for each such fund, excluding the accrued interest thereon. If the outstanding bonds or warrants are not presented for payment within one year after the last date of publication of notice provided for herein, the money being held in the local improvement fund of a city or town shall be deemed abandoned, and shall be transferred to the city or town general fund: PROVIDED, That the city or town shall publish a notice once each week for two successive weeks in the official newspaper of the city or town in which it is indicated that L.I.D. bonds for . . . . . L.I.D. improvement

Nos. . . . to . . . . inclusive must be presented to the city or town for payment not later than one year from this date or the money being held in the local improvement fund of the city or town shall be transferred to the city or town general fund. [1985 c 469 § 31; 1965 ex.s. c 6 § 1.]

**35.47.020 Declaration of obsolescence and cancellation upon distribution of moneys, untimely presentation, or lack of money in local improvement fund.** After the city or town having said bonds or warrants referred to in RCW 35.47.010 has distributed the money in a local improvement district fund in accordance with RCW 35.47.010, or such bonds or warrants are not presented for payment within one year after the last date of publication of notice provided for in RCW 35.47.010, such city or town may, by ordinance, declare such bonds and warrants, without any reference to numerical order, to be obsolete, cancel the same, and terminate all accounting thereon, and clear such bonds and warrants off their records including any unguaranteed bonds or warrants outstanding against districts in which there remains no money in the given local improvement fund. [1965 ex.s. c 6 § 2.]

**35.47.030 Cancellation procedure where no money in local improvement fund.** If the bonds or warrants outstanding against a district are unguaranteed and if there remains no money in the appropriate local improvement fund to pay them, and if no real property is held in trust for the fund, the city or town shall give notice in the same manner as provided in RCW 35.47.010, stating that L.I.D. . . . . (bonds or warrants) for . . . . L.I.D. improvement Nos. . . . to . . . . inclusive will be canceled as provided in RCW 35.47.020, unless such bonds or warrants are presented to the city or town within one year from the date of last publication of the notice, together with good cause shown as to why such cancellation should not take place. If such bonds or warrants are not presented, with good cause shown, within one year after the last date of publication of such notice, they may be canceled as provided in RCW 35.47.020. [1965 ex.s. c 6 § 3.]

**35.47.040 Action under RCW 35.47.010 through 35.47.030 unaffected by chapter 35.48 RCW or other law.** Nothing in chapter 35.48 RCW or other existing law to the contrary shall preclude the action authorized herein. [1965 ex.s. c 6 § 4.]

**35.47.900 Severability—1965 ex.s. c 6.** If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held to be invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1965 ex.s. c 6 § 6.]

## Chapter 35.48

### LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS—NONGUARANTEED BONDS

#### Sections

35.48.010 Special revolving fund for delinquent nonguaranteed bonds and warrants—Composition.

35.48.020 Use of revolving fund—Maximum bond price.  
35.48.030 Subrogation—Refund of surplus.  
35.48.040 Refund to revolving fund.  
35.48.050 Purchase of warrants on previous funds—Transfer of assets to revolving fund—Disposition.  
35.48.060 Procedure governed by ordinance.

**35.48.010 Special revolving fund for delinquent nonguaranteed bonds and warrants—Composition.** If any city or town has issued bonds or warrants payable from a local improvement or condemnation award fund, to which the local improvement guaranty fund law is not applicable, and if the assessment, or last installment thereof, against which the bonds or warrants were issued has been delinquent not more than thirty-two years, the city or town may create a special revolving fund and may provide moneys therefor by general tax levy, if the levy, together with other levies made or authorized by such city or town, will not exceed the levy which is legally allowed; or such city or town may place in said fund or advance or loan to said fund any money which it is not prohibited by law from advancing, loaning to or placing in said fund. [1965 c 7 § 35.48.010. Prior: 1961 c 46 § 1; 1943 c 244 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9351-11.]

**Purpose—1943 c 244:** "WHEREAS, there are many millions of dollars of delinquent and unpaid local improvement district and condemnation award bonds and warrants issued by various cities of the state and not protected by the Local Improvement Guaranty Fund, only a small part of which for the present at least can be paid and many of which will never be paid because of inability of property owners to pay the special assessments levied to provide funds for payment thereof and the depreciated value of the real estate which is the only security provided by present law from which payment of the assessments may be enforced; and, WHEREAS, the cities are not legally liable under existing law for payment of such bonds and warrants except as there are moneys available in the special fund from which the same are payable; and, WHEREAS, such cities and its citizens as a whole have derived benefit from the improvements installed with the proceeds or as a result of the issuance of such bonds and warrants; and, WHEREAS, the nonpayment of such unpaid and delinquent bonds and warrants not only causes great hardship and suffering on those who have invested money in such bonds and warrants, but also reflects discredit on the financial structure of the various cities involved, to the detriment of the cities as a whole and also the entire state; NOW, THEREFORE, this law is enacted to enable cities to provide some relief from the hardship imposed by such conditions." [1943 c 244 § 1.]

**35.48.020 Use of revolving fund—Maximum bond price.** Any moneys in such revolving fund may be used for the purchase of unpaid delinquent local improvement warrants, or bonds and interest payments, or bonds and interest coupons thereon, issued by the city or town, payable from a local improvement district fund or condemnation award fund, to which the local improvement guaranty fund law is not applicable, if the assessment, or last installment thereof, against which the bonds or warrants have been issued, has been delinquent not more than thirty-two years. The maximum purchase price to be paid for said bonds or warrants shall be fixed by the municipality, and may from time to time be changed but shall never exceed fifty percent of the face value of the bonds, interest payments, interest coupons, or warrants: PROVIDED, That no warrants shall be issued payable from the revolving fund unless there is sufficient cash in said fund available for payment of such warrants. [1983 c 167 § 45; 1965 c 7 § 35.48.020. Prior: 1961 c 46 § 2; 1943 c 244 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9351-12.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**35.48.030 Subrogation—Refund of surplus.** The purchase of any such bonds or warrants shall not relieve the local improvement or condemnation award fund from which the same are payable from liability for payment of the same, but the city or town upon purchase thereof shall become subrogated to all the rights of the former owners thereof and may proceed to enforcement of said bonds or warrants as any owner thereof might do. The city or town may sell any property acquired by it in such proceedings upon such terms and for such prices as it sees fit, or it may resell any of the bonds or warrants for such prices as it shall fix.

Any excess in any local improvement district fund or condemnation award fund which will average a payment of one dollar to each payer into said fund shall, after payment, retirement, or cancellation of all bonds or warrants payable from said fund, be refunded and paid to the payers into the fund in the proportion that their respective assessments bear to the entire original assessment levied for such improvement, and any unpaid assessments, or portion thereof, shall be reduced in the same proportion. Any proceeds derived from the sale of any bonds or warrants, or from the sale of real estate, shall be placed in the revolving fund. [1965 c 7 § 35.48.030. Prior: 1943 c 244 § 4; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9351-13.]

**35.48.040 Refund to revolving fund.** If there are funds in any local improvement district fund or condemnation award fund sufficient to pay or retire any bond or warrant issued and payable from said fund, and the city or town is the owner and holder of the bond or warrant next payable from the fund, the city or town treasurer shall from the moneys in the local improvement or condemnation award fund place in the revolving fund a sum of money equivalent to the amount paid by the city or town for such bond or warrant and shall thereupon cancel, mark paid and remove from said revolving fund such bond or warrant. [1965 c 7 § 35.48.040. Prior: 1943 c 244 § 5; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9351-14.]

**35.48.050 Purchase of warrants on previous funds—Transfer of assets to revolving fund—Disposition.** Whenever a city or town has heretofore by ordinance created a fund for use in purchasing delinquent local improvement or condemnation award bonds or warrants not protected by the local improvement guaranty fund law, and has purchased any such bonds or warrants and issued warrants payable from said fund, which warrants are unpaid because of lack of funds and have remained unpaid for a period of less than thirty-two years from date of issue thereof, the city or town may use any funds available in the revolving fund to purchase said warrants at such price as it may determine, but in no event at more than fifty percent of the face value, without interest.

Whenever all such warrants have been purchased or paid, the city or town may transfer to the revolving fund any bonds, warrants or other assets belonging to said fund first above mentioned, and thereafter such bonds, warrants or other assets shall be held and disposed of for the benefit of

said revolving fund in the same manner as other funds and assets therein: PROVIDED, That nothing contained in this chapter shall legalize any warrants heretofore issued or render any city or town liable thereunder. [1965 c 7 § 35.48.050. Prior: 1961 c 46 § 3; 1943 c 244 § 6; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9351-15.]

**35.48.060 Procedure governed by ordinance.** All actions of a city or town respecting the purchase of bonds and warrants or sales of bonds, warrants or assets of the revolving fund shall be as directed by general or special ordinance. [1965 c 7 § 35.48.060. Prior: 1943 c 244 § 7; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9351-16.]

## Chapter 35.49

### LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS—COLLECTION OF ASSESSMENTS

Sections	
35.49.010	Collection by city treasurer—Notices.
35.49.020	Installments—Number—Due date.
35.49.030	Ordinance to prescribe time of payment—Interest—Penalties.
35.49.040	Payment without interest or penalty.
35.49.050	Prepayment of installments subsequently due.
35.49.060	Payment by city or town.
35.49.070	Payment by county.
35.49.080	Payment by metropolitan park district.
35.49.090	Payment by joint owner.
35.49.100	Payment in error—Remedy.
35.49.110	Record of payment.
35.49.130	Tax liens—City may protect assessment lien at foreclosure sale.
35.49.140	Tax liens—Payment by city after taking property on foreclosure of local assessments.
35.49.150	Tax title property—City may acquire from county before resale.
35.49.160	Tax title property—Disposition of proceeds upon resale.
35.49.170	Acquisition of property by state or political subdivisions which is subject to unpaid assessments and delinquencies.

*Prepayment of taxes and assessments:* RCW 35.21.650.

**35.49.010 Collection by city treasurer—Notices.** All assessments for local improvements in local improvement districts shall be collected by the city treasurer and shall be kept in a separate fund to be known as "local improvement fund, district No. . . . ." and shall be used for no other purpose than the redemption of warrants drawn upon and bonds issued against the fund to provide payment for the cost and expense of the improvement.

All assessments for local improvements in a utility local improvement district shall be collected by the city treasurer, shall be paid into the appropriate revenue bond fund, and shall be used for no other purpose than the redemption of revenue bonds issued to provide funds for the cost and expense of the improvement.

As soon as the assessment roll has been placed in the hands of the city or town treasurer for collection, he shall publish a notice in the official newspaper of the city or town once a week for two consecutive weeks, that the roll is in his hands for collection and that all or any portion of the assessment may be paid within thirty days from the date of



the first publication of the notice without penalty, interest or costs.

Within fifteen days of the first newspaper publication, the city or town treasurer shall notify each owner or reputed owner whose name appears on the assessment roll, at the address shown on the tax rolls of the county treasurer for each item of property described on the list, of the nature of the assessment, of the amount of his real property subject to such assessment, of the total amount of assessment due, and of the time during which such assessment may be paid without penalty, interest, or costs. [1972 ex.s. c 137 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 258 § 13; 1967 c 52 § 13; 1965 c 7 § 35.49.010. Prior: (i) 1911 c 98 § 28; RRS § 9380. (ii) 1911 c 98 § 50, part; RRS § 9403, part.]

**Severability—1972 ex.s. c 137:** "If any provision of this 1972 amendatory act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1972 ex.s. c 137 § 6.] For codification of 1972 ex.s. c 137, see Codification Tables, Volume 0.

**Construction—Severability—1967 c 52:** See notes following RCW 35.43.042.

**Saving—1927 c 275:** "All local improvement initiated or proceedings commenced by any city or town before the taking effect of this act, relating to the making of any local improvement, or the collection and foreclosure of local improvement, or the collection and foreclosure of local improvement assessments, and the sale of property therefor, shall proceed without being in any manner affected by the passage of this act; PROVIDED, That any city or town may at its option foreclose in the manner provided in this act the lien of any local improvement assessment created prior to the effective date of this act, and cause deed to issue, but as to any such property purchased by such city or town at such foreclosure the same shall be held and sold by such city or town under and pursuant to the provisions of law in force and effect prior to the taking effect of this act." [1927 c 275 § 8.]

**35.49.020 Installments—Number—Due date.** In all cases where bonds are issued to pay the cost and expense of a local improvement, the ordinance levying the assessments shall provide that the sum charged against any lot, tract, and parcel of land or other property, or any portion thereof, may be paid during the thirty day period allowed for the payment of assessments without penalty or interest and that thereafter the sum remaining unpaid may be paid in equal annual principal installments or in equal annual installments of principal and interest. The number of installments shall be less by two than the number of years which the bonds issued to pay for the improvement are to run. The estimated interest rate may be stated in the ordinance confirming the assessment roll. Where payment is required in equal annual principal installments, interest on the whole amount unpaid at the rate fixed by the ordinance authorizing the issuance and sale of the bonds shall be due on the due date of the first installment of principal and each year thereafter on the due date of each installment of principal: PROVIDED, That the legislative authority of any city or town having made a bond issue payable on or before twenty-two years after the date of issue may provide by ordinance that all assessments and portions of assessments unpaid after the thirty day period allowed for payment of assessments without penalty or interest may be paid in ten equal installments beginning with the eleventh year and ending with the twentieth year from the expiration of said thirty day period, together with interest on the unpaid installments at the rate fixed by such ordinance, and that in each year after the said thirty day

period, to and including the tenth year thereafter, one installment of interest on the principal sum of the assessment at the rate so fixed shall be paid and collected, and that beginning with the eleventh year after the thirty day period one installment of the principal, together with the interest due thereon, and on all installments thereafter to become due shall be paid and collected. [1982 c 96 § 1; 1981 c 323 § 5; 1969 ex.s. c 258 § 14; 1965 c 7 § 35.49.020. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 117 § 1; 1915 c 168 § 5; 1911 c 98 § 49; 1899 c 124 § 4; RRS § 9402.]

**35.49.030 Ordinance to prescribe time of payment—Interest—Penalties.** Every city and town shall prescribe by ordinance within what time assessments or installments thereof shall be paid, and shall provide for the payment and collection of interest thereon at a rate as shall be fixed by the legislative body of the city or town. Assessments or installments thereof, when delinquent, in addition to such interest, shall bear such penalty not less than five percent as shall be by general ordinance prescribed. [1971 ex.s. c 116 § 5; 1969 ex.s. c 258 § 15; 1965 c 7 § 35.49.030. Prior: 1955 c 353 § 3; prior: 1927 c 275 § 1, part; 1921 c 92 § 1, part; 1911 c 98 § 24, part; RRS § 9376, part.]

**35.49.040 Payment without interest or penalty.** The owner of any lot, tract, or parcel of land or other property charged with local improvement assessment may redeem it from all or any portion thereof by paying to the city or town treasurer all or any portion thereof without interest within thirty days after the first publication by the treasurer of notice that the assessment roll is in his hands for collection. [1965 c 7 § 35.49.040. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 50, part; RRS § 9403, part.]

**35.49.050 Prepayment of installments subsequently due.** The owner of any lot, tract, or parcel of land or other property charged with a local improvement assessment may redeem it from all liability for the unpaid amount of the assessment at any time after the thirty day period allowed for payment of assessments without penalty or interest by paying the entire installments of the assessment remaining unpaid to the city or town treasurer with interest thereon to the date of maturity of the installment next falling due. [1965 c 7 § 35.49.050. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 50, part; RRS § 9403, part.]

**35.49.060 Payment by city or town.** On or before the fifteenth day of August of each year, the city or town treasurer shall certify to the city or town council a detailed statement showing:

- (1) The proceedings authorizing and confirming any local improvement assessments or utility local improvement assessments affecting city or town property,
- (2) The lots, tracts, or parcels of lands of the city or town so assessed,
- (3) The several assessments against each.
- (4) The interest, penalties, and charges thereon.
- (5) The penalties and charges which will accrue upon the assessments to the date of payment, and
- (6) The total of all such assessments, interest, penalty, and charges.

The longest outstanding liens shall be paid first, but if the money in the "city (or town) property assessments redemption fund" is insufficient at any time to discharge all such liens against the lands of the city or town upon a given assessment roll, the city or town treasurer may pay such portion thereof as may be possible from the funds available.

If deemed necessary, the city or town council may transfer money from the general fund to the redemption fund as a loan to be repaid when the money is available for repayment. [1967 c 52 § 14; 1965 c 7 § 35.49.060. Prior: 1929 c 183 § 2, part; 1909 c 130 § 2; RRS § 9345, part.]

**Construction—Severability—1967 c 52:** See notes following RCW 35.43.042.

**35.49.070 Payment by county.** Upon the confirmation of the assessment roll for a local improvement district or utility local improvement district, the city or town treasurer shall certify and forward to the board of county commissioners a statement of all the lots, tracts, or parcels of land held or owned by the county assessed thereon, separately describing each lot, tract, or parcel, with the amount of the assessment charged against it.

The board of county commissioners shall cause the amount of such local assessments to be paid to the city or town as other claims against the county are paid.

If title to any property thus described was acquired by the county through foreclosure of general tax liens, the county shall:

(1) Pay the assessment from the proceeds of the sale of the property; or

(2) Sell the property subject to the lien of the assessment. [1967 c 52 § 15; 1965 c 7 § 35.49.070. Prior: 1929 c 139 § 1; 1905 c 29 § 3; RRS § 9342.]

**Construction—Severability—1967 c 52:** See notes following RCW 35.43.042.

**35.49.080 Payment by metropolitan park district.** Upon the confirmation of the assessment roll for a local improvement district or utility local improvement district, the city treasurer shall certify and forward to the board of park commissioners of any metropolitan park district in which the city is located, a statement of all the lots, tracts, and parcels of land or other property held or owned by the district, assessed thereon, separately describing each lot, tract, or parcel with the amount of the assessment charged against it.

The board of park commissioners shall cause the amount of the local assessments to be paid as other claims against the metropolitan park district are paid. [1967 c 52 § 16; 1965 c 7 § 35.49.080. Prior: 1929 c 204 § 3; RRS § 9343-3.]

**Construction—Severability—1967 c 52:** See notes following RCW 35.43.042.

**35.49.090 Payment by joint owner.** If any assessment for a local improvement, or an installment thereof, or judgment for either of them is paid, or a certificate of sale for either of them is redeemed by a joint owner of any of the property so assessed, he may, after demand and refusal, recover from his co-owners, by an action brought in superior court, the respective portions of the payment which each co-owner should bear. He shall have a lien upon the undivided

interests of his co-owners from the date of the payment made by him and in the action shall recover interest at ten percent from the date of payment by him and the costs of the action in addition to the principal sum due him. [1965 c 7 § 35.49.090. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 62; RRS § 9415.]

**35.49.100 Payment in error—Remedy.** If, through error or inadvertence, a person pays any assessment for a local improvement or an installment thereof upon the lands of another, he may, after demand and refusal, recover from the owner of such lands, by an action in the superior court, the amount so paid and the costs of the action. [1965 c 7 § 35.49.100. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 65; RRS § 9418.]

**35.49.110 Record of payment.** If the amount of any assessment for a local improvement with interest, penalty, costs, and charges accrued thereon is paid to the treasurer before sale of the property in foreclosure of the lien thereon, the city or town treasurer shall mark it paid upon the assessment roll with the date of payment thereof. [1965 c 7 § 35.49.110. Prior: 1927 c 275 § 2; 1911 c 98 § 30; RRS § 9382.]

**35.49.130 Tax liens—City may protect assessment lien at foreclosure sale.** If any property situated in a local improvement district or utility local improvement district created by a city or town is offered for sale for general taxes by the county treasurer, the city or town shall have power to protect the lien or liens of any local improvement assessments outstanding against the whole or portion of such property by purchase at the treasurer's foreclosure sale. [1994 c 301 § 4; 1965 c 7 § 35.49.130. Prior: (i) 1911 c 98 § 63; RRS § 9416. (ii) 1929 c 143 § 1, part; 1925 ex.s. c 170 § 1, part; 1911 c 98 § 40, part; RRS § 9393, part.]

**35.49.140 Tax liens—Payment by city after taking property on foreclosure of local assessments.** If a city or town has bid in any property on sale for local improvement assessments, it may satisfy the lien of any outstanding general taxes upon the property by payment of the face of such taxes and costs, without penalty or interest, but this shall not apply where certificates of delinquency against the property have been issued to private persons. [1965 c 7 § 35.49.140. Prior: 1929 c 143 § 1, part; 1925 ex.s. c 170 § 1, part; 1911 c 98 § 40, part; RRS § 9393, part.]

**35.49.150 Tax title property—City may acquire from county before resale.** If property is struck off to or bid in by a county at a sale for general taxes, and is subject to local improvement assessments in any city or town, or has been taken over by the city or town on the foreclosure of local improvement assessments, the city or town may acquire the property from the county at any time before resale and receive a deed therefor upon paying the face of such taxes and costs, without penalty or interest. [1965 c 7 § 35.49.150. Prior: 1929 c 143 § 1, part; 1925 ex.s. c 170 § 1, part; 1911 c 98 § 40, part; RRS § 9393, part.]

**35.49.160 Tax title property—Disposition of proceeds upon resale.** Whenever property struck off to or bid

in by a county at a sale for general taxes is subsequently sold by the county, the proceeds of the sale shall first be applied to discharge in full the lien or liens for general taxes for which property was sold; the remainder, or such portion thereof as may be necessary, shall be paid to the city or town to discharge all local improvement assessment liens against the property; and the surplus, if any, shall be distributed among the proper county funds. [1965 c 7 § 35.49.160. Prior: 1929 c 143 § 1, part; 1925 ex.s. c 170 § 1, part; 1911 c 98 § 40, part; RRS § 9393, part.]

**35.49.170 Acquisition of property by state or political subdivisions which is subject to unpaid assessments and delinquencies.** See RCW 79.44.190.

### Chapter 35.50

## LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS—FORECLOSURE OF ASSESSMENTS

#### Sections

35.50.005	Filing of title, diagram, expense—Posting proposed roll.
35.50.010	Assessment lien—Attachment—Priority.
35.50.020	Assessment lien—Validity.
35.50.030	Authority and conditions precedent to foreclosure.
35.50.040	Entire assessment, foreclosure of.
35.50.050	Limitation of foreclosure action.
35.50.220	Procedure—Commencement of action.
35.50.225	Procedure—Form of summons.
35.50.230	Procedure—Parties and property included.
35.50.240	Procedure—Pleadings and evidence.
35.50.250	Procedure—Summons and service.
35.50.260	Procedure—Trial and judgment—Notice of sale.
35.50.270	Procedure—Sale—Right of redemption.

**35.50.005 Filing of title, diagram, expense—Posting proposed roll.** Within fifteen days after any city or town has ordered a local improvement and created a local improvement district, the city or town shall cause to be filed with the officer authorized by law to collect the assessments for such improvement, the title of the improvement and district number and a copy of the diagram or print showing the boundaries of the district and preliminary assessment roll or abstract of same showing thereon the lots, tracts and parcels of land that will be specially benefited thereby and the estimated cost and expense of such improvement to be borne by each lot, tract, or parcel of land. Such officer shall immediately post the proposed assessment roll upon his index of local improvement assessments against the properties affected by the local improvement. [1969 ex.s. c 258 § 16; 1965 c 7 § 35.50.005. Prior: 1955 c 353 § 1.]

**35.50.010 Assessment lien—Attachment—Priority.** The charge assessed upon the respective lots, tracts, or parcels of land and other property in the assessment roll confirmed by ordinance of the city or town council for the purpose of paying the cost and expense in whole or in part of any local improvement, shall be a lien upon the property assessed from the time the assessment roll is placed in the hands of the city or town treasurer for collection, but as between the grantor and grantee, or vendor and vendee of any real property, when there is no express agreement as to payment of the local improvement assessments against the real property, the lien of such assessment shall attach thirty

days after the filing of the diagram or print and the estimated cost and expense of such improvement to be borne by each lot, tract, or parcel of land, as provided in RCW 35.50.005. Interest and penalty shall be included in and shall be a part of the assessment lien.

The assessment lien shall be paramount and superior to any other lien or encumbrance theretofore or thereafter created except a lien for general taxes. [1965 c 7 § 35.50.010. Prior: 1955 c 353 § 4; prior: (i) 1911 c 98 § 20; RRS § 9372. (ii) 1927 c 275 § 1, part; 1921 c 92 § 1; 1911 c 98 § 24, part; RRS § 9376, part.]

**35.50.020 Assessment lien—Validity.** If the city or town council in making assessments against any property within any local improvement district or utility local improvement district has acted in good faith and without fraud, the assessments shall be valid and enforceable as such and the lien thereof upon the property assessed shall be valid.

It shall be no objection to the validity of the assessment, or the lien thereof:

(1) That the contract for the improvement was not awarded in the manner or at the time required by law; or

(2) That the assessment was made by an unauthorized officer or person if the assessment roll was confirmed by the city or town authorities; or

(3) That the assessment is based upon a front foot basis, or upon a basis of benefits to the property within the improvement district unless it is made to appear that the city or town authorities did not act in good faith and did not attempt to act fairly in regard thereto or unless it is made to appear that the city or town authorities acted fraudulently or oppressively in making the assessment.

All local improvement assessments heretofore or hereafter made by city or town authorities in good faith are valid and in full force and effect. [1967 c 52 § 17; 1965 c 7 § 35.50.020. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 61; RRS § 9414.]

**Construction—Severability—1967 c 52:** See notes following RCW 35.43.042.

**35.50.030 Authority and conditions precedent to foreclosure.** If on the first day of January in any year, two installments of any local improvement assessment are delinquent, or if the final installment thereof has been delinquent for more than one year, the city or town shall proceed with the foreclosure of the delinquent assessment or delinquent installments thereof by proceedings brought in its own name in the superior court of the county in which the city or town is situate.

The proceedings shall be commenced on or before March 1st of that year or on or before such other date in such year as may be fixed by general ordinance, but not before the city or town treasurer has notified by certified mail the persons whose names appear on the assessment roll as owners of the property charged with the assessments or installments which are delinquent, at the address last known to the treasurer, a notice thirty days before the commencement of the proceedings. If the person whose name appears on the tax rolls of the county assessor as owner of the property, or the address shown for the owner, differs from that appearing on the city or town assessment roll, then the

treasurer shall also mail a copy of the notice to that person or that address.

The notice shall state the amount due upon each separate lot, tract, or parcel of land and the date after which the proceedings will be commenced. The city or town treasurer shall file with the clerk of the superior court at the time of commencement of the foreclosure proceeding the affidavit of the person who mailed the notices. This affidavit shall be conclusive proof of compliance with the requirements of this section. [1983 c 303 § 18; 1982 c 91 § 1; 1981 c 323 § 6; 1965 c 7 § 35.50.030. Prior: 1933 c 9 § 1, part; 1927 c 275 § 5, part; 1919 c 70 § 2; 1915 c 185 § 1; 1911 c 98 §§ 34, 36, part; RRS § 9386, part; prior: 1897 c 111.]

Severability—1983 c 303: See RCW 36.60.905.

Severability—1982 c 91: "If any provision of this amendatory act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1982 c 91 § 10.]

Construction—1933 c 9: "The provisions of this act shall be applicable to the lien of assessments heretofore as well as hereafter levied and to foreclosure proceedings now pending." [1933 c 9 § 3.]

**35.50.040 Entire assessment, foreclosure of.** When the local improvement assessment is payable in installments, the enforcement of the lien of any installment shall not prevent the enforcement of the lien of any subsequent installment.

A city or town may by general ordinance provide that upon failure to pay any installment due the entire assessment shall become due and payable and the collection thereof enforced by foreclosure: PROVIDED, That the payment of all delinquent installments together with interest, penalty, and costs at any time before entry of judgment in foreclosure shall extend the time of payment on the remainder of the assessments as if there had been no delinquency or foreclosure. Where foreclosure of two installments of the same assessment on any lot, tract, or parcel is sought, the city or town treasurer shall cause such lot, tract, or parcel to be dismissed from the action, if the installment first delinquent together with interest, penalty, costs, and charges is paid at any time before sale. [1965 c 7 § 35.50.040. Prior: (i) 1933 c 9 § 1, part; 1927 c 275 § 5, part; 1919 c 70 § 2, part; 1915 c 185 § 1; 1911 c 98 §§ 34, 36, part; RRS § 9386, part. (ii) 1919 c 70 § 1; 1911 c 98 § 35; RRS § 9388; prior: 1897 c 111.]

**35.50.050 Limitation of foreclosure action.** An action to collect a local improvement assessment or any installment thereof or to enforce the lien thereof whether brought by the city or town, or by any person having the right to bring such action must be commenced within ten years after the assessment becomes delinquent or within ten years after the last installment becomes delinquent, if the assessment is payable in installments: PROVIDED, That the time during which payment of principal is deferred as to economically disadvantaged property owners as provided for in RCW 35.43.250 shall not be a part of the time limited for the commencement of action. [1989 c 11 § 6; 1972 ex.s. c 137 § 5; 1965 c 7 § 35.50.050. Prior: 1911 c 98 § 41; RRS § 9394.]

Severability—1989 c 11: See note following RCW 9A.56.220.

Severability—1972 ex.s. c 137: See note following RCW 35.49.010.

**35.50.220 Procedure—Commencement of action.** In foreclosing local improvement assessment liens, a city or town shall proceed by filing a complaint in the superior court of the county in which the city or town is located. It shall be sufficient to allege in the complaint (1) the passage of the ordinance authorizing the improvement, (2) the making of the improvement, (3) the levying of the assessment, (4) the confirmation thereof, (5) the date of delinquency of the installment or installments of the assessment for the enforcement of which the action is brought and (6) that they have not been paid prior to delinquency or at all. [1982 c 91 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.50.220. Prior: 1933 c 9 § 2, part; RRS § 9386-1, part.]

Severability—1982 c 91: See note following RCW 35.50.030.

**35.50.225 Procedure—Form of summons.** In foreclosing local improvement assessments, the summons shall be substantially in the following form:

SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON  
FOR [ . . . . . ] COUNTY

<p>..... , <i>Plaintiff,</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">v.</p> <p>..... , <i>Defendant.</i></p>	}	<p style="text-align: right;">No. ....</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SUMMONS FOR FORECLOSURE OF LOCAL IMPROVEMENT ASSESSMENT LIEN</p>
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To the Defendant: A lawsuit has been started against you in the above entitled court by . . . . . , plaintiff. Plaintiff's claim is stated in the written complaint, a copy of which is served upon you with this summons. The purpose of this suit is to foreclose on your interest in the following described property:

[legal description]

which is located at:

[street address]

In order to defend against this lawsuit, you must respond to the complaint by stating your defense in writing, and by serving a copy upon the person signing this summons within 20 days after the service of this summons, excluding the day of service, or a default judgment may be entered against you without notice. A default judgment is one where plaintiff is entitled to what he asks for because you have not responded. If you serve a notice of appearance on the undersigned person, you are entitled to notice before a default judgment may be entered.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

If judgment is taken against you, either by default or after hearing by the court, your property will be sold at public auction.

You may prevent the sale by paying the amount of the judgment at any time prior to the sale.

If your property is sold, you may redeem the property at any time up to two years after the date of the sale, by paying the amount for which the property was sold, plus interest and costs of the sale.

If you wish to seek the advice of an attorney in this matter, you should do so promptly so that your written response, if any, may be served on time.

[signed] .....  
.....  
Print or Type Name  
( ) Plaintiff ( ) Plaintiff's  
Attorney

P.O. Address .....  
Telephone Number .....

Dated .....

[1982 c 91 § 6.]

Severability—1982 c 91: See note following RCW 35.50.030.

**35.50.230 Procedure—Parties and property included.** In foreclosing local improvement assessment liens, it is not necessary to bring a separate suit for each of the lots, tracts, or parcels of land or other property or for each separate local improvement district or utility local improvement district. All or any of the lots, tracts, or parcels of land or other property upon which local improvement assessments are delinquent under any and all local improvement assessment rolls in the city or town may be proceeded against in the same action. For all lots, tracts, or parcels which contain a residential structure with an assessed value of at least two thousand dollars, all persons owning or claiming to own the property shall be made defendants thereto. For all other lots, tracts, or parcels, the persons whose names appear on the assessment roll and property tax rolls as owners of the property charged with the assessments or taxes shall be made defendants thereto. [1983 c 303 § 19; 1982 c 91 § 3; 1967 c 52 § 19; 1965 c 7 § 35.50.230. Prior: 1933 c 9 § 2, part; RRS § 9386-1, part.]

Severability—1983 c 303: See RCW 36.60.905.

Severability—1982 c 91: See note following RCW 35.50.030.

Construction—Severability—1967 c 52: See notes following RCW 35.43.042.

**35.50.240 Procedure—Pleadings and evidence.** In foreclosing local improvement assessment liens, the assessment roll and the ordinance confirming it, or duly authenticated copies thereof shall be prima facie evidence of the regularity and legality of the proceedings connected therewith and the burden of proof shall be on the defendants. [1982 c 91 § 4; 1965 c 7 § 35.50.240. Prior: 1933 c 9 § 2, part; RRS § 9386-1, part.]

Severability—1982 c 91: See note following RCW 35.50.030.

**35.50.250 Procedure—Summons and service.** In foreclosing local improvement assessments, if the lot, tract, or parcel contains a residential structure with an assessed value of at least two thousand dollars, the summons shall be served upon the defendants in the manner required by RCW 4.28.080. For all other lots, tracts, or parcels the summons shall be served by either personal service on the defendants or by certified and regular mail. [1983 c 303 § 20; 1982 c 91 § 5; 1965 c 7 § 35.50.250. Prior: 1933 c 9 § 2, part; RRS § 9386-1, part.]

Severability—1983 c 303: See RCW 36.60.905.

Severability—1982 c 91: See note following RCW 35.50.030.

Commencement of actions: Chapter 4.28 RCW.

**35.50.260 Procedure—Trial and judgment—Notice of sale.** In foreclosing local improvement assessments the action shall be tried to the court without a jury. If the parties interested in any particular lot, tract, or parcel default, the court may enter judgment of foreclosure and sale as to such parties and lots, tracts, or parcels and the action may proceed as to the remaining defendants and lots, tracts, or parcels. Judgment and order of sale may be entered as to any one or more separate lots, tracts, or parcels involved in the action and the court shall retain jurisdiction to others.

The judgment shall specify separately the amount of the installments with interest, penalty, and all reasonable costs, including the title searches, chargeable to each lot, tract, or parcel. The judgment shall have the effect of a separate judgment as to each lot, tract, or parcel described in the judgment, and any appeal shall not invalidate or delay the judgment except as to the property concerning which the appeal is taken. In the judgment the court shall order the lots, tracts, or parcels therein described sold by the city or town treasurer or by the county sheriff and an order of sale shall issue pursuant thereto for the enforcement of the judgment.

In all other respects, the trial, judgment, and appeals to the supreme court or the court of appeals shall be governed by the statutes governing the foreclosure of mortgages on real property.

Prior to the sale of the property, if the property is shown on the property tax rolls under unknown owner or if the property contains a residential structure having an assessed value of two thousand dollars or more, the treasurer shall order or conduct a title search of the property to determine the record title holders and all persons claiming a mortgage, deed of trust, or mechanic's, laborer's, materialmen's, or vendor's lien on the property.

At least thirty days prior to the sale of the property, a copy of the notice of sale shall be mailed by certified and regular mail to all defendants in the foreclosure action as to that parcel, lot, or tract and, if the owner is unknown or the property contains a residential structure having an assessed value of two thousand dollars or more, a copy of the notice of sale shall be mailed by regular and certified mail to any additional record title holders and persons claiming a mortgage, deed of trust, or mechanic's, laborer's, materialmen's, or vendor's lien on the property.

In all other respects the procedure for sale shall be conducted in the same manner as property tax sales described in RCW 84.64.080.[1983 c 303 § 21; 1982 c 91 § 7; 1971 c 81 § 93; 1965 c 7 § 35.50.260. Prior: 1933 c 9 § 2, part; RRS § 9386-1, part.]

Severability—1983 c 303: See RCW 36.60.905.

Severability—1982 c 91: See note following RCW 35.50.030.

Foreclosure of real estate mortgages and personal property liens: Chapter 61.12 RCW.

Foreclosure of special assessments  
by utility local improvement districts—Attorneys' fees: RCW 56.20.120.  
by water districts—Attorneys' fees: RCW 57.16.150.

**35.50.270 Procedure—Sale—Right of redemption.**

In foreclosing local improvement assessments, all sales shall be subject to the right of redemption within two years from the date of sale. [1983 c 303 § 22; 1982 c 91 § 8;

1965 c 7 § 35.50.270. Prior: 1933 c 9 § 2, part; RRS § 9386-1, part.]

Severability—1983 c 303: See RCW 36.60.905.

Severability—1982 c 91: See note following RCW 35.50.030.

### Chapter 35.51

## LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS—CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY—JOINT IMPROVEMENTS—RESERVE FUNDS

#### Sections

35.51.010	Definitions.
35.51.020	Joint planning, construction, and operation of improvements.
35.51.030	Alternative or additional method of assessment— Classification of property.
35.51.040	Reserve fund authorized—Use.
35.51.900	Authority supplemental—1985 c 397.
35.51.901	Severability—1985 c 397.

**35.51.010 Definitions.** The definitions set forth in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Local improvement district" means any local improvement district, local utility district, or any other similar special assessment district.

(2) "Municipality" means any city, town, county, metropolitan municipal corporation, or any other municipal corporation or quasi-municipal corporation of the state of Washington authorized to order local improvements, to establish local improvement districts, and to levy special assessments on property specially benefited thereby to pay the expense of the improvements.

(3) "Permissible floor area" means the maximum total floor area, at grade and above and below grade, of a building or other structure that may lawfully be developed on a property.

(4) "Private land use restriction" means any restriction on the use of property imposed by agreement and enforceable by a court of law and that the legislative authority of a municipality determines is useful in measuring special benefits to a property from an improvement. Such restrictions include but are not limited to easements, covenants, and equitable servitudes that are not mere personal obligations.

(5) "Public land use restriction" means any restriction on the use of property imposed by federal, state, or local laws, regulations, ordinances, or resolutions. Such restrictions include but are not limited to local zoning ordinances and historic preservation statutes. [1985 c 397 § 5.]

**35.51.020 Joint planning, construction, and operation of improvements.** A municipality may contract with any other municipality, with a public corporation, or with the state of Washington, for the following purposes:

(1) To have the acquisition or construction of the whole or any part of an improvement performed by another municipality, by a public corporation, or by the state of Washington;

(2) To pay, from assessments on property within a local improvement district or from the proceeds of local improvement district bonds, notes or warrants, the whole or any part of the expense of an improvement ordered, constructed,

acquired, or owned by another municipality or a public corporation; or

(3) To integrate the planning, financing, construction, acquisition, management, or operation, or any combination thereof, of the improvements of one municipality or a public corporation with the planning, financing, construction, acquisition, management, or operation, or any combination thereof, of the improvements of another municipality or public corporation on such terms and conditions as may be mutually agreed upon including, but not limited to, the allocation of the costs of the improvements and the allocation of planning, financing, construction, management, operation, or other responsibilities. [1987 c 242 § 5; 1985 c 397 § 6.]

Policy—1987 c 242: See note following RCW 35.43.005.

**35.51.030 Alternative or additional method of assessment—Classification of property.** (1) As an alternative or in addition to other methods of ascertaining assessments for local improvements, the legislative authority of a municipality may develop and apply a system of classification of properties based upon some or all of the public land use restrictions or private land use restrictions to which such property may be put at the time the assessment roll is confirmed.

(2) The legislative authority of a municipality may classify property into office, retail, residential, public, or any other classifications the legislative authority finds reasonable, and may levy special assessments upon different classes of property at different rates, but in no case may a special assessment exceed the special benefit to a particular property. A municipality also may exempt certain classes of property from assessment if the legislative authority of the municipality determines that properties within such classes will not specially benefit from the improvement.

(3) For each property within a classification, the legislative authority of the municipality may determine the special assessment after consideration of any or all of the following:

(a) Square footage of the property;

(b) Permissible floor area;

(c) Distance from or proximity of access to the local improvement;

(d) Private land use restrictions and public land use restrictions;

(e) Existing facilities on the property at the time the assessment roll is confirmed; and

(f) Any other factor the legislative authority finds to be a reasonable measure of the special benefits to the properties being assessed.

(4) If after the assessment roll is confirmed, the legislative authority of a municipality finds that the lawful uses of any assessed property have changed and that the property no longer falls within its original classification, the legislative authority may, in its discretion, reclassify and reassess such property whether or not the bonds issued to pay any part of such costs remain outstanding. If such reassessment reduces the total outstanding assessments within the local improvement district, the legislative authority shall either reassess all other properties upward in an aggregate amount equal to such reduction, or shall pledge additional money, including

money in a reserve fund, to the payment of principal of and interest on such bonds in an amount equal to such reduction.

(5) When the legislative authority of a municipality determines that it will use the alternative or additional method of assessment authorized by this section, it may select and describe the method or methods of assessment in the ordinance ordering a local improvement and creating a local improvement district if such method or methods of assessment have been described in the notice of hearing required under RCW 35.43.150. If the method or methods of assessment are so selected and described in the ordinance ordering a local improvement and creating a local improvement district, the action and decision of the legislative authority as to such method or methods of assessment shall be final and conclusive, and no lawsuit whatsoever may be maintained challenging such method or methods of assessment unless that lawsuit is served and filed no later than thirty days after the date of passage of the ordinance ordering the improvement, and creating the district or, when applicable, no later than thirty days after the expiration of the thirty-day protest period provided in RCW 35.43.180. [1985 c 397 § 7.]

**35.51.040 Reserve fund authorized—Use.** For the purpose of securing the payment of the principal of and interest on an issue of local improvement bonds, notes, warrants, or other short-term obligations, the legislative authority of a municipality may create a reserve fund in an amount not exceeding fifteen percent of the principal amount of the bonds, notes, or warrants issued. The cost of a reserve fund may be included in the cost and expense of any local improvement for assessment against the property in the local improvement district to pay the cost, or any part thereof. The reserve fund may be provided for from the proceeds of the bonds, notes, warrants, or other short-term obligations, from special assessment payments, or from any other money legally available therefor. The legislative authority of a municipality shall provide that after payment of administrative costs a sum in proportion to the ratio between the part of the original assessment against a given lot, tract, or parcel of land in a local improvement district assessed to create a reserve fund, if any, and the total original amount of such assessment, plus a proportionate share of any interest accrued in the reserve fund, shall be credited and applied, respectively, to any nondelinquent portion of the principal of that assessment and any nondelinquent installment interest on that assessment paid by a property owner, but in no event may the principal amount of bonds outstanding exceed the principal amount of assessments outstanding. Whether the payment is made during the thirty-day prepayment period referred to in RCW 35.49.010 and 35.49.020 or thereafter and whenever all or part of a remaining nondelinquent assessment or any nondelinquent installment payment of principal and interest is paid, the reserve fund balance shall be reduced accordingly as each such sum is thus credited and applied to a nondelinquent principal payment and a nondelinquent interest payment. Each payment of a nondelinquent assessment or any nondelinquent installment payment of principal and interest shall be reduced by the amount of the credit. The balance of a reserve fund remaining after payment in full and retirement

of all local improvement bonds, notes, warrants, or other short-term obligations secured by such fund shall be transferred to the municipality's guaranty fund.

Where, before July 26, 1987, a municipality established a reserve fund under this section that did not provide for a credit or reimbursement of the money remaining in the reserve fund to the owners of the lots, tracts, or parcels of property subject to the assessments, the balance in the reserve fund shall be distributed, after payment in full and retirement of all local improvement district bonds and other obligations secured by the reserve fund, to those owners of the lots, tracts, or parcels of property subject to the assessments at the time the final installment or assessment payment on the lot, tract, or parcel was made. No owner is eligible to receive reimbursement for a lot, tract, or parcel if a lien on an unpaid assessment, or an installment thereon, that was imposed on such property remains in effect at the time the reimbursement is made or was foreclosed on the property. The amount to be distributed to the owners of each lot, tract, or parcel that is eligible for reimbursement shall be equal to the balance in the reserve fund, multiplied by the assessment imposed on the lot, tract, or parcel, divided by the total of all the assessments on the lots, tracts, or parcels eligible for reimbursement. [1987 c 340 § 1; 1985 c 397 § 8.]

**35.51.900 Authority supplemental—1985 c 397.** The authority granted by \*sections 1 through 8 of this act is supplemental and in addition to the authority granted by Title 35 RCW and to any other authority granted to cities, towns, or municipal corporations to levy special assessments. [1985 c 397 § 12.]

**\*Reviser's note:** "Sections 1 through 8 of this act" [1985 c 397] consist of the enactment of RCW 35.51.010 through 35.51.040 and the 1985 c 397 amendments to RCW 35.43.040, 35.43.050, 35.44.010, and 35.44.020.

**35.51.901 Severability—1985 c 397.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1985 c 397 § 13.]

## Chapter 35.53

### LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS—DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY ACQUIRED

#### Sections

35.53.010	Property to be held in trust—Taxability.
35.53.020	Discharge of trust.
35.53.030	Sale or lease of trust property.
35.53.040	Termination of trust in certain property.
35.53.050	Termination of trust in certain property—Complaint—Allegations.
35.53.060	Termination of trust in certain property—Property—Parties—Summons.
35.53.070	Termination of trust in certain property—Receivership—Regulations.

**35.53.010 Property to be held in trust—Taxability.** Property bid in by the city or town or struck off to it pursuant to proceedings for the foreclosure of local improvement assessment liens shall be held in trust by the city or



town for the fund of the improvement district or the revenue bond fund into which assessments in utility local improvement districts are pledged to be paid for the benefit of which the property was sold. Any property so held in trust shall be exempt from taxation for general state, county and municipal purposes during the period that it is so held. [1967 c 52 § 20; 1965 c 7 § 35.53.010. Prior: 1933 c 107 § 1, part; 1927 c 275 § 3, part; 1911 c 98 § 31, part; RRS § 9383, part.]

**Construction—Severability—1967 c 52:** See notes following RCW 35.43.042.

**35.53.020 Discharge of trust.** The city or town may relieve itself of its trust relation to a local improvement district fund or revenue bond fund into which utility local improvement assessments are pledged to be paid as to any lot, tract, or parcel of property by paying into the fund the amount of the delinquent assessment for which the property was sold and all accrued interest, together with interest to the time of the next call of bonds or warrants against such fund at the rate provided thereon. Upon such payment the city or town shall hold the property discharged of the trust. [1967 c 52 § 21; 1965 c 7 § 35.53.020. Prior: 1933 c 107 § 1, part; 1927 c 275 § 3, part; 1911 c 98 § 31, part; RRS § 9383, part.]

**Construction—Severability—1967 c 52:** See notes following RCW 35.43.042.

**35.53.030 Sale or lease of trust property.** A city or town may lease or sell and convey any such property held in trust by it, by virtue of the conveyance thereof to it by a local improvement assessment deed. The sale may be public or private and for such price and upon such terms as may be determined by resolution of the council, any provisions of law, charter, or ordinance to the contrary notwithstanding. After first reimbursing any funds which may have advanced moneys on account of any lot, tract, or parcel, all proceeds resulting from lease or sale thereof shall ratably belong and be paid into the funds of the local improvement concerned. [1965 c 7 § 35.53.030. Prior: 1927 c 275 § 4; 1911 c 98 § 32; RRS § 9384.]

**35.53.040 Termination of trust in certain property.** A city or town which has heretofore acquired or hereafter acquires any property through foreclosure of delinquent assessments for local improvements initiated or proceedings commenced before June 8, 1927, may terminate its trust therein by an action in the superior court, if all the bonds and warrants outstanding in the local improvement district in which the assessments were levied are delinquent. [1965 c 7 § 35.53.040. Prior: 1929 c 142 § 1, part; RRS § 9384-1, part.]

**35.53.050 Termination of trust in certain property—Complaint—Allegations.** The complaint in any such action by a city or town to terminate its trust in property acquired at a local improvement assessment sale shall set forth:

- (1) The number of the local improvement district or utility local improvement district,
- (2) The bonds and warrants owing thereby,
- (3) The owners thereof or that the owners are unknown,

(4) A description of the assets of the district with the estimated value thereof,

(5) The amount of the assessments, including penalty and interest, of any other local improvement districts or utility local improvement districts which are a lien upon the same property,

(6) The amount of the bonds and warrants owing by such other districts and the names of the owners thereof unless they are unknown, except where the bonds and warrants are guaranteed by a local improvement guaranty fund or pursuant to any other form of guaranty authorized by law. [1967 c 52 § 22; 1965 c 7 § 35.53.050. Prior: 1929 c 142 § 1, part; RRS § 9384-1, part.]

**Construction—Severability—1967 c 52:** See notes following RCW 35.43.042.

**35.53.060 Termination of trust in certain property—Property—Parties—Summons.** Two or more delinquent districts and all property, bonds and warrants therein may be included in one action to terminate the trust.

All persons owning any bonds or warrants of the districts involved in the action or having an interest therein shall be made parties defendant except in cases where the bonds or warrants are guaranteed by a local improvement guaranty fund or pursuant to any other form of guaranty authorized by law.

Summons shall be served as in other actions. Unknown owners and unknown parties shall be served by publication. [1965 c 7 § 35.53.060. Prior: 1929 c 142 § 1, part; RRS § 9384-1, part.]

*Commencement of actions: Chapter 4.28 RCW.*

**35.53.070 Termination of trust in certain property—Receivership—Regulations.** In such an action the court after acquiring jurisdiction shall proceed as in the case of a receivership except that the city or town shall serve as trustee in lieu of a receiver.

The assets of the improvement districts involved shall be sold at such prices and in such manner as the court may deem advisable and be applied to the costs and expenses of the action and the liquidation of the bonds and warrants of the districts or revenue bonds to which utility local improvement assessments are pledged to pay.

No notice to present claims other than the summons in the action shall be necessary. Any claim presented shall be accompanied by the bonds and warrants upon which it is based. Dividends upon any bonds or warrants for which no claim was filed shall be paid into the general fund of the city or town, but the owner thereof may obtain it at any time within five years thereafter upon surrender and cancellation of his bonds and warrants.

Upon the termination of the receivership the city or town shall be discharged from all trusts relating to the property, funds, bonds, and warrants involved in the action. [1967 c 52 § 23; 1965 c 7 § 35.53.070. Prior: 1929 c 142 § 1, part; RRS § 9384-1, part.]

**Construction—Severability—1967 c 52:** See notes following RCW 35.43.042.

## Chapter 35.54

## LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS—GUARANTY FUNDS

## Sections

35.54.010	Establishment.
35.54.020	Rules and regulations.
35.54.030	Source—Interest and earnings.
35.54.040	Source—Subrogation rights to assessments.
35.54.050	Source—Surplus from improvement funds.
35.54.060	Source—Taxation.
35.54.070	Use of fund—Purchase of bonds, coupons and warrants.
35.54.080	Use of fund—Purchase of general tax certificates or property on or after foreclosure—Disposition.
35.54.090	Warrants against fund.
35.54.095	Transfer of assets to general fund—When authorized—Payment of claims as general obligation, when.
35.54.100	Deferral of collection of assessments for economically disadvantaged persons—Payment from guaranty fund—Lien—Payment dates for deferred obligations.

**35.54.010 Establishment.** There is established in every city and town a fund to be designated the "local improvement guaranty fund" for the purpose of guaranteeing, to the extent of the fund, the payment of its local improvement bonds and warrants issued to pay for any local improvement ordered in the city or town or in any area wholly or partly outside its corporate boundaries: (1) In any city of the first class having a population of more than three hundred thousand, subsequent to June 8, 1927; (2) in any city or town having created and maintained a guaranty fund under chapter 141, Laws of 1923, subsequent to the date of establishment of such fund; and (3) in any other city or town subsequent to April 7, 1926: PROVIDED, That this shall not apply to any city of the first class which maintains a local improvement guaranty fund under chapter 138, Laws of 1917, but any such city maintaining a guaranty fund under chapter 138, Laws of 1917 may by ordinance elect to operate under the provisions of this chapter and may transfer to the guaranty fund created hereunder all the assets of the former fund and, upon such election and transfer, all bonds guaranteed under the former fund shall be guaranteed under the provisions of this chapter. [1971 ex.s. c 116 § 7; 1965 c 7 § 35.54.010. Prior: (i) 1917 c 138 § 1; RRS § 8986. (ii) 1917 c 138 § 2; RRS § 8987. (iii) 1917 c 138 § 3; RRS § 8988. (iv) 1917 c 138 § 4; RRS § 8989. (v) 1917 c 138 § 5; RRS § 8990. (vi) 1917 c 138 § 6; RRS § 8991. (vii) 1927 c 209 § 1; 1925 ex.s. c 183 § 1; 1923 c 141 § 1; RRS § 9351-1. (viii) 1927 c 209 § 2, part; 1925 ex.s. c 183 § 2, part; 1923 c 141 § 2, part; RRS § 9351-2, part.]

**35.54.020 Rules and regulations.** Every city and town operating under the provisions of this chapter shall prescribe by ordinance appropriate rules and regulations for the maintenance and operation of the guaranty fund not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter. [1965 c 7 § 35.54.020. Prior: 1933 c 109 § 1, part; 1927 c 209 § 3, part; 1925 ex.s. c 183 § 3, part; 1923 c 141 § 3, part; RRS § 9351-3, part.]

**35.54.030 Source—Interest and earnings.** Interest and earnings from the local improvement guaranty fund shall be paid into the fund. [1965 c 7 § 35.54.030. Prior: 1933 c 109 § 1, part; 1927 c 209 § 3, part; 1925 ex.s. c 183 § 3, part; 1923 c 141 § 3, part; RRS § 9351-3, part.]

(1994 Ed.)

**35.54.040 Source—Subrogation rights to assessments.** Whenever any sum is paid out of the local improvement guaranty fund on account of principal or interest of a local improvement bond or warrant, the city or town as trustee of the fund shall be subrogated to all the rights of the holder of the bond or interest coupon or warrant so paid, and the proceeds thereof, or of the underlying assessment, shall become part of the guaranty fund. [1965 c 7 § 35.54.040. Prior: 1933 c 109 § 1, part; 1927 c 209 § 3, part; 1925 ex.s. c 183 § 3, part; 1923 c 141 § 3, part; RRS § 9351-3, part.]

**35.54.050 Source—Surplus from improvement funds.** If in any local improvement fund guaranteed by a local improvement guaranty fund there is a surplus remaining after the payment of all outstanding bonds and warrants payable therefrom, it shall be paid into the local improvement guaranty fund. [1965 c 7 § 35.54.050. Prior: 1933 c 109 § 1, part; 1927 c 209 § 3, part; 1925 ex.s. c 183 § 3, part; 1923 c 141 § 3, part; RRS § 9351-3, part.]

**35.54.060 Source—Taxation.** For the purpose of maintaining the local improvement guaranty fund, every city and town shall, at the time of making its annual budget and tax levy, provide for the levy of a sum sufficient, with the other sources of the fund, to pay the warrants issued against the fund during the preceding fiscal year and to establish a balance therein: PROVIDED, That the levy in any one year shall not exceed the greater of: (1) Twelve percent of the outstanding obligations guaranteed by the fund, or (2) the total amount of delinquent assessments and interest accumulated on the delinquent assessments before the levy as of September 1.

The taxes levied for the maintenance of the local improvement guaranty fund shall be additional to and, if need be, in excess of all statutory and charter limitations applicable to tax levies in any city or town. [1981 c 323 § 7; 1965 c 7 § 35.54.060. Prior: (i) 1933 c 109 § 1, part; 1927 c 209 § 3, part; 1925 ex.s. c 183 § 3, part; 1923 c 141 § 3, part; RRS § 9351-3, part. (ii) 1927 c 209 § 2, part; 1925 ex.s. c 183 § 2, part; 1923 c 141 § 2, part; RRS § 9351-2, part.]

*Special assessments or taxation for local improvements: State Constitution Art. 7 § 9.*

**35.54.070 Use of fund—Purchase of bonds, coupons and warrants.** Defaulted bonds, interest coupons and warrants against local improvement funds shall be purchased out of the guaranty fund, and as between the several issues of bonds, coupons, or warrants no preference shall exist, but they shall be purchased in the order of their presentation. [1965 c 7 § 35.54.070. Prior: 1933 c 109 § 1, part; 1927 c 209 § 3, part; 1925 ex.s. c 183 § 3, part; 1923 c 141 § 3, part; RRS § 9351-3, part.]

**35.54.080 Use of fund—Purchase of general tax certificates or property on or after foreclosure—Disposition.** For the purpose of protecting the guaranty fund, so much of the guaranty fund as is necessary may be used to purchase certificates of delinquency for general taxes on property subject to local improvement assessments which underlie the bonds, coupons, or warrants guaranteed by the

fund, or to purchase such property at county tax foreclosures, or from the county after foreclosure.

The city or town, as trustee of the fund, may foreclose the lien of general tax certificates of delinquency and purchase the property at foreclosure sale; when doing so the court costs, costs of publication, expense for clerical work and other expenses incidental thereto shall be charged to and paid from the local improvement guaranty fund.

After acquiring title to property by purchase at general tax foreclosure sale or from the county after foreclosure, a city or town may lease it or sell it at public or private sale at such price on such terms as may be determined by resolution of the council. All proceeds shall belong to and be paid into the local improvement guaranty fund. [1965 c 7 § 35.54.080. Prior: 1933 c 109 § 1, part; 1927 c 209 § 3, part; 1925 ex.s. c 183 § 3, part; 1923 c 141 § 3, part; RRS § 9351-3, part.]

**35.54.090 Warrants against fund.** Warrants drawing interest at a rate established by the issuing officer under the direction of the legislative authority of the city or town shall be issued against the local improvement guaranty fund to meet any liability accruing against it. The warrants so issued shall at no time exceed five percent of the outstanding obligations guaranteed by the fund. [1981 c 323 § 8; 1965 c 7 § 35.54.090. Prior: 1933 c 109 § 1, part; 1927 c 209 § 3, part; 1925 ex.s. c 183 § 3, part; 1923 c 141 § 3, part; RRS § 9351-3, part.]

**35.54.095 Transfer of assets to general fund—When authorized—Payment of claims as general obligation, when.** (1) Any city or town maintaining a local improvement guaranty fund under this chapter, upon certification by the city or town treasurer that the local improvement guaranty fund has sufficient funds currently on hand to meet all valid outstanding obligations of the fund and all other obligations of the fund reasonably expected to be incurred in the near future, may by ordinance transfer assets from such fund to its general fund. The net cash of the local improvement guaranty fund may be reduced by such transfer to an amount not less than ten percent of the net outstanding obligations guaranteed by such fund.

(2) If, at any time within five years of any transfer of assets from the local improvement guaranty fund to the general fund of a city or town, the net cash of the local improvement guaranty fund is reduced below the minimum amount specified in subsection (1) of this section, the city or town shall, to the extent of the amount transferred, pay valid claims against the local improvement guaranty fund as a general obligation of the city or town. In addition, such city or town shall pay all reasonable costs of collection necessarily incurred by the holders of valid claims against the local improvement guaranty fund. [1979 c 55 § 1.]

**35.54.100 Deferral of collection of assessments for economically disadvantaged persons—Payment from guaranty fund—Lien—Payment dates for deferred obligations.** Whenever payment of a local improvement district assessment is deferred pursuant to the provisions of RCW 35.43.250 the amount of the deferred assessment shall be paid out of the local improvement guaranty fund. The

local improvement guaranty fund shall have a lien on the benefited property in an amount equal to the deferral together with interest as provided for by the establishing ordinance.

The lien may accumulate up to an amount not to exceed the sum of two installments: PROVIDED, That the ordinance creating the local improvement district may provide for one or additional deferrals of up to two installments. Local improvement assessment obligations deferred under \*this 1972 amendatory act shall become payable upon the earliest of the following dates:

(1) Upon the date and pursuant to conditions established by the political subdivision granting the deferral; or

(2) Upon the sale of property which has a deferred assessment lien upon it from the purchase price; or

(3) Upon the death of the person to whom the deferral was granted from the value of his estate; except a surviving spouse shall be allowed to continue the deferral which shall then be payable by that spouse as provided in this section. [1972 ex.s. c 137 § 3.]

\*Reviser's note: "this 1972 amendatory act" [1972 ex.s. c 137] consists of RCW 35.43.250 and 35.54.100 and the 1972 ex.s. amendments to RCW 35.49.010 and 35.50.050.

Severability—1972 ex.s. c 137: See note following RCW 35.49.010.

## Chapter 35.55

### LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS—FILLING LOWLANDS

#### Sections

35.55.010	Authority—Second class cities.
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**35.55.010 Authority—Second class cities.** If the city council of any city of the second class deems it necessary or expedient on account of the public health, sanitation, the general welfare, or other cause, to fill or raise the grade of any marshlands, swamplands, tidelands, shorelands, or lands commonly known as tideflats, or any other lowlands situated within the limits of the city, and to clear and prepare the lands for such filling, it may do so and assess the expense thereof, including the cost of making compensation for property taken or damaged, and all other costs and expense incidental to such improvement, to the property benefited, except such amount of such expense as the city council may direct to be paid out of the current or general expense fund.

If, in the judgment of the city council the special benefits for any such improvement shall extend beyond the boundaries of the filled area, the council may create an enlarged district which shall include, as near as may be, all the property, whether actually filled or not, which will be specially benefited by such improvement, and in such case the council shall specify and describe the boundaries of such enlarged district in the ordinance providing for such improvement and shall specify that such portion of the total cost and expense of such improvement as may not be borne by the current or general expense fund, shall be distributed and assessed against all the property of such enlarged district. [1994 c 81 § 57; 1965 c 7 § 35.55.010. Prior: 1917 c 63 § 1; 1909 c 147 § 1; RRS § 9432.]

**35.55.020 Alternative methods of financing.** If the city council desires to make any improvement authorized by the provisions of this chapter it shall provide therefor by ordinance and unless the ordinance provides that the improvement shall be paid for wholly or in part by special assessments upon the property benefited, compensation therefor shall be made from any general funds of the city applicable thereto. If the ordinance provides that the improvement shall be paid for wholly or in part by special assessments upon property benefited, the proceedings for the making of the special assessments shall be as hereinafter provided. [1965 c 7 § 35.55.020. Prior: 1909 c 147 § 2, part; RRS § 9433, part.]

*Special assessments or taxation for local improvements: State Constitution Art. 7 § 9.*

**35.55.030 Boundaries—Excepted property.** Such ordinance shall specify the boundaries of the proposed improvement district and shall describe the lands which it is proposed to assess for said improvement. If any parcel of land within the boundaries of such proposed improvement district has been wholly filled to the proposed grade elevation of the proposed fill, such parcel of land may be excluded from the lists of lands to be assessed, when in the opinion of the city council justice and equity require its exclusion. The boundaries of any improvement district may be altered so as to exclude land therefrom at any time up to the levying of the assessment but such changing of the boundaries shall be by ordinance. [1965 c 7 § 35.55.030. Prior: 1909 c 147 § 2, part; RRS § 9433, part.]

**35.55.040 Damages—Eminent domain.** If an ordinance has been passed as in this chapter provided, and it appears that in making of the improvement so authorized, private property will be taken or damaged thereby, the city shall file a petition in the superior court of the county in which such city is situated, in the name of the city, praying that just compensation to be made for the property to be taken or damaged for the improvement specified in the ordinance be ascertained, and conduct proceedings in eminent domain in accordance with the statutes relating to cities for the ascertainment of the compensation to be made for the taking and damaging of property, except insofar as the same may be inconsistent with this chapter.

The filling of unimproved and uncultivated lowlands of the character mentioned in RCW 35.55.010 shall not be

considered as damaging or taking of such lands. The damage if any, done to cultivated lands or growing crops thereon, or to buildings and other improvements situated within the district proposed to be filled, shall be ascertained and determined in the manner above provided; but no damage shall be awarded to any property owner for buildings or improvements placed upon lands included within said district after the publication of the ordinance defining the boundaries of the proposed improvement district: PROVIDED, That the city shall after the passage of such ordinance, proceed with said improvement with due diligence. If the improvement is to be made at the expense of the property benefited, no account shall be taken of benefits by the jury or court in assessing the amount of compensation to be made to the owner of any property within such district, but such compensation shall be assessed without regard to benefits to the end that said property for which damages may be so awarded, may be assessed the same as other property within the district for its just share and proportion of the expense of making said improvement, and the fact that compensation has been awarded for the damaging or taking of any parcel of land shall not preclude the assessment of such parcel of land for its just proportion of said improvement. [1965 c 7 § 35.55.040. Prior: 1909 c 147 § 3; RRS § 9434.]

*Eminent domain by cities: Chapter 8.12 RCW.*

**35.55.050 Estimates—Plans and specifications.** At the time of the initiation of the proceedings for any improvement as contemplated by this chapter, or at any time afterward, the city council shall cause plans and specifications for said improvement to be prepared and shall cause an estimate to be made of the cost and expense of making said improvement, including the cost of supervision and engineering, abstractor's fees, interest and discounts and all other expenses incidental to said improvement, including an estimate of the amount of damages for property taken or damaged, which plans, specifications and estimates shall be approved by the city council. [1965 c 7 § 35.55.050. Prior: 1909 c 147 § 4; RRS § 9435.]

**35.55.060 Assessment roll—Items—Assessment units—Installments.** When such plans and specifications have been prepared and the estimates of the cost and expense of making the improvement have been adopted by the council and when an estimate has been made of the compensation to be paid for property damaged or taken, either before or after the compensation has been ascertained in the eminent domain proceedings, the city council shall cause an assessment roll to be prepared containing a list of all of the property within the improvement district which it is proposed to assess for the improvement, together with the names of the owners, if known, and if unknown the property shall be assessed to an unknown owner, and opposite each description shall be set the amount assessed to such description.

When so ordered by the council, the entire amount of compensation paid or to be paid for property damaged or taken, including all of the costs and expenses incidental to the condemnation proceedings together with the entire cost and expense of making the improvement, may be assessed against the property within the district subject to assessment,

but the council may order any portion of the costs paid out of the current or general expense fund of the city.

The assessments shall be made according to and in proportion to surface area one square foot of surface to be the unit of assessment, except that the several parcels of land in any enlarged district not actually filled shall be assessed in accordance with special benefits: PROVIDED, That where any parcel of land was partially filled by the owner prior to the initiation of the improvement, an equitable deduction for such partial filling may be allowed.

The cost and expense incidental to the filling of the streets, alleys and public places within such assessment district shall be borne by the private property within such district subject to assessment when so ordered by the council. When the assessments are payable in installments, the assessment roll when equalized, shall show the number of installments and the amounts thereof. The assessments may be made payable in any number of equal annual installments not exceeding ten in number. [1965 c 7 § 35.55.060. Prior: 1917 c 63 § 2; 1909 c 147 § 5; RRS § 9436.]

**35.55.070 Hearing on assessment roll—Notice—Council's authority.** When such assessment roll has been prepared it shall be filed in the office of the city clerk and thereupon the city clerk shall give notice by publication in at least three issues of the official paper that such roll is on file in his office and that at a date mentioned in said notice, which shall be at least twenty days after the date of the first publication thereof, the city council will sit as a board of equalization to equalize said roll and to hear, consider and determine protests and objections against the same.

At the time specified in the notice, the city council shall sit as a board of equalization to equalize the roll and they may adjourn the sitting from time to time until the equalization of such roll is completed. The city council as board of equalization may hear, consider and determine objections and protests against any assessment and may make such alterations and modifications in the assessment roll as justice and equity may require. [1965 c 7 § 35.55.070. Prior: 1909 c 147 § 6; RRS § 9437.]

**35.55.080 Hearings—Appellate review.** Any person who has made objections to the assessment as equalized, shall have the right to appeal from the equalization as made by the city council to the superior court of the county. The appeal shall be made by filing a written notice of appeal with the city clerk within ten days after the equalization of the assessments by the council. The notice of appeal shall describe the property and the objections of such appellant to such assessment.

The appellant shall also file with the clerk of the superior court within ten days from the time of taking the appeal a copy of the notice of appeal together with a copy of the assessment roll and proceedings thereon, certified by the city clerk and a bond to the city conditioned to pay all costs that may be awarded against appellant in such sum not less than two hundred dollars and with such security as shall be approved by the clerk of the court.

The case shall be docketed by the clerk of the court in the name of the person taking the appeal as plaintiff and the city as defendant. The cause shall then be at issue and shall

be tried immediately by the court as in the case of equitable causes; no further pleadings shall be necessary. The judgment of the court shall be either to confirm, modify or annul the assessment insofar as the same affects the property of the appellant. Appellate review of the superior court's decision may be sought as in other causes. [1988 c 202 § 38; 1971 c 81 § 94; 1965 c 7 § 35.55.080. Prior: 1909 c 147 § 7; RRS § 9438.]

**Severability—1988 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.24.050.

**35.55.090 Lien—Collection of assessments.** From and after the equalization of the roll, the several assessments therein shall become a lien upon the real estate described therein and shall remain a lien until paid. The assessment lien shall take precedence of all other liens against such property, except the lien of general taxes. The assessments shall be collected by the same officers and enforced in the same manner as provided by law for the collection and enforcement of local assessments for street improvements. All of the provisions of laws and ordinances relative to the enforcement and collection of local assessments for street improvements shall be applicable to these assessments. [1965 c 7 § 35.55.090. Prior: 1909 c 147 § 8; RRS § 9439.]

*Assessments for local improvements, collection and foreclosure: Chapters 35.49, 35.50 RCW.*

**35.55.100 Interest on assessments.** The local assessments shall bear interest at such rate as may be fixed by the council after the expiration of thirty days after the equalization of the assessment roll and shall bear such interest after delinquency as may be provided by general ordinance of the city. [1981 c 156 § 3; 1965 c 7 § 35.55.100. Prior: 1909 c 147 § 12, part; RRS § 9443, part.]

**35.55.110 Payment of cost of improvement—Interest on warrants.** If the improvement contemplated by this chapter is ordered to be made upon the immediate payment plan, the city council shall provide for the payment thereof by the issuance of local improvement fund warrants against the local improvement district, which warrants shall be paid only out of the funds derived from the local assessments in the district and shall bear interest at a rate determined by the city council from date of issuance. If the improvement is ordered to be made upon the bond installment plan, the city council shall provide for the issuance of bonds against the improvement district. [1981 c 156 § 4; 1965 c 7 § 35.55.110. Prior: (i) 1909 c 147 § 12, part; RRS § 9443, part. (ii) 1909 c 147 § 9; RRS § 9440.]

**35.55.120 Local improvement bonds—Terms.** The city council shall have full authority to provide for the issuance of bonds against the improvement district fund in such denominations as the city council may provide which shall bear such rate of interest as the city council may fix. Interest shall be paid annually and the bonds shall become due and payable at such time, not exceeding ten years from the date thereof, as may be fixed by the council and shall be payable out of the local assessment district fund.

If so ordered by the council, the bonds may be issued in such a way that different numbers of the bonds may

become due and payable at different intervals of time, or they may be so issued that all of the bonds against said district mature together. [1981 c 156 § 5; 1965 c 7 § 35.55.120. Prior: 1909 c 147 § 10, part; RRS § 9441, part.]

### **35.55.130 Local improvement bonds—Guaranties.**

The city may guarantee the payment of the whole or any part of the bonds issued against a local improvement district, but the guaranties on the part of the city, other than a city operating under the council-manager form or the commission form, shall be made only by ordinance passed by the vote of not less than nine councilmembers and the approval of the mayor in noncharter code cities that retained the old second class city plan of government with twelve council positions, and six councilmembers and approval of the mayor in cities of the second class. In a city under the council-manager form of government, such guaranties shall be made only in an ordinance passed by a vote of three out of five or five out of seven councilmembers, as the case may be, and approval of the mayor. In a city under the commission form of government, such guaranties shall be made only in an ordinance passed by a vote of two out of three of the commissioners. The mayor's approval shall not be necessary in commission form cities. [1994 c 81 § 58; 1965 c 7 § 35.55.130. Prior: 1909 c 147 § 10, part; RRS § 9441, part.]

### **35.55.140 Local improvement bonds and warrants—Sale to pay damages, preliminary financing.**

The city council may negotiate sufficient warrants or bonds against any local improvement district at a price not less than ninety-five percent of their par value to raise sufficient money to pay any and all compensation which may be awarded for property damaged or taken in the eminent domain proceedings including the costs of such proceedings. In lieu of so doing, the city council may negotiate current or general expense fund warrants at par to raise funds for the payment of such compensation and expenses in the first instance, but in that event the current or general expense fund shall be reimbursed out of the first moneys collected in any such local assessment district or realized from the negotiation or sale of local improvement warrants or bonds. [1965 c 7 § 35.55.140. Prior: 1909 c 147 § 11; RRS § 9442.]

### **35.55.150 Local improvement fund—Investment.**

If money accumulates in an improvement fund and is likely to lie idle awaiting the maturity of the bonds against the district, the city council, under proper safeguards, may invest it temporarily, or may borrow it temporarily, at a reasonable rate of interest, but when so invested or borrowed, the city shall be responsible and liable for the restoration to such fund of the money so invested or borrowed with interest thereon, whenever required for the redemption of bonds maturing against such district. [1965 c 7 § 35.55.150. Prior: 1909 c 147 § 15; RRS § 9446.]

### **35.55.160 Letting contract for improvement—**

**Excess or deficiency of fund.** The contract for the making of the improvement may be let either before or after the making up of the equalization of the assessment roll, and warrants, or bonds may be issued against the local improve-

ment district fund either before or after the equalization of the roll as in the judgment of the council may best subserve the public interest.

If, after the assessment roll is made up and equalized, based in whole or in part upon an estimate of the cost of the improvement, and it is found that the estimate was too high, the excess shall be rebated pro rata to the property owners on the assessment roll, the rebates to be deducted from the last installment, or installments, when the assessment is upon the installment plan.

If it is found that the estimated cost was too low and that the actual bona fide cost of the improvement is greater than the estimate, the city council, after due notice and a hearing, as in case of the original equalization of the roll, may add the required additional amount to the assessment roll to be apportioned among the several parcels of property upon the same rules and principles as if it had been originally included, except that the additional amount shall be added to the last installment of an assessment if assessments are payable upon the installment plan. The same notice shall be required for adding to the assessment roll in this manner as is required for the original equalization of the roll, and the property owner shall have the right of appeal. [1965 c 7 § 35.55.160. Prior: 1909 c 147 § 13; RRS § 9444.]

### **35.55.170 Payment of contractor—Bonds, warrants,**

**cash.** The city council may provide in letting the contract for an improvement, that the contractor shall accept special fund warrants or local improvement bonds against the local improvement district within which such improvement is to be made, in payment for the contract price of the work, and that the warrants or bonds may be issued to the contractor from time to time as the work progresses, or the city council may negotiate the special fund warrants or bonds against the local improvement district at not less than ninety-five cents in money for each dollar of warrants or bonds, and with the proceeds pay the contractor for the work and pay the other costs of such improvement. [1965 c 7 § 35.55.170. Prior: 1909 c 147 § 14; RRS § 9445.]

**35.55.180 Reassessments.** If any assessment is found to be invalid for any cause or if it is set aside for any reason in judicial proceeding, a reassessment may be made and all laws relative to the reassessment of local assessments, for street or other improvements, shall, as far as practicable, be applicable hereto. [1965 c 7 § 35.55.180. Prior: 1909 c 147 § 16; RRS § 9447.]

**35.55.190 Provisions of chapter not exclusive.** The provisions of this chapter shall not be construed as repealing or in any wise affecting any existing laws relative to the making of any such improvements, but shall be considered as concurrent therewith. [1965 c 7 § 35.55.190. Prior: 1909 c 147 § 17; RRS § 9448.]

## Chapter 35.56

## LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS—FILLING AND DRAINING LOWLANDS—WATERWAYS

## Sections

- 35.56.010 Authority—First and second class cities.
- 35.56.020 Alternative methods of financing.
- 35.56.030 Boundaries—Excepted property.
- 35.56.040 Conditions precedent to passage of ordinance—Protests.
- 35.56.050 Damages—Eminent domain.
- 35.56.060 Estimates—Plans and specifications.
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- 35.56.100 Lien—Collection of assessments.
- 35.56.110 Interest on assessments.
- 35.56.120 Payment of cost of improvement—Interest on warrants.
- 35.56.130 Local improvement bonds—Terms.
- 35.56.140 Local improvement bonds—Guaranties.
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- 35.56.160 Local improvement fund—Investment.
- 35.56.170 Letting contracts for improvement—Excess or deficiency of fund.
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- 35.56.260 Waterways—Abutting lands—Lessee must lease shoreline property.
- 35.56.270 Work by day labor.
- 35.56.280 Reassessments.
- 35.56.290 Provisions of chapter not exclusive.

**35.56.010 Authority—First and second class cities.**

If the city council or commission of any city of the first or second class in this state deems it necessary or expedient on account of the public health, sanitation, the general welfare, or other cause, to fill or raise the grade or elevation of any marshlands, swamplands, tidelands or lands commonly known as tideflats, or any other lands situated within the limits of such city and to clear and prepare said lands for such filling it may do so by proceeding in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

For the purpose of filling and raising the grade or elevation of such lands and to secure material therefor and to provide for the proper drainage thereof after such fill has been effected, the city council or commission may acquire rights of way (and where necessary or desirable, may vacate, use and appropriate streets and alleys for such purposes) and lay out, build, construct and maintain over and across such lowlands, canals or artificial waterways of at least sufficient width, depth and length to provide and afford the quantity of earth, dirt and material required to complete such fill, and with the earth, dirt and material removed in digging and constructing such canals and waterways, fill and raise the grade or elevation of such marshlands, swamplands, tidelands or tideflats; and such canals or waterways shall be constructed of such width and depth (provided that all the earth, dirt and other suitable material removed in constructing the same shall be used to fill the lowlands as herein provided) as will make them available, convenient and

suitable to provide water frontage for landings, wharves and other conveniences of navigation and commerce for the use and benefit of the city and the public. If canals or waterways are to be constructed as herein provided, such city may construct and maintain the necessary bridges over and across the same; such canals or waterways shall be forever under the control of such city and shall be and become public thoroughfares and waterways for the use and benefit of commerce, shipping, the city and the public generally.

The expense of making such improvement and in doing, accomplishing and effecting all the work provided for in this chapter including the cost of making compensation for property taken or damaged, and all other cost and expense incidental to such improvement, shall be assessed to the property benefited, except such amount of such expense as the city council or commission, in its discretion, may direct to be paid out of the current or general expense fund. [1994 c 81 § 59; 1965 c 7 § 35.56.010. Prior: 1929 c 63 § 1; 1913 c 16 § 1; RRS § 9449.]

**35.56.020 Alternative methods of financing.** If the city council or commission desires to make any improvement authorized by the provisions of this chapter it shall provide therefor by ordinance and unless the ordinance provides that the improvement shall be paid for wholly or in part by special assessment upon the property benefited, compensation therefor shall be made from any general or special funds of the city applicable thereto. If the ordinance provides that the improvement shall be paid for wholly or in part by special assessments upon property benefited, the proceedings for the making of such special assessment shall be as hereafter provided. [1965 c 7 § 35.56.020. Prior: 1913 c 16 § 2, part; RRS § 9450, part.]

*Special assessments or taxation for local improvements: State Constitution Art. 7 § 9.*

**35.56.030 Boundaries—Excepted property.** Such ordinance shall specify the boundaries of the proposed improvement district and shall describe the lands which it is proposed to assess for said improvement, and shall provide for the filling of such lowlands and shall outline the general scheme or plan of such fill. If any parcel of land within the boundaries of such proposed improvement district prior to the initiation of the improvement has been wholly filled to the proposed grade or elevation of the proposed fill, such parcel of land may be excluded from the lands to be assessed when in the opinion of the city council or commission justice and equity require its exclusion. The boundaries of any improvement district may be altered so as to exclude land therefrom at any time up to the levying of the assessment but such changing of the boundaries shall be by ordinance. [1965 c 7 § 35.56.030. Prior: 1913 c 16 § 2, part; RRS § 9450, part.]

**35.56.040 Conditions precedent to passage of ordinance—Protests.** Upon the introduction of an ordinance providing for such fill, if the city council or commission desires to proceed, it shall fix a time, not less than ten days, in which protests against said fill may be filed in the office of the city clerk. Thereupon it shall be the duty of the clerk of said city to publish in the official newspaper



of said city in at least two consecutive issues thereof before the time fixed for the filing of protests, a notice of the time fixed for the filing of protests together with a copy of the proposed ordinance as introduced.

Protests against the proposed fill to be effective must be filed by the owners of more than half of the area of land situated within the proposed filling district exclusive of streets, alleys and public places on or before the date fixed for such filing. If an effective protest is filed the council shall not proceed further unless two-thirds of the members of the city council vote to proceed with the work; if the city is operating under a commission form of government composed of three commissioners, the commission shall not proceed further except by a unanimous affirmative vote of all the members thereof, if the commission is composed of five members, at least four affirmative votes thereof shall be necessary before proceeding.

If no effective protest is filed or if an effective protest is filed and two-thirds of the councilmen vote to proceed with the work or in cases where cities are operating under the commission form of government, the commissioners vote unanimously or four out of five commissioners vote to proceed with the work, the city council or commission shall at such meeting or in a succeeding meeting proceed to pass the proposed ordinance for the work, with such amendments and modifications as to the said city council or commission of said city may seem proper. The local improvement district shall be called "filling district No. . . ." [1965 c 7 § 35.56.040. Prior: 1913 c 16 § 2, part; RRS § 9450, part.]

**35.56.050 Damages—Eminent domain.** If an ordinance is passed as in this chapter provided, and it appears that in making of the improvements so authorized, private property will be taken or damaged thereby within or without the city, the city shall file a petition in the superior court of the county in which such city is situated, in the name of the city, praying that just compensation be made for the property to be taken or damaged for the improvement specified in the ordinance and conduct proceedings in eminent domain in accordance with the statutes relating to cities for the ascertainment of the compensation to be made for the taking and damaging of property, except insofar as the same may be inconsistent with this chapter.

The filling of unimproved and uncultivated lowlands of the character mentioned in RCW 35.56.010 shall not be considered as a damaging or taking of such lands. The damage, if any, done to cultivated lands or growing crops thereon, or to buildings and other improvements situated within the district proposed to be filled shall be ascertained and determined in the manner above provided; but no damage shall be awarded to any property owner for buildings or improvements placed upon lands included within said district after the publication of the ordinance defining the boundaries of the proposed improvement district: PROVIDED, That the city shall, after the passage of such ordinance, proceed with said improvement with due diligence.

If the improvement is to be made at the expense of the property benefited, no account shall be taken of benefits by the jury or court in assessing the amount of compensation to be made to the owner of any property within such district, but such compensation shall be assessed without regard to

benefits to the end that said property for which damages may be so awarded, may be assessed the same as other property within the district for its just share and proportion of the expense of making said improvement, and the fact that compensation has been awarded for the damaging or taking of any parcel of land shall not preclude the assessment of such parcel of land for its just proportion of said improvement. [1965 c 7 § 35.56.050. Prior: (i) 1913 c 16 § 3; RRS § 9451. (ii) 1929 c 63 § 4; 1913 c 16 § 21; RRS § 9469.]

*Eminent domain, cities: Chapter 8.12 RCW.*

**35.56.060 Estimates—Plans and specifications.** At the time of the initiation of the proceedings for any improvement as contemplated by this chapter or at any time afterward, the city council or commission shall cause plans and specifications for said improvement to be prepared and shall cause an estimate to be made of the cost and expense of making said improvement, including the cost of supervision and engineering, abstractor's fees, interest and discounts and all other expenses incidental to said improvement, including an estimate of the amount of damages for property taken or damaged, which plans, specifications and estimates shall be approved by the city council or commission. [1965 c 7 § 35.56.060. Prior: 1913 c 16 § 4; RRS § 9452.]

**35.56.070 Assessment roll—Items—Assessment units—Installments.** When such plans and specifications shall have been prepared and the estimate of the cost and expense of making the improvement has been adopted by the council or commission and when an estimate has been made of the compensation to be paid for property damaged or taken, either before or after the compensation has been ascertained in the eminent domain proceedings, the city council or commission shall cause an assessment roll to be prepared containing a list of all the property within the improvement district which it is proposed to assess for the improvements together with the names of the owners, if known, and if unknown, the property shall be assessed to an unknown owner, and opposite each description shall be set the amount assessed to such description.

When so ordered by the city council or commission, the entire amount of compensation paid or to be paid for property damaged or taken, including all of the costs and expenses incidental to the condemnation proceedings together with the entire cost and expense of making the improvement may be assessed against the property within the district subject to assessment, but the city council or commission may order any portion of the costs paid out of the current or general expense fund of the city. The assessments shall be made according to and in proportion to surface area, one square foot of surface to be the unit of assessment: PROVIDED, That where any parcel of land was wholly or partially filled by the owner prior to the initiation of the improvement an equitable deduction for such filling or partial filling may be allowed.

The cost and expense incidental to the filling of the streets, alleys and public places within said assessment district shall be borne by the private property within such district subject to assessment when so ordered by the city council or commission. When the assessments are payable

in installments, the assessment roll when equalized shall show the number of installments and the amounts thereof. The assessment may be made payable in any number of equal annual installments not exceeding fifteen in number. [1965 c 7 § 35.56.070. Prior: 1913 c 16 § 5; RRS § 9453.]

**35.56.080 Hearing on assessment roll—Notice—Council's authority.** When such assessment roll has been prepared it shall be filed in the office of the city clerk and thereupon the city clerk shall give notice by publication in at least three issues of the official paper that such roll is on file in his office and on a date mentioned in said notice, which shall be at least twenty days after the date of the first publication thereof, the city council or commission will sit as a board of equalization to equalize said roll and to hear, consider and determine protests and objections against the same.

At the time specified in the notice, the city council or commission shall sit as a board of equalization to equalize the roll and they may adjourn the sitting from time to time until the equalization of such roll is completed. The city council or commission as such board of equalization may hear, consider and determine objections and protests against any assessment and make such alterations and modifications in the assessment roll as justice and equity may require. [1965 c 7 § 35.56.080. Prior: 1913 c 16 § 6; RRS § 9454.]

**35.56.090 Hearing—Appellate review.** Any person who has made objections to the assessment as equalized, shall have the right to appeal from the equalization as made by the city council or commission to the superior court of the county. The appeal shall be made by filing a written notice of appeal with the city clerk within ten days after the equalization of the assessments by the council or commission. The notice of appeal shall describe the property and the objections of such appellant to such assessment.

The appellant shall also file with the clerk of the superior court within ten days from the time of taking the appeal a copy of the notice of appeal together with a copy of the assessment roll and proceedings thereon, certified by the city clerk and a bond to the city conditioned to pay all costs that may be awarded against appellant in such sum not less than two hundred dollars, and with such security as shall be approved by the clerk of the court.

The case shall be docketed by the clerk of the court in the name of the person taking the appeal as plaintiff, and the city as defendant. The cause shall then be at issue and shall be tried immediately by the court as in the case of equitable causes; no further pleadings shall be necessary. The judgment of the court shall be either to confirm, modify or annul the assessment insofar as the same affects the property of the appellant. Appellate review of the superior court's decision may be sought as in other causes. [1988 c 202 § 39; 1971 c 81 § 95; 1965 c 7 § 35.56.090. Prior: 1913 c 16 § 7; RRS § 9455.]

**Severability—1988 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.24.050.

**35.56.100 Lien—Collection of assessments.** From and after the equalization of the roll, the several assessments therein shall become a lien upon the real estate described therein and shall remain a lien until paid. The assessment

lien shall take precedence of all other liens against such property, except the lien of general taxes. The assessments shall be collected by the same officers and enforced in the same manner as provided by law for the collection and enforcement of local assessments for street improvements. All of the provisions of laws and ordinances relative to the guaranty, enforcement, and collection of local assessments for street improvements, including foreclosure in case of delinquency, shall be applicable to these assessments. [1965 c 7 § 35.56.100. Prior: 1929 c 63 § 2; 1913 c 16 § 8; RRS § 9456.]

*Assessments for local improvements, collection and foreclosure: Chapters 35.49, 35.50 RCW.*

**35.56.110 Interest on assessments.** The local assessments shall bear interest at such rate as may be fixed by the council or commission from and after the expiration of thirty days after the equalization of the assessment roll and shall bear such interest after delinquency as may be provided by general ordinance of the city. [1981 c 156 § 6; 1965 c 7 § 35.56.110. Prior: 1929 c 63 § 3; 1913 c 16 § 12; RRS § 9460.]

**35.56.120 Payment of cost of improvement—Interest on warrants.** If the improvement contemplated by this chapter is ordered to be made upon the immediate payment plan, the city council or commission shall provide for the payment thereof by the issuance of local improvement fund warrants against the local improvement district, which warrants shall be paid only out of the funds derived from the local assessments in the district and shall bear interest at a rate determined by the city council or commission from date of issuance. If the improvement is ordered to be made upon the bond installment plan, the city council or commission shall provide for the issuance of bonds against the improvement district. [1981 c 156 § 7; 1965 c 7 § 35.56.120. Prior: 1913 c 16 § 9; RRS § 9457.]

**35.56.130 Local improvement bonds—Terms.** The city council or commission shall have full authority to provide for the issuance of such bonds against the improvement district fund in such denominations as the city council or commission may provide, which shall bear such rate of interest as the city council or commission may fix. Interest shall be paid annually and the bonds shall become due and payable at such time, not exceeding fifteen years from the date thereof, as may be fixed by the said council or commission and shall be payable out of the assessment district funds.

If so ordered by the council or commission, the bonds may be issued in such a way that different numbers of the bonds may become due and payable at different intervals of time, or they may be so issued that all of the bonds against said district mature together. The city may reserve the right to call or mature any bond on any interest paying date when sufficient funds are on hand for its redemption; but bonds shall be called in numerical order. [1981 c 156 § 8; 1965 c 7 § 35.56.130. Prior: 1913 c 16 § 10, part; RRS § 9458, part.]

**35.56.140 Local improvement bonds—Guaranties.**

The city may guarantee the payment of the whole or any part of the bonds issued against a local improvement district, but the guaranties on the part of the city shall be made only by ordinance passed by the vote of not less than two-thirds of the councilmen and the approval of the mayor, or three commissioners in case the governing body consist of three commissioners, or four where such city is governed by five commissioners. [1965 c 7 § 35.56.140. Prior: 1913 c 16 § 10, part; RRS § 9458, part.]

**35.56.150 Local improvement bonds and warrants—Sale to pay damages—Preliminary financing.** The city council or commission may negotiate sufficient warrants or bonds against any local improvement district at a price not less than ninety-five percent of their par value to raise sufficient money to pay any and all compensation which may be awarded for property damaged or taken in the eminent domain proceedings, including the costs of such proceedings. In lieu of so doing, the city council or commission may negotiate current or general expense fund warrants at par to raise funds for the payment of such compensation and expenses in the first instance, but in that event the current or general expense fund shall be reimbursed out of the first moneys collected in any such local assessment district or realized from the negotiation or sale of local improvement warrants or bonds. [1965 c 7 § 35.56.150. Prior: 1913 c 16 § 11; RRS § 9459.]

**35.56.160 Local improvement fund—Investment.**

If money accumulates in an improvement fund and is likely to lie idle waiting the maturity of the bonds against the district, the city council or commission, under proper safeguards, may invest it temporarily, or may borrow it temporarily, at a reasonable rate of interest, but when so invested or borrowed, the city shall be responsible and liable for the restoration to such fund of the money so invested or borrowed with interest thereon, whenever required for the redemption of bonds maturing against such district. [1965 c 7 § 35.56.160. Prior: 1913 c 16 § 15; RRS § 9463.]

**35.56.170 Letting contracts for improvement—**

**Excess or deficiency of fund.** The contract for the making of the improvement may be let either before or after the making up of the equalization of the assessment roll, and warrants or bonds may be issued against the local improvement district fund either before or after the equalization of the roll as in the judgment of the council or commission may best subserve the public interest.

If after the assessment roll is made up and equalized, based in whole or in part upon an estimate of the cost of the improvement, and it is found that the estimate was too high, the excess shall be rebated pro rata to the property owners on the assessment roll, the rebates to be deducted from the last installment, or installments, when the assessment is upon the installment plan.

If it is found that the estimated cost was too low and that the actual bona fide cost of the improvement is greater than the estimate, the city council or commission after due notice and a hearing, as in case of the original equalization of the roll, may add the required additional amount to the

assessment roll to be apportioned among the several parcels of property upon the same rules and principles as if it had been originally included except that the additional amount shall be added to the last installment of an assessment if assessments are payable upon the installment plan. The same notice shall be required for adding to the assessment roll in this manner as is required for the original equalization of the roll, and the property owner shall have the right of appeal. [1965 c 7 § 35.56.170. Prior: 1913 c 16 § 13; RRS § 9461.]

**35.56.180 Payment of contractor—Bonds—Warrants—Cash.** The city council or commission may provide in letting the contract for an improvement, that the contractor shall accept special fund warrants or local improvement bonds against the local improvement district within which such improvement is to be made, in payment for the contract price of the work, and that the warrants or bonds may be issued to the contractor from time to time as the work progresses, or the city council or commission may negotiate the special fund warrants or bonds against the local improvement district at not less than ninety-five cents in money for each dollar of warrants or bonds, and with the proceeds pay the contractor for the work and pay the other costs of such improvement. [1965 c 7 § 35.56.180. Prior: 1913 c 16 § 14; RRS § 9462.]

**35.56.190 Tax levy—General—Purposes—Limit.**

For the purpose of raising revenues to carry on any project under this chapter including funds for the payment for the lands taken, purchased, acquired or condemned and the expenses incident to the acquiring thereof, or any other cost or expenses incurred by the city under the provisions of this chapter but not including the cost of actually filling the lands for which the local improvement district was created, a city may levy an annual tax of not exceeding seventy-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation of all property within the city. The city council or commission may create a fund into which all moneys so derived from taxation and moneys derived from rents and issues of the lands shall be paid and against which special fund warrants may be drawn or negotiable bonds issued to meet expenditures under this chapter. [1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 22; 1965 c 7 § 35.56.190. Prior: 1913 c 16 § 19; RRS § 9467.]

**Severability—Effective dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195:** See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

**35.56.200 Waterways constructed—Requirements.**

In the filling of any marshland, swampland, tideland or tideflats no canal or waterway shall be constructed in connection therewith less than three hundred feet wide at the top between the shore lines and with sufficient slope to the sides or banks thereof to as nearly as practicable render bulkheadings or other protection against caving or falling in of said sides or banks unnecessary and of sufficient depth to meet all ordinary requirements of navigation and commerce. [1965 c 7 § 35.56.200. Prior: 1913 c 16 § 17, part; RRS § 9465, part.]

**35.56.210 Waterways constructed—Control.** The canal or waterway shall be and remain under the control of

the city and immediately upon its completion the city shall establish outer dock lines lengthwise of said canal or waterway on both sides thereof in such manner and position that not less than two hundred feet of the width thereof shall always remain open between such lines and beyond and between which lines no right shall ever be granted to build wharves or other obstructions except bridges; nor shall any permanent obstruction to the free use of the channel so laid out between said wharf or dock lines excepting bridges, their approaches, piers, abutments and spans, ever be permitted but the same shall be kept open for navigation. [1965 c 7 § 35.56.210. Prior: 1913 c 16 § 17, part; RRS § 9465, part.]

**35.56.220 Waterways constructed—Leasing facilities.** The city shall have the right to lease the area so created between the said shore lines and the wharf lines so established or any part, parts or parcels thereof during times when the use thereof is not required by the city, for periods not exceeding thirty years, to private individuals or concerns for wharf, warehouse or manufacturing purposes at such annual rate or rental per lineal foot of frontage on the canal or waterway as it may deem reasonable.

The rates of wharfage, and other charges to the public which any lessee may impose shall be reasonable; and the city council or commission may regulate such rates. The lease so granted by the city shall never be transferred or assigned without the consent of the city council or commission having been first obtained.

A city shall never lease to any individual or concern more than four hundred lineal feet of frontage of the area lying between the shore lines and the dock lines and no individual or concern shall ever hold or occupy by lease, sublease or otherwise more than the said four hundred lineal feet of frontage of such area: PROVIDED, That any individual or concern may acquire by lease or sublease whatever additional number of lineal feet of frontage of such area may in the judgment of the city council or commission be necessary for the use of such individual or concern, upon petition therefor to the city council or commission signed by not less than five hundred resident freeholders of the city. [1965 c 7 § 35.56.220. Prior: 1913 c 16 § 17, part; RRS § 9465, part.]

**35.56.230 Waterway shoreline front—Lessee must lease abutting property.** If the city owns the land abutting upon any part of the area between the shore lines and dock lines, no portion of the area which has city owned property abutting upon it shall ever be leased unless an equal frontage of the abutting property immediately adjoining it is leased at the same time for the same period to the same individual or concern. [1965 c 7 § 35.56.230. Prior: 1913 c 16 § 17, part; RRS § 9465, part.]

**35.56.240 Waterways constructed—Acquisition of abutting property.** While acquiring the rights of way for such canals or waterways or at any time thereafter such city may acquire for its own use and public use by purchase, gift, condemnation or otherwise, and pay therefor by any lawful means including but not restricted to payment out of the current expense fund of such city or by bonding the city or by pledging revenues to be derived from rents and issues

therefrom, lands abutting upon the shore lines or right-of-way of such canals or waterways to a distance, depth or width of not more than three hundred feet back from the banks or shore lines of such canals or waterways on either side or both sides thereof, or not more than three hundred lineal feet back from and abutting on the outer lines of such rights-of-way on either side or both sides of such rights-of-way, and such area of such abutting lands as the council or commission may deem necessary for its use for public docks, bridges, wharves, streets and other conveniences of navigation and commerce and for its own use and benefit generally. [1965 c 7 § 35.56.240. Prior: 1913 c 16 § 18, part; RRS § 9466, part.]

**35.56.250 Waterways—Abutting city owned lands—Lease of.** If the city is not using the abutting lands so acquired it may lease any parcels thereof as may be deemed for the best interest and convenience of navigation, commerce and the public interest and welfare to private individuals or concerns for terms not exceeding thirty years each at such annual rate or rental as the city council or commission of such city may deem just, proper and fair, for the purpose of erecting wharves for wholesale and retail warehouses and for general commercial purposes and manufacturing sites, but the said city shall never convey or part with title to the abutting lands above mentioned and so acquired nor with the control other than in the manner herein specified. Any lease or leases granted by the city on such abutting lands shall never be transferred or assigned without the consent of the city council or commission having been first obtained.

A city shall never lease to any individual or concern more than four hundred lineal feet of canal or waterway frontage of said land and no individual or concern shall ever hold or occupy by lease, sublease, or otherwise more than the said four hundred lineal feet of said frontage: PROVIDED, That any individual or concern may acquire by lease or sublease whatever additional frontage of such abutting land may be in the judgment of the city council or commission necessary for the use of such individual or concern, upon petition presented to the city council or commission therefor signed by not less than five hundred resident freeholders of such city. [1965 c 7 § 35.56.250. Prior: 1913 c 16 § 18, part; RRS § 9466, part.]

**35.56.260 Waterways—Abutting lands—Lessee must lease shoreline property.** At the time that the city leases to any individual or concern any of the land abutting on the area between the shore lines and the dock lines the same individual or concern must likewise for the same period of time lease all of the area between the shore line and dock line of such canal or waterway lying contiguous to and immediately in front of the abutting land so leased. [1965 c 7 § 35.56.260. Prior: 1913 c 16 § 18, part; RRS § 9466, part.]

**35.56.270 Work by day labor.** When a city undertakes any improvement authorized by this chapter and the expenditures required exceed the sum of five hundred dollars, it shall be done by contract and shall be let to the lowest responsible bidder, after due notice, under such regulation as may be prescribed by ordinance: PROVIDED,

That the city council or commission may reject all bids presented and readvertise, or, if in the judgment of the city council or commission the work can be performed, or supplies or materials furnished by the city independent of contract, cheaper than under the bid submitted, it may after having so advertised and examined the bids, cause the work to be performed or supplies or materials to be furnished independent of contract. This section shall be construed as a concurrent and cumulative power conferred on cities and shall not be construed as in any wise repealing or affecting any law now in force relating to the performing, execution and construction of public works. [1965 c 7 § 35.56.270. Prior: 1913 c 16 § 20; RRS § 9468.]

**35.56.280 Reassessments.** If any assessment is found to be invalid for any cause or if it is set aside for any reason in judicial proceeding, a reassessment may be made and all laws then in force relative to the reassessment of local assessments, for street or other improvements, shall, as far as practical, be applicable hereto. [1965 c 7 § 35.56.280. Prior: 1913 c 16 § 16; RRS § 9464.]

*Local improvements, assessments and reassessments: Chapter 35.44 RCW.*

**35.56.290 Provisions of chapter not exclusive.** The provisions of this chapter shall not be construed as repealing or in any wise affecting other existing laws relative to the making of any such improvements but shall be considered as concurrent therewith. [1965 c 7 § 35.56.290. Prior: 1929 c 63 § 5; 1913 c 16 § 22; RRS § 9470.]

## Chapter 35.58

### METROPOLITAN MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS

#### Sections

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*Acquisition of*

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*School districts, educational service districts, agreements with other governmental entities for transportation of students, the public or other noncommon school purposes—Limitations: RCW 28A.160.120.*

*Transportation centers authorized: Chapter 81.75 RCW.*

**35.58.010 Declaration of policy and purpose.** It is hereby declared to be the public policy of the state of Washington to provide for the people of the populous metropolitan areas in the state the means of obtaining essential services not adequately provided by existing agencies of local government. The growth of urban population and the movement of people into suburban areas has created problems of water pollution abatement, garbage disposal, water supply, transportation, planning, parks and parkways which extend beyond the boundaries of cities, counties and special districts. For reasons of topography, location and movement of population, and land conditions and development, one or more of these problems cannot be adequately met by the individual cities, counties and districts of many metropolitan areas.

It is the purpose of this chapter to enable cities and counties to act jointly to meet these common problems in order that the proper growth and development of the metropolitan areas of the state may be assured and the health and welfare of the people residing therein may be secured. [1974 ex.s. c 70 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.010. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 1.]

**35.58.020 Definitions.** The definitions set forth in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Metropolitan municipal corporation" means a municipal corporation of the state of Washington created pursuant to this chapter, or a county which has by ordinance or resolution assumed the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of a metropolitan municipal corporation pursuant to the provisions of chapter 36.56 RCW.

(2) "Metropolitan area" means the area contained within the boundaries of a metropolitan municipal corporation, or within the boundaries of an area proposed to be organized as such a corporation.

(3) "City" means an incorporated city or town.

(4) "Component city" means an incorporated city or town within a metropolitan area.

(5) "Component county" means a county, all or part of which is included within a metropolitan area.

(6) "Central city" means the city with the largest population in a metropolitan area.

(7) "Central county" means the county containing the city with the largest population in a metropolitan area.

(8) "Special district" means any municipal corporation of the state of Washington other than a city, county, or metropolitan municipal corporation.

(9) "Metropolitan council" means the legislative body of a metropolitan municipal corporation, or the legislative body of a county which has by ordinance or resolution assumed the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of a metropolitan municipal corporation pursuant to the provisions of chapter 36.56 RCW.

(10) "City council" means the legislative body of any city or town.

(11) "Population" means the number of residents as shown by the figures released for the most recent official state, federal, or county census, or population determination made under the direction of the office of financial management.

(12) "Metropolitan function" means any of the functions of government named in RCW 35.58.050.

(13) "Authorized metropolitan function" means a metropolitan function which a metropolitan municipal corporation shall have been authorized to perform in the manner provided in this chapter.

(14) "Metropolitan public transportation" or "metropolitan transportation" for the purposes of this chapter means the transportation of packages, passengers, and their incidental baggage by means other than by chartered bus, sightseeing bus, or any other motor vehicle not on an individual fare-paying basis, together with the necessary passenger terminals and parking facilities or other properties necessary for passenger and vehicular access to and from such people-moving systems: PROVIDED, That nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit a metropolitan municipal corporation from leasing its buses to private certified carriers; to prohibit a metropolitan municipal corporation from providing school bus service for the transportation of pupils; or to prohibit a metropolitan municipal corporation from chartering an electric streetcar on rails which it operates entirely within a city.

(15) "Pollution" has the meaning given in RCW 90.48.020. [1982 c 103 § 1; 1979 c 151 § 28; 1977 ex.s. c 277 § 12. Prior: 1974 ex.s. c 84 § 1; 1974 ex.s. c 70 § 2; 1971 ex.s. c 303 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.020; prior: 1957 c 213 § 2.]

*Severability—Construction—Effective date—1977 ex.s. c 277: See RCW 36.56.900 and 36.56.910.*

*Population determinations, office of financial management: Chapter 43.62 RCW.*

**35.58.030 Corporations authorized—Limitation on boundaries.** Any area of the state containing two or more cities, at least one of which is of ten thousand or more population, may organize as a metropolitan municipal corporation for the performance of certain functions, as provided in this chapter. The boundaries of a metropolitan municipal corporation may not be expanded to include territory located in a county other than a component county except as a result of the consolidation of two or more contiguous metropolitan municipal corporations. [1993 c 240 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.030. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 3.]

*Inclusion of code cities in metropolitan municipal corporations: Chapter 35A.57 RCW.*

**35.58.040 Territory which must be included or excluded—Boundaries.** At the time of its formation no metropolitan municipal corporation shall include only a part of any city, and every city shall be either wholly included or wholly excluded from the boundaries of such corporation. If subsequent to the formation of a metropolitan municipal corporation a part only of any city shall be included within the boundaries of a metropolitan municipal corporation such part shall be deemed to be "unincorporated" for the purpose of selecting a member of the metropolitan council pursuant to \*RCW 35.58.120(3) and such city shall neither select nor participate in the selection of a member on the metropolitan council pursuant to RCW 35.58.120.

Any metropolitan municipal corporation now existing within a county with a population of one million or more shall, upon May 21, 1971, have the same boundaries as those of the respective central county of such metropolitan corporation. The boundaries of such metropolitan corporation may not be enlarged or diminished after such date by annexation as provided in chapter 35.58 RCW and any purported annexation of territory shall be deemed void. Any contiguous metropolitan municipal corporations may be consolidated into a single metropolitan municipal corporation upon such terms, for the purpose of performing such metropolitan function or functions, and to be effective at such time as may be approved by resolutions of the respective metropolitan councils. In the event of such consolidation the component city with the largest population shall be the central city of such consolidated metropolitan municipal corporation and the component county with the largest population shall be the central county of such consolidated metropolitan municipal corporation. [1993 c 240 § 2; 1991 c 363 § 39; 1971 ex.s. c 303 § 3; 1967 c 105 § .1; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.040. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 4.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 35.58.120(3) was deleted by 1993 c 240 § 4.

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**35.58.050 Functions authorized.** A metropolitan municipal corporation shall have the power to perform any one or more of the following functions, when authorized in the manner provided in this chapter:

- (1) Metropolitan water pollution abatement.
- (2) Metropolitan water supply.
- (3) Metropolitan public transportation.
- (4) Metropolitan garbage disposal.
- (5) Metropolitan parks and parkways.

(6) Metropolitan comprehensive planning. [1974 ex.s. c 70 § 3; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.050. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 5.]

**35.58.060 Unauthorized functions to be performed under other law.** All functions of local government which are not authorized as provided in this chapter to be performed by a metropolitan municipal corporation, shall continue to be performed by the counties, cities and special districts within the metropolitan area as provided by law. [1965 c 7 § 35.58.060. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 6.]

**35.58.070 Resolution, petition for election—Requirements, procedure.** A metropolitan municipal corporation may be created by vote of the qualified electors residing in a metropolitan area in the manner provided in this chapter. An election to authorize the creation of a metropolitan municipal corporation may be called pursuant to resolution or petition in the following manner:

(1) A resolution or concurring resolutions calling for such an election may be adopted by either:

(a) The city council of a central city; or

(b) The city councils of two or more component cities other than a central city; or

(c) The board of commissioners of a central county.

A certified copy of such resolution or certified copies of such concurring resolutions shall be transmitted to the board of commissioners of the central county.

(2) A petition calling for such an election shall be signed by at least four percent of the qualified voters residing within the metropolitan area and shall be filed with the auditor of the central county.

Any resolution or petition calling for such an election shall describe the boundaries of the proposed metropolitan area, name the metropolitan function or functions which the metropolitan municipal corporation shall be authorized to perform initially and state that the formation of the metropolitan municipal corporation will be conducive to the welfare and benefit of the persons and property within the metropolitan area. After the filing of a first sufficient petition or resolution with such county auditor or board of county commissioners respectively, action by such auditor or board shall be deferred on any subsequent petition or resolution until after the election has been held pursuant to such first petition or resolution.

Upon receipt of such a petition, the auditor shall examine the same and certify to the sufficiency of the signatures thereon. For the purpose of examining the signatures on such petition, the auditor shall be permitted access to the voter registration books of each component county and each component city. No person may withdraw his name from a petition after it has been filed with the auditor. Within thirty days following the receipt of such petition, the auditor shall transmit the same to the board of commissioners of the central county, together with his certificate as to the sufficiency thereof. [1965 c 7 § 35.58.070. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 7.]

**35.58.080 Hearings on petition, resolution—Inclusion, exclusion of territory—Boundaries—Calling election.** Upon receipt of a duly certified petition or a valid resolution calling for an election on the formation of a



metropolitan municipal corporation, the board of commissioners of the central county shall fix a date for a public hearing thereon which shall be not more than sixty nor less than forty days following the receipt of such resolution or petition. Notice of such hearing shall be published once a week for at least four consecutive weeks in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the metropolitan area. The notice shall contain a description of the boundaries of the proposed metropolitan area, shall name the initial metropolitan function or functions and shall state the time and place of the hearing and the fact that any changes in the boundaries of the metropolitan area will be considered at such time and place. At such hearing or any continuation thereof, any interested person may appear and be heard on all matters relating to the effect of the formation of the proposed municipal metropolitan corporation. The commissioners may make such changes in the boundaries of the metropolitan area as they shall deem reasonable and proper, but may not delete any portion of the proposed area which will create an island of included or excluded lands, may not delete a portion of any city, and may not delete any portion of the proposed area which is contributing or may reasonably be expected to contribute to the pollution of any water course or body of water in the proposed area when the petition or resolution names metropolitan water pollution abatement as a function to be performed by the proposed metropolitan municipal corporation. If the commissioners shall determine that any additional territory should be included in the metropolitan area, a second hearing shall be held and notice given in the same manner as for the original hearing. The commissioners may adjourn the hearing on the formation of a metropolitan municipal corporation from time to time not exceeding thirty days in all. At the next regular meeting following the conclusion of such hearing the commissioners shall adopt a resolution fixing the boundaries of the proposed metropolitan municipal corporation, declaring that the formation of the proposed metropolitan municipal corporation will be conducive to the welfare and benefit of the persons and property therein and providing for the calling of a special election on the formation of the metropolitan municipal corporation to be held not more than one hundred twenty days nor less than sixty days following the adoption of such resolution. [1974 ex.s. c 70 § 4; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.080. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 8.]

Elections: Title 29 RCW.

**35.58.090 Election procedure to form corporation and levy tax—Qualified voters—Establishment of corporation—First meeting of council.** The election on the formation of the metropolitan municipal corporation shall be conducted by the auditor of the central county in accordance with the general election laws of the state and the results thereof shall be canvassed by the county canvassing board of the central county, which shall certify the result of the election to the county legislative authority of the central county, and shall cause a certified copy of such canvass to be filed in the office of the secretary of state. Notice of the election shall be published in one or more newspapers of general circulation in each component county in the manner provided in the general election laws. No person shall be entitled to vote at such election unless that person is a

qualified voter under the laws of the state in effect at the time of such election and has resided within the metropolitan area for at least thirty days preceding the date of the election. The ballot proposition shall be in substantially the following form:

**"FORMATION OF METROPOLITAN MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**

Shall a metropolitan municipal corporation be established for the area described in a resolution of . . . . . county adopted on the . . . . day of . . . . ., 19. . . , to perform the metropolitan functions of . . . . . (here insert the title of each of the functions to be authorized as set forth in the petition or initial resolution).

YES . . . . .   
NO . . . . .

If a majority of the persons voting on the proposition residing within the central city shall vote in favor thereof and a majority of the persons voting on the proposition residing in the metropolitan area outside of the central city shall vote in favor thereof, the metropolitan municipal corporation shall thereupon be established and the county legislative authority of the central county shall adopt a resolution setting a time and place for the first meeting of the metropolitan council which shall be held not later than sixty days after the date of such election. A copy of such resolution shall be transmitted to the legislative body of each component city and county and of each special district which shall be affected by the particular metropolitan functions authorized.

At the same election there shall be submitted to the voters residing within the metropolitan area, for their approval or rejection, a proposition authorizing the metropolitan municipal corporation, if formed, to levy at the earliest time permitted by law on all taxable property located within the metropolitan municipal corporation a general tax, for one year, of twenty-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value in excess of any constitutional or statutory limitation for authorized purposes of the metropolitan municipal corporation. The proposition shall be expressed on the ballots in substantially the following form:

**"ONE YEAR TWENTY-FIVE CENTS PER THOUSAND DOLLARS OF ASSESSED VALUE LEVY**

Shall the metropolitan municipal corporation, if formed, levy a general tax of twenty-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value for one year upon all the taxable property within said corporation in excess of the constitutional and/or statutory tax limits for authorized purposes of the corporation?

YES . . . . .   
NO . . . . .

Such proposition to be effective must be approved by a majority of at least three-fifths of the persons voting on the proposition to levy such tax, with a forty percent validation requirement, in the manner set forth in Article VII, section

2(a) of the Constitution of this state. [1993 c 240 § 3; 1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 23; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.090. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 9.]

Severability—Effective dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195: See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

Canvassing the returns, generally: Chapter 29.62 RCW.

Conduct of elections—Canvass: RCW 29.13.040.

Notice of elections: RCW 29.27.080.

**35.58.100 Additional functions—Authorized by election.** A metropolitan municipal corporation may be authorized to perform one or more metropolitan functions in addition to those which it has previously been authorized to perform, with the approval of the voters at an election, in the manner provided in this section.

An election to authorize a metropolitan municipal corporation to perform one or more additional metropolitan functions may be called pursuant to a resolution or a petition in the following manner:

(1) A resolution calling for such an election may be adopted by:

- (a) The city council of the central city; or
  - (b) The city councils of at least one-half in number of the component cities other than the central city; or
  - (c) The board of commissioners of the central county.
- Such resolution shall be transmitted to the metropolitan council.

(2) A petition calling for such an election shall be signed by at least four percent of the registered voters residing within the metropolitan area and shall be filed with the auditor of the central county.

Any resolution or petition calling for such an election shall name the additional metropolitan functions which the metropolitan municipal corporation shall be authorized to perform.

Upon receipt of such a petition, the auditor shall examine the signatures thereon and certify to the sufficiency thereof. For the purpose of examining the signatures on such petition, the auditor shall be permitted access to all voter registration books of any component county and of all component cities. No person may withdraw his name from a petition after it has been filed with the auditor. Within thirty days following the receipt of such petition, the auditor shall transmit the same to the metropolitan council, together with his certificate as to the sufficiency of signatures thereon.

Upon receipt of a valid resolution or duly certified petition calling for an election on the authorization of the performance of one or more additional metropolitan functions, the metropolitan council shall cause to be called a special election to be held not more than one hundred and twenty days nor less than sixty days following such receipt. Such special election shall be conducted and canvassed as provided in this chapter for an election on the question of forming a metropolitan municipal corporation. The ballot proposition shall be in substantially the following form:

"Shall the . . . . . metropolitan municipal corporation be authorized to perform the additional metropolitan functions of . . . . . (here insert the title of each of the additional functions to be authorized as set forth in the petition or resolution)?"

YES .....   
NO .....

If a majority of the persons voting on the proposition shall vote in favor thereof, the metropolitan municipal corporation shall be authorized to perform such additional metropolitan function or functions. [1967 c 105 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.100. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 10.]

**35.58.110 Additional functions—Authorized without election.** A metropolitan municipal corporation may be authorized to perform one or more metropolitan functions in addition to those which it previously has been authorized to perform, without an election, in the manner provided in this section. A resolution providing for the performance of such additional metropolitan function or functions shall be adopted by the metropolitan council. A copy of such resolution shall be transmitted by registered mail to the legislative body of each component city and county. If, within ninety days after the date of such mailing, a concurring resolution is adopted by the legislative body of each component county, of each component city of the first class, and of at least two-thirds of all other component cities, and such concurring resolutions are transmitted to the metropolitan council, such council shall by resolution declare that the metropolitan municipal corporation has been authorized to perform such additional metropolitan function or functions. A copy of such resolution shall be transmitted by registered mail to the legislative body of each component city and county and of each special district which will be affected by the particular additional metropolitan function authorized. [1965 c 7 § 35.58.110. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 11.]

**35.58.112 Recommended comprehensive plan for performance of additional function—Study and preparation.** The metropolitan council of a metropolitan municipal corporation upon the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of such council may make planning, engineering, legal, financial and feasibility studies preliminary to or incident to the preparation of a recommended comprehensive plan for any metropolitan function, and may prepare such a recommended comprehensive plan before the metropolitan municipal corporation has been authorized to perform such function. The studies and plan may cover territory within and without the metropolitan municipal corporation. A recommended comprehensive plan prepared pursuant to this section for any metropolitan function may not be adopted by the metropolitan council unless the metropolitan municipal corporation shall have been authorized to perform such function. [1967 c 105 § 7.]

**35.58.114 Recommended comprehensive plan for performance of additional function—Resolution for special election to authorize additional function—Contents—Hearings—Election procedure.** Whenever a recommended comprehensive plan for the performance of any additional metropolitan function shall have been prepared and the metropolitan council shall have found the plan to be feasible the council may by resolution call a special election to authorize the performance of such additional function without the filing of the petitions or resolutions provided for in RCW 35.58.100.

If the metropolitan council shall determine that the performance of such function requires enlargement of the metropolitan area, such resolution shall contain a description of the boundaries of the proposed metropolitan area and may be adopted only after a public hearing thereon before the council. Notice of such hearing shall be published once a week for at least two consecutive weeks in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the proposed metropolitan area. The notice shall contain a description of the boundaries of the proposed metropolitan area, shall name the additional function or functions to be performed and shall state the time and place of the hearing and the fact that any changes in the boundaries of the proposed metropolitan area will be considered at such time and place. At such hearing any interested person may appear and be heard. The council may make such changes in the proposed metropolitan area as they shall deem reasonable and proper, but may not delete any portion of the existing metropolitan area and may not delete any portion of the proposed additional area which will create an island of included or excluded lands. If the council shall determine that the proposed additional area should be further enlarged, a second hearing shall be held and notice given in the same manner as for the original hearing. The council may adjourn the hearing or hearings from time to time.

Following the conclusion of such hearing or hearings the council may adopt a resolution fixing the boundaries of the proposed metropolitan area and calling a special election on the performance of such additional function. If the metropolitan municipal corporation is then authorized to perform the function of metropolitan sewage disposal the council may provide in such resolution that local governmental agencies collecting sewage from areas outside the metropolitan area as same is constituted on the date of adoption of such resolution will not thereafter be required to discharge such sewage into the metropolitan sewer system or to secure approval of local construction plans from the metropolitan municipal corporation unless such local agency shall first have entered into a contract with the metropolitan municipal corporation for the disposal of such sewage. The metropolitan council may also provide in such resolution that the authorization to perform such additional function be effective only if the voters at such election also authorize the issuance of any general obligation bonds required to carry out the recommended comprehensive plan.

The resolution calling such election shall fix the form of the ballot proposition and the same may vary from that specified in RCW 35.58.100. If the metropolitan council shall find that the issuance of general obligation bonds is necessary to perform such additional function and to carry out such recommended comprehensive plan then the ballot proposition shall set forth the principal amount of such bonds and the maximum maturity thereof and the proposition shall be so worded that the voters may by a single yes or no vote authorize the performance of the designated function in the area described in the resolution and the issuance of such general obligation bonds.

The persons voting at such election shall be all of the qualified voters who have resided within the boundaries of the proposed metropolitan area for at least thirty days preceding the date of the election. The election shall be conducted and canvassed as provided in RCW 35.58.090.

If the resolution calling such election does not require the approval of general obligation bonds as a condition of the performance of such additional function and if a majority of the persons voting on the ballot proposition residing within the existing metropolitan municipal corporation shall vote in favor thereof and a majority of the persons residing within the area proposed to be added to the existing metropolitan municipal corporation shall vote in favor thereof the boundaries described in the resolution calling the election shall become the boundaries of the metropolitan municipal corporation and the metropolitan municipal corporation shall be authorized to perform the additional function described in the proposition.

If the resolution calling such election shall require the authorization of general obligation bonds as a condition of the performance of such additional function, then to be effective the ballot proposition must be approved as provided in the preceding paragraph and must also be approved by at least three-fifths of the persons voting thereon and the number of persons voting on such proposition must constitute not less than forty percent of the total number of votes cast within such area at the last preceding state general election. [1967 c 105 § 8.]

**35.58.116 Proposition for issuance of general obligation bonds or levy of general tax—Submission at same election or special election.** The metropolitan council may at the same election called to authorize the performance of an additional function or at a special election called by the council after it has been authorized to perform any metropolitan function submit a proposition for the issuance of general obligation bonds for capital purposes as provided in RCW 35.58.450 or a proposition for the levy of a general tax for any authorized purpose for one year in such total dollar amount as the metropolitan council may determine and specify in such proposition. Any such proposition to be effective must be assented to by at least three-fifths of the persons voting thereon and the number of persons voting on such proposition shall constitute not less than forty percent of the total number of votes cast within the metropolitan area at the last preceding state general election. Any such proposition shall only be effective if the performance of the additional function shall be authorized at such election or shall have been authorized prior thereto. [1967 c 105 § 9.]

**35.58.120 Metropolitan council—Composition.** Unless the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of a metropolitan municipal corporation have been assumed by a county as provided in chapter 36.56 RCW, a metropolitan municipal corporation shall be governed by a metropolitan council composed of elected officials of the component counties and component cities, and possibly other persons, as determined by agreement of each of the component counties and the component cities equal in number to at least twenty-five percent of the total number of component cities that have at least seventy-five percent of the combined component city populations. The agreement shall remain in effect until altered in the same manner as the initial composition is determined. [1993 c 240 § 4; 1983 c 92 § 1; 1981 c 190 § 3; 1974 ex.s. c 70 § 5; 1971 ex.s. c 303 § 5; 1969

ex.s. c 135 § 1; 1967 c 105 § 3; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.120. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 12.]

**35.58.130 Metropolitan council—Organization, chairman, procedures.** At the first meeting of the metropolitan council following the formation of a metropolitan municipal corporation, the mayor of the central city shall serve as temporary chairman. As its first official act the council shall elect a chairman. The chairman shall be a voting member of the council and shall preside at all meetings. In the event of his absence or inability to act the council shall select one of its members to act as chairman pro tempore. A majority of all members of the council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. A smaller number of council members than a quorum may adjourn from time to time and may compel the attendance of absent members in such manner and under such penalties as the council may provide. The council shall determine its own rules and order of business, shall provide by resolution for the manner and time of holding all regular and special meetings and shall keep a journal of its proceedings which shall be a public record. Every legislative act of the council of a general or permanent nature shall be by resolution. [1965 c 7 § 35.58.130. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 13.]

**35.58.140 Metropolitan council—Terms.** Each member of a metropolitan council except those selected under the provisions of \*RCW 35.58.120(1)(a), (5), (7), and (8), shall hold office at the pleasure of the body which selected him. Each member, who shall hold office ex officio, may not hold office after he ceases to hold the position of elected county executive, mayor, commissioner, or councilman. The chairman shall hold office until the second Tuesday in July of each even-numbered year and may, if reelected, serve more than one term. Each member shall hold office until his successor has been selected as provided in this chapter. [1971 ex.s. c 303 § 6; 1969 ex.s. c 135 § 2; 1967 c 105 § 4; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.140. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 14.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 35.58.120 was amended by 1993 c 240 § 4 which deleted subsections (1)(a), (5), (7), and (8) of that section.

**35.58.150 Metropolitan council—Vacancies.** A vacancy in the office of a member of the metropolitan council shall be filled in the same manner as provided for the original selection. The meeting of mayors to fill a vacancy of the member selected under the provisions of \*RCW 35.58.120(4) or of special district representatives to fill a vacancy of a member selected under \*RCW 35.58.120(7) shall be held at such time and place as shall be designated by the chairman of the metropolitan council after ten days' written notice mailed to the mayors of each of the cities specified in \*RCW 35.58.120(4) or to the representatives of the special purpose districts specified in \*RCW 35.58.120(7), whichever is applicable. [1984 c 44 § 1; 1967 c 105 § 5; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.150. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 15.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 35.58.120 was amended by 1993 c 240 § 4 which deleted subsections (4) and (7) of that section.

**35.58.160 Metropolitan council—Compensation—Waiver of compensation.** The chairman and committee

chairmen of the metropolitan council except elected public officials serving on a full-time salaried basis may receive such compensation as the other members of the metropolitan council shall provide. Members of the council other than the chairman and committee chairmen shall receive compensation of fifty dollars per day or portion thereof for attendance at metropolitan council or committee meetings, or for performing other services on behalf of the metropolitan municipal corporation, but not exceeding a total of four thousand eight hundred dollars in any year, in addition to any compensation which they may receive as officers of component cities or counties: PROVIDED, That elected public officers serving in such capacities on a full-time basis shall not receive compensation for attendance at metropolitan, council, or committee meetings, or otherwise performing services on behalf of the metropolitan municipal corporation: PROVIDED FURTHER, That committee chairmen shall not receive compensation in any one year greater than one-third of the compensation authorized for the county commissioners or county councilmen of the central county.

Any member of the council may waive all or any portion of his or her compensation payable under this section as to any month or months during his or her term of office, by a written waiver filed with the council as provided in this section. The waiver, to be effective, must be filed any time after the member's selection and prior to the date on which the compensation would otherwise be paid. The waiver shall specify the month or period of months for which it is made.

All members of the council shall be reimbursed for expenses actually incurred by them in the conduct of official business for the metropolitan municipal corporation. [1985 c 330 § 1; 1974 ex.s. c 84 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.160. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 16.]

**35.58.170 Corporation name and seal.** The name of a metropolitan municipal corporation shall be established by its metropolitan council. Each metropolitan municipal corporation shall adopt a corporate seal containing the name of the corporation and the date of its formation. [1965 c 7 § 35.58.170. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 17.]

**35.58.180 General powers of corporation.** In addition to the powers specifically granted by this chapter a metropolitan municipal corporation shall have all powers which are necessary to carry out the purposes of the metropolitan municipal corporation and to perform authorized metropolitan functions. A metropolitan municipal corporation may contract with the United States or any agency thereof, any state or agency thereof, any other metropolitan municipal corporation, any county, city, special district, or governmental agency and any private person, firm or corporation for the purpose of receiving gifts or grants or securing loans or advances for preliminary planning and feasibility studies, or for the design, construction or operation of metropolitan facilities and a metropolitan municipal corporation may contract with any governmental agency or with any private person, firm or corporation for the use by either contracting party of all or any part of the facilities, structures, lands, interests in lands, air rights over lands and rights of way of all kinds which are owned, leased or held by the other party and for the purpose of planning, construct-

ing or operating any facility or performing any service which the metropolitan municipal corporation may be authorized to operate or perform, on such terms as may be agreed upon by the contracting parties: PROVIDED, That before any contract for the lease or operation of any metropolitan public transportation facilities shall be let to any private person, firm or corporation, a general schedule of rental rates for bus equipment with or without drivers shall be publicly posted applicable to all private certificated carriers, and for other facilities competitive bids shall first be called upon such notice, bidder qualifications and bid conditions as the metropolitan council shall determine.

A metropolitan municipal corporation may sue and be sued in its corporate capacity in all courts and in all proceedings. [1974 ex.s. c 84 § 3; 1967 c 105 § 6; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.180. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 18.]

**35.58.190 Performance of function or functions—Commencement date.** The metropolitan council shall provide by resolution the effective date on which the metropolitan municipal corporation will commence to perform any one or more of the metropolitan functions which it shall have been authorized to perform. [1965 c 7 § 35.58.190. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 19.]

**35.58.200 Powers relative to water pollution abatement.** If a metropolitan municipal corporation shall be authorized to perform the function of metropolitan water pollution abatement, it shall have the following powers in addition to the general powers granted by this chapter:

(1) To prepare a comprehensive water pollution abatement plan including provisions for waterborne pollutant removal, water quality improvement, sewage disposal, and storm water drainage for the metropolitan area.

(2) To acquire by purchase, condemnation, gift, or grant and to lease, construct, add to, improve, replace, repair, maintain, operate and regulate the use of metropolitan facilities for water pollution abatement, including but not limited to, removal of waterborne pollutants, water quality improvement, sewage disposal and storm water drainage within or without the metropolitan area, including but not limited to trunk, interceptor and outfall sewers, whether used to carry sanitary waste, storm water, or combined storm and sanitary sewage, lift and pumping stations, pipelines, drains, sewage treatment plants, flow control structures together with all lands, property rights, equipment and accessories necessary for such facilities. Sewer facilities which are owned by a county, city, or special district may be acquired or used by the metropolitan municipal corporation only with the consent of the legislative body of the county, city, or special districts owning such facilities. Counties, cities, and special districts are hereby authorized to convey or lease such facilities to metropolitan municipal corporations or to contract for their joint use on such terms as may be fixed by agreement between the legislative body of such county, city, or special district and the metropolitan council, without submitting the matter to the voters of such county, city, or district.

(3) To require counties, cities, special districts and other political subdivisions to discharge sewage collected by such entities from any portion of the metropolitan area which can drain by gravity flow into such metropolitan facilities as may

be provided to serve such areas when the metropolitan council shall declare by resolution that the health, safety, or welfare of the people within the metropolitan area requires such action.

(4) To fix rates and charges for the use of metropolitan water pollution abatement facilities, and to expend the moneys so collected for authorized water pollution abatement activities.

(5) To establish minimum standards for the construction of local water pollution abatement facilities and to approve plans for construction of such facilities by component counties or cities or by special districts, which are connected to the facilities of the metropolitan municipal corporation. No such county, city, or special district shall construct such facilities without first securing such approval.

(6) To acquire by purchase, condemnation, gift, or grant, to lease, construct, add to, improve, replace, repair, maintain, operate and regulate the use of facilities for the local collection of sewage or storm water in portions of the metropolitan area not contained within any city or special district operating local public sewer facilities and, with the consent of the legislative body of any such city or special district, to exercise such powers within such city or special district and for such purpose to have all the powers conferred by law upon such city or special district with respect to such local collection facilities: PROVIDED, That such consent shall not be required if the department of ecology certifies that a water pollution problem exists within any such city or special district and notifies the city or special district to correct such problem and corrective construction of necessary local collection facilities shall not have been commenced within one year after notification. All costs of such local collection facilities shall be paid for by the area served thereby.

(7) To participate fully in federal and state programs under the federal water pollution control act (86 Stat. 816 et seq., 33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.) and to take all actions necessary to secure to itself or its component agencies the benefits of that act and to meet the requirements of that act, including but not limited to the following:

(a) authority to develop and implement such plans as may be appropriate or necessary under the act.

(b) authority to require by appropriate regulations that its component agencies comply with all effluent treatment and limitation requirements, standards of performance requirements, pretreatment requirements, a user charge and industrial cost recovery system conforming to federal regulation, and all conditions of national permit discharge elimination system permits issued to the metropolitan municipal corporation or its component agencies. Adoption of such regulations and compliance therewith shall not constitute a breach of any sewage disposal contract between a metropolitan municipal corporation and its component agencies nor a defense to an action for the performance of all terms and conditions of such contracts not inconsistent with such regulations and such contracts, as modified by such regulations, shall be in all respects valid and enforceable. [1975 c 36 § 1; 1974 ex.s. c 70 § 6; 1971 ex.s. c 303 § 7; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.200. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 20.]

**35.58.210 Metropolitan water pollution abatement advisory committee.** If a metropolitan municipal corporation shall be authorized to perform the function of metropolitan water pollution abatement, the metropolitan council shall, prior to the effective date of the assumption of such function, cause a metropolitan water pollution abatement advisory committee to be formed by notifying the legislative body of each component city and county which operates a sewer system to appoint one person to serve on such advisory committee and the board of commissioners of each sewer district and water district which operates a sewer system, any portion of which lies within the metropolitan area, to appoint one person to serve on such committee who shall be a commissioner of such a sewer or water district. The metropolitan water pollution abatement advisory committee shall meet at the time and place provided in the notice and elect a chairman. The members of such committee shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing bodies and shall receive no compensation other than reimbursement for expenses actually incurred in the performance of their duties. The function of such advisory committee shall be to advise the metropolitan council in matters relating to the performance of the water pollution [abatement] function. [1974 ex.s. c 70 § 7; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.210. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 21.]

**35.58.220 Powers relative to water supply.** If a metropolitan municipal corporation shall be authorized to perform the function of metropolitan water supply, it shall have the following powers in addition to the general powers granted by this chapter:

(1) To prepare a comprehensive plan for the development of sources of water supply, trunk supply mains and water treatment and storage facilities for the metropolitan area.

(2) To acquire by purchase, condemnation, gift or grant and to lease, construct, add to, improve, replace, repair, maintain, operate and regulate the use of metropolitan facilities for water supply within or without the metropolitan area, including buildings, structures, water sheds, wells, springs, dams, settling basins, intakes, treatment plants, trunk supply mains and pumping stations, together with all lands, property, equipment and accessories necessary to enable the metropolitan municipal corporation to obtain and develop sources of water supply, treat and store water and deliver water through trunk supply mains. Water supply facilities which are owned by a city or special district may be acquired or used by the metropolitan municipal corporation only with the consent of the legislative body of the city or special district owning such facilities. Cities and special districts are hereby authorized to convey or lease such facilities to metropolitan municipal corporations or to contract for their joint use on such terms as may be fixed by agreement between the legislative body of such city or special district and the metropolitan council, without submitting the matter to the voters of such city or district.

(3) To fix rates and charges for water supplied by the metropolitan municipal corporation.

(4) To acquire by purchase, condemnation, gift or grant and to lease, construct, add to, improve, replace, repair, maintain, operate and regulate the use of facilities for the

local distribution of water in portions of the metropolitan area not contained within any city or water district and, with the consent of the legislative body of any city or water district, to exercise such powers within such city or water district and for such purpose to have all the powers conferred by law upon such city or water district with respect to such local distribution facilities. All costs of such local distribution facilities shall be paid for by the area served thereby. [1965 c 7 § 35.58.220. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 22.]

**35.58.230 Metropolitan water advisory committee.** If a metropolitan municipal corporation shall be authorized to perform the function of metropolitan water supply, the metropolitan council shall, prior to the effective date of the assumption of such function, cause a metropolitan water advisory committee to be formed by notifying the legislative body of each component city which operates a water system to appoint one person to serve on such advisory committee and the board of commissioners of each water district, any portion of which lies within the metropolitan area, to appoint one person to serve on such committee who shall be a water district commissioner. The metropolitan water advisory committee shall meet at the time and place provided in the notice and elect a chairman. The members of such committee shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing bodies and shall receive no compensation other than reimbursement for expenses actually incurred in the performance of their duties. The function of such advisory committee shall be to advise the metropolitan council with respect to matters relating to the performance of the water supply function.

The requirement to create a metropolitan water advisory committee shall not apply to a county that has assumed the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of the metropolitan municipal corporation under chapter 36.56 RCW. [1993 c 240 § 5; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.230. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 23.]

**35.58.240 Powers relative to transportation.** If a metropolitan municipal corporation shall be authorized to perform the function of metropolitan transportation, it shall have the following powers in addition to the general powers granted by this chapter:

(1) To prepare, adopt, and carry out a general comprehensive plan for public transportation service which will best serve the residents of the metropolitan area and to amend said plan from time to time to meet changed conditions and requirements.

(2) To acquire by purchase, condemnation, gift, or grant and to lease, construct, add to, improve, replace, repair, maintain, operate, and regulate the use of metropolitan transportation facilities and properties within or without the metropolitan area, including systems of surface, underground, or overhead railways, tramways, buses, or any other means of local transportation except taxis, and including escalators, moving sidewalks, or other people-moving systems, passenger terminal and parking facilities and properties, and such other facilities and properties as may be necessary for passenger and vehicular access to and from such people-moving systems, terminal and parking facilities and properties, together with all lands, rights of way, property, equipment, and accessories necessary for such systems and facilities. Public transportation facilities and

properties which are owned by any city may be acquired or used by the metropolitan municipal corporation only with the consent of the city council of the city owning such facilities. Cities are hereby authorized to convey or lease such facilities to metropolitan corporations or to contract for their joint use on such terms as may be fixed by agreement between the city council of such city and the metropolitan council, without submitting the matter to the voters of such city.

The facilities and properties of a metropolitan public transportation system whose vehicles will operate primarily within the rights of way of public streets, roads, or highways, may be acquired, developed and operated without the corridor and design hearings which are required by RCW 35.58.273 for mass transit facilities operating on a separate right of way.

(3) To fix rates, tolls, fares, and charges for the use of such facilities and to establish various routes and classes of service. Fares or charges may be adjusted or eliminated for any distinguishable class of users including, but not limited to, senior citizens, handicapped persons, and students. Classes of service and fares will be maintained in the several parts of the metropolitan area at such levels as will provide, insofar as reasonably practicable, that the portion of any annual transit operating deficit of the metropolitan municipal corporation attributable to the operation of all routes, taken as a whole, which are located within the central city is approximately in proportion to the portion of total taxes collected by or on behalf of the metropolitan municipal corporation for transit purposes within the central city, and that the portion of such annual transit operating deficit attributable to the operation of all routes, taken as a whole, which are located outside the central city, is approximately in proportion to the portion of such taxes collected outside the central city.

In the event any metropolitan municipal corporation shall extend its metropolitan transportation function to any area or service already offered by any company holding a certificate of public convenience and necessity from the Washington utilities and transportation commission under RCW 81.68.040, it shall by purchase or condemnation acquire at the fair market value, from the person holding the existing certificate for providing the services, that portion of the operating authority and equipment representing the services within the area of public operation. [1981 c 25 § 1; 1971 ex. s. c 303 § 8; 1967 c 105 § 11; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.240. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 24.]

**35.58.245 Public transportation function—Authorization by election required—Procedure.** Notwithstanding any other provision of chapter 35.58 RCW a metropolitan municipal corporation may perform the function of metropolitan public transportation only if the performance of such function is authorized by election. The metropolitan council may call such election and certify the ballot proposition. The election shall be conducted and canvassed as provided in RCW 35.58.090 and the municipality shall be authorized to perform the function of metropolitan public transportation if a majority of the persons voting on the proposition shall vote in favor. [1971 ex. s. c 303 § 1.]

**35.58.250 Other local public passenger transportation service prohibited—Agreements—Purchase—Condemnation.** Except in accordance with an agreement made as provided herein, upon the effective date on which the metropolitan municipal corporation commences to perform the metropolitan transportation function, no person or private corporation shall operate a local public passenger transportation service within the metropolitan area with the exception of taxis, busses owned or operated by a school district or private school, and busses owned or operated by any corporation or organization solely for the purposes of the corporation or organization and for the use of which no fee or fare is charged.

An agreement may be entered into between the metropolitan municipal corporation and any person or corporation legally operating a local public passenger transportation service wholly within or partly within and partly without the metropolitan area and on said effective date under which such person or corporation may continue to operate such service or any part thereof for such time and upon such terms and conditions as provided in such agreement. Where any such local public passenger transportation service will be required to cease to operate within the metropolitan area, the commission may agree with the owner of such service to purchase the assets used in providing such service, or if no agreement can be reached, the commission shall condemn such assets in the manner provided herein for the condemnation of other properties.

Wherever a privately owned public carrier operates wholly or partly within a metropolitan municipal corporation, the Washington utilities and transportation commission shall continue to exercise jurisdiction over such operation as provided by law. [1965 c 7 § 35.58.250. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 25.]

**35.58.260 Transportation function—Acquisition of city system.** If a metropolitan municipal corporation shall be authorized to perform the metropolitan transportation function, it shall, upon the effective date of the assumption of such power, have and exercise all rights with respect to the construction, acquisition, maintenance, operation, extension, alteration, repair, control and management of passenger transportation which any component city shall have been previously empowered to exercise and such powers shall not thereafter be exercised by such component cities without the consent of the metropolitan municipal corporation: PROVIDED, That any city owning and operating a public transportation system on such effective date may continue to operate such system within such city until such system shall have been acquired by the metropolitan municipal corporation and a metropolitan municipal corporation may not acquire such system without the consent of the city council of such city. [1965 c 7 § 35.58.260. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 26.]

**35.58.265 Acquisition of existing transportation system—Assumption of labor contracts—Transfer of employees—Preservation of employee benefits—Collective bargaining.** If a metropolitan municipal corporation shall perform the metropolitan transportation function and shall acquire any existing transportation system, it shall assume



and observe all existing labor contracts relating to such system and, to the extent necessary for operation of facilities, all of the employees of such acquired transportation system whose duties are necessary to operate efficiently the facilities acquired shall be appointed to comparable positions to those which they held at the time of such transfer, and no employee or retired or pensioned employee of such systems shall be placed in any worse position with respect to pension seniority, wages, sick leave, vacation or other benefits that he enjoyed as an employee of such system prior to such acquisition. The metropolitan municipal corporation shall engage in collective bargaining with the duly appointed representatives of any employee labor organization having existing contracts with the acquired transportation system and may enter into labor contracts with such employee labor organization. [1965 c 91 § 1.]

*Retention of employees, preservation of pension rights and other benefits upon acquisition of metropolitan facility: RCW 35.58.380 through 35.58.400.*

**35.58.268 Public transportation employees—Payroll deduction for political action committees.** Any public official authorized to disburse funds in payment of salaries and wages of public transportation employees may, upon written request of the employee, deduct from the salary or wages of the employee, contributions for payment of voluntary deductions for political action committees sponsored by labor or employee organizations with public transportation employees as members. For the purposes of this section, "public transportation employees" means employees of a public transportation system specified in RCW 35.58.272 who are covered by a collective bargaining agreement. [1985 c 204 § 1.]

**35.58.270 Metropolitan transit commission.** If a metropolitan municipal corporation shall be authorized to perform the function of metropolitan transportation with a commission form of management, a metropolitan transit commission shall be formed prior to the effective date of the assumption of such function. Except as provided in this section, the metropolitan transit commission shall exercise all powers of the metropolitan municipal corporation with respect to metropolitan transportation facilities, including but not limited to the power to construct, acquire, maintain, operate, extend, alter, repair, control and manage a local public transportation system within and without the metropolitan area, to establish new passenger transportation services and to alter, curtail, or abolish any services as the commission may deem desirable and to fix tolls and fares.

The comprehensive plan for public transportation service and any amendments thereof shall be adopted by the metropolitan council and the metropolitan transit commission shall provide transportation facilities and service consistent with such plan. The metropolitan transit commission shall authorize expenditures for transportation purposes within the budget adopted by the metropolitan council. Tolls and fares may be fixed or altered by the commission only after approval thereof by the metropolitan council. Bonds of the metropolitan municipal corporation for public transportation purposes shall be issued by the metropolitan council as provided in this chapter.

The metropolitan transit commission shall consist of seven members. Six of such members shall be appointed by the metropolitan council and the seventh member shall be the chairman of the metropolitan council who shall be ex officio the chairman of the metropolitan transit commission. Three of the six appointed members of the commission shall be residents of the central city and three shall be residents of the metropolitan area outside of the central city. The three central city members of the first metropolitan transit commission shall be selected from the existing transit commission of the central city, if there be a transit commission in such city. The terms of first appointees shall be for one, two, three, four, five and six years, respectively. Thereafter, commissioners shall serve for a term of four years. Compensation of transit commissioners shall be determined by the metropolitan council.

The requirement to create a metropolitan transit commission shall not apply to a county that has assumed the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of the metropolitan municipal corporation under chapter 36.56 RCW. [1993 c 240 § 6; 1967 c 105 § 12; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.270. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 27.]

**35.58.271 Public transportation in cities and metropolitan municipal corporations—Financing.** See chapter 35.95 RCW.

**35.58.2711 Local sales and use taxes for financing public transportation systems.** See RCW 82.14.045 through 82.14.060.

**35.58.2712 Public transportation feasibility study—Advanced financial support payments.** Any municipality, as defined in RCW 35.95.020, may be eligible to receive a one-time advanced financial support payment to perform a feasibility study to determine the need for public transportation to serve its residents. This payment shall be governed by the following conditions:

(1) The payment shall precede any advanced financial support payment to develop a plan pursuant to RCW 36.57A.150;

(2) The amount of such payment shall be commensurate with the number of residents in and the size of the land area of such municipality and the number and size of school districts in such municipality and shall not exceed one hundred ten thousand dollars; and

(3) Repayment of an advanced financial support payment shall be made to the general fund by the municipality within two years after the date such advanced payment was received. The study shall be completed within one year after the date such advanced payment was received. The study and its recommendations shall then be presented to the legislative authority of the municipality. Within six months of its receipt of the study and its recommendations, the legislative authority shall pass a resolution adopting or rejecting all or part of the study. A copy of the resolution shall be transmitted to the state agency administering this section. Such repayment shall be waived within two years of the date such advanced payment was received if the legislative authority or the voters in such municipality do not elect to levy and collect taxes to support public transporta-

tion in their area. Such repayment shall not be waived in the event any of the provisions of this subsection are not followed;

(4) The feasibility study shall give consideration to consolidating or coordinating all or any portion of the K-12 pupil transportation system within the proposed boundaries of the municipality. Any school district lying wholly or in part within the proposed boundaries shall fully cooperate in the study unless the school board shall pass a resolution to the contrary setting forth the reasons therefor. A copy of the resolution shall be forwarded to the secretary of the department of transportation for inclusion in the municipality's application file.

The department of transportation shall provide technical assistance in the preparation of feasibility studies, and shall adopt reasonable rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this section. [1979 c 59 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 44 § 6.]

**Severability—Effective date—1977 ex.s. c 44:** See notes following RCW 36.57A.030.

**35.58.272 Public transportation systems—Definitions.** "Municipality" as used in RCW 35.58.272 through 35.58.279, as now or hereafter amended, and in RCW 36.57.080, 36.57.100, 36.57.110, 35.58.2721, 35.58.2794, and chapter 36.57A RCW, means any metropolitan municipal corporation which shall have been authorized to perform the function of metropolitan public transportation; any county performing the public transportation function as authorized by RCW 36.57.100 and 36.57.110 or which has established a county transportation authority pursuant to chapter 36.57 RCW; any public transportation benefit area established pursuant to chapter 36.57A RCW; and any city, which is not located within the boundaries of a metropolitan municipal corporation, county transportation authority, or public transportation benefit area, and which owns, operates or contracts for the services of a publicly owned or operated system of transportation: PROVIDED, That the term "municipality" shall mean in respect to any county performing the public transportation function pursuant to RCW 36.57.100 and 36.57.110 only that portion of the unincorporated area lying wholly within such unincorporated transportation benefit area.

"Motor vehicle" as used in RCW 35.58.272 through 35.58.279, as now or hereafter amended, shall have the same meaning as in RCW 82.44.010.

"County auditor" shall mean the county auditor of any county or any person designated to perform the duties of any county auditor pursuant to RCW 82.44.140.

"Person" shall mean any individual, corporation, firm, association or other form of business association. [1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 255 § 7.]

**Severability—1975 1st ex.s. c 270:** "If any provision of this 1975 amendatory act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 30.]

**Effective date—1975 1st ex.s. c 270:** "This 1975 amendatory act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect July 1, 1975." [1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 31.]

**Construction—1969 ex.s. c 255:** "The powers and authority conferred upon municipalities under the provisions of this 1969 act shall be in addition to and supplemental to powers or authority conferred by any

other law, and nothing contained herein limits any other power or authority of such municipalities." [1969 ex.s. c 255 § 21.]

**Severability—1969 ex.s. c 255:** "If any provision of this 1969 act, or its application to any municipality, person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this 1969 act or the application of the provisions to other municipalities, persons or circumstances is not affected." [1969 ex.s. c 255 § 22.]

*Contracts between political subdivisions for services and use of public transportation systems: RCW 39.33.050.*

**35.58.2721 Public transportation systems—Authority of municipalities to acquire, operate, etc.—Indebtedness—Bond issues.** (1) In addition to any other authority now provided by law, and subject only to constitutional limitations, the governing body of any municipality shall be authorized to acquire, construct, operate, and maintain a public transportation system and additions and betterments thereto, and to issue general obligation bonds for public mass transportation capital purposes including but not limited to replacement of equipment: PROVIDED, That the general indebtedness incurred under this section when considered together with all the other outstanding general indebtedness of the municipality shall not exceed the amounts of indebtedness authorized by chapter 39.36 RCW and chapter 35.58 RCW, as now or hereafter amended, to be incurred without and with the assent of the voters. Such bonds may be in any form, including bearer bonds or registered bonds as provided in RCW 39.46.030.

Any municipality is authorized to pledge for the payment or security of the principal of and interest on any bonds issued for authorized public transportation purposes all or any portion of any taxes authorized to be levied by the issuer, including, but not limited to, the local sales and use tax authorized pursuant to RCW 82.14.045, as now or hereafter amended. No motor vehicle excise taxes under RCW 35.58.273 may be pledged for bonds.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, such bonds may be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1990 c 42 § 315; 1983 c 167 § 46; 1979 ex.s. c 175 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 7.]

**Purpose—Headings—Severability—Effective dates—Application—Implementation—1990 c 42:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**Severability—Effective date—1975 1st ex.s. c 270:** See notes following RCW 35.58.272.

*Financing of public transportation systems in metropolitan municipal corporations: Chapter 35.95 RCW and RCW 82.14.045.*

**35.58.273 Public transportation systems—Motor vehicle excise tax authorized—Credits—Public hearing on route and design—Sales and use tax on rental cars.** (1) Through June 30, 1992, any municipality, as defined in this subsection, is authorized to levy and collect a special excise tax not exceeding .7824 percent and beginning July 1, 1992, .725 percent on the value, as determined under chapter 82.44 RCW, of every motor vehicle owned by a resident of such municipality for the privilege of using such motor vehicle provided that in no event shall the tax be less than one dollar and, subject to RCW 82.44.150 (3) and (4), the amount of such tax shall be credited against the amount of the excise tax levied by the state under RCW 82.44.020(1). As used in this subsection, the term "municipality" means a

municipality that is located within (a) each county with a population of two hundred ten thousand or more and (b) each county with a population of from one hundred twenty-five thousand to less than two hundred ten thousand except for those counties that do not border a county with a population as described under subsection (a) of this subsection.

(2) Through June 30, 1992, any other municipality is authorized to levy and collect a special excise tax not exceeding .815 percent, and beginning July 1, 1992, .725 percent on the value, as determined under chapter 82.44 RCW, of every motor vehicle owned by a resident of such municipality for the privilege of using such motor vehicle provided that in no event shall the tax be less than one dollar and, subject to RCW 82.44.150 (3) and (4), the amount of such tax shall be credited against the amount of the excise tax levied by the state under RCW 82.44.020(1). Before utilization of any excise tax moneys collected under authorization of this section for acquisition of right of way or construction of a mass transit facility on a separate right of way the municipality shall adopt rules affording the public an opportunity for "corridor public hearings" and "design public hearings" as herein defined, which rule shall provide in detail the procedures necessary for public participation in the following instances: (a) Prior to adoption of location and design plans having a substantial social, economic or environmental effect upon the locality upon which they are to be constructed or (b) on such mass rapid transit systems operating on a separate right of way whenever a substantial change is proposed relating to location or design in the adopted plan. In adopting rules the municipality shall adhere to the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act.

(3) A "corridor public hearing" is a public hearing that: (a) Is held before the municipality is committed to a specific mass transit route proposal, and before a route location is established; (b) is held to afford an opportunity for participation by those interested in the determination of the need for, and the location of, the mass rapid transit system; (c) provides a public forum that affords a full opportunity for presenting views on the mass rapid transit system route location, and the social, economic and environmental effects on that location and alternate locations: PROVIDED, That such hearing shall not be deemed to be necessary before adoption of an overall mass rapid transit system plan by a vote of the electorate of the municipality.

(4) A "design public hearing" is a public hearing that: (a) Is held after the location is established but before the design is adopted; and (b) is held to afford an opportunity for participation by those interested in the determination of major design features of the mass rapid transit system; and (c) provides a public forum to afford a full opportunity for presenting views on the mass rapid transit system design, and the social, economic, environmental effects of that design and alternate designs.

(5) A municipality imposing a tax under subsection (1) or (2) of this section may also impose a sales and use tax, in addition to the tax authorized by RCW 82.14.030, upon retail car rentals within the municipality that are taxable by the state under chapters 82.08 and 82.12 RCW. The rate of tax shall bear the same ratio to the rate imposed under RCW 82.08.020(2) as the excise tax rate imposed under subsection (1) of this section bears to the excise tax rate imposed under

RCW 82.44.020 (1) and (2). The base of the tax shall be the selling price in the case of a sales tax or the rental value of the vehicle used in the case of a use tax. The tax imposed under this section shall be deducted from the amount of tax otherwise due under RCW 82.08.020(2). The revenue collected under this subsection shall be distributed in the same manner as special excise taxes under subsections (1) and (2) of this section. [1992 c 194 § 11; 1991 c 339 § 29; 1991 c 309 § 1; (1991 c 363 § 40 repealed by 1991 c 309 § 6); 1990 c 42 § 316; 1987 c 428 § 2; 1979 ex.s. c 175 § 2; 1969 ex.s. c 255 § 8.]

**Legislative intent—1992 c 194:** See note following RCW 82.08.020.

**Effective dates—1992 c 194:** See note following RCW 46.04.466.

**Purpose—Headings—Severability—Effective dates—Application—Implementation—1990 c 42:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

**Effective date—1987 c 428:** See note following RCW 47.78.010.

**Administrative procedure act:** Chapter 34.05 RCW.

**35.58.274 Public transportation systems—Motor vehicles exempt from tax.** Any vehicle for which an excise tax is payable under RCW 82.44.030 shall be exempt from the tax imposed by RCW 35.58.273. [1985 c 7 § 100; 1969 ex.s. c 255 § 9.]

**35.58.275 Public transportation systems—Provisions of motor vehicle excise tax chapter applicable.** The schedule and basis for the excise tax imposed under RCW 35.58.273 shall be as provided in \*RCW 82.44.040 and RCW 82.44.050. Penalties, receipts, abatements, refunds and all other similar matters relating to the tax shall be as provided in chapter 82.44 RCW. [1969 ex.s. c 255 § 10.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 82.44.040 and 82.44.050 were repealed by 1990 c 42 § 328, effective September 1, 1990. Cf. RCW 82.44.041.

**35.58.276 Public transportation systems—When tax due and payable—Collection.** The excise tax authorized by RCW 35.58.273 shall be due and payable as set forth in RCW 82.44.060 and shall be collected by the county auditor of the county or counties in which such municipality is located or by a designee of the director under RCW 82.44.140, and remitted to the state at no cost to the municipality imposing the tax. [1971 ex.s. c 199 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 255 § 11.]

**35.58.277 Public transportation systems—Remittance of tax by county auditor.** When remitting license fee receipts to the state pursuant to RCW 82.44.110, the county auditor shall at the same time remit the special excise taxes collected for the municipality and, subject to the provisions of subsection (2) of RCW 82.44.150, the sum so collected and paid over on behalf of the municipality shall be credited against the amount of the tax the auditor would otherwise be required to collect and pay over to the director of licensing for ultimate distribution to the general fund under chapter 82.44 RCW. [1979 c 158 § 91; 1969 ex.s. c 255 § 12.]

**35.58.278 Public transportation systems—Distribution of tax.** Distribution of the special excise taxes paid into the general fund on behalf of any municipality shall be made to such municipality as provided in RCW

82.44.150, as now or hereafter amended. [1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 2; 1974 ex.s. c 54 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 255 § 13.]

**Severability—Effective date—1975 1st ex.s. c 270:** See notes following RCW 35.58.272.

**Severability—Effective dates—1974 ex.s. c 54:** See notes following RCW 82.44.110.

**35.58.279 Public transportation systems—Crediting and use of tax revenues.** All taxes levied and collected under RCW 35.58.273 shall be credited to a special fund in the treasury of the municipality imposing such tax. Such taxes shall be levied and used solely for the purpose of paying all or any part of the cost of acquiring, constructing, equipping or operating a publicly owned mass transportation system, or contracting for the services thereof, or to pay or secure the payment of all or part of the principal of or interest on any general obligation bonds or revenue bonds issued for public transportation capital purposes and until withdrawn for use, the moneys accumulated in such fund or funds may be invested by the treasurer of such municipality in the manner authorized by the legislative body of the municipality.

No municipality may use any of the proceeds of the taxes levied and collected under RCW 35.58.273 for the purpose of financing ambulance services nor shall the expenditure of sales and use tax authorized pursuant to RCW 82.14.045 for ambulance services be counted as locally generated tax revenues for apportionment and distribution of the proceeds of the motor vehicle excise tax authorized pursuant to RCW 35.58.273, in the manner prescribed by chapter 82.44 RCW as now or hereafter amended.

If any of the revenue from any such special excise tax shall have been pledged by any municipality to secure the payment of any bonds as herein authorized, then as long as that pledge shall be in effect the legislature shall not withdraw from the municipality the authority to levy and collect the tax. After August 11, 1969, any municipality is authorized to pledge that the tax authorized by RCW 35.58.273 shall be levied, collected and applied as provided by law to pay or secure the payment of any bonds issued by such municipality after such date but before May 14, 1979, for authorized public transportation purposes. [1981 c 319 § 3; 1979 ex.s. c 175 § 3; 1969 ex.s. c 255 § 14.]

**35.58.2791 Public transportation systems—Internal combustion equipment to comply with pollution control standards.** No new internal combustion powered equipment shall be acquired with funds derived from the taxes levied and collected under RCW 35.58.273 or with funds derived from general obligation bonds wholly or partially secured by the taxes levied and collected under RCW 35.58.273 unless they meet the standards for control of pollutants emitted by internal combustion engines as determined by the state air pollution control board, which standards shall not be less than those required by similar federal standards. [1969 ex.s. c 255 § 19.]

**35.58.2792 Public transportation systems—Parking facilities to be in conjunction with system stations or transfer facilities.** The construction of parking facilities to be wholly or partially financed with funds derived from the

taxes levied and collected under RCW 35.58.273 or with funds derived from general obligation bonds wholly or partially secured by taxes levied and collected under RCW 35.58.273 shall be in conjunction with and adjacent to public transportation stations or transfer facilities. [1969 ex.s. c 255 § 20.]

**35.58.2794 Public transportation systems—Research, testing, development, etc., of systems—Powers to comply with federal laws.** Any city, county, public transportation benefit area authority, county transportation authority, or metropolitan municipal corporation operating a public transportation system shall be authorized to conduct, contract for, participate in and support research, demonstration, testing and development of public transportation systems, equipment and use incentives and shall have all powers necessary to comply with any criteria, standards, and regulations which may be adopted under the urban mass transportation act (78 Stat. 302 et seq., 49 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) and to take all actions necessary to meet the requirements of that act. Any county in which a county transportation authority or public transportation benefit area shall have been established and any metropolitan municipal corporation which shall have been authorized to perform the function of metropolitan public transportation shall have, in addition to such powers, the authority to prepare, adopt and carry out a comprehensive transit plan and to make such other plans and studies and to perform such programs as the governing body of the county authority public transportation benefit area authority or metropolitan municipal corporation shall deem necessary to implement and comply with said federal act. [1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 8.]

**Severability—Effective date—1975 1st ex.s. c 270:** See notes following RCW 35.58.272.

**35.58.2795 Public transportation systems—Six-year transit plans.** By April 1st of each year, the legislative authority of each municipality, as defined in RCW 35.58.272, and each regional transit authority shall prepare a six-year transit development plan for that calendar year and the ensuing five years. The program shall be consistent with the comprehensive plans adopted by counties, cities, and towns, pursuant to chapter 35.63, 35A.63, or 36.70 RCW, the inherent authority of a first class city or charter county derived from its charter, or chapter 36.70A RCW. The program shall contain information as to how the municipality intends to meet state and local long-range priorities for public transportation, capital improvements, significant operating changes planned for the system, and how the municipality intends to fund program needs. The six-year plan for each municipality and regional transit authority shall specifically set forth those projects of regional significance for inclusion in the transportation improvement program within that region. Each municipality and regional transit authority shall file the six-year program with the state department of transportation, the transportation improvement board, and cities, counties, and regional planning councils within which the municipality is located.

In developing its program, the municipality and the regional transit authority shall consider those policy recommendations affecting public transportation contained in the

state transportation policy plan approved by the state transportation commission and, where appropriate, adopted by the legislature. The municipality shall conduct one or more public hearings while developing its program and for each annual update. [1994 c 158 § 6; 1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 60; 1989 c 396 § 1.]

**Captions not law—Severability—Effective date—1994 c 158:** See RCW 47.80.902 through 47.80.904.

**Severability—Part, section headings not law—1990 1st ex.s. c 17:** See RCW 36.70A.900 and 36.70A.901.

**35.58.2796 Public transportation systems—Annual report by department.** The department of transportation shall develop an annual report summarizing the status of public transportation systems in the state. By September 1st of each year, copies of the report shall be submitted to the legislative transportation committee and to each municipality, as defined in RCW 35.58.272, and to individual members of the municipality's legislative authority. The department shall prepare and submit a preliminary report by December 1, 1989.

To assist the department with preparation of the report, each municipality shall file a system report by April 1st of each year with the state department of transportation identifying its public transportation services for the previous calendar year and its objectives for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of those services. The system report shall address those items required for each public transportation system in the department's report.

The department report shall describe individual public transportation systems, including contracted transportation services and dial-a-ride services, and include a state-wide summary of public transportation issues and data. The descriptions shall include the following elements and such other elements as the department deems appropriate after consultation with the municipalities and the legislative transportation committee:

- (1) Equipment and facilities, including vehicle replacement standards;
- (2) Services and service standards;
- (3) Revenues, expenses, and ending balances, by fund source;
- (4) Policy issues and system improvement objectives, including community participation in development of those objectives and how those objectives address state-wide transportation priorities;
- (5) Operating indicators applied to public transportation services, revenues, and expenses. Operating indicators shall include operating cost per passenger trip, operating cost per revenue vehicle service hour, passenger trips per revenue service hour, passenger trips per vehicle service mile, vehicle service hours per employee, and farebox revenue as a percent of operating costs. [1989 c 396 § 2.]

**35.58.280 Powers relative to garbage disposal.** If a metropolitan municipal corporation shall be authorized to perform the function of metropolitan garbage disposal, it shall have the following powers in addition to the general powers granted by this chapter:

- (1) To prepare a comprehensive garbage disposal plan for the metropolitan area.

- (2) To acquire by purchase, condemnation, gift, or grant and to lease, construct, add to, improve, replace, repair, maintain, operate and regulate the use of metropolitan facilities for garbage disposal within or without the metropolitan area, including garbage disposal sites, central collection station sites, structures, machinery and equipment for the operation of central collection stations and for the hauling and disposal of garbage by any means, together with all lands, property, equipment and accessories necessary for such facilities. Garbage disposal facilities which are owned by a city or county may be acquired or used by the metropolitan municipal corporation only with the consent of the legislative body of the city or county owning such facilities. Cities and counties are hereby authorized to convey or lease such facilities to metropolitan municipal corporations or to contract for their joint use on such terms as may be fixed by agreement between the legislative body of such city or county and the metropolitan council, without submitting the matter to the voters of such city or county.

- (3) To fix rates and charges for the use of metropolitan garbage disposal facilities.

- (4) With the consent of any component city, to acquire by purchase, condemnation, gift or grant and to lease, construct, add to, improve, replace, repair, maintain, operate and regulate the use of facilities for the local collection of garbage within such city, and for such purpose to have all the powers conferred by law upon such city with respect to such local collection facilities. Nothing herein contained shall be deemed to authorize the local collection of garbage except in component cities. All costs of such local collection facilities shall be paid for by the area served thereby. [1965 c 7 § 35.58.280. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 28.]

**35.58.290 Powers relative to parks and parkways.**

If a metropolitan municipal corporation shall be authorized to perform the function of metropolitan parks and parkways, it shall have the following powers in addition to the general powers granted by this chapter:

- (1) To prepare a comprehensive plan of metropolitan parks and parkways.

- (2) To acquire by purchase, condemnation, gift or grant, to lease, construct, add to, improve, develop, replace, repair, maintain, operate and regulate the use of metropolitan parks and parkways, together with all lands, rights of way, property, equipment and accessories necessary therefor. A park or parkway shall be considered to be a metropolitan facility if the metropolitan council shall by resolution find it to be of use and benefit to all or a major portion of the residents of the metropolitan area. Parks or parkways which are owned by a component city or county may be acquired or used by the metropolitan municipal corporation only with the consent of the legislative body of such city or county. Cities and counties are hereby authorized to convey or lease such facilities to metropolitan municipal corporations or to contract for their joint use on such terms as may be fixed by agreement between the legislative bodies of such city or county and the metropolitan council, without submitting the matter to the voters of such city or county. If parks or parkways which have been acquired or used as metropolitan facilities shall no longer be used for park purposes by the metropolitan municipal corporation, such facilities shall

revert to the component city or county which formerly owned them.

(3) To fix fees and charges for the use of metropolitan park and parkway facilities. [1965 c 7 § 35.58.290. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 29.]

**35.58.300 Metropolitan park board.** If a metropolitan municipal corporation shall be authorized to perform the function of metropolitan parks and parkways, a metropolitan park board shall be formed prior to the effective date of the assumption of such function. Except as provided in this section, the metropolitan park board shall exercise all powers of the metropolitan municipal corporation with respect to metropolitan park and parkway facilities.

The metropolitan park board shall authorize expenditures for park and parkway purposes within the budget adopted by the metropolitan council. Bonds of the metropolitan municipal corporation for park and parkway purposes shall be issued by the metropolitan council as provided in this chapter.

The metropolitan park board shall consist of five members appointed by the metropolitan council at least two of whom shall be residents of the central city. The terms of first appointees shall be for one, two, three, four and five years, respectively. Thereafter members shall serve for a term of four years. Compensation of park board members shall be determined by the metropolitan council.

The requirement to create a metropolitan park board shall not apply to a county that has assumed the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of the metropolitan municipal corporation under chapter 36.56 RCW. [1993 c 240 § 7; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.300. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 30.]

**35.58.310 Powers relative to planning.** If a metropolitan municipal corporation shall be authorized to perform the function of metropolitan comprehensive planning, it shall have the following powers in addition to the general powers granted by this chapter:

(1) To prepare a recommended comprehensive land use and capital facilities plan for the metropolitan area.

(2) To review proposed zoning ordinances and resolutions or comprehensive plans of component cities and counties and make recommendations thereon. Such proposed zoning ordinances and resolutions or comprehensive plans must be submitted to the metropolitan council prior to adoption and may not be adopted until reviewed and returned by the metropolitan council. The metropolitan council shall cause such ordinances, resolutions and plans to be reviewed by the planning staff of the metropolitan municipal corporation and return such ordinances, resolutions and plans, together with their findings and recommendations thereon within sixty days following their submission.

(3) To provide planning services for component cities and counties upon request and upon payment therefor by the cities or counties receiving such service. [1965 c 7 § 35.58.310. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 31.]

**35.58.320 Eminent domain.** A metropolitan municipal corporation shall have power to acquire by purchase and condemnation all lands and property rights, both within and without the metropolitan area, which are necessary for its

purposes. Such right of eminent domain shall be exercised by the metropolitan council in the same manner and by the same procedure as is or may be provided by law for cities, except insofar as such laws may be inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter. [1993 c 240 § 8; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.320. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 32.]

*Eminent domain by cities: Chapter 8.12 RCW.*

**35.58.330 Powers may be exercised with relation to public rights of way without franchise—Conditions.** A metropolitan municipal corporation shall have power to construct or maintain metropolitan facilities in, along, on, under, over, or through public streets, bridges, viaducts, and other public rights of way without first obtaining a franchise from the county or city having jurisdiction over the same: PROVIDED, That such facilities shall be constructed and maintained in accordance with the ordinances and resolutions of such city or county relating to construction, installation and maintenance of similar facilities in such public properties. [1965 c 7 § 35.58.330. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 33.]

**35.58.340 Disposition of unneeded property.** Except as otherwise provided herein, a metropolitan municipal corporation may sell, or otherwise dispose of any real or personal property acquired in connection with any authorized metropolitan function and which is no longer required for the purposes of the metropolitan municipal corporation in the same manner as provided for cities. When the metropolitan council determines that a metropolitan facility or any part thereof which has been acquired from a component city or county without compensation is no longer required for metropolitan purposes, but is required as a local facility by the city or county from which it was acquired, the metropolitan council shall by resolution transfer it to such city or county. [1993 c 240 § 9; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.340. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 34.]

**35.58.350 Powers and functions of metropolitan municipal corporation—Where vested—Powers of metropolitan council.** All the powers and functions of a metropolitan municipal corporation shall be vested in the metropolitan council unless expressly vested in specific officers, boards, or commissions by this chapter, or vested in the county legislative authority of a county that has assumed the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of a metropolitan municipal corporation as provided in chapter 36.56 RCW. Without limitation of the foregoing authority, or of other powers given it by this chapter, the metropolitan council shall have the following powers:

(1) To establish offices, departments, boards and commissions in addition to those provided by this chapter which are necessary to carry out the purposes of the metropolitan municipal corporation, and to prescribe the functions, powers and duties thereof.

(2) To appoint or provide for the appointment of, and to remove or to provide for the removal of, all officers and employees of the metropolitan municipal corporation except those whose appointment or removal is otherwise provided by this chapter.

(3) To fix the salaries, wages and other compensation of all officers and employees of the metropolitan municipal

corporation unless the same shall be otherwise fixed in this chapter.

(4) To employ such engineering, legal, financial, or other specialized personnel as may be necessary to accomplish the purposes of the metropolitan municipal corporation. [1993 c 240 § 10; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.350. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 35.]

**35.58.360 Rules and regulations—Penalties—Enforcement.** A metropolitan municipal corporation shall have power to adopt by resolution such rules and regulations as shall be necessary or proper to enable it to carry out authorized metropolitan functions and may provide penalties for the violation thereof. Actions to impose or enforce such penalties may be brought in the superior court of the state of Washington in and for the central county. [1965 c 7 § 35.58.360. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 36.]

**35.58.370 Merit system.** The metropolitan council shall establish and provide for the operation and maintenance of a personnel merit system for the employment, classification, promotion, demotion, suspension, transfer, layoff and discharge of its appointive officers and employees solely on the basis of merit and fitness without regard to political influence or affiliation. The person appointed or body created for the purpose of administering such personnel system shall have power to make, amend and repeal rules and regulations as are deemed necessary for such merit system. Such rules and regulations shall provide:

(1) That the person to be discharged or demoted must be presented with the reasons for such discharge or demotion specifically stated; and

(2) That he shall be allowed a reasonable time in which to reply thereto in writing and that he be given a hearing thereon within a reasonable time. [1965 c 7 § 35.58.370. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 37.]

**35.58.380 Retention of existing personnel.** A metropolitan municipal corporation shall offer to employ every person who on the date such corporation acquires a metropolitan facility is employed in the operation of such facility by a component city or county or by a special district. [1965 c 7 § 35.58.380. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 38.]

*Assumption of labor contracts upon acquisition of transportation system: RCW 35.58.265.*

**35.58.390 Prior employees pension rights preserved.** Where a metropolitan municipal corporation employs a person employed immediately prior thereto by a component city or county, or by a special district, such employee shall be deemed to remain an employee of such city, county, or special district for the purposes of any pension plan of such city, county, or special district, and shall continue to be entitled to all rights and benefits thereunder as if he had remained as an employee of the city, county, or special district, until the metropolitan municipal corporation has provided a pension plan and such employee has elected, in writing, to participate therein.

Until such election, the metropolitan municipal corporation shall deduct from the remuneration of such employee the amount which such employee is or may be required to

pay in accordance with the provisions of the plan of such city, county, or special district and the metropolitan municipal corporation shall pay to the city, county, or special district any amounts required to be paid under the provisions of such plan by employer or employee. [1965 c 7 § 35.58.390. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 39.]

*Preservation of pension rights upon acquisition of transportation system: RCW 35.58.265.*

*Public employment, civil service and pensions: Title 41 RCW.*

**35.58.400 Prior employees sick leave and vacation rights preserved.** Where a metropolitan municipal corporation employs a person employed immediately prior thereto by a component city or county or by a special district, the employee shall be deemed to remain an employee of such city, county, or special district for the purposes of any sick leave credit plan of the component city, county, or special district until the metropolitan municipal corporation has established a sick leave credit plan for its employees, whereupon the metropolitan municipal corporation shall place to the credit of the employee the sick leave credits standing to his credit in the plan of such city, county, or special district.

Where a metropolitan municipal corporation employs a person theretofore employed by a component city, county, or by a special district, the metropolitan municipal corporation shall, during the first year of his employment by the metropolitan municipal corporation, provide for such employee a vacation with pay equivalent to that which he would have been entitled if he had remained in the employment of the city, county, or special district. [1965 c 7 § 35.58.400. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 40.]

*Preservation of sick leave, vacation, and other benefits upon acquisition of transportation system: RCW 35.58.265.*

**35.58.410 Budget—Expenditures—Revenue estimates—Requirements for a county assuming the powers of a metropolitan municipal corporation.** (1) On or before the third Monday in June of each year, each metropolitan municipal corporation shall adopt a budget for the following calendar year. Such budget shall include a separate section for each authorized metropolitan function. Expenditures shall be segregated as to operation and maintenance expenses and capital and betterment outlays. Administrative and other expense general to the corporation shall be allocated between the authorized metropolitan functions. The budget shall contain an estimate of all revenues to be collected during the following budget year, including any surplus funds remaining unexpended from the preceding year. The metropolitan council shall not be required to confine capital or betterment expenditures made from bond proceeds or emergency expenditures to items provided in the budget. The affirmative vote of three-fourths of all members of the metropolitan council shall be required to authorize emergency expenditures.

(2) Subsection (1) of this section shall not apply to a county that has assumed the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of a metropolitan municipal corporation under chapter 36.56 RCW. This subsection (2) shall apply only to each county that has assumed the rights, powers, functions,



and obligations of a metropolitan municipal corporation under chapter 36.56 RCW.

Each county that has assumed the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of a metropolitan municipal corporation under chapter 36.56 RCW shall, on or before the third Monday in June of each year, prepare an estimate of all revenues to be collected during the following calendar year, including any surplus funds remaining unexpended from the preceding year for each authorized metropolitan function.

By June 30 of each year, the county shall adopt the rate for sewage disposal that will be charged to component cities and sewer districts during the following budget year.

As long as any general obligation indebtedness remains outstanding that was issued by the metropolitan municipal corporation prior to the assumption by the county, the county shall continue to impose the taxes authorized by RCW 82.14.045 and 35.58.273(5) at the maximum rates and on all of the taxable events authorized by law. If, despite the continued imposition of those taxes, the estimate of revenues made on or before the third Monday in June shows that estimated revenues will be insufficient to make all debt service payments falling due in the following calendar year on all general obligation indebtedness issued by the metropolitan municipal corporation prior to the assumption by the county of the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of the metropolitan municipal corporation, the remaining amount required to make the debt service payments shall be designated as "supplemental income" and shall be obtained from component cities and component counties as provided under RCW 35.58.420.

The county shall prepare and adopt a budget each year in accordance with applicable general law or county charter. If supplemental income has been designated under this subsection, the supplemental income shall be reflected in the budget that is adopted. If during the budget year the actual tax revenues from the taxes imposed under the authority of RCW 82.14.045 and 35.58.273(5) exceed the estimates upon which the supplemental income was based, the difference shall be refunded to the component cities and component counties in proportion to their payments promptly after the end of the budget year. A county that has assumed the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of a metropolitan municipal corporation under chapter 36.56 RCW shall not be required to confine capital or betterment expenditures for authorized metropolitan functions from bond proceeds or emergency expenditures to items provided in the budget. [1993 c 240 § 11; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.410. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 41.]

**35.58.420 Supplemental income payments by component city and county.** Each component city shall pay such proportion of the supplemental income of the metropolitan municipal corporation as the assessed valuation of property within its limits bears to the total assessed valuation of taxable property within the metropolitan area. Each component county shall pay such proportion of such supplemental income as the assessed valuation of the property within the unincorporated area of such county lying within the metropolitan area bears to the total assessed valuation of taxable property within the metropolitan area. In making such determination, the metropolitan council shall

use the last available assessed valuations. The metropolitan council shall certify to each component city and county, prior to the fourth Monday in June of each year, the share of the supplemental income to be paid by such component city or county for the next calendar year. The latter shall then include such amount in its budget for the ensuing calendar year, and during such year shall pay to the metropolitan municipal corporation, in equal quarterly installments, the amount of its supplemental income share from whatever sources may be available to it. [1965 c 7 § 35.58.420. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 42.]

**35.58.430 Funds—Disbursements—Treasurer—Expenses—Election expenses.** The treasurer of each component county shall create a separate fund into which shall be paid all money collected from taxes levied by the metropolitan municipal corporation on property in such county and such money shall be forwarded quarterly by the treasurer of each such county to the treasurer of the central county as directed by the metropolitan council. The treasurer of the central county shall act as the treasurer of the metropolitan municipal corporation and shall establish and maintain such funds as may be authorized by the metropolitan council. Money shall be disbursed from such funds upon warrants drawn by the auditor of the central county as authorized by the metropolitan council. The central county shall be reimbursed by the metropolitan municipal corporation for services rendered by the treasurer and auditor of the central county in connection with the receipt and disbursement of such funds. The expense of all special elections held pursuant to this chapter shall be paid by the metropolitan municipal corporation. [1965 c 7 § 35.58.430. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 43.]

**35.58.450 General obligation bonds—Issuance, sale, form, term, election, payment.** Notwithstanding the limitations of chapter 39.36 RCW and any other statutory limitations otherwise applicable and limiting municipal debt, a metropolitan municipal corporation shall have the power to contract indebtedness and issue general obligation bonds and to pledge the full faith and credit of the corporation to the payment thereof, for any authorized capital purpose of the metropolitan municipal corporation, not to exceed an amount, together with any outstanding nonvoter approved general indebtedness, equal to three-fourths of one percent of the value of the taxable property within the metropolitan municipal corporation, as the term "value of the taxable property" is defined in RCW 39.36.015. A metropolitan municipal corporation may additionally contract indebtedness and issue general obligation bonds, for any authorized capital purpose of a metropolitan municipal corporation, together with any other outstanding general indebtedness, not to exceed an amount equal to five percent of the value of the taxable property within the corporation, as the term "value of the taxable property" is defined in RCW 39.36.015, when a proposition authorizing the indebtedness has been approved by three-fifths of the persons voting on said proposition at said election at which such election the total number of persons voting on such bond proposition shall constitute not less than forty percent of the total number of voters voting within the area of said metropolitan municipal corporation at

the last preceding state general election. Such general obligation bonds may be authorized in any total amount in one or more propositions and the amount of such authorization may exceed the amount of bonds which could then lawfully be issued. Such bonds may be issued in one or more series from time to time out of such authorization. The elections shall be held pursuant to RCW 39.36.050.

Whenever the voters of a metropolitan municipal corporation have, pursuant to RCW 84.52.056, approved excess property tax levies to retire such bond issues, both the principal of and interest on such general obligation bonds may be made payable from annual tax levies to be made upon all the taxable property within the metropolitan municipal corporation in excess of the constitutional and/or statutory tax limit. The principal of and interest on any general obligation bond may be made payable from any other taxes or any special assessments which the metropolitan municipal corporation may be authorized to levy or from any otherwise unpledged revenue which may be derived from the ownership or operation of properties or facilities incident to the performance of the authorized function for which such bonds are issued or may be made payable from any combination of the foregoing sources. The metropolitan council may include in the principal amount of such bond issue an amount for engineering, architectural, planning, financial, legal, urban design and other services incident to acquisition or construction solely for authorized capital purposes.

General obligation bonds shall be issued and sold by the metropolitan council as provided in chapter 39.46 RCW and shall mature in not to exceed forty years from the date of issue. [1993 c 240 § 13; 1984 c 186 § 18; 1983 c 167 § 47; 1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 24; 1971 ex.s. c 303 § 9; 1970 ex.s. c 56 § 38; 1970 ex.s. c 42 § 13; 1970 ex.s. c 11 § 1. Prior: 1969 ex.s. c 255 § 17; 1969 ex.s. c 232 § 16; 1967 c 105 § 13; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.450; prior: 1957 c 213 § 45.]

**Purpose—1984 c 186:** See note following RCW 39.46.110.

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**Severability—Effective dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195:** See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

**Purpose—1970 ex.s. c 56:** See note following RCW 39.52.020.

**Validation—Saving—Severability—1969 ex.s. c 232:** See notes following RCW 39.52.020.

*Limitations upon indebtedness: State Constitution Art. 7 § 2 (Amendments 55, 59), Art. 8 § 6 (Amendment 27), chapter 39.36 RCW, RCW 84.52.050.*

**35.58.460 Revenue bonds—Issuance, sale, form, term, payment, reserves, actions.** (1) A metropolitan municipal corporation may issue revenue bonds to provide funds to carry out its authorized metropolitan water pollution abatement, water supply, garbage disposal or transportation purposes, without submitting the matter to the voters of the metropolitan municipal corporation. The metropolitan council shall create a special fund or funds for the sole purpose of paying the principal of and interest on the bonds of each such issue, into which fund or funds the metropolitan council may obligate the metropolitan municipal corporation to pay such amounts of the gross revenue of the particular utility constructed, acquired, improved, added to, or repaired out of the proceeds of sale of such bonds, as the

metropolitan council shall determine and may obligate the metropolitan municipal corporation to pay such amounts out of otherwise unpledged revenue which may be derived from the ownership, use or operation of properties or facilities owned, used or operated incident to the performance of the authorized function for which such bonds are issued or out of otherwise unpledged fees, tolls, charges, tariffs, fares, rentals, special taxes or other sources of payment lawfully authorized for such purpose, as the metropolitan council shall determine. The principal of, and interest on, such bonds shall be payable only out of such special fund or funds, and the owners of such bonds shall have a lien and charge against the gross revenue of such utility or any other revenue, fees, tolls, charges, tariffs, fares, special taxes or other authorized sources pledged to the payment of such bonds.

Such revenue bonds and the interest thereon issued against such fund or funds shall be a valid claim of the owners thereof only as against such fund or funds and the revenue pledged therefor, and shall not constitute a general indebtedness of the metropolitan municipal corporation.

Each such revenue bond shall state upon its face that it is payable from such special fund or funds, and all revenue bonds issued under this chapter shall be negotiable securities within the provisions of the law of this state. Such revenue bonds may be registered either as to principal only or as to principal and interest as provided in RCW 39.46.030, or may be bearer bonds; shall be in such denominations as the metropolitan council shall deem proper; shall be payable at such time or times and at such places as shall be determined by the metropolitan council; shall bear interest at such rate or rates as shall be determined by the metropolitan council; shall be signed by the chairman and attested by the secretary of the metropolitan council, any of which signatures may be facsimile signatures, and the seal of the metropolitan municipal corporation shall be impressed or imprinted thereon; any attached interest coupons shall be signed by the facsimile signatures of said officials.

Such revenue bonds shall be sold in such manner, at such price and at such rate or rates of interest as the metropolitan council shall deem to be for the best interests of the metropolitan municipal corporation, either at public or private sale.

The metropolitan council may at the time of the issuance of such revenue bonds make such covenants with the owners of said bonds as it may deem necessary to secure and guarantee the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon, including but not being limited to covenants to set aside adequate reserves to secure or guarantee the payment of such principal and interest, to maintain rates sufficient to pay such principal and interest and to maintain adequate coverage over debt service, to appoint a trustee or trustees for the bond owners to safeguard the expenditure of the proceeds of sale of such bonds and to fix the powers and duties of such trustee or trustees and to make such other covenants as the metropolitan council may deem necessary to accomplish the most advantageous sale of such bonds. The metropolitan council may also provide that revenue bonds payable out of the same source may later be issued on a parity with revenue bonds being issued and sold.

The metropolitan council may include in the principal amount of any such revenue bond issue an amount to

establish necessary reserves, an amount for working capital and an amount necessary for interest during the period of construction of any such metropolitan facilities plus six months. The metropolitan council may, if it deems it to be the best interest of the metropolitan municipal corporation, provide in any contract for the construction or acquisition of any metropolitan facilities or additions or improvements thereto or replacements or extensions thereof that payment therefor shall be made only in such revenue bonds at the par value thereof.

If the metropolitan municipal corporation shall fail to carry out or perform any of its obligations or covenants made in the authorization, issuance and sale of such bonds, the owner of any such bond may bring action against the metropolitan municipal corporation and compel the performance of any or all of such covenants.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, such bonds may be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1993 c 240 § 14; 1983 c 167 § 48; 1974 ex.s. c 70 § 8; 1970 ex.s. c 56 § 39; 1970 ex.s. c 11 § 2; 1969 ex.s. c 255 § 18; 1969 ex.s. c 232 § 17; 1967 c 105 § 14; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.460. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 46.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**Purpose—1970 ex.s. c 56:** See note following RCW 39.52.020.

**Validation—Saving—Severability—1969 ex.s. c 232:** See notes following RCW 39.52.020.

**35.58.470 Funding, refunding bonds.** The metropolitan council may, by resolution, without submitting the matter to the voters of the metropolitan municipal corporation, provide for the issuance of funding or refunding general obligation bonds to refund any outstanding general obligation bonds or any part thereof at maturity, or before maturity if they are by their terms or by other agreement subject to prior redemption, with the right in the metropolitan council to combine various series and issues of the outstanding bonds by a single issue of funding or refunding bonds, and to issue refunding bonds to pay any redemption premium payable on the outstanding bonds being refunded. The funding or refunding general obligation bonds shall, except as specifically provided in this section, be issued in accordance with the provisions of this chapter with respect to general obligation bonds.

The metropolitan council may, by resolution, without submitting the matter to the voters of the metropolitan municipal corporation, provide for the issuance of funding or refunding revenue bonds to refund any outstanding revenue bonds or any part thereof at maturity, or before maturity if they are by their terms or by agreement subject to prior redemption, with the right in the metropolitan council to combine various series and issues of the outstanding bonds by a single issue of refunding bonds, and to issue refunding bonds to pay any redemption premium payable on the outstanding bonds being refunded. The funding or refunding revenue bonds shall be payable only out of a special fund created out of the gross revenue of the particular utility, and shall be a valid claim only as against such special fund and the amount of the revenue of the utility pledged to the fund. The funding or refunding revenue bonds shall, except as specifically provided in this section, be issued in accordance

with the provisions of this chapter with respect to revenue bonds.

The metropolitan council may exchange the funding or refunding bonds at par for the bonds which are being funded or refunded, or it may sell them in such manner, at such price and at such rate or rates of interest as it deems for the best interest of the metropolitan municipal corporation. [1970 ex.s. c 56 § 40; 1969 ex.s. c 232 § 18; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.470. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 47.]

**Purpose—1970 ex.s. c 56:** See note following RCW 39.52.020.

**Validation—Saving—Severability—1969 ex.s. c 232:** See notes following RCW 39.52.020.

**35.58.480 Borrowing money from component city or county.** A metropolitan municipal corporation shall have the power when authorized by a majority of all members of the metropolitan council to borrow money from any component city or county and such cities or counties are hereby authorized to make such loans or advances on such terms as may be mutually agreed upon by the legislative bodies of the metropolitan municipal corporation and any such component city or county to provide funds to carry out the purposes of the metropolitan municipal corporation. [1965 c 7 § 35.58.480. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 48.]

**35.58.490 Interest bearing warrants.** A metropolitan council shall have the power to authorize the issuance of interest bearing warrants on such terms and conditions as the metropolitan council shall provide and to repay the interest bearing warrants with any moneys legally authorized for such purposes, including tax receipts where appropriate. [1993 c 240 § 15; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.490. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 49.]

**35.58.500 Local improvement districts—Utility local improvement districts.** The metropolitan municipal corporation shall have the power to levy special assessments payable over a period of not exceeding twenty years on all property within the metropolitan area specially benefited by any improvement, on the basis of special benefits conferred, to pay in whole, or in part, the damages or costs of any such improvement, and for such purpose may establish local improvement districts and enlarged local improvement districts, issue local improvement warrants and bonds to be repaid by the collection of local improvement assessments and generally to exercise with respect to any improvements which it may be authorized to construct or acquire the same powers as may now or hereafter be conferred by law upon cities. Such local improvement districts shall be created and such special assessments levied and collected and local improvement warrants and bonds issued and sold in the same manner as shall now or hereafter be provided by law for cities. The duties imposed upon the city treasurer under such acts shall be imposed upon the treasurer of the county in which such local improvement district shall be located.

A metropolitan municipal corporation may provide that special benefit assessments levied in any local improvement district may be paid into such revenue bond redemption fund or funds as may be designated by the metropolitan council to secure the payment of revenue bonds issued to provide funds to pay the cost of improvements for which such

assessments were levied. If local improvement district assessments shall be levied for payment into a revenue bond fund, the local improvement district created therefor shall be designated a utility local improvement district. A metropolitan municipal corporation that creates a utility local improvement district shall conform with the laws relating to utility local improvement districts created by a city. [1993 c 240 § 16; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.500. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 50.]

*Local improvements, supplemental authority: Chapter 35.51 RCW.*

*Special assessments or taxation for local improvements: State Constitution Art. 7 § 9.*

**35.58.510 Obligations of corporation are legal investments and security for public deposits.** All banks, trust companies, bankers, savings banks, and institutions, building and loan associations, savings and loan associations, investment companies and other persons carrying on a banking or investment business, all insurance companies, insurance associations, and other persons carrying on an insurance business, and all executors, administrators, curators, trustees and other fiduciaries, may legally invest any sinking funds, moneys, or other funds belonging to them or within their control in any bonds or other obligations issued by a metropolitan municipal corporation pursuant to this chapter. Such bonds and other obligations shall be authorized security for all public deposits. It is the purpose of this section to authorize any persons, political subdivisions and officers, public or private, to use any funds owned or controlled by them for the purchase of any such bonds or other obligations. Nothing contained in this section with regard to legal investments shall be construed as relieving any person of any duty of exercising reasonable care in selecting securities. [1965 c 7 § 35.58.510. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 51.]

**35.58.520 Investment of corporate funds.** A metropolitan municipal corporation shall have the power to invest its funds held in reserves or sinking funds or any such funds which are not required for immediate disbursement, in any investments in which a city is authorized to invest, as provided in RCW 35.39.030. [1993 c 240 § 17; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.520. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 52.]

**35.58.530 Annexation—Requirements, procedure.** Territory located within a component county that is annexed to a component city after the establishment of a metropolitan municipal corporation shall by such act be annexed to the metropolitan municipal corporation. Territory within a metropolitan municipal corporation may be annexed to a city which is not within such metropolitan municipal corporation in the manner provided by law and in such event either (1) such city may be annexed to such metropolitan municipal corporation by ordinance of the legislative body of the city concurred in by resolution of the metropolitan council, or (2) if such city shall not be so annexed such territory shall remain within the metropolitan municipal corporation unless such city shall by resolution of its legislative body request the withdrawal of such territory subject to any outstanding indebtedness of the metropolitan corporation and the metropolitan council shall by resolution consent to such withdrawal.

Any territory located within a component county that is contiguous to a metropolitan municipal corporation and lying wholly within an incorporated city or town may be annexed to such metropolitan municipal corporation by ordinance of the legislative body of such city or town requesting such annexation concurred in by resolution of the metropolitan council.

Any other territory located within a component county that is adjacent to a metropolitan municipal corporation may be annexed thereto by vote of the qualified electors residing in the territory to be annexed, in the manner provided in this chapter. An election to annex such territory may be called pursuant to a petition or resolution in the following manner:

(1) A petition calling for such an election shall be signed by at least four percent of the qualified voters residing within the territory to be annexed and shall be filed with the auditor of the central county.

(2) A resolution calling for such an election may be adopted by the metropolitan council.

Any resolution or petition calling for such an election shall describe the boundaries of the territory to be annexed, and state that the annexation of such territory to the metropolitan municipal corporation will be conducive to the welfare and benefit of the persons or property within the metropolitan municipal corporation and within the territory proposed to be annexed.

Upon receipt of such a petition, the auditor shall examine the same and certify to the sufficiency of the signatures thereon. Within thirty days following the receipt of such petition, the auditor shall transmit the same to the metropolitan council, together with his certificate as to the sufficiency thereof. [1993 c 240 § 18; 1969 ex.s. c 135 § 3; 1967 c 105 § 15; 1965 c 7 § 35.58.530. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 53.]

**35.58.540 Annexation—Hearings—Inclusion, exclusion of territory—Boundaries—Calling election.** Upon receipt of a duly certified petition calling for an election on the annexation of territory to a metropolitan municipal corporation, or if the metropolitan council shall determine without a petition being filed, that an election on the annexation of any adjacent territory shall be held, the metropolitan council shall fix a date for a public hearing thereon which shall be not more than sixty nor less than forty days following the receipt of such petition or adoption of such resolution. Notice of such hearing shall be published once a week for at least four consecutive weeks in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the territory proposed to be annexed. The notice shall contain a description of the boundaries of the territory proposed to be annexed and shall state the time and place of the hearing thereon and the fact that any changes in the boundaries of such territory will be considered at such time and place. At such hearing or any continuation thereof, any interested person may appear and be heard on all matters relating to the proposed annexation. The metropolitan council may make such changes in the boundaries of the territory proposed to be annexed as it shall deem reasonable and proper, but may not delete any portion of the proposed area which will create an island of included or excluded lands and may not delete a portion of any city. If the metropolitan council

shall determine that any additional territory should be included in the territory to be annexed, a second hearing shall be held and notice given in the same manner as for the original hearing. The metropolitan council may adjourn the hearing on the proposed annexation from time to time not exceeding thirty days in all. At the next regular meeting following the conclusion of such hearing, the metropolitan council shall, if it finds that the annexation of such territory will be conducive to the welfare and benefit of the persons and property therein and the welfare and benefit of the persons and property within the metropolitan municipal corporation, adopt a resolution fixing the boundaries of the territory to be annexed and causing to be called a special election on such annexation to be held not more than one hundred twenty days nor less than sixty days following the adoption of such resolution. [1965 c 7 § 35.58.540. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 54.]

Notice of election: RCW 29.27.080.

**35.58.550 Annexation—Election—Favorable vote.**

An election on the annexation of territory to a metropolitan municipal corporation shall be conducted and canvassed in the same manner as provided for the conduct of an election on the formation of a metropolitan municipal corporation except that notice of such election shall be published in one or more newspapers of general circulation in the territory proposed to be annexed and the ballot proposition shall be in substantially the following form:

ANNEXATION TO (here insert name of metropolitan municipal corporation).

"Shall the territory described in a resolution of the metropolitan council of (here insert name of metropolitan municipal corporation) adopted on the . . . . ., 19. . . ., be annexed to such incorporation?"

YES . . . . .   
NO . . . . .

If a majority of those voting on such proposition vote in favor thereof, the territory shall thereupon be annexed to the metropolitan municipal corporation. [1965 c 7 § 35.58.550. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 55.]

Canvassing returns, generally: Chapter 29.62 RCW.  
Conduct of elections—Canvass: RCW 29.13.040.

**35.58.560 Taxes—Counties or cities not to impose on certain operations—Credits or offsets against state taxes—Refund of motor vehicle fuel taxes paid.** No county or city shall have the right to impose a tax upon the gross revenues derived by a metropolitan municipal corporation from the operation of a metropolitan sewage disposal, water supply, garbage disposal or public transportation system.

A metropolitan municipal corporation may credit or offset against the amount of any tax which is levied by the state during any calendar year upon the gross revenues derived by such metropolitan municipal corporation from the performance of any authorized function, the amount of any expenditures made from such gross revenues by such metropolitan municipal corporation during the same calendar year or any year prior to May 21, 1971 in planning for or

performing the function of metropolitan public transportation and including interest on any moneys advanced for such purpose from other funds and to the extent of such credit a metropolitan municipal corporation may expend such revenues for such purposes.

A metropolitan municipal corporation authorized to perform the function of metropolitan public transportation and engaged in the operation of an urban passenger transportation system shall receive a refund of the amount of the motor vehicle fuel tax levied by the state and paid on each gallon of motor vehicle fuel used, whether such vehicle fuel tax has been paid either directly to the vendor from whom the motor vehicle fuel was purchased or indirectly by adding the amount of such tax to the price of such fuel: PROVIDED, That no refunds authorized by this section shall be granted on fuel used by any urban transportation vehicle on any trip where any portion of said trip is more than six road miles beyond the corporate limits of the metropolitan municipal corporation in which said trip originated. [1971 ex.s. c 303 § 10; 1967 c 105 § 16.]

**35.58.570 Sewage facilities—Capacity charge.** (1)

A metropolitan municipal corporation that is engaged in the transmission, treatment, and disposal of sewage may impose a capacity charge on users of the metropolitan municipal corporation's sewage facilities when the user connects, reconnects, or establishes a new service. The capacity charge shall be approved by the council of the metropolitan municipal corporation and reviewed and reapproved annually.

(2) The capacity charge shall be based upon the cost of the sewage facilities' excess capacity that is necessary to provide sewerage treatment for new users to the system. The capacity charge, which may be collected over a period of fifteen years, shall not exceed:

(a) Seven dollars per month per residential customer equivalent for connections and reconnections occurring prior to January 1, 1996; and

(b) Ten dollars and fifty cents per month per residential customer equivalent for connections and reconnections occurring after January 1, 1996, and prior to January 1, 2001.

For connections and reconnections occurring after January 1, 2001, the capacity charge shall not exceed fifty percent of the basic sewer rate per residential customer equivalent established by the metropolitan municipal corporation at the time of the connection or reconnection.

(3) The capacity charge for a building other than a single-family residence shall be based on the projected number of residential customer equivalents to be represented by the building, considering its intended use.

(4) The council of the metropolitan municipal corporation shall enforce the collection of the capacity charge in the same manner provided for the collection, enforcement, and payment of rates and charges for sewer districts provided in RCW 56.16.100 and 56.16.110. At least thirty days before commencement of an action to foreclose a lien for a capacity charge, the metropolitan municipal corporation shall send written notice of delinquency in payment of the capacity charge to any first mortgage or deed of trust holder of record at the address of record.

(5) As used in this section, "sewage facilities" means capital projects identified since January 1, 1982, to July 23, 1989, in the metropolitan municipal corporation's comprehensive water pollution abatement plan. "Residential customer equivalent" shall have the same meaning used by the metropolitan municipal corporation in determining rates and charges at the time the capacity charge is imposed. [1989 c 389 § 1.]

**35.58.900 Liberal construction.** The rule of strict construction shall have no application to this chapter, but the same shall be liberally construed in all respects in order to carry out the purposes and objects for which this chapter is intended. [1965 c 7 § 35.58.900. Prior: 1957 c 213 § 56.]

**35.58.911 Prior proceedings validated, ratified, approved and confirmed.** All proceedings which have been taken prior to the date \*this 1967 amendatory act takes effect for the purpose of financing or aiding in the financing of any work, undertaking or project by any metropolitan municipal corporation, including all proceedings for the authorization and issuance of bonds and for the sale, execution, and delivery thereof, are hereby validated, ratified, approved, and confirmed, notwithstanding any lack of power (other than constitutional) of such metropolitan municipal corporation or the governing body or officers thereof, to authorize and issue such bonds, or to sell, execute, or deliver the same and notwithstanding any defects or irregularities (other than constitutional) in such proceedings. [1967 c 105 § 17.]

\*Reviser's note: The effective date of "this 1967 amendatory act" [1967 c 105] is March 21, 1967; see preface to 1967 session laws. For codification of 1967 c 105, see Codification Tables, Volume 0.

**35.58.920 Severability—1967 c 105.** If any provision of this 1967 amendatory act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this 1967 amendatory act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1967 c 105 § 18.]

**35.58.930 Severability—1971 ex.s. c 303.** If any provision of this 1971 amendatory act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1971 ex.s. c 303 § 11.]

**35.58.931 Severability—1974 ex.s. c 70.** If any provision of this 1974 amendatory act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1974 ex.s. c 70 § 9.]

## Chapter 35.59

### MULTI-PURPOSE COMMUNITY CENTERS

#### Sections

- 35.59.010 Definitions.
- 35.59.020 Legislative finding—Purposes for which authority granted may be exercised.
- 35.59.030 Acquisition, construction, operation, etc., of community centers authorized.

- 35.59.040 Conveyance or lease of lands or facilities to other municipality for community center development—Participation in financing.
- 35.59.050 Powers of condemnation.
- 35.59.060 Appropriation and expenditure of public moneys, issuance of general obligation bonds authorized—Procedure.
- 35.59.070 Revenue bonds.
- 35.59.080 Lease or contract for use or operation of facilities.
- 35.59.090 Counties authorized to establish community centers.
- 35.59.100 Prior proceedings validated and ratified.
- 35.59.110 Powers and authority conferred deemed additional and supplemental.
- 35.59.900 Severability—1967 c 110.

**35.59.010 Definitions.** "Municipality" as used in this chapter means any county, city or town of the state of Washington.

"Government agency" as used in this chapter means the federal government or any agency thereof, or the state or any agency, subdivision, taxing district or municipal corporation thereof other than a county, city or town.

"Person" as used in this chapter means any private corporation, partnership, association or individual.

"Multi-purpose community center" as used in this chapter means the lands, interests in lands, property, property rights, equipment, buildings, structures and other improvements developed as an integrated, multi-purpose, public facility on a single site or immediately adjacent sites for the housing and furnishing of any combination of the following community or public services or facilities: Administrative, legislative or judicial offices and chambers of any municipality, public health facilities, public safety facilities including without limitation, adult and juvenile detention facilities, fire and police stations, public halls, auditoria, libraries and museums, public facilities for the teaching, practice or exhibition of arts and crafts, educational facilities, playfields, playgrounds, parks, indoor and outdoor sports and recreation facilities. The term multi-purpose community center shall also mean and include walks, ramps, bridges, terminal and parking facilities for private vehicles and public transportation vehicles and systems, utilities, accessories, landscaping, and appurtenances incident to and necessary for such centers. [1967 c 110 § 1.]

**Effective date—1967 c 110:** "This act shall take effect on June 9, 1967." [1967 c 110 § 13.]

**35.59.020 Legislative finding—Purposes for which authority granted may be exercised.** The legislature finds that in many areas of the state local services and facilities can be more effectively and economically provided by combining two or more services and/or facilities in a single multi-purpose community center or a system of such centers. Any municipality shall have and exercise the authority and powers granted by this chapter whenever it appears to the legislative body of such municipality that the acquisition, construction, development and operation of a multi-purpose community center or a system of such centers will accomplish one or more of the following: Reduce costs of land acquisition, construction, maintenance or operation for affected public services or facilities; avoid duplication of structures, facilities or personnel; improve communication and coordination between departments of a municipality or governmental agency or between municipalities and governmental agencies; make local public services or facilities more

convenient or useful to the residents and citizens of such municipality. [1967 c 110 § 2.]

**35.59.030 Acquisition, construction, operation, etc., of community centers authorized.** Any municipality is authorized either individually or jointly with any other municipality or municipalities or any governmental agency or agencies, or any combination thereof, to acquire by purchase, condemnation, gift or grant, to lease as lessee, and to construct, install, add to, improve, replace, repair, maintain, operate and regulate the use of multi-purpose community centers located within such municipality, and to pay for any investigations and any engineering, planning, financial, legal and professional services incident to the development and operation of such multi-purpose community centers. [1967 c 110 § 3.]

**35.59.040 Conveyance or lease of lands or facilities to other municipality for community center development—Participation in financing.** Any municipality, and any agency, subdivision, taxing district or municipal corporation of the state is authorized to convey or lease any lands, properties or facilities to any other municipality for the development by such other municipality of a multi-purpose community center or a system of such centers or to provide for the joint use of such lands, properties or facilities or any other facilities of a multi-purpose community center, and is authorized to participate in the financing of all or any part of such multi-purpose community center or system of such centers on such terms as may be fixed by agreement between the respective legislative bodies without submitting the matter to a vote of the electors thereof, unless the provisions of the Constitution or laws of this state applicable to the incurring of indebtedness shall require such submission. [1967 c 110 § 4.]

*Joint operations by municipal corporations, deposit and control of funds: RCW 43.09.285.*

**35.59.050 Powers of condemnation.** The accomplishment of the objectives authorized by this chapter is declared to be a strictly public purpose of the municipality or municipalities authorized to perform the same. Any such municipality shall have the power to acquire by condemnation and purchase any lands and property rights within its boundaries which are necessary to carry out the purposes authorized by this chapter. Such right of eminent domain shall be exercised by the legislative body of each such municipality in the manner provided by applicable general law. [1967 c 110 § 5.]

**35.59.060 Appropriation and expenditure of public moneys, issuance of general obligation bonds authorized—Procedure.** To carry out the purposes of this chapter any municipality shall have the power to appropriate and/or expend any public moneys available therefor and to issue general obligation bonds within the limitations now or hereafter prescribed by the Constitution and laws of this state. Such general obligation bonds shall be issued and sold as provided in chapter 39.46 RCW. If the governing body of any municipality shall submit a proposition for the approval of general obligation bonds at any general or special

election and shall declare in the ordinance or resolution setting forth such proposition that its purpose is the creation of a single integrated multi-purpose community center or a city-wide or county-wide system of such centers, all pursuant to this chapter, and that the creation of such center or system of centers constitutes a single purpose, such declaration shall be presumed to be correct and, upon the issuance of the bonds, such presumption shall become conclusive. Any such election shall be held pursuant to RCW 39.36.050. [1984 c 186 § 19; 1983 c 167 § 49; 1967 c 110 § 6.]

**Purpose—1984 c 186:** See note following RCW 39.46.110.

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**35.59.070 Revenue bonds.** (1) To carry out the purposes authorized by this chapter the legislative body of any municipality shall have the power to issue revenue bonds, and to create a special fund or funds for the sole purpose of paying the principal of and interest on such bonds into which fund or funds the legislative body may obligate the municipality to pay all or part of the revenues derived from any one or more facilities or properties which will form part of the multi-purpose community center. The provisions of chapter 35.41 RCW not inconsistent with this chapter shall apply to the issuance and retirement of any revenue bonds issued for the purposes authorized in this chapter and for such purposes any municipality shall have and may exercise the powers, duties, and functions incident thereto held by cities and towns under such chapter 35.41 RCW. Such bonds may be in any form, including bearer bonds or registered bonds as provided in RCW 39.46.030. The legislative body of any municipality may fix the denominations of such bonds in any amount and the manner of executing such bonds, and may take such action as may be necessary and incidental to the issuance of such bonds and the retirement thereof.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, such bonds may be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1983 c 167 § 50; 1967 c 110 § 7.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**35.59.080 Lease or contract for use or operation of facilities.** The legislative body of any municipality owning or operating a multi-purpose community center acquired or developed pursuant to this chapter shall have power to lease to any municipality, governmental agency or person, or to contract for the use or operation by any municipality, governmental agency or person, of all or any part of the multi-purpose community center facilities authorized by this chapter, for such period and under such terms and conditions and upon such rentals, fees and charges as such legislative body may determine, and may pledge all or any portion of such rentals, fees and charges and any other revenue derived from the ownership and/or operation of any facilities of a multi-purpose community center to pay and to secure the payment of general obligation bonds and/or revenue bonds of such municipality issued for multi-purpose community center purposes. [1967 c 110 § 8.]



**35.59.090 Counties authorized to establish community centers.** Counties may establish multi-purpose community centers, pursuant to this chapter, in unincorporated areas and/or within cities or towns: PROVIDED, That no such center shall be located in any city or town without the prior consent of the legislative body of such city or town. [1967 c 110 § 9.]

**35.59.100 Prior proceedings validated and ratified.** All proceedings which have been taken prior to the date this chapter takes effect for the purpose of financing or aiding in the financing of any work, undertaking or project authorized in this chapter by any municipality, including all proceedings for the authorization and issuance of bonds and for the sale, execution and delivery thereof, are hereby validated, ratified, approved and confirmed, notwithstanding any lack of power (other than constitutional) of such municipality or the legislative body or officers thereof to authorize and issue such bonds, or to sell, execute, or deliver the same and notwithstanding any defects or irregularities (other than constitutional) in such proceedings. [1967 c 110 § 10.]

**35.59.110 Powers and authority conferred deemed additional and supplemental.** The powers and authority conferred upon municipalities under the provisions of this chapter, shall be construed as in addition and supplemental to powers or authority conferred by any other law, and nothing contained herein shall be construed as limiting any other powers or authority of such municipalities. [1967 c 110 § 11.]

**35.59.900 Severability—1967 c 110.** If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1967 c 110 § 12.]

## Chapter 35.60

### WORLD FAIRS OR EXPOSITIONS— PARTICIPATION BY MUNICIPALITIES

#### Sections

- 35.60.010 "Municipality" defined.
- 35.60.020 Participation, exercise of powers declared public purpose and necessity.
- 35.60.030 Participation authorized—Powers—Costs.
- 35.60.040 Bonds—Laws applicable to authorization and issuance.
- 35.60.050 Authorization to appropriate funds and levy taxes.
- 35.60.060 Cooperation between municipalities—Use of facilities after conclusion of fair or exposition—Intergovernmental disposition of property.
- 35.60.070 Chapter supplemental to other laws.

**35.60.010 "Municipality" defined.** "Municipality" as used in this chapter, means any political subdivision or municipal corporation of the state. [1965 c 7 § 35.60.010. Prior: 1961 c 149 § 1; prior: 1961 c 39 § 1.]

*State participation in world fair and state international trade fairs: RCW 43.31.800 through 43.31.850.*

**35.60.020 Participation, exercise of powers declared public purpose and necessity.** The participation of any

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municipality in any world fair or exposition, whether held within the boundaries of such municipality or within the boundaries of another municipality; the purchase, lease, or other acquisition of necessary lands therefor; the acquisition, lease, construction, improvements, maintenance, and equipping of buildings or other structures upon such lands or other lands; the operation and maintenance necessary for such participation, and the exercise of any other powers herein granted to such municipalities, are hereby declared to be public, governmental, county and municipal functions, exercised for a public purpose, and matters of public necessity, and such lands and other property acquired, constructed, improved, maintained, equipped, used, and disposed of by such municipalities in the manner and for the purposes enumerated in this chapter shall and are hereby declared to be acquired, constructed, improved, maintained, equipped, used, and disposed of for public, governmental, county, and municipal purposes and as a matter of public necessity. [1965 c 7 § 35.60.020. Prior: 1961 c 149 § 2; prior: 1961 c 39 § 2.]

**35.60.030 Participation authorized—Powers—Costs.** Municipalities are authorized to participate in any world fair or exposition to be held within the state by the state or any political subdivision or municipal corporation thereof, whether held within the boundaries of such municipality or within the boundaries of another municipality. Any municipality so participating is authorized, through its governing authorities, to purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire property, real or personal; to construct, improve, maintain and equip buildings or other structures; and expend moneys for investigations, planning, operations, and maintenance necessary for such participation.

The cost of any such acquisition, construction, improvement, maintenance, equipping, investigations, planning, operation, or maintenance necessary for such participation may be paid for by appropriation of moneys available therefor, gifts, or wholly or partly from the proceeds of bonds of the municipality, as the governing authority of the municipality may determine. [1965 c 7 § 35.60.030. Prior: 1961 c 149 § 3; prior: 1961 c 39 § 3.]

**35.60.040 Bonds—Laws applicable to authorization and issuance.** Any bonds to be issued by any municipality pursuant to the provisions of RCW 35.60.030, shall be authorized and issued in the manner and within the limitations prescribed by the Constitution and laws of this state or charter of the municipality for the issuance and authorization of bonds thereof for public purposes generally and secured by a general tax levy as provided by law. Such bonds shall be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1984 c 186 § 20; 1983 c 167 § 51; 1965 c 7 § 35.60.040. Prior: 1961 c 149 § 4; prior: 1961 c 39 § 4.]

**Purpose—1984 c 186:** See note following RCW 39.46.110.

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**35.60.050 Authorization to appropriate funds and levy taxes.** The governing bodies having power to appropriate moneys within such municipalities for the purpose of purchasing, leasing or otherwise acquiring property, con-

structing, improving, maintaining, and equipping buildings or other structures, and the investigations, planning, operation or maintenance necessary to participation in any such world fair or exposition, are hereby authorized to appropriate and cause to be raised by taxation or otherwise in such municipalities, moneys sufficient to carry out such purpose. [1965 c 7 § 35.60.050. Prior: 1961 c 149 § 5; prior: 1961 c 39 § 5.]

**35.60.060 Cooperation between municipalities—Use of facilities after conclusion of fair or exposition—Intergovernmental disposition of property.** In any case where the participation of a municipality includes the construction of buildings or other structures on lands of another municipality, the governing authorities constructing such buildings or structures shall endeavor to cooperate with such other municipality for the construction and maintenance of such buildings or structures to a standard of health and safety common in the county where the world fair or exposition is being or will be held; and shall cooperate with such other municipality in any comprehensive plans it may promulgate for the general construction and maintenance of said world fair or exposition and utilization of the grounds and buildings or structures after the conclusion of such world fair or exposition to the end that a reasonable, economic use of said buildings or structures shall be returned for the life of said buildings or structures.

The governing authorities of any municipality are hereby authorized and empowered to sell, exchange, transfer, lease or otherwise dispose of any property, real or personal, acquired or constructed for the purpose of participation in such fair or exposition, in accordance with the provisions of RCW 39.33.010. [1965 c 7 § 35.60.060. Prior: 1961 c 149 § 6; prior: 1961 c 39 § 6.]

**35.60.070 Chapter supplemental to other laws.** The powers and authority conferred upon municipalities under the provisions of this chapter, shall be construed as in addition and supplemental to powers or authority conferred by any other law, and nothing contained herein shall be construed as limiting any other powers or authority of such municipalities. [1965 c 7 § 35.60.070. Prior: 1961 c 149 § 7; prior: 1961 c 39 § 7.]

## Chapter 35.61

### METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICTS

#### Sections

35.61.001	Actions subject to review by boundary review board.
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*Acquisition of land for and operation of public parks, beaches or camps: RCW 67.20.010.*

*real or personal property for park purposes, conditional sales contracts: RCW 39.30.010.*

*Appeal of assessments and reassessments: RCW 35.44.200 through 35.44.270.*

*Contracts with community service organizations for public improvements: RCW 35.21.278.*

*Limitations upon indebtedness: State Constitution Art. 7 § 2 (Amendments 55, 59), Art. 8 § 6 (Amendment 27), chapter 39.36 RCW, RCW 84.52.050.*

*Local governmental organizations, actions affecting boundaries, etc., review by boundary review board: Chapter 36.93 RCW.*

*Metropolitan park district property subject to assessment: RCW 35.44.170.*

*Park and recreation districts: Chapter 36.69 RCW.*

*Public bonds, form, terms of sale, payment, etc.: Chapter 39.44 RCW.*

*Shorelands, parks or playgrounds, application, grant or exchange: RCW 79.08.080, 79.08.090.*

**35.61.001 Actions subject to review by boundary review board.** The creation of a metropolitan park district, and an annexation by, or dissolution or disincorporation of, a metropolitan park district may be subject to potential review by a boundary review board under chapter 36.93 RCW. [1989 c 84 § 31.]

**35.61.010 Authority to create.** Cities of five thousand or more population and such contiguous property the residents of which may decide in favor thereof in the manner set forth in this chapter may create a metropolitan park district for the management, control, improvement, maintenance, and acquisition of parks, parkways, and boulevards. [1994 c 81 § 60; 1985 c 416 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.61.010. Prior: 1959 c 45 § 1; 1943 c 264 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-1; prior: 1907 c 98 § 1; RRS § 6720.]

**Validating—1943 c 264:** "Acts of Metropolitan Park District Commissioners, and of the officers, employees and agents of Metropolitan Park Districts heretofore performed in good faith in accordance with the

statutes which are hereby re-enacted, are hereby validated, and all assessments, levies and collections and all proceedings to assess, levy and collect as well as all debts, contracts and obligations heretofore made or incurred by or in favor of any Metropolitan Park District heretofore at any time existing and all bonds or other obligations thereof are hereby declared to be legal and valid and of full force and effect." [1943 c 264 § 23.]

**35.61.020 Election—Petition—Area.** At any general election, or at any special election which may be called for that purpose, or at any city election held in the city in all of the various voting precincts thereof, the city council or commission may, or on petition of fifteen percent of the qualified electors of the city based upon the registration for the last preceding general city election, shall by ordinance, submit to the voters of the city the proposition of creating a metropolitan park district, the limits of which shall be coextensive with the limits of the city as now or hereafter established, inclusive of territory annexed to and forming a part of the city.

Territory by virtue of its annexation to any city having heretofore created a park district shall be deemed to be within the limits of the metropolitan park district.

The city council or commission shall submit the proposition at a special election to be called therefor when the petition so requests. [1965 c 7 § 35.61.020. Prior: 1943 c 264 § 2, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-2, part; prior: 1909 c 131 § 1; 1907 c 98 § 2, part; RRS § 6721, part.]

**35.61.030 Election—Declaration of intention—Question stated.** In submitting the question to the voters for their approval or rejection, the city council or commission shall pass an ordinance declaring its intention to submit the proposition of creating a metropolitan park district to the qualified voters of the city. The ordinance shall be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in the official newspaper of the city, and the city council or commission shall cause to be placed upon the ballot for the election, at the proper place, the proposition which shall be expressed in the following terms:

- "For the formation of a metropolitan park district."
- "Against the formation of a metropolitan park district."

[1985 c 469 § 32; 1965 c 7 § 35.61.030. Prior: 1943 c 264 § 2, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-2, part; prior: 1909 c 131 § 1; 1907 c 98 § 2, part; RRS § 6721, part.]

**35.61.040 Election—Creation of district.** If at an election a majority of the voters voting thereon vote in favor of the formation of a metropolitan park district, the park district shall then be and become a municipal corporation and its name shall be "Metropolitan Park District of . . . . . (inserting the name of the city)." [1965 c 7 § 35.61.040. Prior: 1943 c 264 § 3, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-3, part; prior: 1909 c 131 § 2; 1907 c 98 § 3, part; RRS § 6722, part.]

**35.61.050 Election of commissioners—Terms—Vacancies.** At the same election at which the proposition is submitted to the voters as to whether a metropolitan park district is to be formed, five park commissioners shall be elected. The election of park commissioners shall be null

and void if the metropolitan park district is not created. Candidates shall run for specific commission positions. No primary shall be held to nominate candidates. The person receiving the greatest number of votes for each position shall be elected as a commissioner. The staggering of the terms of office shall occur as follows: (1) The two persons who are elected receiving the two greatest numbers of votes shall be elected to six-year terms of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year or five-year terms of office if the election is held in an even-numbered year; (2) the two persons who are elected receiving the next two greatest numbers of votes shall be elected to four-year terms of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year or three-year terms of office if the election is held in an even-numbered year; and (3) the other person who is elected shall be elected to a two-year term of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year or a one-year term of office if the election is held in an even-numbered year. The initial commissioners shall take office immediately when they are elected and qualified, and for purposes of computing their terms of office the terms shall be assumed to commence on the first day of January in the year after they are elected. Thereafter, all commissioners shall be elected to six-year terms of office. All commissioners shall serve until their respective successors are elected and qualified and assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. Vacancies shall occur and shall be filled as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW. [1994 c 223 § 23; 1979 ex.s. c 126 § 24; 1965 c 7 § 35.61.050. Prior: 1943 c 264 § 3, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-3, part; prior: 1909 c 131 § 2; 1907 c 98 § 3, part; RRS § 6722, part.]

**Purpose—1979 ex.s. c 126:** See RCW 29.04.170(1).

**35.61.090 Elections—Laws governing.** The manner of holding any general or special election in a metropolitan park district shall be in accordance with the general election laws of this state insofar as they are not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter. [1985 c 416 § 3; 1965 c 7 § 35.61.090. Prior: 1943 c 264 § 3, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-3, part; prior: 1909 c 131 § 2; 1907 c 98 § 3, part; RRS § 6722, part.]

*Elections: Title 29 RCW.*

**35.61.100 Indebtedness limit—Without popular vote.** Every metropolitan park district through its board of commissioners may contract indebtedness and evidence such indebtedness by the issuance and sale of warrants, short-term obligations as provided by chapter 39.50 RCW, or general obligation bonds, for park, boulevard, aviation landings, playgrounds, and parkway purposes, and the extension and maintenance thereof, not exceeding, together with all other outstanding nonvoter approved general indebtedness, one-quarter of one percent of the value of the taxable property in such metropolitan park district, as the term "value of the taxable property" is defined in RCW 39.36.015. General obligation bonds shall not be issued with a maximum term in excess of twenty years. Such general obligation bonds shall be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1993 c 247 § 1; 1989 c 319 § 2; 1984 c 186 § 21; 1983 c 61 § 1; 1970 ex.s. c 42 § 14; 1965 c 7 § 35.61.100.]

Prior: 1943 c 264 § 6; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-6; prior: 1927 c 268 § 1; 1907 c 98 § 6; RRS § 6725.]

**Purpose—1984 c 186:** See note following RCW 39.46.110.

**Severability—Effective date—1970 ex.s. c 42:** See notes following RCW 39.36.015.

### 35.61.110 Indebtedness limit—With popular vote.

Every metropolitan park district may contract indebtedness not exceeding in amount, together with existing voter-approved indebtedness and nonvoter-approved indebtedness, equal to two and one-half percent of the value of the taxable property in said district, as the term "value of the taxable property" is defined in RCW 39.36.015, whenever three-fifths of the voters voting at an election held in the metropolitan park district assent thereto; the election may be either a special or a general election, and the park commissioners of the metropolitan park district may cause the question of incurring such indebtedness, and issuing negotiable bonds of such metropolitan park district, to be submitted to the qualified voters of the district at any time. [1989 c 319 § 3; 1970 ex.s. c 42 § 15; 1965 c 7 § 35.61.110. Prior: 1943 c 264 § 7; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-7; prior: 1907 c 98 § 7; RRS § 6726.]

**Severability—Effective date—1970 ex.s. c 42:** See notes following RCW 39.36.015.

*Limitations upon indebtedness: State Constitution Art. 7 § 2 (Amendments 55, 59), Art. 8 § 6 (Amendment 27), chapter 39.36 RCW, RCW 84.52.050.*

**35.61.115 Revenue bonds.** A metropolitan park district may issue and sell revenue bonds as provided in chapter 39.46 RCW to be made payable from the operating revenues of the metropolitan park district. [1989 c 319 § 1.]

**35.61.120 Park commissioners as officers of district—Organization.** The officers of a metropolitan park district shall be a board of park commissioners consisting of five members. The board shall annually elect one of their number as president and another of their number as clerk of the board. [1965 c 7 § 35.61.120. Prior: 1943 c 264 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-4, part; prior: 1919 c 135 § 1, part; 1907 c 98 § 4; RRS § 6723, part.]

**35.61.130 Park commissioners—Authority generally.** A metropolitan park district has the right of eminent domain, and may purchase, acquire and condemn lands lying within or without the boundaries of said park district, for public parks, parkways, boulevards, aviation landings and playgrounds, and may condemn such lands to widen, alter and extend streets, avenues, boulevards, parkways, aviation landings and playgrounds, to enlarge and extend existing parks, and to acquire lands for the establishment of new parks, boulevards, parkways, aviation landings and playgrounds. The right of eminent domain shall be exercised and instituted pursuant to resolution of the board of park commissioners and conducted in the same manner and under the same procedure as is or may be provided by law for the exercise of the power of eminent domain by incorporated cities and towns of the state of Washington in the acquisition of property rights: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, Funds to pay for condemnation allowed by this section shall be raised only

as specified in this chapter. The board of park commissioners shall have power to employ counsel, and to regulate, manage and control the parks, parkways, boulevards, streets, avenues, aviation landings and playgrounds under its control, and to provide for park policemen, for a secretary of the board of park commissioners and for all necessary employees, to fix their salaries and duties. The board of park commissioners shall have power to improve, acquire, extend and maintain, open and lay out, parks, parkways, boulevards, avenues, aviation landings and playgrounds, within or without the park district, and to authorize, conduct and manage the letting of boats, or other amusement apparatus, the operation of bath houses, the purchase and sale of foodstuffs or other merchandise, the giving of vocal or instrumental concerts or other entertainments, the establishment and maintenance of aviation landings and playgrounds, and generally the management and conduct of such forms of recreation or business as it shall judge desirable or beneficial for the public, or for the production of revenue for expenditure for park purposes; and may pay out moneys for the maintenance and improvement of any such parks, parkways, boulevards, avenues, aviation landings and playgrounds as now exist, or may hereafter be acquired, within or without the limits of said city and for the purchase of lands within or without the limits of said city, whenever it deems the purchase to be for the benefit of the public and for the interest of the park district, and for the maintenance and improvement thereof and for all expenses incidental to its duties: PROVIDED, That all parks, boulevards, parkways, aviation landings and playgrounds shall be subject to the police regulations of the city within whose limits they lie. [1969 c 54 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.61.130. Prior: (i) 1943 c 264 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-4, part; prior: 1919 c 135 § 1, part; 1907 c 98 § 4; RRS § 6723, part. (ii) 1943 c 264 § 14; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-14; prior: 1919 c 135 § 2; 1907 c 98 § 14; RRS § 6733.]

*Outdoor recreation land acquisition or improvement under marine recreation land act: Chapter 43.99 RCW.*

**35.61.132 Disposition of surplus property.** Every metropolitan park district may, by unanimous decision of its board of park commissioners, sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of any real or personal property acquired for park or recreational purposes when such property is declared surplus for park or other recreational purposes: PROVIDED, That where the property is acquired by donation or dedication for park or recreational purposes, the consent of the donor or dedicator, his or her heirs, successors, or assigns is first obtained if the consent of the donor is required in the instrument conveying the property to the metropolitan park district. In the event the donor or dedicator, his or her heirs, successors, or assigns cannot be located after a reasonable search, the metropolitan park district may petition the superior court in the county where the property is located for approval of the sale. If sold, all sales shall be by public bids and sale made only to the highest and best bidder. [1989 c 319 § 4; 1965 c 7 § 35.61.132. Prior: 1959 c 93 § 1.]

**35.61.133 Executory conditional sales contracts for purchase of property—Limit on indebtedness—Election, when.** See RCW 39.30.010.

**35.61.140 Park commissioners—Civil service for employees.** A metropolitan park district may establish civil service for its employees by resolution upon the following plan:

(1) It shall create a civil service commission with authority to appoint a personnel officer and to make rules and regulations for classification based upon suitable differences in pay for differences in work, and for like pay for like work, and for competitive entrance and promotional examinations; for certifications, appointments, probationary service periods and for dismissals therein; for demotions and promotions based upon merit and for reemployments, suspensions, transfers, sick leaves and vacations; for lay-offs when necessary according to seniority; for separations from the service by discharge for cause; for hearings and reinstatements, for establishing status for incumbent employees, and for prescribing penalties for violations.

(2) The civil service commission and personnel officer shall adopt rules to be known as civil service rules to govern the administration of personnel transactions and procedure. The rules so adopted shall have the force and effect of law, and, in any and all proceedings, the rules shall be liberally interpreted and construed to the end that the purposes and basic requirements of the civil service system may be given the fullest force and effect. [1965 c 7 § 35.61.140. Prior: 1943 c 264 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-4, part; prior: 1919 c 135 § 1, part; 1907 c 98 § 4; RRS § 6723, part.]

*Public employment, civil service and pensions: Title 41 RCW.*

**35.61.150 Park commissioners—Compensation.** Metropolitan park commissioners shall perform their duties without compensation. [1965 c 7 § 35.61.150. Prior: 1943 c 264 § 3, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-3, part; prior: 1909 c 131 § 2; 1907 c 98 § 3, part; RRS § 6722, part.]

**35.61.180 Designation of district treasurer.** The county treasurer of the county within which all, or the major portion, of the district lies shall be the ex officio treasurer of a metropolitan park district, but shall receive no compensation other than his or her regular salary for receiving and disbursing the funds of a metropolitan park district.

A metropolitan park district may designate someone other than the county treasurer who has experience in financial or fiscal affairs to act as the district treasurer if the board has received the approval of the county treasurer to designate this person. If the board designates someone other than the county treasurer to act as the district treasurer, the board shall purchase a bond from a surety company operating in the state that is sufficient to protect the district from loss. [1987 c 203 § 1; 1983 c 167 § 55; 1965 c 7 § 35.61.180. Prior: 1943 c 264 § 13; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-13; prior: 1907 c 98 § 13; RRS § 6732.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**35.61.190 Park district bonds—Retirement.** Whenever there is money in the metropolitan park district fund and the commissioners of the park district deem it advisable to apply any part thereof to the payment of bonded indebtedness, they shall advertise in a newspaper of general circulation within the park district for the presentation to

them for payment of as many bonds as they may desire to pay with the funds on hand, the bonds to be paid in numerical order, beginning with the lowest number outstanding and called by number.

Thirty days after the first publication of the notice by the board calling in bonds they shall cease to bear interest, and this shall be stated in the notice. [1985 c 469 § 33; 1965 c 7 § 35.61.190. Prior: 1943 c 264 § 11; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-11; prior: 1907 c 98 § 11; RRS § 6730.]

**35.61.200 Park district bonds—Payment of interest.** Any coupons for the payment of interest on metropolitan park district bonds shall be considered for all purposes as warrants drawn upon the metropolitan park district fund against which the bonds were issued, and when presented after maturity to the treasurer of the county having custody of the fund. If there are no funds in the treasury to pay the coupons, the county treasurer shall endorse said coupons as presented for payment, in the same manner as county warrants are endorsed, and thereafter the coupon shall bear interest at the same rate as the bond to which it was attached. If there are no funds in the treasury to make payment on a bond not having coupons, the interest payment shall continue bearing interest at the bond rate until it is paid, unless otherwise provided in the proceedings authorizing the sale of the bonds. [1983 c 167 § 56; 1965 c 7 § 35.61.200. Prior: 1943 c 264 § 12; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-12; prior: 1907 c 98 § 12; RRS § 6731.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**35.61.210 Park district tax levy—"Park district fund".** The board of park commissioners may levy or cause to be levied a general tax on all the property located in said park district each year not to exceed fifty cents per thousand dollars of assessed value of the property in such park district. In addition, the board of park commissioners may levy or cause to be levied a general tax on all property located in said park district each year not to exceed twenty-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. Although park districts are authorized to impose two separate regular property tax levies, the levies shall be considered to be a single levy for purposes of the one hundred six percent limitation provided for in chapter 84.55 RCW.

The board is hereby authorized to levy a general tax in excess of its regular property tax levy or levies when authorized so to do at a special election conducted in accordance with and subject to all the requirements of the Constitution and laws of the state now in force or hereafter enacted governing the limitation of tax levies. The board is hereby authorized to call a special election for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters of the park district a proposition to levy a tax in excess of the seventy-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value herein specifically authorized. The manner of submitting any such proposition, of certifying the same, and of giving or publishing notice thereof, shall be as provided by law for the submission of propositions by cities or towns.

The board shall include in its general tax levy for each year a sufficient sum to pay the interest on all outstanding bonds and may include a sufficient amount to create a

sinking fund for the redemption of all outstanding bonds. The levy shall be certified to the proper county officials for collection the same as other general taxes and when collected, the general tax shall be placed in a separate fund in the office of the county treasurer to be known as the "metropolitan park district fund" and paid out on warrants. [1990 c 234 § 3; 1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 25; 1965 c 7 § 35.61.210. Prior: 1951 c 179 § 1; prior: (i) 1943 c 264 § 10, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-10, part; prior: 1909 c 131 § 4; 1907 c 98 § 10; RRS § 6729. (ii) 1947 c 117 § 1; 1943 c 264 § 5; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6741-5; prior: 1925 ex.s. c 97 § 1; 1907 c 98 § 5; RRS § 6724.]

**Severability—Effective dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195:** See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

**Limitation on levies:** *State Constitution Art. 7 § 2 (Amendments 55, 59), RCW 84.52.050.*

**35.61.220 Petition for improvements on assessment plan.** If at any time any proposed improvement of any parkway, avenue, street, or boulevard is deemed by the board of metropolitan park commissioners to be a special benefit to the lands adjoining, contiguous, approximate to or in the neighborhood of the proposed improvement, which lie within the city, the board may so declare, describing the property to be benefited. Thereupon they may petition the city council to cause the improvement contemplated by the commissioners to be done and made on the local assessment plan, and the portion of the cost of the improvement as fixed by such assessment roll to be assessed against the said property so benefited in the same manner and under the same procedure as of other local improvements, and the remainder of the cost of such improvement to be paid out of the metropolitan park district fund.

The board of park commissioners shall designate the kind, manner and style of the improvement to be made, and may designate the time within which it shall be made. [1965 c 7 § 35.61.220. Prior: 1943 c 264 § 15; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-15; prior: 1909 c 131 § 5; 1907 c 98 § 15; RRS § 6734.]

*Local improvements, supplemental authority: Chapter 35.51 RCW.*

**35.61.230 Objections—Appeal.** Any person, firm or corporation feeling aggrieved by the assessment against his or its property may file objections with the city council and may appeal from the order confirming the assessment roll in the same manner as objections and appeals are made in regard to local improvements in cities of the first class. [1965 c 7 § 35.61.230. Prior: 1943 c 264 § 16; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-16; prior: 1907 c 98 § 17; RRS § 6736.]

*Appeal of assessments and reassessments: RCW 35.44.200 through 35.44.270.*

**35.61.240 Assessment lien—Collection.** The assessment for local improvements authorized by this chapter shall become a lien in the same manner, and be governed by the same law, as is provided for local assessments in cities of the first class and be collected as such assessments are collected. [1965 c 7 § 35.61.240. Prior: 1943 c 264 § 17; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-17; prior: 1907 c 98 § 18; RRS § 6737.]

*Collection and foreclosure of assessments: Chapters 35.49, 35.50 RCW.*

**35.61.250 Territorial annexation—Authority—Petition.** The territory adjoining a metropolitan park district may be annexed to and become a part thereof upon petition and an election held pursuant thereto. The petition shall define the territory proposed to be annexed and must be signed by twenty-five registered voters, resident within the territory proposed to be annexed, unless the territory is within the limits of another city when it must be signed by twenty percent of the registered voters residing within the territory proposed to be annexed. The petition must be addressed to the board of park commissioners requesting that the question be submitted to the legal voters of the territory proposed to be annexed, whether they will be annexed and become a part of the park district. [1985 c 416 § 4; 1965 c 7 § 35.61.250. Prior: 1943 c 264 § 20, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-20, part; prior: 1907 c 98 § 20, part; RRS § 6739, part.]

**35.61.260 Territorial annexation—Hearing on petition.** Upon the filing of an annexation petition with the board of park commissioners, if the commissioners concur in the petition, they shall provide for a hearing to be held for the discussion of the proposed annexation at the office of the board of park commissioners, and shall give due notice thereof by publication at least once a week for two consecutive weeks before the hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in the park district. [1985 c 469 § 34; 1965 c 7 § 35.61.260. Prior: 1943 c 264 § 20, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-20, part; prior: 1907 c 98 § 20, part; RRS § 6739, part.]

**35.61.270 Territorial annexation—Election—Method.** If the park commissioners concur in the petition, they shall cause the proposal to be submitted to the electors of the territory proposed to be annexed, at an election to be held in the territory, which shall be called, canvassed and conducted in accordance with the general election laws. The board of park commissioners by resolution shall fix a time for the holding of the election to determine the question of annexation, and in addition to the notice required by RCW 29.27.080 shall give notice thereof by causing notice to be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the park district, and by posting notices in five public places within the territory proposed to be annexed in the district.

The ballot to be used at the election shall be in the following form:

- "For annexation to metropolitan park district."
- "Against annexation to metropolitan park district."

[1985 c 469 § 35; 1965 c 7 § 35.61.270. Prior: 1943 c 264 § 20, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-20, part; prior: 1907 c 98 § 20, part; RRS § 6739, part.]

*Canvassing returns, generally: Chapter 29.62 RCW.*

*Conduct of elections—Canvass: RCW 29.13.040.*

*Times for holding elections: Chapter 29.13 RCW.*

**35.61.275 Territorial annexation—Park district containing city with population over one hundred thousand—Assumption of indebtedness.** The board of park commissioners of any metropolitan park district which

includes a city with a population greater than one hundred thousand may submit to the electorate of the territory sought to be annexed a proposition that all property within the area annexed shall, upon annexation, be assessed and taxed at the same rate and on the same basis as the property of such annexing metropolitan park district to pay for all or any portion of the then outstanding indebtedness of the metropolitan park district. [1989 c 319 § 6.]

**35.61.280 Territorial annexation—Election—Result.** The canvassing authority shall cause a statement of the result of such election to be forwarded to the board of park commissioners for entry on the record of the board. If the majority of the votes cast upon that question at the election shall favor annexation, the territory shall immediately become annexed to the park district, and shall thenceforth be a part of the park district, the same as though originally included in the district. The expense of such election shall be paid out of park district funds. [1965 c 7 § 35.61.280. Prior: (i) 1943 c 264 § 20, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-20, part; prior: 1907 c 98 § 20, part; RRS § 6739, part. (ii) 1943 c 264 § 21; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-21; prior: 1907 c 98 § 21; RRS § 6740.]

**35.61.290 Transfer of city or county property—Authority—Emergency grant, loan, of funds by city.** (1) Any city within or comprising any metropolitan park district may turn over to the park district any lands which it may own, or any street, avenue, or public place within the city for playground, park or parkway purposes, and thereafter its control and management shall vest in the board of park commissioners: PROVIDED, That the police regulations of such city shall apply to all such premises.

At any time that any such metropolitan park district is unable, through lack of sufficient funds, to provide for the continuous operation, maintenance and improvement of the parks and playgrounds and other properties or facilities owned by it or under its control, and the legislative body of any city within or comprising such metropolitan park district shall determine that an emergency exists requiring the financial aid of such city to be extended in order to provide for such continuous operation, maintenance and/or improvement of parks, playgrounds facilities, other properties, and programs of such park district within its limits, such city may grant or loan to such metropolitan park district such of its available funds, or such funds which it may lawfully procure and make available, as it shall find necessary to provide for such continuous operation and maintenance and, pursuant thereto, any such city and the board of park commissioners of such district are authorized and empowered to enter into an agreement embodying such terms and conditions of any such grant or loan as may be mutually agreed upon.

The board of metropolitan park commissioners may accept public streets of the city and grounds for public purposes when donated for park, playground, boulevard and park purposes.

(2) Counties may turn over to the park district any park and recreation lands and equipment that they own, and the board of metropolitan park commissioners may accept such lands and equipment. [1985 c 416 § 5; 1965 c 7 §

35.61.290. Prior: 1953 c 194 § 1. Formerly: (i) 1943 c 264 § 18; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-18; prior: 1907 c 98 § 16; RRS § 6735. (ii) 1943 c 264 § 19; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-19; prior: 1907 c 98 § 19; RRS § 6738.]

**35.61.300 Transfer of city or county property—Assumption of indebtedness.** When any metropolitan park district shall be formed pursuant to this chapter and shall assume control of the parks, parkways, boulevards, and park property of the city in which said park district is created, or the metropolitan park district accepts county park and recreation lands, such park district shall assume all existing indebtedness, bonded or otherwise, against such park property, and shall arrange by taxation or issuing bonds, as herein provided, for the payment of such indebtedness, and shall relieve such city or county from such payment. Said park district is hereby given authority to issue refunding bonds when necessary in order to enable it to comply with this section. [1985 c 416 § 6; 1965 c 7 § 35.61.300. Prior: 1943 c 264 § 22; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6741-22; prior: 1907 c 98 § 22; RRS § 6741.]

**35.61.310 Dissolution.** A board of commissioners of a metropolitan park district may, upon a majority vote of all its members, dissolve any metropolitan park district, prorate the liabilities thereof, and turn over to the city and/or county so much of the district as is respectively located therein, when:

(1) Such city and/or county, through its governing officials, agrees to, and petitions for, such dissolution and the assumption of such assets and liabilities, or;

(2) Ten percent of the voters of such city and/or county who voted at the last general election petition the governing officials for such a vote. [1965 c 7 § 35.61.310. Prior: 1953 c 269 § 1.]

**35.61.315 Disincorporation of district located in county with a population of two hundred ten thousand or more and inactive for five years.** See chapter 57.90 RCW.

**35.61.350 Moorage facilities—Regulations authorized—Port charges, delinquency—Abandoned vessels, public sale.** See RCW 53.08.310 and 53.08.320.

**35.61.360 Withdrawal or reannexation of areas.** (1) As provided in this section, a metropolitan park district may withdraw areas from its boundaries, or reannex areas into the metropolitan park district that previously had been withdrawn from the metropolitan park district under this section.

(2) The withdrawal of an area shall be authorized upon: (a) Adoption of a resolution by the park district commissioners requesting the withdrawal and finding that, in the opinion of the commissioners, inclusion of this area within the metropolitan park district will result in a reduction of the district's tax levy rate under the provisions of RCW 84.52.010; and (b) adoption of a resolution by the city or town council approving the withdrawal, if the area is located within the city or town, or adoption of a resolution by the county legislative authority of the county within which the area is located approving the withdrawal, if the area is located outside of a city or town. A withdrawal shall be



effective at the end of the day on the thirty-first day of December in the year in which the resolutions are adopted, but for purposes of establishing boundaries for property tax purposes, the boundaries shall be established immediately upon the adoption of the second resolution.

The withdrawal of an area from the boundaries of a metropolitan park district shall not exempt any property therein from taxation for the purpose of paying the costs of redeeming any indebtedness of the metropolitan park district existing at the time of the withdrawal.

(3) An area that has been withdrawn from the boundaries of a metropolitan park district under this section may be reannexed into the metropolitan park district upon: (a) Adoption of a resolution by the park district commissioners proposing the reannexation; and (b) adoption of a resolution by the city or town council approving the reannexation, if the area is located within the city or town, or adoption of a resolution by the county legislative authority of the county within which the area is located approving the reannexation, if the area is located outside of a city or town. The reannexation shall be effective at the end of the day on the thirty-first day of December in the year in which the adoption of the second resolution occurs, but for purposes of establishing boundaries for property tax purposes, the boundaries shall be established immediately upon the adoption of the second resolution. Referendum action on the proposed reannexation may be taken by the voters of the area proposed to be reannexed if a petition calling for a referendum is filed with the city or town council, or county legislative authority, within a thirty-day period after the adoption of the second resolution, which petition has been signed by registered voters of the area proposed to be reannexed equal in number to ten percent of the total number of the registered voters residing in that area.

If a valid petition signed by the requisite number of registered voters has been so filed, the effect of the resolutions shall be held in abeyance and a ballot proposition to authorize the reannexation shall be submitted to the voters of the area at the next special election date specified in \*RCW 29.13.020 that occurs forty-five or more days after the petitions have been validated. Approval of the ballot proposition authorizing the reannexation by a simple majority vote shall authorize the reannexation. [1987 c 138 § 2.]

**\*Reviser's note:** As enacted by 1987 c 138 § 2, this section contained an apparently erroneous reference to RCW 29.13.030, a section repealed in 1965. Pursuant to RCW 1.08.015, this reference has been changed to RCW 29.13.020, a later enactment of the section repealed.

**35.61.370 Park district containing city with population over one hundred thousand—May commission police officers.** A metropolitan park district which contains a city with a population greater than one hundred thousand may commission its own police officers with full police powers to enforce the laws and regulations of the city or county on metropolitan park district property. Police officers initially employed after June 30, 1989, pursuant to this section shall be required to successfully complete basic law enforcement training in accordance with chapter 43.101 RCW. [1989 c 319 § 5.]

## Chapter 35.62 NAME—CHANGE OF

### Sections

35.62.010	Authority for.
35.62.021	Election—Petition or resolution.
35.62.031	Ballot—One name proposed.
35.62.041	Ballot—More than one name proposed—Votes necessary.
35.62.060	Results—Certification.

**35.62.010 Authority for.** Any city or town may change its name in accordance with the procedure provided in this chapter. [1965 c 7 § 35.62.010. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 146 § 1; RRS § 8891-1.]

**35.62.021 Election—Petition or resolution.** The question of whether the name of a city or town shall be changed shall be presented to the voters of the city or town upon either: (1) The adoption of a resolution by the city or town council proposing a specific name change; or (2) the submission of a petition proposing a specific name change that has been signed by voters of the city or town equal in number to at least ten percent of the total number of voters of the city or town who voted at the last municipal general election. However, for any newly incorporated city or town that has not had city officials elected at a normal general municipal election, the election that is used as the base for determining the number of required signatures shall be the election at which the initial elected officials were elected.

The election on changing the name of the city or town shall be held at the next general election occurring sixty or more days after the resolution was adopted, or the resolution [petition] was submitted that has been certified by the county auditor as having sufficient valid signatures. [1990 c 193 § 1.]

**35.62.031 Ballot—One name proposed.** Where only one new name has been proposed by petition or resolution such question shall be in substantially the following form:

"Shall the name of the city (or town) of (insert name) be changed to the city (or town) of (insert the proposed new name) ?

Yes . . .  
No . . ."

If a majority of the votes cast favor the name change, the city or town shall have its name changed effective thirty days after the certification of the election results. [1990 c 193 § 2.]

**35.62.041 Ballot—More than one name proposed—Votes necessary.** Where more than one name is proposed by either petition or resolution, the question shall be separated into two separate parts and shall be in substantially the following form:

"Shall the name of the city (or town) of (insert name) be changed?

Yes . . .  
No . . ."

"If a name change is approved, which of the following should be the new name?"

(insert name)  
(insert name)  
 Vote for one."

Voters may select a name change whether or not they vote in favor of changing the name of the city or town. If a majority of the votes cast on the first proposition favor changing the name, the name that receives at least a majority of the total number of votes cast for an alternative name shall become the new name of the city or town effective thirty days after the certification of the election results.

If no alternative name receives a simple majority vote, then an election shall be held at the next November special election date, at which voters shall be given the option of choosing which of the two alternative names that received the most votes shall become the new name of the city or town. This ballot proposition shall be worded substantially as follows:

"Which of the following names shall become the new name of the city (or town) of (insert name) ?

(insert name)  
(insert name)  
 Vote for one."

The name that receives the majority vote shall become the new name of the city or town effective thirty days after the certification of the election results. [1990 c 193 § 3.]

**35.62.060 Results—Certification.** Whenever any city or town has changed its name, the clerk shall certify the new name to the secretary of state prior to the date when the change takes effect. [1965 c 7 § 35.62.060. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 146 § 6; RRS § 8891-6.]

### Chapter 35.63 PLANNING COMMISSIONS

#### Sections

- 35.63.010 Definitions.
- 35.63.015 "Solar energy system" defined.
- 35.63.020 Commissioners—Manner of appointment.
- 35.63.030 Commissioners—Number—Tenure—Compensation.
- 35.63.040 Commissions—Organization—Meeting—Rules.
- 35.63.050 Expenditures.
- 35.63.060 Powers of commissions.
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- 35.63.090 Restrictions—Purposes of.
- 35.63.100 Restrictions—Recommendations of commission—Hearings—Adoption of comprehensive plan—Certifying—Filing or recording.
- 35.63.105 Amendments to comprehensive plan to be adopted, certified, and recorded or filed in accordance with RCW 35.63.100.
- 35.63.110 Restrictive zones.
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- 35.63.130 Hearing examiner system—Adoption authorized—Alternative—Functions—Procedures.

- 35.63.140 Residential care facilities—Review of need and demand—Adoption of ordinances.
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- 35.63.160 Prohibitions on manufactured homes—Review required—"Designated manufactured home" defined.
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- 35.63.200 Moratoria, interim zoning controls—Public hearing—Limitation on length.
- 35.63.210 Accessory apartments.
- 35.63.220 Treatment of residential structures occupied by persons with handicaps.

*Acquisition of interests in land for conservation, protection, preservation, or open space purposes by cities or towns: RCW 64.04.130.*

*Airport zoning: Chapter 14.12 RCW.*

*Appearance of fairness doctrine—Application to local land use decisions: RCW 42.36.010.*

*Approval of proposed plats, subdivisions, and dedications of land: Chapter 58.17 RCW.*

*Boundaries and plats: Title 58 RCW.*

*Counties, planning enabling act: Chapter 36.70 RCW.*

*County sewerage, water and drainage systems: Chapter 36.94 RCW.*

*Housing authorities law: Chapter 35.82 RCW.*

*Joint operations by municipal corporations or political subdivisions, deposit and control of funds: RCW 43.09.285.*

*Local governmental organizations, actions affecting boundaries, etc., review by boundary review board: Chapter 36.93 RCW.*

*Municipal revenue bond act: Chapter 35.41 RCW.*

*Police and sanitary regulations: State Constitution Art. 11 § 11.*

*Recording of plats: Chapter 58.08 RCW.*

**35.63.010 Definitions.** As used in this chapter the following terms shall have the meaning herein given them:

"Appointive members" means all members of a commission other than ex officio members;

"Board" means the board of county commissioners;

"City" includes every incorporated city and town;

"Commission" means a city or county planning commission;

"Council" means the chief legislative body of a city;

"Ex officio members" means the members of a commission chosen from among city or county officials;

"Highways" include streets, roads, boulevards, lanes, alleys, viaducts and other traveled ways;

"Mayor" means the chief executive of a city;

"Municipality" includes every county and city. [1965 c 7 § 35.63.010. Prior: 1935 c 44 § 1; RRS § 9322-1.]

**35.63.015 "Solar energy system" defined.** As used in this chapter, "solar energy system" means any device or combination of devices or elements which rely upon direct sunlight as an energy source, including but not limited to any substance or device which collects sunlight for use in:

(1) The heating or cooling of a structure or building;

(2) The heating or pumping of water;

(3) Industrial, commercial, or agricultural processes; or

(4) The generation of electricity.

A solar energy system may be used for purposes in addition to the collection of solar energy. These uses include, but are not limited to, serving as a structural

member or part of a roof of a building or structure and serving as a window or wall. [1979 ex.s. c 170 § 2.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 170:** See note following RCW 64.04.140.

*Local governments authorized to encourage and protect solar energy systems: RCW 64.04.140.*

### 35.63.020 Commissioners—Manner of appointment.

If any council or board desires to avail itself of the powers conferred by this chapter it shall create a city or county planning commission consisting of from three to twelve members to be appointed by the mayor or chairman of the municipality and confirmed by the council or board: PROVIDED, That in cities of the first class having a commission form of government consisting of three or more members, the commissioner of public works shall appoint the planning commission, which appointment shall be confirmed by a majority of the city commissioners. Cities of the first class operating under self-government charters may extend the membership and the duties and powers of its commission beyond those prescribed in this chapter. [1965 c 7 § 35.63.020. Prior: (i) 1935 c 44 § 2, part; RRS § 9322-2, part. (ii) 1935 c 44 § 12; RRS § 9322-12.]

**35.63.030 Commissioners—Number—Tenure—Compensation.** The ordinance, resolution or act creating the commission shall set forth the number of members to be appointed, not more than one-third of which number may be ex officio members by virtue of office held in any municipality. The term of office for ex officio members shall correspond to their respective tenures. The term of office for the first appointive members appointed to such commission shall be designated from one to six years in such manner as to provide that the fewest possible terms will expire in any one year. Thereafter the term of office for each appointive member shall be six years.

Vacancies occurring otherwise than through the expiration of terms shall be filled for the unexpired term. Members may be removed, after public hearing, by the appointing official, with the approval of his council or board, for inefficiency, neglect of duty or malfeasance in office.

The members shall be selected without respect to political affiliations and they shall serve without compensation. [1965 c 7 § 35.63.030. Prior: 1935 c 44 § 2, part; RRS § 9322-2, part.]

### 35.63.040 Commissions—Organization—Meeting—

**Rules.** The commission shall elect its own chairman and create and fill such other offices as it may determine it requires. The commission shall hold at least one regular meeting in each month for not less than nine months in each year. It shall adopt rules for transaction of business and shall keep a written record of its meetings, resolutions, transactions, findings and determinations which record shall be a public record. [1965 c 7 § 35.63.040. Prior: 1935 c 44 § 3; RRS § 9322-3.]

**35.63.050 Expenditures.** The expenditures of any commission or regional commission authorized and established under this chapter, exclusive of gifts, shall be within the amounts appropriated for the purpose by the council or board. Within such limits, any commission may employ

such employees and expert consultants as are deemed necessary for its work. [1965 c 7 § 35.63.050. Prior: 1935 c 44 § 4; RRS § 9322-4.]

**35.63.060 Powers of commissions.** The commission may act as the research and fact finding agency of the municipality. To that end it may make such surveys, analyses, researches and reports as are generally authorized or requested by its council or board, or by the state with the approval of its council or board. The commission, upon such request or authority may also:

(1) Make inquiries, investigations, and surveys concerning the resources of the county, including but not limited to the potential for solar energy development and alternative means to encourage and protect access to direct sunlight for solar energy systems;

(2) Assemble and analyze the data thus obtained and formulate plans for the conservation of such resources and the systematic utilization and development thereof;

(3) Make recommendations from time to time as to the best methods of such conservation, utilization, and development;

(4) Cooperate with other commissions and with other public agencies of the municipality, state and United States in such planning, conservation, and development; and

(5) In particular cooperate with and aid the state within its territorial limits in the preparation of the state master plan provided for in RCW 43.21A.350 and in advance planning of public works programs. [1988 c 127 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 170 § 3; 1965 c 7 § 35.63.060. Prior: 1935 c 44 § 10; RRS § 9322-10.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 170:** See note following RCW 64.04.140.

**35.63.065 Public notice—Identification of affected property.** Any notice made under chapter 35.63 RCW that identifies affected property may identify this affected property without using a legal description of the property including, but not limited to, identification by an address, written description, vicinity sketch, or other reasonable means. [1988 c 168 § 9.]

**35.63.070 Regional commissions—Appointment—Powers.** The commissions of two or more adjoining counties, of two or more adjacent cities and towns, of one or more cities and towns and/or one or more counties, together with the boards of such counties and the councils of such cities and towns may cooperate to form, organize and administer a regional planning commission for the making of a regional plan for the region defined as may be agreed upon by the commissions, boards and councils. The regional commission when requested by the commissions of its region, may further perform any of the other duties for its region that are specified in RCW 35.63.060 for city and county commissions. The number of members of a regional commission, their method of appointment and the proportion of the cost of regional planning, surveys and studies to be borne respectively by the various counties and cities in the region, shall be such as may be agreed upon by commissions, boards and councils.

Any regional planning commission, or the councils or boards respectively of any city, town, or county, are autho-

rized to receive grants-in-aid from the government of the United States or of any of its agencies, and are authorized to enter into any reasonable agreement with any department or agency of the government of the United States to arrange for the receipt of federal funds for planning in the interest of furthering the planning program. [1965 c 7 § 35.63.070. Prior: 1957 c 130 § 1; 1935 c 44 § 11; RRS § 9322-11.]  
*Commission as employer for retirement system purposes: RCW 41.40.010.*

**35.63.080 Restrictions on buildings—Use of land.**

The council or board may provide for the preparation by its commission and the adoption and enforcement of coordinated plans for the physical development of the municipality. For this purpose the council or board, in such measure as is deemed reasonably necessary or requisite in the interest of health, safety, morals and the general welfare, upon recommendation by its commission, by general ordinances of the city or general resolution of the board, may regulate and restrict the location and the use of buildings, structures and land for residence, trade, industrial and other purposes; the height, number of stories, size, construction and design of buildings and other structures; the size of yards, courts and other open spaces on the lot or tract; the density of population; the set-back of buildings along highways, parks or public water frontages; and the subdivision and development of land; and may encourage and protect access to direct sunlight for solar energy systems. A council where such ordinances are in effect, may, on the recommendation of its commission provide for the appointment of a board of adjustment, to make, in appropriate cases and subject to appropriate conditions and safeguards established by ordinance, special exceptions in harmony with the general purposes and intent and in accordance with general or specific rules therein contained. [1979 ex.s. c 170 § 4; 1965 c 7 § 35.63.080. Prior: 1935 c 44 § 5; RRS § 9322-5.]

*Severability—1979 ex.s. c 170: See note following RCW 64.04.140.*

**35.63.090 Restrictions—Purposes of.** All regulations shall be worked out as parts of a comprehensive plan which each commission shall prepare for the physical and other generally advantageous development of the municipality and shall be designed, among other things, to encourage the most appropriate use of land throughout the municipality; to lessen traffic congestion and accidents; to secure safety from fire; to provide adequate light and air; to prevent overcrowding of land; to avoid undue concentration of population; to promote a coordinated development of the unbuild areas; to encourage the formation of neighborhood or community units; to secure an appropriate allotment of land area in new developments for all the requirements of community life; to conserve and restore natural beauty and other natural resources; to encourage and protect access to direct sunlight for solar energy systems; and to facilitate the adequate provision of transportation, water, sewerage and other public uses and requirements, including protection of the quality and quantity of ground water used for public water supplies. Each plan shall include a review of drainage, flooding, and storm water runoff in the area and nearby jurisdictions and provide guidance for corrective actions to mitigate or cleanse those discharges that pollute Puget Sound or waters entering Puget Sound.

[1985 c 126 § 1; 1984 c 253 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 170 § 5; 1965 c 7 § 35.63.090. Prior: 1935 c 44 § 7; RRS § 9322-7.]

*Severability—1979 ex.s. c 170: See note following RCW 64.04.140.*

**35.63.100 Restrictions—Recommendations of commission—Hearings—Adoption of comprehensive plan—Certifying—Filing or recording.** The commission may recommend to its council or board the plan prepared by it as a whole, or may recommend parts of the plan by successive recommendations; the parts corresponding with geographic or political sections, division or subdivisions of the municipality, or with functional subdivisions of the subject matter of the plan, or in the case of counties, with suburban settlement or arterial highway area. It may also prepare and recommend any amendment or extension thereof or addition thereto.

Before the recommendation of the initial plan to the municipality the commission shall hold at least one public hearing thereon, giving notice of the time and place by one publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality and in the official gazette, if any, of the municipality.

The council may adopt by resolution or ordinance and the board may adopt by resolution the plan recommended to it by the commission, or any part of the plan, as the comprehensive plan.

A true copy of the resolution of the board adopting or embodying such plan or any part thereof or any amendment thereto shall be certified by the clerk of the board and filed with the county auditor. A like certified copy of any map or plat referred to or adopted by the county resolution shall likewise be filed with the county auditor. The auditor shall record the resolution and keep on file the map or plat.

The original resolution or ordinance of the council adopting or embodying such plan or any part thereof or any amendment thereto shall be certified by the clerk of the city and filed by him. The original of any map or plat referred to or adopted by the resolution or ordinance of the council shall likewise be certified by the clerk of the city and filed by him. The clerk shall keep on file the resolution or ordinance and map or plat. [1967 ex.s. c 144 § 8; 1965 c 7 § 35.63.100. Prior: 1935 c 44 § 8; RRS § 9322-8.]

*Effective date—1967 ex.s. c 144: The effective date of 1967 ex.s. c 144 is July 30, 1967.*

*Severability—1967 ex.s. c 144: See note following RCW 36.900.030.*

*Validation—1967 ex.s. c 144: "Any city comprehensive plan and all amendments thereto which have been filed or recorded with the county auditor prior to the effective date of this 1967 amendatory act shall be valid and need not be refiled with the clerk of the city to remain valid and in full force and effect." [1967 ex.s. c 144 § 10.]*

**35.63.105 Amendments to comprehensive plan to be adopted, certified, and recorded or filed in accordance with RCW 35.63.100.** All amendments to a comprehensive plan shall be adopted, certified, and recorded or filed in the same manner as authorized in RCW 35.63.100 for an initial comprehensive plan. [1967 ex.s. c 144 § 9.]

*Severability—1967 ex.s. c 144: See note following RCW 36.900.030.*

*Validation—1967 ex.s. c 144: See note following RCW 35.63.100.*

**35.63.110 Restrictive zones.** For any or all of such purposes the council or board, on recommendation of its commission, may divide the municipality or any portion thereof into districts of such size, shape and area, or may establish such official maps, or development plans for the whole or any portion of the municipality as may be deemed best suited to carry out the purposes of this chapter and within such districts it may regulate and restrict the erection, construction, reconstruction, alteration, repair or use of buildings, structures or land. [1965 c 7 § 35.63.110. Prior: 1935 c 44 § 6; RRS § 9322-6.]

**35.63.120 Supplemental restrictions—Hearing—Affirmance, disaffirmance, modification of commission's decision.** Any ordinance or resolution adopting any such plan or regulations, or any part thereof, may be amended, supplemented or modified by subsequent ordinance or resolution.

Proposed amendments, supplementations, or modifications shall first be heard by the commission and the decision shall be made and reported by the commission within ninety days of the time that the proposed amendments, supplementations, or modifications were made.

The council or board, pursuant to public hearing called by them upon application therefor by any interested party or upon their own order, may affirm, modify or disaffirm any decision of the commission. [1965 c 7 § 35.63.120. Prior: 1957 c 194 § 1; 1935 c 44 § 9; RRS § 9322-9.]

**35.63.125 Development regulations—Consistency with comprehensive plan.** Beginning July 1, 1992, the development regulations of each city and county that does not plan under RCW 36.70A.040 shall not be inconsistent with the city's or county's comprehensive plan. For the purposes of this section, "development regulations" has the same meaning as set forth in RCW 36.70A.030. [1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 22.]

**Severability—Part, section headings not law—1990 1st ex.s. c 17:** See RCW 36.70A.900 and 36.70A.901.

**35.63.130 Hearing examiner system—Adoption authorized—Alternative—Functions—Procedures.** (1) As an alternative to those provisions of this chapter relating to powers or duties of the planning commission to hear and report on any proposal to amend a zoning ordinance, the legislative body of a city or county may adopt a hearing examiner system under which a hearing examiner or hearing examiners may hear and decide applications for amending the zoning ordinance when the amendment which is applied for is not of general applicability. In addition, the legislative body may vest in a hearing examiner the power to hear and decide applications for conditional uses, variances, or any other class of applications for or pertaining to land uses which the legislative body believes should be reviewed and decided by a hearing examiner. The legislative body shall prescribe procedures to be followed by the hearing examiner.

Each city or county legislative body electing to use a hearing examiner pursuant to this section shall by ordinance specify the legal effect of the decisions made by the examiner. Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the legal effect of such decisions may vary for the different

classes of applications decided by the examiner but shall include one of the following:

(a) The decision may be given the effect of a recommendation to the legislative body;

(b) The decision may be given the effect of an administrative decision appealable within a specified time limit to the legislative body.

(2) The legislative body may specify the legal effect of a hearing examiner's procedural determination under the state environmental policy act, as defined in RCW 43.21C.075(3)(a). It may have the effect under subsection (1) (a) or (b) of this section, or may be given the effect of a final decision of the legislative body.

(3) Each final decision of a hearing examiner shall be in writing and shall include findings and conclusions, based on the record, to support the decision. Such findings and conclusions shall also set forth the manner in which the decision would carry out and conform to the city's or county's comprehensive plan and the city's or county's development regulations. Each final decision of a hearing examiner, unless a longer period is mutually agreed to in writing by the applicant and the hearing examiner, shall be rendered within ten working days following conclusion of all testimony and hearings. [1994 c 257 § 8; 1977 ex.s. c 213 § 1.]

**Severability—1994 c 257:** See note following RCW 36.70A.270.

**Severability—1977 ex.s. c 213:** "If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1977 ex.s. c 213 § 5.]

**35.63.140 Residential care facilities—Review of need and demand—Adoption of ordinances.** Each municipality that does not provide for the siting of residential care facilities in zones or areas that are designated for single family or other residential uses, shall conduct a review of the need and demand for the facilities, including the cost of any conditional or special use permit that may be required. The review shall be completed by August 31, 1990. A copy of the findings, conclusions, and recommendations resulting from the review shall be sent to the \*department of community development by September 30, 1990.

On or before June 30, 1991, each municipality that plans and zones under this chapter shall have adopted an ordinance or ordinances that are necessary to implement the findings of this review, if the findings indicate that such changes are necessary, or shall notify the \*department of community development as to why such implementing ordinances were not adopted. [1989 c 427 § 36.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Powers, duties, and functions of the department of community development and the department of trade and economic development were transferred to the department of community, trade, and economic development by 1993 c 280, effective July 1, 1994.

**Severability—1989 c 427:** See RCW 74.39.900.

*Report to legislature, model ordinance:* RCW 70.128.180.

**35.63.150 Conformance with chapter 43.97 RCW required.** With respect to the National Scenic Area, as defined in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act, P.L. 99-663, the exercise of any power or authority by a county or city pursuant to this chapter shall be subject to and in conformity with the requirements of chapter 43.97

RCW, including the Interstate Compact adopted by RCW 43.97.015, and with the management plan regulations and ordinances adopted by the Columbia River Gorge commission pursuant to the Compact. [1987 c 499 § 6.]

**35.63.160 Prohibitions on manufactured homes—Review required—"Designated manufactured home" defined.**

(1) Each comprehensive plan which does not allow for the siting of manufactured homes on individual lots shall be subject to a review by the city of the need and demand for such homes. The review shall be completed by December 31, 1990.

(2) For the purpose of providing an optional reference for cities which choose to allow manufactured homes on individual lots, a "designated manufactured home" is a manufactured home constructed after June 15, 1976, in accordance with state and federal requirements for manufactured homes, which:

(a) Is comprised of at least two fully enclosed parallel sections each of not less than twelve feet wide by thirty-six feet long;

(b) Was originally constructed with and now has a composition or wood shake or shingle, coated metal, or similar roof of not less than 3:12 pitch; and

(c) Has exterior siding similar in appearance to siding materials commonly used on conventional site-built uniform building code single-family residences.

(3) Nothing in this section precludes cities from allowing any manufactured home from being sited on individual lots through local standards which differ from the designated manufactured home as described in this section, except that the term "designated manufactured home" shall not be used except as defined in subsection (2) of this section. [1988 c 239 § 1.]

**35.63.170 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout RCW 35.22.660, 35.63.180, 35A.63.210, 36.32.520, and 36.70.675:

(1) "Family day care home" means a person regularly providing care during part of the twenty-four-hour day to six or fewer children in the family abode of the person or persons under whose direct care the children are placed.

(2) "Mini-day care center" means a person or agency providing care during part of the twenty-four-hour day to twelve or fewer children in a facility other than the family abode of the person or persons under whose direct care the children are placed, or for the care of seven through twelve children in the family abode of such person or persons.

(3) "Day care center" means a person or agency that provides care for thirteen or more children during part of the twenty-four-hour day.

(4) "Child care facility" means a family day care home, mini-day care center, and day care center. [1989 c 335 § 3.]

**Findings—1989 c 335:** "The legislature finds that:

(1) A majority of women with preschool and school age children in Washington state are working outside of the home and are in need of child care services for their children;

(2) The supply of licensed child care facilities in Washington state is insufficient to meet the growing demand for child care services;

(3) The most convenient location of child care facilities for many working families is near the family's home or workplace." [1989 c 335 § 1.]

(1994 Ed.)

**Purpose—1989 c 335:** "The purpose of this act is to encourage the dispersion of child care facilities throughout cities and counties in Washington state so that child care services are available at convenient locations to working parents." [1989 c 335 § 2.]

**Severability—1989 c 335:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1989 c 335 § 10.]

**35.63.180 Child care facilities—Review of need and demand—Adoption of ordinances.**

Each municipality that does not provide for the siting of family day care homes in zones or areas that are designated for single family or other residential uses, and for the siting of mini-day care centers and day care centers in zones or areas that are designated for any residential or commercial uses, shall conduct a review of the need and demand for child care facilities, including the cost of any conditional or special use permit that may be required. The review shall be completed by August 31, 1990. A copy of the findings, conclusions, and recommendations resulting from the review shall be sent to the \*department of community development by September 30, 1990.

On or before June 30, 1991, each municipality that plans and zones under this chapter shall have adopted an ordinance or ordinances that are necessary to implement the findings of this review, if the findings indicate that such changes are necessary, or shall notify the \*department of community development as to why such implementing ordinances were not adopted. [1989 c 335 § 4.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Powers, duties, and functions of the department of community development and the department of trade and economic development were transferred to the department of community, trade, and economic development by 1993 c 280, effective July 1, 1994.

**Findings—Purpose—Severability—1989 c 335:** See notes following RCW 35.63.170.

**Definitions for RCW 35.63.180:** See RCW 35.63.170.

**35.63.185 Family day-care providers home facility—City may not prohibit in residential or commercial area.**

No city may enact, enforce, or maintain an ordinance, development regulation, zoning regulation, or official control, policy, or administrative practice which prohibits the use of a residential dwelling, located in an area zoned for residential or commercial use, as a family day-care provider's home facility.

A city may require that the facility: (1) Comply with all building, fire, safety, health code, and business licensing requirements; (2) conform to lot size, building size, setbacks, and lot coverage standards applicable to the zoning district except if the structure is a legal nonconforming structure; (3) is certified by the state department of licensing as providing a safe passenger loading area; (4) include signage, if any, that conforms to applicable regulations; and (5) limit hours of operations to facilitate neighborhood compatibility, while also providing appropriate opportunity for persons who use family day-care and who work a nonstandard work shift.

A city may also require that the family day-care provider, before state licensing, require proof of written notification by the provider that the immediately adjoining property owners have been informed of the intent to locate and maintain such a facility. If a dispute arises between neighbors and the family day-care provider over licensing

requirements, the licensor may provide a forum to resolve the dispute.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a city from imposing zoning conditions on the establishment and maintenance of a family day-care provider's home in an area zoned for residential or commercial use, so long as such conditions are no more restrictive than conditions imposed on other residential dwellings in the same zone and the establishment of such facilities is not precluded. As used in this section, "family day-care provider" is as defined in RCW 74.15.020. [1994 c 273 § 14.]

**35.63.200 Moratoria, interim zoning controls—Public hearing—Limitation on length.** A council or board that adopts a moratorium or interim zoning control, without holding a public hearing on the proposed moratorium or interim zoning control, shall hold a public hearing on the adopted moratorium or interim zoning control within at least sixty days of its adoption, whether or not the council or board received a recommendation on the matter from the commission. If the council or board does not adopt findings of fact justifying its action before this hearing, then the council or board shall do so immediately after this public hearing. A moratorium or interim zoning control adopted under this section may be effective for not longer than six months, but may be effective for up to one year if a work plan is developed for related studies providing for such a longer period. A moratorium or interim zoning control may be renewed for one or more six-month periods if a subsequent public hearing is held and findings of fact are made prior to each renewal. [1992 c 207 § 1.]

**35.63.210 Accessory apartments.** Any local government, as defined in RCW 43.63A.215, that is planning under this chapter shall comply with RCW 43.63A.215(3). [1993 c 478 § 8.]

**35.63.220 Treatment of residential structures occupied by persons with handicaps.** No city may enact or maintain an ordinance, development regulation, zoning regulation or official control, policy, or administrative practice which treats a residential structure occupied by persons with handicaps differently than a similar residential structure occupied by a family or other unrelated individuals. As used in this section, "handicaps" are as defined in the federal fair housing amendments act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 3602). [1993 c 478 § 20.]

### Chapter 35.66 POLICE MATRONS

Sections	
35.66.010	Authority to establish.
35.66.020	Appointment.
35.66.030	Assistance by police.
35.66.040	Compensation.
35.66.050	Persons under arrest—Separate quarters.

**35.66.010 Authority to establish.** There shall be annexed to the police force of each city in this state having a population of not less than ten thousand inhabitants one or

more police matrons who, subject to the control of the chief of police or other proper officer, shall have the immediate care of all females under arrest and while detained in the city prison until they are finally discharged therefrom. [1965 c 7 § 35.66.010. Prior: 1893 c 15 § 1; RRS § 9282.]

**35.66.020 Appointment.** The police matron or matrons employed or appointed in accordance with the provisions of this chapter shall be employed or appointed in the same manner as other regular members of the police departments in the city where the appointment is made. [1965 c 7 § 35.66.020. Prior: 1939 c 115 § 1; 1893 c 15 § 4; RRS § 9285.] [SLC-RO-4]

**35.66.030 Assistance by police.** Any person on the police force or, in their absence, any other person present, must aid and assist the matron when from necessity she may require it. [1965 c 7 § 35.66.030. Prior: 1893 c 15 § 2; RRS § 9283.]

**35.66.040 Compensation.** A police matron must be paid such compensation for her services as shall be fixed by the city council and at such time as may be appointed for the payment of policemen. [1965 c 7 § 35.66.040. Prior: 1893 c 15 § 6; RRS § 9287.]

**35.66.050 Persons under arrest—Separate quarters.** For the purpose of effecting the main object of this chapter, no member of one sex under arrest shall be confined in the same cell or apartment of the city jail or prison, with any member of the other sex whatever. [1973 1st ex.s. c 154 § 53; 1965 c 7 § 35.66.050. Prior: 1893 c 15 § 3; RRS § 9284.]

**Severability—1973 1st ex.s. c 154:** See note following RCW 2.12.030.

### Chapter 35.67 SEWERAGE SYSTEMS—REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Sections	
35.67.010	Definitions—"System of sewerage," "public utility."
35.67.020	Authority to construct system and fix rates and charges—Classification of services.
35.67.022	Extension outside city subject to review by boundary review board.
35.67.025	Public property subject to rates and charges for storm water control facilities.
35.67.030	Adoption of plan—Ordinance.
35.67.065	General obligation bonds—Issuance.
35.67.110	General obligation bonds—Payment—Revenue from service charges.
35.67.120	Revenue bond fund—Authority to establish.
35.67.130	Revenue bond fund—Limitations upon creation.
35.67.140	Revenue bonds—Authority—Denominations—Terms.
35.67.150	Revenue bonds—Signatures—Form.
35.67.160	Revenue bonds—Obligation against fund, not city.
35.67.170	Revenue bonds—Sale of—Other disposition.
35.67.180	Revenue bonds—Remedy of owners.
35.67.190	Revenues from system—Classification of services—Minimum rates—Compulsory use.
35.67.194	Revenue bonds validated.
35.67.200	Sewerage lien—Authority.
35.67.210	Sewerage lien—Extent—Notice.



- 35.67.215 Sewerage lien—Extension of coverage.
- 35.67.220 Sewerage lien foreclosure—Parts—Tracts.
- 35.67.230 Sewerage lien foreclosure—Limitation on time of commencement.
- 35.67.240 Sewerage lien foreclosure—Procedure.
- 35.67.250 Sewerage lien foreclosure—Trial.
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- 35.67.270 Sewerage sale acquired property—Disposition.
- 35.67.280 Sewerage sale acquired property—Payment of delinquent taxes.
- 35.67.290 Sewerage lien—Enforcement—Alternative method.
- 35.67.300 Sewer districts and municipalities—Joint agreements.
- 35.67.310 Sewers—Outside city connections.
- 35.67.331 Water, sewerage, garbage systems—Combined facilities.
- 35.67.340 Statutes governing combined facility.
- 35.67.350 Penalty for sewer connection without permission.

*Municipal water and sewer facilities act: Chapter 35.91 RCW.*

*Prepayment of taxes and assessments: RCW 35.21.650.*

*Sewer districts: Title 56 RCW.*

*Sewer facilities act: Chapter 35.91 RCW.*

*Sewerage improvement districts: Chapter 85.08 RCW.*

**35.67.010 Definitions—"System of sewerage," "public utility."** A "system of sewerage" means and includes:

- (1) Sanitary sewage disposal sewers;
- (2) Combined sanitary sewage disposal and storm or surface water sewers;
- (3) Storm or surface water sewers;
- (4) Outfalls for storm or sanitary sewage and works, plants, and facilities for sanitary sewage treatment and disposal, or
- (5) Any combination of or part of any or all of such facilities.

The words "public utility" when used in this chapter shall have the same meaning as the words "system of sewerage." [1965 c 110 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.67.010. Prior: 1955 c 266 § 2; prior: 1941 c 193 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-4, part.]

**35.67.020 Authority to construct system and fix rates and charges—Classification of services.** Every city and town may construct, condemn and purchase, acquire, add to, maintain, conduct, and operate systems of sewerage and systems and plants for refuse collection and disposal together with additions, extensions, and betterments thereto, within and without its limits, with full jurisdiction and authority to manage, regulate, and control them and to fix, alter, regulate, and control the rates and charges for the use thereof: PROVIDED, That the rates charged must be uniform for the same class of customers or service.

In classifying customers served or service furnished by such system of sewerage, the city or town legislative body may in its discretion consider any or all of the following factors: The difference in cost of service to the various customers; the location of the various customers within and without the city or town; the difference in cost of maintenance, operation, repair, and replacement of the various parts of the system; the different character of the service furnished various customers; the quantity and quality of the sewage delivered and the time of its delivery; the achievement of water conservation goals and the discouragement of wasteful water use practices; capital contributions made to the system, including but not limited to, assessments; and any other

matters which present a reasonable difference as a ground for distinction. [1991 c 347 § 17; 1965 c 7 § 35.67.020. Prior: 1959 c 90 § 1; 1955 c 266 § 3; prior: 1941 c 193 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-4, part.]

**Purposes—1991 c 347:** See note following RCW 90.42.005.

**Severability—1991 c 347:** See RCW 90.42.900.

**35.67.022 Extension outside city subject to review by boundary review board.** The extension of sewer facilities outside of the boundaries of a city or town may be subject to potential review by a boundary review board under chapter 36.93 RCW. [1989 c 84 § 32.]

**35.67.025 Public property subject to rates and charges for storm water control facilities.** Except as otherwise provided in RCW 90.03.525, any public entity and public property, including the state of Washington and state property, shall be subject to rates and charges for storm water control facilities to the same extent private persons and private property are subject to such rates and charges that are imposed by cities and towns pursuant to RCW 35.67.020. In setting these rates and charges, consideration may be made of in-kind services, such as stream improvements or donation of property. [1986 c 278 § 55; 1983 c 315 § 1.]

**Severability—1986 c 278:** See note following RCW 36.01.010.

**Severability—1983 c 315:** See note following RCW 90.03.500.

*Flood control zone districts—Storm water control improvements: Chapter 86.15 RCW.*

*Rates and charges for storm water control facilities—Limitations—Definitions: RCW 90.03.500 through 90.03.525. See also RCW 35.92.021, 36.89.085, 36.94.145, and 56.08.012.*

**35.67.030 Adoption of plan—Ordinance.** Whenever the legislative body of any city or town, shall deem it advisable that such city or town shall purchase, acquire or construct any public utility mentioned in RCW 35.67.020, or make any additions, betterments, or alterations thereto, or extensions thereof, such legislative body shall provide therefor by ordinance, which shall specify and adopt the system or plan proposed, and declare the estimated cost thereof as near as may be. [1985 c 445 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.67.030. Prior: 1941 c 193 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-5.]

*Elections: Title 29 RCW.*

*Limitations upon indebtedness, how exceeded: State Constitution Art. 7 § 2 (Amendments 55, 59), Art. 8 § 6 (Amendment 27), chapter 39.36 RCW, RCW 84.52.050.*

**35.67.065 General obligation bonds—Issuance.** General obligation bonds issued by a city or town to pay for all or part of the costs of purchasing, acquiring, or constructing any public utility mentioned in RCW 35.67.020, or the costs of making any additions, betterments, or alterations thereto, or extensions thereof, shall be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1985 c 445 § 2.]

**35.67.110 General obligation bonds—Payment—Revenue from service charges.** In addition to taxes pledged to pay the principal of and interest on general obligation bonds issued to pay for costs of purchasing, acquiring, or constructing any public utility mentioned in

RCW 35.67.020, or to make any additions, betterments, or alterations thereto, or extensions thereof, the city or town legislative body, may set aside into a special fund and pledge to the payment of such principal and interest any sums or amounts which may accrue from the collection of service rates and charges for the private and public use of said sewerage system or systems for the collection and disposal of refuse, in excess of the cost of operation and maintenance thereof as constructed or added to, and the same shall be applied solely to the payment of such interest and bonds. Such pledge of revenue shall constitute a binding obligation, according to its terms, to continue the collection of such revenue so long as such bonds or any of them are outstanding. If the rates and charges are sufficient to meet the debt service requirements on such bonds no general tax need be levied. [1985 c 445 § 3; 1965 c 118 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.67.110. Prior: 1941 c 193 § 3, part; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-6, part.]

**35.67.120 Revenue bond fund—Authority to establish.** After the city or town legislative body adopts a proposition for any such public utility, and either (1) no general indebtedness has been authorized, or (2) the city or town legislative body does not desire to incur a general indebtedness, and the legislative body can lawfully proceed without submitting the proposition to a vote of the people, it may create a special fund or funds for the sole purpose of defraying the cost of the proposed system, or additions, betterments or extensions thereto.

The city or town legislative body may obligate the city or town to set aside and pay into this special fund: (1) A fixed proportion of the gross revenues of the system, or (2) a fixed amount out of and not exceeding a fixed proportion of the gross revenues, or (3) a fixed amount without regard to any fixed proportion, and (4) amounts received from any utility local improvement district assessments pledged to secure such bonds. [1967 c 52 § 24; 1965 c 7 § 35.67.120. Prior: 1941 c 193 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-7, part.]

**35.67.130 Revenue bond fund—Limitations upon creation.** In creating the special fund, the city or town legislative body shall have due regard to the cost of operation and maintenance of the system as constructed or added to, and to any proportion or part of the revenue previously pledged as a fund for the payment of bonds, warrants and other indebtedness. It shall not set aside into the special fund a greater amount or proportion of the revenue and proceeds than in its judgment will be available over and above the cost of maintenance and operation and the amount or proportion of the revenue so previously pledged. [1965 c 7 § 35.67.130. Prior: 1941 c 193 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-7, part.]

**35.67.140 Revenue bonds—Authority—Denominations—Terms.** A city or town may issue revenue bonds against the special fund or funds created solely from revenues. The revenue bonds so issued shall: (1) Be registered bonds as provided in RCW 39.46.030 or coupon bonds, (2) be issued in denominations of not less than one hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars, (3) be

numbered from one upwards consecutively, (4) bear the date of their issue, (5) be serial in form finally maturing not more than thirty years from their date, (6) bear interest at the rate or rates as authorized by the legislative body of the city or town, payable annually or semiannually, (7) be payable as to principal and interest at such place as may be designated therein, and (8) shall state upon their face that they are payable from a special fund, naming it and the ordinance creating it: PROVIDED, That such bonds may also be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1983 c 167 § 59; 1970 ex.s. c 56 § 43; 1969 ex.s. c 232 § 71; 1965 c 7 § 35.67.140. Prior: 1941 c 193 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-7, part.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**Purpose—1970 ex.s. c 56:** See note following RCW 39.52.020.

**Validation—Saving—Severability—1969 ex.s. c 232:** See notes following RCW 39.52.020.

**35.67.150 Revenue bonds—Signatures—Form.** Every revenue bond and any coupon shall be signed by the mayor and attested by the clerk. The seal of the city or town shall be attached to all bonds but not to any coupons. Signatures on any coupons may be printed or may be the lithographic facsimile of the signatures. The bonds shall be printed, engraved or lithographed upon good bond paper. [1983 c 167 § 60; 1965 c 7 § 35.67.150. Prior: 1941 c 193 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-7, part.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**35.67.160 Revenue bonds—Obligation against fund, not city.** Revenue bonds or warrants and interest shall be payable only out of the special fund. Every bond or warrant and interest thereon issued against the special fund shall be a valid claim of the holder thereof only as against that fund and its fixed proportion of the amount of revenue pledged to the fund, and shall not constitute an indebtedness of the city or town. Every warrant as well as every bond shall state on its face that it is payable from a special fund, naming it and the ordinance creating it. [1965 c 7 § 35.67.160. Prior: 1941 c 193 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-7, part.]

**35.67.170 Revenue bonds—Sale of—Other disposition.** Revenue bonds and warrants may be sold in any manner the city or town legislative body deems for the best interests of the city or town. The legislative body may provide in any contract for the construction or acquisition of a proposed utility that payment therefor shall be made only in revenue bonds and warrants at their par value. [1965 c 7 § 35.67.170. Prior: 1941 c 193 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-7, part.]

**35.67.180 Revenue bonds—Remedy of owners.** If a city or town fails to set aside and pay into the special fund created for the payment of revenue bonds and warrants the amount which it has obligated itself in the ordinance creating the fund to set aside and pay therein, the owner of any bond or warrant issued against the fund may bring suit against the city or town to compel it to do so. [1983 c 167 § 61; 1965

c 7 § 35.67.180. Prior: 1941 c 193 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1941 c 9354-7, part.]

Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167: See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**35.67.190 Revenues from system—Classification of services—Minimum rates—Compulsory use.** The legislative body of such city or town may provide by ordinance for revenues by fixing rates and charges for the furnishing of service to those served by its system of sewerage or system for refuse collection and disposal, which rates and charges shall be uniform for the same class of customer or service. In classifying customers served or service furnished by such system of sewerage, the city or town legislative body may in its discretion consider any or all of the following factors: The difference in cost of service to the various customers; the location of the various customers within and without the city or town; the difference in cost of maintenance, operation, repair, and replacement of the various parts of the system; the different character of the service furnished various customers; the quantity and quality of the sewage delivered and the time of its delivery; capital contributions made to the system, including but not limited to, assessments; and any other matters which present a reasonable difference as a ground for distinction.

If special indebtedness bonds or warrants are issued against the revenues, the legislative body shall by ordinance fix charges at rates which will be sufficient to take care of the costs of maintenance and operation, bond and warrant principal and interest, sinking fund requirements, and all other expenses necessary for efficient and proper operation of the system.

All property owners within the area served by such sewerage system shall be compelled to connect their private drains and sewers with such city or town system, under such penalty as the legislative body of such city or town may by ordinance direct. Such penalty may in the discretion of such legislative body be an amount equal to the charge that would be made for sewer service if the property was connected to such system. All penalties collected shall be considered revenue of the system. [1965 c 7 § 35.67.190. Prior: 1959 c 90 § 2; 1941 c 193 § 5; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-8.]

**35.67.194 Revenue bonds validated.** Any and all water, sewer, or water and sewer revenue bonds part or all of which may have been heretofore (prior to June 8, 1955) issued by any city or town for the purpose of providing funds to pay part or all of the cost of acquiring, constructing, or installing a system of storm or surface water sewers or any part thereof necessary for the proper and efficient operation of a system of sanitary sewage disposal sewers or a sanitary sewage treatment plant, the proceedings for the issuance of which were valid in all other respects, are approved, ratified and validated, and are declared to be legal and binding obligations of such city or town, both principal of and interest on which are payable only out of the revenues of the utility or utilities pledged for such payment. [1965 c 7 § 35.67.194. Prior: 1955 c 266 § 5.]

**35.67.200 Sewerage lien—Authority.** Cities and towns owning their own sewer systems shall have a lien for

delinquent and unpaid rates and charges for sewer service, penalties levied pursuant to RCW 35.67.190, and connection charges, including interest thereon, against the premises to which such service has been furnished or is available, which lien shall be superior to all other liens and encumbrances except general taxes and local and special assessments. The city or town by ordinance may provide that delinquent charges shall bear interest at not exceeding eight percent per annum computed on a monthly basis: PROVIDED, That a city or town using the property tax system for utility billing may, by resolution or ordinance, adopt the alternative lien procedure as set forth in RCW 35.67.215. [1991 c 36 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.67.200. Prior: 1959 c 90 § 4; prior: 1941 c 193 § 6, part; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-9, part.]

**35.67.210 Sewerage lien—Extent—Notice.** The sewerage lien shall be effective for a total of not to exceed six months' delinquent charges without the necessity of any writing or recording. In order to make such lien effective for more than six months' charges the city or town treasurer, clerk, or official charged with the administration of the affairs of the utility shall cause to be filed for record in the office of the county auditor of the county in which such city or town is located, a notice in substantially the following form:

"Sewerage lien notice  
City (or town) of .....  
vs.  
..... reputed owner.

Notice is hereby given that the city (or town) of ..... has and claims a lien for sewer charges against the following described premises situated in ..... county, Washington, to wit:

(here insert legal description of premises)

Said lien is claimed for not exceeding six months such charges and interest now delinquent, amount to \$....., and is also claimed for future sewerage charges against said premises.

Dated .....  
City (or town) of .....  
By ....."

The lien notice may be signed by the city or town treasurer or clerk or other official in charge of the administration of the utility. The lien notice shall be recorded as prescribed by law for the recording of mechanics' liens. [1965 c 7 § 35.67.210. Prior: 1959 c 90 § 5; prior: 1941 c 193 § 6, part; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-9, part.]

**35.67.215 Sewerage lien—Extension of coverage.** Any city or town may, by resolution or ordinance, provide that the sewerage lien shall be effective for a total not to exceed one year's delinquent service charges without the necessity of any writing or recording of the lien with the county auditor, in lieu of the provisions provided for in RCW 35.67.210. [1991 c 36 § 3.]

**35.67.220 Sewerage lien foreclosure—Parts—Tracts.** The city or town may foreclose its sewerage lien in an action in the superior court. All or any of the tracts subject to the

lien may be proceeded against in the same action, and all parties appearing of record as owning or claiming to own, having or claiming to have any interest in or lien upon the tracts involved in the action shall be impleaded in the action as parties defendant. [1965 c 7 § 35.67.220. Prior: 1941 c 193 § 7, part; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-10, part.]

**35.67.230 Sewerage lien foreclosure—Limitation on time of commencement.** An action to foreclose a sewerage lien pursuant to a lien notice filed as required by law must be commenced within two years from the date of the filing thereof.

An action to foreclose a six months' lien may be commenced at any time after six months subsequent to the furnishing of the sewerage service for which payment has not been made. [1965 c 7 § 35.67.230. Prior: 1941 c 193 § 7, part; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-10, part.]

**35.67.240 Sewerage lien foreclosure—Procedure.** The service of summons, and all other proceedings except as herein otherwise prescribed including appeal, order of sale, sale, redemption, and issuance of deed, shall be governed by the statutes now or hereafter in force relating to the foreclosure of mortgages on real property. The terms "judgment debtor" or "successor in interest" in the statutes governing redemption when applied herein shall include an owner or a vendee. [1965 c 7 § 35.67.240. Prior: 1941 c 193 § 7, part; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-10, part.]

**35.67.250 Sewerage lien foreclosure—Trial.** A sewerage lien foreclosure action shall be tried before the court without a jury. The court may allow in addition to interest on the service charges at a rate not exceeding eight percent per year from date of delinquency, costs and disbursements as provided by statute and such attorneys' fees as the court may adjudge reasonable.

If the owners and parties interested in any particular tract default, the court may enter judgment of foreclosure and sale as to such parties and tracts and the action may proceed as to the remaining defendants and tracts. The judgment shall specify separately the amount of the sewerage charges, with interest, penalty and costs chargeable to each tract. The judgment shall have the effect of a separate judgment as to each tract described in the judgment, and any appeal shall not invalidate or delay the judgment except as to the property concerning which the appeal is taken. In the judgment the court shall order the tracts therein described sold at one general sale, and an order of sale shall issue pursuant thereto for the enforcement of the judgment. Judgment may be entered as to any one or more separate tracts involved in the action, and the court shall retain jurisdiction of other properties. [1965 c 7 § 35.67.250. Prior: 1941 c 193 § 7, part; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-10, part.]

**35.67.260 Sewerage lien foreclosure—Redemption.** All sales shall be subject to the right of redemption within one year from date of sale. [1965 c 7 § 35.67.260. Prior: 1941 c 193 § 7, part; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-10, part.]

**35.67.270 Sewerage sale acquired property—Disposition.** At any time after deed is issued to it pursuant to lien, a city or town may lease or sell or convey any property at public or private sale for such price and on such terms as may be determined by resolution of the city or town legislative body, any provision of law, charter or ordinance to the contrary notwithstanding. [1965 c 7 § 35.67.270. Prior: 1941 c 193 § 8; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-11.]

**35.67.280 Sewerage sale acquired property—Payment of delinquent taxes.** After the entry of judgment of foreclosure against any tract, the city or town may pay delinquent general taxes or purchase certificates of delinquency for general taxes on the tract or purchase the tract at county tax foreclosure or from the county after foreclosure.

After entry of judgment of foreclosure against any premises the city or town may pay local or special assessments which are delinquent or are about to become delinquent and if the tract has been foreclosed upon for local or special assessments and the time for redemption has not expired, it may redeem it.

No moneys shall be expended for the purposes enumerated in this section except upon enactment by the city or town legislative body of a resolution determining the desirability or necessity of making the expenditure. [1965 c 7 § 35.67.280. Prior: 1941 c 193 § 9; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-12.]

**35.67.290 Sewerage lien—Enforcement—Alternative method.** As an additional and concurrent method of enforcing the lien authorized in this chapter any city or town operating its own municipal water system may provide by ordinance for the enforcement of the lien by cutting off the water service from the premises to which such sewer service was furnished after the charges become delinquent and unpaid, until the charges are paid.

The right to enforce the lien by cutting off and refusing water service shall not be exercised after two years from the date of the recording of sewerage lien notice except to enforce payment of six months' charges for which no lien notice is required to be recorded. [1965 c 7 § 35.67.290. Prior: 1941 c 193 § 10; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-13.]

**35.67.300 Sewer districts and municipalities—Joint agreements.** Any city, town, or organized and established sewer district owning or operating its own sewer system, whenever topographic conditions shall make it feasible and whenever such existing sewer system shall be adequate therefor in view of the sewerage and drainage requirements of the property in such city, town, or sewer district, served or to be served by such system, may contract with any other city, town, or organized and established sewer district for the discharge into its sewer system of sewage from all or any part or parts of such other city, town, or sewer district upon such terms and conditions and for such periods of time as may be deemed reasonable.

Any city, town, or organized and established sewer district may contract with any other city, town, or organized and established sewer district for the construction and/or operation of any sewer or sewage disposal facilities for the joint use and benefit of the contracting parties upon such

terms and conditions and for such period of time as the governing bodies of the contracting parties may determine. Any such contract may provide that the responsibility for the management of the construction and/or maintenance and operation of any sewer disposal facilities or part thereof covered by such contract shall be vested solely in one of the contracting parties, with the other party or parties thereto paying to the managing party such portion of the expenses thereof as shall be agreed upon. [1965 c 7 § 35.67.300. Prior: 1947 c 212 § 3; 1941 c 193 § 11; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 9354-14.]

**35.67.310 Sewers—Outside city connections.** Every city or town may permit connections with any of its sewers, either directly or indirectly, from property beyond its limits, upon such terms, conditions and payments as may be prescribed by ordinance, which may be required by the city or town to be evidenced by a written agreement between the city or town and the owner of the property to be served by the connecting sewer.

If any such agreement is made and filed with the county auditor of the county in which said property is located, it shall constitute a covenant running with the land and the agreements and covenants therein shall be binding on the owner and all persons subsequently acquiring any right, title or interest in or to said property.

If the terms and conditions of the ordinance or of the agreement are not kept and performed, or the payments made, as required, the city or town may disconnect the sewer and for that purpose may at any time enter upon any public street or road or upon said property. [1965 c 7 § 35.67.310. Prior: 1941 c 75 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-19.]

**35.67.331 Water, sewerage, garbage systems—Combined facilities.** A city or town may by ordinance provide that its water system, sewerage system, and garbage and refuse collection and disposal system may be acquired, constructed, maintained and operated jointly, either by combining any two of such systems or all three. All powers granted to cities and towns to acquire, construct, maintain and operate such systems may be exercised in the joint acquisition, construction, maintenance and operation of such combined systems: PROVIDED, That if a general indebtedness is to be incurred to pay a part or all of the cost of construction, maintenance, or operation of such a combined system, no such indebtedness shall be incurred without such indebtedness first being authorized by a vote of the people at a special or general election conducted in the manner prescribed by law: PROVIDED FURTHER, That nothing in \*this amendatory act shall be construed to supersede charter provisions to the contrary. [1969 ex.s. c 51 § 1.]

\*Reviser's note: "this amendatory act" [1969 ex.s. c 51] consists of this section, RCW 35.13.255, 35A.14.365, the 1969 amendment to RCW 35.67.340, and the repeal of RCW 35.67.320 and 35.67.330.

**35.67.340 Statutes governing combined facility.** The operation by a city or town of a combined facility as provided for in RCW 35.67.331 shall be governed by the statutes relating to the establishment and maintenance of a city or town water system if the water system is one of the systems included in the combined acquisition, construction,

or operation; otherwise the combined system shall be governed by the statutes relating to the establishment and maintenance of a city or town sewerage system. [1969 ex.s. c 51 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.67.340. Prior: 1941 c 193 § 12, part; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-15, part.]

**35.67.350 Penalty for sewer connection without permission.** It is unlawful and a misdemeanor to make or cause to be made or to maintain any sewer connection with any sewer of any city or town, or with any sewer which is connected directly or indirectly with any sewer of any city or town without having permission from the city or town. [1965 c 7 § 35.67.350. Prior: 1943 c 100 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 9354-20.]

## Chapter 35.68

### SIDEWALKS, GUTTERS, CURBS, AND DRIVEWAYS—ALL CITIES AND TOWNS

#### Sections

35.68.010	Authority conferred.
35.68.020	Resolution—Contents.
35.68.030	Resolution—Publication—Notice—Hearing.
35.68.040	"Sidewalk construction fund".
35.68.050	Assessment roll—Hearing—Notice—Confirmation—Appeal.
35.68.060	Method of payment of assessments.
35.68.070	Collection of assessments.
35.68.075	Curb ramps for physically handicapped—Required—Standards and requirements.
35.68.076	Curb ramps for physically handicapped—Model standards.
35.68.080	Construction of chapter.

**35.68.010 Authority conferred.** Any city or town, hereinafter referred to as city, is authorized to construct, reconstruct, and repair sidewalks, gutters and curbs along and driveways across sidewalks, which work is hereafter referred to as the improvement, and to pay the costs thereof from any available funds, or to require the abutting property owner to construct the improvement at his own cost or expense, or to assess all or any portion of the costs thereof against the abutting property owner. [1965 c 7 § 35.68.010. Prior: 1949 c 177 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9332a.]

**35.68.020 Resolution—Contents.** No such improvement shall be undertaken or required except pursuant to a resolution of the council or commission of the city or town, hereinafter referred to as the city council. The resolution shall state whether the cost of the improvement shall be borne by the city or whether all or a specified portion shall be borne by the city or whether all or a specified portion shall be borne by the abutting property owner; or whether the abutting owner is required to construct the improvement at his own cost and expense. If the abutting owner is required to construct the improvement the resolution shall specify the time within which the construction shall be commenced and completed; and further that if the improvement or construction is not undertaken and completed within the time specified that the city will perform or complete the improvement and assess the cost against the abutting owner. [1965 c 7 § 35.68.020. Prior: 1949 c 177 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9332b.]

**35.68.030 Resolution—Publication—Notice—Hearing.** If all or any portion of the cost is to be assessed against the abutting property owner, or if the abutting property owner is required to construct the improvement, the resolution shall fix a time from and after its passage, and a place, for hearing on the resolution. The resolution shall be published for two consecutive weeks before the time of hearing in the official newspaper or regularly published official publication of the city or town and a notice of the date of the hearing shall be given each owner or reputed owner of the abutting property by mailing to the owner or reputed owner of the property as shown on the tax rolls of the county treasurer, at the address shown thereon a notice of the date of hearing, the mailing to be at least ten days before the date fixed for the hearing. If the publication and mailing is made as herein required, proof thereof by affidavit shall be filed with the city clerk, comptroller or auditor of the city before the hearing. The hearing may be postponed from time to time to a definite date until the hearing is held. At the time of hearing the council shall hear persons who appear for or against the improvement, and determine whether it will or will not proceed with the improvement and whether it will make any changes in the original plan, and what the changes shall be. This action may be taken by motion adopted in the usual manner. [1985 c 469 § 37; 1965 c 7 § 35.68.030. Prior: 1949 c 177 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9332c.]

**35.68.040 "Sidewalk construction fund".** When all or any portion of the cost is to be assessed against the abutting property owner, the city council may create a "sidewalk construction fund No. . . ." to be numbered differently for each improvement; and with warrants drawn on this fund the cost of the respective improvements may be paid. The city may advance as a loan to the sidewalk construction fund from any available funds the amounts necessary to pay any costs of the improvement. When any assessments are made for the improvement, payments therefor shall be paid into the particular sidewalk improvement fund; and whenever any funds are available over the amounts necessary to pay outstanding warrants any advances or loans made to the fund shall be repaid. Whenever warrants are drawn on any such fund which are not paid for want of sufficient funds, they shall be so stamped and shall bear interest until called and paid at a rate established by the city council by resolution. [1965 c 7 § 35.68.040. Prior: 1949 c 177 § 4; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9332d.]

**35.68.050 Assessment roll—Hearing—Notice—Confirmation—Appeal.** Where all or any portion of the costs are to be assessed against the abutting property, an assessment roll shall be prepared by the proper city official or by the city council which shall to the extent necessary be based on benefits and which shall describe the property assessed, the name of the owner, if known, otherwise stating that the owner is unknown and fixing the amount of the assessment. The assessment roll shall be filed with the city clerk, and when so filed the council shall by resolution fix a date for hearing thereon and direct the clerk to give notice of the hearing and the time and place thereof. The notice of hearing shall be mailed to the person whose name appears

on the county treasurer's tax roll as the owner or reputed owner of the property, at the address shown thereon, and shall be published before the date fixed for the hearing for two consecutive weeks in the official newspaper or regular official publication of the city. The notice shall be mailed and first publication made at least ten days before the hearing date. Proof of mailing and publication shall be made by affidavit and shall be filed with the city clerk before the date fixed for the hearing. Following the hearing the city council shall by ordinance affirm, modify, or reject or order recasting of the assessment roll. An appeal may be taken to the superior court from the ordinance confirming the assessment roll in the same manner as is provided for appeals from the assessment roll by chapters 35.43 to 35.54 RCW, inclusive, as now or hereafter amended. [1985 c 469 § 38; 1965 c 7 § 35.68.050. Prior: 1949 c 177 § 5; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9332e.]

**35.68.060 Method of payment of assessments.** The city council shall by resolution provide whether the full amount of the assessment shall be paid in one payment or whether it may be paid in installments and shall prescribe the time and amount of such payments; and if more than one payment is provided for, the city council may by resolution provide for interest on unpaid installments and fix the rate thereof. [1965 c 7 § 35.68.060. Prior: 1949 c 177 § 6; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9332f.]

**35.68.070 Collection of assessments.** The assessment roll as affirmed or modified by the city council shall be filed with the city treasurer for collection, and the amount thereof including interest, if any, shall become a lien against the property described therein from the date of such filing. Whenever any payment on any assessment or installment is delinquent and unpaid for a period of thirty days or more the lien may be foreclosed in the same manner and with the same effect as is provided by chapters 35.43 to 35.54 RCW, inclusive; as now or hereafter amended. Whenever the deed is issued after the sale therein provided, the regularity, validity and correctness of the proceedings relating to such improvement and the assessment therefor shall be final and conclusive and no action shall thereafter be brought by or in behalf of any person to set aside said deed. [1965 c 7 § 35.68.070. Prior: 1949 c 177 § 7; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9332g.]

**35.68.075 Curb ramps for physically handicapped—Required—Standards and requirements.** (1) The standard for construction on any county road, or city or town street, for which curbs in combination with sidewalks, paths, or other pedestrian access ways are to be constructed, shall be not less than two ramps per lineal block on or near the crosswalks at intersections. Such ramps shall be at least thirty-six inches wide and so constructed as to allow reasonable access to the crosswalk for physically handicapped persons, without uniquely endangering blind persons.

(2) Standards set for curb ramping under subsection (1) of this section shall not apply to any curb existing upon enactment of this section but shall apply to all new curb construction and to all replacement curbs constructed at any

point in a block which gives reasonable access to a crosswalk.

(3) Upon September 21, 1977, every ramp thereafter constructed under subsection (1) of this section, which serves one end of a crosswalk, shall be matched by another ramp at the other end of the crosswalk. However, no ramp shall be required at the other end of the crosswalk if there is no curb nor sidewalk at the other end of the crosswalk. Nor shall any matching ramp constructed pursuant to this subsection require a subsequent matching ramp. [1989 c 173 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 137 § 1; 1973 c 83 § 1.]

**35.68.076 Curb ramps for physically handicapped—Model standards.** The department of general administration shall, pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW, the Administrative Procedure Act, adopt several suggested model design, construction, or location standards to aid counties, cities, and towns in constructing curb ramps to allow reasonable access to the crosswalk for physically handicapped persons without uniquely endangering blind persons. The department of general administration shall consult with handicapped persons, blind persons, counties, cities, and the state building code council in adopting the suggested standards. [1989 c 175 § 84; 1977 ex.s. c 137 § 2.]

**Effective date—1989 c 175:** See note following RCW 34.05.010.

**35.68.080 Construction of chapter.** This chapter is supplemental and additional to any and all other laws relating to construction, reconstruction, and repair of sidewalks, gutters, and curbs along driveways across sidewalks in cities and towns. [1965 c 7 § 35.68.080. Prior: 1949 c 177 § 8; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9332h.]

## Chapter 35.69

### SIDEWALKS—CONSTRUCTION, RECONSTRUCTION IN FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD CLASS CITIES

#### Sections

35.69.010	Definitions.
35.69.020	Resolution of necessity—Liability of abutting property.
35.69.030	Notice to owners—Service—Contents—Assessment—Collection.
35.69.040	Abutting property defined.
35.69.050	Construction of chapter.

**35.69.010 Definitions.** The term "street" as used herein includes boulevard, avenue, street, alley, way, lane, square or place.

The term "city" includes any city of the first or second class or any other city of equal population working under a special charter.

The term "sidewalk" includes any and all structures or forms of street improvement included in the space between the street margin and the roadway. [1994 c 81 § 61; 1965 c 7 § 35.69.010. Prior: 1927 c 203 § 1; RRS § 9332-1.]

**35.69.020 Resolution of necessity—Liability of abutting property.** Whenever a portion, not longer than one block in length, of any street in any city is not improved by the construction of a sidewalk thereon, or the sidewalk

thereon has become unfit or unsafe for purposes of public travel, and such street adjacent to both ends of said portion is so improved and in good repair, and the city council of such city by resolution finds that the improvement of such portion of such street by the construction or reconstruction of a sidewalk thereon is necessary for the public safety and convenience, the duty, burden, and expense of constructing or reconstructing such sidewalk shall devolve upon the property directly abutting upon such portion: PROVIDED, That such abutting property shall not be charged with any costs of construction or reconstruction under this chapter in excess of fifty percent of the valuation of such abutting property, exclusive of improvements thereon, according to the valuation last placed upon it for purposes of general taxation. [1965 c 7 § 35.69.020. Prior: 1927 c 203 § 2; RRS § 9332-2.]

**35.69.030 Notice to owners—Service—Contents—Assessment—Collection.** Whenever the city council of any such city has adopted such resolution it shall cause a notice to be served on the owner of the property directly abutting on such portion of such street, instructing him to construct or reconstruct a sidewalk on such portion in accordance with the plans and specifications which shall be attached to such notice. The notice shall be deemed sufficiently served if delivered in person to the owner or if left at the home of such owner with a person of suitable age and discretion then resident therein, or with an agent of such owner, authorized to collect rentals on such property, or, if the owner is a nonresident of the state of Washington, by mailing a copy to his last known address, or if he is unknown or if his address is unknown, then by posting a copy in a conspicuous place at such portion of the street where the improvement is to be made. The notice shall specify a reasonable time within which such construction or reconstruction shall be made, and shall state that in case the owner fails to make the same within such time, the city will proceed to make it through the officer or department thereof charged with the inspection of sidewalks and that such officer or department will report to the city council, at a subsequent date, to be definitely stated in the notice, an assessment roll showing the lot or parcel of land directly abutting on such portion of the street so improved, the cost of the improvement, and the name of the owner, if known, and that the city council at the time stated in the notice or at the time or times to which the same may be adjourned, will hear any and all protests against the proposed assessment. Upon the expiration of the time fixed within which the owner is required to construct or reconstruct such sidewalk, if the owner has failed to perform such work, the city may proceed to perform it, and the officer or department of the city performing the work shall, within the time fixed in the notice, report to the city council an assessment roll showing the lot or parcel of land directly abutting on that portion of the street so improved, the cost of the work, and the name of the owner, if known. The city council shall, at the time in such notice designated, or at an adjourned time or times, assess the cost of such improvement against said property and shall fix the time and manner for payment thereof, which said assessment shall become a lien upon said property and shall be collected in the manner as is provided by law for collection of local improvements



assessments under this title. [1965 c 7 § 35.69.030. Prior: 1927 c 203 § 3; RRS § 9332-3.]

**35.69.040 Abutting property defined.** For the purposes of this chapter all property having a frontage upon the sides or margins of any street shall be deemed to be abutting property, and such property shall be chargeable, as provided herein, for all costs of construction or reconstruction or any form of sidewalk improvement between the margin of said street and the roadway lying in front of and adjacent to said property. [1965 c 7 § 35.69.040. Prior: 1927 c 203 § 4; RRS § 9332-4.]

**35.69.050 Construction of chapter.** Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to limit or repeal any existing powers of cities with reference to the construction or reconstruction of sidewalks or the improvement or maintenance of streets, but the power and authority herein granted is to be exercised concurrent with or in extension of powers and authority now existing. The legislative authority of any city before exercising the powers and authority herein granted shall, by proper ordinance, provide for the application and enforcement of the same within the limitations herein specified. [1965 c 7 § 35.69.050. Prior: 1927 c 203 § 5; RRS § 9332-5.]

### Chapter 35.70

## SIDEWALKS—CONSTRUCTION IN THIRD CLASS CITIES AND TOWNS

#### Sections

35.70.010	Definitions.
35.70.020	Owners' responsibility.
35.70.030	Convenience and necessity reported by superintendent.
35.70.040	Council's resolution and notice—Adoption.
35.70.050	Council's resolution and notice—Contents.
35.70.060	Notice of resolution and order—Service.
35.70.070	Superintendent to construct and prepare assessment roll.
35.70.080	Hearing on assessment roll—Notice.
35.70.090	Lien of assessments and foreclosure.
35.70.100	Provisions of chapter not exclusive.

**35.70.010 Definitions.** For the purposes of this chapter all property having a frontage on the side or margin of any street or other public place shall be deemed abutting property, and such property shall be chargeable, as provided in this chapter, with all costs of construction of any form of sidewalk improvement, between the margin of said street or other public place and the roadway lying in front of and adjacent to said property, and the term sidewalk as used in this chapter shall be construed to mean and include any and all structures or forms of improvement included in the space between the street margin and the roadway known as the sidewalk area. [1965 c 7 § 35.70.010. Prior: 1915 c 149 § 7; RRS § 9161.]

**35.70.020 Owners' responsibility.** In all cities of the second class and towns the burden and expense of constructing sidewalks along the side of any street or other public place shall devolve upon and be borne by the property directly abutting thereon. [1994 c 81 § 62; 1965 c 7 § 35.70.020. Prior: 1915 c 149 § 1; RRS § 9155.]

**35.70.030 Convenience and necessity reported by superintendent.** If in the judgment of the officer or department having superintendence of streets and public places, public convenience or safety requires that a sidewalk be constructed along either side of any street, he shall report the fact to the city or town council immediately. [1965 c 7 § 35.70.030. Prior: 1915 c 149 § 2, part; RRS § 9156, part.]

**35.70.040 Council's resolution and notice—Adoption.** If upon receiving a report from the proper officer, the city or town council deems the construction of the proposed sidewalk necessary or convenient for the public it shall by an appropriate resolution order the sidewalk constructed and shall cause a written notice to be served upon the owner of each parcel of land abutting upon that portion and side of the street where the sidewalk is constructed requiring him to construct the sidewalk in accordance with the resolution. [1965 c 7 § 35.70.040. Prior: 1915 c 149 § 2, part; RRS § 9156, part.]

**35.70.050 Council's resolution and notice—Contents.** The resolution and notice and order to construct a sidewalk shall:

- (1) Describe each parcel of land abutting upon that portion and side of the street where the sidewalk is ordered to be constructed,
- (2) Specify the kind of sidewalk required, its size and dimensions, the method and material to be used in construction,
- (3) Contain an estimate of the cost thereof, and
- (4) State that unless the sidewalk is constructed in compliance with the notice, and within a reasonable time therein specified, the city or town will construct the sidewalk and assess the cost and expense thereof against the abutting property described in the notice. [1965 c 7 § 35.70.050. Prior: 1915 c 149 § 3; RRS § 9157.]

**35.70.060 Notice of resolution and order—Service.** The notice shall be served:

- (1) By delivering a copy to the owner or reputed owner of each parcel of land affected, or to the authorized agent of the owners, or
- (2) By leaving a copy thereof at the usual place of abode of the owner in the city or town with a person of suitable age and discretion residing therein, or
- (3) If the owner is a nonresident of the city or town and his place of residence is known by mailing a copy to the owner addressed to his last known place of residence, or
- (4) If the place of residence of the owner is unknown or if the owner of any parcel of land affected is unknown, by publication in the official newspaper of the city or town once a week for two consecutive weeks. The notice shall specify a reasonable time within which the sidewalk shall be constructed which in the case of publication of the notice shall not be less than sixty days from the date of the first publication of such notice. [1985 c 469 § 36; 1965 c 7 § 35.70.060. Prior: 1915 c 149 § 4; RRS § 9158.]

**35.70.070 Superintendent to construct and prepare assessment roll.** If the notice and order to construct a

sidewalk is not complied with within the time therein specified, the officer or department having the superintendence of streets shall proceed to construct said sidewalk forthwith and shall report to the city or town council at its next regular meeting or as soon thereafter as is practicable an assessment roll showing each parcel of land abutting upon the sidewalk, the name of the owner thereof if known, and apportion the cost of said improvement to be assessed against each parcel of such land. [1965 c 7 § 35.70.070. Prior: 1915 c 149 § 5, part; RRS § 9159, part.]

**35.70.080 Hearing on assessment roll—Notice.** Thereupon the city or town council shall set a date for hearing any protests against the proposed assessment roll and shall cause a notice of the time and place of the hearing to be published once a week for two successive weeks in the official newspaper of the city or town, the date of the hearing to be not less than thirty days from the date of the first publication of the notice. At the hearing or at any adjournment thereof the council by ordinance shall assess the cost of constructing the sidewalk against the abutting property in accordance with the benefits thereto. [1985 c 469 § 39; 1965 c 7 § 35.70.080. Prior: (i) 1915 c 149 § 5, part; RRS § 9159, part. (ii) 1915 c 149 § 6, part; RRS § 9160, part.]

**35.70.090 Lien of assessments and foreclosure.** The assessments shall become a lien upon the respective parcels of land and shall be collected in the manner provided by law for the collection of local improvement assessments and shall bear interest at the rate of six percent per annum from the date of the approval of said assessment thereon. [1965 c 7 § 35.70.090. Prior: 1915 c 149 § 6, part; RRS § 9160, part.]

*Collection and foreclosure of local improvement assessments: Chapters 35.49, 35.50 RCW.*

**35.70.100 Provisions of chapter not exclusive.** This chapter shall not be construed as repealing or amending any provision relating to the improvement of streets or public places by special assessments commonly known as local improvement laws, but shall be considered as additional legislation and auxiliary thereto and the city or town council, of any city of the second class or town before exercising the authority herein granted may by ordinance provide for the application and enforcement of the provisions of this chapter within the limitations herein specified. [1994 c 81 § 63; 1965 c 7 § 35.70.100. Prior: 1915 c 149 § 8; RRS § 9162.]

## Chapter 35.71

### PEDESTRIAN MALLS

#### Sections

35.71.010	Definitions.
35.71.020	Establishment declared public purpose—Authority to establish—General powers.
35.71.030	Resolution of intention—Traffic limitation—Property owner's right of ingress and egress.
35.71.040	Plan—Alternate vehicle routes—Off-street parking—Hearing, notice.
35.71.050	Real estate appraisers—Report.
35.71.060	Financing methods.

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35.71.070	Waivers and quitclaim deeds—Rights in right of way.
35.71.080	Vacating, replatting right of way for mall purposes.
35.71.090	"Mall organization"—Powers in general—Directors—Officers.
35.71.100	Special assessment.
35.71.110	Claims for damages.
35.71.120	Contracts with mall organization for administration—Conflicting charter provisions.
35.71.130	Election to discontinue mall—Ordinance—Outstanding obligations—Restoration to former status.
35.71.910	Chapter controls inconsistent laws.

**35.71.010 Definitions.** As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meaning herein given to each of them:

"City" means any city or town.

"Chief executive" means the mayor in a mayor-council or commission city and city manager in a council-manager city.

"Corporate authority" means the legislative body of any city.

"Project" means a pedestrian mall project.

"Right of way" means that area of land dedicated for public use or secured by the public for purposes of ingress and egress to abutting property and other public purposes.

"Mall" means an area of land, part of which may be surfaced, landscaped, and used entirely for pedestrian movements, except with respect to governmental functions, utilities, and loading and unloading of goods.

"Mall organization" means a group of property owners, lessors, or lessees in an area that has been organized to consider the establishment, maintenance, and operation of a mall in a given area and persons owning or having any legal or equitable interest in the real property affected by the establishment of the mall. [1965 c 7 § 35.71.010. Prior: 1961 c 111 § 1.]

**35.71.020 Establishment declared public purpose—Authority to establish—General powers.** The establishment of pedestrian malls is declared to be for a public purpose. Any corporate authority, by ordinance, may establish and regulate any street right of way as a mall, may prohibit, in whole or in part, vehicular traffic on a mall, and may provide for the acquisition of any interest in the right of way necessary to its establishment, and may provide for the determination of legal damages, if any, to abutting property. [1965 c 7 § 35.71.020. Prior: 1961 c 111 § 2.]

**35.71.030 Resolution of intention—Traffic limitation—Property owner's right of ingress and egress.** When the corporate authority determines that the public interest, safety, and convenience is best served by the establishment of a mall and that vehicular traffic will not be unduly inconvenienced thereby, it may adopt a resolution declaring its intention to do so, and announcing the intended extent of traffic limitation. Any corporate authority is authorized to limit the utilization of any right of way, except for utilities and governmental functions, provided adequate alternative routes for vehicular movement, and the loading and unloading of goods are established or are available. The abutting property owner's right of ingress and egress shall be considered to have been satisfied whenever the corporate authority has planned and constructed, or there is available,

an alternate route, alleyway, and service driveway. [1965 c 7 § 35.71.030. Prior: 1961 c 111 § 3.]

**35.71.040 Plan—Alternate vehicle routes—Off-street parking—Hearing, notice.** Before a mall is established, a plan shall be formulated consistent with the city's comprehensive plan, including at least the area of the right of way between two intersecting streets and showing alternate routes outside the mall area upon which any vehicles excluded from using the mall may be accommodated; it may include a provision for on and off-street parking. After the plans have been prepared, the corporate authority shall hold a public hearing thereon, giving notice of time and place at least two weeks in advance of the hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in the city and as required by chapter 42.32 RCW. [1965 c 7 § 35.71.040. Prior: 1961 c 111 § 4.]

**35.71.050 Real estate appraisers—Report.** The corporate authority is authorized to engage duly qualified real estate appraisers, for the purpose of determining the value, or legal damages, if any, to any person, owning or having any legal or equitable interest in any real property who contends that he would suffer damage if a projected mall were established; in connection therewith the city shall take into account any increment in value that may result from the establishment of the mall. The appraisers shall submit their findings in writing to the chief executive of the city. [1965 c 7 § 35.71.050. Prior: 1961 c 111 § 5.]

**35.71.060 Financing methods.** The corporate authority may finance the establishment of a mall, including, but not limited to, right of way improvements, traffic control devices, and off-street parking facilities in the vicinity of the mall, by one or more of the following methods or by a combination of any two or more of them:

(1) By creating local improvement districts under the laws applicable thereto in Title 35 RCW.

(2) By issuing revenue bonds pursuant to chapter 35.41 RCW, \*RCW 35.24.305, chapter 35.92 RCW, RCW 35.81.100, and by such other statutes that may authorize such bonds.

(3) By issuing general obligation bonds pursuant to chapter 39.52 RCW, RCW 35.81.115, and by such other statutes and applicable provisions of the state Constitution that may authorize such bonds.

(4) By use of gifts and donations.

(5) General fund and other available moneys: PROVIDED, That if any general fund moneys are expended for a mall, provision may be made for repayment thereof to the general fund from money received from the financing of the mall.

The corporate authority may include within the cost of any mall project the expense of moving utilities, or any facility located within a right of way. [1965 c 7 § 35.71.060. Prior: 1961 c 111 § 6.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 35.24.305 was recodified as RCW 35.23.454 pursuant to 1994 c 81 § 90.

**35.71.070 Waivers and quitclaim deeds—Rights in right of way.** The corporate authority may formulate,

solicit, finance and acquire, purchase, or negotiate the acquisition of waivers and the execution of quitclaim deeds by persons owning or having any legal or equitable interest in the real property affected by the establishment of a mall, conveying the necessary rights to the city to prohibit through vehicular traffic and otherwise limit vehicular access to, and from, such right of way: PROVIDED, That the execution of such waivers and quitclaim deeds shall not operate to extinguish the rights of the abutting owner, lessor, or lessee in the right of way, not included in such waiver or quitclaim deed. [1965 c 7 § 35.71.070. Prior: 1961 c 111 § 7.]

**35.71.080 Vacating, replatting right of way for mall purposes.** The corporate authority, as an alternate to the preceding methods, may find that the right of way no longer is needed as a right of way. When persons owning or having any legal or equitable interest in the real property affected by a proposed mall, present a petition to the corporate authority for vacating the right of way pursuant to chapter 35.79 RCW, or the corporate authority initiates by resolution such a vacation proceeding, a right of way may be vacated and replatted for mall purposes, and closed to vehicular traffic except as provided in RCW 35.71.030, consistent with the subdivision standards allowed by Title 58 RCW, and chapter 35.63 RCW. [1965 c 7 § 35.71.080. Prior: 1961 c 111 § 8.]

**35.71.090 "Mall organization"—Powers in general—Directors—Officers.** The corporate authority may cause an organization of persons to be known as a "Mall organization" interested in creating a mall in a given area to be formed to provide for consultative assistance to the city with respect to the establishment and administration of a mall. This organization may elect a board of directors of not less than three nor more than twelve members. The board shall elect a president, a vice president, and a secretary from its membership. [1965 c 7 § 35.71.090. Prior: 1961 c 111 § 9.]

**35.71.100 Special assessment.** After the establishment of the mall, the corporate authority may levy a special assessment on the real property within the area specially benefited by the improvement. Such special levy, if any, shall be for operation and maintenance of the mall and appurtenances thereto, which may not exceed one percent of the aggregate actual valuation of the real property (including twenty-five percent of the actual valuation of the improvements thereon) according to the valuation last placed upon it for purposes of general taxation: PROVIDED, That if a mall organization board of directors exists as authorized by RCW 35.71.090, the corporate authority may entertain a recommendation from this organization with respect to such a levy by the corporate authority. [1965 c 7 § 35.71.100. Prior: 1961 c 111 § 10.]

**35.71.110 Claims for damages.** Following the public hearing on the ordinance to establish a mall any person owning or having any legal or equitable interest in property which might be affected by reason of the establishment of the proposed mall or the board of directors of a mall organization shall, within twenty days of such hearing, file

with the city clerk a statement describing the real property as to which the claim is made, the nature of the claimant's interest therein, the nature of the alleged damage thereto and the amount of damages claimed. After the receipt thereof, the corporate authority may negotiate with the affected parties concerning them or deny them. [1965 c 7 § 35.71.110. Prior: 1961 c 111 § 11.]

**35.71.120 Contracts with mall organization for administration—Conflicting charter provisions.** If the corporate authority desires to have the mall administered by a mall organization rather than by one of its departments, the corporate authority may execute a contract with such an organization for the administration of the mall upon mutually satisfactory terms and conditions: PROVIDED, That if any provision of a city charter conflicts with this section, such provision of the city charter shall prevail. [1965 c 7 § 35.71.120. Prior: 1961 c 111 § 12.]

**35.71.130 Election to discontinue mall—Ordinance—Outstanding obligations—Restoration to former status.** The board of directors of a mall organization may call for an election, after the mall has been in operation for two years, at which the voting shall be by secret ballot, on the question: "Shall the mall be continued in operation?" If sixty percent of the membership of the organization vote to discontinue the mall, the results of the election shall be submitted to the corporate authority. The corporate authority may initiate proceedings by ordinance for the discontinuation of the mall, allocate the proportionate amount of the outstanding obligations of the mall to the abutting property of the mall or property specially benefited if a local improvement district is established, subject to the provisions of any applicable statutes and bond ordinances, resolutions, or agreements, and thereafter, at a time set by the corporate authority, the mall may be restored to its former right of way status. [1965 c 7 § 35.71.130. Prior: 1961 c 111 § 13.]

**35.71.910 Chapter controls inconsistent laws.** Insofar as the provisions of this chapter are inconsistent with a provision of any other law, the provisions of this chapter shall be controlling. [1965 c 7 § 35.71.910. Prior: 1961 c 111 § 15.]

## Chapter 35.72

### CONTRACTS FOR STREET PROJECTS

#### Sections

35.72.010	Contracts authorized for street projects.
35.72.020	Reimbursement by other property owners.
35.72.030	Reimbursement by other property owners—Reimbursement share.
35.72.040	Assessment reimbursement contracts.
35.72.050	Alternative financing method—Participation by county, city, town, or department of transportation—Eligibility for reimbursement.

**35.72.010 Contracts authorized for street projects.** The legislative authority of any city, town, or county may contract with owners of real estate for the construction or

improvement of street projects which the owners elect to install as a result of ordinances that require the projects as a prerequisite to further property development. [1983 c 126 § 1.]

**35.72.020 Reimbursement by other property owners.** The contract may provide for the partial reimbursement to the owner or the owner's assigns for a period not to exceed fifteen years of a portion of the costs of the project by other property owners who:

- (1) Are determined to be within the assessment reimbursement area pursuant to RCW 35.72.040;
- (2) Are determined to have a reimbursement share based upon a benefit to the property owner pursuant to RCW 35.72.030;
- (3) Did not contribute to the original cost of the street project; and
- (4) Subsequently develop their property within the fifteen-year period and at the time of development were not required to install similar street projects because they were already provided for by the contract.

Street projects subject to reimbursement may include design, grading, paving, installation of curbs, gutters, storm drainage, sidewalks, street lighting, traffic controls, and other similar improvements, as required by the street standards of the city, town, or county. [1983 c 126 § 2.]

**35.72.030 Reimbursement by other property owners—Reimbursement share.** The reimbursement shall be a pro rata share of construction and reimbursement of contract administration costs of the street project. A city, town, or county shall determine the reimbursement share by using a method of cost apportionment which is based on the benefit to the property owner from such project. [1983 c 126 § 3.]

**35.72.040 Assessment reimbursement contracts.** The procedures for assessment reimbursement contracts shall be governed by the following:

- (1) An assessment reimbursement area shall be formulated by the city, town, or county based upon a determination by the city, town, or county of which parcels adjacent to the improvements would require similar street improvements upon development.
- (2) The preliminary determination of area boundaries and assessments, along with a description of the property owners' rights and options, shall be forwarded by certified mail to the property owners of record within the proposed assessment area. If any property owner requests a hearing in writing within twenty days of the mailing of the preliminary determination, a hearing shall be held before the legislative body, notice of which shall be given to all affected property owners. The legislative body's ruling is determinative and final.

(3) The contract must be recorded in the appropriate county auditor's office within thirty days of the final execution of the agreement.

(4) If the contract is so filed, it shall be binding on owners of record within the assessment area who are not party to the contract. [1988 c 179 § 16; 1983 c 126 § 4.]

**Severability—Prospective application—Section captions—1988 c 179:** See RCW 39.92.900 and 39.92.901.

**35.72.050 Alternative financing method—Participation by county, city, town, or department of transportation—Eligibility for reimbursement.** (1) As an alternative to financing projects under this chapter solely by owners of real estate, a county, city, or town may join in the financing of improvement projects and may be reimbursed in the same manner as the owners of real estate who participate in the projects, if the county, city, or town has specified the conditions of its participation in an ordinance. A county, city, or town may be reimbursed only for the costs of improvements that benefit that portion of the public who will use the developments within the assessment reimbursement area established pursuant to RCW 35.72.040(1). No county, city, or town costs for improvements that benefit the general public may be reimbursed.

(2) The department of transportation may, for state highways, participate with the owners of real estate in the financing of improvement projects, in the same manner as provided for counties, cities, and towns, in subsection (1) of this section. The department shall enter into agreements whereby the appropriate county, city, or town shall act as an agent of the department in administering this chapter. [1987 c 261 § 1; 1986 c 252 § 1.]

### Chapter 35.73

#### STREET GRADES—SANITARY FILLS

##### Sections

35.73.010	Authority—First and second class cities.
35.73.020	Estimates—Intention—Property included—Resolution.
35.73.030	Hearing—Time of—Publication of resolution.
35.73.040	Ordinance—Assessments.
35.73.050	Lien of assessments.
35.73.060	Improvement district bonds—Issuance.
35.73.070	Improvement district bonds—Payment—Remedies.
35.73.080	Provisions not exclusive.

##### **35.73.010 Authority—First and second class cities.**

If a city of the first or second class establishes the grade of any street or alley at a higher elevation than any private property abutting thereon, thereby rendering the drainage of such private property or any part thereof impracticable without the raising of the surface of such private property, or if the surface of any private property in any such city is so low as to make sanitary drainage thereof impracticable and it is determined by resolution of the city council of such city that a fill of such private property is necessary as a sanitary measure, the city may provide therefor, and by general or special ordinance or both make provision for the necessary surveys, estimates, bids, contract, bond and supervision of the work and for making and approving the assessment roll of the local improvement district and for the collection of the assessments made thereby, and for the doing of everything which in their discretion may be necessary or be incidental thereto: PROVIDED, That before the approval of the assessment roll, notice shall be given and an opportunity offered for the owners of the property affected by the assessment roll to be heard before such city council in the same manner as in case of assessments for

drainage or sewerage in the city. [1965 c 7 § 35.73.010. Prior: (i) 1907 c 243 § 1; RRS § 9426. (ii) 1907 c 243 § 4; RRS § 9429.]

**35.73.020 Estimates—Intention—Property included—Resolution.** Before establishing a grade for property or providing for the fill of property, the city must adopt a resolution declaring its intention to do so.

The resolution shall:

(1) Describe the property proposed to be improved by the fill,

(2) State the estimated cost of making the improvement,

(3) State that the cost thereof is to be assessed against the property improved thereby, and

(4) Fix a time not less than thirty days after the first publication of the resolution within which protests against the proposed improvement may be filed with the city clerk.

The resolution may include as many separate parcels of property as may seem desirable whether or not they are contiguous so long as they lie in the same general neighborhood and may be included conveniently in one local improvement district. [1965 c 7 § 35.73.020. Prior: 1907 c 243 § 2, part; RRS § 9427, part.]

**35.73.030 Hearing—Time of—Publication of resolution.** Upon the passage of the resolution the city clerk shall cause it to be published in the official newspaper of the city in at least two successive issues before the time fixed in the resolution for filing protests. Proof of publication by affidavit shall be filed as part of the record of the proceedings. [1965 c 7 § 35.73.030. Prior: 1907 c 243 § 2, part; RRS § 9427, part.]

**35.73.040 Ordinance—Assessments.** If no protest is filed, or if protests are filed but the city council after full hearing determines that it is necessary to fill any portion of the private property it shall proceed to enact an ordinance for such improvement. By the provisions of the ordinance, a local improvement district shall be established to be called "local improvement district No. . . .," which shall include all the property found by the said council to require the fill as a sanitary measure. The ordinance shall provide that such improvement shall be made and shall fix and establish the grades to which the said property and the different portions thereof shall be brought by such improvement, and that the cost and expense thereof shall be taxed and assessed upon all the property in such local improvement district, which cost shall be assessed in proportion to the number of cubic yards of earth and bulkheading required for the different portions of said property included in said improvement district and in proportion to the benefits derived by such improvement: PROVIDED, That the city council may expend from the general fund for such purposes such sums as in its judgment may seem fair and equitable in consideration of the benefits accruing to the general public by reason of such improvement. [1965 c 7 § 35.73.040. Prior: 1907 c 243 § 3, part; RRS § 9428, part.]

**35.73.050 Lien of assessments.** Whenever any expense or cost of work has been assessed the amount of such expense and cost shall become a lien upon said lands

against which the same are so assessed and shall take precedence of all other liens, except general tax liens and special assessment liens theretofore assessed by the said city thereon and which may be foreclosed in accordance with law in the name of such city as plaintiff. And in any such proceeding if the court trying the same shall be satisfied that the work has been done or material furnished for the fill of such property, a recovery shall be permitted or charge enforced to the extent of the proper proportion of the value of the work or material which would be chargeable on such lot or land notwithstanding any informality, irregularity or defects in any of the proceedings of such municipal corporation or its officers. [1965 c 7 § 35.73.050. Prior: 1907 c 243 § 3, part; RRS § 9428, part.]

*Collection and foreclosure of local improvement district assessments: Chapters 35.49, 35.50 RCW.*

### 35.73.060 Improvement district bonds—Issuance.

(1) The city may, in its discretion, by general or special ordinance, or both, instead of requiring immediate payment for the said work to be made by the owners of property included in the assessment roll, authorize the issuance of interest bearing bonds or warrants of the local improvement district, payable on or before a date not to exceed twelve years from and after their date. The bonds may be issued subject to call, the amount of the said assessment to be payable in installments or otherwise, and the bonds to be of such terms as may be provided in the ordinances and to bear interest at such rate or rates as may be prescribed in the ordinances. Such bonds or warrants may be of any form, including bearer bonds or bearer warrants, or registered bonds or registered warrants as provided in RCW 39.46.030.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, such bonds or warrants may be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1983 c 167 § 62; 1981 c 156 § 9; 1979 ex.s. c 30 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.73.060. Prior: 1915 c 87 § 1, part; 1907 c 243 § 5, part; RRS § 9430, part.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**35.73.070 Improvement district bonds—Payment—Remedies.** The bonds or warrants shall be payable only from the fund created by the special assessments upon the property in the local improvement district, and the owner of any bond or warrant shall look only to this fund for the payment of the principal and interest thereof and shall have no claim or lien therefor against the city by which the same was issued except from that fund. [1983 c 167 § 63; 1965 c 7 § 35.73.070. Prior: 1915 c 87 § 1, part; 1907 c 243 § 5, part; RRS § 9430, part.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**35.73.080 Provisions not exclusive.** The provisions and remedies provided by this chapter for filling lowlands in connection with establishing street grades or for sanitary reasons are cumulative. [1965 c 7 § 35.73.080. Prior: 1907 c 243 § 6; RRS § 9431.]

## Chapter 35.74

### STREETS—DRAWBRIDGES

#### Sections

- 35.74.010 Authority to construct or grant franchise to construct.
- 35.74.020 Initiation of proceedings—Notice to county commissioners.
- 35.74.030 Determination of width of draw—Appeal.
- 35.74.040 Required specifications.
- 35.74.050 City may operate as toll bridges.
- 35.74.060 Prerequisites of grant of franchise—Approval of bridge—Tolls.
- 35.74.070 License fees—Renewal of license.

*Bridges across navigable waters: Chapter 79.01 RCW.*

*Counties may assist as to certain bridges on city streets: RCW 36.75.200.*

**35.74.010 Authority to construct or grant franchise to construct.** Every city and town may erect and maintain drawbridges across navigable streams that flow through or penetrate the boundaries thereof, when the public necessity requires it, or it may grant franchises to persons or corporations to erect them and charge toll thereon. [1965 c 7 § 35.74.010. Prior: 1890 p 54 § 1; RRS § 9323.]

**35.74.020 Initiation of proceedings—Notice to county commissioners.** If the city or town council desires to erect a drawbridge across any navigable stream on any street, or to grant the privilege so to do to any corporation or individual, it shall notify the board of county commissioners to that effect stating the precise point where such bridge is proposed to be located. [1965 c 7 § 35.74.020. Prior: 1890 p 54 § 2, part; RRS § 9324, part.]

**35.74.030 Determination of width of draw—Appeal.** The board of county commissioners within ten days from the receipt of the notice, if in session, and if not in session, within five days after the first day of the next regular or special session, shall designate the width of the draw to be made in such bridge, and the length of span necessary to permit the free flow of water: PROVIDED, That if any persons deem themselves aggrieved by the determination of the matter by the board, they may appeal to the superior court which may hear and determine the matter upon such further notice and on such testimony as it shall direct to be produced. [1965 c 7 § 35.74.030. Prior: 1890 p 54 § 2, part; RRS § 9324, part.]

**35.74.040 Required specifications.** All bridges constructed under the provisions of this chapter must be so constructed as not to obstruct navigation, and must have a draw or swing of sufficient space or span to permit the safe, convenient, and expeditious passage at all times of any steamer or vessel or raft which may navigate the stream or waters bridged. [1965 c 7 § 35.74.040. Prior: 1890 p 55 § 5; RRS § 9327.]

**35.74.050 City may operate as toll bridges.** A city or town may build and maintain toll bridges and charge and collect tolls thereon, and to that end may provide a system and elect or appoint persons to operate the same, or the said bridges may be made free, as it may elect. [1965 c 7 § 35.74.050. Prior: 1890 p 55 § 6; RRS § 9328.]

**35.74.060 Prerequisites of grant of franchise—Approval of bridge—Tolls.** Before any franchise to build any bridge across any such navigable stream is granted by any city or town council it shall fix a license tax, not to exceed ten percent of the tolls collected annually. Upon the completion of the bridge the city or town council shall cause it to be inspected and if it is found to comply in all respects with the specifications previously made, and to be safe and convenient for the public, the council shall declare it open as a toll bridge, and shall immediately fix the rates of toll thereof. [1965 c 7 § 35.74.060. Prior: 1890 p 55 § 3; RRS § 9325.]

**35.74.070 License fees—Renewal of license.** The owner or keeper of any toll bridges in any city or town shall, before the renewal of any license, report to the city or town council under oath, the actual cost of construction and equipment of the toll bridge, the repairs and cost of maintaining it during the preceding year, the amount of tax collected, and the estimated cash value of the bridge, exclusive of the franchise. All funds arising from the license tax shall be paid into the general fund of the city or town. [1965 c 7 § 35.74.070. Prior: 1890 p 55 § 4; RRS § 9326.]

### Chapter 35.75

#### STREETS—BICYCLES—PATHS

##### Sections

- 35.75.010 Authority to regulate and license bicycles—Penalties.
- 35.75.020 Use of bicycle paths for other purposes prohibited.
- 35.75.030 License fees authorized.
- 35.75.040 Rules regulating use of bicycle paths.
- 35.75.050 Bicycle road fund—Sources—Use.
- 35.75.060 Use of street and road funds for bicycle paths, lanes, routes and improvements authorized—Standards.

*Bicycle awareness program: RCW 43.43.390.*

*Bicycle transportation management program: RCW 47.04.190.*

*Pavement marking standards: RCW 47.36.280.*

*Rules of the road, bicycles: RCW 46.61.750 through 46.61.780.*

**35.75.010 Authority to regulate and license bicycles—Penalties.** Every city and town may by ordinance regulate and license the riding of bicycles and other similar vehicles upon or along the streets, alleys, highways, or other public grounds within its limits and may construct and maintain bicycle paths or roadways within or outside of and beyond its limits leading to or from the city or town. The city or town may provide by ordinance for reasonable fines and penalties for violation of the ordinance. [1965 c 7 § 35.75.010. Prior: (i) 1899 c 31 § 1; RRS § 9204. (ii) 1899 c 31 § 2; RRS § 9205.]

**35.75.020 Use of bicycle paths for other purposes prohibited.** It shall be unlawful for any person to lead, drive, ride or propel any team, wagon, animal, or vehicle other than a bicycle or similar vehicle upon and along any bicycle path constructed within or without the corporate limits of any city or town excepting at suitable crossings to be provided in the construction of such paths. Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a

misdemeanor. [1965 c 7 § 35.75.020. Prior: 1899 c 31 § 3; RRS § 9206.]

**35.75.030 License fees authorized.** Every city and town by ordinance may establish and collect reasonable license fees from all persons riding a bicycle or other similar vehicle within its respective corporate limits, and may enforce the payment thereof by reasonable fines and penalties. [1965 c 7 § 35.75.030. Prior: 1899 c 31 § 4; RRS § 9207.]

**35.75.040 Rules regulating use of bicycle paths.** The license fee to be paid and the rules regulating the riding of bicycles or other similar vehicles within any city or town shall be fixed by ordinance, and the rules regulating the use of such bicycle paths or roadways constructed or maintained within its limits and the fines and penalties for the violation of such rules shall be fixed by ordinance. [1965 c 7 § 35.75.040. Prior: 1899 c 31 § 5; RRS § 9208.]

**35.75.050 Bicycle road fund—Sources—Use.** The city or town council shall by ordinance provide that the whole amount or any amount not less than seventy-five percent of all license fees, penalties or other moneys collected under the authority of this chapter shall be paid into and placed to the credit of a special fund to be known as the "bicycle road fund." The moneys in the bicycle road fund shall not be transferred to any other fund and shall be paid out for the sole purpose of building and maintaining bicycle paths and roadways authorized to be constructed and maintained by this chapter or for special policemen, bicycle tags, stationery and other expenses growing out of the regulating and licensing of the riding of bicycles and other vehicles and the construction, maintenance and regulation of the use of bicycle paths and roadways. [1965 c 7 § 35.75.050. Prior: 1899 c 31 § 6; RRS § 9209.]

**35.75.060 Use of street and road funds for bicycle paths, lanes, routes and improvements authorized—Standards.** Any city or town may use any funds available for street or road construction, maintenance, or improvement for building, improving, and maintaining bicycle paths, lanes, roadways, and routes, and for improvements to make existing streets and roads more suitable and safe for bicycle traffic: PROVIDED, That any such paths, lanes, roadways, routes, or streets for which any such street or road funds are expended shall be suitable for bicycle transportation purposes and not solely for recreation purposes. Bicycle facilities constructed or modified after June 10, 1982, shall meet or exceed the standards of the state department of transportation. [1982 c 55 § 1; 1974 ex.s. c 141 § 10.]

### Chapter 35.76

#### STREETS—BUDGET AND ACCOUNTING

##### Sections

- 35.76.010 Declaration of purpose—Budget and accounting by functional categories.
- 35.76.020 Cost accounting and reporting—Cities over eight thousand.
- 35.76.030 Cost accounting and reporting—Cities of eight thousand or less.



- 35.76.040 Manual of instructions.  
 35.76.050 Cost-audit examination and report.  
 35.76.060 Budgets.

**35.76.010 Declaration of purpose—Budget and accounting by functional categories.** Records of city street expenditures are generally inadequate to meet the needs of cities for planning and administration of their street programs and the needs of the legislature in providing for city street financing. It is the intent of the legislature that each city and town shall budget and thereafter maintain records and accounts for all street expenditures by functional categories in a manner consistent with its size, administrative capabilities, and the amounts of money expended by it for street purposes. [1965 c 7 § 35.76.010. Prior: 1963 c 115 § 1.]

**35.76.020 Cost accounting and reporting—Cities over eight thousand.** The state auditor, through the division of municipal corporations, shall formulate, prescribe and install a system of cost accounting and reporting for each city having a population of more than eight thousand, according to the last official census, which will correctly show all street expenditures by functional categories. The system shall also provide for reporting all revenues available for street purposes from whatever source including local improvement district assessments and state and federal aid. [1965 c 7 § 35.76.020. Prior: 1963 c 115 § 2.]

*Cities over eight thousand, equipment rental fund in street department: RCW 35.21.088.*

**35.76.030 Cost accounting and reporting—Cities of eight thousand or less.** Consistent with the intent of this chapter as stated in RCW 35.76.010, the state auditor, from and after July 1, 1965, through the division of municipal corporations, is authorized and directed to prescribe accounting and reporting procedures for street expenditures for cities and towns having a population of eight thousand or less, according to the last official census. [1965 c 7 § 35.76.030. Prior: 1963 c 115 § 3.]

**35.76.040 Manual of instructions.** The state auditor, after consultation with the association of Washington cities and the planning division of the state department of transportation shall prepare and distribute to the cities and towns a manual of instructions governing accounting and reporting procedures for all street expenditures. [1984 c 7 § 21; 1965 c 7 § 35.76.040. Prior: 1963 c 115 § 4.]

*Severability—1984 c 7:* See note following RCW 47.01.141.

**35.76.050 Cost-audit examination and report.** The division of municipal corporations shall annually make a cost-audit examination of street records for each city and town and make a written report thereon to the legislative body of each city and town. The expense of the examination shall be paid out of that portion of the motor vehicle fund allocated to the cities and towns and withheld for use by the state department of transportation under the terms of RCW 46.68.110(1). [1984 c 7 § 22; 1965 c 7 § 35.76.050. Prior: 1963 c 115 § 5.]

*Severability—1984 c 7:* See note following RCW 47.01.141.

**35.76.060 Budgets.** Expenditures for city and town streets shall be budgeted by each city and town according to the same functional categories prescribed by the state auditor for purposes of accounting and reporting as provided in RCW 35.76.020 and 35.76.030.

In the preparation of city and town budgets, including the preparation and filing of budget estimates, adoption of preliminary budgets and adoption of final budgets, all expenditures for street purposes shall be designated by such functional categories only. [1965 c 7 § 35.76.060. Prior: 1963 c 115 § 6.]

## Chapter 35.77

### STREETS—PLANNING, ESTABLISHMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND MAINTENANCE

#### Sections

- 35.77.010 Perpetual advanced six-year plans for coordinated transportation program expenditures—Nonmotorized transportation—Railroad right-of-way.  
 35.77.015 Provisions for bicycle paths, lanes, routes, roadways and improvements to be included in annual revision or extension of comprehensive street programs—Exception.  
 35.77.020 Agreements with county for planning, establishment, construction, and maintenance.  
 35.77.030 Agreements with county for planning, establishment, construction, and maintenance—County may use road fund—Payments by city—Contracts, bids.  
 35.77.040 Agreements with county for planning, establishment, construction, and maintenance—Act is additional and concurrent method.

*Bicycle awareness program: RCW 43.43.390.*

*Bicycle transportation management program: RCW 47.04.190.*

*Local adopt-a-highway programs: RCW 47.40.105.*

*Pavement marking standards: RCW 47.36.280.*

*Planning commissions: Chapter 35.63 RCW.*

*State highways in urban areas, allocation of funds, planning, bond issue, etc.: Chapter 47.26 RCW.*

*Urban arterials, planning, construction by cities and counties, transportation improvement board, bond issue, etc.: Chapter 47.26 RCW.*

**35.77.010 Perpetual advanced six-year plans for coordinated transportation program expenditures—Nonmotorized transportation—Railroad right-of-way.** (1) The legislative body of each city and town, pursuant to one or more public hearings thereon, shall prepare and adopt a comprehensive transportation program for the ensuing six calendar years. If the city or town has adopted a comprehensive plan pursuant to chapter 35.63 or 35A.63 RCW, the inherent authority of a first class city derived from its charter, or chapter 36.70A RCW, the program shall be consistent with this comprehensive plan.

The program shall be filed with the secretary of transportation not more than thirty days after its adoption. Annually thereafter the legislative body of each city and town shall review the work accomplished under the program and determine current city transportation needs. Based on these findings each such legislative body shall prepare and after public hearings thereon adopt a revised and extended comprehensive transportation program before July 1st of each year, and each one-year extension and revision shall be filed with the secretary of transportation not more than thirty days after its adoption. The purpose of this section is to

assure that each city and town shall perpetually have available advanced plans looking to the future for not less than six years as a guide in carrying out a coordinated transportation program. The program may at any time be revised by a majority of the legislative body of a city or town, but only after a public hearing.

The six-year plan for each city or town shall specifically set forth those projects and programs of regional significance for inclusion in the transportation improvement program within that region.

(2) Each six-year transportation program forwarded to the secretary in compliance with subsection (1) of this section shall contain information as to how a city or town will expend its moneys, including funds made available pursuant to chapter 47.30 RCW, for nonmotorized transportation purposes.

(3) Each six-year transportation program forwarded to the secretary in compliance with subsection (1) of this section shall contain information as to how a city or town shall act to preserve railroad right-of-way in the event the railroad ceases to operate in the city's or town's jurisdiction. [1994 c 179 § 1; 1994 c 158 § 7; 1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 59; 1988 c 167 § 6; 1984 c 7 § 23; 1977 ex.s. c 317 § 7; 1975 1st ex.s. c 215 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 27; 1965 c 7 § 35.77.010. Prior: 1961 c 195 § 2.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 1994 c 158 § 7 and by 1994 c 179 § 1, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section pursuant to RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Captions not law—Severability—Effective date—1994 c 158:** See RCW 47.80.902 through 47.80.904.

**Severability—Part, section headings not law—1990 1st ex.s. c 17:** See RCW 36.70A.900 and 36.70A.901.

**Savings—Severability—1988 c 167:** See notes following RCW 47.26.121.

**Severability—1984 c 7:** See note following RCW 47.01.141.

**Effective dates—Severability—1977 ex.s. c 317:** See notes following RCW 82.36.010.

**Severability—Effective dates—1967 ex.s. c 83:** See RCW 47.26.900 and 47.26.910.

*Highways, roads, streets in urban areas, urban arterials, development: Chapter 47.26 RCW.*

*Long-range arterial construction planning, counties and cities to prepare data: RCW 47.26.170.*

*Perpetual advanced six-year plans for coordinated transportation program: RCW 36.81.121.*

*Transportation improvement board: Chapter 47.26 RCW.*

**35.77.015 Provisions for bicycle paths, lanes, routes, roadways and improvements to be included in annual revision or extension of comprehensive street programs—Exception.** The annual revision and extension of comprehensive street programs pursuant to RCW 35.77.010 shall include consideration of and, wherever reasonably practicable, provisions for bicycle routes: PROVIDED, That no provision need be made for any such route where the cost of establishing it would be excessively disproportionate to the need or probable use. [1974 ex.s. c 141 § 11.]

**35.77.020 Agreements with county for planning, establishment, construction, and maintenance.** Any city or town may enter into an agreement with the county in which it is located authorizing the county to perform all or

any part of the construction, repair, and maintenance of streets in such city or town at such cost as shall be mutually agreed upon. The agreement shall be approved by ordinance of the governing body of the city or town and by resolution of the board of county commissioners.

Any such agreement may include, but shall not be limited to the following:

(1) A provision that the county shall perform all or a specified part of the construction, repair, or maintenance of the city or town streets and bridges to the same standards provided by the county in unincorporated areas, or to increased standards as shall be specified which may include construction, repair, or maintenance of drainage facilities including storm sewers, sidewalks and curbsings, street lighting, and traffic control devices.

(2) A provision that the county may provide engineering and administrative services necessary for the planning, establishment, construction, and maintenance of the streets of the city or town, including engineering and clerical services necessary for the establishment of local improvement districts. In providing such services the county engineer may exercise all the powers and perform all the duties vested by law or by ordinance in the city or town engineer or other officer or department charged with street administration.

(3) A provision that the city or town shall enact ordinances for the administration, establishment, construction, repair, maintenance, regulation, and protection of its streets as may be necessary to authorize the county to lawfully carry out the terms of the agreement. [1965 c 7 § 35.77.020. Prior: 1961 c 245 § 1.]

**35.77.030 Agreements with county for planning, establishment, construction, and maintenance—County may use road fund—Payments by city—Contracts, bids.** Pursuant to an agreement authorized by RCW 35.77.020, the board of county commissioners may expend funds from the county road fund for the construction, repair, and maintenance of the streets of such city or town and for engineering and administrative services. Payments by a city or town under such an agreement shall be made to the county treasurer and by him deposited in the county road fund. Such construction, repair, maintenance, and engineering service shall be ordered by resolution and proceedings conducted in respect thereto in the same manner as provided for the construction, repair, and maintenance of county roads by counties, and for the preparation of maps, plans and specifications, advertising and award of contracts therefor: PROVIDED, That except in case of emergency all construction work performed by a county on city streets pursuant to RCW 35.77.020 through 35.77.040, which exceeds ten thousand dollars, shall be done by contract, unless after advertisement and solicitation of competitive bids it appears that bids are unobtainable or that the lowest bid exceeds the amount for which such construction can be done by means other than contract. No street construction project shall be divided into lesser component parts for the purpose of avoiding the requirements for competitive bidding. [1965 c 7 § 35.77.030. Prior: 1961 c 245 § 2.]

**35.77.040 Agreements with county for planning, establishment, construction, and maintenance—Act is additional and concurrent method.** RCW 35.77.020 through 35.77.040 shall not repeal, amend, or modify any law providing for joint or cooperative agreements between cities and counties with respect to city streets, but shall be held to be an additional and concurrent method providing for such purpose. [1965 c 7 § 35.77.040. Prior: 1961 c 245 § 3.]

### Chapter 35.78

## STREETS—CLASSIFICATION AND DESIGN STANDARDS

### Sections

- 35.78.010 Classification of streets.
- 35.78.020 State design standards—Committee—Membership.
- 35.78.030 Committee to adopt uniform design standards.
- 35.78.040 Design standards must be followed by municipalities—Approval of deviations.

*City and town streets as part of state highways: Chapter 47.24 RCW.*

*Design standards committee for county roads: Chapter 43.32 RCW, RCW 36.86.070, 36.86.080.*

**35.78.010 Classification of streets.** The governing body of each municipal corporation shall classify and designate city streets as follows:

Major arterials, which are defined as transportation arteries which connect the focal points of traffic interest within a city; arteries which provide communications with other communities and the outlying areas; or arteries which have relatively high traffic volume compared with other streets within the city;

Secondary arterials, which are defined as routes which serve lesser points of traffic interest within a city; provide communication with outlying districts in the same degree or serve to collect and distribute traffic from the major arterials to the local streets;

Access streets, which are defined as land service streets and are generally limited to providing access to abutting property. They are tributary to the major and secondary thoroughfares and generally discourage through traffic. [1965 c 7 § 35.78.010. Prior: 1949 c 164 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9300-1.]

**35.78.020 State design standards—Committee—Membership.** There is created a state design standards committee of seven members, six of whom shall be appointed by the executive committee of the Association of Washington Cities to hold office at its pleasure and the seventh to be the state aid engineer. The members to be appointed by the executive committee of the Association of Washington Cities shall be restricted to the membership of the association or to those holding office and/or performing the function of chief engineer in any of the several municipalities in the state. [1984 c 7 § 24; 1965 c 7 § 35.78.020. Prior: 1949 c 164 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9300-2.]

**Severability—1984 c 7:** See note following RCW 47.01.141.

**35.78.030 Committee to adopt uniform design standards.** The design standards committee shall from time

to time adopt uniform design standards for major arterial and secondary arterial streets. [1965 c 7 § 35.78.030. Prior: 1949 c 164 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9300-3.]

**35.78.040 Design standards must be followed by municipalities—Approval of deviations.** The governing body of the several municipalities shall apply the uniform design standards adopted under RCW 35.78.030 to all new construction on major arterial and secondary arterial streets and to reconstruction of old such streets as far as practicable. No deviation from the design standards as to such streets may be made without approval of the state aid engineer. [1984 c 7 § 25; 1965 c 7 § 35.78.040. Prior: 1949 c 164 § 4; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9300-4.]

**Severability—1984 c 7:** See note following RCW 47.01.141.

### Chapter 35.79

## STREETS—VACATION

### Sections

- 35.79.010 Petition by owners—Fixing time for hearing.
- 35.79.020 Notice of hearing—Objections prior to hearing.
- 35.79.030 Hearing—Ordinance of vacation.
- 35.79.035 Limitations on vacations of streets abutting bodies of water—Procedure.
- 35.79.040 Title to vacated street or alley.
- 35.79.050 Vested rights not affected.

**35.79.010 Petition by owners—Fixing time for hearing.** The owners of an interest in any real estate abutting upon any street or alley who may desire to vacate the street or alley, or any part thereof, may petition the legislative authority to make vacation, giving a description of the property to be vacated, or the legislative authority may itself initiate by resolution such vacation procedure. The petition or resolution shall be filed with the city or town clerk, and, if the petition is signed by the owners of more than two-thirds of the property abutting upon the part of such street or alley sought to be vacated, legislative authority by resolution shall fix a time when the petition will be heard and determined by such authority or a committee thereof, which time shall not be more than sixty days nor less than twenty days after the date of the passage of such resolution. [1965 c 7 § 35.79.010. Prior: 1957 c 156 § 2; 1901 c 84 § 1, part; RRS § 9297, part.]

**35.79.020 Notice of hearing—Objections prior to hearing.** Upon the passage of the resolution the city or town clerk shall give twenty days' notice of the pendency of the petition by a written notice posted in three of the most public places in the city or town and a like notice in a conspicuous place on the street or alley sought to be vacated. The said notice shall contain a statement that a petition has been filed to vacate the street or alley described in the notice, together with a statement of the time and place fixed for the hearing of the petition. In all cases where the proceeding is initiated by resolution of the city or town council or similar legislative authority without a petition having been signed by the owners of more than two-thirds of the property abutting upon the part of the street or alley sought to be vacated, in addition to the notice hereinabove

required, there shall be given by mail at least fifteen days before the date fixed for the hearing, a similar notice to the owners or reputed owners of all lots, tracts or parcels of land or other property abutting upon any street or alley or any part thereof sought to be vacated, as shown on the rolls of the county treasurer, directed to the address thereon shown: PROVIDED, That if fifty percent of the abutting property owners file written objection to the proposed vacation with the clerk, prior to the time of hearing, the city shall be prohibited from proceeding with the resolution. [1965 c 7 § 35.79.020. Prior: 1957 c 156 § 3; 1901 c 84 § 1, part; RRS § 9297, part.]

**35.79.030 Hearing—Ordinance of vacation.** The hearing on such petition may be held before the legislative authority, or before a committee thereof upon the date fixed by resolution or at the time said hearing may be adjourned to. If the hearing is before such a committee the same shall, following the hearing, report its recommendation on the petition to the legislative authority which may adopt or reject the recommendation. If such hearing be held before such a committee it shall not be necessary to hold a hearing on the petition before such legislative authority. If the legislative authority determines to grant said petition or any part thereof, such city or town shall be authorized and have authority by ordinance to vacate such street, or alley, or any part thereof, and the ordinance may provide that it shall not become effective until the owners of property abutting upon the street or alley, or part thereof so vacated, shall compensate such city or town in an amount which does not exceed one-half the appraised value of the area so vacated, except in the event the subject property or portions thereof were acquired at public expense, compensation may be required in an amount equal to the full appraised value of the vacation: PROVIDED, That such ordinance may provide that the city retain an easement or the right to exercise and grant easements in respect to the vacated land for the construction, repair, and maintenance of public utilities and services. A certified copy of such ordinance shall be recorded by the clerk of the legislative authority and in the office of the auditor of the county in which the vacated land is located. [1987 c 228 § 1; 1985 c 254 § 1; 1969 c 28 § 4. Prior: 1967 ex.s. c 129 § 1; 1967 c 123 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.79.030; prior: 1957 c 156 § 4; 1949 c 14 § 1; 1901 c 84 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 9298.]

**35.79.035 Limitations on vacations of streets abutting bodies of water—Procedure.** (1) A city or town shall not vacate a street or alley if any portion of the street or alley abuts a body of fresh or salt water unless:

(a) The vacation is sought to enable the city or town to acquire the property for port purposes, beach or water access purposes, boat moorage or launching sites, park, public view, recreation, or educational purposes, or other public uses;

(b) The city or town, by resolution of its legislative authority, declares that the street or alley is not presently being used as a street or alley and that the street or alley is not suitable for any of the following purposes: Port, beach or water access, boat moorage, launching sites, park, public view, recreation, or education; or

(c) The vacation is sought to enable a city or town to implement a plan, adopted by resolution or ordinance, that provides comparable or improved public access to the same shoreline area to which the streets or alleys sought to be vacated abut, had the properties included in the plan not been vacated.

(2) Before adopting a resolution vacating a street or alley under subsection (1)(b) of this section, the city or town shall:

(a) Compile an inventory of all rights of way within the city or town that abut the same body of water that is abutted by the street or alley sought to be vacated;

(b) Conduct a study to determine if the street or alley to be vacated is suitable for use by the city or town for any of the following purposes: Port, boat moorage, launching sites, beach or water access, park, public view, recreation, or education;

(c) Hold a public hearing on the proposed vacation in the manner required by this chapter, where in addition to the normal requirements for publishing notice, notice of the public hearing is posted conspicuously on the street or alley sought to be vacated, which posted notice indicates that the area is public access, it is proposed to be vacated, and that anyone objecting to the proposed vacation should attend the public hearing or send a letter to a particular official indicating his or her objection; and

(d) Make a finding that the street or alley sought to be vacated is not suitable for any of the purposes listed under (b) of this subsection, and that the vacation is in the public interest.

(3) No vacation shall be effective until the fair market value has been paid for the street or alley that is vacated. Moneys received from the vacation may be used by the city or town only for acquiring additional beach or water access, acquiring additional public view sites to a body of water, or acquiring additional moorage or launching sites. [1987 c 228 § 2.]

**35.79.040 Title to vacated street or alley.** If any street or alley in any city or town is vacated by the city or town council, the property within the limits so vacated shall belong to the abutting property owners, one-half to each. [1965 c 7 § 35.79.040. Prior: 1901 c 84 § 3; RRS § 9299.]

**35.79.050 Vested rights not affected.** No vested rights shall be affected by the provisions of this chapter. [1965 c 7 § 35.79.050. Prior: 1901 c 84 § 4; RRS § 9300.]

## Chapter 35.80

### UNFIT DWELLINGS, BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

#### Sections

35.80.010	Declaration of purpose.
35.80.020	Definitions.
35.80.030	Permissible ordinances—Appeal.
35.80.040	Discrimination prohibited.

**35.80.010 Declaration of purpose.** It is hereby found that there exist, in the various municipalities and counties of the state, dwellings which are unfit for human habitation,

and buildings, structures, and premises or portions thereof which are unfit for other uses due to dilapidation, disrepair, structural defects, defects increasing the hazards of fire, accidents, or other calamities, inadequate ventilation and uncleanliness, inadequate light or sanitary facilities, inadequate drainage, overcrowding, or due to other conditions which are inimical to the health and welfare of the residents of such municipalities and counties.

It is further found and declared that the powers conferred by this chapter are for public uses and purposes for which public money may be expended, and that the necessity of the public interest for the enactment of this law is hereby declared to be a matter of local legislative determination. [1989 c 133 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 127 § 1; 1967 c 111 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.80.010. Prior: 1959 c 82 § 1.]

**35.80.020 Definitions.** The following terms, however used or referred to in this chapter, shall have the following meanings, unless a different meaning is clearly indicated by the context:

(1) "Board" shall mean the improvement board as provided for in RCW 35.80.030(1)(a);

(2) "Local governing body" shall mean the council, board, commission, or other legislative body charged with governing the municipality or county;

(3) "Municipality" shall mean any city, town or county in the state;

(4) "Public officer" shall mean any officer who is in charge of any department or branch of the government of the municipality or county relating to health, fire, building regulation, or other activities concerning dwellings, buildings, structures, or premises in the municipality or county. [1989 c 133 § 2; 1969 ex.s. c 127 § 2; 1967 c 111 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.80.020. Prior: 1959 c 82 § 2.]

**35.80.030 Permissible ordinances—Appeal.** (1) Whenever the local governing body of a municipality finds that one or more conditions of the character described in RCW 35.80.010 exist within its territorial limits, said governing body may adopt ordinances relating to such dwellings, buildings, structures, or premises. Such ordinances may provide for the following:

(a) That an "improvement board" or officer be designated or appointed to exercise the powers assigned to such board or officer by the ordinance as specified herein. Said board or officer may be an existing municipal board or officer in the municipality, or may be a separate board or officer appointed solely for the purpose of exercising the powers assigned by said ordinance.

If a board is created, the ordinance shall specify the terms, method of appointment, and type of membership of said board, which may be limited, if the local governing body chooses, to public officers as herein defined.

(b) If a board is created, a public officer, other than a member of the improvement board, may be designated to work with the board and carry out the duties and exercise the powers assigned to said public officer by the ordinance.

(c) That if, after a preliminary investigation of any dwelling, building, structure, or premises, the board or officer finds that it is unfit for human habitation or other use, he shall cause to be served either personally or by

certified mail, with return receipt requested, upon all persons having any interest therein, as shown upon the records of the auditor's office of the county in which such property is located, and shall post in a conspicuous place on such property, a complaint stating in what respects such dwelling, building, structure, or premises is unfit for human habitation or other use. If the whereabouts of any of such persons is unknown and the same cannot be ascertained by the board or officer in the exercise of reasonable diligence, and the board or officer makes an affidavit to that effect, then the serving of such complaint or order upon such persons may be made either by personal service or by mailing a copy of the complaint and order by certified mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, to each such person at the address of the building involved in the proceedings, and mailing a copy of the complaint and order by first class mail to any address of each such person in the records of the county assessor or the county auditor for the county where the property is located. Such complaint shall contain a notice that a hearing will be held before the board or officer, at a place therein fixed, not less than ten days nor more than thirty days after the serving of said complaint; and that all parties in interest shall be given the right to file an answer to the complaint, to appear in person, or otherwise, and to give testimony at the time and place in the complaint. The rules of evidence prevailing in courts of law or equity shall not be controlling in hearings before the board or officer. A copy of such complaint shall also be filed with the auditor of the county in which the dwelling, building, structure, or premise [premises] is located, and such filing of the complaint or order shall have the same force and effect as other lis pendens notices provided by law.

(d) That the board or officer may determine that a dwelling, building, structure, or premises is unfit for human habitation or other use if it finds that conditions exist in such dwelling, building, structure, or premises which are dangerous or injurious to the health or safety of the occupants of such dwelling, building, structure, or premises, the occupants of neighboring dwellings, or other residents of such municipality. Such conditions may include the following, without limitations: Defects therein increasing the hazards of fire or accident; inadequate ventilation, light, or sanitary facilities, dilapidation, disrepair, structural defects, uncleanliness, overcrowding, or inadequate drainage. The ordinance shall state reasonable and minimum standards covering such conditions, including those contained in ordinances adopted in accordance with subdivision (7)(a) herein, to guide the board or the public officer and the agents and employees of either, in determining the fitness of a dwelling for human habitation, or building, structure, or premises for other use.

(e) That the determination of whether a dwelling, building, structure, or premises should be repaired or demolished, shall be based on specific stated standards on (i) the degree of structural deterioration of the dwelling, building, structure, or premises, or (ii) the relationship that the estimated cost of repair bears to the value of the dwelling, building, structure, or premises, with the method of determining this value to be specified in the ordinance.

(f) That if, after the required hearing, the board or officer determines that the dwelling is unfit for human habitation, or building or structure or premises is unfit for other use, it shall state in writing its findings of fact in support of

such determination, and shall issue and cause to be served upon the owner or party in interest thereof, as is provided in subdivision (1)(c), and shall post in a conspicuous place on said property, an order which (i) requires the owner or party in interest, within the time specified in the order, to repair, alter, or improve such dwelling, building, structure, or premises to render it fit for human habitation, or for other use, or to vacate and close the dwelling, building, structure, or premises, if such course of action is deemed proper on the basis of the standards set forth as required in subdivision (1)(e); or (ii) requires the owner or party in interest, within the time specified in the order, to remove or demolish such dwelling, building, structure, or premises, if this course of action is deemed proper on the basis of said standards. If no appeal is filed, a copy of such order shall be filed with the auditor of the county in which the dwelling, building, structure, or premises is located.

(g) The owner or any party in interest, within thirty days from the date of service upon the owner and posting of an order issued by the board under the provisions of subdivision (c) of this subsection, may file an appeal with the appeals commission.

The local governing body of the municipality shall designate or establish a municipal agency to serve as the appeals commission. The local governing body shall also establish rules of procedure adequate to assure a prompt and thorough review of matters submitted to the appeals commission, and such rules of procedure shall include the following, without being limited thereto: (i) All matters submitted to the appeals commission must be resolved by the commission within sixty days from the date of filing therewith and (ii) a transcript of the findings of fact of the appeals commission shall be made available to the owner or other party in interest upon demand.

The findings and orders of the appeals commission shall be reported in the same manner and shall bear the same legal consequences as if issued by the board, and shall be subject to review only in the manner and to the extent provided in subdivision (2) of this section.

If the owner or party in interest, following exhaustion of his rights to appeal, fails to comply with the final order to repair, alter, improve, vacate, close, remove, or demolish the dwelling, building, structure, or premises, the board or officer may direct or cause such dwelling, building, structure, or premises to be repaired, altered, improved, vacated, and closed, removed, or demolished.

(h) That the amount of the cost of such repairs, alterations or improvements; or vacating and closing; or removal or demolition by the board or officer, shall be assessed against the real property upon which such cost was incurred unless such amount is previously paid. Upon certification to him by the treasurer of the municipality in cases arising out of the city or town or by the county improvement board or officer, in cases arising out of the county, of the assessment amount being due and owing, the county treasurer shall enter the amount of such assessment upon the tax rolls against the property for the current year and the same shall become a part of the general taxes for that year to be collected at the same time and with interest at such rates and in such manner as provided for in RCW 84.56.020, as now or hereafter amended, for delinquent taxes, and when collected to be deposited to the credit of the general fund of the municipali-

ty. If the dwelling, building, structure, or premises is removed or demolished by the board or officer, the board or officer shall, if possible, sell the materials of such dwelling, building, structure, [or] premises in accordance with procedures set forth in said ordinance, and shall credit the proceeds of such sale against the cost of the removal or demolition and if there be any balance remaining, it shall be paid to the parties entitled thereto, as determined by the board or officer, after deducting the costs incident thereto.

The assessment shall constitute a lien against the property which shall be of equal rank with state, county and municipal taxes.

(2) Any person affected by an order issued by the appeals commission pursuant to subdivision (1)(f) hereof may, within thirty days after the posting and service of the order, petition to the superior court for an injunction restraining the public officer or members of the board from carrying out the provisions of the order. In all such proceedings the court is authorized to affirm, reverse, or modify the order and such trial shall be heard de novo.

(3) An ordinance adopted by the local governing body of the municipality may authorize the board or officer to exercise such powers as may be necessary or convenient to carry out and effectuate the purposes and provisions of this section. These powers shall include the following in addition to others herein granted: (a)(i) To determine which dwellings within the municipality are unfit for human habitation; (ii) to determine which buildings, structures, or premises are unfit for other use; (b) to administer oaths and affirmations, examine witnesses and receive evidence; and (c) to investigate the dwelling and other property conditions in the municipality or county and to enter upon premises for the purpose of making examinations when the board or officer has reasonable ground for believing they are unfit for human habitation, or for other use: PROVIDED, That such entries shall be made in such manner as to cause the least possible inconvenience to the persons in possession, and to obtain an order for this purpose after submitting evidence in support of an application which is adequate to justify such an order from a court of competent jurisdiction in the event entry is denied or resisted.

(4) The local governing body of any municipality adopting an ordinance pursuant to this chapter may appropriate the necessary funds to administer such ordinance.

(5) Nothing in this section shall be construed to abrogate or impair the powers of the courts or of any department of any municipality to enforce any provisions of its charter or its ordinances or regulations, nor to prevent or punish violations thereof; and the powers conferred by this section shall be in addition and supplemental to the powers conferred by any other law.

(6) Nothing in this section shall be construed to impair or limit in any way the power of the municipality to define and declare nuisances and to cause their removal or abatement, by summary proceedings or otherwise.

(7) Any municipality may (by ordinance adopted by its governing body) (a) prescribe minimum standards for the use and occupancy of dwellings throughout the municipality, or county, (b) prescribe minimum standards for the use or occupancy of any building, structure, or premises used for any other purpose, (c) prevent the use or occupancy of any dwelling, building, structure, or premises, which is injurious

to the public health, safety, morals, or welfare, and (d) prescribe punishment for the violation of any provision of such ordinance. [1989 c 133 § 3; 1984 c 213 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 144 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 127 § 3; 1967 c 111 § 3; 1965 c 7 § 35.80.030. Prior: 1959 c 82 § 3.]

**35.80.040 Discrimination prohibited.** For all the purposes of this chapter and the ordinances adopted as provided herein, no person shall, because of race, creed, color, or national origin, be subjected to any discrimination. [1965 c 7 § 35.80.040. Prior: 1959 c 82 § 4.]

*Discrimination—Human rights commission: Chapter 49.60 RCW.*

## Chapter 35.80A

### CONDEMNATION OF BLIGHTED PROPERTY

#### Sections

- 35.80A.010 Condemnation of blighted property.
- 35.80A.020 Transfer of blighted property acquired by condemnation.
- 35.80A.030 Disposition of blighted property—Procedures.
- 35.80A.040 Authority to enter blighted buildings or property—Acceptance of financial assistance.
- 35.80A.900 Severability—1989 c 271.

**35.80A.010 Condemnation of blighted property.** Every county, city, and town may acquire by condemnation, in accordance with the notice requirements and other procedures for condemnation provided in Title 8 RCW, any property, dwelling, building, or structure which constitutes a blight on the surrounding neighborhood. A "blight on the surrounding neighborhood" is any property, dwelling, building, or structure that meets any two of the following factors: (1) If a dwelling, building, or structure exists on the property, the dwelling, building, or structure has not been lawfully occupied for a period of one year or more; (2) the property, dwelling, building, or structure constitutes a threat to the public health, safety, or welfare as determined by the executive authority of the county, city, or town, or the designee of the executive authority; or (3) the property, dwelling, building, or structure is or has been associated with illegal drug activity during the previous twelve months. Prior to such condemnation, the local governing body shall adopt a resolution declaring that the acquisition of the real property described therein is necessary to eliminate neighborhood blight. Condemnation of property, dwellings, buildings, and structures for the purposes described in this chapter is declared to be for a public use. [1994 c 175 § 1; 1989 c 271 § 239.]

**35.80A.020 Transfer of blighted property acquired by condemnation.** Counties, cities, and towns may sell, lease, or otherwise transfer real property acquired pursuant to this chapter for residential, recreational, commercial, industrial, or other uses or for public use, subject to such covenants, conditions, and restrictions, including covenants running with the land, as the county, city, or town deems to be necessary or desirable to rehabilitate and preserve the dwelling, building, or structure in a habitable condition. The purchasers or lessees and their successors and assigns shall be obligated to comply with such other requirements as the county, city, or town may determine to be in the public

interest, including the obligation to begin, within a reasonable time, any improvements on such property required to make the dwelling, building, or structure habitable. Such real property or interest shall be sold, leased, or otherwise transferred, at not less than its fair market value. In determining the fair market value of real property for uses in accordance with this section, a municipality shall take into account and give consideration to, the restrictions upon and the covenants, conditions, and obligations assumed by the purchaser or lessee. [1989 c 271 § 240.]

**35.80A.030 Disposition of blighted property—Procedures.** A county, city, or town may dispose of real property acquired pursuant to this section to private persons only under such reasonable, competitive procedures as it shall prescribe. The county, city, or town may accept such proposals as it deems to be in the public interest and in furtherance of the purposes of this chapter. Thereafter, the county, city, or town may execute and deliver contracts, deeds, leases, and other instruments of transfer. [1989 c 271 § 241.]

**35.80A.040 Authority to enter blighted buildings or property—Acceptance of financial assistance.** Every county, city, or town may, in addition to any other authority granted by this chapter: (1) Enter upon any building or property found to constitute a blight on the surrounding neighborhood in order to make surveys and appraisals, and to obtain an order for this purpose from a court of competent jurisdiction in the event entry is denied or resisted; and (2) borrow money, apply for, and accept, advances, loans, grants, contributions, and any other form of financial assistance from the federal government, the state, a county, or other public body, or from any sources, public or private, for the purposes of this chapter, and enter into and carry out contracts in connection herewith. [1989 c 271 § 242.]

**35.80A.900 Severability—1989 c 271.** See note following RCW 9.94A.310.

## Chapter 35.81

### URBAN RENEWAL LAW

#### Sections

- 35.81.010 Definitions.
- 35.81.020 Declaration of purpose and necessity.
- 35.81.030 Encouragement of private enterprise.
- 35.81.040 Formulation of workable program.
- 35.81.050 Findings by local governing body required.
- 35.81.060 Comprehensive plan—Preparation—Hearing—Approval—Modification—Effect.
- 35.81.070 Powers of municipality.
- 35.81.080 Eminent domain.
- 35.81.090 Disposal of real property in urban renewal area.
- 35.81.100 Bonds—Issuance—Form, terms, payment, etc.
- 35.81.110 Bonds as legal investment, security.
- 35.81.115 General obligation bonds authorized.
- 35.81.120 Property of municipality exempt from process and taxes.
- 35.81.130 Aid to public bodies.
- 35.81.140 Conveyance to purchaser, etc., presumed to be in compliance with chapter.
- 35.81.150 Exercise of urban renewal project powers.
- 35.81.160 Exercise of urban renewal project powers—Assignment of powers—Urban renewal agency.



- 35.81.170 Discrimination prohibited.  
 35.81.180 Restrictions against public officials or employees acquiring or owning an interest in project, contract, etc.  
 35.81.910 Short title.

**35.81.010 Definitions.** The following terms wherever used or referred to in this chapter, shall have the following meanings, unless a different meaning is clearly indicated by the context:

(1) "Agency" or "urban renewal agency" shall mean a public agency created by RCW 35.81.160.

(2) "Blighted area" shall mean an area which, by reason of the substantial physical dilapidation, deterioration, defective construction, material, and arrangement and/or age or obsolescence of buildings or improvements, whether residential or nonresidential, inadequate provision for ventilation, light, proper sanitary facilities, or open spaces as determined by competent appraisers on the basis of an examination of the building standards of the municipality; inappropriate or mixed uses of land or buildings; high density of population and overcrowding; defective or inadequate street layout; faulty lot layout in relation to size, adequacy, accessibility or usefulness; excessive land coverage; insanitary or unsafe conditions; deterioration of site; diversity of ownership; tax or special assessment delinquency exceeding the fair value of the land; defective or unusual conditions of title; improper subdivision or obsolete platting; or the existence of conditions which endanger life or property by fire or other causes, or any combination of such factors, is conducive to ill health, transmission of disease, infant mortality, juvenile delinquency and crime; substantially impairs or arrests the sound growth of the city or its environs, retards the provision of housing accommodations or constitutes an economic or social liability, and/or is detrimental, or constitutes a menace, to the public health, safety, welfare, and morals in its present condition and use.

(3) "Bonds" shall mean any bonds, notes, or debentures (including refunding obligations) herein authorized to be issued.

(4) "Clerk" shall mean the clerk or other official of the municipality who is the custodian of the official records of such municipality.

(5) "Federal government" shall include the United States of America or any agency or instrumentality, corporate or otherwise, of the United States of America.

(6) "Local governing body" shall mean the council or other legislative body charged with governing the municipality.

(7) "Mayor" shall mean the chief executive of a city or town, or the elected executive, if any, of any county operating under a charter, or the county legislative authority of any other county.

(8) "Municipality" shall mean any incorporated city or town, or any county, in the state.

(9) "Obligee" shall include any bondholder, agent or trustees for any bondholders, or lessor demising to the municipality property used in connection with an urban renewal project, or any assignee or assignees of such lessor's interest or any part thereof, and the federal government when it is a party to any contract with the municipality.

(10) "Person" shall mean any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, company, association, joint stock associa-

tion, or school district; and shall include any trustee, receiver, assignee, or other person acting in a similar representative capacity.

(11) "Public body" shall mean the state or any municipality, township, board, commission, district, or any other subdivision or public body of the state.

(12) "Public officer" shall mean any officer who is in charge of any department or branch of the government of the municipality relating to health, fire, building regulations, or to other activities concerning dwellings in the municipality.

(13) "Real property" shall include all lands, including improvements and fixtures thereon, and property of any nature appurtenant thereto, or used in connection therewith, and every estate, interest, right and use, legal or equitable, therein, including terms for years and liens by way of judgment, mortgage or otherwise.

(14) "Redevelopment" may include (a) acquisition of a blighted area or portion thereof; (b) demolition and removal of buildings and improvements; (c) installation, construction or reconstruction of streets, utilities, parks, playgrounds, and other improvements necessary for carrying out in the area the urban renewal provisions of this chapter in accordance with the urban renewal plan, and (d) making the land available for development or redevelopment by private enterprise or public agencies (including sale, initial leasing, or retention by the municipality itself) at its fair value for uses in accordance with the urban renewal plan.

(15) "Rehabilitation" may include the restoration and renewal of a blighted area or portion thereof, in accordance with an urban renewal plan, by (a) carrying out plans for a program of voluntary or compulsory repair and rehabilitation of buildings or other improvements; (b) acquisition of real property and demolition or removal of buildings and improvements thereon where necessary to eliminate unhealthful, insanitary or unsafe conditions, lessen density, reduce traffic hazards, eliminate obsolete or other uses detrimental to the public welfare, or otherwise to remove or prevent the spread of blight or deterioration, or to provide land for needed public facilities; (c) installation, construction or reconstruction of streets, utilities, parks, playgrounds, and other improvements necessary for carrying out in the area the urban renewal provisions of this chapter; and (d) the disposition of any property acquired in such urban renewal area (including sale, initial leasing, or retention by the municipality itself) at its fair value for uses in accordance with such urban renewal plan.

(16) "Urban renewal area" means a blighted area which the local governing body designates as appropriate for an urban renewal project or projects.

(17) "Urban renewal plan" means a plan, as it exists from time to time, for an urban renewal project, which plan (a) shall conform to the comprehensive plan or parts thereof for the municipality as a whole; and (b) shall be sufficiently complete to indicate such land acquisition, demolition, and removal of structures, redevelopment, improvements, and rehabilitation as may be proposed to be carried out in the urban renewal area, zoning and planning changes, if any, land uses, maximum densities, building requirements, and the plan's relationship to definite local objectives respecting appropriate land uses, improved traffic, public transportation, public utilities, recreational and community facilities, and other public improvements.

(18) "Urban renewal project" may include undertakings or activities of a municipality in an urban renewal area for the elimination and for the prevention of the development or spread of blight, and may involve redevelopment in an urban renewal area, or rehabilitation in an urban renewal area, or any combination or part thereof in accordance with an urban renewal plan. [1991 c 363 § 41; 1975 c 3 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 177 § 6; 1965 c 7 § 35.81.010. Prior: 1957 c 42 § 1.]

~~Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363: See notes following RCW 2.32.180.~~

**35.81.020 Declaration of purpose and necessity.** It is hereby found and declared that blighted areas which constitute a serious and growing menace, injurious to the public health, safety, morals and welfare of the residents of the state exist in municipalities of the state; that the existence of such areas contributes substantially and increasingly to the spread of disease and crime and depreciation of property values, constitutes an economic and social liability, substantially impairs or arrests the sound growth of municipalities, retards the provision of housing accommodations, aggravates traffic problems and substantially impairs or arrests the elimination of traffic hazards and the improvement of traffic facilities; and that the prevention and elimination of such areas is a matter of state policy and state concern in order that the state and its municipalities shall not continue to be endangered by areas which are focal centers of disease, promote juvenile delinquency, are conducive to fires, are difficult to police and to provide police protection for, and, while contributing little to the tax income of the state and its municipalities, consume an excessive proportion of its revenues because of the extra services required for police, fire, accident, hospitalization and other forms of public protection, services, and facilities.

It is further found and declared that certain of such areas, or portions thereof, may require acquisition, clearance, and disposition subject to use restrictions, as provided in this chapter, since the prevailing condition of decay may make impracticable the reclamation of the area by rehabilitation; that other areas or portions thereof may, through the means provided in this chapter, be susceptible of rehabilitation in such a manner that the conditions and evils hereinbefore enumerated may be eliminated, remedied or prevented; and that to the extent feasible salvable blighted areas should be rehabilitated through voluntary action and the regulatory process.

It is further found and declared that the powers conferred by this chapter are for public uses and purposes for which public money may be expended and the power of eminent domain exercised; and that the necessity in the public interest for the provisions herein enacted is hereby declared as a matter of legislative determination. [1965 c 7 § 35.81.020. Prior: 1957 c 42 § 2.]

**35.81.030 Encouragement of private enterprise.** A municipality, to the greatest extent it determines to be feasible in carrying out the provisions of this chapter, shall afford maximum opportunity, consistent with the sound needs of the municipality as a whole, to the rehabilitation or redevelopment of the urban renewal area by private enterprise. A municipality shall give consideration to this objec-

tive in exercising its powers under this chapter, including the formulation of a workable program, the approval of urban renewal plans (consistent with the comprehensive plan or parts thereof for the municipality), the exercise of its zoning powers, the enforcement of other laws, codes and regulations relating to the use of land and the use and occupancy of buildings and improvements, the disposition of any property acquired, and the provision of necessary public improvements. [1965 c 7 § 35.81.030. Prior: 1957 c 42 § 3.]

**35.81.040 Formulation of workable program.** A municipality for the purposes of this chapter may formulate a workable program for utilizing appropriate private and public resources to eliminate, and prevent the development or spread of, blighted areas, to encourage needed urban rehabilitation, to provide for the redevelopment of such areas, or to undertake such of the aforesaid activities, or other feasible municipal activities as may be suitably employed to achieve the objectives of such workable program. Such workable program may include, without limitation, provision for: The prevention of the spread of blight into areas of the municipality which are free from blight through diligent enforcement of housing, zoning, and occupancy controls and standards; the rehabilitation of blighted areas or portions thereof by replanning, removing congestion, providing parks, playgrounds and other public improvements, by encouraging voluntary rehabilitation and by compelling the repair and rehabilitation of deteriorated or deteriorating structures; and the clearance and redevelopment of blighted areas or portions thereof. [1965 c 7 § 35.81.040. Prior: 1957 c 42 § 4.]

**35.81.050 Findings by local governing body required.** No municipality shall exercise any of the powers hereafter conferred upon municipalities by this chapter until after its local governing body shall have adopted a resolution finding that: (1) One or more blighted areas exist in such municipality; and (2) the rehabilitation, redevelopment, or a combination thereof, of such area or areas is necessary in the interest of the public health, safety, morals, or welfare of the residents of such municipality. [1965 c 7 § 35.81.050. Prior: 1957 c 42 § 5.]

**35.81.060 Comprehensive plan—Preparation—Hearing—Approval—Modification—Effect.** (1) A municipality shall not approve an urban renewal project for an urban renewal area unless the local governing body has, by resolution, determined such area to be a blighted area and designated such area as appropriate for an urban renewal project. The local governing body shall not approve an urban renewal plan until a comprehensive plan or parts of such plan for an area which would include an urban renewal area for the municipality have been prepared as provided in chapter 35.63 RCW. For this purpose and other municipal purposes, authority is hereby vested in every municipality to prepare, to adopt, and to revise from time to time, a comprehensive plan or parts thereof for the physical development of the municipality as a whole (giving due regard to the environs and metropolitan surroundings), to establish and maintain a planning commission for such purpose and related municipal planning activities, and to make available and to

appropriate necessary funds therefor. A municipality shall not acquire real property for an urban renewal project unless the local governing body has approved the urban renewal project plan in accordance with subsection (4) hereof.

(2) The municipality may itself prepare or cause to be prepared an urban renewal plan, or any person or agency, public or private, may submit such a plan to the municipality. Prior to its approval of an urban renewal project, the local governing body shall submit such plan to the planning commission of the municipality for review and recommendations as to its conformity with the comprehensive plan or parts thereof for the development of the municipality as a whole. The planning commission shall submit its written recommendations with respect to the proposed urban renewal plan to the local governing body within sixty days after receipt of it. Upon receipt of the recommendations of the planning commission, or if no recommendations are received within sixty days, then without such recommendations, the local governing body may proceed with the hearing on the proposed urban renewal project plan prescribed by subsection (3) hereof.

(3) The local governing body shall hold a public hearing on an urban renewal plan after public notice thereof. Such notice shall be given by publication once each week for two consecutive weeks not less than ten nor more than thirty days prior to the date of the hearing in a newspaper having a general circulation in the urban renewal area of the municipality and by mailing a notice of such hearing not less than ten days prior to the date of the hearing to the persons whose names appear on the county treasurer's tax roll as the owner or reputed owner of the property, at the address shown on the tax roll. The notice shall describe the time, date, place, and purpose of the hearing, shall generally identify the urban renewal area affected, and shall outline the general scope of the urban renewal plan under consideration.

(4) Following such hearing, the local governing body may approve an urban renewal project if it finds that (a) a workable and feasible plan exists for making available adequate housing for the persons who may be displaced by the project; (b) the urban renewal plan conforms to the comprehensive plan or parts thereof for the municipality as a whole; (c) the urban renewal plan will afford maximum opportunity, consistent with the sound needs of the municipality as a whole, for the rehabilitation or redevelopment of the urban renewal area by private enterprise; and (d) a sound and adequate financial program exists for the financing of said project; (e) the urban renewal project area is a blighted area as defined in RCW 35.81.010(2).

(5) An urban renewal project plan may be modified at any time by the local governing body: PROVIDED, That if modified after the lease or sale by the municipality of real property in the urban renewal project area, such modification shall be subject to such rights at law or in equity as a lessee or purchaser, or his successor or successors in interest may be entitled to assert.

(6) Upon the approval of an urban renewal project by a municipality, the provisions of the urban renewal plan with respect to the future use and building requirements applicable to the property covered by said plan shall be controlling with respect thereto. [1965 c 7 § 35.81.060. Prior: 1957 c 42 § 6.]

**35.81.070 Powers of municipality.** Every municipality shall have all the powers necessary or convenient to carry out and effectuate the purposes and provisions of this chapter, including the following powers in addition to others herein granted:

(1) To undertake and carry out urban renewal projects within the municipality, to make and execute contracts and other instruments necessary or convenient to the exercise of its powers under this chapter, and to disseminate blight clearance and urban renewal information.

(2) To provide or to arrange or contract for the furnishing or repair by any person or agency, public or private, of services, privileges, works, streets, roads, public utilities or other facilities for, or in connection with, an urban renewal project; to install, construct, and reconstruct streets, utilities, parks, playgrounds, and other public improvements; and to agree to any conditions that it may deem reasonable and appropriate attached to federal financial assistance and imposed pursuant to federal law relating to the determination of prevailing salaries or wages or compliance with labor standards, in the undertaking or carrying out of an urban renewal project, and to include in any contract let in connection with such a project, provisions to fulfill such of said conditions as it may deem reasonable and appropriate.

(3) Within the municipality, to enter upon any building or property in any urban renewal area, in order to make surveys and appraisals, provided that such entries shall be made in such a manner as to cause the least possible inconvenience to the persons in possession, and to obtain an order for this purpose from a court of competent jurisdiction in the event entry is denied or resisted; to acquire by purchase, lease, option, gift, grant, bequest, devise, eminent domain, or otherwise, any real property and such personal property as may be necessary for the administration of the provisions herein contained, together with any improvements thereon; to hold, improve, clear, or prepare for redevelopment any such property; to dispose of any real property; to insure or provide for the insurance of any real or personal property or operations of the municipality against any risks or hazards, including the power to pay premiums on any such insurance: PROVIDED, That no statutory provision with respect to the acquisition, clearance, or disposition of property by public bodies shall restrict a municipality in the exercise of such functions with respect to an urban renewal project.

(4) To invest any urban renewal project funds held in reserves or sinking funds or any such funds which are not required for immediate disbursement, in property or securities in which mutual savings banks may legally invest funds subject to their control; to redeem such bonds as have been issued pursuant to RCW 35.81.100 at the redemption price established therein or to purchase such bonds at less than redemption price, all such bonds so redeemed or purchased to be canceled.

(5) To borrow money and to apply for, and accept, advances, loans, grants, contributions and any other form of financial assistance from the federal government, the state, county, or other public body, or from any sources, public or private, for the purposes of this chapter, and to enter into and carry out contracts in connection therewith. A municipality may include in any application or contract for finan-

cial assistance with the federal government for an urban renewal project such conditions imposed pursuant to federal laws as the municipality may deem reasonable and appropriate and which are not inconsistent with the purposes of this chapter.

(6) Within the municipality, to make or have made all plans necessary to the carrying out of the purposes of this chapter and to contract with any person, public or private, in making and carrying out such plans and to adopt or approve, modify, and amend such plans. Such plans may include, without limitation: (a) A comprehensive plan or parts thereof for the locality as a whole, (b) urban renewal plans, (c) plans for carrying out a program of voluntary or compulsory repair and rehabilitation of buildings and improvements, (d) plans for the enforcement of state and local laws, codes, and regulations relating to the use of land and the use and occupancy of buildings and improvements and to the compulsory repair, rehabilitation, demolition, or removal of buildings and improvements, and (e) appraisals, title searches, surveys, studies, and other preliminary plans and work necessary to prepare for the undertaking of urban renewal projects. The municipality is authorized to develop, test, and report methods and techniques, and carry out demonstrations and other activities, for the prevention and the elimination of urban blight and to apply for, accept, and utilize grants of, funds from the federal government for such purposes.

(7) To prepare plans for the relocation of families displaced from an urban renewal area, and to coordinate public and private agencies in such relocation, including requesting such assistance for this purpose as is available from other private and governmental agencies, both for the municipality and other parties.

(8) To appropriate such funds and make such expenditures as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter, and in accordance with state law: (a) Levy taxes and assessments for such purposes; (b) acquire land by negotiation and/or eminent domain; (c) close, vacate, plan, or replan streets, roads, sidewalks, ways, or other places; (d) plan or replan, zone or rezone any part of the municipality; (e) adopt annual budgets for the operation of an urban renewal agency, department, or offices vested with urban renewal project powers under RCW 35.81.150; (f) enter into agreements with such agencies or departments (which agreements may extend over any period) respecting action to be taken by such municipality pursuant to any of the powers granted by this chapter.

(9) Within the municipality, to organize, coordinate, and direct the administration of the provisions of this chapter as they apply to such municipality in order that the objective of remedying blighted areas and preventing the causes thereof within such municipality may be most effectively promoted and achieved, and to establish such new office or offices of the municipality or to reorganize existing offices in order to carry out such purpose most effectively.

(10) To exercise all or any part or combination of powers herein granted. [1965 c 7 § 35.81.070. Prior: 1957 c 42 § 7.]

**35.81.080 Eminent domain.** A municipality shall have the right to acquire by condemnation, in accordance with the procedure provided for condemnation by such

municipality for other purposes, any interest in real property, which it may deem necessary for an urban renewal project under this chapter after the adoption by the local governing body of a resolution declaring that the acquisition of the real property described therein is necessary for such purpose. Condemnation for urban renewal of blighted areas is declared to be a public use, and property already devoted to any other public use or acquired by the owner or his predecessor in interest by eminent domain may be condemned for the purposes of this chapter.

The award of compensation for real property taken for such a project shall not be increased by reason of any increase in the value of the real property caused by the assembly, clearance, or reconstruction, or proposed assembly, clearance, or reconstruction in the project area. No allowance shall be made for the improvements begun on real property after notice to the owner of such property of the institution of proceedings to condemn such property. Evidence shall be admissible bearing upon the insanitary, unsafe, or substandard condition of the premises, or the unlawful use thereof. [1965 c 7 § 35.81.080. Prior: 1957 c 42 § 8.]

*Eminent domain by cities: Chapter 8.12 RCW.*

**35.81.090 Disposal of real property in urban renewal area.** (1) A municipality may sell, lease, or otherwise transfer real property or any interest therein acquired by it for an urban renewal project, in an urban renewal area for residential, recreational, commercial, industrial, or other uses or for public use, and may enter into contracts with respect thereto, or may retain such property or interest only for parks and recreation, education, public utilities, public transportation, public safety, health, highways, streets, and alleys, administrative buildings, or civic centers, in accordance with the urban renewal project plan, subject to such covenants, conditions, and restrictions, including covenants running with the land, as it may deem to be necessary or desirable to assist in preventing the development or spread of blighted areas or otherwise to carry out the purposes of this chapter: PROVIDED, That such sale, lease, other transfer, or retention, and any agreement relating thereto, may be made only after the approval of the urban renewal plan by the local governing body. The purchasers or lessees and their successors and assigns shall be obligated to devote such real property only to the uses specified in the urban renewal plan, and may be obligated to comply with such other requirements as the municipality may determine to be in the public interest, including the obligation to begin, within a reasonable time, any improvements on such real property required by the urban renewal plan. Such real property or interest shall be sold, leased, otherwise transferred, or retained at not less than its fair value for uses in accordance with the urban renewal plan. In determining the fair value of real property for uses in accordance with the urban renewal plan, a municipality shall take into account, and give consideration to, the uses provided in such plan; the restrictions upon, and the covenants, conditions, and obligations assumed by, the purchaser or lessee or by the municipality retaining the property; and the objectives of such plan for the prevention of the recurrence of blighted areas. The municipality in any instrument of conveyance to a private

purchaser or lessee may provide that such purchaser or lessee shall be without power to sell, lease, or otherwise transfer the real property without the prior written consent of the municipality until he has completed the construction of any and all improvements which he has obligated himself to construct thereon. Real property acquired by a municipality which, in accordance with the provisions of the urban renewal plan, is to be transferred, shall be transferred as rapidly as feasible, in the public interest, consistent with the carrying out of the provisions of the urban renewal plan. The inclusion in any such contract or conveyance to a purchaser or lessee of any such covenants, restrictions, or conditions (including the incorporation by reference therein of the provisions of an urban renewal plan or any part thereof) shall not prevent the recording of such contract or conveyance in the land records of the auditor or the county in which such city or town is located, in such manner as to afford actual or constructive notice thereof.

(2) A municipality may dispose of real property in an urban renewal area to private persons only under such reasonable competitive bidding procedures as it shall prescribe or as hereinafter provided in this subsection. A municipality may, by public notice by publication once each week for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper having a general circulation in the community, prior to the execution of any contract or deed to sell, lease, or otherwise transfer real property and prior to the delivery of any instrument of conveyance with respect thereto under the provisions of this section, invite bids from, and make available all pertinent information to, private redevelopers or any persons interested in undertaking to redevelop or rehabilitate an urban renewal area, or any part thereof. Such notice shall identify the area, or portion thereof, and shall state that such further information as is available may be obtained at such office as shall be designated in said notice. The municipality shall consider all redevelopment or rehabilitation bids and the financial and legal ability of the persons making such bids to carry them out. The municipality may accept such bids as it deems to be in the public interest and in furtherance of the purposes of this chapter. Thereafter, the municipality may execute, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (1), and deliver contracts, deeds, leases, and other instruments of transfer.

(3) A municipality may operate and maintain real property acquired in an urban renewal area for a period of three years pending the disposition of the property for redevelopment, without regard to the provisions of subsection (1) above, for such uses and purposes as may be deemed desirable even though not in conformity with the urban renewal plan: PROVIDED, That the municipality may, after a public hearing, extend the time for a period not to exceed three years. [1965 c 7 § 35.81.090. Prior: 1957 c 42 § 9.]

**35.81.100 Bonds—Issuance—Form, terms, payment, etc.** (1) A municipality shall have the power to issue bonds from time to time in its discretion to finance the undertaking of any urban renewal project under this chapter, including, without limiting the generality thereof, the payment of principal and interest upon any advances for surveys and plans for urban renewal projects, and shall also have power to issue refunding bonds for the payment or retirement of

such bonds previously issued by it. Such bonds shall not pledge the general credit of the municipality and shall be made payable, as to both principal and interest, solely from the income, proceeds, revenues, and funds of the municipality derived from, or held in connection with, its undertaking and carrying out of urban renewal projects under this chapter: PROVIDED, That payment of such bonds, both as to principal and interest, may be further secured by a pledge of any loan, grant, or contribution from the federal government or other source, in aid of any urban renewal projects of the municipality under this chapter.

(2) Bonds issued under this section shall not constitute an indebtedness within the meaning of any constitutional or statutory debt limitation or restriction, and shall not be subject to the provisions of any other law or charter relating to the authorization, issuance, or sale of bonds. Bonds issued under the provisions of this chapter are declared to be issued for an essential public and governmental purpose, and together with interest thereon and income therefrom, shall be exempted from all taxes.

(3) Bonds issued under this section shall be authorized by resolution or ordinance of the local governing body and may be issued in one or more series and shall bear such date or dates, be payable upon demand or mature at such time or times, bear interest at such rate or rates, be in such denomination or denominations, be in such form either coupon or registered as provided in RCW 39.46.030, carry such conversion or registration privileges, have such rank or priority, be executed in such manner, be payable in such medium of payment, at such place or places, and be subject to such terms of redemption (with or without premium), be secured in such manner, and have such other characteristics, as may be provided by such resolution or trust indenture or mortgage issued pursuant thereto.

(4) Such bonds may be sold at not less than ninety-eight percent of par at public or private sale, or may be exchanged for other bonds on the basis of par: PROVIDED, That such bonds may be sold to the federal government at private sale at not less than par and, in the event less than all of the authorized principal amount of such bonds is sold to the federal government, the balance may be sold at public or private sale at not less than ninety-eight percent of par at an interest cost to the municipality of not to exceed the interest cost to the municipality of the portion of the bonds sold to the federal government.

(5) The municipality may annually pay into a fund to be established for the benefit of such bonds any and all excess of the taxes received by it from the same property over and above the average of the annual taxes authorized without vote for a five-year period immediately preceding the acquisition of the property by the municipality for renewal purposes, such payment to continue until such time as all bonds payable from the fund are paid in full. Any other taxing unit in a municipality is authorized to allocate a like amount of such excess taxes to the municipality or municipalities in which it is situated.

(6) In case any of the public officials of the municipality whose signatures appear on any bonds or any coupons issued under this chapter shall cease to be such officials before the delivery of such bonds, such signatures shall, nevertheless, be valid and sufficient for all purposes, the same as if such officials had remained in office until such deliv-

ery. Any provision of any law to the contrary notwithstanding, any bonds, issued pursuant to this chapter shall be fully negotiable.

(7) In any suit, action, or proceeding involving the validity or enforceability of any bond issued under this chapter or the security therefor, any such bond reciting in substance that it has been issued by the municipality in connection with an urban renewal project, as herein defined, shall be conclusively deemed to have been issued for such purpose and such project shall be conclusively deemed to have been planned, located, and carried out in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

(8) Notwithstanding subsections (1) through (7) of this section, such bonds may be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1983 c 167 § 64; 1970 ex.s. c 56 § 44; 1969 ex.s. c 232 § 21; 1965 c 7 § 35.81.100. Prior: 1957 c 42 § 10.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**Purpose—1970 ex.s. c 56:** See note following RCW 39.52.020.

**Validation—Saving—Severability—1969 ex.s. c 232:** See notes following RCW 39.52.020.

**35.81.110 Bonds as legal investment, security.** All banks, trust companies, bankers, savings banks and institutions, building and loan associations, savings and loan associations, investment companies, and other persons carrying on a banking or investment business, all insurance companies, insurance associations, and other persons carrying on an insurance business and all executors, administrators, curators, trustees, and other fiduciaries, may legally invest any sinking funds, moneys, or other funds belonging to them or within their control in any bonds or other obligations issued by a municipality pursuant to this chapter: PROVIDED, That such bonds and other obligations shall be secured by an agreement between the issuer and the federal government in which the issuer agrees to borrow from the federal government and the federal government agrees to lend to the issuer, prior to the maturity of such bonds or other obligations, moneys in an amount which (together with any other moneys irrevocably committed to the payment of interest on such bonds or other obligations) will suffice to pay the principal of such bonds or other obligations with interest to maturity thereon, which moneys under the terms of said agreement are required to be used for the purpose of paying the principal of, and the interest on, such bonds or other obligations at their maturity. Such bonds and other obligations shall be authorized security for all public deposits. It is the purpose of this section to authorize any persons, political subdivisions, and officers, public or private, to use any funds owned or controlled by them for the purchase of any such bonds or other obligations. Nothing contained in this section with regard to legal investments shall be construed as relieving any person of any duty of exercising reasonable care in selecting securities. [1965 c 7 § 35.81.110. Prior: 1957 c 42 § 11.]

**35.81.115 General obligation bonds authorized.** For the purposes of this chapter a municipality may (in addition to any authority to issue bonds pursuant to RCW 35.81.100) issue and sell its general obligation bonds. Any bonds

issued by a municipality pursuant to this section shall be issued in the manner and within the limitations prescribed by the laws of this state for the issuance and authorization of bonds by such municipality for public purposes generally. [1965 c 7 § 35.81.115. Prior: 1959 c 79 § 1.]

**35.81.120 Property of municipality exempt from process and taxes.** (1) All property of a municipality, including funds, owned or held by it for the purposes of this chapter, shall be exempt from levy and sale by virtue of an execution, and no execution or other judicial process shall issue against the same nor shall judgment against a municipality be a charge or lien upon such property: PROVIDED, That the provisions of this section shall not apply to, or limit the right of, obligees to pursue any remedies for the enforcement of any pledge or lien given pursuant to this chapter by a municipality on its rents, fees, grants, or revenues from urban renewal projects.

(2) The property of a municipality, acquired or held for the purposes of this chapter, is declared to be public property used for essential public and governmental purposes and such property shall be exempt from all taxes of the municipality, the county, the state, or any political subdivision thereof: PROVIDED, That such tax exemption shall terminate when the municipality sells, leases, or otherwise disposes of such property in an urban renewal area to a purchaser or lessee which is not a public body or other organization normally entitled to tax exemption with respect to such property. [1965 c 7 § 35.81.120. Prior: 1957 c 42 § 12.]

**35.81.130 Aid to public bodies.** (1) For the purpose of aiding in the planning, undertaking, or carrying out of an urban renewal project located within the area in which it is authorized to act, any public body authorized by law or by this chapter, may, upon such terms, with or without consideration, as it may determine: (a) Dedicate, sell, convey, or lease any of its interest in any property, or grant easements, licenses, or other rights or privileges therein to a municipality; (b) incur the entire expense of any public improvements made by such public body, in exercising the powers granted in this section; (c) do any and all things necessary to aid or cooperate in the planning or carrying out of an urban renewal plan; (d) lend, grant, or contribute funds to a municipality; (e) enter into agreements (which may extend over any period, notwithstanding any provision or rule of law to the contrary) with a municipality or other public body respecting action to be taken pursuant to any of the powers granted by this chapter, including the furnishing of funds or other assistance in connection with an urban renewal project, and (f) cause public building and public facilities, including parks, playgrounds, recreational, community, educational, water, sewer, or drainage facilities, or any other works which it is otherwise empowered to undertake to be furnished; furnish, dedicate, close, vacate, pave, install, grade, regrade, plan, or replan streets, roads, sidewalks, ways, or other places; plan or replan, zone or rezone any part of the urban renewal area; and provide such administrative and other services as may be deemed requisite to the efficient exercise of the powers herein granted.

(2) Any sale, conveyance, lease, or agreement provided for in this section shall be made by a public body with appraisal, public notice, advertisement, or public bidding in accordance with the provisions of RCW 35.81.090(2). [1965 c 7 § 35.81.130. Prior: 1957 c 42 § 13.]

*Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act—Authority to contract with federal government: RCW 35.21.660.*

**35.81.140 Conveyance to purchaser, etc., presumed to be in compliance with chapter.** Any instrument executed by a municipality and purporting to convey any right, title, or interest in any property under this chapter shall be conclusively presumed to have been executed in compliance with the provisions of this chapter insofar as title or other interest of any bona fide purchasers, lessees, or transferees of such property is concerned. [1965 c 7 § 35.81.140. Prior: 1957 c 42 § 14.]

**35.81.150 Exercise of urban renewal project powers.** (1) A municipality may itself exercise its urban renewal project powers (as herein defined) or may, if the local governing body by resolution determines such action to be in the public interest, elect to have such powers exercised by the urban renewal agency (created by RCW 35.81.160) or a department or other officers of the municipality or by any existing public body corporate, as they are authorized to exercise under this chapter.

(2) In the event the local governing body makes such determination, such body may authorize the urban renewal agency or department or other officers of the municipality to exercise any of the following urban renewal project powers:

(a) To formulate and coordinate a workable program as specified in RCW 35.81.040.

(b) To prepare urban renewal plans.

(c) To prepare recommended modifications to an urban renewal project plan.

(d) To undertake and carry out urban renewal projects as required by the local governing body.

(e) To make and execute contracts as specified in RCW 35.81.070, with the exception of contracts for the purchase or sale of real or personal property.

(f) To disseminate blight clearance and urban renewal information.

(g) To exercise the powers prescribed by RCW 35.81.070(2), except the power to agree to conditions for federal financial assistance and imposed pursuant to federal law relating to salaries and wages, shall be reserved to the local governing body.

(h) To enter any building or property, in any urban renewal area, in order to make surveys and appraisals in the manner specified in RCW 35.81.070(3).

(i) To improve, clear, or prepare for redevelopment any real or personal property in an urban renewal area.

(j) To insure real or personal property as provided in RCW 35.81.070(3).

(k) To effectuate the plans provided for in RCW 35.81.070(6).

(l) To prepare plans for the relocation of families displaced from an urban renewal area and to coordinate public and private agencies in such relocation.

(m) To prepare plans for carrying out a program of voluntary or compulsory repair and rehabilitation of buildings and improvements.

(n) To conduct appraisals, title searches, surveys, studies, and other preliminary plans and work necessary to prepare for the undertaking of urban renewal projects.

(o) To negotiate for the acquisition of land.

(p) To study the closing, vacating, planning, or replanning of streets, roads, sidewalks, ways, or other places and to make recommendations with respect thereto.

(q) To organize, coordinate, and direct the administration of the provisions of this chapter.

(r) To perform such duties as the local governing body may direct so as to make the necessary arrangements for the exercise of the powers and the performance of the duties and responsibilities entrusted to the local governing body.

Any powers granted in this chapter that are not included in RCW 35.81.150(2) as powers of the urban renewal agency or a department or other officers of a municipality in lieu thereof, may only be exercised by the local governing body or other officers, boards, and commissions as provided under existing law. [1965 c 7 § 35.81.150. Prior: 1957 c 42 § 15.]

**35.81.160 Exercise of urban renewal project powers—Assignment of powers—Urban renewal agency.**

(1) When a municipality has made the finding prescribed in RCW 35.81.050 and has elected to have the urban renewal project powers, as specified in RCW 35.81.150, exercised, such urban renewal project powers may be assigned to a department or other officers of the municipality or to any existing public body corporate, or the legislative body of a city may create an urban renewal agency in such municipality to be known as a public body corporate to which such powers may be assigned.

(2) If the urban renewal agency is authorized to transact business and exercise powers hereunder, the mayor, by and with the advice and consent of the local governing body, shall appoint a board of commissioners of the urban renewal agency which shall consist of five commissioners. The initial membership shall consist of one commissioner appointed for one year, one for two years, one for three years, and two for four years; and each appointment thereafter shall be for four years.

(3) A commissioner shall receive no compensation for his services but shall be entitled to the necessary expenses, including traveling expenses, incurred in the discharge of his duties. Each commissioner shall hold office until his successor has been appointed and has qualified. A certificate of the appointment or reappointment of any commissioner shall be filed with the clerk of the municipality and such certificate shall be conclusive evidence of the due and proper appointment of such commissioner.

The powers and responsibilities of an urban renewal agency shall be exercised by the commissioners thereof. A majority of the commissioners shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting business and exercising the powers and responsibilities of the agency and for all other purposes. Action may be taken by the agency upon a vote of a majority of the commissioners present, unless in any case the bylaws shall require a larger number. Any persons



may be appointed as commissioners if they reside within the municipality.

The urban renewal agency or department or officers exercising urban renewal project powers shall be staffed with the necessary technical experts and such other agents and employees, permanent and temporary, as it may require. An agency authorized to transact business and exercise powers under this chapter shall file, with the local governing body, on or before March 31st of each year, a report of its activities for the preceding calendar year, which report shall include a complete financial statement setting forth its assets, liabilities, income, and operating expense as of the end of such calendar year. At the time of filing the report, the agency shall publish in a newspaper of general circulation in the community a notice to the effect that such report has been filed with the municipality and that the report is available for inspection during business hours in the office of the city clerk and in the office of the agency.

(4) For inefficiency, neglect of duty, or misconduct in office, a commissioner may be removed. [1965 c 7 § 35.81.160. Prior: 1957 c 42 § 16.]

**35.81.170 Discrimination prohibited.** For all of the purposes of this chapter, no person shall, because of race, creed, color, or national origin, be subjected to any discrimination. [1965 c 7 § 35.81.170. Prior: 1957 c 42 § 17.]

*Discrimination—Human rights commission: Chapter 49.60 RCW.*

**35.81.180 Restrictions against public officials or employees acquiring or owning an interest in project, contract, etc.** No public official, department or division head of a municipality or urban renewal agency or department or officers which have been vested by a municipality with urban renewal project powers and responsibilities under RCW 35.81.150, shall voluntarily acquire any interest, direct or indirect, in any urban renewal project, or in any property included or planned to be included in any urban renewal project of such municipality, or in any contract or proposed contract in connection with such urban renewal project. Where such acquisition is not voluntary, the interest acquired shall be immediately disclosed in writing to the local governing body and such disclosure shall be entered upon the minutes of the governing body. If any such official, department or division head owns or controls, or owned or controlled within two years prior to the date of hearing on the urban renewal project, any interest, direct or indirect, in any property which he knows is included in an urban renewal project, he shall immediately disclose this fact in writing to the local governing body, and such disclosure shall be entered upon the minutes of the governing body, and any such official, department or division head shall not participate in any action on that particular project by the municipality or urban renewal agency, department, or officers which have been vested with urban renewal project powers by the municipality pursuant to the provisions of RCW 35.81.150. A majority of the commissioners of an urban renewal agency exercising powers pursuant to this chapter shall not hold any other public office under the municipality other than their commissionership or office with respect to such urban renewal agency, department, or officers. Any violation of the provisions of this section shall

constitute misconduct in office. [1965 c 7 § 35.81.180. Prior: 1957 c 42 § 18.]

**35.81.910 Short title.** This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Urban Renewal Law." [1965 c 7 § 35.81.910. Prior: 1957 c 42 § 20.]

## Chapter 35.82

### HOUSING AUTHORITIES LAW

#### Sections

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*Eminent domain: Title 8 RCW.*

*Loans and grants for low-income housing: RCW 35.21.685 and 36.32.415.*

*Planning commissions: Chapter 35.63 RCW.*

**35.82.010 Finding and declaration of necessity.** It is hereby declared: (1) That there exist in the state insanitary or unsafe dwelling accommodations and that persons of low income are forced to reside in such insanitary or unsafe accommodations; that within the state there is a shortage of safe or sanitary dwelling accommodations available at rents which persons of low income can afford and that such persons are forced to occupy overcrowded and congested dwelling accommodations; that the aforesaid conditions cause an increase in and spread of disease and crime and constitute a menace to the health, safety, morals and welfare of the residents of the state and impair economic values; that these conditions necessitate excessive and disproportionate expenditures of public funds for crime prevention and punishment, public health and safety, fire and accident

protection, and other public services and facilities; (2) that these areas in the state cannot be cleared, nor can the shortage of safe and sanitary dwellings for persons of low income be relieved, through the operation of private enterprise, and that the construction of housing projects for persons of low income (as herein defined) would therefore not be competitive with private enterprise; (3) that the clearance, replanning and reconstruction of the areas in which insanitary or unsafe housing conditions exist and the providing of safe and sanitary dwelling accommodations for persons of low income are public uses and purposes for which public money may be spent and private property acquired and are governmental functions of state concern; (4) that it is in the public interest that work on projects for such purposes be commenced as soon as possible in order to relieve unemployment which now (1939) constitutes an emergency; and the necessity in the public interest for the provisions hereinafter enacted, is hereby declared as a matter of legislative determination. [1965 c 7 § 35.82.010. Prior: 1939 c 23 § 2; RRS § 6889-2. Formerly RCW 74.24.010.]

**35.82.020 Definitions.** The following terms, wherever used or referred to in this chapter, shall have the following respective meanings, unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context:

(1) "Authority" or "housing authority" shall mean any of the public corporations created by RCW 35.82.030.

(2) "City" shall mean any city, town, or code city. "County" shall mean any county in the state. "The city" shall mean the particular city for which a particular housing authority is created. "The county" shall mean the particular county for which a particular housing authority is created.

(3) "Governing body" shall mean, in the case of a city, the city council or the commission and in the case of a county, the county legislative authority.

(4) "Mayor" shall mean the mayor of the city or the officer thereof charged with the duties customarily imposed on the mayor or executive head of the city.

(5) "Clerk" shall mean the clerk of the city or the clerk of the county legislative authority, as the case may be, or the officer charged with the duties customarily imposed on such clerk.

(6) "Area of operation": (a) In the case of a housing authority of a city, shall include such city and the area within five miles from the territorial boundaries thereof: PROVIDED, That the area of operation of a housing authority of any city shall not include any area which lies within the territorial boundaries of some other city, as herein defined; (b) in the case of a housing authority of a county, shall include all of the county except that portion which lies within the territorial boundaries of any city as herein defined.

(7) "Federal government" shall include the United States of America, the United States housing authority or any other agency or instrumentality, corporate or otherwise, of the United States of America.

(8) "Slum" shall mean any area where dwellings predominate which, by reason of dilapidation, overcrowding, lack of ventilation, light or sanitary facilities, or any combination of these factors, are detrimental to safety, health and morals.

(9) "Housing project" shall mean any work or undertaking: (a) To demolish, clear or remove buildings from any slum area; such work or undertaking may embrace the adaptation of such area to public purposes, including parks or other recreational or community purposes; or (b) to provide decent, safe and sanitary urban or rural dwellings, apartments, mobile home parks, or other living accommodations for persons of low income; such work or undertaking may include the rehabilitation of dwellings owned by persons of low income, and also may include buildings, land, equipment, facilities and other real or personal property for necessary, convenient or desirable appurtenances, streets, sewers, water service, parks, site preparation, gardening, administrative, community, health, recreational, welfare or other purposes; or (c) without limitation by implication, to provide decent, safe, and sanitary urban and rural dwellings, apartments, mobile home parks, or other living accommodations for senior citizens; such work or undertaking may include buildings, land, equipment, facilities, and other real or personal property for necessary, convenient, or desirable appurtenances, streets, sewers, water service, parks, site preparation, gardening, administrative, community, health, recreational, welfare, or other purposes; or (d) to accomplish a combination of the foregoing. The term "housing project" also may be applied to the planning of the buildings and improvements, the acquisition of property, the demolition of existing structures, the construction, reconstruction, alteration and repair of the improvements and all other work in connection therewith.

(10) "Persons of low income" shall mean persons or families who lack the amount of income which is necessary (as determined by the authority undertaking the housing project) to enable them, without financial assistance, to live in decent, safe and sanitary dwellings, without overcrowding.

(11) "Bonds" shall mean any bonds, notes, interim certificates, debentures, or other obligations issued by the authority pursuant to this chapter.

(12) "Real property" shall include all lands, including improvements and fixtures thereon, and property of any nature appurtenant thereto, or used in connection therewith, and every estate, interest and right, legal or equitable, therein, including terms for years and liens by way of judgment, mortgage or otherwise and the indebtedness secured by such liens.

(13) "Obligee of the authority" or "obligee" shall include any bondholder, trustee or trustees for any bondholders, or lessor demising to the authority property used in connection with a housing project, or any assignee or assignees of such lessor's interest or any part thereof, and the federal government when it is a party to any contract with the authority.

(14) "Mortgage loan" shall mean an interest bearing obligation secured by a mortgage.

(15) "Mortgage" shall mean a mortgage deed, deed of trust or other instrument securing a mortgage loan and constituting a lien on real property held in fee simple, or on a leasehold under a lease having a remaining term at the time the mortgage is acquired of not less than the term for repayment of the mortgage loan secured by the mortgage, improved or to be improved by a housing project.

(16) "Senior citizen" means a person age sixty-two or older who is determined by the authority to be poor or infirm but who is otherwise in some manner able to provide

the authority with revenue which (together with all other available moneys, revenues, income, and receipts of the authority, from whatever sources derived) will be sufficient: (a) To pay, as the same become due, the principal and interest on bonds of the authority; (b) to meet the cost of, and to provide for, maintaining and operating projects (including the cost of insurance) and administrative expenses of the authority; and (c) to create (by not less than the six years immediately succeeding the issuance of any bonds) a reserve sufficient to meet the principal and interest payments which will be due on the bonds in any one year thereafter and to maintain such reserve.

(17) "Commercial space" shall mean space which, because of its proximity to public streets, sidewalks, or other thoroughfares, is well suited for commercial or office use. Commercial space includes but is not limited to office as well as retail space. [1989 c 363 § 1; 1983 c 225 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 187 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 274 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.82.020. Prior: 1939 c 23 § 3; RRS § 6889-3. Formerly RCW 74.24.020.]

**Severability—1983 c 225:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1983 c 225 § 4.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 187:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1979 ex.s. c 187 § 4.]

**35.82.030 Creation of housing authorities.** In each city (as herein defined) and in each county of the state there is hereby created a public body corporate and politic to be known as the "Housing Authority" of the city or county: **PROVIDED, HOWEVER,** That such authority shall not transact any business or exercise its powers hereunder until or unless the governing body of the city or the county, as the case may be, by proper resolution shall declare at any time hereafter that there is need for an authority to function in such city or county. The determination as to whether or not there is such need for an authority to function (1) may be made by the governing body on its own motion or (2) shall be made by the governing body upon the filing of a petition signed by twenty-five residents of the city or county, as the case may be, asserting that there is need for an authority to function in such city or county and requesting that the governing body so declare.

The governing body shall adopt a resolution declaring that there is need for a housing authority in the city or county, as the case may be, if it shall find (1) that insanitary or unsafe inhabited dwelling accommodations exist in such city or county; (2) that there is a shortage of safe or sanitary dwelling accommodations in such city or county available to persons of low income at rentals they can afford; or (3) that there is a shortage of safe or sanitary dwellings, apartments, mobile home parks, or other living accommodations available for senior citizens. In determining whether dwelling accommodations are unsafe or insanitary said governing body may take into consideration the degree of overcrowding, the percentage of land coverage, the light, air, space and access available to the inhabitants of such dwelling accommodations, the size and arrangement of the rooms, the sanitary facilities, and the extent to which conditions exist in

such buildings which endanger life or property by fire or other causes.

In any suit, action or proceeding involving the validity or enforcement of or relating to any contract of the authority, the authority shall be conclusively deemed to have become established and authorized to transact business and exercise its powers hereunder upon proof of the adoption of a resolution by the governing body declaring the need for the authority. Such resolution or resolutions shall be deemed sufficient if it declares that there is such need for an authority and finds in substantially the foregoing terms (no further detail being necessary) that either or both of the above enumerated conditions exist in the city or county, as the case may be. A copy of such resolution duly certified by the clerk shall be admissible in evidence in any suit, action or proceeding. [1979 ex.s. c 187 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.82.030. Prior: 1939 c 23 § 4; RRS § 6889-4. Formerly RCW 74.24.030.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 187:** See note following RCW 35.82.020.

**35.82.040 Appointment, qualifications and tenure of commissioners.** When the governing body of a city adopts a resolution as aforesaid, it shall promptly notify the mayor of such adoption. Upon receiving such notice, the mayor shall appoint five persons as commissioners of the authority created for said city. When the governing body of a county adopts a resolution as aforesaid, said body shall appoint five persons as commissioners of the authority created for said county. The commissioners who are first appointed shall be designated to serve for terms of one, two, three, four and five years, respectively, from the date of their appointment, but thereafter commissioners shall be appointed as aforesaid for a term of office of five years except that all vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term. No commissioner of an authority may be an officer or employee of the city or county for which the authority is created. A commissioner shall hold office until his successor has been appointed and has qualified, unless sooner removed according to this chapter. A certificate of the appointment or reappointment of any commissioner shall be filed with the clerk and such certificate shall be conclusive evidence of the due and proper appointment of such commissioner. A commissioner shall receive no compensation for his services for the authority, in any capacity, but he shall be entitled to the necessary expenses, including traveling expenses, incurred in the discharge of his duties.

The powers of each authority shall be vested in the commissioners thereof in office from time to time. Three commissioners shall constitute a quorum of the authority for the purpose of conducting its business and exercising its powers and for all other purposes. Action may be taken by the authority upon a vote of a majority of the commissioners present, unless in any case the bylaws of the authority shall require a larger number. The mayor (or in the case of an authority for a county, the governing body of the county) shall designate which of the commissioners appointed shall be the first chairman and he shall serve in the capacity of chairman until the expiration of his term of office as commissioner. When the office of the chairman of the authority thereafter becomes vacant, the authority shall select a chairman from among its commissioners. An authority

shall select from among its commissioners a vice chairman, and it may employ a secretary (who shall be executive director), technical experts and such other officers, agents and employees, permanent and temporary, as it may require, and shall determine their qualifications, duties and compensation. For such legal services as it may require, an authority may call upon the chief law officer of the city or the county or may employ its own counsel and legal staff. An authority may delegate to one or more of its agents or employees such powers or duties as it may deem proper. [1965 c 7 § 35.82.040. Prior: 1939 c 23 § 5; RRS § 6889-5. Formerly RCW 74.24.040.]

#### **35.82.050 Interested commissioners or employees.**

No commissioner or employee of an authority shall acquire any interest direct or indirect in any housing project or in any property included or planned to be included in any project, nor shall he have any interest direct or indirect in any contract or proposed contract for materials or services to be furnished or used in connection with any housing project. If any commissioner or employee of an authority owns or controls an interest direct or indirect in any property included or planned to be included in any housing project, he immediately shall disclose the same in writing to the authority and such disclosure shall be entered upon the minutes of the authority. Failure so to disclose such interest shall constitute misconduct in office. Upon such disclosure such commissioner or employee shall not participate in any action by the authority affecting such property. [1965 c 7 § 35.82.050. Prior: 1939 c 23 § 6; RRS § 6889-6. Formerly RCW 74.24.050.]

**35.82.060 Removal of commissioners.** For inefficiency or neglect of duty or misconduct in office, a commissioner of an authority may be removed by the mayor (or in the case of an authority for a county, by the governing body of said county), but a commissioner shall be removed only after he shall have been given a copy of the charges at least ten days prior to the hearing thereon and had an opportunity to be heard in person or by counsel. In the event of the removal of any commissioner, a record of the proceedings, together with the charges and findings thereon, shall be filed in the office of the clerk. [1965 c 7 § 35.82.060. Prior: 1939 c 23 § 7; RRS § 6889-7. Formerly RCW 74.24.060.]

**35.82.070 Powers of authority.** An authority shall constitute a public body corporate and politic, exercising public and essential governmental functions, and having all the powers necessary or convenient to carry out and effectuate the purposes and provisions of this chapter, including the following powers in addition to others herein granted:

(1) To sue and be sued; to have a seal and to alter the same at pleasure; to have perpetual succession; to make and execute contracts and other instruments, including but not limited to partnership agreements and joint venture agreements, necessary or convenient to the exercise of the powers of the authority; to participate in the organization or the operation of a nonprofit corporation which has as one of its purposes to provide or assist in the provision of housing for persons of low income; and to make and from time to time amend and repeal bylaws, rules and regulations, not inconsis-

tent with this chapter, to carry into effect the powers and purposes of the authority.

(2) Within its area of operation: To prepare, carry out, acquire, lease and operate housing projects; to provide for the construction, reconstruction, improvement, alteration or repair of any housing project or any part thereof; to agree to rent or sell dwellings forming part of the projects to or for persons of low income. Where an agreement or option is made to sell a dwelling to a person of low income, the authority may convey the dwelling to the person upon fulfillment of the agreement irrespective of whether the person is at the time of the conveyance a person of low income. Leases, options, agreements, or conveyances may include such covenants as the authority deems appropriate to assure the achievement of the objectives of this chapter.

(3) To acquire, lease, rent, sell, or otherwise dispose of any commercial space located in buildings or structures containing a housing project or projects.

(4) To arrange or contract for the furnishing by any person or agency, public or private, of services, privileges, works, or facilities for, or in connection with, a housing project or the occupants thereof; and (notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this chapter or in any other provision of law) to include in any contract let in connection with a project, stipulations requiring that the contractor and any subcontractors comply with requirements as to minimum wages and maximum hours of labor, and comply with any conditions which the federal government may have attached to its financial aid of the project.

(5) To lease or rent any dwellings, houses, accommodations, lands, buildings, structures or facilities embraced in any housing project and (subject to the limitations contained in this chapter) to establish and revise the rents or charges therefor; to own or manage buildings containing a housing project or projects as well as commercial space or other dwelling units that do not constitute a housing project as that term is defined in this chapter: PROVIDED, That notwithstanding the provisions under subsection (1) of this section, dwelling units made available or sold to persons of low income, together with functionally related and subordinate facilities, shall occupy at least fifty percent of the interior space in the total development owned by the authority or at least fifty percent of the total number of units in the development owned by the authority, whichever produces the greater number of units for persons of low income, and for mobile home parks, the mobile home lots made available to persons of low income shall be at least fifty percent of the total number of mobile home lots in the park owned by the authority; to own, hold, and improve real or personal property; to purchase, lease, obtain options upon, acquire by gift, grant, bequest, devise, or otherwise including financial assistance and other aid from the state or any public body, person or corporation, any real or personal property or any interest therein; to acquire by the exercise of the power of eminent domain any real property; to sell, lease, exchange, transfer, assign, pledge, or dispose of any real or personal property or any interest therein; to sell, lease, exchange, transfer, or dispose of any real or personal property or interest therein at less than fair market value to a governmental entity for any purpose when such action assists the housing authority in carrying out its powers and purposes under this chapter, to a low-income person or family for the

purpose of providing housing for that person or family, or to a nonprofit corporation provided the nonprofit corporation agrees to sell the property to a low-income person or family or to use the property for the provision of housing for persons of low income for at least twenty years; to insure or provide for the insurance of any real or personal property or operations of the authority against any risks or hazards; to procure or agree to the procurement of insurance or guarantees from the federal government of the payment of any bonds or parts thereof issued by an authority, including the power to pay premiums on any such insurance.

(6) To invest any funds held in reserves or sinking funds, or any funds not required for immediate disbursement, in property or securities in which savings banks may legally invest funds subject to their control; to purchase its bonds at a price not more than the principal amount thereof and accrued interest, all bonds so purchased to be canceled.

(7) Within its area of operation: To investigate into living, dwelling and housing conditions and into the means and methods of improving such conditions; to determine where slum areas exist or where there is a shortage of decent, safe and sanitary dwelling accommodations for persons of low income; to make studies and recommendations relating to the problem of clearing, replanning and reconstructing of slum areas, and the problem of providing dwelling accommodations for persons of low income, and to cooperate with the city, the county, the state or any political subdivision thereof in action taken in connection with such problems; and to engage in research, studies and experimentation on the subject of housing.

(8) Acting through one or more commissioners or other person or persons designated by the authority: To conduct examinations and investigations and to hear testimony and take proof under oath at public or private hearings on any matter material for its information; to administer oaths, issue subpoenas requiring the attendance of witnesses or the production of books and papers and to issue commissions for the examination of witnesses who are outside of the state or unable to attend before the authority, or excused from attendance; to make available to appropriate agencies (including those charged with the duty of abating or requiring the correction of nuisances or like conditions, or of demolishing unsafe or insanitary structures within its area of operation) its findings and recommendations with regard to any building or property where conditions exist which are dangerous to the public health, morals, safety or welfare.

(9) To initiate eviction proceedings against any tenant as provided by law. Activity occurring in any housing authority unit that constitutes a violation of chapter 69.41, 69.50 or 69.52 RCW shall constitute a nuisance for the purpose of RCW 59.12.030(5).

(10) To exercise all or any part or combination of powers herein granted.

No provisions of law with respect to the acquisition, operation or disposition of property by other public bodies shall be applicable to an authority unless the legislature shall specifically so state.

(11) To agree (notwithstanding the limitation contained in RCW 35.82.210) to make such payments in lieu of taxes as the authority finds consistent with the achievement of the purposes of this chapter.

(12) Upon the request of a county or city, to exercise any powers of an urban renewal agency under chapter 35.81 RCW or a public corporation, commission, or authority under chapter 35.21 RCW. However, in the exercise of any such powers the housing authority shall be subject to any express limitations contained in this chapter.

(13) To exercise the powers granted in this chapter within the boundaries of any city, town, or county not included in the area in which such housing authority is originally authorized to function: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, The governing or legislative body of such city, town, or county, as the case may be, adopts a resolution declaring that there is a need for the authority to function in such territory.

(14) To administer contracts for assistance payments to persons of low income in accordance with section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended by Title II, section 201 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, P.L. 93-383.

(15) To sell at public or private sale, with or without public bidding, for fair market value, any mortgage or other obligation held by the authority.

(16) To the extent permitted under its contract with the holders of bonds, notes, and other obligations of the authority, to consent to any modification with respect to rate of interest, time and payment of any installment of principal or interest security, or any other term of any contract, mortgage, mortgage loan, mortgage loan commitment, contract or agreement of any kind to which the authority is a party.

(17) To make, purchase, participate in, invest in, take assignments of, or otherwise acquire loans to persons of low income to enable them to acquire, construct, reconstruct, rehabilitate, improve, lease, or refinance their dwellings, and to take such security therefor as is deemed necessary and prudent by the authority.

(18) To make, purchase, participate in, invest in, take assignments of, or otherwise acquire loans for the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, improvement, leasing, or refinancing of land, buildings, or developments for housing for persons of low income. For purposes of this subsection, development shall include either land or buildings or both.

(a) Any development financed under this subsection shall be subject to an agreement that for at least twenty years the dwelling units made available to persons of low income together with functionally related and subordinate facilities shall occupy at least fifty percent of the interior space in the total development or at least fifty percent of the total number of units in the development, whichever produces the greater number of units for persons of low income. For mobile home parks, the mobile home lots made available to persons of low income shall be at least fifty percent of the total number of mobile home lots in the park. During the term of the agreement, the owner shall use its best efforts in good faith to maintain the dwelling units or mobile home lots required to be made available to persons of low income at rents affordable to persons of low income. The twenty-year requirement under this subsection (18)(a) shall not apply when an authority finances the development by nonprofit corporations or governmental units of dwellings or mobile home lots intended for sale to persons of low and moderate income, and shall not apply to construction or other short-term financing provided to nonprofit corporations or govern-

mental units when the financing has a repayment term of one year or less.

(b) In addition, if the development is owned by a for-profit entity, the dwelling units or mobile home lots required to be made available to persons of low income shall be rented to persons whose incomes do not exceed fifty percent of the area median income, adjusted for household size, and shall have unit or lot rents that do not exceed fifteen percent of area median income, adjusted for household size, unless rent subsidies are provided to make them affordable to persons of low income.

For purposes of this subsection (18)(b), if the development is owned directly or through a partnership by a governmental entity or a nonprofit organization, which nonprofit organization is itself not controlled by a for-profit entity or affiliated with any for-profit entity that a nonprofit organization itself does not control, it shall not be treated as being owned by a for-profit entity when the governmental entity or nonprofit organization exercises legal control of the ownership entity and in addition, (i) the dwelling units or mobile home lots required to be made available to persons of low income are rented to persons whose incomes do not exceed sixty percent of the area median income, adjusted for household size, and (ii) the development is subject to an agreement that transfers ownership to the governmental entity or nonprofit organization or extends an irrevocable right of first refusal to purchase the development under a formula for setting the acquisition price that is specified in the agreement.

(c) Commercial space in any building financed under this subsection that exceeds four stories in height shall not constitute more than twenty percent of the interior area of the building. Before financing any development under this subsection the authority shall make a written finding that financing is important for project feasibility or necessary to enable the authority to carry out its powers and purposes under this chapter.

(19) To contract with a public authority or corporation, created by a county, city, or town under RCW 35.21.730 through 35.21.755, to act as the developer for new housing projects or improvement of existing housing projects. [1993 c 478 § 17; 1991 c 167 § 1; 1989 c 363 § 2; 1985 c 386 § 1; 1983 c 225 § 2; 1977 ex.s. c 274 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.82.070. Prior: 1945 c 43 § 1; 1939 c 23 § 8; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6889-8. Formerly RCW 74.24.070.]

**Severability—1983 c 225:** See note following RCW 35.82.020.

**35.82.075 Small works roster.** (1) In addition to any other powers authorized in RCW 35.82.070, an authority may establish a small works roster consisting of all qualified contractors who have requested to be included on the roster and are, where required by law, properly licensed or registered to perform such work in the state of Washington.

(2) The small works roster may make distinctions between contractors based on the nature of the work the contractor is qualified to perform. At least once every year, the authority shall advertise in a newspaper of general circulation, in the authority's area of operation, the existence of the small works roster and shall add to the roster those contractors who request to be included on the roster.

(3) The commissioners of the authority shall establish uniform procedures to prequalify contractors for inclusion on the small works roster and a procedure for securing telephone or written quotations from contractors on the small works roster to assure establishment of a competitive price and for awarding contracts to the lowest responsible bidder.

(4) Construction, repair, or alteration projects estimated to cost less than forty thousand dollars are exempt from the requirement that contracts be awarded after advertisement and competitive bid as defined in RCW 39.04.010. In lieu of advertisement and competitive bid, the authority shall solicit at least five quotations, confirmed in writing, from contractors in a manner that will equitably distribute opportunities among contractors on the small works roster for the category of job type involved. Whenever possible, the authority shall invite at least one proposal from a minority or woman contractor, or from a contractor that employs, or commits to employ, residents of housing owned or managed by the authority, who shall otherwise qualify under this section. Such solicitations shall include an estimate of the scope and nature of the work to be performed, and materials and equipment to be furnished.

(5) Immediately after an award is made, the bid quotations obtained shall be recorded, open to public inspection, and available by telephone request.

(6) The breaking-down of any public work or improvement into units, or accomplishing any public work or improvement by phases, for the purpose of avoiding the minimum dollar amount for bidding, is contrary to public policy and is prohibited.

(7) No authority under chapter 42.17 RCW shall be required to make financial information required to be provided by the prequalification procedure for inclusion on the small works roster available for public inspection or copying. [1989 c 363 § 6.]

**35.82.080 Operation not for profit.** It is hereby declared to be the policy of this state that each housing authority shall manage and operate its housing projects in an efficient manner so as to enable it to fix the rentals for low-income dwelling accommodations at the lowest possible rates consistent with its providing decent, safe and sanitary dwelling accommodations, and that no housing authority shall construct or operate any such project for profit, or as a source of revenue to the city or the county. To this end, an authority shall fix the rentals for rental units for persons of low income in projects owned or leased by the authority at no higher rates than it shall find to be necessary in order to produce revenues which (together with all other available moneys, revenues, income and receipts of the authority from whatever sources derived) will be sufficient (1) to pay, as the same become due, the principal and interest on the bonds or other obligations of the authority issued or incurred to finance the projects; (2) to meet the cost of, and to provide for, maintaining and operating the projects (including the cost of any insurance) and the administrative expenses of the authority; and (3) to create (during not less than the six years immediately succeeding its issuance of any such bonds) a reserve sufficient to meet the largest principal and interest payments which will be due on such bonds in any one year thereafter and to maintain such reserve. Nothing contained

in this section shall be construed to limit an authority's power to rent commercial space located in buildings containing housing projects or non low-income units owned, acquired, financed, or constructed under \*RCW 35.82.070(5), (16), or (17) at profitable rates and to use any profit realized from such rentals in carrying into effect the powers and purposes provided to housing authorities under this chapter. [1989 c 363 § 3; 1983 c 225 § 3; 1977 ex.s. c 274 § 3; 1965 c 7 § 35.82.080. Prior: 1939 c 23 § 9; RRS § 6889-9. Formerly RCW 74.24.080.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 35.82.070 was amended by 1991 c 167 § 1, changing subsections (16) and (17) to subsections (17) and (18); and subsequently amended by 1993 c 478 § 17 changing subsections (17) and (18) to subsections (18) and (19).

Severability—1983 c 225: See note following RCW 35.82.020.

**35.82.090 Rentals and tenant selection.** In the operation and management of rental units which are rented to persons of low income in any housing project an authority shall at all times observe the following duties with respect to rentals and tenant selection: (1) It may rent or lease the dwelling accommodations therein to persons of low income and at rentals within the financial reach of such persons of low income; (2) it may rent or lease to a low-income tenant dwelling accommodations consisting of the number of rooms (but no greater number) which it deems necessary to provide safe and sanitary accommodations to the proposed occupants thereof, without overcrowding; and (3) it shall not accept any person as a low income tenant in any housing project designated for persons of low income if the person or persons who would occupy the dwelling accommodations have an annual net income in excess of five times the annual rental of the quarters to be furnished such person or persons, except that in the case of families with three or more minor dependents, such ratio shall not exceed six to one; in computing the rental for this purpose of selecting tenants, there shall be included in the rental the average annual cost (as determined by the authority) to occupants of heat, water, electricity, gas, cooking range and other necessary services or facilities, whether or not the charge for such services and facilities is in fact included in the rental. This income limitation does not apply to housing projects designated for senior citizens.

Nothing contained in this section or RCW 35.82.080 shall be construed as limiting the power of an authority to vest in an obligee the right, in the event of a default by the authority, to take possession of a housing project or cause the appointment of a receiver thereof, free from all the restrictions imposed by this section or RCW 35.82.080. [1989 c 363 § 4; 1979 ex.s. c 187 § 3; 1977 ex.s. c 274 § 4; 1965 c 7 § 35.82.090. Prior: 1939 c 23 § 10; RRS § 6889-10. Formerly RCW 74.24.090.]

Severability—1979 ex.s. c 187: See note following RCW 35.82.020.

**35.82.100 Cooperation between authorities.** Any two or more authorities may join or cooperate with one another in the exercise of any or all of the powers conferred hereby for the purpose of financing, planning, undertaking, constructing or operating a housing project or projects located within the area of operation of any one or more of said authorities. [1965 c 7 § 35.82.100. Prior: 1939 c 23 § 11; RRS § 6889-11. Formerly RCW 74.24.100.]

**35.82.110 Eminent domain.** An authority shall have the right to acquire by the exercise of the power of eminent domain any real property which it may deem necessary for its purposes under this chapter after the adoption by it of a resolution declaring that the acquisition of the real property described therein is necessary for such purposes. An authority may exercise the power of eminent domain in the same manner and under the same procedure as now is or may be hereafter provided by law in the case of other corporations authorized by the laws of the state to exercise the right of eminent domain; or it may exercise the power of eminent domain in the manner now or which may be hereafter provided by any other applicable statutory provisions for the exercise of the power of eminent domain. Property already devoted to a public use may be acquired in like manner: PROVIDED, That no real property belonging to the city, the county, the state or any political subdivision thereof may be acquired without its consent. [1965 c 7 § 35.82.110. Prior: 1939 c 23 § 12; RRS § 6889-12. Formerly RCW 74.24.110.]

*Eminent domain: Title 8 RCW.*

**35.82.120 Planning, zoning and building laws.** All housing projects of an authority shall be subject to the planning, zoning, sanitary and building laws, ordinances and regulations applicable to the locality in which the housing project is situated. In the planning and location of any housing project, an authority shall take into consideration the relationship of the project to any larger plan or long-range program for the development of the area in which the housing authority functions. [1965 c 7 § 35.82.120. Prior: 1939 c 23 § 13; RRS § 6889-13. Formerly RCW 74.24.120.]

*Ordinances—Adoption of codes by reference: RCW 35.21.180.*

*Planning commissions: Chapter 35.63 RCW.*

**35.82.130 Bonds.** An authority shall have power to issue bonds from time to time in its discretion, for any of its corporate purposes. An authority shall also have power to issue refunding bonds for the purpose of paying or retiring bonds previously issued by it. An authority may issue such types of bonds as it may determine, including (without limiting the generality of the foregoing) bonds on which the principal and interest are payable: (1) Exclusively from the income and revenues of the housing project financed with the proceeds of such bonds; (2) exclusively from the income and revenues of certain designated housing projects whether or not they are financed in whole or in part with the proceeds of such bonds; or (3) from all or part of its revenues or assets generally. Any such bonds may be additionally secured by a pledge of any grant or contributions from the federal government or other source, or a pledge of any income or revenues of the authority, or a mortgage of any housing project, projects or other property of the authority. Any pledge made by the authority shall be valid and binding from the time when the pledge is made and recorded; the revenues, moneys, or property so pledged and thereafter received by the authority shall immediately be subject to the lien of the pledge without any physical delivery thereof or further act, and the lien of any such pledge shall be valid and binding as against all parties having claims of any kind



in tort, contract, or otherwise against the authority, irrespective of whether the parties have notice thereof. The resolution and any other instrument by which a pledge is created shall be filed or recorded.

Neither the commissioners of an authority nor any person executing the bonds shall be liable personally on the bonds by reason of the issuance thereof. The bonds and other obligations of an authority (and such bonds and obligations shall so state on their face) shall not be a debt of the city, the county, the state or any political subdivision thereof and neither the city or the county, nor the state or any political subdivision thereof shall be liable thereon, nor in any event shall such bonds or obligations be payable out of any funds or properties other than those of said authority. The bonds shall not constitute an indebtedness within the meaning of any constitutional or statutory debt limitation or restriction. Bonds of an authority are declared to be issued for an essential public and governmental purpose and to be public instrumentalities and, together with interest thereon and income therefrom, shall be exempt from taxes. Nothing in this section shall prevent an authority from issuing bonds the interest on which is included in gross income of the owners thereof for income tax purposes. [1991 c 167 § 2; 1977 ex.s. c 274 § 5; 1965 c 7 § 35.82.130. Prior: 1939 c 23 § 14; RRS § 6889-14. Formerly RCW 74.24.130.]

**35.82.140 Form and sale of bonds.** (1) Bonds of an authority shall be authorized by its resolution and may be issued in one or more series and shall bear such date or dates, mature at such time or times, bear interest at such rate or rates, be in such denomination or denominations, be in such form, either coupon or registered as provided in RCW 39.46.030, carry such conversion or registration privileges, have such rank or priority, be executed in such manner, be payable in such medium of payment, at such place or places, and be subject to such terms of redemption (with or without premium) as such resolution, its trust indenture or mortgage may provide.

The bonds may be sold at public or private sale.

In case any of the commissioners or officers of the authority whose signatures appear on any bond or any coupons shall cease to be such commissioners or officers before the delivery of such bonds, such signatures shall, nevertheless, be valid and sufficient for all purposes, the same as if they had remained in office until such delivery. Any provision of any law to the contrary notwithstanding, any bonds issued pursuant to this chapter shall be fully negotiable.

In any suit, action or proceedings involving the validity or enforceability of any bond of an authority or the security therefor, any such bond reciting in substance that it has been issued by the authority to aid in financing a housing project to provide dwelling accommodations for persons of low income shall be conclusively deemed to have been issued for a housing project of such character and said project shall be conclusively deemed to have been planned, located and constructed in accordance with the purposes and provisions of this chapter.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, such bonds may be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1983 c 167 § 65; 1977 ex.s. c 274 § 6; 1970

ex.s. c 56 § 45; 1969 ex.s. c 232 § 22; 1965 c 7 § 35.82.140. Prior: 1939 c 23 § 15; RRS § 6889-15. Formerly RCW 74.24.140.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**Purpose—1970 ex.s. c 56:** See note following RCW 39.52.020.

**Validation—Saving—Severability—1969 ex.s. c 232:** See notes following RCW 39.52.020.

**35.82.150 Provisions of bonds, trust indentures, and mortgages.** In connection with the issuance of bonds or the incurring of obligations under leases and in order to secure the payment of such bonds or obligations, an authority, in addition to its other powers, shall have power:

(1) To pledge all or any part of its gross or net rents, fees, revenues, or assets, including mortgage loans and obligations securing the same, to which its right then exists or may thereafter come into existence.

(2) To mortgage all or any part of its real or personal property, then owned or thereafter acquired.

(3) To covenant against pledging all or any part of its rents, fees and revenues, or against mortgaging all or any part of its real or personal property, to which its right or title then exists or may thereafter come into existence or against permitting or suffering any lien on such revenues or property; to covenant with respect to limitations on its right to sell, lease or otherwise dispose of any housing project or any part thereof; and to covenant as to what other, or additional debts or obligations may be incurred by it.

(4) To covenant as to the bonds to be issued and as to the issuance of such bonds in escrow or otherwise, and as to the use and disposition of the proceeds thereof; to provide for the replacement of lost, destroyed or mutilated bonds; to covenant against extending the time for the payment of its bonds or interest thereon; and to redeem the bonds, and to covenant for their redemption and to provide the terms and conditions thereof.

(5) To covenant (subject to the limitations contained in this chapter) as to the rents and fees to be charged in the operation of a housing project or projects, the amount to be raised each year or other period of time by rents, fees and other revenues, and as to the use and disposition to be made thereof; to create or to authorize the creation of special funds for moneys held for construction or operating costs, debt service, reserves, or other purposes, and to covenant as to the use and disposition of the moneys held in such funds.

(6) To prescribe the procedure, if any, by which the terms of any contract with bondholders may be amended or abrogated, the amount of bonds the holders of which must consent thereto and the manner in which such consent may be given.

(7) To covenant as to use of any or all of its real or personal property; and to covenant as to the maintenance of its real and personal property, the replacement thereof, the insurance to be carried thereon and the use and disposition of insurance moneys.

(8) To covenant as to the rights, liabilities, powers and duties arising upon the breach by it of any covenant, condition, or obligation; and to covenant and prescribe as to events of default and terms and conditions upon which any or all of its bonds or obligations shall become or may be declared due before maturity, and as to the terms and condi-

tions upon which such declaration and its consequences may be waived.

(9) To vest in a trustee or trustees or the holders of bonds or any proportion of them the right to enforce the payment of the bonds or any covenants securing or relating to the bonds; to vest in a trustee or trustees the right, in the event of a default by said authority, to take possession and use, operate and manage any housing project or part thereof, and to collect the rents and revenues arising therefrom and to dispose of such moneys in accordance with the agreement of the authority with said trustee; to provide for the powers and duties of a trustee or trustees and to limit the liabilities thereof; and to provide the terms and conditions upon which the trustee or trustees or the holders of bonds or any proportion of them may enforce any covenant or rights securing or relating to the bonds.

(10) To covenant as to the use and disposition of the gross income from mortgages owned by the authority and payment of principal of the mortgages.

(11) To exercise all or any part or combination of the powers herein granted; to make covenants other than and in addition to the covenants herein expressly authorized, of like or different character; to make such covenants and to do any and all such acts and things as may be necessary or convenient or desirable in order to secure its bonds, or, in the absolute discretion of said authority, as will tend to make the bonds more marketable notwithstanding that such covenants, acts or things may not be enumerated herein. [1977 ex.s. c 274 § 7; 1965 c 7 § 35.82.150. Prior: 1939 c 23 § 16; RRS § 6889-16. Formerly RCW 74.24.150.]

**35.82.160 Certification by attorney general.** Any authority may submit to the attorney general of the state any bonds to be issued hereunder after all proceedings for the issuance of such bonds have been taken. Upon the submission of such proceedings to the attorney general, it shall be the duty of the attorney general to examine into and pass upon the validity of such bonds and the regularity of all proceedings in connection therewith. If such proceedings conform to the provisions of this chapter and are otherwise regular in form and if such bonds when delivered and paid for will constitute binding and legal obligations of the authority enforceable according to the terms thereof, the attorney general shall certify in substance upon the back of each of said bonds that it is issued in accordance with the Constitution and laws of the state of Washington. [1965 c 7 § 35.82.160. Prior: 1939 c 23 § 17; RRS § 6889-17. Formerly RCW 74.24.160.]

**35.82.170 Remedies of an obligee of authority.** An obligee of an authority shall have the right in addition to all other rights which may be conferred on such obligee, subject only to any contractual restrictions binding upon such obligee:

(1) By mandamus, suit, action or proceeding at law or in equity to compel said authority and the commissioners, officers, agents or employees thereof to perform each and every term, provision and covenant contained in any contract of said authority with or for the benefit of such obligee, and to require the carrying out of any or all such covenants and

agreements of said authority and the fulfillment of all duties imposed upon said authority by this chapter.

(2) By suit, action or proceeding in equity, to enjoin any acts or things which may be unlawful, or the violation of any of the rights of such obligee of said authority. [1965 c 7 § 35.82.170. Prior: 1939 c 23 § 18; RRS § 6889-18. Formerly RCW 74.24.170.]

**35.82.180 Additional remedies conferable by authority.** An authority shall have power by its resolution, trust indenture, mortgage, lease or other contract to confer upon any obligee holding or representing a specified amount in bonds, or holding a lease, the right (in addition to all rights that may otherwise be conferred), upon the happening of an event of default as defined in such resolution or instrument, by suit, action or proceeding in any court of competent jurisdiction:

(1) To cause possession of any housing project or any part thereof to be surrendered to any such obligee.

(2) To obtain the appointment of a receiver of any housing project of said authority or any part thereof and of the rents and profits therefrom. If such receiver be appointed, he may enter and take possession of such housing project or any part thereof and operate and maintain same, and collect and receive all fees, rents, revenues, or other charges thereafter arising therefrom, and shall keep such moneys in a separate account or accounts and apply the same in accordance with the obligations of said authority as the court shall direct.

(3) To require said authority and the commissioners thereof to account as if it and they were the trustees of an express trust. [1965 c 7 § 35.82.180. Prior: 1939 c 23 § 19; RRS § 6889-19. Formerly RCW 74.24.180.]

**35.82.190 Exemption of property from execution sale.** All real property of an authority shall be exempt from levy and sale by virtue of an execution, and no execution or other judicial process shall issue against the same nor shall any judgment against an authority be a charge or lien upon its real property: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That the provisions of this section shall not apply to or limit the right of obligees to foreclose or otherwise enforce any mortgage of an authority or the right of obligees to pursue any remedies for the enforcement of any pledge or lien given by an authority on its rents, fees or revenues. [1965 c 7 § 35.82.190. Prior: 1939 c 23 § 20; RRS § 6889-20. Formerly RCW 74.24.190.]

**35.82.200 Aid from federal government.** In addition to the powers conferred upon an authority by other provisions of this chapter, an authority is empowered to borrow money or accept contributions, grants or other financial assistance from the federal government for or in aid of any housing project within its area of operation, to take over or lease or manage any housing project or undertaking constructed or owned by the federal government, and to these ends, to comply with such conditions and enter into such mortgages, trust indentures, leases or agreements as may be necessary, convenient or desirable. It is the purpose and intent of this chapter to authorize every authority to do any and all things necessary or desirable to secure the financial

aid or cooperation of the federal government in the undertaking, construction, maintenance or operation of any housing project by such authority. [1965 c 7 § 35.82.200. Prior: 1939 c 23 § 21; RRS § 6889-21. Formerly RCW 74.24.200.]

**35.82.210 Tax exemption and payments in lieu of taxes.** The property of an authority is declared to be public property used for essential public and governmental purposes and such property and an authority shall be exempt from all taxes and special assessments of the city, the county, the state or any political subdivision thereof: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That in lieu of such taxes an authority may agree to make payments to the city or the county or any such political subdivision for improvements, services and facilities furnished by such city, county or political subdivision for the benefit of a housing project, but in no event shall such payments exceed the amount last levied as the annual tax of such city, county or political subdivision upon the property included in said project prior to the time of its acquisition by the authority. [1965 c 7 § 35.82.210. Prior: 1939 c 23 § 22; RRS § 6889-22. Formerly RCW 74.24.210.]

**35.82.220 Housing bonds legal investments and security.** Notwithstanding any restrictions on investments contained in any laws of this state, the state and all public officers, municipal corporations, political subdivisions, and public bodies, all banks, bankers, trust companies, savings banks and institutions, building and loan associations, savings and loan associations, investment companies and other persons carrying on a banking business, all insurance companies, insurance associations and other persons carrying on an insurance business, and all executors, administrators, guardians, trustees and other fiduciaries may legally invest any sinking funds, moneys or other funds belonging to them or within their control in any bonds or other obligations issued by a housing authority pursuant to the housing authorities law of this state or issued by any public housing authority or agency in the United States, and such bonds and other obligations shall be authorized security for all public deposits; it being the purpose of this chapter to authorize any persons, firms, corporations, associations, political subdivisions, bodies and officers, public or private, to use any funds owned or controlled by them, including (but not limited to) sinking, insurance, investment, retirement, compensation, pension and trust funds, and funds held on deposit, for the purchase of any such bonds or other obligations: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That nothing contained in this chapter shall be construed as relieving any person, firm or corporation from any duty of exercising reasonable care in selecting securities. [1977 ex.s. c 274 § 8; 1965 c 7 § 35.82.220. Prior: 1939 c 23 § 23; RRS § 6889-23. Formerly RCW 74.24.220.]

**35.82.230 Reports.** At least once a year, an authority shall file with the clerk a report of its activities for the preceding year, and shall make recommendations with reference to such additional legislation or other action as it deems necessary in order to carry out the purposes of this

chapter. [1965 c 7 § 35.82.230. Prior: 1939 c 23 § 24; RRS § 6889-24. Formerly RCW 74.24.230.]

**35.82.240 Rural housing projects.** Housing authorities created for counties are specifically empowered and authorized to borrow money, accept grants and exercise their other powers to provide housing for farmers of low income as herein defined. In providing such housing, such housing authorities shall not be subject to the tenant selection limitations provided in RCW 35.82.090(3). In connection with such projects, such housing authorities may enter into such leases or purchase agreements, accept such conveyances and rent or sell dwellings forming part of such projects to or for farmers of low income, as such housing authority deems necessary in order to assure the achievement of the objectives of this chapter. Such leases, agreements or conveyances may include such covenants as the housing authority deems appropriate regarding such dwellings and the tracts of land described in any such instrument, which covenants shall be deemed to run with the land where the housing authority deems it necessary and the parties to such instrument so stipulate. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed as limiting any other powers of any housing authority. [1965 c 7 § 35.82.240. Prior: 1941 c 69 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 6889-23a. Formerly RCW 74.24.240.]

**35.82.250 Housing applications by farmers.** The owner of any farm operated, or worked upon, by farmers of low income in need of safe and sanitary housing may file an application with a housing authority of a county requesting that it provide for a safe and sanitary dwelling or dwellings for occupancy by such farmers of low income. Such applications shall be received and examined by housing authorities in connection with the formulation of projects or programs to provide housing for farmers of low income. [1965 c 7 § 35.82.250. Prior: 1941 c 69 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 6889-23b. Formerly RCW 74.24.250.]

**35.82.260 Farmers of low income.** "Farmers of low income" shall mean persons or families who at the time of their admission to occupancy in a dwelling of a housing authority: (1) live under unsafe or insanitary housing conditions; (2) derive their principal income from operating or working upon a farm; and (3) had an aggregate average annual net income for the three years preceding their admission that was less than the amount determined by the housing authority to be necessary, within its area of operation, to enable them, without financial assistance, to obtain decent, safe and sanitary housing without overcrowding. [1965 c 7 § 35.82.260. Prior: 1941 c 69 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 6889-23c. Formerly RCW 74.24.260.]

**35.82.270 Powers are additional.** The powers conferred by RCW 35.82.240 through 35.82.270 shall be in addition and supplemental to the powers conferred by any other law, and nothing contained herein shall be construed as limiting any other powers of any housing authority. [1965 c 7 § 35.82.270. Prior: 1941 c 69 § 4; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 6889-23d. Formerly RCW 74.24.270.]

**35.82.280 Supplemental projects.** Except as limited by this section, an authority shall have the same powers with respect to supplemental projects as hereinafter in this section defined as are now or hereafter granted to it under this chapter with respect to housing projects.

No funds shall be expended by an authority for a supplemental project except by resolution adopted on notice at a public hearing as provided by chapter 42.32 RCW, supported by formal findings of fact incorporated therein, establishing that:

(1) Low-income housing needs within the area of operation of the authority are being or will be adequately met by existing programs; and

(2) A surplus of funds will exist after meeting such low-income housing needs.

Expenditures for supplemental projects shall be limited to those funds determined to be surplus.

"Supplemental project" for the purposes of this chapter shall mean any work or undertaking to provide buildings, land, equipment, facilities, and other real or personal property for recreational, group home, halfway house or other community purposes which by resolution of the housing authority is determined to be necessary for the welfare of the community within its area of operation and to fully accomplish the purposes of this chapter. Such project need not be in conjunction with the clearing of a slum area under subsection (9)(a) of RCW 35.82.020 or with the providing of low-income housing under subsection (9)(b) of RCW 35.82.020. [1971 ex.s. c 300 § 2.]

**35.82.285 Group homes or halfway houses for released juveniles or developmentally disabled.** Housing authorities created under this chapter may establish and operate group homes or halfway houses to serve juveniles released from state juvenile or correctional institutions, or to serve the developmentally disabled as defined in RCW 71A.10.020(2). Authorities may contract for the operation of facilities so established, with qualified nonprofit organizations as agent of the authority. Authorities may provide support or supportive services in facilities serving juveniles, the developmentally disabled or other persons under a disability, and the frail elderly, whether or not they are operated by the authority.

Action under this section shall be taken by the authority only after a public hearing as provided by chapter 42.30 RCW. In exercising this power the authority shall not be empowered to acquire property by eminent domain, and the facilities established shall comply with all zoning, building, fire, and health regulations and procedures applicable in the locality. [1991 c 167 § 3; 1973 1st ex.s. c 198 § 2.]

**Effective date—1973 1st ex.s. c 198:** See note following RCW 13.06.050.

**35.82.300 Joint city-county housing authorities—Creation authorized—Contents of ordinances creating—Powers.** This section applies to all counties.

(1) Joint city-county housing authorities are hereby authorized when the legislative authority of the county and the legislative authority of any city or cities within the county have authorized such joint city-county housing authorities by ordinance.

(2) The ordinance enacted by the legislative authorities creating the joint housing authority shall prescribe the number of commissioners, the method for their appointment and length of their terms, the election of officers, and the method for removal of commissioners.

(3) The ordinances enacted by the legislative authorities creating the joint housing authority shall prescribe the allocation of all costs of the joint housing authority and any other matters necessary for the operation of the joint housing authority.

(4) A joint city-county housing authority shall have all the powers as prescribed by this chapter for any housing authority. The area of operation of a joint city-county authority shall be the combined areas of each as they are defined by RCW 35.82.020(6).

(5) The provisions of RCW 35.82.040 and 35.82.060 as now or hereafter amended shall not apply to a joint city-county housing authority created pursuant to this section. [1980 c 25 § 1.]

**35.82.320 Deactivation of housing authority—Procedure.** A housing authority created under this chapter and activated by a resolution by the governing body of a city, town, or county may be deactivated by a resolution by the city, town, or county. The findings listed in RCW 35.82.030 to activate the housing authority shall be considered prior to deactivating the housing authority. For the sole purposes of winding up the affairs of a deactivated housing authority, the governing body of the city, town, or county may exercise any power granted to a housing authority under this chapter. [1987 c 275 § 1.]

**35.82.325 Deactivation of housing authority—Distribution of assets.** The assets of an authority in the process of deactivation shall be applied and distributed as follows:

(1) All liabilities and obligations of the authority shall be paid, satisfied, and discharged, or adequate provision shall be made therefor;

(2) Assets held by the authority upon condition requiring return, transfer, or conveyance, which condition occurs by reason of the deactivation shall be returned, transferred, or conveyed in accordance with such requirements;

(3) Assets received and held by the authority subject to limitations permitting their use only for activities purposes contained in RCW 35.82.070, but not held upon a condition requiring return, transfer, or conveyance by reason of the deactivation, shall be transferred or conveyed to the governing body of the city, town, or county and used to engage in activities contained in RCW 35.82.070;

(4) Other assets, if any, shall be returned to the governing body of the city, town, or county for uses allowed under state law. [1987 c 275 § 2.]

**35.82.900 Short title.** This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Housing Authorities Law." [1965 c 7 § 35.82.900. Prior: 1939 c 23 § 1.]

**35.82.910 Chapter controlling.** Insofar as the provisions of this chapter are inconsistent with the provisions

of any other law, the provisions of this chapter shall be controlling. [1965 c 7 § 35.82.910. Prior: 1939 c 23 § 26.]

### Chapter 35.83

## HOUSING COOPERATION LAW

#### Sections

- 35.83.005 Short title.
- 35.83.010 Finding and declaration of necessity.
- 35.83.020 Definitions.
- 35.83.030 Cooperation in undertaking housing projects.
- 35.83.040 Agreements as to payments by housing authority.
- 35.83.050 Advances to housing authority.
- 35.83.060 Procedure for exercising powers.
- 35.83.070 Supplemental nature of chapter.

*Housing authorities law: Chapter 35.82 RCW.*

**35.83.005 Short title.** This act may be referred to as the "Housing Cooperation Law." [1965 c 7 § 35.83.005. Prior: 1939 c 24 § 1; RRS § 6889-31.]

**35.83.010 Finding and declaration of necessity.** It has been found and declared in the housing authorities law that there exist in the state unsafe and insanitary housing conditions and a shortage of safe and sanitary dwelling accommodations for persons of low income; that these conditions necessitate excessive and disproportionate expenditures of public funds for crime prevention and punishment, public health and safety, fire and accident protection, and other public services and facilities; and that the public interest requires the remedying of these conditions. It is hereby found and declared that the assistance herein provided for the remedying of the conditions set forth in the housing authorities law constitutes a public use and purpose and an essential governmental function for which public moneys may be spent, and other aid given; that it is a proper public purpose for any state public body to aid any housing authority operating within its boundaries or jurisdiction or any housing project located therein, as the state public body derives immediate benefits and advantages from such an authority or project; and that the provisions hereinafter enacted are necessary in the public interest. [1965 c 7 § 35.83.010. Prior: 1939 c 24 § 2; RRS § 6889-32. Formerly RCW 74.28.010.]

**35.83.020 Definitions.** The following terms, whenever used or referred to in this chapter shall have the following respective meanings, unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context:

(1) "Housing authority" shall mean any housing authority created pursuant to the housing authorities law of this state.

(2) "Housing project" shall mean any work or undertaking of a housing authority pursuant to the housing authorities law or any similar work or undertaking of the federal government.

(3) "State public body" shall mean the state of Washington and any city, town, county, municipal corporation, commission, district, authority, other subdivision or public body of the state.

(4) "Governing body" shall mean the council, the commission, board of county commissioners or other body having charge of the fiscal affairs of the state public body.

(5) "Federal government" shall include the United States of America, the United States housing authority, or any other agency or instrumentality, corporate or otherwise, of the United States of America. [1991 c 167 § 4; 1965 c 7 § 35.83.020. Prior: 1939 c 24 § 3; RRS § 6889-33. Formerly RCW 74.28.020.]

**35.83.030 Cooperation in undertaking housing projects.** For the purpose of aiding and cooperating in the planning, undertaking, construction or operation of housing projects located within the area in which it is authorized to act, any state public body may upon such terms, with or without consideration, as it may determine:

(1) Dedicate, sell, grant, convey, or lease any of its interest in any property, or grant easements, licenses or any other rights or privileges therein to a housing authority or the federal government;

(2) Cause parks, playgrounds, recreational, community, educational, water, sewer or drainage facilities, or any other works which it is otherwise empowered to undertake, to be furnished adjacent to or in connection with housing projects;

(3) Furnish, dedicate, close, pave, install, grade, regrade, plan or replan streets, roads, roadways, alleys, sidewalks or other places which it is otherwise empowered to undertake;

(4) Plan or replan, zone or rezone any part of such state public body; make exceptions from building regulations and ordinances; any city or town also may change its map;

(5) Cause services to be furnished to the housing authority of the character which such state public body is otherwise empowered to furnish;

(6) Enter into agreements with respect to the exercise by such state public body of its powers relating to the repair, elimination or closing of unsafe, insanitary or unfit dwellings;

(7) Employ (notwithstanding the provisions of any other law) any funds belonging to or within the control of such state public body, including funds derived from the sale or furnishing of property or facilities to a housing authority, in the purchase of the bonds or other obligations of a housing authority; and exercise all the rights of any holder of such bonds or other obligations;

(8) Do any and all things, necessary or convenient to aid and cooperate in the planning, undertaking, construction or operation of such housing projects;

(9) Incur the entire expense of any public improvements made by such state public body in exercising the powers granted in this chapter;

(10) Enter into agreements (which may extend over any period, notwithstanding any provision or rule of law to the contrary), with a housing authority respecting action to be taken by such state public body pursuant to any of the powers granted by this chapter. Any law or statute to the contrary notwithstanding, any sale, conveyance, lease or agreement provided for in this section may be made by a state public body without appraisal, advertisement or public bidding: PROVIDED, There must be five days public notice given either by posting in three public places or publishing

in the official county newspaper of the county wherein the property is located; and

(11) With respect to any housing project which a housing authority has acquired or taken over from the federal government and which the housing authority by resolution has found and declared to have been constructed in a manner that will promote the public interest and afford necessary safety, sanitation and other protection, no state public body shall require any changes to be made in the housing project or the manner of its construction or take any other action relating to such construction. [1991 c 167 § 5; 1965 c 7 § 35.83.030. Prior: 1939 c 24 § 4; RRS § 6889-34. Formerly RCW 74.28.030.]

**35.83.040 Agreements as to payments by housing authority.** In connection with any housing project located wholly or partly within the area in which it is authorized to act, any state public body may agree with a housing authority or the federal government that a certain sum (in no event to exceed the amount last levied as the annual tax of such state public body upon the property included in said project prior to the time of its acquisition by the housing authority) or that no sum, shall be paid by the authority in lieu of taxes for any year or period of years. [1965 c 7 § 35.83.040. Prior: 1939 c 24 § 5; RRS § 6889-35. Formerly RCW 74.28.040.]

**35.83.050 Advances to housing authority.** Any city, town, or county located in whole or in part within the area of operation of a housing authority shall have the power from time to time to lend or donate money to such authority or to agree to take such action. Such housing authority, when it has money available therefor, shall make reimbursements for all such loans made to it. [1965 c 7 § 35.83.050. Prior: 1939 c 24 § 6; RRS § 6889-36. Formerly RCW 74.28.050.]

**35.83.060 Procedure for exercising powers.** The exercise by a state public body of the powers herein granted may be authorized by resolution of the governing body of such state public body adopted by a majority of the members of its governing body present at a meeting of said governing body, which resolution may be adopted at the meeting at which such resolution is introduced. Such a resolution or resolutions shall take effect immediately and need not be laid over or published or posted. [1965 c 7 § 35.83.060. Prior: 1939 c 24 § 7; RRS § 6889-37. Formerly RCW 74.28.060.]

**35.83.070 Supplemental nature of chapter.** The powers conferred by this chapter shall be in addition and supplemental to the powers conferred by any other law. [1965 c 7 § 35.83.070. Prior: 1939 c 24 § 8; RRS § 6889-39. Formerly RCW 74.28.070.]

## Chapter 35.84

### UTILITY AND OTHER SERVICES BEYOND CITY LIMITS

#### Sections

- 35.84.010 Electric energy—Sale of—Purchase.
- 35.84.020 Electric energy facilities—Right to acquire.
- 35.84.030 Limitation on right of eminent domain.
- 35.84.040 Fire apparatus—Use beyond city limits.
- 35.84.050 Fireman injured outside corporate limits.
- 35.84.060 Street railway extensions.

**35.84.010 Electric energy—Sale of—Purchase.** Every city or town owning its own electric power and light plant, shall have the right to sell and dispose of electric energy to any other city or town, public utility district, governmental agency, or municipal corporation, mutual association, or to any person, firm, or corporation, inside or outside its corporate limits, and to purchase electric energy therefrom. [1965 c 7 § 35.84.010. Prior: 1933 c 51 § 1; RRS § 9209-1.]

*Reduced utility rates for low-income senior citizens and low-income disabled citizens: RCW 74.38.070.*

**35.84.020 Electric energy facilities—Right to acquire.** Every city or town owning its own electric power and light plant may acquire, construct, purchase, condemn and purchase, own, operate, control, add to and maintain lands, easements, rights-of-way, franchises, distribution systems, substations, inter-tie or transmission lines, to enable it to use, purchase, sell, and dispose of electric energy inside or outside its corporate limits, or to connect its electric plant with any other electric plant or system, or to connect parts of its own electric system. [1965 c 7 § 35.84.020. Prior: 1933 c 51 § 2; RRS § 9209-2.]

**35.84.030 Limitation on right of eminent domain.** Every city or town owning its own electric power and light plant may exercise the power of eminent domain as provided by law for the condemnation of private property for any of the corporate uses or purposes of the city or town: PROVIDED, That no city or town shall acquire, by purchase or condemnation, any publicly or privately owned electric power and light plant or electric system located in any other city or town except with the approval of a majority of the qualified electors of the city or town in which the property to be acquired is situated; nor shall any city or town acquire by condemnation the electric power and light plant or electric system, or any part thereof, belonging to or owned or operated by any municipal corporation, mutual, nonprofit, or cooperative association or organization, or by a public utility district. [1965 c 7 § 35.84.030. Prior: 1933 c 51 § 3; RRS § 9209-3.]

*Eminent domain by cities: Chapter 8.12 RCW.*

**35.84.040 Fire apparatus—Use beyond city limits.** Every municipal corporation which owns, operates, or maintains fire apparatus and equipment may permit, under conditions prescribed by the governing body of such corporation, such equipment and the personnel operating the same to go outside of the corporate limits of such municipality for

the purpose of extinguishing or aiding in the extinguishing or control of fires. Any use made of such equipment or personnel under the authority of this section shall be deemed an exercise of a governmental function of such municipal corporation. [1965 c 7 § 35.84.040. Prior: 1941 c 96 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9213-9.]

#### 35.84.050 Fireman injured outside corporate limits.

Whenever a fireman engages in any duty outside the limits of such municipality, such duty shall be considered as part of his duty as fireman for the municipality, and a fireman who is injured while engaged in such duties outside the limits of the municipality shall be entitled to the same benefits that he or his family would be entitled to receive had he been injured within the municipality. [1965 c 7 § 35.84.050. Prior: 1941 c 96 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9563-1.]

**35.84.060 Street railway extensions.** Every municipal corporation which owns or operates an urban public transportation system as defined in RCW 47.04.082 within its corporate limits, may acquire, construct, extend, own or operate such urban public transportation system to any point or points not to exceed fifteen miles outside of its corporate limits: PROVIDED, That no municipal corporation shall extend its urban public transportation system beyond its corporate limits to operate in any territory already served by a privately operated auto transportation company holding a certificate of public convenience and necessity from the utilities and transportation commission. [1969 ex.s. c 281 § 26; 1965 c 7 § 35.84.060. Prior: 1919 c 138 § 1; 1917 c 59 § 1; RRS § 9213.]

### Chapter 35.85

#### VIADUCTS, ELEVATED ROADWAYS, TUNNELS AND SUBWAYS

##### Sections

35.85.010	Authority to construct viaducts, bridges, elevated roadways, etc.
35.85.020	Assessment district—Resolution—Hearing—Ordinance ordering improvement.
35.85.030	Limit of assessment—Lien—Priority.
35.85.040	Operation by city—Leases—Use of income.
35.85.050	Authority to construct tunnels and subways.
35.85.060	Procedure.
35.85.070	Assessments—Bonds.
35.85.080	Construction of chapter.

**35.85.010 Authority to construct viaducts, bridges, elevated roadways, etc.** Any city of the first class shall have power to provide for the construction, maintenance and operation upon public streets and upon the extensions and connections thereof over intervening tidelands to and across any harbor reserves, waterways, canals, rivers, natural watercourses and other channels, any bridges, drawbridges, viaducts, elevated roadways and tunnels or any combination thereof together with all necessary approaches thereto, with or without street railway tracks thereon or therein, and to make any and all necessary cuts, fills, or other construction, upon, in, or along such streets and approaches as a part of any such improvement, and to order any and all work to be

done which shall be necessary to complete any such improvement. The word "approaches" as used in this section shall include any arterial highway or highways or streets connecting with any such bridge, drawbridge, viaduct, elevated roadway or tunnel, or combination thereof, which are necessary to give convenient access thereto or therefrom from any portion of the improvement district which may be specially benefited by such improvement and which is liable to assessment for such improvement.

Whenever it is desired to pay the whole or any portion of the cost and expense of any such improvement by special assessments, the council or other legislative body of such city shall in the ordinance ordering such improvement fix and establish the boundaries of the improvement district, the property within which is to bear such assessment, which district shall include as near as may be, all the property specially benefited by such improvement. [1965 c 7 § 35.85.010. Prior: 1911 c 103 § 1; 1909 ex.s. c 14 § 1; RRS § 9001.]

*First class cities, generally: Chapter 35.22 RCW.*

**35.85.020 Assessment district—Resolution—Hearing—Ordinance ordering improvement.** Any such improvement may be initiated by the city council, or other legislative body, by a resolution, declaring its intention to order such improvement, which resolution shall set forth the nature and territorial extent of such proposed improvement, shall specify and describe the boundaries of the proposed improvement district and notify all persons who may desire to object thereto to appear and present such objections at a meeting of the council specified in such resolution and directing the board of public works, or other proper board, officer, or authority of the city, to submit to such council at or prior to the date fixed for such hearing the estimated cost and expense of the improvement, and a statement of the proportionate amount thereof which should be borne by the property within the proposed improvement district, and a statement of the aggregate assessed valuation of the real property exclusive of improvements, within said district, according to the valuation last placed upon it for purposes of general taxation. Such resolution shall be published in at least two consecutive issues of the official newspaper of the city, the date of the first publication to be at least thirty days prior to the date fixed by the resolution for hearing before the council.

Upon such hearing, or upon any adjournment thereof, the council shall have power to amend, change, extend, or contract the boundaries of the proposed improvement district as specified in the resolution, and to consider and determine all matters in relation to the proposed improvement, and, upon the conclusion of the hearing, or any adjournment thereof, shall have power by ordinance to order the improvement to be made and to adopt, fix and establish the boundaries of the improvement district. The action of such council in ordering such improvement, or in abandoning it, and in fixing and establishing the boundaries of the improvement district shall be final and conclusive. Any such ordinance may be passed upon majority vote of the council or other legislative body of the city.

Such ordinance may provide for the construction of the improvement in sections, the letting of separate contracts for



each such section, and, in case the same is made in sections, separate assessment rolls to defray the cost and expense of any such section of such improvement may be prepared, and the amounts thereon appearing as finally determined, may be levied and assessed against real property within the improvement district. The provisions of law, charter and ordinance of any such city, relating to supplemental assessments, reassessments and omitted property shall be applicable to any improvement authorized in this chapter.

The city council, or other legislative body of such city, shall by general ordinance, make provision for hearing any objections in writing, to any assessment roll for such improvement, filed with the city clerk or comptroller at a prior date to the hearing thereon. Any right of appeal to the superior court provided by law to be taken from any local improvement assessment levied and assessed by any such city, may be exercised, within the time and in the manner therein provided, by any person so objecting to any assessment levied and assessed for any improvement authorized in this chapter. [1965 c 7 § 35.85.020. Prior: 1911 c 103 § 2; 1909 ex.s. c 14 § 2; RRS § 9002.]

*Appeal from local improvement district assessments: RCW 35.44.200 through 35.44.270.*

**35.85.030 Limit of assessment—Lien—Priority.** The city council may prescribe by general ordinance, the mode and manner in which the charge upon property in such local improvement district shall be assessed and determined for the purpose of paying the cost and expense of establishing and constructing such improvement: PROVIDED, That no assessment shall be levied on any such district, the aggregate of which is a greater sum than twenty-five percent of the assessed value of all the real property in such district according to the last equalized assessment thereof for general taxation: PROVIDED FURTHER, That there shall be, in all cases, an opportunity for a hearing upon objections to the assessment roll by the parties affected thereby, before the council as a board of equalization, which hearing shall be after publication of a reasonable notice thereof, such notice to be published in such manner and for such time as may be prescribed by ordinance. At such hearing, or at legal adjournments thereof, such changes may be made in the assessment roll as the city council may find necessary to make the same just and equitable. Railroad rights-of-way shall be assessed for such benefits as shall inure or accrue to the owners, lessees, or operators of the same, resulting or to result from the construction and maintenance of any such improvement, whether such rights-of-way lie within the limits of any street or highway or not; such assessment to lie against the franchise rights when such right-of-way is within such street or highway.

When the assessment roll has been finally confirmed by the city council, the charges therein made shall be and become a lien against the property or franchise therein described, paramount to all other liens (except liens for assessments and taxes) upon the property assessed from the time the assessment roll shall be placed in the hands of the collector. [1965 c 7 § 35.85.030. Prior: 1909 ex.s. c 14 § 3; RRS § 9003.]

**35.85.040 Operation by city—Leases—Use of income.** As a part of the original construction of any improvement herein authorized, or afterward as an alteration or renewal thereof, any such city, notwithstanding any charter provision to the contrary, may, at its own cost, construct, maintain and operate street railway tracks in the roadway thereof, and may provide electric power for the propulsion of cars, and may lease the use of such tracks and power for the operation of street cars or interurban railways; or such city may authorize any operator of the street or interurban railways to construct and furnish such street railway tracks and electric power and use the same for street or interurban purposes, under lease or franchise ordinance: PROVIDED, That no such lease or franchise shall be exclusive, but shall at all times reserve the right to the city to permit other lines of street or interurban railway to use such street railway tracks in common with any preceding lessee or grantee, upon equal terms. The rate of lease or use of such street railway tracks for streets or interurban cars shall be as fixed by the legislative authority of the city, but shall not be less than one mill for each passenger carried, or ten cents for each freight car moved over such improvement. The income from such charges, rental and leasing shall be used wholly for the maintenance, repair and betterment of said improvement and the extinguishment of any debt incurred by the city in constructing it. [1965 c 7 § 35.85.040. Prior: 1909 ex.s. c 14 § 4; RRS § 9004.]

**35.85.050 Authority to construct tunnels and subways.** Any city of the first class shall have power to provide for the construction, maintenance and operation within such city of tunnels, subways, or both, with or without roadways, sidewalks, street railway tracks or any combination thereof therein, together with all necessary approaches thereto; and to order any and all work to be done which shall be necessary to complete any such improvement. The word "approaches," as used in this section, shall include any arterial highway or highways or streets connecting with any such tunnel or subway which may be necessary to give convenient access thereto or therefrom from any portion of the improvement district which may be specially benefited by such improvement, and which is liable to assessment for such improvement.

Whenever it is desired to pay the whole or any portion of the cost and expense of any such improvement by special assessments, the council or other legislative body of such city shall, in the ordinance ordering such improvement, fix and establish the boundaries of the improvement district, the property in which is to bear such assessment, which district shall include as near as may be all the property specially benefited by such improvement. [1965 c 7 § 35.85.050. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 168 § 1; RRS § 9005-1.]

**35.85.060 Procedure.** Any such improvement may be initiated and assessments therefor determined and levied as prescribed in RCW 35.85.020 to 35.85.040, inclusive. [1965 c 7 § 35.85.060. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 168 § 2; RRS § 9005-2.]

**35.85.070 Assessments—Bonds.** Any assessments so levied shall be collected, and bonds may be issued for the

payment of the whole or any part of the cost of such improvement, in the manner now or hereafter provided for the collection of assessments and the issuance of bonds for other local improvements. [1965 c 7 § 35.85.070. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 168 § 3; RRS § 9005-3.]

**35.85.080 Construction of chapter.** The provisions and remedies provided by this chapter are cumulative of existing provisions and remedies, and nothing herein contained shall be held to repeal any provision of the existing law or of any charter of any city upon the subject matter thereof, but such existing law or charter provision shall continue in full force and effect, and it shall be optional with the city authorities to proceed under either such existing law, charter provision or this chapter. [1965 c 7 § 35.85.080. Prior: (i) 1909 ex.s. c 14 § 5; RRS § 9005. (ii) 1925 ex.s. c 168 § 4; RRS § 9005-4.]

## Chapter 35.86 OFF-STREET PARKING FACILITIES

### Sections

- 35.86.010 Space and facilities authorized.
- 35.86.020 Financing.
- 35.86.030 Acquisition and disposition of real property.
- 35.86.040 Operation—Leasing.
- 35.86.045 Operation of parking facilities by cities prohibited, except—Bid requirements and procedure.
- 35.86.050 Procedure to establish—Plan, surveys, hearings.
- 35.86.060 Maximum parking fee schedule.
- 35.86.080 Leasing for store space in lieu of undesirable off-street parking facility.
- 35.86.910 Chapter prevails over inconsistent laws.

**35.86.010 Space and facilities authorized.** Cities of the first, second, and third classes are authorized to provide off-street parking space and facilities located on land dedicated for park or civic center purposes, or on other municipally-owned land where the primary purpose of such off-street parking facility is to provide parking for persons who use such park or civic center facilities. In addition a city may own other off-street parking facilities and operate them in accordance with RCW 35.86A.120. [1975 1st ex.s. c 221 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 144 § 13; 1965 c 7 § 35.86.010. Prior: 1961 c 186 § 1; 1959 c 302 § 1.]

**Severability—1975 1st ex.s. c 221:** "If any provision of this 1975 amendatory act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1975 1st ex.s. c 221 § 5.]

**Severability—1967 ex.s. c 144:** See note following RCW 36.900.030.

*Off-street parking space and facilities in towns:* RCW 35.27.550 through 35.27.600.

*Public parks in or beneath off-street parking space or facilities—Revenue bond financing—Special funds—Use of off-street and on-street parking revenues:* RCW 35.41.010.

**35.86.020 Financing.** In order to provide for off-street parking space and/or facilities, such cities are authorized, in addition to the powers already possessed by them for financing public improvements, to finance their acquisition and construction through the issuance and sale of revenue bonds or general obligation bonds or both. Any

bonds issued by such cities pursuant to this section shall be issued in the manner and within the limitations prescribed by the Constitution and the laws of this state.

In addition local improvement districts may be created and their financing procedures used for this purpose in accordance with the provisions of Title 35 RCW as now or hereafter amended.

Such cities may authorize and finance the economic and physical surveys and plans, acquisition and construction, for off-street parking spaces and facilities, and the maintenance and management of such off-street parking spaces and facilities either within their general budget or by issuing revenue bonds or general obligation bonds or both.

General obligation bonds issued hereunder may additionally be made payable from any otherwise unpledged revenue, fees or charges which may be derived from the ownership, operation, lease or license of off-street parking space or facilities or which may be derived from the license of on-street parking space.

Such cities may, in addition to utilizing the pledging revenues from off-street parking spaces and facilities, utilize and pledge revenues from on-street parking meters in exercising any of the powers provided by this chapter, including the financing of economic and physical surveys and plans, acquisition, and construction, for off-street parking facilities, the maintenance and management thereof, and for the payment of debt service of revenue bonds issued therefor.

In the event revenue bonds are issued, such cities are authorized to make such covenants pertaining to the continued maintenance of on-street and/or off-street parking spaces and facilities and the fixing of rates and charges for the use thereof as are deemed necessary to effectuate the sale of such revenue bonds. [1969 ex.s. c 204 § 14; 1967 ex.s. c 144 § 14; 1965 c 7 § 35.86.020. Prior: 1961 c 186 § 2; 1959 c 302 § 2.]

**Severability—1969 ex.s. c 204:** See note following RCW 35.86A.010.

**Severability—1967 ex.s. c 144:** See note following RCW 36.900.030.

*Public parks in or beneath off-street parking space or facilities—Revenue bond financing—Special funds—Use of off-street and on-street parking revenues:* RCW 35.41.010.

**35.86.030 Acquisition and disposition of real property.** Such cities are authorized to obtain by lease, purchase, donation and/or gift, or by eminent domain in the manner provided by law for the exercise of this power by cities, such real property for off-street parking as the legislative bodies thereof determine to be necessary by ordinance. Such property or any fraction or fractions thereof may be sold, transferred, exchanged, leased, or otherwise disposed of by the city when its legislative body has determined by ordinance such property or fraction or fractions thereof is no longer necessary for off-street parking purposes. [1965 c 7 § 35.86.030. Prior: 1961 c 186 § 3; 1959 c 302 § 3.]

*Eminent domain by cities:* Chapter 8.12 RCW.

**35.86.040 Operation—Leasing.** Such cities are authorized to establish the method of operation of off-street parking space and/or facilities by ordinance, which may

include leasing or municipal operation. [1975 1st ex.s. c 221 § 2; 1969 ex.s. c 204 § 13; 1965 c 7 § 35.86.040. Prior: 1959 c 302 § 4.]

**Severability—1975 1st ex.s. c 221:** See note following RCW 35.86.010.

**Severability—1969 ex.s. c 204:** See note following RCW 35.86A.010.

**35.86.045 Operation of parking facilities by cities prohibited, exception—Bid requirements and procedure.** See RCW 35.86A.120.

**35.86.050 Procedure to establish—Plan, surveys, hearings.** In the establishment of off-street parking space and/or facilities, cities shall proceed with the development of the plan therefor by making such economic and physical surveys as are necessary, shall prepare comprehensive plans therefor, and shall hold a public hearing thereon prior to the adoption of any ordinances relating to the leasing or acquisition of property and providing for the financing thereof for this purpose. [1965 c 7 § 35.86.050. Prior: 1959 c 302 § 5.]

**35.86.060 Maximum parking fee schedule.** The lease referred to in RCW 35.86.040 shall specify a schedule of maximum parking fees which the operator may charge. This maximum parking fee schedule may be modified from time to time by agreement of the city and the operator. [1965 c 7 § 35.86.060. Prior: 1959 c 302 § 6.]

**35.86.080 Leasing for store space in lieu of undesirable off-street parking facility.** Cities are expressly authorized to lease space which would otherwise be wasted in an off-street parking facility for store space, both for the enhancement of civic beauty and aesthetic values and for revenue which such leasing can provide. [1965 c 7 § 35.86.080. Prior: 1961 c 186 § 4.]

**35.86.910 Chapter prevails over inconsistent laws.** Insofar as the provisions of this chapter are inconsistent with the provisions of any other law, the provisions of this chapter shall be controlling. [1965 c 7 § 35.86.910. Prior: 1959 c 302 § 9.]

## Chapter 35.86A

### OFF-STREET PARKING—PARKING COMMISSIONS

#### Sections

- 35.86A.010 Declaration.
- 35.86A.020 Authority of cities of first and second class to establish parking facilities through parking commissions.
- 35.86A.030 Definitions.
- 35.86A.040 Ownership, control and use of parking facilities.
- 35.86A.050 Parking commission—Creation authorized—Purpose—Membership—Terms—Vacancies—Expenses.
- 35.86A.060 Parking commission—Chairman—Rules—Resolutions.
- 35.86A.070 Powers and authority of parking commission.
- 35.86A.080 New off-street parking facilities—Powers of parking commission and city council.
- 35.86A.090 Powers of cities.
- 35.86A.100 Disposition of revenues—Expenditure procedure.

35.86A.110 Excise tax to reimburse taxing authorities for loss of property tax revenue.

35.86A.120 Operation of parking facilities—Bid requirements and procedure.

**35.86A.010 Declaration.** It is hereby determined and declared:

(1) The free circulation of traffic of all kinds through our cities is necessary to the health, safety and general welfare of the public, whether residing in, traveling to or through the cities of this state;

(2) The most efficient use of the street and highway system requires availability of strategically located parking for vehicles in localities where large numbers of persons congregate;

(3) An expanding suburban population has increased demands for further concentration of uses in central metropolitan areas, necessitating an increasing investment in streets and highways;

(4) On-street parking is now inadequate, and becomes increasingly an inefficient and uneconomical method for temporary storage of vehicles in commercial, industrial and high-density residential areas, causing such immediate adverse consequences as the following, among others:

(a) Serious traffic congestion from on-street parking, which interferes with use of streets for travel, disrupts public surface transportation at peak hours, impedes rapid and effective fighting of fires and disposition of police forces, slows emergency vehicles, and inflicts hardship upon handicapped persons and others dependent upon private vehicles for transportation;

(b) On-street parking absorbs right-of-way useful and usable for travel;

(c) On-street parking reduces the space available for truck and passenger loading for the abutting properties, hinders ready access, and impedes cleaning of streets;

(d) Inability to temporarily store automobiles has discouraged the public from travel to and within our cities, from congregating at public events, and from using public facilities.

(5) Insufficient off-street parking has had long-range results, as the following, among others:

(a) Metropolitan street and highway systems have lost efficiency and the free circulation of traffic and persons has been impaired;

(b) The growth and development of metropolitan areas has been retarded;

(c) Business, industry, and housing has become unnecessarily and uneconomically dispersed;

(d) Limited and valuable land area is under used.

All of which cause loss of payrolls, business and productivity, and property values, with resulting impairment of the public health, safety and welfare, the utility of our streets and highways, and tax revenues;

(6) Establishment of public off-street parking facilities will promote the public health, safety, convenience, and welfare, by:

(a) Expediting the movement of the public, and of goods in metropolitan areas, alleviating traffic congestion, and preserving the large investment in streets and highways;

(b) Permitting a greater use of public facilities, congregation of the public, and more intensive development of private property within the community;

(7) Establishment of public off-street parking is a necessary ancillary to and extension of an efficient street and highway system in metropolitan areas, as much so as a station or terminal is to a railroad or urban transit line;

(8) Public off-street parking facilities, open to the public and owned by a city or town, are and remain a public use and a public function, irrespective of whether:

(a) Parking fees are charged to users;

(b) The management or operation of one or more parking facilities is conducted by a public agency, or under contract or lease by private enterprise; or

(c) A portion of the facilities is used for commercial, store or automobile accessory purposes;

(9) Public parking facilities under the control of a parking commission are appropriately treated differently from other parking facilities of a city. [1969 ex.s. c 204 § 1.]

**Severability—1969 ex.s. c 204:** "If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1969 ex.s. c 204 § 15.] This applies to chapter 35.86A RCW and RCW 35.86.020 and 35.86.040.

**35.86A.020 Authority of cities of first and second class to establish parking facilities through parking commissions.** Cities of the first and second class are authorized and empowered to establish and maintain public off-street parking facilities through a parking commission; the use of property and property rights for such purpose is declared to be a public use; and parking facilities under the control of such parking commission shall be governed by the provisions of this chapter. [1994 c 81 § 64; 1969 ex.s. c 204 § 2.]

**35.86A.030 Definitions.** (1) "Parking facilities" means lots, garages, parking terminals, buildings and structures and accommodations for parking of motor vehicles off the street or highway, open to public use, with or without charge.

(2) "Parking commission" shall mean the department or agency created by the legislative authority of the municipality as hereinafter provided.

(3) "City council" shall mean the city council or legislative authority of the municipality.

(4) "Mayor" shall mean the chief executive officer of the municipality. [1969 ex.s. c 204 § 3.]

**35.86A.040 Ownership, control and use of parking facilities.** Parking facilities established pursuant to this chapter shall be owned by the city, under the control of the parking commission (unless relinquished), and for the use of the public. The provisions of chapter 35.86 RCW as now or hereafter amended shall not apply to such parking facilities or other facilities under parking commission control. [1969 ex.s. c 204 § 4.]

**35.86A.050 Parking commission—Creation authorized—Purpose—Membership—Terms—Vacancies—Expenses.** Any city of the first or second class may by

ordinance create a parking commission for the purpose of establishing and operating off-street parking facilities.

Such parking commission shall consist of five members appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the city council, who shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for necessary expenses. One member of the parking commission shall be selected from among persons actively engaged in the private parking industry, if available.

Three of those first appointed shall be designated to serve for one, two, and three years respectively, and two shall be designated to serve four years. The terms for all subsequently appointed members shall be four years. In event of any vacancy, the mayor, subject to confirmation of the city council, shall make appointments to fill the unexpired portion of the term.

A member may be reappointed, and shall hold office until his or her successor has been appointed and has qualified. Members may be removed by the mayor upon consent of the city council. [1994 c 81 § 65; 1969 ex.s. c 204 § 5.]

**35.86A.060 Parking commission—Chairman—Rules—Resolutions.** The parking commission shall select from its members a chairman, and may establish its own rules, regulations and procedures not inconsistent with this chapter. No resolution shall be adopted by the parking commission except upon the concurrence of at least three members. [1969 ex.s. c 204 § 6.]

**35.86A.070 Powers and authority of parking commission.** The parking commission is authorized and empowered, in the name of the municipality by resolution to:

(1) Own and acquire property and property rights by purchase, gift, devise, or lease for the construction, maintenance, or operation of off-street parking facilities, or for effectuating the purpose of this chapter; and accept grants-in-aid, including compliance with conditions attached thereto;

(2) Construct, maintain, and operate off-street parking facilities located on land dedicated for park or civic center purposes, or on other municipally-owned land where the primary purpose of such off-street parking facility is to provide parking for persons who use such park or civic center facilities, and undertake research, and prepare plans incidental thereto subject to applicable statutes and charter provisions for municipal purchases, expenditures, and improvements; and in addition may own other off-street parking facilities and operate them in accordance with RCW 35.86A.120: PROVIDED, That the provisions of chapter 35.86 RCW as now or hereafter amended shall not apply to such construction, operation or maintenance;

(3) Establish and collect parking fees, require that receipts be provided for parking fees, make exemption for handicapped persons, lease space for commercial, store, advertising or automobile accessory purposes, and regulate prices and service charges, for use of and within and the aerial space over parking facilities under its control;

(4) Subject to applicable city civil service provisions, provide for the appointment, removal and control of officers and employees, and prescribe their duties and compensation, and to control all equipment and property under the commission's jurisdiction;

(5) Contract with private persons and organizations for the management and/or operation of parking facilities under its control, and services related thereto, including leasing of such facilities or portions thereof;

(6) Cause construction of parking facilities as a condition of an operating agreement or lease, derived through competitive bidding, or in the manner authorized by chapter 35.42 RCW;

(7) Execute and accept instruments, including deeds, necessary or convenient for the carrying on of its business; acquire rights to develop parking facilities over or under city property; and to contract to operate and manage parking facilities under the jurisdiction of other city departments or divisions and of other public bodies;

(8) Determine the need for and recommend to the city council:

(a) The establishment of local improvement districts to pay the cost of parking facilities or any part thereof;

(b) The issuance of bonds or other financing by the city for construction of parking facilities;

(c) The acquisition of property and property rights by condemnation from the public, or in street areas;

(9) Transfer its control of property to the city and liquidate its affairs, so long as such transfer does not contravene any covenant or agreement made with the holders of bonds or other creditors; and

(10) Require payment of the excise tax hereinafter provided.

Parking fees for parking facilities under the control of the parking commission shall be maintained commensurate with and neither higher nor lower than prevailing rates for parking charged by commercial operators in the general area. [1980 c 127 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 221 § 3; 1969 ex.s. c 204 § 7.]

**Severability—1975 1st ex.s. c 221:** See note following RCW 35.86.010.

**35.86A.080 New off-street parking facilities—Powers of parking commission and city council.** (1) Whenever the parking commission intends to construct new off-street parking facilities it shall:

(a) Prepare plans for such proposed development, which shall meet the approval of the planning commission, other appropriate city planning agency, or city council;

(b) Prepare a report to the city council stating the proposed method of financing and property acquisition;

(c) Specify the property rights, if any, to be secured from the public or of property devoted to public use; the uses of streets necessary therefor, or realignment or vacation of streets and alleys; the relocation of street utilities; and any street area to be occupied or closed during construction.

(2) In the event the proposed parking facility shall require:

(a) Creation of a local improvement district;

(b) Issuance of bonds, allocation or appropriation of municipal revenues from other sources, or guarantees of or use of the credit of the municipality;

(c) Exercise of the power of eminent domain; or

(d) Use of, or vacation, realignment of streets and alleys, or relocation of municipal utilities.

One or more public hearings shall be held thereon before the city council, or an assigned committee thereof,

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which shall report its recommendations to be approved, revised, or rejected by the city council. Such hearings may be consolidated with any required hearings for street vacations, or creation of a local improvement district. Pursuant to such hearing, the city council may:

(1) Create a local improvement district to finance all or part of the parking facility, in accordance with Title 35 RCW, as now existing or hereinafter amended: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That assessments against property within the district may be measured per lot, per square foot, by property valuation, or any other method as fairly reflects the special benefits derived therefrom, and credit in calculating the assessment may be allowed for property rights or services performed;

(2) Provide for issuance of revenue bonds payable from revenues of the proposed parking facility, from other off-street parking facilities, on-street meter collections, or allocations of other sources of funds; issue general obligation bonds; make reimbursable or nonrefundable appropriations from the general fund, or reserves; and/or guarantee bonds issued or otherwise pledge the city's credit, all in such combination, and under such terms and conditions as the city council shall specify;

(3) Authorize acquisition of the necessary property and property rights by eminent domain proceedings, in the manner authorized by law for cities in Title 8 RCW: PROVIDED, That the city council shall first determine that the proposed parking facility will promote the circulation of traffic or the more convenient or efficient use by the public of streets or public facilities in the immediate area than would exist if the proposed parking facility were not provided, or that the parking facility otherwise enhances the public health, safety and welfare; and

(4) Authorize and execute the necessary transfer or control of property rights; vacate or realign streets and alleys or permit uses within the same; and direct relocation of street utilities.

In event none of the four above powers need be exercised, the city council's approval of construction plans shall be deemed full authority to construct and complete the parking facility. [1969 ex.s. c 204 § 8.]

**35.86A.090 Powers of cities.** The city may:

(1) Transfer control of off-street parking facilities under other departments to the parking commission under such conditions as deemed appropriate;

(2) Issue revenue bonds pursuant to chapter 35.41 RCW, and RCW \*35.24.305, and 35.81.100 as now or hereafter amended, and such other statutes as may authorize such bonds for parking facilities authorized herein;

(3) Issue general obligation bonds pursuant to chapters 39.44, 39.52 RCW, and RCW 35.81.115 as now or hereafter amended, and such other statutes and applicable provisions of the state Constitution that may authorize such bonds for parking facilities authorized herein;

(4) Appropriate funds for the parking commission; and

(5) Enact such ordinances as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter, notwithstanding any charter provisions to the contrary. [1969 ex.s. c 204 § 9.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 35.24.305 was recodified as RCW 35.23.454 pursuant to 1994 c 81 § 90.

**35.86A.100 Disposition of revenues—Expenditure procedure.** All revenues received shall be paid to the municipal treasurer for the credit of the general fund, or such other funds as may be provided by ordinance.

Expenditures of the parking commission shall be made in accordance with the budget adopted by the municipality pursuant to chapter 35.32A RCW. [1969 ex.s. c 204 § 10.]

**35.86A.110 Excise tax to reimburse taxing authorities for loss of property tax revenue.** Such cities shall pay to the county treasurer an annual excise tax equal to the amount which would be paid upon real property devoted to the purpose of off-street parking, were it in private ownership. This section shall apply to parking facilities acquired and/or operated under this chapter. The proceeds of such excise tax shall be allocated by the county treasurer to the various taxing authorities in which such property is situated, in the same manner as though the property were in private ownership. [1969 ex.s. c 204 § 11.]

**35.86A.120 Operation of parking facilities—Bid requirements and procedure.** Except for off-street parking facilities situated on real property leased or rented to a city and not used for park and civic center parking, cities may operate off-street parking facilities with city forces. Leased or rented off-street parking facilities shall be operated by responsible, experienced private operators of such facilities. The call for bids shall specify the terms and conditions under which the facility will be leased for private operation. The call for bids shall specify the time and place at which the bids will be received and the time and when the same will be opened, and such call shall be advertised once a week for two successive weeks before the time fixed for the filing of bids in a newspaper of general circulation in the city. If no bid is received for the operation of such an off-street parking facility, or if the bids received are not satisfactory, the legislative body of the city may reject such bids and shall readvertise the facility for lease. In the event that no bids or no satisfactory bids shall have been received following the second advertising, the city may negotiate with a private operator for the operation of the facility without competitive bidding. In the event the city shall be unable to negotiate for satisfactory private operation within a reasonable time, the city may operate the facility for a period not to exceed three years, at which time it shall readvertise as provided above in this section. [1980 c 127 § 2; 1975 1st ex.s. c 221 § 4; 1969 ex.s. c 204 § 12.]

**Severability—1975 1st ex.s. c 221:** See note following RCW 35.86.010.

### Chapter 35.87

## PARKING FACILITIES—CONVEYANCE OF LAND FOR IN CITIES OVER 300,000

#### Sections

- 35.87.010 Sale, lease or conveyance of real property for free public parking authorized—"Municipality" defined.  
35.87.020 Notice of intention to sell, lease or convey real property in business area—Posting—Publication—Preference right to purchase or lease.

35.87.030 Consideration, terms and conditions—Reversion.

35.87.040 RCW 35.87.020 inapplicable to sale, lease or conveyance to federal government or agency or to the state or any county, city or political subdivision.

**35.87.010 Sale, lease or conveyance of real property for free public parking authorized—"Municipality" defined.** Any municipality may sell, lease or convey any real property located in an area zoned to permit the operation of retail business, when such property is no longer needed for the use or purposes of the municipality, to any private corporation or association established to develop and maintain free public parking facilities. "Municipality" as used in RCW 35.87.010 through 35.87.040, means any city with a population over three hundred thousand and any municipal corporation or other political subdivision located within the boundaries of such city. [1967 ex.s. c 144 § 2.]

**Severability—1967 ex.s. c 144:** See note following RCW 36.900.030.

**35.87.020 Notice of intention to sell, lease or convey real property in business area—Posting—Publication—Preference right to purchase or lease.** Before any municipality may sell, lease or convey any real property located in an area zoned to permit the operation of retail business, it shall post in a conspicuous place on such property and publish in the official newspaper for the county in which such property is located for fifteen days prior to such sale, lease or conveyance a notice giving the legal description of such property and disclosing an intention to sell, lease or convey such property; and it shall offer in its notice, and shall give, the first right of purchase or lease of the whole or any part of such property to any private corporation or association (1) established to develop and maintain free public parking facilities and (2) which agrees to dedicate such property for free public parking. [1967 ex.s. c 144 § 3.]

**Severability—1967 ex.s. c 144:** See note following RCW 36.900.030.

**35.87.030 Consideration, terms and conditions—Reversion.** A sale, lease or conveyance to such corporation or association may be made for such consideration and on such terms and conditions as the municipality deems appropriate: PROVIDED, That the price charged such corporation or association shall not be in excess of the fair market value of such property: PROVIDED FURTHER, That all deeds, leases and other instruments of conveyance shall incorporate a reversion to the municipality of the property or property interest so deeded, leased or conveyed, in the event that such property should no longer be used as a free public parking facility. [1967 ex.s. c 144 § 4.]

**Severability—1967 ex.s. c 144:** See note following RCW 36.900.030.

**35.87.040 RCW 35.87.020 inapplicable to sale, lease or conveyance to federal government or agency or to the state or any county, city or political subdivision.** The provisions of RCW 35.87.020 shall not apply to any sale, lease or conveyance to the federal government or to any agency thereof, or to the state or any agency, county, city, town or other political subdivision of this state. [1967 ex.s. c 144 § 5.]

**Severability—1967 ex.s. c 144:** See note following RCW 36.900.030.

**Chapter 35.87A**

**PARKING AND BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AREAS**

Sections

- 35.87A.010 Authorized—Purposes—Special assessments.
- 35.87A.020 Definitions.
- 35.87A.030 Initiation petition or resolution—Contents.
- 35.87A.040 Resolution of intention to establish—Contents—Hearing.
- 35.87A.050 Notice of hearing.
- 35.87A.060 Hearings.
- 35.87A.070 Change of boundaries.
- 35.87A.080 Special assessments—Legislative authority may make reasonable classifications—Assessments for separate purposes.
- 35.87A.090 Special assessments—Same basis or rate for classes not required—Factors as to parking facilities.
- 35.87A.100 Ordinance to establish—Adoption—Contents.
- 35.87A.110 Use of revenue—Contracts to administer operation of area.
- 35.87A.120 Use of assessment proceeds restricted.
- 35.87A.130 Collection of assessments.
- 35.87A.140 Changes in assessment rates.
- 35.87A.150 Benefit zones—Authorized—Rates.
- 35.87A.160 Benefit zones—Establishment, modification and disestablishment of area provisions and procedure to be followed.
- 35.87A.170 Exemption period for new businesses and projects.
- 35.87A.180 Disestablishment of area—Hearing.
- 35.87A.190 Disestablishment of area—Assets and liabilities.
- 35.87A.200 Bids required—Monetary amount.
- 35.87A.210 Computing cost of improvement for bid requirement.
- 35.87A.220 Existing laws not affected—Chapter supplemental—Purposes may be accomplished in conjunction with other methods.
- 35.87A.900 Severability—1971 ex.s. c 45.

**35.87A.010 Authorized—Purposes—Special assessments.** To aid general economic development and neighborhood revitalization, and to facilitate the cooperation of merchants, businesses, and residential property owners which assists trade, economic viability, and liveability, the legislature hereby authorizes all counties and all incorporated cities and towns, including unclassified cities and towns operating under special charters:

(1) To establish, after a petition submitted by the operators responsible for sixty percent of the assessments by businesses and multifamily residential or mixed-use projects within the area, parking and business improvement areas, hereafter referred to as area or areas, for the following purposes:

- (a) The acquisition, construction or maintenance of parking facilities for the benefit of the area;
- (b) Decoration of any public place in the area;
- (c) Promotion of public events which are to take place on or in public places in the area;
- (d) Furnishing of music in any public place in the area;
- (e) Providing professional management, planning, and promotion for the area, including the management and promotion of retail trade activities in the area; or
- (f) Providing maintenance and security for common, public areas.

(2) To levy special assessments on all businesses and multifamily residential or mixed-use projects within the area and specially benefited by a parking and business improvement area to pay in whole or in part the damages or costs

incurred therein as provided in this chapter. [1993 c 429 § 1; 1985 c 128 § 1; 1981 c 279 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 45 § 1.]

**35.87A.020 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Business" means all types of business, including professions.

(2) "Legislative authority" means the legislative authority of any city or town including unclassified cities or towns operating under special charters or the legislative authority of any county.

(3) "Multifamily residential or mixed-use project" means any building or buildings containing four or more residential units or a combination of residential and commercial units, whether title to the entire property is held in single or undivided ownership or title to individual units is held by owners who also, directly or indirectly through an association, own real property in common with the other unit owners.

(4) "Residential operator" means the owner or operator of a multifamily residential or mixed-use project if title is held in single or undivided ownership, or, if title is held in a form of common interest ownership, the association of unit owners, condominium association, homeowners' association, property owners' association, or residential cooperative corporation. [1993 c 429 § 2; 1971 ex.s. c 45 § 2.]

**35.87A.030 Initiation petition or resolution—Contents.** For the purpose of establishing a parking and business improvement area, an initiation petition may be presented to the legislative authority having jurisdiction of the area in which the proposed parking and business improvement area is to be located or the legislative authority may by resolution initiate a parking and business improvement area. The initiation petition or resolution shall contain the following:

- (1) A description of the boundaries of the proposed area;
- (2) The proposed uses and projects to which the proposed special assessment revenues shall be put and the total estimated cost thereof;
- (3) The estimated rate of levy of special assessment with a proposed breakdown by class of business and multifamily residential or mixed-use project if such classification is to be used.

The initiating petition shall also contain the signatures of the persons who operate businesses and residential operators in the proposed area which would pay fifty percent of the proposed special assessments. [1993 c 429 § 3; 1971 ex.s. c 45 § 3.]

**35.87A.040 Resolution of intention to establish—Contents—Hearing.** The legislative authority, after receiving a valid initiation petition or after passage of an initiation resolution, shall adopt a resolution of intention to establish an area. The resolution shall state the time and place of a hearing to be held by the legislative authority to consider establishment of an area and shall restate all the information contained in the initiation petition or initiation resolution



regarding boundaries, projects and uses, and estimated rates of assessment. [1971 ex.s. c 45 § 4.]

**35.87A.050 Notice of hearing.** Notice of a hearing held under the provisions of this chapter shall be given by:

(1) One publication of the resolution of intention in a newspaper of general circulation in the city; and

(2) Mailing a complete copy of the resolution of intention to each business and multifamily residential or mixed-use project in the proposed, or established, area. Publication and mailing shall be completed at least ten days prior to the time of the hearing. [1993 c 429 § 4; 1971 ex.s. c 45 § 5.]

**35.87A.060 Hearings.** Whenever a hearing is held under this chapter, the legislative authority shall hear all protests and receive evidence for or against the proposed action. The legislative authority may continue the hearing from time to time. Proceedings shall terminate if protest is made by businesses and residential operators in the proposed area which would pay a majority of the proposed special assessments. [1993 c 429 § 5; 1971 ex.s. c 45 § 6.]

**35.87A.070 Change of boundaries.** If the legislative authority decides to change the boundaries of the proposed area, the hearing shall be continued to a time at least fifteen days after such decision and notice shall be given as prescribed in RCW 35.87A.050, showing the boundary amendments, but no resolution of intention is required. [1971 ex.s. c 45 § 7.]

**35.87A.080 Special assessments—Legislative authority may make reasonable classifications—Assessments for separate purposes.** For purposes of the special assessments to be imposed pursuant to this chapter, the legislative authority may make a reasonable classification of businesses and multifamily residential or mixed-use projects, giving consideration to various factors such as business and occupation taxes imposed, square footage of the business, number of employees, gross sales, or any other reasonable factor relating to the benefit received, including the degree of benefit received from parking. Whenever it is proposed that a parking and business improvement area provide more than one of the purposes listed in RCW 35.87A.010, special assessments may be imposed in a manner that measures benefit from each of the separate purposes, or any combination of the separate purposes. Special assessments shall be imposed and collected annually, or on another basis specified in the ordinance establishing the parking and business improvement area. [1993 c 429 § 6; 1985 c 128 § 2; 1981 c 279 § 2; 1971 ex.s. c 45 § 8.]

**35.87A.090 Special assessments—Same basis or rate for classes not required—Factors as to parking facilities.** The special assessments need not be imposed on different classes of business and multifamily residential or mixed-use projects, as determined pursuant to RCW 35.87A.080, on the same basis or the same rate. The special assessments imposed for the purpose of the acquisition, construction or maintenance of parking facilities for the benefit of the area shall be imposed on the basis of benefit determined by the

legislative authority after giving consideration to the total cost to be recovered from the businesses and multifamily residential or mixed-use projects upon which the special assessment is to be imposed, the total area within the boundaries of the parking and business improvement area, the assessed value of the land and improvements within the area, the total business volume generated within the area and within each business, and such other factors as the legislative authority may find and determine to be a reasonable measure of such benefit. [1993 c 429 § 7; 1971 ex.s. c 45 § 9.]

**35.87A.100 Ordinance to establish—Adoption—Contents.** If the legislative authority, following the hearing, decides to establish the proposed area, it shall adopt an ordinance to that effect. This ordinance shall contain the following information:

(1) The number, date and title of the resolution of intention pursuant to which it was adopted;

(2) The time and place the hearing was held concerning the formation of such area;

(3) The description of the boundaries of such area;

(4) A statement that the businesses and multifamily residential or mixed-use projects in the area established by the ordinance shall be subject to the provisions of the special assessments authorized by RCW 35.87A.010;

(5) The initial or additional rate or levy of special assessment to be imposed with a breakdown by classification of business and multifamily residential or mixed-use project, if such classification is used; and

(6) A statement that a parking and business improvement area has been established.

(7) The uses to which the special assessment revenue shall be put. Uses shall conform to the uses as declared in the initiation petition presented pursuant to RCW 35.87A.030. [1993 c 429 § 8; 1971 ex.s. c 45 § 10.]

**35.87A.110 Use of revenue—Contracts to administer operation of area.** The legislative authority of each city or town or county shall have sole discretion as to how the revenue derived from the special assessments is to be used within the scope of the purposes; however, the legislative authority may appoint existing advisory boards or commissions to make recommendations as to its use, or the legislative authority may create a new advisory board or commission for the purpose.

The legislative authority may contract with a chamber of commerce or other similar business association operating primarily within the boundaries of the legislative authority to administer the operation of a parking and business improvement area, including any funds derived pursuant thereto: PROVIDED, That such administration must comply with all applicable provisions of law including this chapter, with all county, city, or town resolutions and ordinances, and with all regulations lawfully imposed by the state auditor or other state agencies. [1971 ex.s. c 45 § 11.]

**35.87A.120 Use of assessment proceeds restricted.** The special assessments levied hereunder must be for the purposes specified in the ordinances and the proceeds shall not be used for any other purpose. [1971 ex.s. c 45 § 12.]

**35.87A.130 Collection of assessments.** Collections of assessments imposed pursuant to this chapter shall be made at the same time and in the same manner as otherwise prescribed by Title 35 RCW or in such other manner as the legislative authority shall determine. [1971 ex.s. c 45 § 13.]

**35.87A.140 Changes in assessment rates.** Changes may be made in the rate or additional rate of special assessment as specified in the ordinance establishing the area, by ordinance adopted after a hearing before the legislative authority.

The legislative authority shall adopt a resolution of intention to change the rate or additional rate of special assessment at least fifteen days prior to the hearing required by this section. This resolution shall specify the proposed change and shall give the time and place of the hearing. Proceedings to change the rate or impose an additional rate of special assessments shall terminate if protest is made by businesses or multifamily residential or mixed-use projects in the proposed area which would pay a majority of the proposed increase or additional special assessments. [1993 c 429 § 9; 1971 ex.s. c 45 § 14.]

**35.87A.150 Benefit zones—Authorized—Rates.** The legislative authority may, for each of the purposes set out in RCW 35.87A.010, establish and modify one or more separate benefit zones based upon the degree of benefit derived from the purpose and may impose a different rate of special assessment within each such benefit zone. [1971 ex.s. c 45 § 15.]

**35.87A.160 Benefit zones—Establishment, modification and disestablishment of area provisions and procedure to be followed.** All provisions of this chapter applicable to establishment or disestablishment of an area also apply to the establishment, modification, or disestablishment of benefit zones pursuant to \*RCW 35.87A.150. The establishment or the modification of any such zone shall follow the same procedure as provided for the establishment of a parking and business improvement area and the disestablishment shall follow the same procedure as provided for disestablishment of an area. [1971 ex.s. c 45 § 16.]

**\*Reviser's note:** "RCW 35.87A.150" has been translated from "section 13 of this act," as the reference to section 13, herein codified as RCW 35.87A.130, was apparently erroneous.

**35.87A.170 Exemption period for new businesses and projects.** Businesses or multifamily residential or mixed-use projects established after the creation of an area within the area may be exempted from the special assessments imposed pursuant to this chapter for a period not exceeding one year from the date they commenced business in the area. [1993 c 429 § 10; 1971 ex.s. c 45 § 17.]

**35.87A.180 Disestablishment of area—Hearing.** The legislative authority may disestablish an area by ordinance after a hearing before the legislative authority. The legislative authority shall adopt a resolution of intention to disestablish the area at least fifteen days prior to the hearing required by this section. The resolution shall give the time and place of the hearing. [1971 ex.s. c 45 § 18.]

**35.87A.190 Disestablishment of area—Assets and liabilities.** Upon disestablishment of an area, any proceeds of the special assessments, or assets acquired with such proceeds, or liabilities incurred as a result of the formation of such area, shall be subject to disposition as the legislative authority shall determine: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, Any liabilities, either current or future, incurred as a result of action taken to accomplish the purposes of RCW 35.87A.010 shall not be an obligation of the general fund or any special fund of the city or town, but such liabilities shall be provided for entirely from available revenue generated from the projects or facilities authorized by RCW 35.87A.010 or from special assessments on the property specially benefited within the area. [1971 ex.s. c 45 § 19.]

**35.87A.200 Bids required—Monetary amount.** Any city or town or county authorized by this chapter to establish a parking improvement area shall call for competitive bids by appropriate public notice and award contracts, whenever the estimated cost of such work or improvement, including cost of materials, supplies and equipment, exceeds the sum of two thousand five hundred dollars. [1971 ex.s. c 45 § 20.]

**35.87A.210 Computing cost of improvement for bid requirement.** The cost of the improvement for the purposes of this chapter shall be aggregate of all amounts to be paid for the labor, materials and equipment on one continuous or inter-related project where work is to be performed simultaneously or in near sequence. Breaking an improvement into small units for the purposes of avoiding the minimum dollar amount prescribed in RCW 35.87A.200 is contrary to public policy and is prohibited. [1971 ex.s. c 45 § 21.]

**35.87A.220 Existing laws not affected—Chapter supplemental—Purposes may be accomplished in conjunction with other methods.** This chapter providing for parking and business improvement areas shall not be deemed or construed to affect any existing act, or any part thereof, relating to special assessments or other powers of counties, cities and towns, but shall be supplemental thereto and concurrent therewith.

The purposes and functions of parking and business improvement areas as set forth by the provisions of this chapter may be accomplished in part by the establishment of an area pursuant to this chapter and in part by any other method otherwise provided by law, including provisions for local improvements. [1971 ex.s. c 45 § 22.]

**35.87A.900 Severability—1971 ex.s. c 45.** If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provisions to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1971 ex.s. c 45 § 23.]

## Chapter 35.88

## WATER POLLUTION—PROTECTION FROM

## Sections

- 35.88.010 Authority over sources of supply.
- 35.88.020 Enforcement of ordinance—Special police.
- 35.88.030 Pollution declared to be a nuisance—Abatement.
- 35.88.040 Pollution as criminal nuisance—Punishment.
- 35.88.050 Prosecution—Trial—Abatement of nuisance.
- 35.88.060 Health officers and mayor must enforce.
- 35.88.070 Injunction proceeding.
- 35.88.080 Inland cities over 100,000—Discharge of sewage and other discharges prohibited—Nuisance.
- 35.88.090 Inland cities over 100,000—Investigation of disposal systems by secretary of social and health services.

*Furnishing impure water: RCW 70.54.020.*

*Pollution of watershed or source of drinking water: RCW 70.54.010, 70.54.030.*

*Sewer districts: Title 56 RCW.*

*Sewerage improvement districts: Chapter 85.08 RCW.*

*Water districts: Title 57 RCW.*

**35.88.010 Authority over sources of supply.** For the purpose of protecting the water furnished to the inhabitants of cities and towns from pollution, cities and towns are given jurisdiction over all property occupied by the works, reservoirs, systems, springs, branches and pipes, by means of which, and of all the lakes, rivers, springs, streams, creeks, or tributaries constituting the sources of supply from which the cities and towns or the companies or individuals furnishing water to the inhabitants thereof obtain their supply of water, or store or conduct it, and over all property acquired for any of the foregoing works or purposes or for the preservation and protection of the purity of the water supply, and over all property within the areas draining into the lakes, rivers, springs, streams, creeks, or tributaries constituting the sources of supply whether they or any of them are within the city or town limits or outside. [1965 c 7 § 35.88.010. Prior: 1907 c 227 § 1, part; 1899 c 70 § 1, part; RRS § 9473, part.]

**35.88.020 Enforcement of ordinance—Special police.** Every city and town may by ordinance prescribe what acts shall constitute offenses against the purity of its water supply and the punishment or penalties therefor and enforce them. The mayor of each city and town may appoint special policemen, with such compensation as the city or town may fix, who shall, after taking oath, have the powers of constables, and who may arrest with or without warrant any person committing, within the territory over which any city or town is given jurisdiction by this chapter, any offense declared by law or by ordinance, against the purity of the water supply, or which violate any rule or regulation lawfully promulgated by the state board of health for the protection of the purity of such water supply. Every special policeman whose appointment is authorized herein may take any person arrested for any such offense or violation before any court having jurisdiction thereof to be proceeded with according to law. Every such special policeman shall, when on duty wear in plain view a badge or shield bearing the words "special police" and the name of the city or town by which he has been appointed. [1965 c

7 § 35.88.020. Prior: 1907 c 227 § 1, part; 1899 c 70 § 1, part; RRS § 9473, part.]

**35.88.030 Pollution declared to be a nuisance—Abatement.** The establishment or maintenance of any slaughter pens, stock feeding yards, hogpens, or the deposit or maintenance of any uncleanly or unwholesome substance, or the conduct of any business or occupation, or the allowing of any condition upon or sufficiently near the (1) sources from which the supply of water for the inhabitants of any city or town is obtained, or (2) where its water is stored, or (3) the property or means through which the same may be conveyed or conducted so that such water would be polluted or the purity of such water or any part thereof destroyed or endangered, is prohibited and declared to be unlawful, and is declared to constitute a nuisance, and may be abated as other nuisances are abated. [1965 c 7 § 35.88.030. Prior: 1899 c 70 § 2, part; RRS § 9474, part.]

**35.88.040 Pollution as criminal nuisance—Punishment.** Any person who does, establishes, maintains, or creates any of the things which have the effect of polluting any such sources of water supply, or water, and any person who does any of the things in RCW 35.88.030 declared to be unlawful, shall be deemed guilty of creating and maintaining a nuisance, and may be prosecuted therefor, and upon conviction thereof may be fined in any sum not exceeding five hundred dollars. [1965 c 7 § 35.88.040. Prior: 1899 c 70 § 2, part; RRS § 9474, part.]

*Nuisance: Chapter 9.66 RCW.*

**35.88.050 Prosecution—Trial—Abatement of nuisance.** If upon the trial of any person for the violation of any of the provisions of this chapter he is found guilty of creating or maintaining a nuisance or of violating any of the provisions of this chapter, he shall forthwith abate the nuisance, and if he fails so to do within one day after such conviction, unless further time is granted by the court, a warrant shall be issued by the court wherein the conviction was obtained, directed to the sheriff of the county in which such nuisance exists and the sheriff shall forthwith proceed to abate the said nuisance and the cost thereof shall be taxed against the person so convicted as a part of the costs of such case. [1965 c 7 § 35.88.050. Prior: 1899 c 70 § 3; RRS § 9475.]

**35.88.060 Health officers and mayor must enforce.** The city health officer, city physician, board of public health, mayor, or any other officer, who has the sanitary condition of the city or town in charge, shall see that the provisions of this chapter are enforced and upon complaint being made to any such officer of an alleged violation, he shall immediately investigate the said complaint and if the same appears to be well founded he shall file a complaint against the person or persons violating any of the provisions of this chapter and cause their arrest and prosecution. [1965 c 7 § 35.88.060. Prior: 1899 c 70 § 4; RRS § 9476.]

**35.88.070 Injunction proceeding.** If any provision of this chapter is being violated, the city or town supplied with

the water or a corporation owning waterworks for the purpose of supplying the city or town or the inhabitants thereof with water may, by civil action in the superior court of the proper county, have the maintenance of the nuisance which pollutes or tends to pollute the said water, enjoined and such injunction may be perpetual. [1965 c 7 § 35.88.070. Prior: 1899 c 70 § 5; RRS § 9477.]

**35.88.080 Inland cities over 100,000—Discharge of sewage and other discharges prohibited—Nuisance.** Any city not located on tidewater, having a population of one hundred thousand or more, is hereby prohibited from discharging, draining or depositing, or causing to be discharged, drained or deposited, any sewage, garbage, feculent matter, offal, refuse, filth, or any animal, mineral, or vegetable matter or substance, offensive, injurious or dangerous to health, into any springs, streams, rivers, lakes, tributaries thereof, wells, or into any subterranean or other waters used or intended to be used for human or animal consumption or for domestic purposes.

Anything done, maintained, or suffered, in violation of any of the provisions of this section, shall be deemed to be a public nuisance, and may be summarily abated as such by any court of competent jurisdiction at the suit of the secretary of social and health services or any person whose supply of water for human or animal consumption or for domestic purposes is or may be affected. [1979 c 141 § 40; 1965 c 7 § 35.88.080. Prior: (i) 1941 c 186 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-1. (ii) 1941 c 186 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-3.]

*Nuisance: Chapter 9.66 RCW.*

**35.88.090 Inland cities over 100,000—Investigation of disposal systems by secretary of social and health services.** The secretary of social and health services shall have the power, and it shall be his duty, to investigate the system of disposal of sewage, garbage, feculent matter, offal, refuse, filth, or any animal, mineral, or vegetable matter or substance, by cities not located on tidewater, having a population of one hundred thousand or more, and if he shall determine upon investigation that any such system or systems of disposal is or may be injurious or dangerous to health, he shall have the power, and it shall be his duty, to order such city or cities to provide for, construct, and maintain a system or systems of disposal which will not be injurious or dangerous to health. [1979 c 141 § 41; 1965 c 7 § 35.88.090. Prior: 1941 c 186 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9354-2.]

## Chapter 35.89

### WATER REDEMPTION BONDS

#### Sections

35.89.010	Authority to issue water redemption bonds.
35.89.020	Bonds—Terms—Execution—Rights of owner.
35.89.030	Bonds exchange—Subrogation.
35.89.040	Water redemption fund—Creation.
35.89.050	Water redemption fund—Sources.
35.89.060	Water redemption fund—Trust fund.
35.89.070	Payment of interest on bonds.
35.89.080	Payment of principal of bonds.
35.89.090	Violations—Penalties—Personal liability.

35.89.100 Water systems—What included.

*Water districts: Title 57 RCW.*

**35.89.010 Authority to issue water redemption bonds.** If a public water system has been constructed within any local improvement district of any city or town for the construction of which bonds of the local improvement district were issued and are outstanding and unpaid, and if the city or town has taken over the system or is operating it as a public utility or has incorporated it into or connected it with any system operated by city or town as a public utility, from the operation of which such city or town derives a revenue, the city or town may by resolution of its council authorize the issue of bonds to an amount not exceeding the amount of the local improvement bonds issued for the construction of the water system then outstanding and unpaid with interest due and unpaid, and may redeem the outstanding local improvement bonds by exchanging therefor an equal amount at par of the bonds authorized by this chapter. The new bonds shall be called water redemption bonds. [1965 c 7 § 35.89.010. Prior: (i) 1929 c 85 § 1; 1923 c 52 § 1; RRS § 9154-1. (ii) 1923 c 52 § 2, part; RRS § 9154-2, part.]

**35.89.020 Bonds—Terms—Execution—Rights of owner.** (1) Water redemption bonds shall be in denominations of not more than one thousand nor less than one hundred dollars each, and shall bear interest at a rate or rates as authorized by the city or town council, payable semiannually, and shall bear a serial number and shall be signed by the mayor of the city or town and shall be otherwise executed in such manner and payable at such time and place not exceeding twenty years after the date of issue as the city or town council shall determine and such bonds shall be payable only out of the special fund created by authority of this chapter and shall be a valid claim of the owner thereof only against that fund and the fixed portion or amount of the revenues of the water system pledged to the fund, and shall not constitute an indebtedness of the city or town. Such bonds may be in any form, including bearer bonds or registered bonds as provided in RCW 39.46.030.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, such bonds may be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1983 c 167 § 66; 1970 ex.s. c 56 § 46; 1969 ex.s. c 232 § 23; 1965 c 7 § 35.89.020. Prior: 1923 c 52 § 2, part; RRS § 9154-2, part.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**Purpose—1970 ex.s. c 56:** See note following RCW 39.52.020.

**Validation—Saving—Severability—1969 ex.s. c 232:** See notes following RCW 39.52.020.

**35.89.030 Bonds exchange—Subrogation.** Water redemption bonds issued under the authority of this chapter shall only be sold or disposed of in exchange for an equal amount in par value of principal and interest of the local improvement district bonds issued for the construction of water systems taken over and operated by the city or town, or incorporated into or connected with a water system operated by it.

Upon the exchange of the water redemption bonds authorized by this chapter for local improvement district bonds the city or town shall be subrogated to all the rights of the owners and holders of such local improvement district bonds against the property of the local improvement district and against any person or corporation liable thereon.

Any money derived by the city or town from the sale or enforcement of such local improvement district bonds shall be paid into the city's water redemption fund. [1965 c 7 § 35.89.030. Prior: 1923 c 52 § 3; RRS § 9154-3.]

**35.89.040 Water redemption fund—Creation.** The city or town council before issuing water redemption bonds shall by ordinance establish a fund for the payment of the bonds at maturity and of interest thereon as it matures to be designated the water redemption fund. [1965 c 7 § 35.89.040. Prior: 1923 c 52 § 4; RRS § 9154-4.]

**35.89.050 Water redemption fund—Sources.** Every city and town shall have power to regulate and control the use and price of water supplied through a water system taken over from a local improvement district.

It shall establish such rates and charges for the water as shall be sufficient after providing for the operation and maintenance of the system to provide for the payment of the water redemption bonds at maturity and of interest thereon as it matures, and such portion shall be included in and collected as a part of the charges made by such city or town for water supplied through such water system and such portion shall be paid into the water redemption fund. [1965 c 7 § 35.89.050. Prior: 1923 c 52 § 5; RRS § 9154-5.]

**35.89.060 Water redemption fund—Trust fund.** All moneys paid into or collected for the water redemption fund shall be used for the payment of principal and interest of the water redemption bonds issued under the authority of this chapter and no part thereof while any of said bonds are outstanding and unpaid, shall be diverted to any other fund or use: PROVIDED, That when both principal and interest on all water redemption bonds issued and outstanding have been paid, any unexpended balance remaining in the fund may be transferred to the general fund or such other fund as the city or town council may direct. [1965 c 7 § 35.89.060. Prior: 1923 c 52 § 8; RRS § 9154-8.]

**35.89.070 Payment of interest on bonds.** The treasurer of such city or town shall pay the interest on the water redemption bonds authorized by this chapter out of the money in the water redemption fund. [1965 c 7 § 35.89.070. Prior: 1923 c 52 § 6; RRS § 9154-6.]

**35.89.080 Payment of principal of bonds.** Whenever there is sufficient money in the water redemption fund, over and above the amount that will be required to pay the interest on the bonds up to the time of maturity of the next interest payment, to pay the principal of one or more bonds, the city or town treasurer shall call in and pay such bonds. The bonds shall be called and paid in their numerical order, and the call shall be made by publication in the official newspaper of the city or town. The call shall state the total amount and the serial number or numbers of the bonds

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called and that they will be paid on the date when the next semiannual payment of interest will be due, and that interest on the bonds called will cease from such date. [1965 c 7 § 35.89.080. Prior: 1923 c 52 § 7; RRS § 9154-7.]

**35.89.090 Violations—Penalties—Personal liability.** Every ordinance, resolution, order, or action of the council, board, or officer of any city or town, and every warrant or other instrument made, issued, passed or done in violation of the provisions of this chapter shall be void.

Every officer, agent, employee, or member of the council of the city or town, and every person or corporation who shall knowingly commit any violation of the provisions of this chapter or knowingly aid in such violation, shall be liable to the city or town for all money transferred, diverted or paid out in violation thereof and such liability shall attach to and be enforceable against the official bond, if any, of such official agent, employee, or member of the council. [1965 c 7 § 35.89.090. Prior: 1923 c 52 § 9; RRS § 9154-9.]

**35.89.100 Water systems—What included.** The term "water system" as used in this chapter shall include and be applicable to all reservoirs, storage and clarifying tanks, conduits, mains, laterals, pipes, hydrants and other equipment used or constructed for the purpose of supplying water for public or domestic use, and shall include not only water systems constructed by local improvement districts, but also any system with which the same may be incorporated or connected. [1965 c 7 § 35.89.100. Prior: 1923 c 52 § 10; RRS § 9154-10.]

## Chapter 35.91

### MUNICIPAL WATER AND SEWER FACILITIES ACT

#### Sections

- 35.91.010 Declaration of purpose—Short title.
- 35.91.020 Contracts with owners of real estate for water or sewer facilities—Reimbursement of costs by subsequent users.
- 35.91.025 Extension outside city subject to review by boundary review board.
- 35.91.030 Approval and acceptance of facilities by municipality—Rates, costs.
- 35.91.040 Contract payment to be made prior to tap, connection, or use—Removal of tap or connection.
- 35.91.050 Owner's pro rata share of cost to which he did not contribute.

*Water districts: Title 57 RCW.*

**35.91.010 Declaration of purpose—Short title.** The improvement of public health and the implementation of both urban and rural development being furthered by adequate and comprehensive water facilities and storm and sanitary sewer systems, and there being a need for legislation enabling such aids to the welfare of the state, there is hereby enacted the "municipal water and sewer facilities act." [1965 c 7 § 35.91.010. Prior: 1959 c 261 § 1.]

**35.91.020 Contracts with owners of real estate for water or sewer facilities—Reimbursement of costs by subsequent users.** The governing body of any city, town,

county, sewer district, water district, or drainage district, hereinafter referred to as a "municipality" may contract with owners of real estate for the construction of storm, sanitary, or combination sewers, pumping stations, and disposal plants, water mains, hydrants, reservoirs, or appurtenances, hereinafter called "water or sewer facilities," within their boundaries or (except for counties) within ten miles from their corporate limits connecting with the public water or sewerage system to serve the area in which the real estate of such owners is located, and to provide for a period of not to exceed fifteen years for the reimbursement of such owners and their assigns by any owner of real estate who did not contribute to the original cost of such water or sewer facilities and who subsequently tap onto or use the same of a fair pro rata share of the cost of the construction of said water or sewer facilities, including not only those directly connected thereto, but also users connected to laterals or branches connecting thereto, subject to such reasonable rules and regulations as the governing body of such municipality may provide or contract, and notwithstanding the provisions of any other law. To the extent it may require in the performance of such contract, such municipality may install said water or sewer facilities in and along the county streets in the area to be served as hereinabove provided, subject to such reasonable requirements as to the manner of occupancy of such streets as the county may by resolution provide. The provisions of such contract shall not be effective as to any owner of real estate not a party thereto unless such contract has been recorded in the office of the county auditor of the county in which the real estate of such owner is located prior to the time such owner taps into or connects to said water or sewer facilities. The power of the governing body of such municipality to so contract also applies to water or sewer facilities in process of construction on June 10, 1959, or which have not been finally approved or accepted for full maintenance and operation by such municipality upon June 10, 1959. [1981 c 313 § 11; 1967 c 113 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.91.020. Prior: 1959 c 261 § 2.]

Severability—1981 c 313: See note following RCW 36.94.020.

**35.91.025 Extension outside city subject to review by boundary review board.** The extension of water or sewer facilities outside of the boundaries of a city or town may be subject to potential review by a boundary review board under chapter 36.93 RCW. [1989 c 84 § 33.]

**35.91.030 Approval and acceptance of facilities by municipality—Rates, costs.** Upon the completion of water or sewer facilities pursuant to contract mentioned in the foregoing section, the governing body of any such municipality shall be authorized to approve their construction and accept the same as facilities of the municipality and to charge for their use such water or sewer rates as such municipality may be authorized by law to establish, and if any such water or sewer facilities are so approved and accepted, all further maintenance and operation costs of said water or sewer lines and facilities shall be borne by such municipality. [1965 c 7 § 35.91.030. Prior: 1959 c 261 § 3.]

**35.91.040 Contract payment to be made prior to tap, connection, or use—Removal of tap or connection.** No person, firm or corporation shall be granted a permit or be authorized to tap into, or use any such water or sewer facilities or extensions thereof during the period of time prescribed in such contract without first paying to the municipality, in addition to any and all other costs and charges made or assessed for such tap, or use, or for the water lines or sewers constructed in connection therewith, the amount required by the provisions of the contract under which the water or sewer facilities so tapped into or used were constructed. All amounts so received by the municipality shall be paid out by it under the terms of such contract within sixty days after the receipt thereof. Whenever any tap or connection is made into any such contracted water or sewer facilities without such payment having first been made, the governing body of the municipality may remove, or cause to be removed, such unauthorized tap or connection and all connecting tile, or pipe located in the facility right of way and dispose of unauthorized material so removed without any liability whatsoever. [1965 c 7 § 35.91.040. Prior: 1959 c 261 § 4.]

**35.91.050 Owner's pro rata share of cost to which he did not contribute.** Whenever the cost, or any part thereof, of any water or sewer improvement, whether local or general, is or will be assessed against the owners of real estate and such water or sewer improvement will be connected into or will make use of, contracted water or sewer facilities constructed under the provisions of this chapter and to the cost of which such owners, or any of them, did not contribute, there shall be included in the engineer's estimate before the hearing on any such improvement, separately itemized, and in such assessments, a sum equal to the amount provided in or computed from such contract as the fair pro rata share due from such owners upon and for such contracted water or sewer facilities. [1965 c 7 § 35.91.050. Prior: 1959 c 261 § 5.]

## Chapter 35.92

### MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

#### Sections

- 35.92.010 Authority to acquire and operate waterworks—Generation of electricity—Classification of services for rates.
- 35.92.012 May accept and operate water district's property when boundaries are identical.
- 35.92.014 Acquisition of out-of-state waterworks.
- 35.92.015 Acquisition of out-of-state waterworks—Joint acquisition and operation.
- 35.92.017 Authority to assist customers in the acquisition of water conservation equipment—Limitations.
- 35.92.020 Authority to acquire and operate sewerage and solid waste handling systems, plants, sites, or facilities—Classification of services for rates.
- 35.92.021 Public property subject to rates and charges for storm water control facilities.
- 35.92.023 Solid waste—Compliance with chapter 70.95 RCW required.
- 35.92.025 Authority to make charges for connecting to water or sewerage system—Interest charges.
- 35.92.027 Extension of water and sewer facilities outside city subject to review by boundary review board.
- 35.92.030 Authority to acquire and operate stone or asphalt plants.
- 35.92.040 Authority to acquire and operate public markets and cold storage plants—"Public markets" defined.

- 35.92.050 Authority to acquire and operate utilities.
- 35.92.052 First class cities operating electrical facilities—Participation in agreements to use or own high voltage transmission facilities and other electrical generating facilities—Terms—Limitations.
- 35.92.054 May acquire electrical distribution property from public utility district.
- 35.92.060 Authority to acquire and operate transportation facilities.
- 35.92.070 Procedure—Election.
- 35.92.075 Indebtedness incurred on credit of expected utility revenues.
- 35.92.080 General obligation bonds.
- 35.92.090 Limit of indebtedness.
- 35.92.100 Revenue bonds or warrants.
- 35.92.105 Revenue bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness for energy or water conservation programs.
- 35.92.110 Funding or refunding bonds.
- 35.92.120 Funding or refunding bonds—Bonds not general obligation.
- 35.92.130 Funding or refunding bonds—Single issue may refund multiple series.
- 35.92.140 Funding or refunding bonds—Issuance of bonds—Ordinance.
- 35.92.150 Funding or refunding bonds—Terms of bonds.
- 35.92.160 Funding or refunding bonds—Recourse of bond owners.
- 35.92.170 City may extend water system outside limits.
- 35.92.180 City may extend water system outside limits—May acquire property outside city.
- 35.92.190 City may extend water system outside limits—Cannot condemn irrigation system.
- 35.92.200 City may extend water system outside limits—Contracts for outside service.
- 35.92.220 Acquisition of water rights.
- 35.92.230 Acquisition of water rights—Special assessments.
- 35.92.240 Acquisition of water rights—Levy of assessments.
- 35.92.250 Acquisition of water rights—District property need not be contiguous.
- 35.92.260 Acquisition of water rights—Mode of assessment.
- 35.92.263 Acquisition of water rights—Water rights acquired by purchase of shares in water users' association or corporation—Authority to acquire and hold shares.
- 35.92.265 Acquisition of water rights—Existing local improvement districts validated—Debts, obligations, assessments, etc., declared legal and valid.
- 35.92.270 Passenger transportation systems—Authority to make studies—Contracts with and acquisition of privately owned systems.
- 35.92.275 Assumption of obligations of private pension plan when urban transportation system acquired.
- 35.92.280 Cities over 150,000, joint undertaking with P.U.D. as to electric utility properties—"Electric utility properties" defined.
- 35.92.290 Cities over 150,000, joint undertaking with P.U.D. as to electric utility properties—Agreements.
- 35.92.300 Cities over 150,000, joint undertaking with P.U.D. as to electric utility properties—Financing.
- 35.92.310 Cities over 150,000, joint undertaking with P.U.D. as to electric utility properties—Authority granted is additional power.
- 35.92.350 Electrical construction or improvement—Bid proposals—Contract proposal forms—Conditions for issuance—Refusal—Appeal.
- 35.92.355 Energy conservation—Legislative findings.
- 35.92.360 Energy conservation plan—Financing authorized for energy conservation projects in structures or equipment—Limitations.
- 35.92.370 Lease of real property under electrical transmission lines for private gardening purposes.
- 35.92.380 Waiver or delay of collection of tap-in charges, connection or hookup fees for low income persons.
- 35.92.390 Municipal utilities encouraged to provide customers with landscaping information and to request voluntary donations for urban forestry.

*Electric franchises and rights of way: Chapter 80.32 RCW.*

*Electrical utilities and facilities owned by cities, support for political subdivisions and taxing districts: RCW 35.21.420 through 35.21.440.*

*Hydroelectric resources, creation of separate legal authority by irrigation districts and cities, towns, or public utility districts: RCW 87.03.825 through 87.03.840.*

*Joint development of nuclear, thermal power facilities: Chapter 54.44 RCW.*

*Limitations upon indebtedness: State Constitution Art. 7 § 2 (Amendments 55, 59), Art. 8 § 6 (Amendment 27), chapter 39.36 RCW, RCW 84.52.050.*

*Local improvement districts, creation: Chapter 35.43 RCW.*

*Public utility districts: Title 54 RCW.*

*Sewer districts: Title 56 RCW.*

*Sewerage improvement districts: Chapter 85.08 RCW.*

*Special assessments or taxation for local improvements: State Constitution Art. 7 § 9.*

*Street railways: Chapter 81.64 RCW.*

*Water districts: Title 57 RCW.*

**35.92.010 Authority to acquire and operate waterworks—Generation of electricity—Classification of services for rates.** A city or town may construct, condemn and purchase, purchase, acquire, add to, alter, maintain and operate waterworks, within or without its limits, for the purpose of furnishing the city and its inhabitants, and any other persons, with an ample supply of water for all purposes, public and private, including water power and other power derived therefrom, with full power to regulate and control the use, distribution, and price thereof: PROVIDED, That the rates charged must be uniform for the same class of customers or service. Such waterworks may include facilities for the generation of electricity as a byproduct and such electricity may be used by the city or town or sold to an entity authorized by law to distribute electricity. Such electricity is a byproduct when the electrical generation is subordinate to the primary purpose of water supply.

In classifying customers served or service furnished, the city or town governing body may in its discretion consider any or all of the following factors: The difference in cost of service to the various customers; location of the various customers within and without the city or town; the difference in cost of maintenance, operation, repair, and replacement of the various parts of the system; the different character of the service furnished various customers; the quantity and quality of the water furnished; the time of its use; the achievement of water conservation goals and the discouragement of wasteful water use practices; capital contributions made to the system including, but not limited to, assessments; and any other matters which present a reasonable difference as a ground for distinction. No rate shall be charged that is less than the cost of the water and service to the class of customers served.

For such purposes any city or town may take, condemn and purchase, purchase, acquire, and retain water from any public or navigable lake or watercourse, surface or ground, and, by means of aqueducts or pipe lines, conduct it to the city or town; and it may erect and build dams or other works across or at the outlet of any lake or watercourse in this state for the purpose of storing and retaining water therein up to and above high water mark; and for all the purposes of erecting such aqueducts, pipe lines, dams, or waterworks or other necessary structures in storing and retaining water, or for any of the purposes provided for by this chapter, the city or town may occupy and use the beds and shores up to the



high water mark of any such watercourse or lake, and acquire the right by purchase, or by condemnation and purchase, or otherwise, to any water, water rights, easements or privileges named in this chapter, or necessary for any of said purposes, and the city or town may acquire by purchase or condemnation and purchase any properties or privileges necessary to be had to protect its water supply from pollution. Should private property be necessary for any such purposes or for storing water above high water mark, the city or town may condemn and purchase, or purchase and acquire such private property. For the purposes of waterworks which include facilities for the generation of electricity as a byproduct, nothing in this section may be construed to authorize a city or town that does not own or operate an electric utility system to condemn electric generating, transmission, or distribution rights or facilities of entities authorized by law to distribute electricity, or to acquire such rights or facilities without the consent of the owner. [1991 c 347 § 18. Prior: 1985 c 445 § 4; 1985 c 444 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.92.010; prior: 1959 c 90 § 6; 1957 c 209 § 2; prior: 1951 c 252 § 1; 1947 c 214 § 1, part; 1933 c 163 § 1, part; 1931 c 53 § 1, part; 1923 c 173 § 1, part; 1913 c 45 § 1, part; 1909 c 150 § 1, part; 1899 c 128 § 1, part; 1897 c 112 § 1, part; 1893 c 8 § 1, part; 1890 p 520 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 9488, part. Formerly RCW 80.40.010.]

**Purposes—1991 c 347:** See note following RCW 90.42.005.

**Severability—1991 c 347:** See RCW 90.42.900.

**Intent—1985 c 444:** "For the purposes of this act, the legislature finds it is the policy of the state of Washington that:

(1) The quality of the natural environment shall be protected and, where possible, enhanced as follows: Perennial rivers and streams of the state shall be retained with base flows necessary to provide for preservation of wildlife, fish, scenic, aesthetic and other environmental values, and navigational values. Lakes and ponds shall be retained substantially in their natural condition. Withdrawals of water which would conflict therewith shall be authorized only in those situations where it is clear that overriding considerations of the public interest will be served.

(2) Development of water supply systems, whether publicly or privately owned, which provide water to the public generally in regional areas within the state shall be encouraged. Development of water supply systems for multiple domestic use which will not serve the public generally shall be discouraged where water supplies are available from water systems serving the public." [1985 c 444 § 1.]

**Construction—Economic feasibility study—1985 c 444:** "(1) Nothing in this act exempts any city or town, water district, or sewer district from compliance with applicable state and federal statutes and regulations including but not limited to: State environmental policy act, chapter 43.21C RCW; national environmental policy act, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 4321 et seq.; federal power act, 16 U.S.C. Sec. 791 et seq.; public utility regulatory policies act, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 717f; Pacific northwest electric power planning and conservation act, 16 U.S.C. Sec. 839; energy financing voter approval act, chapter 80.52 RCW; water resources act, chapter 90.54 RCW; federal clean water act, 33 U.S.C. Sec. 1251 et seq.; the public water system coordination act, chapter 70.116 RCW; and the state clean water act, chapter 90.48 RCW.

(2) In addition, if the work proposed under this act involves a new water supply project combined with an electric generation facility with an installed capacity in excess of five megawatts which may produce electricity for sale in excess of present and future needs of the water system, then each of those with a greater than twenty-five percent ownership interest in the project shall jointly prepare an independent economic feasibility study evaluating the cost-effectiveness of the combined facility in the context of forecast regional water needs, alternate sources of water supply, and the potential impact of the combined facility on rates charged for water and electricity.

In addition to the economic feasibility study, the results of the environmental impact statement required by chapter 43.21C RCW and any review by the department of ecology made pursuant to chapter 90.54 RCW

shall be made available to the public at least sixty days prior to any public vote on the new combined project.

(3) This act supplements the authority of cities and towns, water districts, and sewer districts and does not restrict or impose limits on any authority such municipal corporations may otherwise have under any laws of this state nor may the authority of such municipal corporations under other laws of this state be construed more narrowly on account of this act." [1985 c 444 § 7.]

**Severability—1985 c 444:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1985 c 444 § 8.]

**Validating—1917 c 12:** "Whenever any city or town has heretofore issued or authorized to be issued by such vote of its electors as is required by law at any election duly and legally held to vote on such proposition, such utility bonds for the purpose of purchasing, paying for or acquiring any such utility as is described in this act, in every such case such utility bonds are hereby declared to be legal and valid, and such city or town is hereby authorized and empowered to proceed to issue and negotiate such bonds and to continue and conclude proceedings for the purchase or acquirement of such utility, and is hereby given full power to maintain and operate the same within all and every part of such contiguous territory whether incorporated or unincorporated." [1917 c 12 § 2.]

**Validating—1909 c 150:** "That in all cases where the qualified electors of any city or town have heretofore, at any election, ratified any plan or system of any public utility mentioned in section 1 of this act, and shall have authorized a general indebtedness of such city or town and the issuance of bonds therefor, or the creation of a special fund or funds out of the revenues of the public utility the plan or system of which was so ratified, and the issuance of bonds or warrants payable only out of such fund or funds; and pursuant to such authorization or ratification a general indebtedness shall have been incurred or authorized to be incurred, and bonds or other obligations issued or contracted to be issued or authorized to be issued, or a special fund or funds shall have been created out of the revenue of any such public utility by pledging or setting aside a fixed proportion of such revenues, or a fixed amount out of and not exceeding a fixed proportion or a fixed amount without regard to any fixed proportion, and bonds or warrants payable either upon the call of such city or town or at a fixed date, but only out of such special fund or funds, issued or contracted to be issued or authorized to be issued, or a contract or contracts for the purchase, construction, acquisition, improvement, betterment, or addition to such public utility entered into; such general indebtedness, bonds or other obligations, contracts, special funds, and bonds or warrants, payable out of such special funds, and all proceedings relating thereto, are hereby ratified, confirmed and validated; and any bonds or other obligations constituting a general indebtedness, or bonds or warrants payable out of such special funds, heretofore so authorized, may be hereafter issued or sold as if all of said proceedings were taken pursuant to and under the authority of this act, and in full compliance therewith." [1909 c 150 § 5.]

*Eminent domain by cities: Chapter 8.12 RCW.*

*Evaluation of application to appropriate water for electric generation facility: RCW 90.54.170.*

**35.92.012 May accept and operate water district's property when boundaries are identical.** A town, whose boundaries are identical with those of a water district which is free from all debts and liabilities except contractual obligations between the district and the town, may accept the property and assets of the water district and operate such property and assets as a municipal waterworks, if the district and the town each participate in a summary dissolution proceedings for the district as provided in RCW 57.04.110. [1965 c 7 § 35.92.012. Prior: 1955 c 358 § 2. Formerly RCW 80.40.012.]

**35.92.014 Acquisition of out-of-state waterworks.** Municipalities of this state under ordinance of the governing body are empowered to acquire by purchase or lease, and to maintain and operate, in cooperation with neighboring municipalities of states bordering this state, the out-of-state

property, plant and equipment of privately owned utilities supplying water to the purchasing municipalities from an out-of-state source: PROVIDED, The legislature of the state in which such property, plant, equipment and supply are located, by enabling legislation similar to this, authorizes its municipalities to join in such acquisition, maintenance and operation. [1965 c 7 § 35.92.014. Prior: 1951 c 39 § 1. Formerly RCW 80.40.014.]

**35.92.015 Acquisition of out-of-state waterworks—Joint acquisition and operation.** The governing bodies of the municipalities acting jointly under RCW 35.92.014 and this section shall have authority by mutual agreement to exercise jointly all powers granted to each individual municipality in the acquisition, maintenance and operation of a water supply system. [1965 c 7 § 35.92.015. Prior: 1951 c 39 § 2. Formerly RCW 80.40.015.]

**35.92.017 Authority to assist customers in the acquisition of water conservation equipment—Limitations.** Any city or town engaged in the sale or distribution of water is hereby authorized, within limits established by the Constitution of the state of Washington, to assist the owners of structures in financing the acquisition and installation of fixtures, systems, and equipment, for compensation or otherwise, for the conservation or more efficient use of water in the structures under a water conservation plan adopted by the city or town if the cost per unit of water saved or conserved by the use of the fixtures, systems, and equipment is less than the cost per unit of water supplied by the next least costly new water source available to the city or town to meet future demand. Except where otherwise authorized, assistance shall be limited to:

(1) Providing an inspection of the structure, either directly or through one or more inspectors under contract, to determine and inform the owner of the estimated cost of purchasing and installing conservation fixtures, systems, and equipment for which financial assistance will be approved and the estimated life cycle savings to the water system and the consumer that are likely to result from the installation of the fixtures, systems, or equipment;

(2) Providing a list of businesses that sell and install the fixtures, systems, and equipment within or in close proximity to the service area of the city or town, each of which businesses shall have requested to be included and shall have the ability to provide the products in a workmanlike manner and to utilize the fixtures, systems, and equipment in accordance with the prevailing national standards;

(3) Arranging to have approved conservation fixtures, systems, and equipment installed by a private contractor whose bid is acceptable to the owner of the structure and verifying the installation; and

(4) Arranging or providing financing for the purchase and installation of approved conservation fixtures, systems, and equipment. The fixtures, systems, and equipment shall be purchased or installed by a private business, the owner, or the utility.

Pay back shall be in the form of incremental additions to the utility bill, billed either together with use charge or separately. Loans shall not exceed one hundred twenty months in length. [1989 c 421 § 3.]

**Intent—Water conservation encouraged—1989 c 421:** "The conservation and efficient use of water is found and declared to be a public purpose of highest priority. The legislature further finds and declares that all municipal corporations, public utility districts, water districts, and other political subdivisions of the state that are engaged in the sale or distribution of water should be granted the authority to develop and carry out programs that will conserve resources, reduce waste, and encourage more efficient use of water by consumers.

In order to establish the most effective state-wide program for water conservation, the legislature hereby encourages any company, corporation, or association engaged in selling or furnishing utility services to assist their customers in the acquisition and installation of fixtures, systems, and equipment, for compensation or otherwise, for the conservation or more efficient use of water." [1989 c 421 § 1.]

**Contingent effective date—1989 c 421:** "This act shall take effect on the same date as the proposed amendment to Article VIII of the state Constitution, authorizing the use of public moneys or credit to promote conservation or more efficient use of water, is validly submitted and is approved and ratified by the voters at a general election held in November 1989. If the proposed amendment is not so approved and ratified, this act shall be void in its entirety." [1989 c 421 § 6.] Senate Joint Resolution No. 8210 was approved and ratified by the voters at the November 7, 1989, general election.

**35.92.020 Authority to acquire and operate sewerage and solid waste handling systems, plants, sites, or facilities—Classification of services for rates.** A city or town may construct, condemn and purchase, purchase, acquire, add to, alter, maintain, and operate systems, plants, sites, or other facilities of sewerage, or solid waste handling as defined by RCW 70.95.030, and shall have full authority to manage, regulate, operate, control, and to fix the price of service of those systems, plants, sites, or other facilities within and without the limits of the city or town. The rates charged shall be uniform for the same class of customers or service. In classifying customers served or service furnished by a system or systems of sewerage, the legislative authority of the city or town may in its discretion consider any or all of the following factors: The difference in cost of service to customers; the location of customers within and without the city or town; the difference in cost of maintenance, operation, repair, and replacement of the parts of the system; the different character of the service furnished customers; the quantity and quality of the sewage delivered and the time of its delivery; capital contributions made to the systems, plants, sites, or other facilities, including but not limited to, assessments; and any other factors that present a reasonable difference as a ground for distinction. [1989 c 399 § 6; 1985 c 445 § 5; 1965 c 7 § 35.92.020. Prior: 1959 c 90 § 7; 1957 c 288 § 3; 1957 c 209 § 3; prior: 1947 c 214 § 1, part; 1933 c 163 § 1, part; 1931 c 53 § 1, part; 1923 c 173 § 1, part; 1913 c 45 § 1, part; 1909 c 150 § 1, part; 1899 c 128 § 1, part; 1897 c 112 § 1, part; 1893 c 8 § 1, part; 1890 p 520 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 9488, part. Formerly RCW 80.40.020.]

**35.92.021 Public property subject to rates and charges for storm water control facilities.** Except as otherwise provided in RCW 90.03.525, any public entity and public property, including the state of Washington and state property, shall be subject to rates and charges for storm water control facilities to the same extent private persons and private property are subject to such rates and charges that are imposed by cities and towns pursuant to RCW 35.92.020. In setting these rates and charges, consideration may be

made of in-kind services, such as stream improvements or donation of property. [1986 c 278 § 56; 1983 c 315 § 2.]

**Severability—1986 c 278:** See note following RCW 36.01.010.

**Severability—1983 c 315:** See note following RCW 90.03.500.

*Flood control zone districts—Storm water control improvements: Chapter 86.15 RCW.*

*Rates and charges for storm water control facilities—Limitations—Definitions: RCW 90.03.500 through 90.03.525. See also RCW 35.67.025, 36.89.085, 36.94.145, and 56.08.012.*

**35.92.023 Solid waste—Compliance with chapter 70.95 RCW required.** See RCW 35.21.154.

**35.92.025 Authority to make charges for connecting to water or sewerage system—Interest charges.** Cities and towns are authorized to charge property owners seeking to connect to the water or sewerage system of the city or town as a condition to granting the right to so connect, in addition to the cost of such connection, such reasonable connection charge as the legislative body of the city or town shall determine proper in order that such property owners shall bear their equitable share of the cost of such system. The equitable share may include interest charges applied from the date of construction of the water or sewer system until the connection, or for a period not to exceed ten years, at a rate commensurate with the rate of interest applicable to the city or town at the time of construction or major rehabilitation of the water or sewer system, or at the time of installation of the water or sewer lines to which the property owner is seeking to connect but not to exceed ten percent per year: PROVIDED, That the aggregate amount of interest shall not exceed the equitable share of the cost of the system allocated to such property owners. Connection charges collected shall be considered revenue of such system. [1985 c 445 § 6; 1965 c 7 § 35.92.025. Prior: 1959 c 90 § 8. Formerly RCW 80.40.025.]

**35.92.027 Extension of water and sewer facilities outside city subject to review by boundary review board.** The extension of water or sewer facilities outside of the boundaries of a city or town may be subject to potential review by a boundary review board under chapter 36.93 RCW. [1989 c 84 § 34.]

**35.92.030 Authority to acquire and operate stone or asphalt plants.** A city or town may also construct, condemn and purchase, purchase, acquire, add to, alter, maintain, and operate works, plants and facilities for the preparation and manufacture of all stone or asphalt products or compositions or other materials which may be used in street construction or maintenance, together with the right to use them, and also fix the price of and sell such products for use in the construction of municipal improvements. [1985 c 445 § 8; 1965 c 7 § 35.92.030. Prior: 1957 c 288 § 4; 1957 c 209 § 4; prior: 1947 c 214 § 1, part; 1933 c 163 § 1, part; 1931 c 53 § 1, part; 1923 c 173 § 1, part; 1913 c 45 § 1, part; 1909 c 150 § 1, part; 1899 c 128 § 1, part; 1897 c 112 § 1, part; 1893 c 8 § 1, part; 1890 p 520 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 9488, part. Formerly RCW 80.40.030.]

*Eminent domain by cities: Chapter 8.12 RCW.*

**35.92.040 Authority to acquire and operate public markets and cold storage plants—"Public markets" defined.** A city or town may also construct, acquire, and operate public markets and cold storage plants for the sale and preservation of butter, eggs, meats, fish, fruits, vegetables, and other perishable provisions. Whenever the words "public markets" are used in this chapter and the public market is managed in whole or in part by a public corporation created by a city, the words shall be construed to include all real or personal property located in a district or area designated by a city as a public market and traditionally devoted to providing farmers, crafts vendors and other merchants with retail space to market their wares to the public. Property located in such a district or area need not be exclusively or primarily used for such traditional public market retail activities and may include property used for other public purposes including, but not limited to, the provision of human services and low-income or moderate-income housing. [1990 c 189 § 4; 1965 c 7 § 35.92.040. Prior: 1957 c 288 § 5; 1957 c 209 § 5; prior: 1947 c 214 § 1, part; 1933 c 163 § 1, part; 1931 c 53 § 1, part; 1923 c 173 § 1, part; 1913 c 45 § 1, part; 1909 c 150 § 1, part; 1899 c 128 § 1, part; 1897 c 112 § 1, part; 1893 c 8 § 1, part; 1890 p 520 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 9488, part. Formerly RCW 80.40.040.]

**35.92.050 Authority to acquire and operate utilities.** A city or town may also construct, condemn and purchase, purchase, acquire, add to, alter, maintain and operate works, plants, facilities for the purpose of furnishing the city or town and its inhabitants, and any other persons, with gas, electricity, and other means of power and facilities for lighting, heating, fuel, and power purposes, public and private, with full authority to regulate and control the use, distribution, and price thereof, together with the right to handle and sell or lease, any meters, lamps, motors, transformers, and equipment or accessories of any kind, necessary and convenient for the use, distribution, and sale thereof; authorize the construction of such plant or plants by others for the same purpose, and purchase gas, electricity, or power from either within or without the city or town for its own use and for the purpose of selling to its inhabitants and to other persons doing business within the city or town and regulate and control the use and price thereof. [1985 c 445 § 9; 1965 c 7 § 35.92.050. Prior: 1957 c 288 § 6; 1957 c 209 § 6; prior: 1947 c 214 § 1, part; 1933 c 163 § 1, part; 1931 c 53 § 1, part; 1923 c 173 § 1, part; 1913 c 45 § 1, part; 1909 c 150 § 1, part; 1899 c 128 § 1, part; 1897 c 112 § 1, part; 1893 c 8 § 1, part; 1890 p 520 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 9488, part. Formerly RCW 80.40.050.]

**35.92.052 First class cities operating electrical facilities—Participation in agreements to use or own high voltage transmission facilities and other electrical generating facilities—Terms—Limitations.** (1) Cities of the first class which operate electric generating facilities and distribution systems shall have power and authority to participate and enter into agreements for the use or undivided ownership of high voltage transmission facilities and capacity rights in those facilities and for the undivided ownership of any type of electric generating plants and facilities, including, but not

limited to, nuclear and other thermal power generating plants and facilities and transmission facilities including, but not limited to, related transmission facilities, to be called "common facilities"; and for the planning, financing, acquisition, construction, operation, and maintenance with: (a) Each other; (b) electrical companies which are subject to the jurisdiction of the Washington utilities and transportation commission or the regulatory commission of any other state, to be called "regulated utilities"; (c) rural electric cooperatives, including generation and transmission cooperatives in any state; (d) municipal corporations, utility districts, or other political subdivisions in any state; and (e) any agency of the United States authorized to generate or transmit electrical energy. It shall be provided in such agreements that each city shall use or own a percentage of any common facility equal to the percentage of the money furnished or the value of property supplied by it for the acquisition and construction of or additions or improvements to the facility and shall own and control or provide for the use of a like percentage of the electrical transmission or output. A city using or owning common facilities under this section may issue revenue bonds or other obligations to finance the city's share of the use or ownership of the common facilities.

(2) The agreement must provide that each participant shall defray its own interest and other payments required to be made or deposited in connection with any financing undertaken by it to pay its percentage of the money furnished or value of property supplied by it for the planning, acquisition, and construction of any common facility, or any additions or betterments. The agreement shall provide a uniform method of determining and allocating operation and maintenance expenses of a common facility.

(3) Each city participating in the ownership, use, or operation of a common facility shall pay all taxes chargeable to its share of the common facility and the electric energy generated under any applicable statutes and may make payments during preliminary work and construction for any increased financial burden suffered by any county or other existing taxing district in the county in which the common facility is located, under agreement with such county or taxing district.

(4) In carrying out the powers granted in this section, each such city shall be severally liable only for its own acts and not jointly or severally liable for the acts, omissions, or obligations of others. No money or property supplied by any such city for the planning, financing, acquisition, construction, operation, or maintenance of, or addition or improvement to any common facility shall be credited or otherwise applied to the account of any other participant therein, nor shall the undivided share of any city in any common facility be charged, directly or indirectly, with any debt or obligation of any other participant or be subject to any lien as a result thereof. No action in connection with a common facility shall be binding upon any city unless authorized or approved by resolution or ordinance of its governing body.

(5) Any city acting jointly outside the state of Washington, by mutual agreement with any participant under authority of this section, shall not acquire properties owned or operated by any public utility district, by any regulated utility, or by any public utility owned by a municipality without the consent of the utility owning or operating the property, and shall not participate in any condemnation

proceeding to acquire such properties. [1992 c 11 § 1; 1989 c 249 § 1.]

**35.92.054 May acquire electrical distribution property from public utility district.** Any city or town may acquire by purchase or condemnation from any public utility district or combination of public utility districts any electrical distribution property within the boundaries of such city or town: PROVIDED, That such right of condemnation shall not apply to a city or town located within a public utility district that owns the electric distribution properties sought to be condemned. [1965 c 7 § 35.92.054. Prior: 1953 c 97 § 1; 1951 c 272 § 1. Formerly RCW 80.40.054.]

*Right of county-wide utility district to acquire distribution properties: RCW 54.32.040.*

**35.92.060 Authority to acquire and operate transportation facilities.** A city or town may also construct, condemn and purchase, purchase, acquire, add to, alter, maintain, operate, or lease cable, electric, and other railways, automobiles, motor cars, motor buses, auto trucks, and any and all other forms or methods of transportation of freight or passengers within the corporate limits of the city or town, and a first class city may also construct, purchase, acquire, add to, alter, maintain, operate, or lease cable, electric, and other railways beyond those corporate limits only within the boundaries of the county in which the city is located and of any adjoining county that has a population of at least forty thousand and fewer than one hundred twenty-five thousand and that is intersected by an interstate highway, for the transportation of freight and passengers above, upon, or underneath the ground. It may also fix, alter, regulate, and control the fares and rates to be charged therefor; and fares or rates may be adjusted or eliminated for any distinguishable class of users including, but not limited to, senior citizens, handicapped persons, and students. Without the payment of any license fee or tax, or the filing of a bond with, or the securing of a permit from, the state, or any department thereof, the city or town may engage in, carry on, and operate the business of transporting and carrying passengers or freight for hire by any method or combination of methods that the legislative authority of any city or town may by ordinance provide, with full authority to regulate and control the use and operation of vehicles or other agencies of transportation used for such business. [1991 c 124 § 1; 1990 c 43 § 49; 1985 c 445 § 10; 1981 c 25 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.92.060. Prior: 1957 c 288 § 7; 1957 c 209 § 7; prior: 1947 c 214 § 1, part; 1933 c 163 § 1, part; 1931 c 53 § 1, part; 1923 c 173 § 1, part; 1913 c 45 § 1, part; 1909 c 150 § 1, part; 1899 c 128 § 1, part; 1897 c 112 § 1, part; 1893 c 8 § 1, part; 1890 p 520 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 9488, part. Formerly RCW 80.40.060.]

**Construction—Severability—Headings—1990 c 43:** See notes following RCW 81.100.010.

*Public transportation systems, financing, purchase of leased systems: Chapter 35.95 RCW.*

**35.92.070 Procedure—Election.** When the governing body of a city or town deems it advisable that the city or town purchase, acquire, or construct any such public utility, or make any additions and betterments thereto or extensions

thereof, it shall provide therefor by ordinance, which shall specify and adopt the system or plan proposed, and declare the estimated cost thereof, as near as may be, and the ordinance shall be submitted for ratification or rejection by majority vote of the voters of the city or town at a general or special election.

(1) No submission shall be necessary:

(a) When the work proposed is an addition to, or betterment of, extension of, or an increased water supply for existing waterworks, or an addition, betterment, or extension of an existing system or plant of any other public utility;

(b) When in the charter of a city a provision has been adopted authorizing the corporate authorities thereof to provide by ordinance for acquiring, opening, or operating any of such public utilities; or

(c) When in the judgment of the corporate authority, the public health is being endangered by the discharge of raw or untreated sewage into any body of water and the danger to the public health may be abated by the construction and maintenance of a sewage disposal plant.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, submission to the voters shall be necessary if:

(a) The project or work may produce electricity for sale in excess of present or future needs of the water system;

(b) The city or town does not own or operate an electric utility system;

(c) The work involves an ownership greater than twenty-five percent in a new water supply project combined with an electric generation facility; and

(d) The combined facility has an installed capacity in excess of five megawatts.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, submission to the voters shall be necessary to make extensions to a public utility which would expand the previous service capacity by fifty percent or more, where such increased service capacity is financed by the issuance of general obligation bonds.

(4) Thirty days' notice of the election shall be given in the official newspaper of the city or town, by publication at least once each week in the paper during such time.

(5) When a proposition has been adopted, or in the cases where no submission is necessary, the corporate authorities of the city or town may proceed forthwith to purchase, construct, and acquire the public utility or make additions, betterments, and extensions thereto and to make payment therefor. [1987 c 145 § 1. Prior: 1985 c 445 § 11; 1985 c 444 § 3; 1965 c 7 § 35.92.070; prior: 1941 c 147 § 1; 1931 c 53 § 2; 1909 c 150 § 2; 1901 c 85 § 1; 1897 c 112 § 2; 1893 c 8 § 2; 1891 c 141 § 1; 1890 p 520 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9489. Formerly RCW 80.40.070.]

**Intent—Construction—Severability—1985 c 444:** See notes following RCW 35.92.010.

*Elections: Title 29 RCW.*

*Notice of elections: RCW 29.27.080.*

**35.92.075 Indebtedness incurred on credit of expected utility revenues.** A city or town may contract indebtedness and borrow money for a period not in excess of two years for any public utility purpose on the credit of the revenues expected from such public utility. [1982 c 24 § 1.]

**35.92.080 General obligation bonds.** General obligation bonds may be issued by a city or town for the purposes of providing all or part of the costs of purchasing, acquiring, or constructing a public utility or making any additions, betterments, or alterations thereto, or extensions thereof. The bonds shall be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW.

There shall be levied each year a tax upon the taxable property of the city or town sufficient to pay the interest on and principal of the bonds then due, which taxes shall become due and collectible as other taxes: **PROVIDED,** That it may pledge to the payment of such principal and interest the revenue of the public utility being acquired, constructed, or improved out of the proceeds of sale of such bonds. Such pledge of revenue shall constitute a binding obligation, according to its terms, to continue the collection of such revenue so long as such bonds or any of them are outstanding, and to the extent that revenues are insufficient to meet the debt service requirements on such bonds, the governing body of the municipality shall provide for the levy of taxes sufficient to meet such deficiency. [1985 c 445 § 12; 1984 c 186 § 23; 1983 c 167 § 67; 1970 ex.s. c 56 § 47; 1969 ex.s. c 232 § 24; 1967 c 107 § 1; 1965 c 118 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.92.080. Prior: 1909 c 150 § 3, part; RRS § 9490, part. Formerly RCW 80.40.080.]

**Purpose—1984 c 186:** See note following RCW 39.46.110.

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**35.92.090 Limit of indebtedness.** The total general indebtedness incurred under this chapter, added to all other indebtedness of a city or town at any time outstanding, shall not exceed the amounts of indebtedness authorized by chapter 39.36 RCW, as now or hereafter amended, to be incurred without and with the assent of the voters: **PROVIDED,** That a city or town may become indebted to a larger amount, but not exceeding the amount authorized therefor by chapter 39.36 RCW, as now or hereafter amended, for supplying it with water, artificial light, and sewers when works for supplying such water, light, and sewers are owned and controlled by the city or town. [1965 c 7 § 35.92.090. Prior: 1909 c 150 § 3, part; RRS § 9490, part. Formerly RCW 80.40.090.]

*Limitations upon indebtedness: State Constitution Art. 7 § 2 (Amendments 55, 59), Art. 8 § 6 (Amendment 27), RCW 84.52.050.*

**35.92.100 Revenue bonds or warrants.** (1) When the voters of a city or town, or the corporate authorities thereof, have adopted a proposition for any public utility and either no general indebtedness has been authorized or the corporate authorities do not desire to incur a general indebtedness, and when the corporate authorities are authorized to exercise any of the powers conferred by this chapter without submitting the proposition to a vote, the corporate authorities may create a special fund for the sole purpose of defraying the cost of the public utility or addition, betterment, or extension thereto, into which special fund they may obligate and bind the city or town to set aside and pay a fixed proportion of the gross revenues of the utility, or any fixed amount out of and not exceeding a fixed proportion of such revenues, or a fixed amount without regard to any fixed

proportion, and issue and sell bonds or warrants bearing interest at a rate or rates as authorized by the corporate authorities; payable semiannually, executed in such manner and payable at such times and places as the corporate authorities shall determine, but the bonds or warrants and the interest thereon shall be payable only out of the special fund and shall be a lien and charge against payments received from any utility local improvement district assessments pledged to secure such bonds. Such bonds shall be negotiable instruments within the meaning of the negotiable instruments law, Title 62A RCW, notwithstanding same are made payable out of a particular fund contrary to the provisions of RCW 62A.3-105. Such bonds and warrants may be of any form, including bearer bonds or bearer warrants, or registered bonds or registered warrants as provided in RCW 39.46.030.

When corporate authorities deem it necessary to construct any sewage disposal plant, it may be considered as a part of the waterworks department of the city or town and the cost of construction and maintenance thereof may be chargeable to the water fund of the municipality, or to any other special fund which the corporate authorities may by ordinance designate.

In creating a special fund, the corporate authorities shall have due regard to the cost of operation and maintenance of the plant or system as constructed or added to, and to any proportion or part of the revenue previously pledged as a fund for the payment of bonds, warrants, or other indebtedness, and shall not set aside into such special fund a greater amount or proportion of the revenue and proceeds than in their judgment will be available above such cost of maintenance and operation and the amount or proportion, if any, of the revenue so previously pledged. Rates shall be maintained adequate to service such bonds and to maintain the utility in sound financial condition.

The bonds or warrants and interest thereon issued against any such fund shall be a valid claim of the owner thereof only as against the special fund and its fixed proportion or amount of the revenue pledged thereto, and shall not constitute an indebtedness of the city or town within the meaning of constitutional provisions and limitations. Each bond or warrant shall state upon its face that it is payable from a special fund, naming it and the ordinance creating it. The bonds and warrants shall be sold in such manner as the corporate authorities shall deem for the best interest of the city or town, and they may provide in any contract for the construction and acquirement of the proposed improvement that payment therefor shall be made only in such bonds and warrants at par value thereof.

When a special fund is created and any such obligation is issued against it, a fixed proportion, or a fixed amount out of and not exceeding such fixed proportion, or a fixed amount without regard to any fixed proportion, of revenue shall be set aside and paid into such fund as provided in the ordinance creating it, and in case the city or town fails to thus set aside and pay such fixed proportion or amount, the owner of any bond or warrant against the fund may bring action against the city or town and compel such setting aside and payment: PROVIDED, That whenever the corporate authorities of any city or town shall so provide by ordinance then all such bonds thereafter issued shall be on a parity, without regard to date of issuance or authorization and

without preference or priority of right or lien with respect to participation of special funds in amounts from gross revenues for payment thereof.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, such bonds and warrants may be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1983 c 167 § 68; 1983 c 3 § 57; 1970 ex.s. c 56 § 48; 1969 ex.s. c 232 § 25; 1967 c 52 § 25; 1965 c 7 § 35.92.100. Prior: 1953 c 231 § 1; 1931 c 53 § 3; 1909 c 150 § 4; RRS § 9491. Formerly RCW 80.40.100.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**Purpose—1970 ex.s. c 56:** See note following RCW 39.52.020.

**Validation—Saving—Severability—1969 ex.s. c 232:** See notes following RCW 39.52.020.

**Construction—Severability—1967 c 52:** See notes following RCW 35.43.042.

*Instruments payable from a particular fund:* RCW 62A.3-105.

*Municipal revenue bond act:* Chapter 35.41 RCW.

**35.92.105 Revenue bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness for energy or water conservation programs.** A city or town engaged in the sale or distribution of water or energy may issue revenue bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness in the manner provided by this chapter for the purpose of defraying the cost of financing programs for the conservation or more efficient use of energy or water. The bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness shall be deemed to be for capital purposes within the meaning of the uniform system of accounts for municipal corporations. [1992 c 25 § 1; 1981 c 273 § 1.]

*Uniform system of accounts for municipal corporations:* RCW 43.09.200.

**35.92.110 Funding or refunding bonds.** The legislative authority of a city or town which has any outstanding warrants or bonds issued for the purpose of purchasing, acquiring, or constructing any such public utility or for making any additions or betterments thereto or extensions thereof, whether the warrants or bonds are general obligation warrants or bonds of the municipality or are payable solely from a special fund, into which fund the city or town is bound and obligated to set aside and pay any proportion or part of the revenue of the public utility, for the purchase, acquisition, or construction of which utility or the making of any additions and betterments thereto or extensions thereof such outstanding warrants or bonds were issued, may, without submitting the matter to the voters, provide for the issuance of funding or refunding bonds with which to take up, cancel, retire, and refund such outstanding warrants or bonds, or any part thereof, at maturity thereof, or before the maturity thereof, if they are subject to call for prior redemption. [1965 c 7 § 35.92.110. Prior: 1935 c 81 § 1; RRS § 9492-1. Formerly RCW 80.40.110.]

**35.92.120 Funding or refunding bonds—Bonds not general obligation.** Such funding or refunding bonds shall not be a general indebtedness of the city or town, but shall be payable solely from a special fund created therefor by ordinance. Each bond shall state upon its face that it is payable from a special fund, naming the fund and the



ordinance creating it. [1965 c 7 § 35.92.120. Prior: 1935 c 81 § 2; RRS § 9492-2. Formerly RCW 80.40.120.]

**35.92.130 Funding or refunding bonds—Single issue may refund multiple series.** At the option of the legislative authority of the city or town various series and issues of outstanding warrants or bonds, or parts thereof, issued for the purpose of acquiring or constructing any public utility, or for making any additions or betterments thereto or extensions thereof, may be funded or refunded by a single issue of funding or refunding bonds. No proportion or part of the revenue of any one such public utility shall be pledged for the payment of funding or refunding bonds issued to fund or refund warrants or bonds issued for the acquisition or construction, or the making of additions or betterments to or extensions of, any other public utility. [1965 c 7 § 35.92.130. Prior: 1935 c 81 § 3; RRS § 9492-3. Formerly RCW 80.40.130.]

**35.92.140 Funding or refunding bonds—Issuance of bonds—Ordinance.** When the legislative authority of a city or town determines to issue such funding or refunding bonds, it shall provide therefor by ordinance, which shall create a special fund for the sole purpose of paying the bonds and the interest thereon, into which fund the ordinance shall bind and obligate the city or town to set aside and pay a fixed amount without regard to any fixed proportion out of the gross revenue of the public utility as provided therein. In creating such special fund, the legislative authority shall have due regard to the cost of operation and maintenance of the utility as constructed or added to, and to any proportion or part of the revenue thereof previously pledged as a fund for the payment of bonds, warrants, or other indebtedness, and shall not bind and obligate the city or town to set aside into the fund a greater amount of the revenue of the utility than in its judgment will be available above the cost of maintenance and operation and the amount or proportion of the revenue thereof so previously pledged. [1965 c 7 § 35.92.140. Prior: 1935 c 81 § 4, part; RRS § 9492-4, part. Formerly RCW 80.40.140.]

**35.92.150 Funding or refunding bonds—Terms of bonds.** (1) Such funding or refunding bonds, together with the interest thereon, issued against the special fund shall be a valid claim of the owner thereof only as against such fund, and the amount of the revenue of the utility pledged thereto, and shall not constitute an indebtedness of the city or town within the meaning of constitutional or statutory provisions and limitations. They shall be sold in such manner as the corporate authorities shall deem for the best interest of the municipality. The effective rate of interest on the bonds shall not exceed the effective rate of interest on warrants or bonds to be funded or refunded thereby. Interest on the bonds shall be paid semiannually. The bonds shall be executed in such manner and payable at such time and place as the legislative authority shall by ordinance determine. Nothing in this chapter shall prevent a city or town from funding or refunding any of its indebtedness in any other manner provided by law. Such bonds may be of any form, including bearer bonds or registered bonds as provided in RCW 39.46.030.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, such bonds may be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1983 c 167 § 69; 1965 c 7 § 35.92.150. Prior: 1935 c 81 § 4, part; RRS § 9492-4, part. Formerly RCW 80.40.150.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**35.92.160 Funding or refunding bonds—Recourse of bond owners.** When such funding or refunding bonds have been issued and the city or town fails to set aside and pay into the special fund from which they are payable, the amount without regard to any fixed proportion out of the gross revenue of the public utility which the city or town has, by ordinance, bound and obligated itself to set aside and pay into the special fund, the owner of any funding or refunding bond may bring action against the city or town and compel such setting aside and payment. [1983 c 167 § 70; 1965 c 7 § 35.92.160. Prior: 1935 c 81 § 5; RRS § 9492-5. Formerly RCW 80.40.160.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**35.92.170 City may extend water system outside limits.** When a city or town owns or operates a municipal waterworks system and desires to extend such utility beyond its corporate limits it may acquire, construct and maintain any addition to or extension of the system, and dispose of and distribute water to any other municipality, water district, community, or person desiring to purchase it. [1965 c 7 § 35.92.170. Prior: 1933 ex.s. c 17 § 1; RRS § 9502-1. Cf. 1917 c 12 § 1. Formerly RCW 80.40.170.]

*Water districts: Title 57 RCW.*

**35.92.180 City may extend water system outside limits—May acquire property outside city.** A city or town may construct, purchase, or acquire any waterworks, pipe lines, distribution systems and any extensions thereof, necessary to furnish such outside service. [1965 c 7 § 35.92.180. Prior: 1933 ex.s. c 17 § 2; RRS § 9502-2. Cf. 1917 c 12 § 1. Formerly RCW 80.40.180.]

**35.92.190 City may extend water system outside limits—Cannot condemn irrigation system.** No city or town may exercise the power of eminent domain to take or damage any waterworks, storage reservoir, site, pipe line distribution system or any extension thereof, or any water right, water appropriation, dam, canal, plant, or any interest in, or to any of the above used, operated, held, or owned by an irrigation district. [1965 c 7 § 35.92.190. Prior: 1933 ex.s. c 17 § 2A; RRS § 9502-2A. Formerly RCW 80.40.190.]

*Eminent domain by cities: Chapter 8.12 RCW.*

**35.92.200 City may extend water system outside limits—Contracts for outside service.** A city or town may enter into a firm contract with any outside municipality, community, corporation, or person, for furnishing them with water without regard to whether said water shall be considered as surplus or not and regardless of the source from which such water is obtained, which contract may fix the



terms upon which the outside distribution systems will be installed and the rates at which and the manner in which payment shall be made for the water supplied or for the service rendered. [1965 c 7 § 35.92.200. Prior: 1961 c 125 § 1; 1957 c 288 § 8; 1933 ex.s. c 17 § 3; RRS § 9502-3. Cf. 1917 c 12 § 1. Formerly RCW 80.40.200.]

**35.92.220 Acquisition of water rights.** A city or town, situated within or served by, an irrigation project, or projects, owned or operated by the United States government, a water users' association, associations, corporation, or corporations or another city or town or towns, where the legislative authority deems it feasible to furnish water for irrigation and domestic purposes, or either, and where the water used for irrigation and domestic purposes or either, is appurtenant or may become appurtenant to the land located within such city or town, may purchase, lease or otherwise acquire water or water rights for the purpose of furnishing the city or town and the inhabitants thereof with a supply of water for irrigation and domestic purposes, or either; purchase, construct or otherwise acquire systems and means of distribution and delivery of water within and without the limits of the city or town, or for the delivery of water where the owner of land within the city or town owns a water right appurtenant to his land, with full power to maintain, repair, reconstruct, regulate, and control the same, and if private property is necessary for such purposes, the city or town may condemn and purchase or purchase and acquire property, enter into any contract, and order any and all work to be done which shall be necessary to carry out such purposes, and it may do so either by the entire city or town or by assessment districts, consisting of the whole or any portion thereof, as the legislative authority of the city or town may determine. [1965 c 130 § 1; 1965 c 7 § 35.92.220. Prior: 1915 c 112 § 1; RRS § 9495. Formerly RCW 80.40.220.]

**35.92.230 Acquisition of water rights—Special assessments.** For the purpose of paying for a water right purchased by the city or town from the United States government where the purchase price has not been fully paid; paying annual maintenance or annual rental charge to the United States government or any corporation or individual furnishing the water for irrigation and domestic purposes, or either; paying assessments made by any water users' association; paying the cost of constructing or acquiring any system or means of distribution or delivery of water for said purposes; and for the upkeep, repair, reconstruction, operation, and maintenance thereof; and for any expense incidental to said purposes, the city or town may levy and collect special assessments against the property within any district created pursuant to RCW 35.92.220 as now or hereafter amended, to pay the whole or any part of any such costs and expenses. [1965 c 130 § 2; 1965 c 7 § 35.92.230. Prior: 1915 c 112 § 2; RRS § 9496. Formerly RCW 80.40.230.]

**35.92.240 Acquisition of water rights—Levy of assessments.** All such assessments shall be levied upon the several parcels of land located within the local improvement district in accordance to the special benefits conferred on such property in proportion to the surface area, one square foot of surface to be the unit of assessment: PROVIDED,

That where the water right is acquired or a special improvement is made for a portion of any district, the cost of the water right or the cost of such special improvement shall be levied in the same manner upon such portion of the district as shall be specially benefited thereby: PROVIDED FURTHER, That whenever a special improvement is made for a portion of any district, the land assessed for the cost thereof shall be entitled to an equitable reduction in the annual assessments in proportion to the reduced cost of operation on account of the construction of the improvement. [1965 c 7 § 35.92.240. Prior: 1915 c 112 § 3; RRS § 9497. Formerly RCW 80.40.240.]

**35.92.250 Acquisition of water rights—District property need not be contiguous.** One local improvement district may be established for any or all of the purposes embraced herein even though the area assessed for such purposes may not coincide or be contiguous: PROVIDED, That whenever the legislative body of the city or town decides to construct a special improvement in a distribution system, a separate local improvement district may be formed for such portion and bonds may be issued therefor as provided in the general local improvement law. [1965 c 7 § 35.92.250. Prior: 1915 c 112 § 4; RRS § 9498. Formerly RCW 80.40.250.]

*Creation of local improvement districts: Chapter 35.43 RCW.*

*Issuance of bonds to pay for local improvements: Chapters 35.45, 35.48 RCW.*

**35.92.260 Acquisition of water rights—Mode of assessment.** When a city or town makes local improvements for any of the purposes specified in RCW 35.92.220 and RCW 35.92.230, as now or hereafter amended, the proceedings relative to the creation of districts, financing of improvements, levying and collecting assessments and all other procedure shall be had, and the legislative authority shall proceed in accordance with the provisions of the laws relating to local improvement districts in cities of the first class: PROVIDED, That when the improvement is initiated upon petition, the petition shall set forth the fact that the signers are the owners according to the records in the office of the county auditor, of property to an aggregate amount of a majority of the surface area within the limits of the assessment district to be created: PROVIDED FURTHER, That when an assessment is made for any purpose other than the construction or reconstruction of any system or means of distribution or delivery of water, it shall not be necessary for the legislative authority to be furnished with a statement of the aggregate assessed valuation of the real estate exclusive of improvements in the district according to the valuation last placed upon it for purposes of general taxation, or the estimated amount of the cost of the improvement to be borne by each tract of land or other property, but a statement by the engineer or other officer, showing the estimated cost of the improvement per square foot, shall be sufficient: PROVIDED FURTHER, That when the legislative authority of a city or town shall deem it necessary to levy special assessments for the purposes specified in RCW 35.92.230, as now or hereafter amended, other than for the purpose of paying the costs of acquiring, constructing or reconstructing any system or means of distribution or delivery of water for

irrigation or domestic purposes, the legislative authority for such city or town may hold a single hearing on the assessment rolls for all irrigation local improvement districts within the city or town. Such legislative authority shall fix the date of such hearing and shall direct the city or town clerk to give notice thereof, in the form prescribed by RCW 35.44.080, by publication thereof in a legal newspaper of general circulation in the city or town, once, not less than fifteen days prior to the date fixed for hearing; and by mailing, not less than fifteen days prior to the date fixed for hearing, notice thereof to the owner or reputed owner of each item of property described on the assessment roll whose name appears on such roll at the address of such owner or reputed owner shown on the tax rolls of the county treasurer for each such item of property: **PROVIDED FURTHER,** That when an assessment roll is once prepared and does not include the cost of purchase, construction, or reconstruction of works of delivery or distribution and the legislative authority of such city or town decides to raise a similar amount the ensuing year, it shall not be necessary to prepare a new assessment roll, but the legislative authority may pass a resolution of intention estimating the cost for the ensuing year to be the same as the preceding year, and directing the clerk to give notice stating the estimated cost per square foot of all land within the district and refer persons interested to the books of the treasurer, and fixing the date for a hearing on such assessment roll. Notice of such hearing shall be given by the city or town clerk in the form and manner required in the preceding proviso. The treasurer shall be present at the hearing and shall note any changes on his books. The legislative authority shall have the same right to make changes in the assessment roll as in an original assessment, and after all changes have been made it shall, by ordinance, confirm the assessment and direct the treasurer to extend it on the books of his office. [1965 c 130 § 3; 1965 c 7 § 35.92.260. Prior: 1915 c 112 § 5; RRS § 9499. Formerly RCW 80.40.260.]

**35.92.263 Acquisition of water rights—Water rights acquired by purchase of shares in water users' association or corporation—Authority to acquire and hold shares.** Whenever the public interest, welfare, convenience and necessity require that a city or town acquire water rights for the purposes set forth in RCW 35.92.220, as now or hereafter amended, and that such water rights be acquired through the purchases of shares in a water users' association or corporation, such city or town shall have full authority and power to acquire, or to hold in trust, such shares as shall be necessary for said purposes. [1965 c 130 § 4.]

**35.92.265 Acquisition of water rights—Existing local improvement districts validated—Debts, obligations, assessments, etc., declared legal and valid.** Each and all of the respective areas of land heretofore organized into local improvement assessment districts for irrigation or domestic water supply purposes including all areas annexed thereto, under the provisions of chapter 112, Laws of 1915, codified as RCW 35.92.220-35.92.260, whether organized by or within a city or town other than a city of the first class or by or within a city of the first class, are hereby validated and declared to be duly existing local improvement districts

having the respective boundaries set forth in their organization or annexation proceedings as shown by the files in the office of the clerk of the city or town in which formed. All debts, contracts and obligations heretofore made or incurred by or in favor of any such local improvement district and any and all assessments or levies and all other things and proceedings done or taken by the city or town within, and by which such districts were organized, under or in pursuance of such organization, and under or in pursuance of the levy and collection of special assessments by the city or town to pay the whole or any part of the cost and expense or upkeep, repair, reconstruction, operation and maintenance of such local improvement districts and any expense incident to said purposes are hereby declared legal and valid and in full force and effect. [1965 c 130 § 5.]

**35.92.270 Passenger transportation systems—Authority to make studies—Contracts with and acquisition of privately owned systems.** Every passenger transportation system owned by a municipal corporation may:

(1) Engage in planning, studies and surveys with respect to areas within and beyond the corporate boundaries of such municipal corporation, in order to develop a sound factual basis for any possible future adjustment or expansion of such municipally owned passenger transportation system;

(2) Purchase or lease privately owned passenger transportation systems: **PROVIDED,** That such purchases shall not, per se, extend the area of service of such municipally owned passenger transportation system;

(3) Contract with privately owned passenger transportation systems in order to provide adequate service in the service area of the municipal transportation system. [1965 c 7 § 35.92.270. Prior: 1957 c 114 § 1. Formerly RCW 80.40.270.]

**35.92.275 Assumption of obligations of private pension plan when urban transportation system acquired.** See RCW 54.04.160.

**35.92.280 Cities over 150,000, joint undertaking with P.U.D. as to electric utility properties—"Electric utility properties" defined.** As used in RCW 35.92.280 through 35.92.310 "electric utility properties" shall mean any and all permits, licenses, property rights, water rights and any and all works, plants, dams, powerhouses, transmission lines, switchyards, substations, property and facilities of every kind and character which may be used, or may be useful, in the generation and transmission of electric power and energy, produced by water power, steam or any other methods. [1965 c 7 § 35.92.280. Prior: 1957 c 287 § 1. Formerly RCW 80.40.280.]

**35.92.290 Cities over 150,000, joint undertaking with P.U.D. as to electric utility properties—Agreements.** Any city or town with a population over one hundred fifty thousand within the state of Washington owning an electric public utility is authorized to cooperate with any public utility district within this state in the joint acquisition, purchase, construction, ownership, maintenance and operation, within or without the respective limits of any such city or town or public utility district, of electric utility properties. The

respective governing bodies of any such city or town and of any such public utility district desiring to cooperate in the joint ownership, maintenance and operation of electric utility properties pursuant to the authority contained in RCW 35.92.280 through 35.92.310, shall by mutual agreement provide for such joint ownership, maintenance and operation. Such agreement shall prescribe the rights and property interest which the parties thereto shall have in such electric utility properties, which property interest may be either divided or undivided; and shall further provide for the rights of the parties thereto in the ownership and disposition of the power and energy produced by such electric utility properties, and for the operation and management thereof. [1965 c 7 § 35.92.290. Prior: 1957 c 287 § 2. Formerly RCW 80.40.290.]

**35.92.300 Cities over 150,000, joint undertaking with P.U.D. as to electric utility properties—Financing.** Any city or town and any public utility district cooperating under the provisions of RCW 35.92.280 through 35.92.310 may, without an election or other proceedings under any existing law, contribute money and property, both real and personal, to any joint undertaking pursuant hereto, and may issue and sell revenue bonds to pay its respective share of the costs of acquisition and construction of such electric utility properties. Such bonds shall be issued under the provisions of applicable laws authorizing the issuance of revenue bonds for the acquisition and construction of electric public utility properties by cities, towns and public utility districts, as the case may be. [1965 c 7 § 35.92.300. Prior: 1957 c 287 § 3. Formerly RCW 80.40.300.]

*Revenue bonds and warrants issued by cities and towns to finance acquisition of public utilities: RCW 35.92.100. public utility districts: Chapter 54.24 RCW.*

**35.92.310 Cities over 150,000, joint undertaking with P.U.D. as to electric utility properties—Authority granted is additional power.** The authority and power granted by RCW 35.92.280 through 35.92.310 is an additional grant of power to cities, towns, and public utility districts to acquire and operate electric public utilities, and the provisions hereof shall be construed liberally to effectuate the authority herein conferred, and no restriction or limitation prescribed in any other law shall prohibit the cities, towns and public utility districts of this state from exercising the authority herein conferred: PROVIDED, That nothing in RCW 35.92.280 through 35.92.310 shall authorize any public utility district or city cooperating under the provisions of RCW 35.92.280 through 35.92.310 to condemn any property owned or operated by any privately owned utility. [1965 c 7 § 35.92.310. Prior: 1957 c 287 § 4. Formerly RCW 80.40.310.]

**35.92.350 Electrical construction or improvement—Bid proposals—Contract proposal forms—Conditions for issuance—Refusal—Appeal.** Any city or town owning an electrical utility shall require that bid proposals upon any electrical construction or improvement shall be made upon contract proposal form supplied by the governing authority of such utility, and in no other manner. The governing authority shall, before furnishing any person, firm or

corporation desiring to bid upon any electrical work with a contract proposal form, require from such person, firm or corporation, answers to questions contained in a standard form of questionnaire and financial statement, including a complete statement of the financial ability and experience of such person, firm, or corporation in performing electrical work. Such questionnaire shall be sworn to before a notary public or other person authorized to take acknowledgment of deeds, and shall be submitted once a year and at such other times as the governing authority may require. Whenever the governing authority is not satisfied with the sufficiency of the answers contained in such questionnaire and financial statement or whenever the governing authority determines that such person, firm, or corporation does not meet all of the requirements hereinafter set forth it may refuse to furnish such person, firm or corporation with a contract proposal form and any bid proposal of such person, firm or corporation must be disregarded. In order to obtain a contract proposal form, a person, firm or corporation shall have all of the following requirements:

- (1) Adequate financial resources, or the ability to secure such resources;
- (2) The necessary experience, organization, and technical qualifications to perform the proposed contract;
- (3) The ability to comply with the required performance schedule taking into consideration all of its existing business commitments;
- (4) A satisfactory record of performance, integrity, judgment, and skills; and
- (5) Be otherwise qualified and eligible to receive an award under applicable laws and regulations.

Such refusal shall be conclusive unless appeal therefrom to the superior court of the county where the utility district is situated or Thurston county be taken within fifteen days, which appeal shall be heard summarily within ten days after the same is taken and on five days' notice thereof to the governing authority of the utility. [1971 ex.s. c 220 § 1.]

**35.92.355 Energy conservation—Legislative findings.** The conservation of energy in all forms and by every possible means is found and declared to be a public purpose of highest priority. The legislature further finds and declares that all municipal corporations, quasi municipal corporations, and other political subdivisions of the state which are engaged in the generation, sale, or distribution of energy should be granted the authority to develop and carry out programs which will conserve resources, reduce waste, and encourage more efficient use of energy by consumers.

In order to establish the most effective state-wide program for energy conservation, the legislature hereby encourages any company, corporation, or association engaged in selling or furnishing utility services to assist their customers in the acquisition and installation of materials and equipment, for compensation or otherwise, for the conservation or more efficient use of energy. The use of appropriate tree plantings for energy conservation is encouraged as part of these programs. [1993 c 204 § 5; 1979 ex.s. c 239 § 1.]

**Findings—1993 c 204:** See note following RCW 35.92.390.

**Effective date—Contingency—1979 ex.s. c 239:** See note following RCW 35.92.360.

**35.92.360 Energy conservation plan—Financing authorized for energy conservation projects in structures or equipment—Limitations.** Any city or town engaged in the generation, sale, or distribution of energy is hereby authorized, within limits established by the Constitution of the state of Washington, to assist the owners of structures or equipment in financing the acquisition and installation of materials and equipment, for compensation or otherwise, for the conservation or more efficient use of energy in such structures or equipment pursuant to an energy conservation plan adopted by the city or town if the cost per unit of energy saved or produced by the use of such materials and equipment is less than the cost per unit of energy produced by the next least costly new energy resource which the city or town could acquire to meet future demand. Any financing authorized under this chapter shall only be used for conservation purposes in existing structures, and such financing shall not be used for any purpose which results in a conversion from one energy source to another. Except where otherwise authorized, such assistance shall be limited to:

(1) Providing an inspection of the structure or equipment, either directly or through one or more inspectors under contract, to determine and inform the owner of the estimated cost of purchasing and installing conservation materials and equipment for which financial assistance will be approved and the estimated life cycle savings in energy costs that are likely to result from the installation of such materials or equipment;

(2) Providing a list of businesses who sell and install such materials and equipment within or in close proximity to the service area of the city or town, each of which businesses shall have requested to be included and shall have the ability to provide the products in a workmanlike manner and to utilize such materials in accordance with the prevailing national standards.

(3) Arranging to have approved conservation materials and equipment installed by a private contractor whose bid is acceptable to the owner of the residential structure and verifying such installation; and

(4) Arranging or providing financing for the purchase and installation of approved conservation materials and equipment. Such materials and equipment shall be purchased from a private business and shall be installed by a private business or the owner.

(5) Pay back shall be in the form of incremental additions to the utility bill, billed either together with use charge or separately. Loans shall not exceed one hundred twenty months in length. [1989 c 268 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 239 § 2.]

**Effective date—Contingency—1979 ex.s. c 239:** "This 1979 act shall take effect on the same date as the proposed amendment to Article VIII of the state Constitution, authorizing the use of public moneys or credit to promote conservation or more efficient use of energy, is validly submitted and is approved and ratified by the voters at a general election held in November, 1979. If the proposed amendment is not so approved and ratified, this 1979 act shall be null and void in its entirety." [1979 ex.s. c 239 § 4.] The referenced constitutional amendment (1979 Substitute Senate Joint Resolution No. 120) was approved by the voters on November 6, 1979. See Article VIII, section 10 of the state Constitution.

**35.92.370 Lease of real property under electrical transmission lines for private gardening purposes.** A city

or town owning facilities for the purpose of furnishing the city or town and its inhabitants with electricity may lease for private gardening purposes the real property under its electrical transmission and distribution lines for a nominal rent to any person who has an income of less than ten thousand dollars per year. [1981 c 100 § 1.]

**35.92.380 Waiver or delay of collection of tap-in charges, connection or hookup fees for low income persons.** Whenever a city or town waives or delays collection of tap-in charges, connection fees, or hookup fees for low income persons, or class of low income persons, to connect to lines or pipes used by the city or town to provide utility service, the waiver or delay shall be pursuant to a program established by ordinance. As used in this section, the provision of "utility service" includes, but is not limited to, water, sanitary or storm sewer service, electricity, gas, other means of power, and heat. [1980 c 150 § 1.]

**35.92.390 Municipal utilities encouraged to provide customers with landscaping information and to request voluntary donations for urban forestry.** (1) Municipal utilities under this chapter are encouraged to provide information to their customers regarding landscaping that includes tree planting for energy conservation.

(2) Municipal utilities under this chapter are encouraged to request voluntary donations from their customers for the purposes of urban forestry. The request may be in the form of a check-off on the billing statement or other form of request for a voluntary donation. [1993 c 204 § 2.]

**Findings—1993 c 204:** "The legislature finds that large-scale reduction of tree cover increases the temperature of urban areas, known as the "heat island effect." Planting trees in urban areas for shading and cooling mitigates the urban heat island effect and reduces energy consumption. Tree planting also can benefit the environment by combating global climate change, reducing soil erosion, and improving air quality. Urban forestry programs can improve urban aesthetics that will improve public and private property values.

The legislature also finds that urban forestry programs should consider the relationship between urban forests and public service facilities such as water, sewer, natural gas, telephone, and electric power lines. Urban forestry programs should promote the use of appropriate tree species that will not interfere with or cause damage to such public service facilities." [1993 c 204 § 1.]

## Chapter 35.94

### SALE OR LEASE OF MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

#### Sections

35.94.010	Authority to sell or let.
35.94.020	Procedure.
35.94.030	Execution of lease or conveyance.
35.94.040	Lease or sale of land or property originally acquired for public utility purposes.
35.94.050	Application of chapter to certain service provider agreements under chapter 70.150 RCW.

**35.94.010 Authority to sell or let.** A city may lease for any term of years or sell and convey any public utility works, plant, or system owned by it or any part thereof, together with all or any equipment and appurtenances thereof. [1965 c 7 § 35.94.010. Prior: 1917 c 137 § 1; RRS § 9512. Cf. 1907 c 86 §§ 1-3; 1897 c 106 §§ 1-4. Formerly RCW 80.48.010.]

**35.94.020 Procedure.** The legislative authority of the city, if it deems it advisable to lease or sell the works, plant, or system, or any part thereof, shall adopt a resolution stating whether it desires to lease or sell. If it desires to lease, the resolution shall state the general terms and conditions of the lease, but not the rent. If it desires to sell the general terms of sale shall be stated, but not the price. The resolution shall direct the city clerk, or other proper official, to publish the resolution not less than once a week for four weeks in the official newspaper of the city, together with a notice calling for sealed bids to be filed with the clerk or other proper official not later than a certain time, accompanied by a certified check payable to the order of the city, for such amount as the resolution shall require, or a deposit of a like sum in money. Each bid shall state that the bidder agrees that if his bid is accepted and he fails to comply therewith within the time hereinafter specified, the check or deposit shall be forfeited to the city. If bids for a lease are called for, bidders shall bid the amount to be paid as the rent for each year of the term of the lease. If bids for a sale are called for, the bids shall state the price offered. The legislative authority of the city may reject any or all bids and accept any bid which it deems best. At the first meeting of the legislative authority of the city held after the expiration of the time fixed for receiving bids, or at some later meeting, the bids shall be considered. In order for the legislative authority to declare it advisable to accept any bid it shall be necessary for two-thirds of all the members elected to the legislative authority to vote in favor of a resolution making the declaration. If the resolution is adopted it shall be necessary, in order that the bid be accepted, to enact an ordinance accepting it and directing the execution of a lease or conveyance by the mayor and city clerk or other proper official. The ordinance shall not take effect until it has been submitted to the voters of the city for their approval or rejection at the next general election or at a special election called for that purpose, and a majority of the voters voting thereon have approved it. If approved it shall take effect as soon as the result of the vote is proclaimed by the mayor. If it is so submitted and fails of approval, it shall be rejected and annulled. The mayor shall proclaim the vote as soon as it is properly certified. [1985 c 469 § 40; 1965 c 7 § 35.94.020. Prior: 1917 c 137 § 2; RRS § 9513. Cf. 1907 c 86 §§ 1-3; 1897 c 106 §§ 1-4. Formerly RCW 80.48.020.]

*Elections: Title 29 RCW.*

**35.94.030 Execution of lease or conveyance.** Upon the taking effect of the ordinance the mayor and the city clerk or other proper official shall execute, in the name and on behalf of the city, the lease or conveyance directed thereby. The lessee or grantee shall accept and execute the instrument within ten days after notice of its execution by the city or forfeit to the city, the amount of the check or deposit accompanying his bid: PROVIDED, That if litigation in good faith is instituted within ten days to determine the rights of the parties, no forfeiture shall take place unless the lessee or grantee fails for five days after the termination of the litigation in favor of the city to accept and execute the lease or conveyance. [1965 c 7 § 35.94.030. Prior: 1917 c 137 § 3; RRS § 9514. Cf. 1907 c 86 §§ 1-3; 1897 c 106 §§ 1-4. Formerly RCW 80.48.030.]

**35.94.040 Lease or sale of land or property originally acquired for public utility purposes.** Whenever a city shall determine, by resolution of its legislative authority, that any lands, property, or equipment originally acquired for public utility purposes is surplus to the city's needs and is not required for providing continued public utility service, then such legislative authority by resolution and after a public hearing may cause such lands, property, or equipment to be leased, sold, or conveyed. Such resolution shall state the fair market value or the rent or consideration to be paid and such other terms and conditions for such disposition as the legislative authority deems to be in the best public interest.

The provisions of RCW 35.94.020 and 35.94.030 shall not apply to dispositions authorized by this section. [1973 1st ex.s. c 95 § 1.]

**35.94.050 Application of chapter to certain service provider agreements under chapter 70.150 RCW.** This chapter does not apply to dispositions of utility property in connection with an agreement entered into pursuant to chapter 70.150 RCW provided there is compliance with the procurement procedure under RCW 70.150.040. [1986 c 244 § 11.]

*Severability—1986 c 244: See RCW 70.150.905.*

## Chapter 35.95

### PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS IN CITIES AND METROPOLITAN MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS—FINANCING

#### Sections

- 35.95.010 Declaration of intent and purpose.
- 35.95.020 Definitions.
- 35.95.030 Appropriation of funds for transportation systems authorized—Referendum.
- 35.95.040 Levy and collection of excise taxes authorized—Business and occupation tax—Excise tax on residents—Appropriation and use of proceeds—Voter approval.
- 35.95.050 Collection of tax—Billing.
- 35.95.060 Funds derived from taxes—Restrictions on classification, etc.
- 35.95.070 Purchase of leased public transportation system—Purchase price.
- 35.95.080 Referendum rights not impaired.
- 35.95.090 Corporate authorities may refer ordinance levying tax to voters.
- 35.95.100 Public transportation systems.
- 35.95.900 Severability—1965 ex.s. c 111.

*Contracts between political subdivisions for services or use of public transportation systems: RCW 39.33.050.*

*Local sales and use taxes for financing public transportation systems: RCW 82.14.045 through 82.14.060.*

*Public transportation systems: RCW 35.58.272 through 35.58.2794.*

**35.95.010 Declaration of intent and purpose.** We, the legislature find that an increasing number of municipally owned, or leased, and operated transportation systems in the urban areas of the state of Washington, as in the nation, are finding it impossible, from the revenues derived from tolls, tariffs and fares, to maintain the financial solvency of such systems, and as a result thereof such municipalities have been forced to subsidize such systems to the detriment of other essential public services.

All persons in a community benefit from a solvent and adequate public transportation system, either directly or indirectly, and the responsibility of financing the operation, maintenance, and capital needs of such systems is a community obligation and responsibility which should be shared by all.

We further find and declare that the maintenance and operation of an adequate public transportation system is an absolute necessity and is essential to the economic, industrial and cultural growth, development and prosperity of a municipality and of the state and nation, and to protect the health and welfare of the residents of such municipalities and the public in general.

We further find and declare that the appropriation of general funds and levying and collection of taxes by such municipalities as authorized in the succeeding sections of this chapter is necessary, and any funds so derived and expended are for a public purpose for which public funds may properly be used. [1969 ex.s. c 255 § 1; 1965 ex.s. c 111 § 1.]

**Construction—Severability—1969 ex.s. c 255:** See notes following RCW 35.58.272.

**35.95.020 Definitions.** The following terms however used or referred to in this chapter, shall have the following meanings, unless a different meaning is required by the context:

(1) "Corporate authority" shall mean the council or other legislative body of a municipality.

(2) "Municipality" shall mean any incorporated city, town, county pursuant to RCW 36.57.100 and 36.57.110, any county transportation authority created pursuant to chapter 36.57 RCW, any public transportation benefit area created pursuant to chapter 36.57A RCW, or any metropolitan municipal corporation created pursuant to RCW 35.58.010, et seq: PROVIDED, That the term "municipality" shall mean in respect to any county performing the public transportation function pursuant to RCW 36.57.100 and 36.57.110 only that portion of the unincorporated area lying wholly within such unincorporated transportation benefit area.

(3) "Person" shall mean any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, company, association, joint stock association, school district or political subdivision of the state, fraternal, benevolent, religious or charitable society, club or organization, and shall include any trustee, receiver, assignee, or other person acting in a similar representative capacity. The term "person" shall not be construed to include the United States nor the state of Washington. [1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 3; 1969 ex.s. c 255 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 145 § 65; 1965 ex.s. c 111 § 2.]

**Severability—Effective date—1975 1st ex.s. c 270:** See notes following RCW 35.58.272.

**Severability—Construction—1969 ex.s. c 255:** See notes following RCW 35.58.272.

**35.95.030 Appropriation of funds for transportation systems authorized—Referendum.** The corporate authorities of any municipality are authorized to appropriate general funds for the operation, maintenance, and capital needs of municipally owned or leased and municipally operated public transportation systems subject to the right of referendum as provided by statute or charter. [1965 ex.s. c 111 § 3.]

**35.95.040 Levy and collection of excise taxes authorized—Business and occupation tax—Excise tax on residents—Appropriation and use of proceeds—Voter approval.** The corporate authorities of a municipality are authorized to adopt ordinances for the levy and collection of excise taxes and/or for the imposition of an additional tax for the act or privilege of engaging in business activities. Such business and occupation tax shall be imposed in such amounts as fixed and determined by the corporate authorities of the municipality and shall be measured by the application of rates against value of products, gross proceeds of sales, or gross income of the business, as the case may be. The terms "business", "engaging in business", "gross proceeds of sales", and "gross income of the business" shall for the purpose of this chapter have the same meanings as defined and set forth in chapter 82.04 RCW or as said chapter may hereafter be amended.

The excise taxes other than the business and occupation tax above provided for shall be levied and collected from all persons within the municipality in such amounts as shall be fixed and determined by the corporate authorities of the municipality: PROVIDED, That such excise tax shall not exceed one dollar per month for each housing unit. For the purposes of this section, the term "housing unit" shall mean a building or portion thereof designed for or used as the residence or living quarters of one or more persons living together, or of one family.

All taxes herein authorized shall be taxes other than a retail sales tax defined in chapter 82.08 RCW and a use tax defined in chapter 82.12 RCW, and the municipality shall appropriate and use the proceeds derived from all taxes authorized herein only for the operation, maintenance and capital needs of its municipally owned or leased and municipally operated public transportation system.

Before any county transportation authority established pursuant to chapter 36.57 RCW or any public transportation benefit area authority established pursuant to chapter 36.57A RCW may impose any of the excise taxes authorized pursuant to this section, the authorization for imposition of such taxes shall be approved by the voters residing within such respective area.

The county on behalf of an unincorporated transportation benefit area established pursuant to RCW 36.57.100 and 36.57.110 may impose any of the excise taxes authorized pursuant to this section only within the boundaries of such unincorporated transportation benefit area. [1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 4; 1965 ex.s. c 111 § 4.]

**Severability—Effective date—1975 1st ex.s. c 270:** See notes following RCW 35.58.272.

*Municipal taxation of motor carriers of freight for hire:* RCW 35.21.840.

**35.95.050 Collection of tax—Billing.** The tax levied under the provisions of RCW 35.95.040 shall be billed and collected at such times and in the manner fixed and determined by the corporate authorities in an ordinance levying the tax: PROVIDED, That the tax shall be designated and identified as a tax to be used solely for the operation, maintenance, and capital needs of the municipally owned or leased and municipally operated public transit system: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That the corporate authorities may in connection with municipally owned or leased transit

systems enter into contracts covering the operation and maintenance of such systems, including the employment of personnel. [1967 ex.s. c 145 § 66; 1965 ex.s. c 111 § 5.]

**Severability—1967 ex.s. c 145:** See RCW 47.98.043.

**35.95.060 Funds derived from taxes—Restrictions on classification, etc.** No funds derived from any tax levied under the provisions of this chapter shall, for any purpose whatsoever, be classified as or constitute income, earnings, or revenue of the public transportation system for which the tax is levied nor of any other public utility owned or leased and operated by such municipality; nor shall such funds constitute or be classified as any part of the rate structure or rate charged for the public utility. [1965 ex.s. c 111 § 6.]

**35.95.070 Purchase of leased public transportation system—Purchase price.** In the event the corporate authorities of any municipality during the term of a lease or any renewal thereof of a public transportation system desire to purchase the said system, the purchase price shall be no greater than the fair market value of the said system at the commencement of the lease. [1965 ex.s. c 111 § 7.]

*Authority to acquire and operate transportation facilities:* RCW 35.92.060.

**35.95.080 Referendum rights not impaired.** Nothing contained in this chapter nor the provisions of any city charter shall prevent a referendum on any ordinance or action adopted or taken by any municipality under the provisions of this chapter. [1965 ex.s. c 111 § 8.]

**35.95.090 Corporate authorities may refer ordinance levying tax to voters.** The corporate authorities of a municipality adopting an ordinance for the levy and collection of an excise tax or additional tax as provided in RCW 35.95.040 may refer such ordinance to the voters of the municipality before making such ordinance effective. [1967 ex.s. c 145 § 67.]

**Severability—1967 ex.s. c 145:** See RCW 47.98.043.

**35.95.100 Public transportation systems.** See RCW 35.58.272 through 35.58.2794.

**35.95.900 Severability—1965 ex.s. c 111.** If any provision of this chapter, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the chapter, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1965 ex.s. c 111 § 9.]

## Chapter 35.96

### ELECTRIC AND COMMUNICATION FACILITIES—CONVERSION TO UNDERGROUND

#### Sections

- 35.96.010 Declaration of public interest and purpose.
- 35.96.020 Definitions.
- 35.96.030 Conversion of electric and communication facilities to underground facilities authorized—Local improvement districts—Special assessments.
- 35.96.040 Contracts for conversion—Authorized—Provisions.
- 35.96.050 Notice to owners to convert service lines to underground—Objections—Hearing—Time limitation for conversion.

- 35.96.060 Application of provisions relating to local improvements in cities and towns to chapter.
- 35.96.070 Validation of preexisting debts, contracts, obligations, etc., made or incurred incidental to conversion of electric and communication facilities to underground facilities.
- 35.96.080 Authority granted deemed alternative and additional.
- 35.96.900 Severability—1967 c 119.

*Counties, conversion of overhead electric and communication facilities to underground facilities:* RCW 36.88.410 through 36.88.480.

*Local improvements for underground utilities transmission lines:* RCW 35.43.040(12).

**35.96.010 Declaration of public interest and purpose.** It is hereby found and declared that the conversion of overhead electric and communication facilities to underground facilities is substantially beneficial to the public safety and welfare, is in the public interest and is a public purpose, notwithstanding any resulting incidental private benefit to any electric or communication utility affected by such conversion. [1967 c 119 § 2.]

**35.96.020 Definitions.** As used in this chapter, unless specifically defined otherwise, or unless the context indicates otherwise:

"Conversion area" means that area in which existing overhead electric and communication facilities are to be converted to underground facilities pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

"Electric utility" means any publicly or privately owned utility engaged in the business of furnishing electric energy to the public in all or part of the conversion area and includes electrical companies as defined by RCW 80.04.010 and public utility districts.

"Communication utility" means any utility engaged in the business of affording telephonic, telegraphic, cable television or other communication service to the public in all or part of the conversion area and includes telephone companies and telegraph companies as defined by RCW 80.04.010. [1967 c 119 § 3.]

**35.96.030 Conversion of electric and communication facilities to underground facilities authorized—Local improvement districts—Special assessments.** Every city or town shall have the power to convert existing overhead electric and communication facilities to underground facilities pursuant to RCW 35.43.190 where such facilities are owned or operated by the city or town. Where such facilities are not so owned or operated, every city or town shall have the power to contract with electric and communication utilities, as hereinafter provided, for the conversion of existing overhead electric and communication facilities to underground facilities. To provide funds to pay the whole or any part of the cost of any such conversion, either where the existing overhead electric and communication facilities are owned or operated by the city or town or where they are not so owned or operated, every city or town shall have the power to create local improvement districts and to levy and collect special assessments against the real property specially benefited by such conversion. For the purpose of ascertaining the amount to be assessed against each lot or parcel of land within any local improvement district established pursuant to this chapter, in addition to other methods provided by law for apportioning special benefits, the legisla-



tive authority of any city or town may apportion all or part of the special benefits accruing on a square footage basis or on a per lot basis. [1967 c 119 § 4.]

**35.96.040 Contracts for conversion—Authorized—Provisions.** Every city or town shall have the power to contract with electric and communication utilities for the conversion of existing overhead electric and communication facilities to underground facilities including all work incidental to such conversion. Such contracts may include, among other provisions, any of the following:

(1) For the supplying and approval by electric and communication utilities of plans and specifications for such conversion;

(2) For the payment to the electric and communication utilities for any work performed or services rendered by it in connection with the conversion project;

(3) For the payment to the electric and communication utilities for the value of the overhead facilities removed pursuant to the conversion;

(4) For ownership of the underground facilities by the electric and communication utilities. [1967 c 119 § 5.]

**35.96.050 Notice to owners to convert service lines to underground—Objections—Hearing—Time limitation for conversion.** When service from the underground electric and communication facilities is available in all or part of a conversion area, the city or town shall mail a notice to the owners of all structures or improvements served from the existing overhead facilities in the area, which notice shall state that:

(1) Service from the underground facilities is available;

(2) All electric and communication service lines from the existing overhead facilities within the area to any structure or improvement must be disconnected and removed within ninety days after the date of the mailing of the notice;

(3) Should such owner fail to convert such service lines from overhead to underground within ninety days after the date of the mailing of the notice, the city or town will order the electric and communication utilities to disconnect and remove the service lines;

(4) Should the owner object to the disconnection and removal of the service lines he may file his written objections thereto with the city or town clerk within thirty days after the date of the mailing of the notice and failure to so object within such time will constitute a waiver of his right thereafter to object to such disconnection and removal.

If the owner of any structure or improvement served from the existing overhead electric and communication facilities within a conversion area shall fail to convert to underground the service lines from such overhead facilities to such structure or improvement within ninety days after the mailing to him of the notice, the city or town shall order the electric and communication utilities to disconnect and remove all such service lines: PROVIDED, That if the owner has filed his written objections to such disconnection and removal with the city or town clerk within thirty days after the mailing of the notice then the city or town shall not order such disconnection and removal until after the hearing on such objections.

Upon the timely filing by the owner of objections to the disconnection and removal of the service lines, the legislative authority of such city or town, or a committee thereof, shall conduct a hearing to determine whether the removal of all or any part of the service lines is in the public benefit. The hearing shall be held at such time as the legislative authority of such city or town may establish for hearings on the objections and shall be held in accordance with the regularly established procedure set by the legislative authority of the city or town. If the hearing is before a committee, the committee shall following the hearing report its recommendation to the legislative authority of the city or town for final action. The determination reached by the legislative authority shall be final in the absence of an abuse of discretion. [1967 c 119 § 6.]

**35.96.060 Application of provisions relating to local improvements in cities and towns to chapter.** Unless otherwise provided in this chapter, the general provisions relating to local improvements in cities and towns including but not limited to chapters 35.43, 35.44, 35.45, 35.48, 35.49, 35.50, 35.53 and 35.54 RCW shall apply to local improvements authorized by this chapter. [1967 c 119 § 7.]

**35.96.070 Validation of preexisting debts, contracts, obligations, etc., made or incurred incidental to conversion of electric and communication facilities to underground facilities.** All debts, contracts and obligations heretofore made or incurred by or in favor of any city or town incident to the conversion of overhead electric and communication facilities to underground facilities and all bonds, warrants, or other obligations issued by any such city or town, or by any local improvement district created to effect such conversion and any and all assessments heretofore levied in any such local improvement district, and all other things and proceedings relating thereto are hereby declared to be legal and valid and of full force and effect from the date thereof. [1967 c 119 § 8.]

**35.96.080 Authority granted deemed alternative and additional.** The authority granted by this chapter shall be considered an alternative and additional method for converting existing overhead electric and communication facilities to underground facilities, and for paying all or part of the cost thereof, and shall not be construed as a restriction or limitation upon any other authority for or method of converting any such facilities or placing such facilities underground or paying all or part of the cost thereof, including, but not limited to, existing authority or methods under chapter 35.43 RCW and chapter 35.44 RCW. [1967 c 119 § 10.]

**35.96.900 Severability—1967 c 119.** If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1967 c 119 § 9.]

**Chapter 35.97**  
**HEATING SYSTEMS**

## Sections

35.97.010	Definitions.
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35.97.030	Heating systems—General powers of municipalities.
35.97.040	Heating systems—Specific powers of municipalities.
35.97.050	Heating systems—Authorized by legislative authority of municipality—Competitive bidding.
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35.97.110	Revenue bonds—Form, terms, etc.
35.97.120	Revenue warrants.
35.97.130	Revenue bonds and warrants—Holder may enforce.
35.97.900	Severability—1983 c 216.

**35.97.010 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Biomass energy system" means a system that provides for the production or collection of organic materials such as wood and agricultural residues and municipal solid waste that are primarily organic materials and the conversion or use of that material for the production of heat or substitute fuels through several processes including, but not limited to, burning, pyrolysis, or anaerobic digestion.

(2) "Cogeneration" means the sequential generation of two or more forms of energy from a common fuel or energy source.

(3) "Cogeneration facility" means any machinery, equipment, structure, process, or property or any part thereof, installed or acquired for the primary purpose of cogeneration by a person or corporation.

(4) "Geothermal heat" means the natural thermal energy of the earth.

(5) "Waste heat" means the thermal energy which otherwise would be released to the environment from an industrial process, electric generation, or other process.

(6) "Heat" means thermal energy.

(7) "Heat source" includes but is not limited to (a) any integral part of a heat production or heat rejection system of an industrial facility, cogeneration facility, or electric power generation facility, (b) geothermal well or spring, (c) biomass energy system, (d) solar collection facility, and (e) hydrothermal resource or heat extraction process.

(8) "Municipality" means a county, city, town, irrigation district which distributes electricity, sewer district, water district, port district, or metropolitan municipal corporation.

(9) "Heating facilities or heating systems" means all real and personal property, or interests therein, necessary or useful for: (a) The acquisition, production, or extraction of heat; (b) the storage of heat; (c) the distribution of heat from its source to the place of utilization; (d) the extraction of heat at the place of utilization from the medium by which the heat is distributed; (e) the distribution of heat at the place of utilization; and (f) the conservation of heat.

(10) "Hydrothermal resource" means the thermal energy available in wastewater, sewage effluent, wells, or other

water sources, natural or manmade. [1987 c 522 § 4; 1983 c 216 § 2.]

**35.97.020 Heating systems authorized.** (1) Counties, cities, towns, irrigation districts which distribute electricity, sewer districts, water districts, port districts, and metropolitan municipal corporations are authorized pursuant to this chapter to establish heating systems and supply heating services from Washington's heat sources.

(2) Nothing in this chapter authorizes any municipality to generate, transmit, distribute, or sell electricity. [1989 c 11 § 7; 1987 c 522 § 3; 1983 c 216 § 1.]

**Severability—1989 c 11:** See note following RCW 9A.56.220.

**35.97.030 Heating systems—General powers of municipalities.** A municipality may construct, purchase, acquire, add to, extend, maintain, and operate a system of heating facilities, within or without its limits, for the purpose of supplying its inhabitants and other persons with heat, with full power to regulate and control the use, distribution, and price of supplying heat, and to enter into agreements for the maintenance and operation of heating facilities under terms and conditions determined by the legislative authority of the municipality. The provision of heat and heating facilities and the establishment and operation of heating systems by a municipality under this chapter are hereby declared to be a public use and a public and strictly municipal purpose. However, nothing in this chapter shall be construed to restrain or limit the authority of any individual, partnership, corporation, or private utility from establishing and operating heating systems. [1983 c 216 § 3.]

**35.97.040 Heating systems—Specific powers of municipalities.** In addition to the general powers under RCW 35.97.030, and not by way of limitation, municipalities have the following specific powers:

(1) The usual powers of a corporation, to be exercised for public purposes;

(2) To acquire by purchase, gift, or condemnation property or interests in property within and without the municipality, necessary for the construction and operation of heating systems, including additions and extensions of heating systems. No municipality may acquire any heat source by condemnation. To the extent judged economically feasible by the municipality, public property and rights of way shall be utilized in lieu of private property acquired by condemnation. The municipality shall determine in cooperation with existing users that addition of district heating facilities to any public property or rights of way shall not be a hazard or interference with existing uses or, if so, that the cost for any relocation of facilities of existing users shall be a cost and expense of installing the heating facility;

(3) To acquire, install, add to, maintain, and operate heating facilities at a heat source or to serve particular consumers of heat, whether such facilities are located on property owned by the municipality, by the consumer of heat, or otherwise;

(4) To sell, lease, or otherwise dispose of heating facilities;

(5) To contract for the operation of heating facilities;

(6) To apply and qualify for and receive any private or federal grants, loans, or other funds available for carrying out the objects of the municipality under this chapter;

(7) Full and exclusive authority to sell and regulate and control the use, distribution, rates, service, charges, and price of all heat supplied by the municipality and to carry out any other powers and duties under this chapter free from the jurisdiction and control of the utilities and transportation commission;

(8) To utilize fuels other than the heat sources described in RCW 35.97.020 on a standby basis, to meet start up and emergency requirements, to meet peak demands, or to supplement those heat sources as necessary to provide a reliable and economically feasible supply of heat;

(9) To the extent permitted by the state Constitution, to make loans for the purpose of enabling suppliers or consumers of heat to finance heating facilities;

(10) To enter into cooperative agreements providing for the acquisition, construction, ownership, financing, use, control, and regulation of heating systems and heating facilities by more than one municipality or by one or more municipalities on behalf of other municipalities. [1983 c 216 § 4.]

**35.97.050 Heating systems—Authorized by legislative authority of municipality—Competitive bidding.** If the legislative authority of a municipality deems it advisable that the municipality purchase, acquire, or construct a heating system, or make any additions or extensions to a heating system, the legislative authority shall so provide by an ordinance or a resolution specifying and adopting the system or plan proposed, declaring the estimated cost thereof, as near as may be, and specifying the method of financing and source of funds. Any construction, alteration, or improvement of a heating system by any county, city, town, irrigation district, water district, sewer district, or port district shall be in compliance with the appropriate competitive bidding requirements in Titles 35, 36, 53, 56, 57, or 87 RCW. [1983 c 216 § 5.]

**35.97.060 Municipality may impose rates and charges—Classification of customers.** A municipality may impose rates, charges, or rentals for heat, service, and facilities provided to customers of the system if the rates charged are uniform for the same class of customers or service. In classifying customers served or service furnished, the legislative authority may consider: The difference in cost of service to the various customers; location of the various customers within or without the municipality; the difference in cost of maintenance, operation, repair, and replacement of the various parts of the system; the different character of the service furnished various customers; the quantity and quality of the heat furnished; the time heat is used; the demand on the system; capital contributions made to the system including, but not limited to, assessments or the amount of capital facilities provided for use by the customer; and any other matters which present a reasonable difference as a ground for distinction. [1983 c 216 § 6.]

**35.97.070 Municipality may shut off heat for nonpayment—Late payment charges authorized.** If

prompt payment of a heating rate, charge, or rental is not made, a municipality after reasonable notice may shut off the heating supply to the building, place, or premises to which the municipality supplied the heating. A municipality may also make an additional charge for late payment. [1983 c 216 § 7.]

**35.97.080 Connection charges authorized.** A municipality may charge property owners seeking to connect to the heating system, as a condition to granting the right to connect and in addition to the cost of the connection, such reasonable connection charge as the legislative authority determines to be proper in order that the property owners bear their pro rata share of the cost of the system. Potential customers shall not be compelled to subscribe or connect to the heating system. The cost of connection to the system shall include the cost of acquisition and installation of heating facilities necessary or useful for the connection, including any heating facilities located or installed on the property being served. Connection charges may, in the discretion of the municipality, be made payable in installments over a period of not more than thirty years or the estimated life of the facilities installed, whichever is less. Installments, if any, shall bear interest and penalties at such rates and be payable at such times and in such manner as the legislative authority of the municipality may provide. [1983 c 216 § 8.]

**35.97.090 Local improvement district—Assessments—Bonds and warrants.** For the purpose of paying all or a portion of the cost of heating facilities, a municipality may form local improvement districts or utility local improvement districts, foreclose on, levy, and collect assessments, reassessments, and supplemental assessments; and issue local improvement district bonds and warrants in the manner provided by law for cities or towns. [1983 c 216 § 9.]

**35.97.100 Special funds authorized.** For the purpose of providing funds for defraying all or a portion of the costs of planning, purchase, leasing, condemnation, or other acquisition, construction, reconstruction, development, improvement, extension, repair, maintenance, or operation of a heating system, and the implementation of the powers in RCW 35.97.030 and 35.97.040, a municipality may authorize, by ordinance or resolution, the creation of a special fund or funds into which the municipality shall be obligated to set aside and pay all or any designated proportion or amount of any or all revenues derived from the heating system, including any utility local improvement district assessments, any grants received to pay the cost of the heating system, and any municipal license fees specified in the ordinance or resolution creating such special fund. [1983 c 216 § 10.]

**35.97.110 Revenue bonds—Form, terms, etc.** If the legislative authority of a municipality deems it advisable to finance all or a portion of the costs of planning, purchase, leasing, condemnation, or other acquisition, construction, reconstruction, development, improvement, and extension of a heating system, or for the implementation of the powers in

RCW 35.97.030 and 35.97.040, or for working capital, interest during construction and for a period of up to one year thereafter, debt service and other reserves, and the costs of issuing revenue obligations, a municipality may issue revenue bonds against the special fund or fund created from revenues or assessments. The revenue bonds so issued may be issued in one or more series and shall be dated, shall bear interest at such rate or rates, and shall mature at such time or times as may be determined by the legislative authority of the municipality, and may be made redeemable before maturity at such price or prices and under such terms and conditions as may be fixed by the legislative authority of the municipality prior to the issuance of the bonds. The legislative authority of the municipality shall determine the form of the bonds, including any interest coupons to be attached thereto, and shall fix the denomination or denominations of the bonds and the place or places of payment of principal and interest. If an officer whose signature or a facsimile of whose signature appears on any bonds or coupons ceases to be such officer before the delivery of the bonds, the signature shall for all purposes have the same effect as if the officer had remained in office until the delivery. The bonds may be issued in coupon or in registered form or both, and provisions may be made for the registration of any coupon bonds as to the principal alone and also as to both principal and interest and for the reconversion into coupon bonds of any bonds registered as to both principal and interest. Bonds may be sold at public or private sale for such price and bearing interest at such fixed or variable rate as may be determined by the legislative authority of the municipality.

The principal of and interest on any revenue bonds shall be secured by a pledge of the revenues and receipts derived from the heating system, including any amounts pledged to be paid into a special fund under RCW 35.97.100, and may be secured by a mortgage covering all or any part of the system, including any enlargements of and additions to such system thereafter made. The revenue bonds shall state upon their face that they are payable from a special fund, naming it and the ordinance creating it, and that they do not constitute a general indebtedness of the municipality. The ordinance or resolution under which the bonds are authorized to be issued and any such mortgage may contain agreements and provisions respecting the maintenance of the system, the fixing and collection of rates and charges, the creation and maintenance of special funds from such revenues, the rights and remedies available in the event of default, and other matters improving the marketability of the revenue bonds, all as the legislative authority of the municipality deems advisable. Any revenue bonds issued under this chapter may be secured by a trust agreement by and between the municipality and a corporate trustee, which may be any trust company or bank having the powers of a trust company within the state. Any such trust agreement or ordinance or resolution providing for the issuance of such bonds may contain such provisions for protecting and enforcing the rights and remedies of the bond owners as may be reasonable and proper and not in violation of law. Any such trust agreement may set forth the rights and remedies of the bond owners and of the trustee and may restrict the individual right of action by bond owners as is customary in trust agreements or trust indentures. [1983 c 216 § 11.]

**35.97.120 Revenue warrants.** Revenue warrants may be issued and such warrants and interest thereon may be payable out of the special fund or refunded through the proceeds of the sale of refunding revenue warrants or revenue bonds. Every revenue warrant and the interest thereon issued against the special fund is a valid claim of the owner thereof only as against that fund and the amount of revenue pledged to the fund, and does not constitute an indebtedness of the authorized municipality. Every revenue warrant shall state on its face that it is payable from a special fund, naming it and the ordinance or resolution creating it. [1983 c 216 § 12.]

**35.97.130 Revenue bonds and warrants—Holder may enforce.** If a municipality fails to set aside and pay into the special fund created for the payment of revenue bonds and warrants the amount which it has obligated itself in the ordinance or resolution creating the fund to set aside and pay therein, the holder of any bond or warrant issued against the bond may bring suit against the municipality to compel it to do so. [1983 c 216 § 13.]

**35.97.900 Severability—1983 c 216.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1983 c 216 § 15.]

## Chapter 35.98 CONSTRUCTION

### Sections

35.98.010	Continuation of existing law.
35.98.020	Title, chapter, section headings not part of law.
35.98.030	Invalidity of part of title not to affect remainder.
35.98.040	Repeals and saving.
35.98.050	Emergency—1965 c 7.

**35.98.010 Continuation of existing law.** The provisions of this title insofar as they are substantially the same as statutory provisions repealed by this chapter, and relating to the same subject matter, shall be construed as restatements and continuations, and not as new enactments. [1965 c 7 § 35.98.010.]

**35.98.020 Title, chapter, section headings not part of law.** Title headings, chapter headings, and section or subsection headings, as used in this title do not constitute any part of the law. [1965 c 7 § 35.98.020.]

**35.98.030 Invalidity of part of title not to affect remainder.** If any provision, section, or chapter of this title or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the provision, section, chapter, or title, or the application thereof to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1965 c 7 § 35.98.030.]

**35.98.040 Repeals and saving.** See 1965 c 7 § 35.98.040.

**35.98.050 Emergency—1965 c 7.** This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, the support of the state government and its existing institutions and shall take effect immediately. [1965 c 7 § 35.98.050.]



# Title 35A

## OPTIONAL MUNICIPAL CODE

### Chapters

- 35A.01 Interpretation of terms.
- 35A.02 Procedure for incorporated municipality to become a noncharter code city—Selection of plan of government.
- 35A.03 Incorporation as noncharter code city.
- 35A.05 Consolidation of code cities.
- 35A.06 Provisions applicable to adoption and abandonment of noncharter code city classification or plan of government.
- 35A.07 Procedure for city operating under charter to become a charter code city.
- 35A.08 Procedure for adoption of charter as charter code city.
- 35A.09 Amendment or revision of charters of charter code cities.
- 35A.10 Provisions applicable to adoption and abandonment of charter code city classification.
- 35A.11 Laws governing noncharter code cities and charter code cities—Powers.
- 35A.12 Mayor-council plan of government.
- 35A.13 Council-manager plan of government.
- 35A.14 Annexation by code cities.
- 35A.15 Disincorporation.
- 35A.16 Reduction of city limits.
- 35A.21 Provisions affecting all code cities.
- 35A.24 Aeronautics.
- 35A.27 Libraries, museums and historical activities.
- 35A.28 Schools.
- 35A.29 Municipal elections in code cities.
- 35A.31 Accident claims and funds.
- 35A.33 Budgets in code cities.
- 35A.34 Biennial budgets.
- 35A.35 Intergovernmental relations.
- 35A.36 Execution of bonds by proxy in code cities.
- 35A.37 Funds, special purpose.
- 35A.38 Emergency services.
- 35A.39 Public documents and records.
- 35A.40 Fiscal provisions applicable to code cities.
- 35A.41 Public employment.
- 35A.42 Public officers and agencies, meetings, duties and powers.
- 35A.43 Local improvements in code cities.
- 35A.44 Census.
- 35A.46 Motor vehicles.
- 35A.47 Highways and streets.
- 35A.49 Labor and safety regulations.
- 35A.56 Local service districts.
- 35A.57 Inclusion of code cities in metropolitan municipal corporations.
- 35A.58 Boundaries and plats.
- 35A.60 Liens.
- 35A.61 Metropolitan park districts.

- 35A.63 Planning and zoning in code cities.
- 35A.64 Public property, real and personal.
- 35A.65 Publication and printing.
- 35A.66 Health and safety—Alcohol.
- 35A.67 Recreation and parks.
- 35A.68 Cemeteries and morgues.
- 35A.69 Food and drug.
- 35A.70 Health and safety.
- 35A.74 Welfare.
- 35A.79 Property and materials.
- 35A.80 Public utilities.
- 35A.81 Public transportation.
- 35A.82 Taxation—Excises.
- 35A.84 Taxation—Property.
- 35A.88 Harbors and navigation.
- 35A.90 Construction.

*Acquisition of open space, land, or rights to future development by counties, cities, or metropolitan municipal corporations, tax levy: RCW 84.34.200 through 84.34.240, 84.52.010. See also RCW 64.04.130.*

*Boundary review board, extension of water and sewer service beyond corporate boundaries to go before: RCW 36.93.090.*

*Labor relations consultants: RCW 43.09.230.*

*Local adopt-a-highway programs: RCW 47.40.105.*

*Pollution control—Municipal bonding authority: Chapter 7095A RCW.*

*Public bodies may retain collection agencies to collect public debts: RCW 19.16.500.*

*School districts agreements with other governmental entities for transportation of students or the public or for other noncommon school purposes—Limitations: RCW 28A.160.120.*

*Senior citizens programs—Authorization to establish and administer: RCW 36.39.060.*

### Chapter 35A.01

#### INTERPRETATION OF TERMS

##### Sections

- 35A.01.010 Purpose and policy of this title—Interpretation.
- 35A.01.020 Noncharter code city.
- 35A.01.030 Charter code city.
- 35A.01.035 Code city.
- 35A.01.040 Sufficiency of petition.
- 35A.01.050 The general law.
- 35A.01.060 Optional municipal code—This title.
- 35A.01.070 Definitions—Change of plan or classification of municipal government.
- 35A.01.080 "Councilman" defined.

**35A.01.010 Purpose and policy of this title—Interpretation.** The purpose and policy of this title is to confer upon two optional classes of cities created hereby the broadest powers of local self-government consistent with the Constitution of this state. Any specific enumeration of municipal powers contained in this title or in any other general law shall not be construed in any way to limit the general description of power contained in this title, and any



such specifically enumerated powers shall be construed as in addition and supplementary to the powers conferred in general terms by this title. All grants of municipal power to municipalities electing to be governed under the provisions of this title, whether the grant is in specific terms or in general terms, shall be liberally construed in favor of the municipality. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.01.010.]

**35A.01.020 Noncharter code city.** A noncharter code city is one, regardless of population, which has initially incorporated as a noncharter code city, subject to the provisions of this title, or is an incorporated municipality which has elected, under the procedure prescribed in this title, to be classified as a noncharter code city and to be governed according to the provisions of this title under one of the optional forms of government provided for noncharter code cities. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.01.020.]

**35A.01.030 Charter code city.** A charter code city is one having at least ten thousand inhabitants at the time of its organization or reorganization which has either initially incorporated as a charter code city and has adopted a charter under the procedure prescribed in this title; or which, as an incorporated municipality, has elected to be classified as a charter code city and to be governed according to the provisions of this title and of its adopted charter. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.01.030.]

**35A.01.035 Code city.** The term "code city" means any noncharter code city or charter code city. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.01.035.]

**35A.01.040 Sufficiency of petition.** Wherever in this title petitions are required to be signed and filed, the following rules shall govern the sufficiency thereof:

(1) A petition may include any page or group of pages containing an identical text or prayer intended by the circulators, signers or sponsors to be presented and considered as one petition and containing the following essential elements when applicable, except that the elements referred to in subdivisions (d) and (e) hereof are essential for petitions referring or initiating legislative matters to the voters, but are directory as to other petitions:

(a) The text or prayer of the petition which shall be a concise statement of the action or relief sought by petitioners;

(b) If the petition initiates or refers an ordinance, a true copy thereof;

(c) If the petition seeks the annexation, incorporation, withdrawal, or reduction of an area for any purpose, an accurate legal description of the area proposed for such action;

(d) Numbered lines for signatures with space provided beside each signature for the date of signing and the address of the signer;

(e) The warning statement prescribed in subsection (2) of this section.

(2) Petitions shall be printed or typed on single sheets of white paper of good quality and each sheet of petition paper having a space thereon for signatures shall contain the text or prayer of the petition and the following warning:

#### WARNING

Every person who signs this petition with any other than his true name, or who knowingly signs more than one of these petitions, or signs a petition seeking an election when he is not a legal voter, or signs a petition when he is otherwise not qualified to sign, or who makes herein any false statement, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Each signature shall be executed in ink or indelible pencil and shall be followed by the date of signing and the address of the signer.

(3) The term "signer" means any person who signs his own name to the petition.

(4) To be sufficient a petition must contain valid signatures of qualified electors or property owners, as the case may be, in the number required by the applicable statute or ordinance. Within three working days after the filing of a petition, the officer or officers whose duty it is to determine the sufficiency of the petition shall proceed to make such a determination with reasonable promptness and shall file with the officer receiving the petition for filing a certificate stating the date upon which such determination was begun, which date shall be referred to as the terminal date. Additional pages of one or more signatures may be added to the petition by filing the same with the appropriate filing officer prior to such terminal date. Any signer of a filed petition may withdraw his or her signature by a written request for withdrawal filed with the receiving officer prior to such terminal date. Such written request shall so sufficiently describe the petition as to make identification of the person and the petition certain. The name of any person seeking to withdraw shall be signed exactly the same as contained on the petition and, after the filing of such request for withdrawal, prior to the terminal date, the signature of any person seeking such withdrawal shall be deemed withdrawn.

(5) Petitions containing the required number of signatures shall be accepted as prima facie valid until their invalidity has been proved.

(6) A variation on petitions between the signatures on the petition and that on the voter's permanent registration caused by the substitution of initials instead of the first or middle names, or both, shall not invalidate the signature on the petition if the surname and handwriting are the same.

(7) Signatures, including the original, of any person who has signed a petition two or more times shall be stricken.

(8) Signatures followed by a date of signing which is more than six months prior to the date of filing of the petition shall be stricken.

(9) When petitions are required to be signed by the owners of property, the following shall apply:

(a) The signature of a record owner, as determined by the records of the county auditor, shall be sufficient without the signature of his or her spouse;

(b) In the case of mortgaged property, the signature of the mortgagor shall be sufficient, without the signature of his or her spouse;

(c) In the case of property purchased on contract, the signature of the contract purchaser, as shown by the records of the county auditor, shall be deemed sufficient, without the signature of his or her spouse;

(d) Any officer of a corporation owning land within the area involved who is duly authorized to execute deeds or encumbrances on behalf of the corporation, may sign on behalf of such corporation, and shall attach to the petition a certified excerpt from the bylaws of such corporation showing such authority;

(e) When property stands in the name of a deceased person or any person for whom a guardian has been appointed, the signature of the executor, administrator, or guardian, as the case may be, shall be equivalent to the signature of the owner of the property. [1985 c 281 § 26; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.01.040.]

**Severability—1985 c 281:** See RCW 35.10.905.

**35A.01.050 The general law.** For the purposes of this optional municipal code, "the general law" means any provision of state law, not inconsistent with this title, enacted before or after the enactment of this title, which is by its terms applicable or available to all cities or towns. Except when expressly provided to the contrary, whenever in this optional municipal code reference is made to "the general law", or to specific provisions of the Revised Code of Washington, it shall mean "the general law, or such specific provisions of the Revised Code of Washington as now enacted or as the same may hereafter be amended". [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.01.050.]

**35A.01.060 Optional municipal code—This title.** References contained in this title to "Optional Municipal Code", "this title", "this code" or to any specific chapter, section, or provision thereof shall refer to the whole or appropriate part of Title 35A RCW, as now or hereafter amended. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.01.060.]

**35A.01.070 Definitions—Change of plan or classification of municipal government.** Where used in this title with reference to procedures established by this title in regard to a change of plan or classification of government, unless a different meaning is plainly required by the context:

(1) "Classify" means a change from a city of the first or second class, an unclassified city, or a town, to a code city.

(2) "Classification" means either that portion of the general law under which a city or a town operates under Title 35 RCW as a first or second class city, unclassified city, or town, or otherwise as a code city.

(3) "Organize" means to provide for officers after becoming a code city, under the same general plan of government under which the city operated prior to becoming a code city, pursuant to RCW 35A.02.055.

(4) "Organization" means the general plan of government under which a city operates.

(5) "Plan of government" means a mayor-council form of government under chapter 35A.12 RCW, council-manager form of government under chapter 35A.13 RCW, or a mayor-council, council-manager, or commission form of government in general that is retained by a noncharter code city as provided in RCW 35A.02.130, without regard to variations in the number of elective offices or whether officers are elective or appointive.

(6) "Reclassify" means changing from a code city to the classification, if any, held by such a city immediately prior to becoming a code city.

(7) "Reclassification" means changing from city or town operating under Title 35 RCW to a city operating under Title 35A RCW, or vice versa; a change in classification.

(8) "Reorganize" means changing the plan of government under which a city or town operates to a different general plan of government, for which an election of new officers under RCW 35A.02.050 is required. A city or town shall not be deemed to have reorganized simply by increasing or decreasing the number of members of its legislative body.

(9) "Reorganization" means a change in general plan of government where an election of all new officers is required in order to accomplish this change, but an increase or decrease in the number of members of its legislative body shall not be deemed to constitute a reorganization. [1994 c 223 § 24; 1994 c 81 § 66; 1979 ex.s. c 18 § 1.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 1994 c 81 § 66 and by 1994 c 223 § 24, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section pursuant to RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1979 ex.s. c 18 § 36.]

**35A.01.080 "Councilman" defined.** As used in this title, the term "councilman" or "councilmen" means councilmember or councilmembers. [1981 c 213 § 2.]

**Chapter 35A.02**

**PROCEDURE FOR INCORPORATED MUNICIPALITY TO BECOME A NONCHARTER CODE CITY—SELECTION OF PLAN OF GOVERNMENT**

**Sections**

35A.02.010 Adoption of noncharter code city classification authorized.

35A.02.020 Petition method—Direct.

35A.02.025 Referendum.

35A.02.030 Resolution method.

35A.02.035 Referendum.

35A.02.040 Certification of ordinance—Transcript of record to secretary of state.

35A.02.050 Election of new officers.

35A.02.055 Election of new officers—Exception where same general plan of government is retained.

35A.02.060 Petition for election.

35A.02.070 Resolution for election.

35A.02.080 Election of officers upon approval of plan of government by voters.

35A.02.090 Alternative plan of government.

35A.02.120 Effective date of reclassification and reorganization.

35A.02.130 Adoption of classification of noncharter code city without change of governmental plan.

35A.02.140 Petition or resolution pending—Restriction—Exception.

*Incorporation subject to approval by boundary review board: RCW 36.93.090.*

**35A.02.010 Adoption of noncharter code city classification authorized.** Any incorporated city or town may become a noncharter code city in accordance with, and be governed by, the provisions of this title relating to

noncharter code cities and may select one of the plans of government authorized by this title. A city or town adopting and organizing under the optional municipal code shall not be deemed to have reorganized and to have abandoned its existing general plan of government, upon changing classification and becoming a noncharter code city, solely because organizing under a plan of government authorized in this title changes the number of elective offices or changes the terms thereof, or because an office becomes appointive rather than elective, or because that city or town has come under the optional municipal code, or because of any combination of these factors. [1979 ex.s. c 18 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.02.010.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18:** See note following RCW 35A.01.070.

**35A.02.020 Petition method—Direct.** When a petition is filed, signed by registered voters of an incorporated city or town, in number equal to not less than fifty percent of the votes cast at the last general municipal election, seeking the adoption by the city or town of the classification of noncharter code city, either under its existing authorized plan of government or naming one of the plans of government authorized for noncharter code cities, the county auditor shall promptly proceed to determine the sufficiency of the petition under the rules set forth in RCW 35A.01.040. If the petition is found to be sufficient, the county auditor shall file with the legislative body a certificate of sufficiency of the petition. Thereupon the legislative body of such city or town shall, by resolution, declare that the inhabitants of the city or town have decided to adopt the classification of noncharter code city and to be governed under the provisions of this title. If a prayer for reorganization is included in the petition such resolution shall also declare that the inhabitants of the city or town have decided to reorganize under the plan of government specified in the petition. The legislative body shall cause such resolution to be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within the city or town not later than ten days after the passage of the resolution. Upon the expiration of the ninetieth day from, but excluding the date of, first publication of the resolution, if no timely and sufficient referendum petition has been filed pursuant to RCW 35A.02.025, as now or hereafter amended, as determined by RCW 35A.29.170, the legislative body at its next regular meeting shall effect the decision of the inhabitants, as expressed in the petition, by passage of an ordinance adopting for the city the classification of noncharter code city, and if the petition also sought governmental reorganization by adoption of one of the plans of government authorized for noncharter code cities involving a different general plan of government from that under which the city is operating, then the legislative body shall provide at that time for such reorganization by ordinance and for election of all new officers pursuant to RCW 35A.02.050, as now or hereafter amended. [1990 c 259 § 2; 1979 ex.s. c 18 § 3; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.02.020.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18:** See note following RCW 35A.01.070.

**35A.02.025 Referendum.** Upon the filing of a referendum petition in the manner provided in RCW 35A.29.170 signed by qualified electors in number equal to not less than ten percent of the votes cast in the last general

municipal election, such resolution as authorized by RCW 35A.02.020 shall be referred to the voters for confirmation or rejection in the next general municipal election if one is to be held within one hundred and eighty days from the date of filing of the referendum petition, or at a special election to be called for that purpose in accordance with RCW 29.13.020. [1979 ex.s. c 18 § 4; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.02.025.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18:** See note following RCW 35A.01.070.

**35A.02.030 Resolution method.** When a majority of the legislative body of an incorporated city or town determines that it would serve the best interests and general welfare of such municipality to change the classification of such city or town to that of noncharter code city, such legislative body may, by resolution, declare its intention to adopt for the city or town the classification of noncharter code city. If the legislative body so determines, such resolution may also contain a declaration of intention to reorganize the municipal government under one of the plans of government authorized in this title, naming such plan; but it shall also be lawful for the legislative body of any incorporated city or town which is governed under a plan of government authorized prior to the time this title takes effect to adopt for the city or town the classification of noncharter code city while retaining the same general plan of government under which such city or town is then operating. Within ten days after the passage of the resolution, the legislative body shall cause it to be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within the city or town. Upon the expiration of the ninetieth day from, but excluding the date of first publication of the resolution, if no timely and sufficient referendum petition has been filed pursuant to RCW 35A.02.035, as determined by RCW 35A.29.170, the intent expressed in such resolution shall at the next regular meeting of the legislative body be effected by an ordinance adopting for the city or town the classification of noncharter code city; and, if the resolution includes a declaration of intention to reorganize, the legislative body shall provide at that time for such reorganization by ordinance. [1979 ex.s. c 18 § 5; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.02.030.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18:** See note following RCW 35A.01.070.

**35A.02.035 Referendum.** Upon the filing of a referendum petition in the manner provided in RCW 35A.29.170 signed by qualified electors of an incorporated city or town in number equal to not less than ten percent of the votes cast in the last general municipal election, such resolution shall be referred for approval or rejection by the voters at an election as specified in RCW 35A.02.025. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.02.035.]

**35A.02.040 Certification of ordinance—Transcript of record to secretary of state.** When one or more ordinances are passed under RCW 35A.02.020 or 35A.02.030, as now or hereafter amended, the clerk of the city or town shall forward to the secretary of state a certified copy of any such ordinance. Upon the filing in the office of the secretary of state of a certified copy of an ordinance adopting the classification of noncharter code city, such city or town shall thereafter be classified as a noncharter code city; except that

if there is also filed with the secretary of state a certified copy of an ordinance providing for reorganization of the municipal government of such city or town under a different general plan of government, such reclassification and reorganization shall not be effective until the election, qualification, and assumption of office under RCW 35A.02.050 as now or hereafter amended of at least a quorum of all new officers under the plan of government so adopted. [1979 ex.s. c 18 § 6; 1970 ex.s. c 52 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.02.040.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18:** See note following RCW 35A.01.070.

**35A.02.050 Election of new officers.** The first election of officers where required for reorganization under a different general plan of government newly adopted in a manner provided in RCW 35A.02.020, 35A.02.030, 35A.06.030, or 35A.06.060, as now or hereafter amended, shall be at the next general municipal election if one is to be held more than ninety days but not more than one hundred and eighty days after certification of a reorganization ordinance or resolution, or otherwise at a special election to be held for that purpose in accordance with RCW 29.13.020. In the event that the first election of officers is to be held at a general municipal election, such election shall be preceded by a primary election pursuant to RCW 29.21.010 and 29.13.070. In the event that the first election of all officers is to be held at a special election rather than at a general election, and notwithstanding any provisions of any other law to the contrary, such special election shall be preceded by a primary election to be held on a date authorized by RCW 29.13.010, and the persons nominated at that primary election shall be voted upon at the next succeeding special election that is authorized by RCW 29.13.010: **PROVIDED,** That in the event the ordinances calling for reclassification or reclassification and reorganization under the provisions of Title 35A RCW have been filed with the secretary of state pursuant to RCW 35A.02.040 in an even-numbered year at least ninety days prior to a state general election then the election of new officers shall be concurrent with the state primary and general election and shall be conducted as set forth in general election law.

Upon reorganization, candidates for all offices shall file or be nominated for and successful candidates shall be elected to specific council positions. The initial terms of office for those elected at a first election of all officers shall be as follows: (1) A simple majority of the persons who are elected as councilmembers receiving the greatest numbers of votes and the mayor in a city with a mayor-council plan of government shall be elected to four-year terms of office, if the election is held in an odd-numbered year, or three-year terms of office, if the election is held in an even-numbered year; and (2) the other persons who are elected as councilmembers shall be elected to two-year terms of office, if the election is held in an odd-numbered year, or one-year terms of office, if the election is held in an even-numbered year. The newly elected officials shall take office immediately when they are elected and qualified, but the length of their terms of office shall be calculated from the first day of January in the year following the election. Thereafter, each person elected as a councilmember or mayor in a city with a mayor-council plan of government shall be elected to a

four-year term of office. Each councilmember and mayor in a city with a mayor-council plan of government shall serve until a successor is elected and qualified and assumes office as provided in RCW 29.04.170.

The former officers shall, upon the election and qualification of new officers, deliver to the proper officers of the reorganized noncharter code city all books of record, documents and papers in their possession belonging to such municipal corporation before the reorganization thereof. [1994 c 223 § 25; 1979 ex.s. c 18 § 7; 1971 ex.s. c 251 § 1; 1970 ex.s. c 52 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.02.050.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18:** See note following RCW 35A.01.070.

**Severability—1971 ex.s. c 251:** See RCW 35A.90.050.

**35A.02.055 Election of new officers—Exception where same general plan of government is retained.** Where a city elects to become a noncharter code city under one of the optional plans of government provided in Title 35A RCW for code cities which involves the same general plan of government as that under which the city operated prior to the choice and where with the change in classification the number of councilmanic positions in a city remains the same or increases from five to seven, the procedures for the first election of officers which appear in RCW 35A.02.050 shall not be followed. When membership in a city council remains the same or is increased upon becoming a noncharter code city, the terms of incumbent council members shall not be affected. If the number of council members is increased from five to seven, the city council shall, by majority vote, pursuant to RCW 35A.12.050 and 35A.13.020, appoint two persons to serve in these offices until the next municipal general election, at which election one person shall be elected for a two-year term and one person shall be elected for a four-year term.

A first election of all officers upon a change in classification to a noncharter code city is also not required where the change in classification otherwise retains the same general or specific plan of government and where the change in classification results in a decrease in the number of councilmanic positions in a city.

If the membership in a city council is decreased from seven to five members upon adopting the classification of noncharter code city, this decrease in the number of council members shall be determined in the following manner: The council members shall determine by lot which two councilmanic positions shall be eliminated upon the expiration of their terms of office. The terms of the remaining council members shall not be affected. [1979 ex.s. c 18 § 8.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18:** See note following RCW 35A.01.070.

**35A.02.060 Petition for election.** When a petition which is sufficient under the rules set forth in RCW 35A.01.040 is filed with the legislative body of an incorporated city or town, signed by qualified electors of such municipality in number equal to not less than ten percent of the votes cast at the last general municipal election, seeking adoption by the city or town of the classification of noncharter code city and the reorganization of the city or town under one of the plans of government authorized in this title, the county auditor shall file with the legislative body thereof a certificate of sufficiency of such petition. Thereup-

on, the legislative body shall cause such proposal to be submitted to the voters at the next general municipal election if one is to be held within one hundred eighty days after certification of the sufficiency of the petition, or at a special election to be held for that purpose not less than ninety days nor more than one hundred and eighty days from such certification of sufficiency. Ballot titles for elections under this chapter shall be prepared by the city attorney as provided in \*RCW 35A.29.120. [1990 c 259 § 3; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.02.060.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 35A.29.120 was repealed by 1994 c 223 § 92.

**35A.02.070 Resolution for election.** The legislative body of an incorporated city or town may, by resolution, submit to the voters in the next general municipal election if one is to be held within one hundred and eighty days after passage of the resolution, or in a special election to be called for that purpose not less than ninety days nor more than one hundred and eighty days after passage of the resolution, a proposal that the city or town adopt the classification of noncharter code city and organize under one of the plans of government authorized in this title, naming such plan. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.02.070.]

**35A.02.080 Election of officers upon approval of plan of government by voters.** If the majority of votes cast at an election for organization under a plan provided in this title favor the plan, the city or town shall elect in accordance with RCW 35A.02.050 the officers for the positions created. The former officers of the municipality shall, upon the election and qualification of the new officers, deliver to the proper officers of the new noncharter code city all books of record, documents and papers in their possession belonging to such municipal corporation before reorganization. [1971 ex.s. c 251 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.02.080.]

Severability—1971 ex.s. c 251: See RCW 35A.90.050.

**35A.02.090 Alternative plan of government.** Proposals for each of the plans of government authorized by this title may be placed on the ballots in the same election by timely petition as provided in this chapter. When the ballot contains alternative proposals for each of the plans of government the ballot shall clearly state that voters may vote for only one of the plans of government. [1971 ex.s. c 251 § 3; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.02.090.]

Severability—1971 ex.s. c 251: See RCW 35A.90.050.

**35A.02.120 Effective date of reclassification and reorganization.** Upon the filing of the certified copy of the resolution with the secretary of state, the county auditor shall issue certificates of election to the successful candidates for the offices under the plan of government for which a majority of the votes were cast, and upon the issuance of such certificates, such city or town shall become a noncharter code city governed under the plan of government chosen by the voters, under the provisions of this title and with the powers conferred by this title. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.02.120.]

**35A.02.130 Adoption of classification of noncharter code city without change of governmental plan.** Any incorporated city or town governed under a plan of government authorized prior to the time this title takes effect may become a noncharter code city without changing such plan of government by the use of the petition-for-election or resolution-for-election procedures provided in RCW 35A.02.060 and 35A.02.070 to submit to the voters a proposal that such municipality adopt the classification of noncharter code city while retaining its existing plan of government, and upon a favorable vote on the proposal, such municipality shall be classified as a noncharter code city and retain its old plan of government, such reclassification to be effective upon the filing of the record of such election with the office of the secretary of state. Insofar as the provisions of \*RCW 35A.02.100 and 35A.02.110 are applicable to an election on such a reclassification proposal they shall apply to such election. [1994 c 223 § 26; 1994 c 81 § 67; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.02.130.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 35A.02.100 and 35A.02.110 were repealed by 1994 c 223 § 92.

**35A.02.140 Petition or resolution pending—Restriction—Exception.** While proceedings are pending under any petition or resolution relating to reclassification of a municipality or reorganization of the government thereof pursuant to this chapter, no resolution shall be passed for the purpose of initiating other such proceedings or submitting other such proposals to the voters at an election thereunder; and no petition for reclassification or reorganization of such municipality shall be accepted for filing pending such proceedings, except that a timely and sufficient petition seeking to place on the ballot for such election a proposal for an alternative plan of government authorized by this title, as provided in RCW 35A.02.090, may be filed and acted upon. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.02.140.]

## Chapter 35A.03

### INCORPORATION AS NONCHARTER CODE CITY

#### Sections

35A.03.001 Actions subject to review by boundary review board.  
35A.03.005 Incorporation to be governed by chapter 35.02 RCW.

**35A.03.001 Actions subject to review by boundary review board.** Actions taken under chapter 35A.03 RCW may be subject to potential review by a boundary review board under chapter 36.93 RCW. [1989 c 84 § 36.]

**35A.03.005 Incorporation to be governed by chapter 35.02 RCW.** Noncharter code cities shall be incorporated as provided in chapter 35.02 RCW. [1986 c 234 § 36.]

## Chapter 35A.05

## CONSOLIDATION OF CODE CITIES

## Sections

- 35A.05.001 Actions subject to review by boundary review board.  
35A.05.005 Consolidation of code cities.

**35A.05.001 Actions subject to review by boundary review board.** Actions taken under chapter 35A.05 RCW may be subject to potential review by a boundary review board under chapter 36.93 RCW. [1989 c 84 § 37.]

**35A.05.005 Consolidation of code cities.** Code cities shall consolidate as provided in chapter 35.10 RCW. [1985 c 281 § 14.]

Severability—1985 c 281: See RCW 35.10.905.

## Chapter 35A.06

## PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO ADOPTION AND ABANDONMENT OF NONCHARTER CODE CITY CLASSIFICATION OR PLAN OF GOVERNMENT

## Sections

- 35A.06.010 Each optional plan of government declared complete form of government.  
35A.06.020 Laws applicable to noncharter code cities (as amended by 1994 c 81).  
35A.06.020 Laws applicable to noncharter code cities (as amended by 1994 c 223).  
35A.06.030 Abandonment of plan of government of a noncharter code city.  
35A.06.040 Abandonment—Resolution or petition for election.  
35A.06.050 Abandonment—Election.  
35A.06.060 Abandonment—Reorganization under plan adopted—Effective date.  
35A.06.070 Abandonment of noncharter code city classification without reorganization.

**35A.06.010 Each optional plan of government declared complete form of government.** Each of the optional plans of government authorized by chapter 35A.12 RCW and chapter 35A.13 RCW, with any amendments thereto, is declared to be a complete and separate plan of government authorized by the legislature for submission to the voters of a municipality or for adoption by resolution of the legislative body thereof in the manner provided herein, and is additional to the plans of government existing prior to the time this title takes effect. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.06.010.]

**35A.06.020 Laws applicable to noncharter code cities (as amended by 1994 c 81).** The classifications of municipalities which existed prior to the time this title goes into effect—first class cities, second class cities, ~~((third class))~~ unclassified cities, and ~~((fourth class))~~ towns—and the restrictions, limitations, duties, and obligations specifically imposed by law upon such classes of cities and towns, shall have no application to noncharter code cities, but every noncharter code city, by adopting such classification, has elected to be governed by the provisions of this title, with the powers granted hereby. However, any code city that retains its old plan of government is subject to the laws applicable to that old plan of government until the city abandons its old plan of government and reorganizes and adopts a plan of government under chapter 35A.12 or 35A.13 RCW. [1994 c 81 § 68; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.06.020.]

**35A.06.020 Laws applicable to noncharter code cities (as amended by 1994 c 223).** The classifications of municipalities which existed prior to the time this title goes into effect—first class city, second class city, third class ~~((and fourth class))~~ city, town, and unclassified city—and the restrictions, limitations, duties, and obligations specifically imposed by law upon such classes of cities and towns, shall have no application to noncharter code cities, but every noncharter code city, by adopting such classification, has elected to be governed by the provisions of this title, with the powers granted hereby. However, any code city that retains its old plan of government is subject to the laws applicable to that old plan of government until the city changes its plan of government to the provisions of either chapter 35A.12 or 35A.13 RCW. [1994 c 223 § 27; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.06.020.]

Reviser's note: RCW 35A.06.020 was amended twice during the 1994 legislative session, each without reference to the other. For rule of construction concerning sections amended more than once during the same legislative session, see RCW 1.12.025.

**35A.06.030 Abandonment of plan of government of a noncharter code city.** By use of the resolution for election or petition for election methods described in RCW 35A.06.040, any noncharter code city which has operated for more than six consecutive years under one of the optional plans of government authorized by this title, or for more than a combined total of six consecutive years under a particular plan of government both as a code city and under the same general plan under Title 35 RCW immediately prior to becoming a code city, may abandon such organization and may reorganize and adopt another plan of government authorized for noncharter code cities, but only after having been a noncharter code city for more than one year or a city after operating for more than six consecutive years under a particular plan of government as a noncharter code city: PROVIDED, That these limitations shall not apply to a city seeking to adopt a charter.

In reorganization under a different general plan of government as a noncharter code city, officers shall all be elected as provided in RCW 35A.02.050. When a noncharter code city adopts a plan of government other than those authorized under Title 35A RCW, such city ceases to be governed under this optional municipal code and shall be classified as a city or town of the class selected in the proceeding for adoption of such new plan, with the powers granted to such class under the general law. [1994 c 223 § 28; 1994 c 81 § 69; 1979 ex.s. c 18 § 14; 1971 ex.s. c 251 § 13; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.06.030.]

Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18: See note following RCW 35A.01.070.

Severability—1971 ex.s. c 251: See RCW 35A.90.050.

**35A.06.040 Abandonment—Resolution or petition for election.** Upon the passage of a resolution of the legislative body of a noncharter code city, or upon the filing of a sufficient petition with the county auditor signed by registered voters in number equal to not less than ten percent of the votes cast at the last general municipal election therein, proposing abandonment by the city of the plan of government under which it is then operating and adoption of another plan, naming such plan, the sufficiency of the petition for abandonment shall be determined, an election ordered and conducted, and the results declared generally as provided in chapter 35A.02 RCW insofar as such provisions are applicable. If the resolution or petition proposes a plan of government other than those authorized in chapters 35A.12 RCW and 35A.13 RCW of this title, the resolution

or petition shall specify the class under which such city will be classified upon adoption of such plan. [1990 c 259 § 4; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.06.040.]

*Sufficiency of petition in code city: RCW 35A.01.040.*

**35A.06.050 Abandonment—Election.** The proposal for abandonment of a plan of government as authorized in RCW 35A.06.030 and for adoption of the plan named in the resolution or petition shall be voted upon at the next general municipal election if one is to be held within one hundred and eighty days or otherwise at a special election called for that purpose in accordance with RCW 29.13.020. The ballot title and statement of the proposition shall be prepared by the city attorney as provided in RCW 29.27.060 and 35A.29.120. [1994 c 223 § 29; 1979 ex.s. c 18 § 15; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.06.050.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18:** See note following RCW 35A.01.070.

**35A.06.060 Abandonment—Reorganization under plan adopted—Effective date.** If a majority of votes cast at the election favor abandonment of the general plan of government under which the noncharter code city is then organized and reorganization under the different general plan proposed in the resolution or petition, the officers to be elected shall be those prescribed by the plan of government so adopted, and they shall be elected as provided in RCW 35A.02.050 if the city is to remain a noncharter code city, or if the city is abandoning optional municipal code status, they shall be elected at the next succeeding general municipal election. Upon the election, qualification, and assumption of office by such officers the reorganization of the government of such municipality shall be complete and such municipality shall thereafter be governed under such plan. If the plan so adopted is not a plan authorized for noncharter code cities, upon the election, qualification, and assumption of office by such officers the municipality shall cease to be a noncharter code city governed under the provisions of this optional municipal code and shall revert to the classification selected and shall be governed by the general laws relating to municipalities of such class with the powers conferred by law upon municipalities of such class. Such change of classification shall not affect the then existing property rights or liabilities of the municipal corporation. [1979 ex.s. c 18 § 16; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.06.060.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18:** See note following RCW 35A.01.070.

**35A.06.070 Abandonment of noncharter code city classification without reorganization.** By means of the procedures set forth in this chapter, insofar as they apply, any noncharter code city which has been governed under the provisions of this title for more than six years may abandon the classification of noncharter code city and elect to be governed under the general law relating to cities or towns of the classification held by such city immediately prior to becoming a noncharter code city, if any, or relating to cities or towns of the highest class for which it is qualified by population, with the powers conferred by law upon such class, while retaining the plan of government under which it is then organized. A change of classification approved by a majority of the voters voting on such proposition shall become effective upon the filing of the record of such elec-

tion with the office of the secretary of state. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.06.070.]

## Chapter 35A.07

### PROCEDURE FOR CITY OPERATING UNDER CHARTER TO BECOME A CHARTER CODE CITY

#### Sections

- 35A.07.010 Adoption of charter code city classification authorized.
- 35A.07.020 Petition method—Direct.
- 35A.07.025 Referendum.
- 35A.07.030 Resolution method.
- 35A.07.035 Referendum.
- 35A.07.040 Certification of ordinance—Transcript of record to secretary of state.
- 35A.07.050 Petition for election.
- 35A.07.060 Resolution for election.
- 35A.07.070 Election on reclassification—Effective date of reclassification upon favorable vote.

**35A.07.010 Adoption of charter code city classification authorized.** Any city having ten thousand inhabitants which is governed under a charter may become a charter code city by a procedure prescribed in this chapter and be governed under this title, with the powers conferred hereby. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.07.010.]

**35A.07.020 Petition method—Direct.** When a petition is filed, signed by registered voters of a charter city in number equal to not less than fifty percent of the votes cast at the last general municipal election, seeking the adoption by the charter city of the classification of charter code city the legislative body of such city shall direct the county auditor to determine the sufficiency of the petition under the rules set forth in RCW 35A.01.040. If the petition is found to be sufficient, the county auditor shall file with the legislative body a certificate of sufficiency of the petition. Thereupon the legislative body of the charter city shall, by resolution, declare that the inhabitants of such city have decided to adopt the classification of charter code city and to be governed under this title. The legislative body shall cause such resolution to be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within the city not later than ten days after the passage of the resolution. Upon the expiration of the ninetieth day from, but excluding the date of first publication of the resolution, if no timely and sufficient referendum petition has been filed, as determined by RCW 35A.29.170, the legislative body shall effect the decision of the inhabitants, as expressed in the petition, by passage of an ordinance adopting for the city the classification of charter code city. [1990 c 259 § 5; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.07.020.]

**35A.07.025 Referendum.** Upon the filing of a referendum petition in the manner provided in RCW 35A.29.170 signed by qualified electors in number equal to not less than ten percent of the votes cast in the last general municipal election, the resolution authorized by RCW 35A.07.020 shall be referred to the voters for confirmation or rejection in the next general municipal election, if one is to be held within one hundred and eighty days from the date of filing of the referendum petition, or at a special election



to be called for that purpose not less than ninety days nor more than one hundred and eighty days from the filing of such referendum petition. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.07.025.]

**35A.07.030 Resolution method.** When a majority of the legislative body of a charter city determines that it would serve the best interests and general welfare of such city to become a charter code city, such legislative body may, by resolution, declare its intention to adopt for the city the classification of charter code city and to be governed under the provisions of this title, with the powers conferred hereby. Within ten days after the passage of the resolution, the legislative body shall cause it to be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation within the city. Upon the expiration of the ninetieth day from, but excluding the date of first publication of the resolution, if no timely and sufficient referendum petition has been filed, as determined by RCW 35A.29.170, the intent expressed in such resolution shall be effected by passage of an ordinance adopting for the city the classification of charter code city. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.07.030.]

**35A.07.035 Referendum.** Upon the filing of a referendum petition in the manner provided in RCW 35A.29.170 signed by qualified electors in number equal to not less than ten percent of the votes cast in the last general municipal election, the resolution authorized by RCW 35A.07.030 shall be referred to the voters for approval or rejection at an election as specified in RCW 35A.07.025. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.07.035.]

**35A.07.040 Certification of ordinance—Transcript of record to secretary of state.** When an ordinance is passed as provided in RCW 35A.07.020 or 35A.07.030, the clerk of the charter city shall forward to the secretary of state a certified copy thereof. Upon the filing of the certified copy of the ordinance in the office of the secretary of state, such city shall be classified as a charter code city and shall thereafter be governed under the provisions of this optional municipal code and have the powers conferred hereby. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.07.040.]

**35A.07.050 Petition for election.** When a petition which is sufficient under the rules set forth in RCW 35A.01.040 is filed with the legislative body of a charter city, signed by registered voters of such city in number equal to not less than ten percent of the votes cast at the last general municipal election, seeking adoption by the city of the classification of charter code city, the county auditor shall file with the legislative body thereof a certificate of sufficiency of such petition. Thereupon the legislative body shall cause such proposal to be submitted to the voters at the next general municipal election if one is to be held within one hundred eighty days, or at a special election to be held for that purpose not less than ninety days nor more than one hundred and eighty days after the filing of such petition. Ballot titles for such election shall be prepared by the city attorney as provided in \*RCW 35A.29.120. [1990 c 259 § 6; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.07.050.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 35A.29.120 was repealed by 1994 c 223 § 92.

**35A.07.060 Resolution for election.** The legislative body of a charter city may, by resolution, submit to the voters at an election held within the time period specified in RCW 35A.07.050 a proposal that the city adopt the classification of charter code city and be governed under the provisions of this title with the powers conferred hereby. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.07.060.]

**35A.07.070 Election on reclassification—Effective date of reclassification upon favorable vote.** Notice of elections under this chapter shall be given, the election conducted, and the result declared generally as provided in chapter 35A.02 RCW, insofar as such provisions are applicable. If a majority of votes cast on the proposition are in favor of adoption of the classification of charter code city, upon the certification of the record of election to the office of the secretary of state, such city shall become a charter code city and shall be governed under the provisions of this title and have the powers conferred on charter code cities. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.07.070.]

## Chapter 35A.08

### PROCEDURE FOR ADOPTION OF CHARTER AS CHARTER CODE CITY

#### Sections

- 35A.08.010 Adoption of charter authorized.
- 35A.08.020 Determining population.
- 35A.08.030 Resolution or petition for election.
- 35A.08.040 Election on question—Election of freeholders.
- 35A.08.050 Organization of charter commission—Vacancies—Duties.
- 35A.08.060 Expenses of commission members—Consultants and assistants.
- 35A.08.070 Public hearing.
- 35A.08.080 Submission of charter—Election of officers—Publication.
- 35A.08.090 Conduct of elections.
- 35A.08.100 Ballot titles.
- 35A.08.110 Certificates of election to officers—Effective date of becoming charter code city.
- 35A.08.120 Authentication of charter.

**35A.08.010 Adoption of charter authorized.** Any city having a population of ten thousand or more inhabitants may become a charter code city and be governed under the provisions of this title by adopting a charter for its own government in the manner prescribed in this chapter. Once any city, having ten thousand population, has adopted such a charter, any subsequent decrease in population below ten thousand shall not affect its status as a charter code city. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.08.010.]

**35A.08.020 Determining population.** For the purposes of this chapter, the population of a city shall be the number of residents shown by the figures released for the most recent official state or federal census, by a population determination made under the direction of the office of financial management, or by a city census conducted in the following manner:

(1) The legislative authority of any such city may provide by ordinance for the appointment by the mayor thereof, of such number of persons as may be designated in

the ordinance to make an enumeration of all persons residing within the corporate limits of the city. The enumerators so appointed, before entering upon their duties, shall take an oath for the faithful performance thereof and within five days after their appointment proceed, within their respective districts, to make an enumeration of all persons residing therein, with their names and places of residence.

(2) Immediately upon the completion of the enumeration, the enumerators shall make return thereof upon oath to the legislative authority of the city, who at its next meeting or as soon thereafter as practicable, shall canvass and certify the returns.

(3) If it appears therefrom that the whole number of persons residing within the corporate limits of the city is ten thousand or more, the mayor and clerk under the corporate seal of the city shall certify the number so ascertained to the secretary of state, who shall file it in his office. This certificate when so filed shall be conclusive evidence of the population of the city. [1979 c 151 § 32; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.08.020.]

*Population determinations, office of financial management: Chapter 43.62 RCW.*

**35A.08.030 Resolution or petition for election.** The legislative body of any city having ten thousand or more inhabitants may, by resolution, provide for submission to the voters of the question whether the city shall become a charter code city and be governed in accordance with a charter to be adopted by the voters under the provisions of this title. The legislative body must provide for such an election upon receipt of a sufficient petition therefor signed by qualified electors in number equal to not less than ten percent of the votes cast at the last general municipal election therein. The question may be submitted to the voters at the next general municipal election if one is to be held within one hundred and eighty days or at a special election held for that purpose not less than ninety nor more than one hundred and eighty days after the passage of the resolution or the filing of the certificate of sufficiency of the petition. At such election provision shall also be made for the election of fifteen freeholders who, upon a favorable vote on the question, shall constitute the charter commission charged with the duty of framing a charter for submission to the voters. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.08.030.]

*Sufficiency of petition in code city: RCW 35A.01.040.*

**35A.08.040 Election on question—Election of freeholders.** The election on the question whether to adopt a charter and become a charter code city and the nomination and election of the members of the charter commission shall be conducted, and the result declared, according to the laws regulating and controlling elections in the city. Candidates for election to the charter commission must be nominated by petition signed by ten registered voters of the city and residents therein for a period of at least two years preceding the election. A nominating petition shall be filed within the time allowed for filing declarations of candidacy and shall be verified by an affidavit of one or more of the signers to the effect that the affiant believes that the candidate and all of the signers are registered voters of the city and he signed the petition in good faith for the purpose of endorsing the person

named therein for election to the charter commission. A written acceptance of the nomination by the nominee shall be affixed to the petition when filed with the county auditor. Nominating petitions need not be in the form prescribed in RCW 35A.01.040. Any nominee may withdraw his nomination by a written statement of withdrawal filed at any time not later than five days before the last day allowed for filing nominations. The positions on the charter commission shall be designated by consecutive numbers one through fifteen, and the positions so designated shall be considered as separate offices for all election purposes. A nomination shall be made for a specific numbered position. [1990 c 259 § 7; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.08.040.]

**35A.08.050 Organization of charter commission—Vacancies—Duties.** Within ten days after its election the charter commission shall hold its first meeting, elect one of the members as chairman, and adopt such rules for the conduct of its business as it may deem advisable. In the event of a vacancy in the charter commission, the remaining members shall fill it by appointment thereto of some properly qualified person. A majority shall constitute a quorum for transaction of business but final charter recommendations shall require a majority vote of the whole membership of the commission. The commission shall study the plan of government of the city, compare it with other available plans of government, and determine whether, in its judgment, the government of the city could be strengthened, made more responsive or accountable to the people, or whether its operation could be made more economical or more efficient by amendment of the existing plan or adoption of another plan of government. The commission shall consider the plans of government described in this title but shall not be limited to such plans in its recommendations for the government of the city and may frame a charter for any plan it deems suitable for the good government of the city; except that the provisions of such charter shall not be valid if inconsistent with the Constitution of this state, the provisions of this title, or the general laws of the state, insofar as they are applicable to cities governed under this title. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.08.050.]

**35A.08.060 Expenses of commission members—Consultants and assistants.** Members of the charter commission shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed by the city from any funds for their necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. The legislative body may, in its discretion, make a reasonable appropriation of the city funds to provide for public information and discussion concerning the purposes and progress of the commission's work and/or to provide technical or clerical assistance to the commission in its work. Within the limits of any such appropriation and privately contributed funds and services as may be available to it, the charter commission may appoint one or more consultants and clerical or other assistants to serve at the pleasure of the commission and may fix a reasonable compensation to be paid such consultants and assistants. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.08.060.]

**35A.08.070 Public hearing.** The charter commission shall hold at least one public hearing in the course of its deliberations, may hold committee meetings and may sponsor public forums and promote public education and discussion respecting its work. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.08.070.]

**35A.08.080 Submission of charter—Election of officers—Publication.** Within one hundred and eighty days from the date of its first meeting, the charter commission, or a majority thereof, shall frame a charter for the city and submit the charter to the legislative body of the city, which, within five days thereafter shall initiate proceedings for the submission of the proposed charter to the qualified electors of the city at the next general election if one is to be held within one hundred and eighty days or at a special election to be held for that purpose not less than ninety nor more than one hundred and eighty days after submission of the charter to the legislative body. The legislative body shall cause the proposed charter to be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the city at least once each week for four weeks next preceding the day of submitting the same to the electors for their approval. At this election the first officers to serve under the provisions of the proposed charter shall also be elected. If the election is from wards, the division into wards as specified in the proposed charter shall govern; in all other respects the then existing laws relating to such elections shall govern. The notice of election shall specify the objects for which the election is held and shall be given as required by law. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.08.080.]

**35A.08.090 Conduct of elections.** The election upon the question of becoming a charter code city and framing a charter and the election of the charter commission, and the election upon the adoption or rejection of the proposed charter and the officers to be elected thereunder, the returns of both elections, the canvassing thereof, and the declaration of the result shall be governed by the laws regulating and controlling elections in the city. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.08.090.]

**35A.08.100 Ballot titles.** Ballot titles for elections under this chapter shall be prepared by the city attorney as provided in \*RCW 35A.29.120. The ballot statement in the election for adopting or rejecting the proposed charter shall clearly state that, upon adoption of the proposed charter, the city would be governed by its charter and by this title. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.08.100.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 35A.29.120 was repealed by 1994 c 223 § 92.

**35A.08.110 Certificates of election to officers—Effective date of becoming charter code city.** If a majority of the votes cast at the election upon the adoption of the proposed charter favor it, certificates of election shall be issued to each officer elected at that election. Within ten days after the issuance of the certificates of election, the newly elected officers shall qualify as provided in the charter, and on the tenth day thereafter at twelve o'clock noon of that day or on the next business day if the tenth day is a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, the officers so elected and qualified shall enter upon the duties of the offices to which

they were elected and at such time the charter shall be authenticated, recorded, attested and go into effect, and the city shall thereafter be classified as a charter code city. When so authenticated, recorded and attested, the charter shall become the organic law of the city and supersede any existing charter and amendments thereto and all special laws inconsistent therewith. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.08.110.]

**35A.08.120 Authentication of charter.** The authentication of the charter shall be by certificate of the mayor in substance as follows:

"I, . . . . ., mayor of the city of . . . . ., do hereby certify that in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and statutes of the state of Washington, the city of . . . . . caused fifteen freeholders to be elected on the . . . . . day of . . . . ., 19. . . as a charter commission to prepare a charter for the city; that due notice of that election was given in the manner provided by law and that the following persons were declared elected to prepare and propose a charter for the city, to wit: . . . . .

That thereafter on the . . . . day of . . . . ., 19. . . the charter commission returned a proposed charter for the city of . . . . . signed by the following members thereof: . . . . .

That thereafter the proposed charter was published in . . . . . (indicate name of newspaper in which published), for at least once each week for four weeks next preceding the day of submitting the same to the electors for their approval. (Indicate dates of publication.)

That thereafter on the . . . . day of . . . . ., 19. . ., at an election duly called and held, the proposed charter was submitted to the qualified electors thereof, and the returns canvassed resulting as follows: For the proposed charter . . . . votes; against the proposed charter, . . . . votes; majority for the proposed charter, . . . . votes; whereupon the charter was declared adopted by a majority of the qualified electors voting at the election.

I further certify that the foregoing is a full, true and complete copy of the proposed charter so voted upon and adopted as aforesaid.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and affix the corporate seal of the said city at my office this . . . . day of . . . . ., 19. . .

.....  
Mayor of the city of .....

Attest:

.....  
Clerk of the city of . . . . . (corporate seal)."

Immediately after authentication, the authenticated charter shall be recorded by the city clerk in a book provided for that purpose known as the charter book of the city of . . . . . and when so recorded shall be attested by the clerk and mayor under the corporate seal of the city. All amendments shall be in like manner recorded and attested.

All courts shall take judicial notice of a charter and all amendments thereto when recorded and attested as required in this section. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.08.120.]

## Chapter 35A.09

AMENDMENT OR REVISION OF CHARTERS OF  
CHARTER CODE CITIES

## Sections

- 35A.09.010 Amendment of charter—Initiated by legislative body.
- 35A.09.020 Petition for submission of charter amendment.
- 35A.09.030 New or revised charter—Petition—Charter commission.
- 35A.09.040 Submission of new or revised charter—Election.
- 35A.09.050 Publication of proposed charter.
- 35A.09.060 Conduct of elections.
- 35A.09.070 Effect of favorable vote.

**35A.09.010 Amendment of charter—Initiated by legislative body.** The charter of a charter code city may be amended by proposals therefor submitted by resolution of the legislative authority of such city to the electors thereof at any general election, after publication of such proposed charter amendment in the manner provided in chapter 35A.08 RCW for publication of a proposed charter, and upon notice of election as provided by law. If such proposed charter amendment is ratified by a majority of the qualified electors voting thereon it shall become a part of the charter organic law governing such charter code city. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.09.010.]

**35A.09.020 Petition for submission of charter amendment.** Upon the filing with the county auditor of a sufficient petition signed by registered voters of a charter code city, in number equal to at least ten percent of the votes cast at the last general municipal election, seeking the adoption of a specified charter amendment set forth in the petition, providing for any matter within the realm of local affairs, or municipal business, or structure of municipal government, offices, and departments, said amendment shall be submitted to the voters at the next general municipal election if one is to be held within one hundred and eighty days, or at a special election to be held for that purpose not less than ninety days, nor more than one hundred and eighty days after the filing of the certificate of sufficiency of the petition. The proposed charter amendment shall be published as provided in RCW 35A.09.050. Upon approval by a majority of the registered voters voting thereon, such amendment shall become a part of the charter organic law governing such charter code city. [1990 c 259 § 8; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.09.020.]

*Sufficiency of petition in code city: RCW 35A.01.040.*

**35A.09.030 New or revised charter—Petition—Charter commission.** On the petition of a number of qualified electors of a charter code city equal to ten percent of the total votes cast at the last preceding municipal general election, the legislative body of such charter code city shall, or without such petition, may, by resolution, cause an election to be held for the election of a charter commission of fifteen freeholders for the purpose of preparing a new or revised charter for the city by altering, revising, adding to, or repealing the existing charter including all amendments thereto. The members of the charter commission shall be qualified and nominated as provided by chapter 35A.08 RCW. At such election the proposition of whether or not a charter commission shall be created at all shall be separately

stated on the ballots and unless a majority of the votes cast upon that proposition favor it, no further steps shall be taken in the proceedings. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.09.030.]

*Sufficiency of petition in code city: RCW 35A.01.040.*

**35A.09.040 Submission of new or revised charter—Election.** Within ten days after the results of the election authorized by RCW 35A.09.030 have been determined, if a majority of the votes cast favor the proposition, the members of the charter commission elected thereat shall convene and prepare a new or revised charter by altering, revising, adding to, or repealing the existing charter including all amendments thereto and within one hundred and eighty days thereafter file it with the county auditor. The charter commission shall be organized, vacancies filled, alternative plans of government considered, and a public hearing held all in the manner provided in sections of chapter 35A.08 RCW relating to charter commissions, and the commission members shall be reimbursed for their expenses and may obtain technical and clerical assistance in the manner provided in chapter 35A.08 RCW. Upon the filing of the proposed new, altered, changed, or revised charter with the county auditor, it shall be submitted to the registered voters of the charter code city at an election conducted as provided in RCW 35A.09.060. [1990 c 259 § 9; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.09.040.]

**35A.09.050 Publication of proposed charter.** The proposed new, altered, or revised charter shall be published in the newspaper having the largest general circulation within the city at least once each week for four weeks next preceding the day of submitting the same to the electors for their approval. [1985 c 469 § 41; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.09.050.]

**35A.09.060 Conduct of elections.** The election of the charter commission and the election upon the proposition of adopting the proposed new, altered, or revised charter, may be general or special elections held within the corresponding time period specified in chapter 35A.08 RCW, and except as herein provided, said elections, the notice specifying the objects thereof, the returns, the canvassing, and the declaration of the result shall be governed by the laws regulating and controlling elections in the charter code city. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.09.060.]

**35A.09.070 Effect of favorable vote.** If a majority of the voters voting upon the adoption of the proposed new, altered, or revised charter favor it, it shall become the charter of the charter code city and the organic law thereof, superseding any existing charter; but if any offices are abolished or dispensed with by the new, altered, or revised charter, and any new offices created thereby, such charter shall not go into effect until the election and qualification of such new officers at the next general municipal election if one is to be held within one hundred and eighty days, or at a special election to be held for that purpose not less than ninety days, nor more than one hundred and eighty days after approval of such charter by the voters. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.09.070.]

## Chapter 35A.10

PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO ADOPTION AND  
ABANDONMENT OF CHARTER  
CODE CITY CLASSIFICATION

## Sections

- 35A.10.010 Laws applicable to charter code cities.  
 35A.10.020 Abandonment of charter code city classification.  
 35A.10.030 Resolution or petition for change of classification—Election.  
 35A.10.040 No subsequent vote for six years.

**35A.10.010 Laws applicable to charter code cities.**

The classifications of municipalities which existed prior to the time this title goes into effect—first class cities, second class cities, unclassified cities, and towns—and the restrictions, limitations, duties and obligations specifically imposed by law upon such classes of cities and towns, shall have no application to charter code cities, but every charter code city, by adopting such classification, has elected to be governed by its charter and by the provisions of this title, with the powers thereby granted. [1994 c 81 § 70; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.10.010.]

**35A.10.020 Abandonment of charter code city classification.** Any charter code city, which has been so classified under the provisions of this title for more than six years may abandon such classification and elect to be governed according to its charter under the general law relating to charter cities of the classification held by such city immediately prior to becoming a charter code city, if any, or may elect to be governed by the general law relating to charter cities of the highest class, or other class, for which it is qualified by population. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.10.020.]

**35A.10.030 Resolution or petition for change of classification—Election.** Upon the passage of a resolution of the legislative body of a charter code city, or upon the filing with the county auditor of a sufficient petition signed by registered voters of a charter code city in number equal to not less than ten percent of the votes cast at the last general municipal election therein, proposing abandonment of the classification of charter code city and that the city be governed under its charter and the general law relating to cities of the classification named in the petition or resolution, the legislative body thereof shall cause the propositions to be submitted to the voters at the next general municipal election if one is to be held within one hundred and eighty days or at a special election to be held for that purpose not less than ninety days nor more than one hundred and eighty days after the passage of the resolution or the filing of the certificate of sufficiency of the petition. Notice of election shall be given, the election conducted, and results declared generally as provided in chapter 35A.02 RCW, insofar as such provisions are applicable. If a majority of the votes cast upon such proposition are in favor of abandonment of the classification of charter code city, upon the certification of the record of election to the office of the secretary of state, such charter city shall be classified as a city of the class selected and shall be governed by the laws relating thereto. [1990 c 259 § 10; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.10.030.]

*Sufficiency of petition in code city: RCW 35A.01.040.*

(1994 Ed.)

**35A.10.040 No subsequent vote for six years.** When a proposition for abandonment of the classification of charter code city has been submitted to the voters of the charter code city in an election and has been rejected by a majority of such voters, such proposition shall not again be submitted to the voters for six years thereafter. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.10.040.]

## Chapter 35A.11

LAWS GOVERNING NONCHARTER CODE CITIES  
AND CHARTER CODE CITIES—POWERS

## Sections

- 35A.11.010 Rights, powers and privileges.  
 35A.11.020 Powers vested in legislative bodies of noncharter and charter code cities.  
 35A.11.030 Applicability of general law.  
 35A.11.035 Nonpolluting power generation by individual—Exemption from regulation—Authorization to contract with utility.  
 35A.11.037 Hydroelectric resources—Separate legal authority—Creation by irrigation districts and cities, towns, or public utility districts.  
 35A.11.040 Intergovernmental cooperation and action.  
 35A.11.050 Statement of purpose and policy.  
 35A.11.060 Participation in Economic Opportunity Act programs.  
 35A.11.070 Tourist promotion.  
 35A.11.080 Initiative and referendum—Election to exercise—Restriction or abandonment.  
 35A.11.090 Initiative and referendum—Effective date of ordinances—Exceptions.  
 35A.11.100 Initiative and referendum—Exercise of powers.  
 35A.11.110 Members of legislative bodies authorized to serve as volunteer fire fighters or reserve law enforcement officers.  
 35A.11.200 Criminal code repeal by city operating municipal court—Agreement covering costs of handling resulting criminal cases—Arbitration.  
 35A.11.210 Juvenile curfews.

**35A.11.010 Rights, powers and privileges.** Each city governed under this optional municipal code, whether charter or noncharter, shall be entitled "City of . . . ." (naming it), and by such name shall have perpetual succession; may sue and be sued in all courts and proceedings; use a corporate seal approved by its legislative body; and, by and through its legislative body, such municipality may contract and be contracted with; may purchase, lease, receive, or otherwise acquire real and personal property of every kind, and use, enjoy, hold, lease, control, convey or otherwise dispose of it for the common benefit. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.11.010.]

**35A.11.020 Powers vested in legislative bodies of noncharter and charter code cities.** The legislative body of each code city shall have power to organize and regulate its internal affairs within the provisions of this title and its charter, if any; and to define the functions, powers, and duties of its officers and employees; within the limitations imposed by vested rights, to fix the compensation and working conditions of such officers and employees and establish and maintain civil service, or merit systems, retirement and pension systems not in conflict with the provisions of this title or of existing charter provisions until changed by the people: PROVIDED, That nothing in this section or in this title shall permit any city, whether a code city or otherwise, to enact any provisions establishing or respecting a merit system or system of civil service for

firemen and policemen which does not substantially accomplish the same purpose as provided by general law in chapter 41.08 RCW for firemen and chapter 41.12 RCW for policemen now or as hereafter amended, or enact any provision establishing or respecting a pension or retirement system for firemen or policemen which provides different pensions or retirement benefits than are provided by general law for such classes.

Such body may adopt and enforce ordinances of all kinds relating to and regulating its local or municipal affairs and appropriate to the good government of the city, and may impose penalties of fine not exceeding five thousand dollars or imprisonment for any term not exceeding one year, or both, for the violation of such ordinances, constituting a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor as provided therein. However, the punishment for any criminal ordinance shall be the same as the punishment provided in state law for the same crime. Such a body alternatively may provide that violation of such ordinances constitutes a civil violation subject to monetary penalty, but no act which is a state crime may be made a civil violation.

The legislative body of each code city shall have all powers possible for a city or town to have under the Constitution of this state, and not specifically denied to code cities by law. By way of illustration and not in limitation, such powers may be exercised in regard to the acquisition, sale, ownership, improvement, maintenance, protection, restoration, regulation, use, leasing, disposition, vacation, abandonment or beautification of public ways, real property of all kinds, waterways, structures, or any other improvement or use of real or personal property, in regard to all aspects of collective bargaining as provided for and subject to the provisions of chapter 41.56 RCW, as now or hereafter amended, and in the rendering of local social, cultural, recreational, educational, governmental, or corporate services, including operating and supplying of utilities and municipal services commonly or conveniently rendered by cities or towns.

In addition and not in limitation, the legislative body of each code city shall have any authority ever given to any class of municipality or to all municipalities of this state before or after the enactment of this title, such authority to be exercised in the manner provided, if any, by the granting statute, when not in conflict with this title. Within constitutional limitations, legislative bodies of code cities shall have within their territorial limits all powers of taxation for local purposes except those which are expressly preempted by the state as provided in RCW 66.08.120, 82.36.440, 48.14.020, and 48.14.080. [1993 c 83 § 8; 1986 c 278 § 7; 1984 c 258 § 807; 1969 ex.s. c 29 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.11.020.]

**Effective date—1993 c 83:** See note following RCW 35.21.163.

**Severability—1986 c 278:** See note following RCW 36.01.010.

**Court Improvement Act of 1984—Effective dates—Severability—Short title—1984 c 258:** See notes following RCW 3.30.010.

**Effective date—1969 ex.s. c 29:** "The effective date of this act is July 1, 1969." [1969 ex.s. c 29 § 2.]

**35A.11.030 Applicability of general law.** Powers of eminent domain, borrowing, taxation, and the granting of franchises may be exercised by the legislative bodies of code cities in the manner provided in this title or by the general law of the state where not inconsistent with this title; and the

duties to be performed and the procedure to be followed by such cities in regard to the keeping of accounts and records, official bonds, health and safety and other matters not specifically provided for in this title, shall be governed by the general law. For the purposes of this title, "the general law" means any provision of state law, not inconsistent with this title, enacted before or after the passage of this title which is by its terms applicable or available to all cities or towns. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.11.030.]

**35A.11.035 Nonpolluting power generation by individual—Exemption from regulation—Authorization to contract with utility.** See chapter 80.58 RCW.

**35A.11.037 Hydroelectric resources—Separate legal authority—Creation by irrigation districts and cities, towns, or public utility districts.** See RCW 87.03.825 through 87.03.840.

**35A.11.040 Intergovernmental cooperation and action.** The legislative body of a code city may exercise any of its powers or perform any of its functions including purchasing, and participate in the financing thereof, jointly or in cooperation, as provided for in chapter 39.34 RCW. The legislative body of a code city shall have power to accept any gift or grant for any public purpose and may carry out any conditions of such gift or grant when not in conflict with state or federal law. [1979 ex.s. c 18 § 17; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.11.040.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18:** See note following RCW 35A.01.070.

**35A.11.050 Statement of purpose and policy.** The general grant of municipal power conferred by this chapter and this title on legislative bodies of noncharter code cities and charter code cities is intended to confer the greatest power of local self-government consistent with the Constitution of this state and shall be construed liberally in favor of such cities. Specific mention of a particular municipal power or authority contained in this title or in the general law shall be construed as in addition and supplementary to, or explanatory of the powers conferred in general terms by this chapter. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.11.050.]

**35A.11.060 Participation in Economic Opportunity Act programs.** The legislative body of any city or town is hereby authorized and empowered in its discretion by resolution or ordinance passed by a majority of the legislative body, to take whatever action it deems necessary to enable the city or town to participate in the programs set forth in the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 (Public Law 88-452; 78 Stat. 508), as amended. Such participation may be engaged in as a sole city or town operation or in conjunction or cooperation with the state, any other city or town, county, or municipal corporation, or any private corporation qualified under said Economic Opportunity Act. [1971 ex.s. c 177 § 4.]

**35A.11.070 Tourist promotion.** See RCW 35.21.700.

**35A.11.080 Initiative and referendum—Election to exercise—Restriction or abandonment.** The qualified electors or legislative body of a noncharter code city may provide for the exercise in their city of the powers of initiative and referendum, upon electing so to do in the manner provided for changing the classification of a city or town in RCW 35A.02.020, 35A.02.025, 35A.02.030, and 35A.02.035, as now or hereafter amended.

The exercise of such powers may be restricted or abandoned upon electing so to do in the manner provided for abandoning the plan of government of a noncharter code city in RCW 35A.06.030, 35A.06.040, 35A.06.050, and 35A.06.060, as now or hereafter amended. [1979 ex.s. c 18 § 18; 1973 1st ex.s. c 81 § 1.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18:** See note following RCW 35A.01.070.

**Imposition or increase of business and occupation tax—Referendum procedure required—Exclusive procedure:** RCW 35.21.706.

**35A.11.090 Initiative and referendum—Effective date of ordinances—Exceptions.** Ordinances of noncharter code cities the qualified electors of which have elected to exercise the powers of initiative and referendum shall not go into effect before thirty days from the time of final passage and are subject to referendum during the interim except:

- (1) Ordinances initiated by petition;
- (2) Ordinances necessary for immediate preservation of public peace, health, and safety or for the support of city government and its existing public institutions which contain a statement of urgency and are passed by unanimous vote of the council;
- (3) Ordinances providing for local improvement districts;
- (4) Ordinances appropriating money;
- (5) Ordinances providing for or approving collective bargaining;
- (6) Ordinances providing for the compensation of or working conditions of city employees; and
- (7) Ordinances authorizing or repealing the levy of taxes; which excepted ordinances shall go into effect as provided by the general law or by applicable sections of Title 35A RCW as now or hereafter amended. [1973 1st ex.s. c 81 § 2.]

**35A.11.100 Initiative and referendum—Exercise of powers.** Except as provided in RCW 35A.11.090, and except that the number of registered voters needed to sign a petition for initiative or referendum shall be fifteen percent of the total number of names of persons listed as registered voters within the city on the day of the last preceding city general election, the powers of initiative and referendum in noncharter code cities shall be exercised in the manner set forth for the commission form of government in RCW 35.17.240 through 35.17.360, as now or hereafter amended. [1973 1st ex.s. c 81 § 3.]

**Sufficiency of petition in code city:** RCW 35A.01.040.

**35A.11.110 Members of legislative bodies authorized to serve as volunteer fire fighters or reserve law enforcement officers.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the legislative body of any code city, by resolution adopted by a two-thirds vote of the full legislative body, may

authorize any of its members to serve as volunteer fire fighters or reserve law enforcement officers, or both, and to receive the same compensation, insurance and other benefits as are applicable to other volunteer fire fighters or reserve law enforcement officers employed by the code city. [1993 c 303 § 2; 1974 ex.s. c 60 § 2.]

**35A.11.200 Criminal code repeal by city operating municipal court—Agreement covering costs of handling resulting criminal cases—Arbitration.** A code city operating a municipal court may not repeal in its entirety that portion of its municipal code defining crimes unless the municipality has reached an agreement with the appropriate county under chapter 39.34 RCW under which the county is to be paid a reasonable amount for costs associated with prosecution, adjudication, and sentencing in criminal cases filed in district court as a result of the repeal. The agreement shall include provisions for periodic review and renewal of the terms of the agreement. If the municipality and the county are unable to agree on the terms for renewal of the agreement, they shall be deemed to have entered into an agreement to submit the issue to arbitration under chapter 7.04 RCW. Pending conclusion of the arbitration proceeding, the terms of the agreement shall remain in effect. The municipality and the county have the same rights and are subject to the same duties as other parties who have agreed to submit to arbitration under chapter 7.04 RCW. [1984 c 258 § 209.]

**Court Improvement Act of 1984—Effective dates—Severability—Short title—1984 c 258:** See notes following RCW 3.30.010.

**35A.11.210 Juvenile curfews.** (1) Any code city has the authority to enact an ordinance, for the purpose of preserving the public safety or reducing acts of violence by or against juveniles that are occurring at such rates as to be beyond the capacity of the police to assure public safety, establishing times and conditions under which juveniles may be present on the public streets, in the public parks, or in any other public place during specified hours.

(2) The ordinance shall not contain any criminal sanctions for a violation of the ordinance. [1994 1st sp.s. c 7 § 503.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 1st sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

## Chapter 35A.12

### MAYOR-COUNCIL PLAN OF GOVERNMENT

#### Sections

- 35A.12.010 Elective city officers—Size of council.
- 35A.12.020 Appointive officers—Duties—Compensation.
- 35A.12.030 Eligibility to hold elective office.
- 35A.12.040 Elections—Terms of elective officers—Numbering of council positions.
- 35A.12.050 Vacancies.
- 35A.12.060 Vacancy for nonattendance.
- 35A.12.065 Pro tempore appointments.
- 35A.12.070 Compensation of elective officers—Expenses.
- 35A.12.080 Oath and bond of officers.
- 35A.12.090 Appointment and removal of officers—Terms.
- 35A.12.100 Duties and authority of the mayor—Veto—Tie-breaking vote.
- 35A.12.110 Council meetings.



- 35A.12.120 Council—Quorum—Rules—Voting.
- 35A.12.130 Ordinances—Style—Requisites—Veto.
- 35A.12.140 Adoption of codes by reference.
- 35A.12.150 Ordinances—Authentication and recording.
- 35A.12.160 Publication of ordinances or summary—Public notice of hearings and meeting agendas.
- 35A.12.170 Audit and allowance of demands against city.
- 35A.12.180 Optional division of city into wards.
- 35A.12.190 Powers of council.

### 35A.12.010 Elective city officers—Size of council.

The government of any noncharter code city or charter code city electing to adopt the mayor-council plan of government authorized by this chapter shall be vested in an elected mayor and an elected council. The council of a noncharter code city having less than twenty-five hundred inhabitants shall consist of five members; when there are twenty-five hundred or more inhabitants, the council shall consist of seven members: PROVIDED, That if the population of a city after having become a code city decreases from twenty-five hundred or more to less than twenty-five hundred, it shall continue to have a seven member council. If, after a city has become a mayor-council code city, its population increases to twenty-five hundred or more inhabitants, the number of councilmanic offices in such city may increase from five to seven members upon the affirmative vote of a majority of the existing council to increase the number of councilmanic offices in the city. When the population of a mayor-council code city having five councilmanic offices increases to five thousand or more inhabitants, the number of councilmanic offices in the city shall increase from five to seven members. In the event of an increase in the number of councilmanic offices, the city council shall, by majority vote, pursuant to RCW 35A.12.050, appoint two persons to serve in these offices until the next municipal general election, at which election one person shall be elected for a two-year term and one person shall be elected for a four-year term. The number of inhabitants shall be determined by the most recent official state or federal census or determination by the state office of financial management. A charter adopted under the provisions of this title, incorporating the mayor-council plan of government set forth in this chapter, may provide for an uneven number of councilmembers not exceeding eleven.

A noncharter code city of less than five thousand inhabitants which has elected the mayor-council plan of government and which has seven councilmanic offices may establish a five-member council in accordance with the following procedure. At least six months prior to a municipal general election, the city council shall adopt an ordinance providing for reduction in the number of councilmanic offices to five. The ordinance shall specify which two councilmanic offices, the terms of which expire at the next general election, are to be terminated. The ordinance shall provide for the renumbering of council positions and shall also provide for a two-year extension of the term of office of a retained councilmanic office, if necessary, in order to comply with RCW 35A.12.040.

However, a noncharter code city that has retained its old mayor-council plan of government, as provided in RCW 35A.02.130, is subject to the laws applicable to that old plan of government. [1994 c 223 § 30; 1994 c 81 § 71; 1985 c

106 § 1; 1983 c 128 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 18 § 19; 1979 c 151 § 33; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.12.010.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18:** See note following RCW 35A.01.070.  
*Population determinations, office of financial management: Chapter 43.62 RCW.*

**35A.12.020 Appointive officers—Duties—Compensation.** The appointive officers shall be those provided for by charter or ordinance and shall include a city clerk and a chief law enforcement officer. The office of city clerk may be merged with that of a city treasurer, if any, with an appropriate title designated therefor. Provision shall be made for obtaining legal counsel for the city, either by appointment of a city attorney on a full-time or part-time basis, or by any reasonable contractual arrangement for such professional services. The authority, duties and qualifications of all appointive officers shall be prescribed by charter or ordinance, consistent with the provisions of this title, and any amendments thereto, and the compensation of appointive officers shall be prescribed by ordinance: PROVIDED, That the compensation of an appointed municipal judge shall be within applicable statutory limits. [1987 c 3 § 14; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.12.020.]

**Severability—1987 c 3:** See note following RCW 3.46.020.

**35A.12.030 Eligibility to hold elective office.** No person shall be eligible to hold elective office under the mayor-council plan unless the person is a registered voter of the city at the time of filing his declaration of candidacy and has been a resident of the city for a period of at least one year next preceding his election. Residence and voting within the limits of any territory which has been included in, annexed to, or consolidated with such city is construed to have been residence within the city. A mayor or councilman shall hold within the city government no other public office or employment except as permitted under the provisions of chapter 42.23 RCW. [1979 ex.s. c 18 § 20; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.12.030.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18:** See note following RCW 35A.01.070.

**35A.12.040 Elections—Terms of elective officers—Numbering of council positions.** Officers shall be elected at biennial municipal elections to be conducted as provided in chapter 35A.29 RCW. The mayor and the councilmembers shall be elected for four-year terms of office and until their successors are elected and qualified and assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. At any first election upon reorganization, councilmembers shall be elected as provided in RCW 35A.02.050. Thereafter the requisite number of councilmembers shall be elected biennially as the terms of their predecessors expire and shall serve for terms of four years. The positions to be filled on the city council shall be designated by consecutive numbers and shall be dealt with as separate offices for all election purposes. Election to positions on the council shall be by majority vote from the city at large, unless provision is made by charter or ordinance for election by wards. The mayor and councilmembers shall qualify by taking an oath or affirmation of office and as may be provided by law, charter, or ordinance. [1994 c 223 § 31; 1979 ex.s. c 18 § 21; 1970 ex.s. c 52 § 3; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.12.040.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18:** See note following RCW 35A.01.070.

**35A.12.050 Vacancies.** The office of a mayor or councilmember shall become vacant if the person who is elected or appointed to that position fails to qualify as provided by law, fails to enter upon the duties of that office at the time fixed by law without a justifiable reason, or as provided in RCW 35A.12.060 or 42.12.010. A vacancy in the office of mayor or in the council shall be filled as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW. [1994 c 223 § 32; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.12.050.]

**35A.12.060 Vacancy for nonattendance.** In addition a council position shall become vacant if the councilmember fails to attend three consecutive regular meetings of the council without being excused by the council. [1994 c 223 § 33; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.12.060.]

**35A.12.065 Pro tempore appointments.** Biennially at the first meeting of a new council, or periodically, the members thereof, by majority vote, may designate one of their number as mayor pro tempore or deputy mayor for such period as the council may specify, to serve in the absence or temporary disability of the mayor; or, in lieu thereof, the council may, as the need may arise, appoint any qualified person to serve as mayor pro tempore in the absence or temporary disability of the mayor. In the event of the extended excused absence or disability of a councilman, the remaining members by majority vote may appoint a councilman pro tempore to serve during the absence or disability. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.12.065.]

**35A.12.070 Compensation of elective officers—Expenses.** The salaries of the mayor and the councilmen shall be fixed by ordinance and may be revised from time to time by ordinance, but any increase in the compensation attaching to an office shall not be applicable to the term then being served by the incumbent if such incumbent is a member of the city legislative body fixing his own compensation or as mayor in a mayor-council code city casts a tie-breaking vote relating to such ordinance: PROVIDED, That if the mayor of such a city does not cast such a vote, his salary may be increased during his term of office.

Until the first elective officers under this mayor-council plan of government may lawfully be paid the compensation provided by such salary ordinance, such officers shall be entitled to be compensated in the same manner and in the same amount as the compensation paid to officers of such city performing comparable services immediately prior to adoption of this mayor-council plan.

Until a salary ordinance can be passed and become effective as to elective officers of a newly incorporated code city, such first officers shall be entitled to compensation as follows: In cities having less than five thousand inhabitants, the mayor shall be entitled to a salary of one hundred and fifty dollars per calendar month and a councilman shall be entitled to twenty dollars per meeting for not more than two meetings per month; in cities having more than five thousand but less than fifteen thousand inhabitants, the mayor shall be entitled to a salary of three hundred and fifty dollars per calendar month and a councilman shall be entitled to one

hundred and fifty dollars per calendar month; in cities having more than fifteen thousand inhabitants, the mayor shall be entitled to a salary of twelve hundred and fifty dollars per calendar month and a councilman shall be entitled to four hundred dollars per calendar month: PROVIDED, That such interim compensation shall remain in effect only until a salary ordinance is passed and becomes effective as to such officers, and the amounts herein provided shall not be construed as fixing the usual salary of such officers. The mayor and councilmen shall receive reimbursement for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of the duties of their office, or the council by ordinance may provide for a per diem allowance. Procedure for approval of claims for expenses shall be as provided by ordinance. [1971 ex.s. c 251 § 5; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.12.070.]

**Severability—1971 ex.s. c 251:** See RCW 35A.90.050.

*Limitations on salaries: State Constitution Art. 11 § 8.*

**35A.12.080 Oath and bond of officers.** Any officer before entering upon the performance of his duties may be required to take an oath or affirmation as prescribed by charter or by ordinance for the faithful performance of his duties. The oath or affirmation shall be filed with the county auditor. The clerk, treasurer, if any, chief of police, and such other officers or employees as may be designated by ordinance or by charter shall be required to furnish annually an official bond conditioned on the honest and faithful performance of their official duties. The terms and penalty of official bonds and the surety therefor shall be prescribed by ordinance or charter and the bond shall be approved by the chief administrative officer of the city. The premiums on such bonds shall be paid by the city. When the furnishing of an official bond is required of an officer or employee, compliance with such provisions shall be an essential part of qualification for office. [1986 c 167 § 20; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.12.080.]

**Severability—1986 c 167:** See note following RCW 29.01.055.

**35A.12.090 Appointment and removal of officers—Terms.** The mayor shall have the power of appointment and removal of all appointive officers and employees subject to any applicable law, rule, or regulation relating to civil service. The head of a department or office of the city government may be authorized by the mayor to appoint and remove subordinates in such department or office, subject to any applicable civil service provisions. All appointments of city officers and employees shall be made on the basis of ability and training or experience of the appointees in the duties they are to perform, from among persons having such qualifications as may be prescribed by ordinance or by charter, and in compliance with provisions of any merit system applicable to such city. Confirmation by the city council of appointments of officers and employees shall be required only when the city charter, or the council by ordinance, provides for confirmation of such appointments. Confirmation of mayoral appointments by the council may be required by the council in any instance where qualifications for the office or position have not been established by ordinance or charter provision. Appointive offices shall be without definite term unless a term is established for such

office by law, charter or ordinance. [1987 c 3 § 15; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.12.090.]

**Severability—1987 c 3:** See note following RCW 3.46.020.

**35A.12.100 Duties and authority of the mayor—Veto—Tie-breaking vote.** The mayor shall be the chief executive and administrative officer of the city, in charge of all departments and employees, with authority to designate assistants and department heads. The mayor may appoint and remove a chief administrative officer or assistant administrative officer, if so provided by ordinance or charter. He shall see that all laws and ordinances are faithfully enforced and that law and order is maintained in the city, and shall have general supervision of the administration of city government and all city interests. All official bonds and bonds of contractors with the city shall be submitted to the mayor or such person as he may designate for approval or disapproval. He shall see that all contracts and agreements made with the city or for its use and benefit are faithfully kept and performed, and to this end he may cause any legal proceedings to be instituted and prosecuted in the name of the city, subject to approval by majority vote of all members of the council. The mayor shall preside over all meetings of the city council, when present, but shall have a vote only in the case of a tie in the votes of the councilmen with respect to matters other than the passage of any ordinance, grant, or revocation of franchise or license, or any resolution for the payment of money. He shall report to the council concerning the affairs of the city and its financial and other needs, and shall make recommendations for council consideration and action. He shall prepare and submit to the council a proposed budget, as required by chapter 35A.33 RCW. The mayor shall have the power to veto ordinances passed by the council and submitted to him as provided in RCW 35A.12.130 but such veto may be overridden by the vote of a majority of all council members plus one more vote. The mayor shall be the official and ceremonial head of the city and shall represent the city on ceremonial occasions, except that when illness or other duties prevent the mayor's attendance at an official function and no mayor pro tempore has been appointed by the council, a member of the council or some other suitable person may be designated by the mayor to represent the city on such occasion. [1979 ex.s. c 18 § 22; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.12.100.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18:** See note following RCW 35A.01.070.

**35A.12.110 Council meetings.** The city council and mayor shall meet regularly, at least once a month, at a place and at such times as may be designated by the city council. All final actions on resolutions and ordinances must take place within the corporate limits of the city. Special meetings may be called by the mayor or any three members of the council by written notice delivered to each member of the council at least twenty-four hours before the time specified for the proposed meeting. All actions that have heretofore been taken at special council meetings held pursuant to this section, but for which the number of hours of notice given has been at variance with requirements of RCW 42.30.080, are hereby validated. All council meetings shall be open to the public except as permitted by chapter 42.30 RCW. No ordinance or resolution shall be passed, or

contract let or entered into, or bill for the payment of money allowed at any meeting not open to the public, nor at any public meeting the date of which is not fixed by ordinance, resolution, or rule, unless public notice of such meeting has been given by such notice to each local newspaper of general circulation and to each local radio or television station, as provided in RCW 42.30.080 as now or hereafter amended. Meetings of the council shall be presided over by the mayor, if present, or otherwise by the mayor pro tempore, or deputy mayor if one has been appointed, or by a member of the council selected by a majority of the council members at such meeting. Appointment of a council member to preside over the meeting shall not in any way abridge his right to vote on matters coming before the council at such meeting. In the absence of the clerk, a deputy clerk or other qualified person appointed by the clerk, the mayor, or the council, may perform the duties of clerk at such meeting. A journal of all proceedings shall be kept, which shall be a public record. [1993 c 199 § 3; 1979 ex.s. c 18 § 23; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.12.110.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18:** See note following RCW 35A.01.070.

**35A.12.120 Council—Quorum—Rules—Voting.** At all meetings of the council a majority of the councilmen shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a less number may adjourn from time to time and may compel the attendance of absent members in such manner and under such penalties as may be prescribed by ordinance. The council shall determine its own rules and order of business, and may establish rules for the conduct of council meetings and the maintenance of order. At the desire of any member, any question shall be voted upon by roll call and the ayes and nays shall be recorded in the journal.

The passage of any ordinance, grant or revocation of franchise or license, and any resolution for the payment of money shall require the affirmative vote of at least a majority of the whole membership of the council. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.12.120.]

**35A.12.130 Ordinances—Style—Requisites—Veto.** The enacting clause of all ordinances shall be as follows: "The city council of the city of . . . . . do ordain as follows:" No ordinance shall contain more than one subject and that must be clearly expressed in its title.

No ordinance or any section or subsection thereof shall be revised or amended unless the new ordinance sets forth the revised ordinance or the amended section or subsection at full length.

No ordinance shall take effect until five days after the date of its publication unless otherwise provided by statute or charter, except that an ordinance passed by a majority plus one of the whole membership of the council, designated therein as a public emergency ordinance necessary for the protection of public health, public safety, public property or the public peace, may be made effective upon adoption, but such ordinance may not levy taxes, grant, renew, or extend a franchise, or authorize the borrowing of money.

Every ordinance which passes the council in order to become valid must be presented to the mayor; if he approves it, he shall sign it, but if not, he shall return it with his written objections to the council and the council shall cause

his objections to be entered at large upon the journal and proceed to a reconsideration thereof. If upon reconsideration a majority plus one of the whole membership, voting upon a call of ayes and nays, favor its passage, the ordinance shall become valid notwithstanding the mayor's veto. If the mayor fails for ten days to either approve or veto an ordinance, it shall become valid without his approval. Ordinances shall be signed by the mayor and attested by the clerk. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.12.130.]

### **35A.12.140 Adoption of codes by reference.**

Ordinances may by reference adopt Washington state statutes and state, county, or city codes, regulations, or ordinances or any standard code of technical regulations, or portions thereof, including, for illustrative purposes but not limited to, fire codes and codes or ordinances relating to the construction of buildings, the installation of plumbing, the installation of electric wiring, health and sanitation, the slaughtering, processing, and selling of meats and meat products for human consumption, the production, pasteurizing, and sale of milk and milk products, or other subjects, together with amendments thereof or additions thereto, on the subject of the ordinance. Such Washington state statutes or codes or other codes or compilations so adopted need not be published in a newspaper as provided in RCW 35A.12.160, but the adopting ordinance shall be so published and a copy of any such adopted statute, ordinance, or code, or portion thereof, with amendments or additions, if any, in the form in which it was adopted, shall be authenticated and recorded by the clerk along with the adopting ordinance. Not less than one copy of such statute, code, or compilation with amendments or additions, if any, in the form in which it was adopted, shall be filed in the office of the city clerk for use and examination by the public. While any such statute, code, or compilation is under consideration by the council prior to adoption, not less than one copy thereof shall be filed in the office of the city clerk for examination by the public. [1982 c 226 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.12.140.]

**Effective date—1982 c 226:** See note following RCW 35.21.180.

**35A.12.150 Ordinances—Authentication and recording.** The city clerk shall authenticate by his signature and record in full in a properly indexed book kept for the purpose all ordinances and resolutions adopted by the council. Such book, or copies of ordinances and resolutions, shall be available for inspection by the public at reasonable times and under reasonable conditions. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.12.150.]

**35A.12.160 Publication of ordinances or summary—Public notice of hearings and meeting agendas.** Promptly after adoption, the text of each ordinance or a summary of the content of each ordinance shall be published at least once in the city's official newspaper.

For purposes of this section, a summary shall mean a brief description which succinctly describes the main points of the ordinance. Publication of the title of an ordinance authorizing the issuance of bonds, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness shall constitute publication of a summary of that ordinance. When the city publishes a summary, the

publication shall include a statement that the full text of the ordinance will be mailed upon request.

An inadvertent mistake or omission in publishing the text or a summary of the content of an ordinance shall not render the ordinance invalid.

In addition to the requirement that a city publish the text or a summary of the content of each adopted ordinance, every city shall establish a procedure for notifying the public of upcoming hearings and the preliminary agenda for the forthcoming council meeting. Such procedure may include, but not be limited to, written notification to the city's official newspaper, publication of a notice in the official newspaper, posting of upcoming council meeting agendas, or such other processes as the city determines will satisfy the intent of this requirement. [1994 c 273 § 15; 1988 c 168 § 7; 1987 c 400 § 3; 1985 c 469 § 42; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.12.160.]

**35A.12.170 Audit and allowance of demands against city.** All demands against a code city shall be presented and audited in accordance with such regulations as may be prescribed by charter or ordinance; and upon the allowance of a demand, the clerk shall draw a warrant upon the treasurer for it, which warrant shall be countersigned by the mayor, or such person as he may designate, and shall specify the fund from which it is to be paid; or, payment may be made by a bank check when authorized by the legislative body of the code city under authority granted by RCW 35A.40.020, which check shall bear the signatures of the officers designated by the legislative body as required signatories of checks of such city, and shall specify the fund from which it is to be paid. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.12.170.]

**35A.12.180 Optional division of city into wards.** At any time not within three months previous to a municipal general election the council of a noncharter code city organized under this chapter may divide the city into wards or change the boundaries of existing wards. No change in the boundaries of wards shall affect the term of any councilmember, and councilmembers shall serve out their terms in the wards of their residences at the time of their elections: PROVIDED, That if this results in one ward being represented by more councilmembers than the number to which it is entitled those having the shortest unexpired terms shall be assigned by the council to wards where there is a vacancy, and the councilmembers so assigned shall be deemed to be residents of the wards to which they are assigned for purposes of those positions being vacant. The representation of each ward in the city council shall be in proportion to the population as nearly as is practicable.

Wards shall be redrawn as provided in chapter 29.70 RCW. Wards shall be used as follows: (1) Only a resident of the ward may be a candidate for, or hold office as, a councilmember of the ward; and (2) only voters of the ward may vote at a primary to nominate candidates for a councilmember of the ward. Voters of the entire city may vote at the general election to elect a councilmember of a ward, unless the city had prior to January 1, 1994, limited the voting in the general election for any or all council positions to only voters residing within the ward associated with the council positions. If a city had so limited the

voting in the general election to only voters residing within the ward, then the city shall be authorized to continue to do so. [1994 c 223 § 34; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.12.180.]

**35A.12.190 Powers of council.** The council of any code city organized under the mayor-council plan of government provided in this chapter shall have the powers and authority granted to the legislative bodies of cities governed by this title, as more particularly described in chapter 35A.11 RCW. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.12.190.]

### Chapter 35A.13

#### COUNCIL-MANAGER PLAN OF GOVERNMENT

##### Sections

- 35A.13.010 City officers—Size of council.
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- 35A.13.030 Mayor—Election—Chairman to be mayor—Duties.
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**35A.13.010 City officers—Size of council.** The councilmembers shall be the only elective officers of a code city electing to adopt the council-manager plan of government authorized by this chapter, except where statutes provide for an elective municipal judge. The council shall appoint an officer whose title shall be "city manager" who shall be the chief executive officer and head of the administrative branch of the city government. The city manager shall be responsible to the council for the proper administration of all affairs of the code city. The council of a noncharter code city having less than twenty-five hundred inhabitants shall consist of five members; when there are twenty-five hundred or more inhabitants the council shall consist of seven members: PROVIDED, That if the population of a city after having become a code city decreases from twenty-five hundred or more to less than twenty-five hundred, it shall continue to have a seven member council. If, after a city has become a council-manager code city its population increases to twenty-five hundred or more inhabitants, the number of councilmanic offices in such city may

increase from five to seven members upon the affirmative vote of a majority of the existing council to increase the number of councilmanic offices in the city. When the population of a council-manager code city having five councilmanic offices increases to five thousand or more inhabitants, the number of councilmanic offices in the city shall increase from five to seven members. In the event of an increase in the number of councilmanic offices, the city council shall, by majority vote, pursuant to RCW 35A.13.020, appoint two persons to serve in these offices until the next municipal general election, at which election one person shall be elected for a two-year term and one person shall be elected for a four-year term. The number of inhabitants shall be determined by the most recent official state or federal census or determination by the state office of financial management. A charter adopted under the provisions of this title, incorporating the council-manager plan of government set forth in this chapter may provide for an uneven number of councilmembers not exceeding eleven.

A noncharter code city of less than five thousand inhabitants which has elected the council-manager plan of government and which has seven councilmanic offices may establish a five-member council in accordance with the following procedure. At least six months prior to a municipal general election, the city council shall adopt an ordinance providing for reduction in the number of councilmanic offices to five. The ordinance shall specify which two councilmanic offices, the terms of which expire at the next general election, are to be terminated. The ordinance shall provide for the renumbering of council positions and shall also provide for a two-year extension of the term of office of a retained councilmanic office, if necessary, in order to comply with RCW 35A.12.040.

However, a noncharter code city that has retained its old council-manager plan of government, as provided in RCW 35A.02.130, is subject to the laws applicable to that old plan of government. [1994 c 223 § 35; 1994 c 81 § 72; 1987 c 3 § 16; 1985 c 106 § 2; 1983 c 128 § 2; 1979 ex.s. c 18 § 24; 1979 c 151 § 34; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.13.010.]

**Severability—1987 c 3:** See note following RCW 3.46.020.

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18:** See note following RCW 35A.01.070.

*Population determinations, office of financial management: Chapter 43.62 RCW.*

**35A.13.020 Election of councilmen—Eligibility—Terms—Vacancies—Forfeiture of office—Council chairman.** In council-manager code cities, eligibility for election to the council, the manner of electing councilmen, the numbering of council positions, the terms of councilmen, the occurrence and the filling of vacancies, the grounds for forfeiture of office, and appointment of a mayor pro tempore or deputy mayor or councilman pro tempore shall be governed by the corresponding provisions of RCW 35A.12.030, 35A.12.040, 35A.12.050, 35A.12.060, and 35A.12.065 relating to the council of a code city organized under the mayor-council plan, except that in council-manager cities where all council positions are at-large positions, the city council may, pursuant to RCW 35A.13.033, provide that the person elected to council position one shall be the council chairman and shall carry out the duties prescribed by

RCW 35A.13.030. [1994 c 223 § 36; 1975 1st ex.s. c 155 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.13.020.]

**35A.13.030 Mayor—Election—Chairman to be mayor—Duties.** Biennially at the first meeting of the new council the members thereof shall choose a chairman from among their number unless the chairman is elected pursuant to RCW 35A.13.033. The chairman of the council shall have the title of mayor and shall preside at meetings of the council. In addition to the powers conferred upon him as mayor, he shall continue to have all the rights, privileges, and immunities of a member of the council. The mayor shall be recognized as the head of the city for ceremonial purposes and by the governor for purposes of military law. He shall have no regular administrative duties, but in time of public danger or emergency, if so authorized by ordinance, shall take command of the police, maintain law, and enforce order. [1975 1st ex.s. c 155 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.13.030.]

**35A.13.033 Election on proposition to designate person elected to position one as chairman—Subsequent holders of position one to be chairman.** The city council of a council-manager city may by resolution place before the voters of the city, a proposition to designate the person elected to council position one as the chairman of the council with the powers and duties set forth in RCW 35A.13.030. If a majority of those voting on the proposition cast a positive vote, then at all subsequent general elections at which position one is on the ballot, the person who is elected to position one shall become the chairman upon taking office. [1975 1st ex.s. c 155 § 3.]

**35A.13.035 Mayor pro tempore or deputy mayor.** Biennially at the first meeting of a new council, or periodically, the members thereof, by majority vote, may designate one of their number as mayor pro tempore or deputy mayor for such period as the council may specify, to serve in the absence or temporary disability of the mayor; or, in lieu thereof, the council may, as the need may arise, appoint any qualified person to serve as mayor pro tempore in the absence or temporary disability of the mayor. In the event of the extended excused absence or disability of a councilman, the remaining members by majority vote may appoint a councilman pro tempore to serve during the absence or disability. [1969 ex.s. c 81 § 1.]

**Effective date—1969 ex.s. c 81:** "This 1969 amendatory act shall take effect July 1, 1969." [1969 ex.s. c 81 § 7.] This applies to RCW 35A.13.035 and the 1969 amendments to RCW 35A.33.010, 35A.33.075, 35A.33.125, 35A.63.030, and 35A.63.040.

**35A.13.040 Compensation of councilmen—Expenses.** The salaries of the councilmen, including the mayor, shall be fixed by ordinance and may be revised from time to time by ordinance, but any increase or reduction in the compensation attaching to an office shall not become effective until the expiration of the term then being served by the incumbent: PROVIDED, That compensation of councilmen may not be increased or diminished after their election nor may the compensation of the mayor be in-

creased or diminished after the mayor has been chosen by the council.

Until councilmen of a newly-organized council-manager code city may lawfully be paid as provided by salary ordinance, such councilmen shall be entitled to compensation in the same manner and in the same amount as councilmen of such city prior to the adoption of this council-manager plan.

Until a salary ordinance can be passed and become effective as to elective officers of a newly incorporated code city, the first councilmen shall be entitled to compensation as follows: In cities having less than five thousand inhabitants—twenty dollars per meeting for not more than two meetings per month; in cities having more than five thousand but less than fifteen thousand inhabitants—a salary of one hundred and fifty dollars per calendar month; in cities having more than fifteen thousand inhabitants—a salary of four hundred dollars per calendar month. A councilman who is occupying the position of mayor, in addition to his salary as a councilman, shall be entitled, while serving as mayor, to an additional amount per calendar month, or portion thereof, equal to twenty-five percent of the councilmanic salary: PROVIDED, That such interim compensation shall remain in effect only until a salary ordinance is passed and becomes effective as to such officers, and the compensation provided herein shall not be construed as fixing the usual compensation of such officers. Councilmen shall receive reimbursement for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of the duties of their office, or the council by ordinance may provide for a per diem allowance. Procedure for approval of claims for expenses shall be as provided by ordinance. [1979 ex.s. c 18 § 25; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.13.040.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18:** See note following RCW 35A.01.070.

**35A.13.050 City manager—Qualifications.** The city manager need not be a resident at the time of his appointment, but shall reside in the code city after his appointment unless such residence is waived by the council. He shall be chosen by the council solely on the basis of his executive and administrative qualifications with special reference to his actual experience in, or his knowledge of, accepted practice in respect to the duties of his office. No person elected to membership on the council shall be eligible for appointment as city manager until one year has elapsed following the expiration of the term for which he was elected. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.13.050.]

**35A.13.060 City manager may serve two or more cities.** Whether the city manager shall devote his full time to the affairs of one code city shall be determined by the council. A city manager may serve two or more cities in that capacity at the same time. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.13.060.]

**35A.13.070 City manager—Bond and oath.** Before entering upon the duties of his office the city manager shall take an oath or affirmation for the faithful performance of his duties and shall execute and file with the clerk of the council a bond in favor of the code city in such sum as may

be fixed by the council. The premium on such bond shall be paid by the city. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.13.070.]

**35A.13.080 City manager—Powers and duties.** The powers and duties of the city manager shall be:

(1) To have general supervision over the administrative affairs of the code city;

(2) To appoint and remove at any time all department heads, officers, and employees of the code city, except members of the council, and subject to the provisions of any applicable law, rule, or regulation relating to civil service: PROVIDED, That the council may provide for the appointment by the mayor, subject to confirmation by the council, of a city planning commission, and other advisory citizens' committees, commissions, and boards advisory to the city council: PROVIDED FURTHER, That if the municipal judge of the code city is appointed, such appointment shall be made by the city manager subject to confirmation by the council, for a four year term. The council may cause an audit to be made of any department or office of the code city government and may select the persons to make it, without the advice or consent of the city manager;

(3) To attend all meetings of the council at which his attendance may be required by that body;

(4) To see that all laws and ordinances are faithfully executed, subject to the authority which the council may grant the mayor to maintain law and order in times of emergency;

(5) To recommend for adoption by the council such measures as he may deem necessary or expedient;

(6) To prepare and submit to the council such reports as may be required by that body or as he may deem it advisable to submit;

(7) To keep the council fully advised of the financial condition of the code city and its future needs;

(8) To prepare and submit to the council a proposed budget for the fiscal year, as required by chapter 35A.33 RCW, and to be responsible for its administration upon adoption;

(9) To perform such other duties as the council may determine by ordinance or resolution. [1987 c 3 § 17; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.13.080.]

**Severability—1987 c 3:** See note following RCW 3.46.020.

**35A.13.090 Creation of departments, offices, and employment—Compensation.** On recommendation of the city manager or upon its own action, the council may create such departments, offices, and employments as it may find necessary or advisable and may determine the powers and duties of each department or office. Compensation of appointive officers and employees may be fixed by ordinance after recommendations are made by the city manager. The appointive officers shall include a city clerk and a chief of police or other law enforcement officer. Pursuant to recommendation of the city manager, the council shall make provision for obtaining legal counsel for the city, either by appointment of a city attorney on a full time or part time basis, or by any reasonable contractual arrangement for such professional services. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.13.090.]

**35A.13.100 City manager—Department heads—Authority.** The city manager may authorize the head of a department or office responsible to him to appoint and remove subordinates in such department or office. Any officer or employee who may be appointed by the city manager, or by the head of a department or office, except one who holds his position subject to civil service, may be removed by the manager or other such appointing officer at any time subject to any applicable law, rule, or regulation relating to civil service. Subject to the provisions of RCW 35A.13.080 and any applicable civil service provisions, the decision of the manager or other appointing officer, shall be final and there shall be no appeal therefrom to any other office, body, or court whatsoever. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.13.100.]

**35A.13.110 City manager—Appointment of subordinates—Qualifications—Terms.** Appointments made by or under the authority of the city manager shall be on the basis of ability and training or experience of the appointees in the duties which they are to perform, and shall be in compliance with provisions of any merit system applicable to such city. Residence within the code city shall not be a requirement. All such appointments shall be without definite term. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.13.110.]

**35A.13.120 City manager—Interference by council members.** Neither the council, nor any of its committees or members, shall direct the appointment of any person to, or his removal from, office by the city manager or any of his subordinates. Except for the purpose of inquiry, the council and its members shall deal with the administrative service solely through the manager and neither the council nor any committee or member thereof shall give orders to any subordinate of the city manager, either publicly or privately. The provisions of this section do not prohibit the council, while in open session, from fully and freely discussing with the city manager anything pertaining to appointments and removals of city officers and employees and city affairs. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.13.120.]

**35A.13.130 City manager—Removal—Resolution and notice.** The city manager shall be appointed for an indefinite term and may be removed by a majority vote of the council. At least thirty days before the effective date of his removal, the city manager must be furnished with a formal statement in the form of a resolution passed by a majority vote of the city council stating the council's intention to remove him and the reasons therefor. Upon passage of the resolution stating the council's intention to remove the manager, the council by a similar vote may suspend him from duty, but his pay shall continue until his removal becomes effective. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.13.130.]

**35A.13.140 City manager—Removal—Reply and hearing.** The city manager may, within thirty days from the date of service upon him of a copy thereof, reply in writing to the resolution stating the council's intention to remove him. In the event no reply is timely filed, the resolution shall upon the thirty-first day from the date of such service,



constitute the final resolution removing the manager and his services shall terminate upon that day. If a reply shall be timely filed with the city clerk, the council shall fix a time for a public hearing upon the question of the manager's removal and a final resolution removing the manager shall not be adopted until a public hearing has been had. The action of the council in removing the manager shall be final. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.13.140.]

**35A.13.150 City manager—Substitute.** The council may designate a qualified administrative officer of the city or town to perform the duties of manager:

- (1) Upon the adoption of the council-manager plan, pending the selection and appointment of a manager; or
- (2) Upon the termination of the services of a manager, pending the selection and appointment of a new manager; or
- (3) During the absence, disability, or suspension of the manager. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.13.150.]

**35A.13.160 Oath and bond of officers.** All provisions of RCW 35A.12.080 relating to oaths and bonds of officers, shall be applicable to code cities organized under this council-manager plan. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.13.160.]

**35A.13.170 Council meetings—Quorum—Rules—Voting.** All provisions of RCW 35A.12.110, as now or hereafter amended, and 35A.12.120, relating to council meetings, a quorum for transaction of business, rules and voting at council meetings, shall be applicable to code cities organized under this council-manager plan. [1979 ex.s. c 18 § 26; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.13.170.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18:** See note following RCW 35A.01.070.

**35A.13.180 Adoption of codes by reference.** Ordinances of cities organized under this chapter may adopt codes by reference as provided in RCW 35A.12.140. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.13.180.]

**35A.13.190 Ordinances—Style—Requisites—Veto.** The enacting clause of all ordinances shall be as follows: "The city council of the city of . . . do ordain as follows:" No ordinance shall contain more than one subject and that must be clearly expressed in its title.

No ordinance or any section or subsection thereof shall be revised or amended unless the new ordinance sets forth the revised ordinance or the amended section or subsection at full length.

No ordinance shall take effect until five days after the date of its publication unless otherwise provided by statute or charter, except that an ordinance passed by a majority plus one of the whole membership of the council, designated therein as a public emergency ordinance necessary for the protection of public health, public safety, public property or the public peace, may be made effective upon adoption, but such ordinance may not levy taxes, grant, renew, or extend a franchise, or authorize the borrowing of money. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.13.190.]

**35A.13.200 Authentication, recording and publication of ordinances.** Ordinances of code cities organized

under this chapter shall be authenticated, recorded and published as provided in RCW 35A.12.150 and 35A.12.160. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.13.200.]

**35A.13.210 Audit and allowance of demands against city.** RCW 35A.12.170 shall apply to the audit and allowance of demands against the city. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.13.210.]

**35A.13.220 Optional division of city into wards.** A code city organized under this chapter may be divided into wards as provided in RCW 35A.12.180. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.13.220.]

**35A.13.230 Powers of council.** The council of any code city organized under the council-manager plan provided in this chapter shall have the powers and authority granted to legislative bodies of cities governed by this title as more particularly described in chapter 35A.11 RCW, except insofar as such power and authority is vested in the city manager. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.13.230.]

**Chapter 35A.14**

**ANNEXATION BY CODE CITIES**

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**35A.14.001 Actions subject to review by boundary review board.** Actions taken under chapter 35A.14 RCW may be subject to potential review by a boundary review board under chapter 36.93 RCW. [1989 c 84 § 38.]

**35A.14.005 Annexations beyond urban growth areas prohibited.** No code city located in a county in which urban growth areas have been designated under RCW 36.70A.110 may annex territory beyond an urban growth area. [1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 31.]

**Severability—Part, section headings not law—1990 1st ex.s. c 17:** See RCW 36.70A.900 and 36.70A.901.

**35A.14.010 Authority for annexation—Consent of county commissioners for certain property.** Any portion of a county not incorporated as part of a city or town but lying contiguous to a code city may become a part of the charter code city or noncharter code city by annexation: PROVIDED, That property owned by a county, and used for the purpose of an agricultural fair as provided in chapter 15.76 RCW or chapter 36.37 RCW shall not be subject to annexation without the consent of the majority of the board of county commissioners. An area proposed to be annexed to a charter code city or noncharter code city shall be deemed contiguous thereto even though separated by water or tide or shore lands and, upon annexation of such area, any such intervening water and/or tide or shore lands shall

become a part of such annexing city. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.010.]

**35A.14.015 Election method—Resolution for election—Contents of resolution.** When the legislative body of a charter code city or noncharter code city shall determine that the best interests and general welfare of such city would be served by the annexation of unincorporated territory contiguous to such city, such legislative body may, by resolution, call for an election to be held to submit to the voters of such territory the proposal for annexation. The resolution shall, subject to RCW 35.02.170, describe the boundaries of the area to be annexed, state the number of voters residing therein as nearly as may be, and shall provide that said city will pay the cost of the annexation election. The resolution may require that there also be submitted to the electorate of the territory sought to be annexed a proposition that all property within the area annexed shall, upon annexation, be assessed and taxed at the same rate and on the same basis as the property of such annexing city is assessed and taxed to pay for all or any portion of the then-outstanding indebtedness of the city to which said area is annexed, which indebtedness has been approved by the voters, contracted for, or incurred prior to, or existing at, the date of annexation. Whenever such city has prepared and filed a proposed zoning regulation for the area to be annexed as provided for in RCW 35A.14.330 and 35A.14.340, the resolution initiating the election may also provide for the simultaneous adoption of the proposed zoning regulation upon approval of annexation by the electorate of the area to be annexed. A certified copy of the resolution shall be filed with the legislative authority of the county in which said territory is located. A certified copy of the resolution shall be filed with the boundary review board as provided for in chapter 36.93 RCW or the county annexation review board established by RCW 35A.14.200, unless such annexation proposal is within the provisions of RCW 35A.14.220. [1986 c 234 § 29; 1979 ex.s. c 124 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 220 § 14; 1971 ex.s. c 251 § 10; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.015.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 124:** "If any provision of this 1979 act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1979 ex.s. c 124 § 11.]

**Legislative finding, intent—1975 1st ex.s. c 220:** See note following RCW 35.02.170.

**Severability—1971 ex.s. c 251:** See RCW 35A.90.050.

**35A.14.020 Election method—Contents of petition—Certification by auditor—Approval or rejection by legislative body—Costs.** When a petition is sufficient under the rules set forth in RCW 35A.01.040, calling for an election to vote upon the annexation of unincorporated territory contiguous to a code city, describing the boundaries of the area proposed to be annexed, stating the number of voters therein as nearly as may be, and signed by qualified electors resident in such territory equal in number to ten percent of the votes cast at the last state general election therein, it shall be filed with the auditor of the county in which all, or the greatest portion, of the territory is located, and a copy of the petition shall be filed with the legislative body of the code city. If the territory is located in more than a single county, the auditor of the county with whom

the petition is filed shall act as the lead auditor and transmit a copy of the petition to the auditor of each other county within which a portion of the territory is located. The auditor or auditors shall examine the petition, and the auditor or lead auditor shall certify the sufficiency of the petition to the legislative authority of the code city.

If the signatures on the petition are certified as containing sufficient valid signatures, the city legislative authority shall, by resolution entered within sixty days thereafter, notify the petitioners, either by mail or by publication in the same manner notice of hearing is required by RCW 35A.14.040 to be published, of its approval or rejection of the proposed action. In approving the proposed action, the legislative body may require that there also be submitted to the electorate of the territory to be annexed, a proposition that all property within the area to be annexed shall, upon annexation, be assessed and taxed at the same rate and on the same basis as the property of such annexing city is assessed and taxed to pay for all or any portion of the then-outstanding indebtedness of the city to which said area is annexed, which indebtedness has been approved by the voters, contracted for, or incurred prior to, or existing at, the date of annexation. Only after the legislative body has completed preparation and filing of a proposed zoning regulation for the area to be annexed as provided for in RCW 35A.14.330 and 35A.14.340, the legislative body in approving the proposed action, may require that the proposed zoning regulation be simultaneously adopted upon the approval of annexation by the electorate of the area to be annexed. The approval of the legislative body shall be a condition precedent to further proceedings upon the petition. The costs of conducting the election called for in the petition shall be a charge against the city concerned. The proposition or questions provided for in this section may be submitted to the voter either separately or as a single proposition. [1989 c 351 § 4; 1981 c 332 § 6; 1979 ex.s. c 124 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.020.]

**Severability—1981 c 332:** See note following RCW 35.13.165.

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 124:** See note following RCW 35A.14.015.

**35A.14.025 Election method—Creation of community municipal corporation.** The resolution initiating the annexation of territory under RCW 35A.14.015, and the petition initiating the annexation of territory under RCW 35A.14.020, may provide for the simultaneous creation of a community municipal corporation and election of community council members as provided for in chapter 35.14 RCW, as separate ballot measures or as part of the same ballot measure authorizing the annexation, or for the simultaneous inclusion of the annexed area into a named existing community municipal corporation operating under chapter 35.14 RCW, as separate ballot measures or as part of the same ballot measure authorizing the annexation. If the petition so provides for the creation of a community municipal corporation and election of community council members, the petition shall describe the boundaries of the proposed service area, state the number of voters residing therein as nearly as may be, and pray for the election of community council members by the voters residing in the service area.

The ballots shall contain the words "For annexation and creation of community municipal corporation" and "Against annexation and creation of community municipal corporation," or "For creation of community municipal corporation" and "Against creation of community municipal corporation," as the case may be. Approval of either optional ballot proposition shall be by simple majority vote of the voters voting on the proposition, but the annexation must be authorized before a community municipal corporation is created. [1993 c 75 § 3.]

**35A.14.030 Filing of petition as approved by city.** Upon approval of the petition for election by the legislative body of the code city to which such territory is proposed to be annexed, the petition shall be filed with the legislative authority of the county in which such territory is located, along with a statement, in the form required by the city, of the provisions, if any there be, relating to assumption of the portion of the debt that the city requires to be assumed by the owners of property of the area proposed to be annexed, and/or the simultaneous adoption of a proposed zoning regulation for the area. A copy of the petition and the statement, if any, shall also be filed with the boundary review board as provided for in chapter 36.93 RCW or the county annexation review board established by RCW 35A.14.160, unless such proposed annexation is within the provisions of RCW 35A.14.220. [1979 ex.s. c 124 § 3; 1971 ex.s. c 251 § 6; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.030.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 124:** See note following RCW 35A.14.015.

**Severability—1971 ex.s. c 251:** See RCW 35A.90.050.

**35A.14.040 Election method—Hearing by review board—Notice.** Within ten days after receipt of a petition or resolution calling for an election on the question of annexation, the county annexation review board shall meet and, if the proposed annexation complies with the requirements of law, shall fix a date for a hearing thereon, to be held not less than fifteen days nor more than thirty days thereafter, of which hearing the city must give notice by publication at least once a week for two weeks prior thereto in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the city and in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the area proposed to be annexed. The hearing shall be held within the city to which the territory is proposed to be annexed, at a time and place to be designated by the board. Upon the day fixed, the board shall conduct a hearing upon the petition or resolution, at which hearing a representative of the city shall make a brief presentation to the board in explanation of the annexation and the benefits to be derived therefrom, and the petitioners and any resident of the city or the area proposed to be annexed shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard. The hearing may be adjourned from time to time in the board's discretion, not to exceed thirty days in all from the commencement of the hearing. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.040.]

**35A.14.050 Decision of the county annexation review board—Filing—Date for election.** After consideration of the proposed annexation as provided in RCW 35A.14.200, the county annexation review board, within

thirty days after the final day of hearing, shall take one of the following actions:

(1) Approval of the proposal as submitted.

(2) Subject to RCW 35.02.170, modification of the proposal by adjusting boundaries to include or exclude territory; except that any such inclusion of territory shall not increase the total area of territory proposed for annexation by an amount exceeding the original proposal by more than five percent: PROVIDED, That the county annexation review board shall not adjust boundaries to include territory not included in the original proposal without first affording to residents and property owners of the area affected by such adjustment of boundaries an opportunity to be heard as to the proposal.

(3) Disapproval of the proposal.

The written decision of the county annexation review board shall be filed with the board of county commissioners and with the legislative body of the city concerned. If the annexation proposal is modified by the county annexation review board, such modification shall be fully set forth in the written decision. If the decision of the boundary review board or the county annexation review board is favorable to the annexation proposal, or the proposal as modified by the review board, the legislative body of the city at its next regular meeting if to be held within thirty days after receipt of the decision of the boundary review board or the county annexation review board, or at a special meeting to be held within that period, shall indicate to the county auditor its preference for a special election date for submission of such annexation proposal, with any modifications made by the review board, to the voters of the territory proposed to be annexed. The special election date that is so indicated shall be one of the dates for special elections provided under RCW 29.13.020 that is sixty or more days after the date the preference is indicated. The county legislative authority shall call the special election at the special election date so indicated by the city. If the boundary review board or the county annexation review board disapproves the annexation proposal, no further action shall be taken thereon, and no proposal for annexation of the same territory, or substantially the same as determined by the board, shall be initiated or considered for twelve months thereafter. [1989 c 351 § 5; 1986 c 234 § 30; 1975 1st ex.s. c 220 § 15; 1971 ex.s. c 251 § 7; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.050.]

**Legislative finding, intent—1975 1st ex.s. c 220:** See note following RCW 35.02.170.

**Severability—1971 ex.s. c 251:** See RCW 35A.90.050.

**35A.14.070 Election method—Notice of election.**

Notice of an annexation election shall particularly describe the boundaries of the area proposed to be annexed, as the same may have been modified by the boundary review board or the county annexation review board, state the objects of the election as prayed in the petition or as stated in the resolution, and require the voters to cast ballots which shall contain the words "For Annexation" or "Against Annexation" or words equivalent thereto, or contain the words "For Annexation and Adoption of Proposed Zoning Regulation", and "Against Annexation and Adoption of Proposed Zoning Regulation", or words equivalent thereto in case the simultaneous adoption of a proposed zoning regulation is proposed,

and in case the assumption of all or a portion of indebtedness is proposed, shall contain an appropriate, separate proposition for or against the portion of indebtedness that the city requires to be assumed. The notice shall be posted for at least two weeks prior to the date of election in four public places within the area proposed to be annexed and published at least once a week for two weeks prior to the date of election in a newspaper of general circulation within the limits of the territory proposed to be annexed. Such notice shall be in addition to the notice required by general election law. [1994 c 223 § 38; 1979 ex.s. c 124 § 4; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.070.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 124:** See note following RCW 35A.14.015.

**35A.14.080 Election method—Vote required for annexation—Proposition for assumption of indebtedness—Certification.** On the Monday next succeeding the annexation election, the county canvassing board shall proceed to canvass the returns thereof and shall submit the statement of canvass to the county legislative authority.

The proposition for or against annexation or for or against annexation and adoption of the proposed zoning regulation, as the case may be, shall be deemed approved if a majority of the votes cast on that proposition are cast in favor of annexation or in favor of annexation and adoption of the proposed zoning regulation, as the case may be. If a proposition for or against assumption of all or any portion of indebtedness was submitted to the electorate, it shall be deemed approved if a majority of at least three-fifths of the electors of the territory proposed to be annexed voting on such proposition vote in favor thereof, and the number of persons voting on such proposition constitutes not less than forty percent of the total number of votes cast in such territory at the last preceding general election. If either or both propositions were approved by the electors, the county legislative authority shall enter a finding to that effect on its minutes, a certified copy of which shall be forthwith transmitted to and filed with the clerk of the city to which annexation is proposed, together with a certified abstract of the vote showing the whole number who voted at the election, the number of votes cast for annexation and the number cast against annexation or for annexation and adoption of the proposed zoning regulation and the number cast against annexation and adoption of the proposed zoning regulation, as the case may be, and if a proposition for assumption of all or any portion of indebtedness was submitted to the electorate, the abstract shall include the number of votes cast for assumption of indebtedness and the number of votes cast against assumption of indebtedness, together with a statement of the total number of votes cast in such territory at the last preceding general election. [1979 ex.s. c 124 § 5; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.080.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 124:** See note following RCW 35A.14.015.

**35A.14.085 Election method—Vote required for annexation with assumption of indebtedness—Without assumption of indebtedness.** A code city may cause a proposition authorizing an area to be annexed to the city to be submitted to the qualified voters of the area proposed to

be annexed in the same ballot proposition as the question to authorize an assumption of indebtedness. If the measures are combined, the annexation and the assumption of indebtedness shall be authorized only if the proposition is approved by at least three-fifths of the voters of the area proposed to be annexed voting on the proposition, and the number of persons voting on the proposition constitutes not less than forty percent of the total number of votes cast in the area at the last preceding general election.

However, the code city council may adopt a resolution accepting the annexation, without the assumption of indebtedness; where the combined ballot proposition is approved by a simple majority vote of the voters voting on the proposition. [1989 c 84 § 23.]

**35A.14.090 Election method—Ordinance providing for annexation, assumption of indebtedness.** Upon filing of the certified copy of the finding of the county legislative authority, the clerk shall transmit it to the legislative body of the city at the next regular meeting or as soon thereafter as practicable. If only a proposition relating to annexation or to annexation and adoption of a proposed zoning regulation was submitted to the voters and such proposition was approved, the legislative body shall adopt an ordinance providing for the annexation or adopt ordinances providing for the annexation and adoption of a proposed zoning regulation, as the case may be. If a proposition for annexation or for annexation and adoption of a proposed zoning regulation, and a proposition for assumption of all or any portion of indebtedness were both submitted, and both were approved, the legislative body shall adopt an ordinance providing for the annexation or for annexation and adoption of the proposed zoning regulation, including the assumption of the portion of indebtedness that was approved by the voters. If both propositions were submitted and only the annexation or the annexation and adoption of the proposed zoning regulation was approved, the legislative body may adopt an ordinance providing for the annexation or adopt ordinances providing for the annexation and adoption of the proposed zoning regulation, as the case may be, or the legislative body may refuse to annex when a proposal for assumption of the portion of indebtedness has been disapproved by the voters. [1979 ex.s. c 124 § 6; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.090.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 124:** See note following RCW 35A.14.015.

**35A.14.100 Election method—Effective date of annexation.** Upon the date fixed in the ordinance of annexation, the area annexed shall become a part of the city. Upon the date fixed in the ordinances of annexation and adoption of the proposed zoning regulation, the area annexed shall become a part of the city, and property in the annexed area shall be subject to the proposed zoning regulation, as prepared and filed as provided for in RCW 35A.14.330 and 35A.14.340. All property within the territory hereafter annexed shall, if the proposition approved by the people so provides, be assessed and taxed at the same rate and on the same basis as the property of such annexing city is assessed and taxed to pay for the portion of indebtedness of the city

that was approved by the voters. [1979 ex.s. c 124 § 7; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.100.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 124:** See note following RCW 35A.14.015.

**35A.14.110 Election method is alternative.** The method of annexation provided for in RCW 35A.14.015 through 35A.14.100 is an alternative method and is additional to the other methods provided for in this chapter. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.110.]

**35A.14.120 Direct petition method—Notice to legislative body—Meeting—Assumption of indebtedness—Proposed zoning regulation—Contents of petition.** Proceedings for initiating annexation of unincorporated territory to a charter code city or noncharter code city may be commenced by the filing of a petition of property owners of the territory proposed to be annexed, in the following manner. This method of annexation shall be alternative to other methods provided in this chapter. Prior to the circulation of a petition for annexation, the initiating party or parties, who shall be the owners of not less than ten percent in value, according to the assessed valuation for general taxation of the property for which annexation is sought, shall notify the legislative body of the code city in writing of their intention to commence annexation proceedings. The legislative body shall set a date, not later than sixty days after the filing of the request, for a meeting with the initiating parties to determine whether the code city will accept, reject, or geographically modify the proposed annexation, whether it shall require the simultaneous adoption of a proposed zoning regulation, if such a proposal has been prepared and filed for the area to be annexed as provided for in RCW 35A.14.330 and 35A.14.340, and whether it shall require the assumption of all or of any portion of existing city indebtedness by the area to be annexed. If the legislative body requires the assumption of all or of any portion of indebtedness and/or the adoption of a proposed zoning regulation, it shall record this action in its minutes and the petition for annexation shall be so drawn as to clearly indicate these facts. Approval by the legislative body shall be a condition precedent to circulation of the petition. There shall be no appeal from the decision of the legislative body. A petition for annexation of an area contiguous to a code city may be filed with the legislative body of the municipality to which annexation is desired. It must be signed by the owners, as defined by RCW 35A.01.040(9) (a) through (d), of not less than sixty percent in value, according to the assessed valuation for general taxation of the property for which annexation is petitioned: PROVIDED, That a petition for annexation of an area having at least eighty percent of the boundaries of such area contiguous with a portion of the boundaries of the code city, not including that portion of the boundary of the area proposed to be annexed that is coterminous with a portion of the boundary between two counties in this state, need be signed by only the owners of not less than fifty percent in value according to the assessed valuation for general taxation of the property for which the annexation is petitioned. Such petition shall set forth a description of the property according to government legal subdivisions or legal plats and shall be accompanied by a map which outlines the

boundaries of the property sought to be annexed. If the legislative body has required the assumption of all or any portion of city indebtedness by the area annexed or the adoption of a proposed zoning regulation, these facts, together with a quotation of the minute entry of such requirement, or requirements, shall also be set forth in the petition. [1989 c 351 § 6; 1979 ex.s. c 124 § 8; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.120.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 124:** See note following RCW 35A.14.015.

*Sufficiency of petition in code city:* RCW 35A.01.040.

**35A.14.130 Direct petition method—Notice of hearing.** Whenever such a petition for annexation is filed with the legislative body of a code city, which petition meets the requirements herein specified and is sufficient according to the rules set forth in RCW 35A.01.040, the legislative body may entertain the same, fix a date for a public hearing thereon and cause notice of the hearing to be published in one or more issues of a newspaper of general circulation in the city. The notice shall also be posted in three public places within the territory proposed for annexation, and shall specify the time and place of hearing and invite interested persons to appear and voice approval or disapproval of the annexation. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.130.]

**35A.14.140 Direct petition method—Ordinance providing for annexation.** Following the hearing, if the legislative body determines to effect the annexation, they shall do so by ordinance. Subject to RCW 35.02.170, the ordinance may annex all or any portion of the proposed area but may not include in the annexation any property not described in the petition. Upon passage of the annexation ordinance a certified copy shall be filed with the board of county commissioners of the county in which the annexed property is located. [1986 c 234 § 31; 1975 1st ex.s. c 220 § 16; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.140.]

**Legislative finding, intent—1975 1st ex.s. c 220:** See note following RCW 35.02.170.

**35A.14.150 Direct petition method—Effective date of annexation.** Upon the date fixed in the ordinance of annexation the area annexed shall become part of the city. All property within the territory hereafter annexed shall, if the annexation petition so provided, be assessed and taxed at the same rate and on the same basis as the property of such annexing code city is assessed and taxed to pay for the portion of any then-outstanding indebtedness of the city to which said area is annexed, which indebtedness has been approved by the voters, contracted for, or incurred prior to, or existing at, the date of annexation and that the city has required to be assumed. If the annexation petition so provided, all property in the annexed area shall be subject to and a part of the proposed zoning regulation as prepared and filed as provided for in RCW 35A.14.330 and 35A.14.340. [1979 ex.s. c 124 § 9; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.150.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 124:** See note following RCW 35A.14.015.

**35A.14.160 Annexation review board—Composition.** There is hereby established in each county of the state, other

than counties having a boundary review board as provided for in chapter 189, Laws of 1967 [chapter 36.93 RCW], a board to be known as the "annexation review board for the county of . . . . (naming the county)", which shall be charged with the duty of reviewing proposals for annexation of unincorporated territory to charter code cities and noncharter code cities within its respective county; except that proposals within the provisions of RCW 35A.14.220 shall not be subject to the jurisdiction of such board.

In all counties in which a boundary review board is established pursuant to chapter 189, Laws of 1967 [chapter 36.93 RCW] review of proposals for annexation of unincorporated territory to charter code cities and noncharter code cities within such counties shall be subject to chapter 189, Laws of 1967 [chapter 36.93 RCW]. Whenever any county establishes a boundary review board pursuant to chapter 189, Laws of 1967 [chapter 36.93 RCW] the provisions of this act relating to annexation review boards shall not be applicable.

Except as provided above in this section, whenever one or more cities of a county shall have elected to be governed by this title by becoming a charter code city or noncharter code city, the governor shall, within forty-five days thereafter, appoint an annexation review board for such county consisting of five members appointed in the following manner:

Two members shall be selected independently by the governor. Three members shall be selected by the governor from the following sources: (1) One member shall be appointed from nominees of the individual members of the board of county commissioners; (2) one member shall be appointed from nominees of the individual mayors of charter code cities within such county; (3) one member shall be appointed from nominees of the individual mayors of noncharter code cities within such county.

Each source shall nominate at least two persons for an available position. In the event there are less than two nominees for any position, the governor may appoint the member for that position independently. If, at the time of appointment, there are within the county no cities of one of the classes named above as a nominating source, a position which would otherwise have been filled by nomination from such source shall be filled by independent appointment of the governor.

In making appointments independently and in making appointments from among nominees, the governor shall strive to appoint persons familiar with municipal government and administration by experience and/or training. [1971 ex.s. c 251 § 8; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.160.]

**Severability—1971 ex.s. c 251:** See RCW 35A.90.050.

**35A.14.170 Time for filing nominations—Vacancies.** Upon the initial formation of a county annexation review board the governor shall give written notice of such formation to all the nominating sources designated therein and nominations must be filed with the office of the governor within fifteen days after receipt of such notice. Nominations to fill vacancies caused by expiration of terms must be filed at least thirty days preceding the expiration of the terms. When vacancies occur in the membership of the board, the governor shall solicit nominations from the appropriate

source and if none are filed within fifteen days thereafter, the governor shall fill the vacancy by an independent appointment. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.170.]

**35A.14.180 Terms of members.** The members of the annexation review board shall be appointed for five year terms. Upon the initial formation of a board, one member appointed by the governor independently shall be appointed for a four year term, the member appointed from among nominees of the board of county commissioners shall be appointed for a three year term, the member appointed from among nominees of the mayors of noncharter code cities shall be appointed for a three year term, and the remaining members shall be appointed for five year terms. Thereafter board members shall be appointed for five year terms as the terms of their predecessors expire. Members shall be eligible for reappointment to the board for successive terms. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.180.]

**35A.14.190 Organization of annexation review board—Rules—Journal—Authority.** The members of each annexation review board shall elect from among the members a chairman and a vice chairman, and may employ a nonmember as chief clerk, who shall be the secretary of the board. The board shall determine its own rules and order of business, shall provide by resolution for the time and manner of holding regular or special meetings, and shall keep a journal of its proceedings which shall be a public record. A majority of all the members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

The chief clerk of the board, the chairman, or the vice chairman shall have the power to administer oaths and affirmations, certify to all official acts, issue subpoenas to any public officer or employee ordering him to testify before the board and produce public records, papers, books or documents. The chief clerk, the chairman or the vice chairman may invoke the aid of any court of competent jurisdiction to carry out such powers.

The planning departments of the county, other counties, and any city, and any state or regional planning agency shall furnish such information to the board at its request as may be reasonably necessary for the performance of its duties.

At the request of the board, the state attorney general shall provide counsel for the board. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.190.]

**35A.14.200 Determination by county annexation review board—Factors considered—Filing of findings and decision.** The jurisdiction of the county annexation review board shall be invoked upon the filing with the board of a resolution for an annexation election as provided in RCW 35A.14.015, or of a petition for an annexation election as provided in RCW 35A.14.030, and the board shall proceed to hold a hearing, upon notice, all as provided in RCW 35A.14.040. A verbatim record shall be made of all testimony presented at the hearing and upon request and payment of the reasonable costs thereof, a copy of the transcript of such testimony shall be provided to any person or governmental unit. The board shall make and file its decision, all as provided in RCW 35A.14.050, insofar as said section is applicable to the matter before the board. Dis-

senting members of the board shall have the right to have their written dissents included as part of the decision. In reaching a decision on an annexation proposal, the county annexation review board shall consider the factors affecting such proposal, which shall include but not be limited to the following:

(1) The immediate and prospective population of the area proposed to be annexed, the configuration of the area, land use and land uses, comprehensive use plans and zoning, per capita assessed valuation, topography, natural boundaries and drainage basins, the likelihood of significant growth in the area and in adjacent incorporated and unincorporated areas during the next ten years, location and coordination of community facilities and services; and

(2) The need for municipal services and the available municipal services, effect of ordinances and governmental codes, regulations and resolutions on existing uses, present cost and adequacy of governmental services and controls, the probable future needs for such services and controls, the probable effect of the annexation proposal or alternatives on cost and adequacy of services and controls in area and adjacent area, the effect on the finances, debt structure, and contractual obligations and rights of all affected governmental units; and

(3) The effect of the annexation proposal or alternatives on adjacent areas, on mutual economic and social interests, and on the local governmental structure of the county.

The county annexation review board shall determine whether the proposed annexation would be in the public interest and for the public welfare. The decision of the board shall be accompanied by the findings of the board. Such findings need not include specific data on all the factors listed in this section, but shall indicate that all such factors were considered. [1971 ex.s. c 251 § 11; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.200.]

**Severability—1971 ex.s. c 251:** See RCW 35A.90.050.

**35A.14.210 Court review of decisions of the county annexation review board.** Decisions of the county annexation review board shall be final unless within ten days from the date of said action a governmental unit affected by the decision or any person owning real property in or residing in the area proposed to be annexed files in the superior court a notice of appeal. The filing of such notice of appeal within such time limit shall stay the effective date of the decision of the board until such time as the appeal shall have been adjudicated or withdrawn. On appeal the superior court shall not take any evidence other than that contained in the record of the hearing before the board. The superior court may affirm the decision of the county annexation review board or remand the case for further proceedings; or the court may reverse the decision and remand if it finds that substantial rights have been prejudiced because the findings, conclusions, or decision of the board are:

- (1) In violation of constitutional provisions; or
- (2) In excess of the statutory authority or jurisdiction of the board; or
- (3) Made upon unlawful procedure; or
- (4) Affected by other error of law; or
- (5) Unsupported by material and substantial evidence in view of the entire record as submitted; or



(6) Arbitrary or capricious. [1971 ex.s. c 251 § 12; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.210.]

Severability—1971 ex.s. c 251: See RCW 35A.90.050.

**35A.14.220 When review procedure may be dispensed with.** Annexations under the provisions of RCW 35A.14.295, 35A.14.297, 35A.14.300, and 35A.14.310 shall not be subject to review by the annexation review board: PROVIDED, That in any county in which a boundary review board is established under chapter 36.93 RCW all annexations shall be subject to review except as provided for in RCW 36.93.110. When the area proposed for annexation in a petition or resolution, initiated and filed under any of the methods of initiating annexation authorized by this chapter, is less than fifty acres or less than two million dollars in assessed valuation, review procedures shall not be required as to such annexation proposal, except as provided in chapter 36.93 RCW in those counties with a review board established pursuant to chapter 36.93 RCW: PROVIDED, That when an annexation proposal is initiated by the direct petition method authorized by RCW 35A.14.120, review procedures shall not be required without regard to acreage or assessed valuation, except as provided in chapter 36.93 RCW in those counties with a boundary review board established pursuant to chapter 36.93 RCW. [1979 ex.s. c 18 § 27; 1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 26; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.220.]

Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18: See note following RCW 35A.01.070.

Severability—Effective dates and termination dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195: See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

**35A.14.231 Territory subject to annexation proposal—When annexation by another city or incorporation allowed.** After a petition proposing an annexation by a code city has been filed with the city or the city legislative authority, or after a resolution proposing the annexation by a code city has been adopted by the city legislative authority, no territory included in the proposed annexation may be annexed by another city or town or incorporated into a city or town unless: (1) The boundary review board or county annexation review board created under RCW 35A.14.160 modifies the boundaries of the proposed annexation and removes the territory; (2) the boundary review board or county annexation review board created under RCW 35A.14.160 rejects the proposed annexation; or (3) the city legislative authority rejects the proposed annexation or voters defeat the ballot proposition authorizing the annexation. [1994 c 216 § 8.]

Effective date—1994 c 216: See note following RCW 35.02.015.

**35A.14.295 Annexation of unincorporated island of territory within code city—Resolution—Notice of hearing.** When there is, within a code city, unincorporated territory containing less than one hundred acres and having at least eighty percent of the boundaries of such area contiguous to the code city, the legislative body may resolve to annex such territory to the code city. The resolution shall describe the boundaries of the area to be annexed, state the number of voters residing therein as nearly as may be, and set a date for a public hearing on such resolution for annexation. Notice of the hearing shall be given by publication of the resolution at least once a week for two weeks prior to the

date of the hearing, in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the code city and one or more newspapers of general circulation within the area to be annexed. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.295.]

**35A.14.297 Ordinance providing for annexation of unincorporated island of territory—Referendum.** On the date set for hearing as provided in RCW 35A.14.295, residents or property owners of the area included in the resolution for annexation shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard. The legislative body may provide by ordinance for annexation of the territory described in the resolution, but the effective date of the ordinance shall be not less than forty-five days after the passage thereof. The legislative body shall cause notice of the proposed effective date of the annexation, together with a description of the property to be annexed, to be published at least once each week for two weeks subsequent to passage of the ordinance, in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the city and in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the area to be annexed. If the annexation ordinance provides for assumption of indebtedness or adoption of a proposed zoning regulation, the notice shall include a statement of such requirements. Such annexation ordinance shall be subject to referendum for forty-five days after the passage thereof. Upon the filing of a timely and sufficient referendum petition as provided in RCW 35A.14.299 below, a referendum election shall be held as provided in RCW 35A.14.299, and the annexation shall be deemed approved by the voters unless a majority of the votes cast on the proposition are in opposition thereto. After the expiration of the forty-fifth day from, but excluding the date of passage of the annexation ordinance, if no timely and sufficient referendum petition has been filed, as provided by RCW 35A.14.299 below, the area annexed shall become a part of the code city upon the date fixed in the ordinance of annexation. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.297.]

**35A.14.299 Annexation of unincorporated island of territory within code city—Referendum—Effective date if no referendum.** Such annexation ordinance as provided for in RCW 35A.14.297 shall be subject to referendum for forty-five days after the passage thereof. Upon the filing of a timely and sufficient referendum petition with the legislative body, signed by qualified electors in number equal to not less than ten percent of the votes cast in the last general state election in the area to be annexed, the question of annexation shall be submitted to the voters of such area in a general election if one is to be held within ninety days or at a special election called for that purpose not less than forty-five days nor more than ninety days after the filing of the referendum petition. Notice of such election shall be given as provided in RCW 35A.14.070 and the election shall be conducted as provided in \*RCW 35A.14.060. The annexation shall be deemed approved by the voters unless a majority of the votes cast on the proposition are in opposition thereto.

After the expiration of the forty-fifth day from but excluding the date of passage of the annexation ordinance, if no timely and sufficient referendum petition has been filed, the area annexed shall become a part of the code city

upon the date fixed in the ordinance of annexation. From and after such date, if the ordinance so provided, property in the annexed area shall be subject to the proposed zoning regulation prepared and filed for such area as provided in RCW 35A.14.330 and 35A.14.340. If the ordinance so provided, all property within the area annexed shall be assessed and taxed at the same rate and on the same basis as the property of such annexing code city is assessed and taxed to pay for any then outstanding indebtedness of such city contracted prior to, or existing at, the date of annexation. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.299.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 35A.14.060 was repealed by 1994 c 223 § 92.

#### **35A.14.300 Annexation for municipal purposes.**

Legislative bodies of code cities may by a majority vote annex territory outside the limits of such city whether contiguous or noncontiguous for any municipal purpose when such territory is owned by the city. [1981 c 332 § 7; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.300.]

**Severability—1981 c 332:** See note following RCW 35.13.165.

**35A.14.310 Annexation of federal areas.** A code city may annex an unincorporated area contiguous to the city that is owned by the federal government by adopting an ordinance providing for the annexation and which ordinance either acknowledges an agreement of the annexation by the government of the United States, or accepts a gift, grant, or lease from the government of the United States of the right to occupy, control, improve it or sublet it for commercial, manufacturing, or industrial purposes: PROVIDED, That this right of annexation shall not apply to any territory more than four miles from the corporate limits existing before such annexation. Whenever a code city proposes to annex territory under this section, the city shall provide written notice of the proposed annexation to the legislative authority of the county within which such territory is located. The notice shall be provided at least thirty days before the city proposes to adopt the annexation ordinance. The city shall not adopt the annexation ordinance, and the annexation shall not occur under this section, if within twenty-five days of receipt of the notice, the county legislative authority adopts a resolution opposing the annexation, which resolution makes a finding that the proposed annexation will have an adverse fiscal impact on the county or road district. [1985 c 105 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.310.]

**35A.14.320 Annexation of federal areas—Provisions of ordinance—Authority over annexed territory.** In the ordinance annexing territory pursuant to a gift, grant, or lease from the government of the United States, a code city may include such tide and shorelands as may be necessary or convenient for the use thereof, and may include in the ordinance an acceptance of the terms and conditions attached to the gift, grant, or lease. A code city may cause territory annexed pursuant to a gift, grant, or lease of the government of the United States to be surveyed, subdivided and platted into lots, blocks, or tracts and lay out, reserve for public use, and improve streets, roads, alleys, slips, and other public places. It may grant or sublet any lot, block, or tract therein for commercial, manufacturing, or industrial purposes and reserve, receive and collect rents therefrom. It may expend

the rents received therefrom in making and maintaining public improvements therein, and if any surplus remains at the end of any fiscal year, may transfer it to the city's current expense fund. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.320.]

**35A.14.330 Proposed zoning regulation—Purposes of regulations and restrictions.** The legislative body of any code city acting through a planning agency created pursuant to chapter 35A.63 RCW, or pursuant to its granted powers, may prepare a proposed zoning regulation to become effective upon the annexation of any area which might reasonably be expected to be annexed by the code city at any future time. Such proposed zoning regulation, to the extent deemed reasonably necessary by the legislative body to be in the interest of health, safety, morals and the general welfare may provide, among other things, for:

(1) The regulation and restriction within the area to be annexed of the location and the use of buildings, structures and land for residence, trade, industrial and other purposes; the height, number of stories, size, construction and design of buildings and other structures; the size of yards, courts and other open spaces on the lot or tract; the density of population; the set-back of buildings and structures along highways, parks or public water frontages; and the subdivision and development of land;

(2) The division of the area to be annexed into districts or zones of any size or shape, and within such districts or zones regulate and restrict the erection, construction, reconstruction, alteration, repair or use of buildings, structures or land;

(3) The appointment of a board of adjustment, to make, in appropriate cases and subject to appropriate conditions and safeguards established by ordinance, special exceptions in harmony with the general purposes and intent of the proposed zoning regulation; and

(4) The time interval following an annexation during which the ordinance or resolution adopting any such proposed regulation, or any part thereof, must remain in effect before it may be amended, supplemented or modified by subsequent ordinance or resolution adopted by the annexing city or town.

All such regulations and restrictions shall be designed, among other things, to encourage the most appropriate use of land throughout the area to be annexed; to lessen traffic congestion and accidents; to secure safety from fire; to provide adequate light and air; to prevent overcrowding of land; to avoid undue concentration of population; to promote a coordinated development of the unbuilt areas; to encourage the formation of neighborhood or community units; to secure an appropriate allotment of land area in new developments for all the requirements of community life; to conserve and restore natural beauty and other natural resources; to facilitate the adequate provision of transportation, water, sewerage and other public uses and requirements. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.330.]

**35A.14.340 Notice and hearing—Filings and recordings.** The legislative body of the code city shall hold two or more public hearings, to be held at least thirty days apart, upon the proposed zoning regulation, giving notice of the time and place thereof by publication in a newspaper of

general circulation in the annexing city and the area to be annexed. A copy of the ordinance or resolution adopting or embodying such proposed zoning regulation or any part thereof or any amendment thereto, duly certified as a true copy by the clerk of the annexing city, shall be filed with the county auditor. A like certified copy of any map or plat referred to or adopted by the ordinance or resolution shall likewise be filed with the county auditor. The auditor shall record the ordinance or resolution and keep on file the map or plat. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.340.]

*Annexation of water, sewer, and fire districts: Chapter 35.13A RCW.*

**35A.14.380 Ownership of assets of fire protection district—Assumption of responsibility of fire protection—When at least sixty percent of assessed valuation is annexed or incorporated in code city.** If a portion of a fire protection district including at least sixty percent of the assessed valuation of the real property of the district is annexed to or incorporated into a code city, ownership of all of the assets of the district shall be vested in the code city, upon payment in cash, properties or contracts for fire protection services to the district within one year, of a percentage of the value of said assets equal to the percentage of the value of the real property in the entire district remaining outside the incorporated or annexed area.

The fire protection district may elect, by a vote of a majority of the persons residing outside the annexed area who vote on the proposition, to require the annexing code city to assume responsibility for the provision of fire protection, and for the operation and maintenance of the district's property, facilities, and equipment throughout the district and to pay the code city a reasonable fee for such fire protection, operation, and maintenance. [1981 c 332 § 8; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.380.]

**Severability—1981 c 332:** See note following RCW 35.13.165.

**35A.14.400 Ownership of assets of fire protection district—When less than sixty percent of assessed valuation is annexed or incorporated in code city.** If a portion of a fire protection district including less than sixty percent of the assessed value of the real property of the district is annexed to or incorporated into a code city, the ownership of all assets of the district shall remain in the district and the district shall pay to the code city within one year or within such period of time as the district continues to collect taxes in such incorporated or annexed areas, in cash, properties or contracts for fire protection services, a percentage of the value of said assets equal to the percentage of the value of the real property in the entire district lying within the area so incorporated or annexed: PROVIDED, That if less than five percent of the area of the district is affected, no payment shall be made to the code city except as provided in RCW 35.02.205. The fire protection district shall provide fire protection to the incorporated or annexed area for such period as the district continues to collect taxes levied in such annexed or incorporated area. [1989 c 267 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.400.]

**35A.14.410 When right of way may be included—Use of right of way line as corporate boundary.** The boundaries of a code city arising from an annexation of

territory shall not include a portion of the right of way of any public street, road, or highway except where the boundary runs from one edge of the right of way to the other edge of the right of way. However, the right of way line of any public street, road, or highway, or any segment thereof, may be used to define a part of a corporate boundary in an annexation proceeding. [1989 c 84 § 9.]

**35A.14.500 Outstanding indebtedness not affected.** When any portion of a fire protection district is annexed by or incorporated into a code city, any outstanding indebtedness, bonded or otherwise, shall remain an obligation of the taxable property annexed or incorporated as if the annexation or incorporation had not occurred. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.500.]

**35A.14.550 Providing annexation information to public.** A code city can provide factual public information on the effects of pending annexation proposed for the code city. [1989 c 351 § 9.]

**35A.14.700 Determining population of annexed territory—Certificate—As basis for allocation of state funds—Revised certificate.** Whenever any territory is annexed to a code city, a certificate as hereinafter provided shall be submitted in triplicate to the office of financial management within thirty days of the effective date of annexation specified in the relevant ordinance. After approval of the certificate, the office of financial management shall retain the original copy in its files, and transmit the second copy to the department of transportation and return the third copy to the code city. Such certificates shall be in such form and contain such information as shall be prescribed by the office of financial management. A copy of the complete ordinance containing a legal description and a map showing specifically the boundaries of the annexed territory shall be attached to each of the three copies of the certificate. The certificate shall be signed by the mayor and attested by the city clerk. Upon request, the office of financial management shall furnish certification forms to any code city.

Upon approval of the annexation certificate, the office of financial management shall forward to each state official or department responsible for making allocations or payments to cities or towns, a revised certificate reflecting the increase in population due to such annexation. Upon and after the date of the commencement of the next quarterly period, the population determination indicated in such revised certificate shall be used as the basis for the allocation and payment of state funds to such city or town.

For the purposes of this section, each quarterly period shall commence on the first day of the months of January, April, July, and October. Whenever a revised certificate is forwarded by the office of financial management thirty days or less prior to the commencement of the next quarterly period, the population of the annexed territory shall not be considered until the commencement of the following quarterly period.

The resident population of the annexed territory shall be determined by, or under the direction of, the mayor of the code city. Such population determination shall consist of an

actual enumeration of the population which shall be made in accordance with practices and policies, and subject to the approval of the office of financial management. The population shall be determined as of the effective date of annexation as specified in the relevant ordinance.

Until an annexation certificate is filed and approved as provided herein, such annexed territory shall not be considered by the office of financial management in determining the population of such code city. [1979 ex.s. c 18 § 28; 1979 c 151 § 35; 1975 1st ex.s. c 31 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.700.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18:** See note following RCW 35A.01.070.

*Population determinations, office of financial management: Chapter 43.62 RCW.*

**35A.14.801 Road district taxes collected in annexed territory—Disposition.** Whenever any territory is annexed to a code city which is part of a road district of the county and road district taxes have been levied but not collected on any property within the annexed territory, the same shall when collected by the county treasurer be paid to the code city and by the city placed in the city street fund: PROVIDED, That this section shall not apply to any special assessments due in behalf of such property. [1971 ex.s. c 251 § 14.]

**Severability—1971 ex.s. c 251:** See RCW 35A.90.050.

**35A.14.900 Cancellation, acquisition of franchise or permit for operation of public service business in territory annexed.** The annexation by any code city of any territory pursuant to this chapter shall cancel, as of the effective date of such annexation, any franchise or permit theretofore granted to any person, firm or corporation by the state of Washington, or by the governing body of such annexed territory, authorizing or otherwise permitting the operation of any public utility, including but not limited to, public electric, water, transportation, garbage collection and/or disposal or other similar public service business or facility within the limits of the annexed territory, but the holder of any such franchise or permit canceled pursuant to this section shall be forthwith granted by the annexing code city a franchise to continue such business within the annexed territory for a term of not less than five years from the date of issuance thereof, and the annexing code city, by franchise, permit or public operation, shall not extend similar or competing services to the annexed territory except upon a proper showing of the inability or refusal of such person, firm or corporation to adequately service said annexed territory at a reasonable price: PROVIDED, That the provisions of this section shall not preclude the purchase by the annexing code city of said franchise, business, or facilities at an agreed or negotiated price, or from acquiring the same by condemnation upon payment of damages, including a reasonable amount for the loss of the franchise or permit. In the event that any person, firm or corporation whose franchise or permit has been canceled by the terms of this section shall suffer any measurable damages as a result of any annexation pursuant to the provisions of the laws above-mentioned, such person, firm or corporation shall have a right of action against any code city causing such damages. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.14.900.]

## Chapter 35A.15 DISINCORPORATION

### Sections

- 35A.15.001 Actions subject to review by boundary review board.
- 35A.15.010 Authority for disincorporation—Petition—Resolution.
- 35A.15.020 Election on disincorporation—Receiver.
- 35A.15.040 Ballots—Election results.
- 35A.15.050 Effect of disincorporation—Powers—Offices.
- 35A.15.060 Receiver—Qualification—Bond—When receiver may be appointed.
- 35A.15.070 Duties and authority of receiver—Claims—Priority.
- 35A.15.080 Compensation of receiver.
- 35A.15.090 Receiver—Removal for cause—Successive appointments.
- 35A.15.100 Receiver—Final account and discharge.
- 35A.15.110 Involuntary dissolution.

**35A.15.001 Actions subject to review by boundary review board.** Actions taken under chapter 35A.15 RCW may be subject to potential review by a boundary review board under chapter 36.93 RCW. [1989 c 84 § 39.]

**35A.15.010 Authority for disincorporation—Petition—Resolution.** Any noncharter code city may be disincorporated. Proceedings may be initiated by the filing with the county auditor of a petition for disincorporation signed by a majority of the registered voters resident in such city, or the legislative body of the city may provide by resolution for an election on the proposition of disincorporation. [1990 c 259 § 11; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.15.010.]

*Sufficiency of petition in code city: RCW 35A.01.040.*

**35A.15.020 Election on disincorporation—Receiver.** The legislative body shall cause the proposition of disincorporation to be submitted to the voters at the next general municipal election if one is to be held within one hundred and eighty days, or at a special election called for that purpose not less than ninety days, nor more than one hundred and eighty days, after the certification of sufficiency of the petition, or the passage of the resolution, as the case may be. If the code city has any indebtedness or outstanding liabilities, the legislative body shall provide for election of a receiver at the same election. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.15.020.]

**35A.15.040 Ballots—Election results.** Ballot titles shall be prepared by the city as provided in RCW 35A.29.120 and shall contain the words "For Dissolution" and "Against Dissolution", and shall contain on separate lines, alphabetically, the names of candidates for receiver. If a majority of the votes cast on the proposition are for dissolution, the municipal corporation shall be dissolved upon certification of the election results to the office of the secretary of state. [1994 c 223 § 39; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.15.040.]

**35A.15.050 Effect of disincorporation—Powers—Offices.** The effect of disincorporation of a noncharter code city shall be as provided in RCW 35.07.090, 35.07.100, and 35.07.110. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.15.050.]

**35A.15.060 Receiver—Qualification—Bond—When receiver may be appointed.** The receiver shall qualify and post a bond as provided in RCW 35.07.120. If an elected receiver fails to qualify within the time prescribed, or if no receiver has been elected and the code city does have indebtedness or an outstanding liability, a receiver shall be appointed in the manner provided in RCW 35.07.130 or as provided in RCW 35.07.140. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.15.060.]

**35A.15.070 Duties and authority of receiver—Claims—Priority.** The duties and authority of the receiver and the disposition and priority of claims against the former municipality shall be as provided in RCW 35.07.150, and the receiver shall have the rights, powers, and limitations provided for such a receiver in RCW 35.07.160, 35.07.170, and 35.07.180. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.15.070.]

**35A.15.080 Compensation of receiver.** The compensation of the receiver shall be as provided in RCW 35.07.190. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.15.080.]

**35A.15.090 Receiver—Removal for cause—Successive appointments.** The receiver may be removed for cause as provided in RCW 35.07.200 and a successor to the receiver may be appointed as provided in RCW 35.07.210. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.15.090.]

**35A.15.100 Receiver—Final account and discharge.** The receiver shall file a final account, pay remaining funds to the county treasurer, and be discharged, all as provided in RCW 35.07.220. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.15.100.]

**35A.15.110 Involuntary dissolution.** A noncharter code city may be involuntarily dissolved in the manner provided in RCW 35.07.230, 35.07.240, 35.07.250, and 35.07.260 upon the existence of the conditions stated in RCW 35.07.230. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.15.110.]

## Chapter 35A.16 REDUCTION OF CITY LIMITS

### Sections

- 35A.16.001 Actions subject to review by boundary review board.
- 35A.16.010 Petition or resolution for election.
- 35A.16.030 Abstract of vote.
- 35A.16.040 Effective date of reduction.
- 35A.16.050 Recording of ordinance and plat on effective date of reduction.
- 35A.16.060 Effect of exclusion as to liability for indebtedness.
- 35A.16.070 Franchises within territory excluded.

**35A.16.001 Actions subject to review by boundary review board.** Actions taken under chapter 35A.16 RCW may be subject to potential review by a boundary review board under chapter 36.93 RCW. [1989 c 84 § 40.]

**35A.16.010 Petition or resolution for election.** Upon the filing of a petition which is sufficient as determined by RCW 35A.01.040 praying for the exclusion from the boundaries of a code city of an area described by metes and

bounds or by reference to a recorded plat or government survey, signed by qualified voters of the city in number equal to not less than ten percent of the number of votes cast at the last general municipal election, the legislative body of the code city shall cause the question to be submitted to the voters. As an alternate method, such a proposal for exclusion from the code city of a described area may be submitted to the voters by resolution of the legislative body. The question shall be submitted at the next general municipal election if one is to be held within one hundred and eighty days or at a special election called for that purpose not less than ninety days nor more than one hundred and eighty days after the certification of sufficiency of the petition or the passage of the resolution. The petition or resolution shall set out and describe the territory to be excluded from the code city, together with the boundaries of the code city as it will exist after such change is made. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.16.010.]

**35A.16.030 Abstract of vote.** If three-fifths of the votes cast on the proposition favor the reduction of the corporate limits, the county auditor shall make and transmit to the office of the secretary of state a certified abstract of the vote. [1994 c 223 § 40; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.16.030.]

**35A.16.040 Effective date of reduction.** Promptly after the filing of the abstract of votes with the secretary of state the legislative body shall adopt an ordinance defining and fixing the corporate limits after excluding the area as determined by the election. The ordinance shall also describe the excluded territory by metes and bounds or by reference to a recorded plat or government survey and declare it no longer a part of the code city. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.16.040.]

**35A.16.050 Recording of ordinance and plat on effective date of reduction.** Upon the effective date of the ordinance a certified copy thereof together with a map showing the corporate limits as altered shall be filed and recorded in the office of the county auditor of the county in which the code city is situated, and thereupon the boundaries shall be as set forth therein. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.16.050.]

**35A.16.060 Effect of exclusion as to liability for indebtedness.** The exclusion of an area from the boundaries of the code city shall not exempt any real property therein from taxation for the purpose of paying any indebtedness of the code city existing at the time of its exclusion and the interest thereon. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.16.060.]

**35A.16.070 Franchises within territory excluded.** In regard to franchises previously granted for operation of any public service business or facility within the territory excluded from a code city by proceedings under this chapter, the rights, obligations, and duties of the legislative body of the county or other political subdivision having jurisdiction over such territory and of the franchise holder shall be as provided in RCW 35.02.160, relating to inclusion of territory by an incorporation, and such a franchise shall be canceled and a new franchise issued by the legislative body having

jurisdiction, as therein provided. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.16.070.]

## Chapter 35A.21

### PROVISIONS AFFECTING All Code CITIES

#### Sections

- 35A.21.010 Validity of ordinances and resolutions—Deficiencies of form.
- 35A.21.020 Conflict between charter and optional code.
- 35A.21.030 Mandatory duties of code city officers.
- 35A.21.040 Merit systems.
- 35A.21.050 Pension and retirement systems.
- 35A.21.060 Garbage ordinance—Lien—Foreclosure.
- 35A.21.070 Office hours prescribed by ordinance.
- 35A.21.080 Computation of time.
- 35A.21.090 Jurisdiction over adjacent waters—Control of street over tidelands.
- 35A.21.100 Lien for utility services.
- 35A.21.110 Warrants—Interest rate—Payment.
- 35A.21.120 Utilities—Facilities for generation of electricity.
- 35A.21.130 Codification of ordinances.
- 35A.21.140 Change of name.
- 35A.21.150 Sewerage and refuse collection and disposal systems.
- 35A.21.152 Solid waste collection—Rate increase notice.
- 35A.21.153 Solid waste collection curbside recycling—Reduced rate.
- 35A.21.155 Collection and transportation of recyclable materials by recycling companies or nonprofit entities—Reuse or reclamation—Application of chapter.
- 35A.21.160 General application of laws to code cities.
- 35A.21.161 Regulation of activities and enforcement of penal laws.
- 35A.21.162 Nonpolluting power generation by individual—Exemption from regulation—Authorization to contract with utility.
- 35A.21.164 Hydroelectric resources—Separate legal authority—Creation by irrigation districts and cities, towns, or public utility districts.
- 35A.21.170 Fiscal year.
- 35A.21.180 Flags to be displayed.
- 35A.21.190 Daylight saving time.
- 35A.21.195 Actions by and against code cities.
- 35A.21.200 Limitation of actions.
- 35A.21.210 Revision of corporate boundary within street, road, or highway right of way by substituting right of way line—Not subject to review.
- 35A.21.220 Liability insurance and workers' compensation for offenders performing court-ordered community service.
- 35A.21.230 Designation of official newspaper.
- 35A.21.240 Right of way donations—Credit against required improvements.
- 35A.21.250 Building construction projects—Code city prohibited from requiring state agencies or local governments to provide bond or other security as a condition for issuance of permit.
- 35A.21.260 Amateur radio antennas—Local regulation to conform with federal law.
- 35A.21.270 Assumption of substandard water system—Limited immunity from liability.
- Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act—Authority of cities to contract with federal government: RCW 35.21.660.*
- Disturbances at state penal facilities—Local participation and reimbursement: Chapter 72.02 RCW.*
- Fire protection, ambulance or other emergency services provided by municipal corporation within county—Financial and other assistance by county authorized: RCW 36.32.470.*
- Limitation on penalty for act constituting a crime under state law: RCW 35.21.163.*
- Local adopt-a-highway programs: RCW 47.40.105.*
- Transfer of real property or contract for use for park and recreational purposes: RCW 39.33.060.*

**35A.21.010 Validity of ordinances and resolutions—Deficiencies of form.** Deficiencies in the form of an ordinance or resolution shall not affect the validity thereof if the following requirements are met:

(1) The purpose and intent of the ordinance or resolution are clear.

(2) Any regulatory or procedural provisions thereof are expressed in clear and unambiguous terms, or the legislative intent can be determined by usual methods of judicial construction.

(3) The legislative action was taken at an authorized public meeting held within the code city limits at a time and place made known to residents of the city, as provided by law.

(4) The legislative body of the code city followed the prescribed procedures, if any, for passage of such an ordinance or resolution, as provided in the law or charter provision delegating to the legislative body the authority to so legislate; or, if prescribed procedures were not strictly complied with, no substantial detriment was incurred by any affected person, by reason of such irregularity.

If the foregoing requirements have been met, brevity or awkwardness of language, or defects of form not going to the substance, or inadvertent use of an incorrect or inaccurate proper name or term shall not render an ordinance or resolution invalid, if otherwise in compliance with law. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.21.010.]

**35A.21.020 Conflict between charter and optional code.** This optional municipal code is intended to be a general law, available to all cities and towns within the state, and to all legal intents and purposes a "general law" within the meaning of Article 11, section 10 of the state Constitution, as amended.

If any provision of this title is in conflict with any provision of the charter or amendments thereto of any charter code city, the provisions of this title shall govern and control, except where the legislative body of such charter code city, by ordinance, elects to retain such charter provision or amendment, in which event such charter provision shall prevail notwithstanding a conflict with provisions of this optional code: PROVIDED, That such ordinance shall be subject to referendum as provided in RCW 35A.29.170. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.21.020.]

**35A.21.030 Mandatory duties of code city officers.** Except as otherwise provided in this title, every officer of a code city shall perform, in the manner provided, all duties of his office which are imposed by state law on officers of every other class of city who occupy a like position and perform like functions. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.21.030.]

**35A.21.040 Merit systems.** Provisions for a merit system, made by charter or ordinance of a code city, shall be in compliance with any applicable statutes relating to civil service for employees of such city: PROVIDED, That nothing herein shall impair the validity of charter provisions adopted prior to the effective date of this title and relating to a merit system. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.21.040.]

**35A.21.050 Pension and retirement systems.** Nothing in this title shall be construed to alter or affect vested rights of city employees under pension and retirement systems in effect at the time this title becomes effective. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.21.050.]

**35A.21.060 Garbage ordinance—Lien—Foreclosure.** A garbage ordinance of a code city may contain the provisions authorized by RCW 35.21.130. Notice shall be given of a lien for garbage collection and disposal service, the lien shall have priority and be foreclosed all as provided in RCW 35.21.140 and 35.21.150. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.21.060.]

**35A.21.070 Office hours prescribed by ordinance.** All code city offices shall be kept open for the transaction of business during such days and hours as the legislative body of such city shall by ordinance prescribe. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.21.070.]

**35A.21.080 Computation of time.** When, under the provisions of this title, an act is to be done within a certain time period, the time shall be computed by excluding the first day and including the last, except that when the last day is a Saturday, Sunday, or a day designated by RCW 1.16.050 or by the city's ordinances as a holiday, then it also is excluded and the act must be completed on the next business day. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.21.080.]

**35A.21.090 Jurisdiction over adjacent waters—Control of street over tidelands.** The legislative body of a code city shall have supervision and control within its corporate limits of streets over tidelands or upon or across tide and shore lands of the first class as provided in RCW 35.21.230, 35.21.240 and 35.21.250; and shall have jurisdiction over adjacent waters as provided in RCW 35.21.160. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.21.090.]

**35A.21.100 Lien for utility services.** Code cities owning or operating waterworks or electric light distribution or power plants shall have a lien for such utility services as provided by RCW 35.21.290 for cities owning such plants and as limited therein, which lien may be enforced only as provided in RCW 35.21.300. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.21.100.]

**35A.21.110 Warrants—Interest rate—Payment.** Code city warrants shall draw interest, be paid, and called for all as provided in RCW 35.21.320 and the duty and liability of the treasurer of a code city in calling and paying warrants of the city shall be as provided in RCW 35.21.320. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.21.110.]

**35A.21.120 Utilities—Facilities for generation of electricity.** Any code city owning and operating a public utility and having facilities and/or land for the generation of electricity shall be governed by the provisions of RCW 35.21.420 through 35.21.450. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.21.120.]

**35A.21.130 Codification of ordinances.** Compilation, codification, and revision of code city ordinances shall be as provided by and be governed by the provisions of RCW 35.21.500 through 35.21.570. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.21.130.]

**35A.21.140 Change of name.** Any code city may change its name in accordance with the procedure provided in chapter 35.62 RCW. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.21.140.]

**35A.21.150 Sewerage and refuse collection and disposal systems.** The general law as contained in, but not limited to, chapter 35.67 RCW, relating to sewerage systems and the collection and disposal of refuse, the manner of providing therefor, and the issuance of general obligation or revenue bonds therefor, the establishment of a revenue bond fund in connection therewith, compulsory connection with a city sewer system, setting and collection of rates, fees, and charges therefor, and the existence, enforcement, and foreclosure of a lien for sewer services is hereby recognized as applicable to code cities operating systems of sewerage and systems and plants for refuse collection and disposal. A code city may exercise the powers, in the manner provided, perform the duties, and shall have the rights and obligations provided in chapter 35.67 RCW, subject to the conditions and limitations therein provided. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.21.150.]

**35A.21.152 Solid waste collection—Rate increase notice.** (1) A city that contracts for the collection of solid waste, or provides for the collection of solid waste directly, shall notify the public of each proposed rate increase for a solid waste handling service. The notice may be mailed to each affected ratepayer or published once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the collection area. The notice shall be available to affected ratepayers at least forty-five days prior to the proposed effective date of the rate increase.

(2) For purposes of this section, "solid waste handling" has the same meaning as provided in RCW 70.95.030. [1994 c 161 § 3.]

**Findings—Declaration—1994 c 161:** See note following RCW 35.21.157.

**35A.21.153 Solid waste collection curbside recycling—Reduced rate.** (1) Each city or town providing by ordinance or resolution a reduced solid waste collection rate to residents participating in a residential curbside recycling program implemented under RCW 70.95.090, may provide a similar reduced rate to residents participating in any other recycling program, if such program is approved by the jurisdiction. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to reduce the authority of a city to adopt ordinances under RCW 35.21.130(1).

(2) For the purposes of this section, "reduced rate" means a residential solid waste collection rate incorporating a rebate, refund, or discount. Reduced rate shall not include residential solid waste collection rate based on the volume or weight of solid waste set out for collection. [1991 c 319 § 405.]



**Severability—Part headings not law—1991 c 319:** See RCW 70.95F.900 and 70.95F.901.

**35A.21.155 Collection and transportation of recyclable materials by recycling companies or nonprofit entities—Reuse or reclamation—Application of chapter.** Nothing in this chapter shall prevent a recycling company or nonprofit entity from collecting and transporting recyclable materials from a buy-back center, drop-box, or from a commercial or industrial generator of recyclable materials, or upon agreement with a solid waste collection company.

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as prohibiting a commercial or industrial generator of commercial recyclable materials from selling, conveying, or arranging for transportation of such material to a recycler for reuse or reclamation. [1989 c 431 § 35.]

**Severability—1989 c 431:** See RCW 70.95.901.

**35A.21.160 General application of laws to code cities.** A code city organized or reorganized under this title shall have all of the powers which any city of any class may have and shall be governed in matters of state concern by statutes applicable to such cities in connection with such powers to the extent to which such laws are appropriate and are not in conflict with the provisions specifically applicable to code cities. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.21.160.]

**35A.21.161 Regulation of activities and enforcement of penal laws.** All code cities shall observe and enforce, in addition to its local regulations, the provisions of state laws relating to the conduct, location and limitation on activities as regulated by state law and shall supply police information to the section on identification of the state patrol as required by chapter 43.43 RCW. [1983 c 3 § 59; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.21.161.]

**35A.21.162 Nonpolluting power generation by individual—Exemption from regulation—Authorization to contract with utility.** See chapter 80.58 RCW.

**35A.21.164 Hydroelectric resources—Separate legal authority—Creation by irrigation districts and cities, towns, or public utility districts.** See RCW 87.03.825 through 87.03.840.

**35A.21.170 Fiscal year.** The fiscal year of a code city shall commence on the first day of January and end on the thirty-first day of December of each calendar year unless a different fiscal period is authorized by RCW 1.16.030, as amended. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.21.170.]

**35A.21.180 Flags to be displayed.** The flag of the United States and the flag of the state shall be prominently installed and displayed and maintained in code city buildings and shall be as provided in RCW 1.20.010. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.21.180.]

**35A.21.190 Daylight saving time.** No code city shall adopt any provision for the observance of daylight saving

time other than as authorized by RCW 1.20.050 and 1.20.051. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.21.190.]

**35A.21.195 Actions by and against code cities.** A code city may exercise the power to bring an action or special proceeding at law as authorized by Title 4 RCW, chapters 7.24, 7.25, and 6.27 RCW, and shall be subject to actions and process of law in accordance with procedures prescribed by law and rules of court. [1987 c 442 § 1117; 1983 c 3 § 58; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.20.150. Formerly RCW 35A.20.150.]

**35A.21.200 Limitation of actions.** The limitations prescribed in chapter 4.16 RCW shall apply to actions brought in the name or for the benefit of, or against, a code city, except as otherwise provided by general law or by this title. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.21.200.]

**35A.21.210 Revision of corporate boundary within street, road, or highway right of way by substituting right of way line—Not subject to review.** (1) The governing bodies of a county and any code city located therein may by agreement revise any part of the corporate boundary of the city which coincides with the centerline, edge, or any portion of a public street, road or highway right of way by substituting therefor a right of way line of the same public street, road or highway so as fully to include or fully to exclude that segment of the public street, road or highway from the corporate limits of the city.

(2) The revision of a corporate boundary as authorized by this section shall become effective when approved by ordinance of the city council and by ordinance or resolution of the county legislative authority. Such a boundary revision is not subject to potential review by a boundary review board. [1989 c 84 § 11; 1975 1st ex.s. c 220 § 18.]

**Legislative finding, intent—1975 1st ex.s. c 220:** See note following RCW 35.02.170.

*Boundary line adjustment:* RCW 35.13.300 through 35.13.330.

*Use of right of way line as corporate boundary in incorporation proceeding—When right of way may be included in territory to be incorporated:* RCW 35.02.170.

*When right of way may be included in territory to be annexed—Use of right of way line as corporate boundary in annexation:* RCW 35A.14.410.

**35A.21.220 Liability insurance and workers' compensation for offenders performing court-ordered community service.** The legislative authority of a code city may purchase liability insurance in an amount it deems reasonable to protect the code city, its officers, and employees against liability for the wrongful acts of offenders or injury or damage incurred by offenders in the course of court-ordered community service, and may elect to treat offenders as employees and/or workers under Title 51 RCW. [1984 c 24 § 2.]

*Workers' compensation coverage of offenders performing community service:* RCW 51.12.045.

**35A.21.230 Designation of official newspaper.** Each code city shall designate an official newspaper by resolution. The newspaper shall be of general circulation in the city and

have the qualifications prescribed by chapter 65.16 RCW. [1985 c 469 § 102.]

**35A.21.240 Right of way donations—Credit against required improvements.** Where the zoning and planning provisions of a city or town require landscaping, parking, or other improvements as a condition to granting permits for commercial or industrial developments, the city or town may credit donations of right of way in excess of that required for traffic improvement against such landscaping, parking, or other requirements. [1987 c 267 § 8.]

**Severability—1987 c 267:** See RCW 47.14.910.

*Right of way donations:* Chapter 47.14 RCW.

**35A.21.250 Building construction projects—Code city prohibited from requiring state agencies or local governments to provide bond or other security as a condition for issuance of permit.** A code city may not require any state agency or unit of local government to secure the performance of a permit requirement with a surety bond or other financial security device, including cash or assigned account, as a condition of issuing a permit to that unit of local government for a building construction project.

As used in this section, "building construction project" includes, in addition to its usual meaning, associated landscaping, street alteration, pedestrian or vehicular access alteration, or other amenities or alterations necessarily associated with the project. [1993 c 439 § 2.]

**35A.21.260 Amateur radio antennas—Local regulation to conform with federal law.** No code city shall enact or enforce an ordinance or regulation that fails to conform to the limited preemption entitled "Amateur Radio Preemption, 101 FCC 2nd 952 (1985)" issued by the federal communications commission. An ordinance or regulation adopted by a code city with respect to amateur radio antennas shall conform to the limited federal preemption, that states local regulations that involve placement, screening, or height of antennas based on health, safety, or aesthetic considerations must be crafted to reasonably accommodate amateur communications, and to represent the minimal practicable regulation to accomplish the local authority's legitimate purpose. [1994 c 50 § 2.]

**Effective date—1994 c 50:** See note following RCW 35.21.315.

**35A.21.270 Assumption of substandard water system—Limited immunity from liability.** A code city assuming responsibility for a water system that is not in compliance with state or federal requirements for public drinking water systems, and its agents and employees, are immune from lawsuits or causes of action, based on non-compliance with state or federal requirements for public drinking water systems, which predate the date of assuming responsibility and continue after the date of assuming responsibility, provided that the city has submitted and is complying with a plan and schedule of improvements approved by the department of health. This immunity shall expire on the earlier of the date the plan of improvements is completed or four years from the date of assuming responsibility. This immunity does not apply to intentional injuries, fraud, or bad faith. [1994 c 292 § 6.]

**Findings—Intent—1994 c 292:** See note following RCW 57.04.050.

## Chapter 35A.24 AERONAUTICS

### Sections

35A.24.010 Airport operation, planning and zoning.

**35A.24.010 Airport operation, planning and zoning.** A code city may exercise the powers relating to airport planning and zoning, improvement and operation as authorized by chapters 14.07, 14.08, and 14.12 RCW and chapter 35A.63 RCW of this title in accordance with the procedures therein prescribed. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.24.010.]

## Chapter 35A.27 LIBRARIES, MUSEUMS AND HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES

### Sections

35A.27.010 General laws applicable.

**35A.27.010 General laws applicable.** Every code city may exercise the powers relating to the acquisition, development, improvement and operation of libraries and museums and the preservation of historical materials to the same extent authorized by general law for cities of any class, including, but not limited to, the authority for city libraries granted by RCW 35.22.280, the power to acquire and operate art museums, auditoriums, and other facilities as authorized by RCW 35.21.020, to participate in the establishment of regional libraries, and to contract for library service for public libraries with county, intercounty, and rural library districts, and for regional libraries as authorized by chapter 27.12 RCW, to have a county law library or branch thereof generally under the provisions of chapter 27.24 RCW, to preserve historical materials, markers, graves and records as provided in chapters 27.48 and 27.34 RCW, and to expend municipal funds thereon. [1985 c 7 § 101; 1983 c 3 § 60; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.27.010.]

## Chapter 35A.28 SCHOOLS

### Sections

35A.28.010 General laws applicable.

**35A.28.010 General laws applicable.** Code cities shall have the authority to enter into contracts for joint acquisition of land and improvement thereof with school districts. Code cities and their relationship with public schools, colleges and school districts shall be governed by the provisions of general law, including Titles 28A and 28B RCW. Each code city shall be contained within one school district except as may be otherwise provided in RCW 28A.315.250. [1983 c 3 § 61; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.28.010.]

## Chapter 35A.29

## MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IN CODE CITIES

## Sections

- 35A.29.120 Ballot titles.  
 35A.29.130 Notice of ballot title—Appeal.  
 35A.29.151 Conduct of elections.  
 35A.29.170 Referendum petitions—Suspension of effectiveness of legislative action.  
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**35A.29.120 Ballot titles.** When any question is to be submitted to the voters of a code city, or when a proposition is to be submitted to the voters of an area under provisions of this title, the question or proposition shall be advertised as provided for nominees for office, and in such cases there shall also be printed on the ballot a ballot title for the question or proposition in the form applicable under RCW 29.79.055, 29.27.060, 82.14.036, 82.46.021, or 82.80.090 or as otherwise expressly required by state law. The ballot title shall be prepared by the attorney for the code city, or as specified in RCW 29.27.060 for elections held outside of a code city. [1993 c 256 § 13; 1979 ex.s. c 18 § 31; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.29.120.]

**Severability—Effective date—1993 c 256:** See notes following RCW 29.79.500.

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18:** See note following RCW 35A.01.070.

**35A.29.130 Notice of ballot title—Appeal.** Upon the filing of a ballot title as defined in RCW 35A.29.120, the county auditor shall forthwith notify the persons proposing the measure of the exact language of the ballot title. If the persons filing any local question covered by RCW 35A.29.120 are dissatisfied with the ballot title formulated by the attorney for the code city or by the county prosecuting attorney, they may appeal to the superior court of the county where the question is to appear on the ballot, as provided in RCW 29.27.067. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.29.130.]

**35A.29.151 Conduct of elections.** Elections for code cities shall comply with general election law. [1994 c 223 § 41.]

**35A.29.170 Referendum petitions—Suspension of effectiveness of legislative action.** Initiative and referendum petitions authorized to be filed under provisions of this title, or authorized by charter, or authorized for code cities having the commission form of government as provided by chapter 35.17 RCW, shall be in substantial compliance with the provisions of RCW 35A.01.040 as to form and content of the petition, insofar as such provisions are applicable; shall contain a true copy of a resolution or ordinance sought to be referred to the voters; and must contain valid signatures of qualified electors of the code city in the number required by the applicable provision of this title. Except when otherwise provided by statute, referendum petitions must be filed with the clerk of the legislative body of the code city within ninety days after the passage of the resolution or ordinance sought to be referred to the voters, or within such lesser number of days as may be authorized by statute or charter in order to precede the effective date of an ordinance: PRO-

VIDED, That nothing herein shall be construed to abrogate or affect an exemption from initiative and/or referendum provided by a code city charter. The clerk shall determine the sufficiency of the petition under the rules set forth in RCW 35A.01.040. When a referendum petition is filed with the clerk, the legislative action sought to be referred to the voters shall be suspended from taking effect. Such suspension shall terminate when: (1) There is a final determination of insufficiency or untimeliness of the referendum petition; or (2) the legislative action so referred is approved by the voters at a referendum election. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.29.170.]

**35A.29.180 Recall.** Elective officers of code cities may be recalled in the manner provided in chapter 29.82 RCW. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.29.180.]

## Chapter 35A.31

## ACCIDENT CLAIMS AND FUNDS

## Sections

- 35A.31.010 Claims—Statement of residence required—Time for filing—Verification.  
 35A.31.020 Liberal construction.  
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 35A.31.060 Accident fund—Warrants for judgments.  
 35A.31.070 Tax levy for fund.  
 35A.31.080 Surplus to general fund.

**35A.31.010 Claims—Statement of residence required—Time for filing—Verification.** Claims for damages sounding in tort against any code city shall be presented and filed within the time, in the manner and by the person prescribed in RCW 4.96.020. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.31.010.]

**35A.31.020 Liberal construction.** With respect to the content of such claims the provisions of RCW 4.96.020 shall be liberally construed so that substantial compliance will be deemed satisfactory. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.31.020.]

**35A.31.030 Report—Manner of filing.** No ordinance or resolution shall be passed allowing such claim or any part thereof, or appropriating any money or other property to pay or satisfy the same or any part thereof, until the claim has first been referred to the proper department or committee, nor until such department or committee has made its report thereon to the legislative body of the code city pursuant to such reference.

No action shall be maintained against any code city for any claim for damages until the claim has been filed in the manner set forth in chapter 4.96 RCW. [1993 c 449 § 9; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.31.030.]

**Purpose—Severability—1993 c 449:** See notes following RCW 4.96.010.

**35A.31.050 Charter code cities—Provisions cumulative.** Nothing herein shall be construed as in anywise modifying, limiting, or repealing any valid provision of the charter of any charter code city relating to such claims for

damages, except when in conflict herewith, but the provisions hereof shall be in addition to such charter provisions, and such claims for damages, in all other respects, shall conform to and comply with such charter provisions. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.31.050.]

**35A.31.060 Accident fund—Warrants for judgments.** Every code city may create an accident fund upon which the clerk shall draw warrants for the full amount of any judgment including interest and costs against the city on account of personal injuries suffered by any person as shown by a transcript of the judgment duly certified to the clerk. Warrants issued for such purpose shall be in denominations not less than one hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars; they shall draw interest at the rate of six percent per annum, shall be numbered consecutively and be paid in the order of their issue. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.31.060.]

**35A.31.070 Tax levy for fund.** The legislative body of the code city, after the drawing of warrants against the accident fund, shall estimate the amount necessary to pay the warrant with accrued interest thereon and may appropriate and transfer money from the contingency fund sufficient therefor, or if there is not sufficient money in the contingency fund the legislative body shall levy a tax sufficient to pay all or such unpaid portion of any judgment not exceeding seventy-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value. If a single levy of seventy-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value is not sufficient, and if other moneys are not available therefor, an annual levy of seventy-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value shall be made until the warrants and interest are fully paid. [1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 27; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.31.070.]

**Severability—Effective dates and termination dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195:** See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

**35A.31.080 Surplus to general fund.** If there is no judgment outstanding against the city for personal injuries, the money remaining in the accident fund after the payment of the warrants drawn on that fund and interest in full shall be transferred to the general fund. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.31.080.]

## Chapter 35A.33

### BUDGETS IN CODE CITIES

#### Sections

35A.33.010	Definitions.
35A.33.020	Applicability of chapter.
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35A.33.040	Classification and segregation of budget estimates.
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35A.33.122 Administration, oversight, or supervision of utility—Reimbursement from utility budget authorized.

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35A.33.146 Contingency fund—Withdrawals.

35A.33.150 Unexpended appropriations.

35A.33.160 Violations and penalties.

**35A.33.010 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the following words as used in this chapter shall have the meaning herein prescribed:

(1) "Clerk" as used in this chapter includes the officer performing the functions of a finance or budget director, comptroller, auditor, or by whatever title he may be known in any code city.

(2) "Department" as used in this chapter includes each office, division, service, system or institution of the city for which no other statutory or charter provision is made for budgeting and accounting procedures or controls.

(3) "Council" as used in this chapter includes the commissioners in cities having a commission form of government and any other group of city officials serving as the legislative body of a code city.

(4) "Chief administrative officer" as used in this chapter includes the mayor of cities having a mayor-council form of government, the commissioners in cities having a commission form of government, the city manager, or any other city official designated by the charter or ordinances of such city under the plan of government governing the same, or the budget or finance officer designated by the mayor, manager or commissioners, to perform the functions, or portions thereof, contemplated by this chapter.

(5) "Fiscal year" as used in this chapter means that fiscal period set by the code city pursuant to authority given under RCW 1.16.030.

(6) "Fund", as used in this chapter and "funds" where clearly used to indicate the plural of "fund", shall mean the budgeting or accounting entity authorized to provide a sum of money for specified activities or purposes.

(7) "Funds" as used in this chapter where not used to indicate the plural of "fund" shall mean money in hand or available for expenditure or payment of a debt or obligation.

(8) Except as otherwise defined herein, municipal accounting terms used in this chapter have the meaning prescribed in "Governmental Accounting, Auditing and Financial Reporting" prepared by the National Committee on Governmental Accounting, 1968. [1969 ex.s. c 81 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.33.010.]

**Effective date—1969 ex.s. c 81:** See note following RCW 35A.13.035.

**35A.33.020 Applicability of chapter.** The provisions of this chapter apply to all code cities except those which have adopted an ordinance under RCW 35A.34.040 providing for a biennial budget. In addition, this chapter shall not apply to any municipal utility or enterprise for which

separate budgeting provisions are made by general state law. [1985 c 175 § 33; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.33.020.]

**35A.33.030 Budget estimates.** On or before the second Monday of the fourth month prior to the beginning of the city's next fiscal year, or at such other time as the city may provide by ordinance or charter, the clerk shall notify in writing the head of each department of a code city to file with the clerk within fourteen days of the receipt of such notification, detailed estimates of the probable revenue from sources other than ad valorem taxation and of all expenditures required by his department for the ensuing fiscal year. The notice shall be accompanied by the proper forms provided by the clerk, prepared in accordance with the requirements and classification established by the division of municipal corporations in the office of the state auditor. The clerk shall prepare the estimates for interest and debt redemption requirements and all other estimates, the preparation of which falls properly within the duties of his office. The chief administrative officers of the city shall submit to the clerk detailed estimates of all expenditures proposed to be financed from the proceeds of bonds or warrants not yet authorized, together with a statement of the proposed method of financing them. In the absence or disability of the official or person regularly in charge of a department, the duties herein required shall devolve upon the person next in charge of such department. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.33.030.]

**35A.33.040 Classification and segregation of budget estimates.** All estimates of receipts and expenditures for the ensuing year shall be fully detailed in the annual budget and shall be classified and segregated according to a standard classification of accounts to be adopted and prescribed by the state auditor through the division of municipal corporations after consultation with the Washington finance officers association, the association of Washington cities and the association of Washington city managers. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.33.040.]

**35A.33.050 Proposed preliminary budget.** On or before the first business day in the third month prior to the beginning of the fiscal year of a code city or at such other time as the city may provide by ordinance or charter, the clerk or other person designated by the charter, by ordinance, or by the chief administrative officer of the city shall submit to the chief administrative officer a proposed preliminary budget which shall set forth the complete financial program of the city for the ensuing fiscal year, showing the expenditure program requested by each department and the sources of revenue by which each such program is proposed to be financed.

The revenue section shall set forth in comparative and tabular form for each fund the actual receipts for the last completed fiscal year, the estimated receipts for the current fiscal year and the estimated receipts for the ensuing fiscal year, which shall include the amount to be raised from ad valorem taxes and unencumbered fund balances estimated to be available at the close of the current fiscal year.

The expenditure section shall set forth in comparative and tabular form for each fund and every department operating within each fund the actual expenditures for the

last completed fiscal year, the appropriations for the current fiscal year and the estimated expenditures for the ensuing fiscal year. The salary or salary range for each office, position or job classification shall be set forth separately together with the title or position designation thereof: PROVIDED, That salaries may be set out in total amounts under each department if a detailed schedule of such salaries and positions be attached to and made a part of the budget document. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.33.050.]

**35A.33.052 Preliminary budget.** The chief administrative officer shall prepare the preliminary budget in detail, making any revisions or addition to the reports of the department heads deemed advisable by such chief administrative officer and at least sixty days before the beginning of the city's next fiscal year he shall file it with the city clerk as the recommendation of the chief administrative officer for the final budget. The clerk shall provide a sufficient number of copies of such preliminary budget and budget message to meet the reasonable demands of taxpayers therefor and have them available for distribution not later than six weeks before the beginning of the city's next fiscal year. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.33.052.]

**35A.33.055 Budget message—Preliminary hearings.** In every code city a budget message prepared by or under the direction of the city's chief administrative officer shall be submitted as a part of the preliminary budget to the city's legislative body at least sixty days before the beginning of the city's next fiscal year and shall contain the following:

- (1) An explanation of the budget document;
- (2) An outline of the recommended financial policies and programs of the city for the ensuing fiscal year;
- (3) A statement of the relation of the recommended appropriation to such policies and programs;
- (4) A statement of the reason for salient changes from the previous year in appropriation and revenue items;
- (5) An explanation for any recommended major changes in financial policy.

Prior to the final hearing on the budget, the legislative body or a committee thereof, shall schedule hearings on the budget or parts thereof, and may require the presence of department heads to give information regarding estimates and programs. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.33.055.]

**35A.33.060 Budget—Notice of hearing on final.** Immediately following the filing of the preliminary budget with the clerk, the clerk shall publish a notice once each week for two consecutive weeks stating that the preliminary budget for the ensuing fiscal year has been filed with the clerk, that a copy thereof will be furnished to any taxpayer who will call at the clerk's office therefor and that the legislative body of the city will meet on or before the first Monday of the month next preceding the beginning of the ensuing fiscal year for the purpose of fixing the final budget, designating the date, time and place of the legislative budget meeting and that any taxpayer may appear thereat and be heard for or against any part of the budget. The publication of the notice shall be made in the official newspaper of the city. [1985 c 469 § 43; 1973 c 67 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.33.060.]

**35A.33.070 Budget—Hearing.** The council shall meet on the day fixed by RCW 35A.33.060 for the purpose of fixing the final budget of the city at the time and place designated in the notice thereof. Any taxpayer may appear and be heard for or against any part of the budget. The hearing may be continued from day to day but not later than the twenty-fifth day prior to commencement of the city's fiscal year. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.33.070.]

**35A.33.075 Budget adoption.** Following conclusion of the hearing, and prior to the beginning of the fiscal year, the legislative body shall make such adjustments and changes as it deems necessary or proper and after determining the allowance in each item, department, classification and fund, and shall by ordinance, adopt the budget in its final form and content. Appropriations shall be limited to the total estimated revenues contained therein including the amount to be raised by ad valorem taxes and the unencumbered fund balances estimated to be available at the close of the current fiscal year. Such ordinances may adopt the final budget by reference: PROVIDED, That the ordinance adopting such budget shall set forth in summary form the totals of estimated revenues and appropriations for each separate fund and the aggregate totals for all such funds combined.

A complete copy of the final budget as adopted shall be transmitted to the division of municipal corporations in the office of the state auditor, and to the association of Washington cities. [1969 ex.s. c 81 § 3; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.33.075.]

**Effective date—1969 ex.s. c 81:** See note following RCW 35A.13.035.

**35A.33.080 Emergency expenditures—Nondebatable emergencies.** Upon the happening of any emergency caused by violence of nature, casualty, riot, insurrection, war, or other unanticipated occurrence requiring the immediate preservation of order or public health, or for the restoration to a condition of usefulness of any public property which has been damaged or destroyed by accident, or for public relief from calamity, or in settlement of approved claims for personal injuries or property damage, or to meet mandatory expenditures required by laws enacted since the last annual budget was adopted, or to cover expenses incident to preparing for or establishing a new form of government authorized or assumed after adoption of the current budget, including any expenses incident to selection of additional or new officials required thereby, or incident to employee recruitment at any time, the city council, upon the adoption of an ordinance, by the vote of one more than the majority of all members of the legislative body, stating the facts constituting the emergency and the estimated amount required to meet it, may make the expenditures therefor without notice or hearing. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.33.080.]

**35A.33.090 Emergency expenditures—Other emergencies—Hearing.** If a public emergency which could not reasonably have been foreseen at the time of filing the preliminary budget requires the expenditure of money not provided for in the annual budget, and if it is not one of the emergencies specifically enumerated in RCW 35A.33.080,

the city council before allowing any expenditure therefor shall adopt an ordinance stating the facts constituting the emergency and the estimated amount required to meet it and declaring that an emergency exists.

Such ordinance shall not be voted on until five days have elapsed after its introduction, and for passage shall require the vote of one more than the majority of all members of the legislative body of the code city.

Any taxpayer may appear at the meeting at which the emergency ordinance is to be voted on and be heard for or against the adoption thereof. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.33.090.]

**35A.33.100 Emergency expenditures—Warrants—Payments.** All expenditures for emergency purposes as provided in this chapter shall be paid by warrants from any available money in the fund properly chargeable with such expenditures. If, at any time, there is insufficient money on hand in a fund with which to pay such warrants as presented, the warrants shall be registered, bear interest and be called in the same manner as other registered warrants as prescribed in RCW 35A.21.110. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.33.100.]

**35A.33.102 Registered warrants—Appropriations.** In adopting the final budget for any fiscal year, the council shall appropriate from estimated revenue sources available, a sufficient amount to pay the principal and interest on all outstanding registered warrants issued since the adoption of the last preceding budget except those issued and identified as revenue warrants and except those for which an appropriation previously has been made: PROVIDED, That no portion of the revenues which are restricted in use by law may be appropriated for the redemption of warrants issued against a utility or other special purpose fund of a self-supporting nature: PROVIDED FURTHER, That all or any portion of the city's outstanding registered warrants may be funded into bonds in any manner authorized by law. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.33.102.]

**35A.33.105 Adjustment of wages, etc., of employees permissible budget notwithstanding.** Notwithstanding the appropriations for any salary, or salary range of any employee or employees adopted in a final budget, the legislative body of any code city may, by ordinance, change the wages, hours, and conditions of employment of any or all of its appointive employees if sufficient funds are available for appropriation to such purposes. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.33.105.]

**35A.33.110 Forms—Accounting—Supervision by state.** The division of municipal corporations in the office of the state auditor is empowered to make and install the forms and classifications required by this chapter to define what expenditures are chargeable to each budget class and to establish the accounting and cost systems necessary to secure accurate budget information. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.33.110.]

**35A.33.120 Funds—Limitations on expenditures—Transfers and adjustments.** The expenditures as classified

and itemized in the final budget shall constitute the city's appropriations for the ensuing fiscal year. Unless otherwise ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction, and subject to further limitations imposed by ordinance of the code city, the expenditure of city funds or the incurring of current liabilities on behalf of the city shall be limited to the following:

(1) The total amount appropriated for each fund in the budget for the current fiscal year, without regard to the individual items contained therein, except that this limitation shall not apply to wage adjustments authorized by RCW 35A.33.105; and

(2) The unexpended appropriation balances of a preceding budget which may be carried forward from prior fiscal years pursuant to RCW 35A.33.150; and

(3) Funds received from the sale of bonds or warrants which have been duly authorized according to law; and

(4) Funds received in excess of estimated revenues during the current fiscal year, when authorized by an ordinance amending the original budget; and

(5) Expenditures required for emergencies, as authorized in RCW 35A.33.080 and 35A.33.090.

Transfers between individual appropriations within any one fund may be made during the current fiscal year by order of the city's chief administrative officer subject to such regulations, if any, as may be imposed by the city council. Notwithstanding the provisions of RCW 43.09.210 or of any statute to the contrary, transfers, as herein authorized, may be made within the same fund regardless of the various offices, departments or divisions of the city which may be affected.

The city council, upon a finding that it is to the best interests of the code city to decrease, revoke or recall all or any portion of the total appropriations provided for any one fund, may, by ordinance, approved by the vote of one more than the majority of all members thereof, stating the facts and findings for doing so, decrease, revoke or recall all or any portion of an unexpended fund balance, and by said ordinance, or a subsequent ordinance adopted by a like majority, the moneys thus released may be reappropriated for another purpose or purposes, without limitation to department, division or fund, unless the use of such moneys is otherwise restricted by law, charter, or ordinance. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.33.120.]

**35A.33.122 Administration, oversight, or supervision of utility—Reimbursement from utility budget authorized.** Whenever any code city apportions a percentage of the city manager's, administrator's, or supervisor's time, or the time of other management or general government staff, for administration, oversight, or supervision of a utility operated by the city, or to provide services to the utility, the utility budget may identify such services and budget for reimbursement of the city's current expense fund for the value of such services. [1991 c 152 § 3.]

**35A.33.125 Limitation on expenditures—Void.** Liabilities incurred by any officer or employee of the city in excess of any budget appropriations shall not be a liability of the city. The clerk shall issue no warrant and the city council or other authorized person shall approve no claim for an expenditure in excess of the total amount appropriated for

any individual fund, except upon an order of a court of competent jurisdiction or for emergencies as provided in this chapter. [1969 ex.s. c 81 § 4; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.33.125.]

**Effective date—1969 ex.s. c 81:** See note following RCW 35A.13.035.

**35A.33.130 Funds received from sales of bonds and warrants—Expenditures.** Moneys received from the sale of bonds or warrants shall be used for no other purpose than that for which they were issued and no expenditure shall be made for that purpose until the bonds have been duly authorized. If any unexpended fund balance remains from the proceeds realized from the bonds or warrants after the accomplishment of the purpose for which they were issued it shall be used for the redemption of such bond or warrant indebtedness. Where a budget contains an expenditure program to be financed from a bond issue to be authorized thereafter, no such expenditure shall be made or incurred until after the bonds have been duly authorized. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.33.130.]

**35A.33.135 Levy for ad valorem tax.** At a time fixed by the city's ordinance or charter, not later than the first Monday in October of each year, the chief administrative officer shall provide the city's legislative body with current information on estimates of revenues from all sources as adopted in the budget for the current year, together with estimates submitted by the clerk under RCW 35A.33.050. The city's legislative body and the city's administrative officer or his designated representative shall consider the city's total anticipated financial requirements for the ensuing fiscal year, and the legislative body shall determine and fix by ordinance the amount to be raised by ad valorem taxes. Upon adoption of the ordinance fixing the amount of ad valorem taxes to be levied, the clerk shall certify the same to the board of county commissioners as required by RCW 84.52.020. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.33.135.]

**35A.33.140 Funds—Quarterly report of status.** At such intervals as may be required by city charter or ordinance, however, being not less than quarterly, the clerk shall submit to the city's legislative body and chief administrative officer a report showing the expenditures and liabilities against each separate budget appropriation incurred during the preceding reporting period and like information for the whole of the current fiscal year to the first day of the current reporting period together with the unexpended balance of each appropriation. The report shall also show the receipts from all sources. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.33.140.]

**35A.33.145 Contingency fund—Creation.** Every code city may create and maintain a contingency fund to provide moneys with which to meet any municipal expense, the necessity or extent of which could not have been foreseen or reasonably evaluated at the time of adopting the annual budget, or from which to provide moneys for those emergencies described in RCW 35A.33.080 and 35A.33.090. Such fund may be supported by a budget appropriation from any tax or other revenue source not restricted in use by law, or also may be supported by a transfer from other unex-



pended or decreased funds made available by ordinance as set forth in RCW 35A.33.120: PROVIDED, That the total amount accumulated in such fund at any time shall not exceed the equivalent of thirty-seven and one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation of property within the city at such time. Any moneys in the contingency fund at the end of the fiscal year shall not lapse except upon reappropriation by the council to another fund in the adoption of a subsequent budget. [1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 28; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.33.145.]

**Severability—Effective dates and termination dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195:** See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

**35A.33.146 Contingency fund—Withdrawals.** No money shall be withdrawn from the contingency fund except by transfer to the appropriate operating fund authorized by a resolution or ordinance of the council, adopted by a vote of the majority of the entire council, clearly stating the facts constituting the reason for the withdrawal or the emergency as the case may be, specifying the fund to which the withdrawn money shall be transferred. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.33.146.]

**35A.33.150 Unexpended appropriations.** All appropriations in any current operating fund shall lapse at the end of each fiscal year: PROVIDED, That this shall not prevent payments in the following year upon uncompleted programs or improvements in progress or on orders subsequently filled or claims subsequently billed for the purchase of material, equipment and supplies or for personal or contractual services not completed or furnished by the end of the fiscal year, all of which have been properly budgeted and contracted for prior to the close of such fiscal year but furnished or completed in due course thereafter.

All appropriations in a special fund authorized by ordinance or by state law to be used only for the purpose or purposes therein specified, including any cumulative reserve funds lawfully established in specific or general terms for any municipal purpose or purposes, or a contingency fund as authorized by RCW 35A.33.145, shall not lapse, but shall be carried forward from year to year until fully expended or the purpose has been accomplished or abandoned, without necessity of reappropriation.

The accounts for budgetary control for each fiscal year shall be kept open for twenty days after the close of such fiscal year for the purpose of paying and recording claims for indebtedness incurred during such fiscal year; any claim presented after the twentieth day following the close of the fiscal year shall be paid from appropriations lawfully provided for the ensuing period, including those made available by provisions of this section, and shall be recorded in the accounts for the ensuing fiscal year. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.33.150.]

**35A.33.160 Violations and penalties.** Upon the conviction of any city official, department head or other city employee of knowingly failing, or refusing, without just cause, to perform any duty imposed upon such officer or employee by this chapter, or city ordinance or charter, in connection with the giving of notice, the preparing and filing of estimates of revenues or expenditures or other information

required for preparing a budget report in the time and manner required, or of knowingly making expenditures in excess of budget appropriations, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars for each separate violation. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.33.160.]

## Chapter 35A.34 BIENNIAL BUDGETS

### Sections

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- 35A.34.270 Unexpended appropriations.
- 35A.34.280 Violations and penalties.

**35A.34.010 Legislative intent.** See RCW 35.34.010.

**35A.34.020 Application of chapter.** This chapter applies to all code cities which have by ordinance adopted this chapter authorizing the adoption of a fiscal biennium budget. [1985 c 175 § 34.]

**35A.34.030 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Clerk" includes the officer performing the functions of a finance or budget director, comptroller, auditor, or by whatever title the officer may be known in any code city.

(2) "Department" includes each office, division, service, system, or institution of the city for which no other statutory or charter provision is made for budgeting and accounting procedures or controls.

(3) "Legislative body" includes the council, commission, or any other group of officials serving as the legislative body of a code city.

(4) "Chief administrative officer" includes the mayor of cities having a mayor-council plan of government, the commissioners in cities having a commission plan of government, the manager, or any other city official designated by the charter or ordinances of such city under the plan of government governing the same, or the budget or finance officer designated by the mayor, manager, or commissioners, to perform the functions, or portions thereof, contemplated by this chapter.

(5) "Fiscal biennium" means the period from January 1 of each odd-numbered year through December 31 of the next succeeding even-numbered year.

(6) "Fund" and "funds" where clearly used to indicate the plural of "fund" means the budgeting or accounting entity authorized to provide a sum of money for specified activities or purposes.

(7) "Funds" where not used to indicate the plural of "fund" means money in hand or available for expenditure or payment of a debt or obligation.

(8) Except as otherwise defined in this chapter, municipal accounting terms used in this chapter have the meaning prescribed by the state auditor pursuant to RCW 43.09.200. [1985 c 175 § 35.]

*"Fiscal biennium" defined: RCW 1.16.020.*

**35A.34.040 Biennial budget authorized—Limitations.** All code cities are authorized to establish by ordinance a two-year fiscal biennium budget. The ordinance shall be enacted at least six months prior to commencement of the fiscal biennium and this chapter applies to all code cities which utilize a fiscal biennium budget. Code cities which establish a fiscal biennium budget are authorized to repeal such ordinance and provide for reversion to a fiscal year budget. The ordinance may only be repealed effective as of the conclusion of a fiscal biennium. However, the city shall comply with chapter 35A.33 RCW in developing and adopting the budget for the first fiscal year following repeal of the ordinance. [1985 c 175 § 36.]

**35A.34.050 Budget estimates—Submittal.** On or before the second Monday of the fourth month prior to the beginning of the city's next fiscal biennium, or at such other time as the city may provide by ordinance or charter, the clerk shall notify in writing the head of each department of a city to file with the clerk within fourteen days of the receipt of such notification, detailed estimates of the probable revenue from sources other than ad valorem taxation and of all expenditures required by the department for the ensuing fiscal biennium. The notice shall be accompanied by the proper forms provided by the clerk, prepared in accordance with the requirements and classification established by the division of municipal corporations in the office of the state auditor. The clerk shall prepare the estimates for interest and debt redemption requirements and all other estimates, the preparation of which falls properly within the duties of the clerk's office. The chief administrative officers of the city shall submit to the clerk detailed estimates of all expenditures proposed to be financed from the proceeds of bonds or warrants not yet authorized, together with a statement of the proposed method of financing them. In the absence or disability of the official or person regularly in

charge of a department, the duties required by this section shall devolve upon the person next in charge of such department. [1985 c 175 § 37.]

**35A.34.060 Budget estimates—Classification and segregation.** All estimates of receipts and expenditures for the ensuing fiscal biennium shall be fully detailed in the biennial budget and shall be classified and segregated according to a standard classification of accounts to be adopted and prescribed by the state auditor through the division of municipal corporations after consultation with the Washington finance officers association, the association of Washington cities, and the association of Washington city managers. [1985 c 175 § 38.]

**35A.34.070 Proposed preliminary budget.** On or before the first business day in the third month prior to the beginning of the biennium of a city or at such other time as the city may provide by ordinance or charter, the clerk or other person designated by the charter, by ordinances, or by the chief administrative officer of the city shall submit to the chief administrative officer a proposed preliminary budget which shall set forth the complete financial program of the city for the ensuing fiscal biennium, showing the expenditure program requested by each department and the sources of revenue by which each such program is proposed to be financed.

The revenue section shall set forth in comparative and tabular form for each fund the actual receipts for the last completed fiscal biennium, the estimated receipts for the current fiscal biennium, and the estimated receipts for the ensuing fiscal biennium, which shall include the amount to be raised from ad valorem taxes and unencumbered fund balances estimated to be available at the close of the current fiscal biennium. However, if the city was not utilizing a fiscal biennium budget for the previous three years, it shall set forth its fiscal years' revenues to reflect actual and estimated receipts as if it had previously utilized a biennial budgetary process.

The expenditure section shall set forth in comparative and tabular form for each fund and every department operating within each fund the actual expenditures for the last completed fiscal biennium, the appropriations for the current fiscal biennium, and the estimated expenditures for the ensuing fiscal biennium. However, if the city was not utilizing a fiscal biennium budget for the previous three years, it shall set forth its fiscal years' expenditures to reflect actual and estimated levels as if it had previously utilized a biennial budgetary process. The expenditure section shall further set forth separately the salary or salary range for each office, position, or job classification together with the title or position designation thereof. However, salaries may be set out in total amounts under each department if a detailed schedule of such salaries and positions be attached and made a part of the budget document. [1985 c 175 § 39.]

**35A.34.080 Preliminary budget.** The chief administrative officer shall prepare the preliminary budget in detail, making any revisions or additions to the reports of the department heads deemed advisable by such chief administrative officer. At least sixty days before the beginning of

the city's next fiscal biennium the chief administrative officer shall file it with the clerk as the recommendation of the chief administrative officer for the final budget. The clerk shall provide a sufficient number of copies of such preliminary budget and budget message to meet the reasonable demands of taxpayers therefor and have them available for distribution not later than six weeks before the beginning of the city's next fiscal biennium. [1985 c 175 § 40.]

**35A.34.090 Budget message—Hearings.** (1) In every city, a budget message prepared by or under the direction of the city's chief administrative officer shall be submitted as a part of the preliminary budget to the city's legislative body at least sixty days before the beginning of the city's next fiscal biennium and shall contain the following:

- (a) An explanation of the budget document;
- (b) An outline of the recommended financial policies and programs of the city for the ensuing fiscal biennium;
- (c) A statement of the relation of the recommended appropriation to such policies and programs;
- (d) A statement of the reason for salient changes from the previous biennium in appropriation and revenue items; and
- (e) An explanation for any recommended major changes in financial policy.

(2) Prior to the final hearing on the budget, the legislative body or a committee thereof shall schedule hearings on the budget or parts thereof, and may require the presence of department heads to give information regarding estimates and programs. [1985 c 175 § 41.]

**35A.34.100 Budget—Notice of hearing.** Immediately following the filing of the preliminary budget with the clerk, the clerk shall publish a notice once a week for two consecutive weeks stating that the preliminary budget for the ensuing fiscal biennium has been filed with the clerk, that a copy thereof will be made available to any taxpayer who will call at the clerk's office therefor, that the legislative body of the city will meet on or before the first Monday of the month next preceding the beginning of the ensuing fiscal biennium for the purpose of fixing the final budget, designating the date, time, and place of the legislative budget meeting, and that any taxpayer may appear thereat and be heard for or against any part of the budget. The publication of the notice shall be made in the official newspaper of the city if there is one, otherwise in a newspaper of general circulation in the city. If there is no newspaper of general circulation in the city, then notice may be made by posting in three public places fixed by ordinance as the official places for posting the city's official notices. [1985 c 175 § 42.]

**35A.34.110 Budget—Hearing.** The legislative body shall meet on the day fixed by RCW 35A.34.100 for the purpose of fixing the final budget of the city at the time and place designated in the notice thereof. Any taxpayer may appear and be heard for or against any part of the budget. The hearing may be continued from day to day but not later than the twenty-fifth day prior to commencement of the city's fiscal biennium. [1985 c 175 § 43.]

**35A.34.120 Budget—Adoption.** Following conclusion of the hearing, and prior to the beginning of the fiscal biennium, the legislative body shall make such adjustments and changes as it deems necessary or proper and, after determining the allowance in each item, department, classification, and fund, shall by ordinance adopt the budget in its final form and content. Appropriations shall be limited to the total estimated revenues contained therein including the amount to be raised by ad valorem taxes and the unencumbered fund balances estimated to be available at the close of the current fiscal biennium. Such ordinances may adopt the final budget by reference. However, the ordinance adopting the budget shall set forth in summary form the totals of estimated revenues and appropriations for each separate fund and the aggregate totals for all such funds combined.

A complete copy of the final budget as adopted shall be transmitted to the division of municipal corporations in the office of the state auditor and to the association of Washington cities. [1985 c 175 § 44.]

**35A.34.130 Budget—Mid-biennial review and modification.** The legislative authority of a city having adopted the provisions of this chapter shall provide by ordinance for a mid-biennial review and modification of the biennial budget. The ordinance shall provide that such review and modification shall occur no sooner than eight months after the start nor later than conclusion of the first year of the fiscal biennium. The chief administrative officer shall prepare the proposed budget modification and shall provide for publication of notice of hearings consistent with publication of notices for adoption of other city ordinances. City ordinances providing for a mid-biennial review and modification shall establish procedures for distribution of the proposed modification to members of the city legislative authority, procedures for making copies available to the public, and shall provide for public hearings on the proposed budget modification. The budget modification shall be by ordinance approved in the same manner as are other ordinances of the city.

A complete copy of the budget modification as adopted shall be transmitted to the division of municipal corporations in the office of the state auditor and to the association of Washington cities. [1985 c 175 § 45.]

**35A.34.140 Emergency expenditures—Nondebatable emergencies.** Upon the happening of any emergency caused by violence of nature, casualty, riot, insurrection, war, or other unanticipated occurrence requiring the immediate preservation of order or public health, or for the property which has been damaged or destroyed by accident, or for public relief from calamity, or in settlement of approved claims for personal injuries or property damages, or to meet mandatory expenditures required by law enacted since the last budget was adopted, or to cover expenses incident to preparing for or establishing a new form of government authorized or assumed after adoption of the current budget, including any expenses incident to selection of additional or new officials required thereby, or incident to employee recruitment at any time, the city legislative body, upon the adoption of an ordinance, by the vote of one more than the majority of all members of the legislative body, stating the

facts constituting the emergency and the estimated amount required to meet it, may make the expenditures therefor without notice or hearing. [1985 c 175 § 46.]

**35A.34.150 Emergency expenditures—Other emergencies—Hearing.** If a public emergency which could not reasonably have been foreseen at the time of filing the preliminary budget requires the expenditure of money not provided for in the budget, and if it is not one of the emergencies specifically enumerated in RCW 35A.34.140, the city legislative body before allowing any expenditure therefor shall adopt an ordinance stating the facts constituting the emergency and the estimated amount required to meet it and declaring that an emergency exists.

The ordinance shall not be voted on until five days have elapsed after its introduction, and for passage shall require the vote of one more than the majority of all members of the legislative body of the city.

Any taxpayer may appear at the meeting at which the emergency ordinance is to be voted on and be heard for or against the adoption thereof. [1985 c 175 § 47.]

**35A.34.160 Emergency expenditures—Warrants—Payment.** All expenditures for emergency purposes as provided in this chapter shall be paid by warrants from any available money in the fund properly chargeable with such expenditures. If, at any time, there is insufficient money on hand in a fund with which to pay such warrants as presented, the warrants shall be registered, bear interest, and be called in the same manner as other registered warrants as prescribed in RCW 35A.21.110. [1985 c 175 § 48.]

**35A.34.170 Registered warrants—Payment.** In adopting the final budget for any fiscal biennium, the legislative body shall appropriate from estimated revenue sources available, a sufficient amount to pay the principal and interest on all outstanding registered warrants issued since the adoption of the last preceding budget except those issued and identified as revenue warrants and except those for which an appropriation previously has been made. However, no portion of the revenues which are restricted in use by law may be appropriated for the redemption of warrants issued against a utility or other special purpose fund of a self-supporting nature. In addition, all or any portion of the city's outstanding registered warrants may be funded into bonds in any manner authorized by law. [1985 c 175 § 49.]

**35A.34.180 Adjustment of wages, hours and conditions of employment.** Notwithstanding the appropriations for any salary or salary range of any employee or employees adopted in a final budget, the legislative body of any city may, by ordinance, change the wages, hours, and conditions of employment of any or all of its appointive employees if sufficient funds are available for appropriation to such purposes. [1985 c 175 § 50.]

**35A.34.190 Forms—Accounting—Supervision by state.** The division of municipal corporations in the office of the state auditor is empowered to make and install the forms and classifications required by this chapter to define what expenditures are chargeable to each budget class and to

establish the accounting and cost systems necessary to secure accurate budget information. [1985 c 175 § 51.]

**35A.34.200 Funds—Limitations on expenditures—Transfers and adjustments.** (1) The expenditures as classified and itemized in the final budget shall constitute the city's appropriations for the ensuing fiscal biennium. Unless otherwise ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction, and subject to further limitations imposed by ordinance of the city, the expenditure of city funds or the incurring of current liabilities on behalf of the city shall be limited to the following:

(a) The total amount appropriated for each fund in the budget for the current fiscal biennium, without regard to the individual items contained therein, except that this limitation does not apply to wage adjustments authorized by RCW 35A.34.180;

(b) The unexpended appropriation balances of a preceding budget which may be carried forward from prior fiscal periods pursuant to RCW 35A.34.270;

(c) Funds received from the sale of bonds or warrants which have been duly authorized according to law;

(d) Funds received in excess of estimated revenues during the current fiscal biennium, when authorized by an ordinance amending the original budget; and

(e) Expenditures authorized by budget modification as provided by RCW 35A.34.130 and those required for emergencies, as authorized by RCW 35A.34.140 and 35A.34.150.

(2) Transfers between individual appropriations within any one fund may be made during the current fiscal biennium by order of the city's chief administrative officer subject to such regulations, if any, as may be imposed by the city legislative body. Notwithstanding the provisions of RCW 43.09.210 or of any statute to the contrary, transfers, as authorized in this section, may be made within the same fund regardless of the various offices, departments, or divisions of the city which may be affected.

(3) The city legislative body, upon a finding that it is to the best interests of the city to decrease, revoke, or recall all or any portion of the total appropriations provided for any one fund, may, by ordinance, approved by the vote of one more than the majority of all members thereof, stating the facts and findings for doing so, decrease, revoke, or recall all or any portion of an unexpended fund balance, and by said ordinance, or a subsequent ordinance adopted by a like majority, the moneys thus released may be reappropriated for another purpose or purposes, without limitation to department, division, or fund, unless the use of such moneys is otherwise restricted by law, charter, or ordinance. [1985 c 175 § 52.]

**35A.34.205 Administration, oversight, or supervision of utility—Reimbursement from utility budget authorized.** Whenever any code city apportions a percentage of the city manager's, administrator's, or supervisor's time, or the time of other management or general government staff, for administration, oversight, or supervision of a utility operated by the city, or to provide services to the utility, the utility budget may identify such services and

budget for reimbursement of the city's current expense fund for the value of such services. [1991 c 152 § 4.]

**35A.34.210 Liabilities incurred in excess of budget.** Liabilities incurred by any officer or employee of the city in excess of any budget appropriations shall not be a liability of the city. The clerk shall issue no warrant and the city legislative body or other authorized person shall approve no claim for an expenditure in excess of the total amount appropriated for any individual fund, except upon an order of a court of competent jurisdiction or for emergencies as provided in this chapter. [1985 c 175 § 53.]

**35A.34.220 Funds received from sales of bonds and warrants—Expenditures.** Moneys received from the sale of bonds or warrants shall be used for no other purpose than that for which they were issued and no expenditure shall be made for that purpose until the bonds have been duly authorized. If any unexpended fund balance remains from the proceeds realized from the bonds or warrants after the accomplishment of the purpose for which they were issued, it shall be used for the redemption of such bond or warrant indebtedness. Where a budget contains an expenditure program to be financed from a bond issue to be authorized thereafter, no such expenditure shall be made or incurred until after the bonds have been duly authorized. [1985 c 175 § 54.]

**35A.34.230 Revenue estimates—Amount to be raised by ad valorem taxes.** At a time fixed by the city's ordinance or city charter, not later than the first Monday in October of the second year of each fiscal biennium, the chief administrative officer shall provide the city's legislative body with current information on estimates of revenues from all sources as adopted in the budget for the current biennium, together with estimates submitted by the clerk under RCW 35A.34.070. The city's legislative body and the city's administrative officer or the officer's designated representative shall consider the city's total anticipated financial requirements for the ensuing fiscal biennium, and the legislative body shall determine and fix by ordinance the amount to be raised the first year of the biennium by ad valorem taxes. The legislative body shall review such information as is provided by the chief administrative officer and shall adopt an ordinance establishing the amount to be raised by ad valorem taxes during the second year of the biennium. Upon adoption of the ordinance fixing the amount of ad valorem taxes to be levied, the clerk shall certify the same to the county legislative authority as required by RCW 84.52.020. [1985 c 175 § 55.]

**35A.34.240 Funds—Quarterly report of status.** At such intervals as may be required by city charter or city ordinance, however, being not less than quarterly, the clerk shall submit to the city's legislative body and chief administrative officer a report showing the expenditures and liabilities against each separate budget appropriation incurred during the preceding reporting period and like information for the whole of the current fiscal biennium to the first day of the current reporting period together with the unexpended

balance of each appropriation. The report shall also show the receipts from all sources. [1985 c 175 § 56.]

**35A.34.250 Contingency fund—Creation.** Every city may create and maintain a contingency fund to provide moneys with which to meet any municipal expense, the necessity or extent of which could not have been foreseen or reasonably evaluated at the time of adopting the annual budget, or from which to provide moneys for those emergencies described in RCW 35A.34.140 and 35A.34.150. Such fund may be supported by a budget appropriation from any tax or other revenue source not restricted in use by law, or also may be supported by a transfer from other unexpended or decreased funds made available by ordinance as set forth in RCW 35A.34.200. However, the total amount accumulated in such fund at any time shall not exceed the equivalent of thirty-seven and one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation of property within the city at such time. Any moneys in the emergency fund at the end of the fiscal biennium shall not lapse except upon reappropriation by the council to another fund in the adoption of a subsequent budget. [1985 c 175 § 57.]

**35A.34.260 Contingency fund—Withdrawals.** No money shall be withdrawn from the contingency fund except by transfer to the appropriate operating fund authorized by a resolution or ordinance of the legislative body of the city, adopted by a majority vote of the entire legislative body, clearly stating the facts constituting the reason for the withdrawal or the emergency as the case may be, specifying the fund to which the withdrawn money shall be transferred. [1985 c 175 § 58.]

**35A.34.270 Unexpended appropriations.** All appropriations in any current operating fund shall lapse at the end of each fiscal biennium. However, this shall not prevent payments in the following biennium upon uncompleted programs or improvements in progress or on orders subsequently filled or claims subsequently billed for the purchase of material, equipment, and supplies or for personal or contractual services not completed or furnished by the end of the fiscal biennium, all of which have been properly budgeted and contracted for prior to the close of such fiscal biennium, but furnished or completed in due course thereafter.

All appropriations in a special fund authorized by ordinance or by state law to be used only for the purpose or purposes therein specified, including any cumulative reserve funds lawfully established in specific or general terms for any municipal purpose or purposes, or a contingency fund as authorized by RCW 35A.34.250, shall not lapse, but shall be carried forward from biennium to biennium until fully expended or the purpose has been accomplished or abandoned, without necessity of reappropriation.

The accounts for budgetary control for each fiscal biennium shall be kept open for twenty days after the close of such fiscal biennium for the purpose of paying and recording claims for indebtedness incurred during such fiscal biennium; any claim presented after the twentieth day following the close of the fiscal biennium shall be paid from appropriations lawfully provided for the ensuing period,

including those made available by provisions of this section, and shall be recorded in the accounts for the ensuing fiscal biennium. [1985 c 175 § 59.]

**35A.34.280 Violations and penalties.** Upon the conviction of any city official, department head, or other city employee of knowingly failing, or refusing, without just cause, to perform any duty imposed upon such officer or employee by this chapter, or city charter or city ordinance, in connection with the giving of notice, the preparing and filing of estimates of revenues or expenditures or other information required for preparing a budget report in the time and manner required, or of knowingly making expenditures in excess of budget appropriations, the official or employee shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars for each separate violation. [1985 c 175 § 60.]

### Chapter 35A.35

#### INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

##### Sections

- 35A.35.010 Joint facilities and agreements.
- 35A.35.020 Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act—  
Authority to contract with federal government.

**35A.35.010 Joint facilities and agreements.** In addition to exercising all authority granted to cities of any class for joint or intergovernmental cooperation and activity and agreements for the acquisition, ownership, leasing, control, improvement, occupation and use of land or other property with a county, another city, or governmental agency, and in addition to authority granted to code cities by RCW 35A.11.040, every code city may exercise the powers relating to jails, places of detention, civic centers, civic halls and armories as is authorized by chapters 36.64 and 38.20 RCW. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.35.010.]

**35A.35.020 Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act—Authority to contract with federal government.** See RCW 35.21.660.

### Chapter 35A.36

#### EXECUTION OF BONDS BY PROXY IN CODE CITIES

##### Sections

- 35A.36.010 Appointment of proxies.
- 35A.36.020 Coupons—Printing facsimile signatures.
- 35A.36.030 Deputies—Exemptions.
- 35A.36.040 Designation of bonds to be signed.
- 35A.36.050 Liability of officer.
- 35A.36.060 Notice to council.
- 35A.36.070 Revocation of proxy.

**35A.36.010 Appointment of proxies.** The mayor, finance officer, city clerk, or other officer of a code city who is authorized or required by law, charter, or ordinance to execute bonds of the city or any subdivision or district thereof may designate one or more bonded persons to affix such officer's signature to any bond or bonds requiring his

signature. If the signature of one of these officers is affixed to a bond during his continuance in office by a proxy designated by him whose authority has not been revoked, the bond shall be as binding upon the city and all concerned as though the officer had signed the bond in person. This chapter shall apply to all bonds, whether they constitute obligations of the city as a whole or of any local improvement or other district or subdivision thereof, whether they call for payment from the general funds of the city or from a local, special or other fund, and whether negotiable or otherwise. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.36.010.]

**35A.36.020 Coupons—Printing facsimile signatures.** A facsimile reproduction of the signature of any of the code city officers referred to in RCW 35A.36.010 may be printed, engraved, or lithographed upon bond coupons with the same effect as though the particular officer had signed the coupon in person. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.36.020.]

**35A.36.030 Deputies—Exemptions.** This chapter shall not be construed to require the appointment of deputy finance officers or deputy city clerks of code cities to be made in accordance with this chapter insofar as concerns signatures or other acts which may lawfully be made or done by such deputy officer under the provisions of any other law. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.36.030.]

**35A.36.040 Designation of bonds to be signed.** The officer of a code city whose duty it is to cause any bonds to be printed, engraved, or lithographed, shall specify in a written order or requisition to the printer, engraver, or lithographer the number of bonds to be printed, engraved or lithographed and the manner of numbering them. Every printer, engraver, or lithographer who knowingly prints, engraves, or lithographs a greater number of bonds than that specified or who knowingly prints, engraves, or lithographs more than one bond bearing the same number shall be guilty of a felony. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.36.040.]

**35A.36.050 Liability of officer.** A code city officer authorizing the affixing of his signature to a bond by a proxy shall be subject to the same liability personally and on his bond for any signature so affixed and to the same extent as if he had affixed his signature in person. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.36.050.]

**35A.36.060 Notice to council.** In order to designate a proxy to affix his signature to bonds, a code city officer shall address a written notice to the legislative body of the city giving the name of the person whom he has selected therefor and stating generally or specifically what bonds are to be so signed.

Attached to or included in the notice shall be a written signature of the officer making the designation executed by the proposed proxy followed by the word "by" and his own signature; or, if the notice so states, the specimen signatures may consist of a facsimile reproduction of the officer's signature impressed by some mechanical process followed by the word "by" and the proxy's own signature.

If the authority is intended to include the signature upon bonds bearing an earlier date than the effective date of the

notice, the prior dated bonds must be specifically described by reasonable reference thereto.

The notice designating a proxy shall be filed with the city finance officer or city clerk, together with the specimen signatures attached thereto and a record of the filing shall be made in the journal of the legislative body. This record shall note the date and hour of filing and may be made by the official who keeps the journal at any time after the filing of the notice, even during a period of recess or adjournment of the legislative body. The notice shall be effective from the time of its recording. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.36.060.]

**35A.36.070 Revocation of proxy.** Any designation of a proxy may be revoked by written notice addressed to the legislative body of the code city signed by the officer who made the designation and filed and recorded in the same manner as the notice of designation. It shall be effective from the time of its recording but shall not affect the validity of any signatures theretofore made. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.36.070.]

### Chapter 35A.37

#### FUNDS, SPECIAL PURPOSE

##### Sections

35A.37.010 Segregating and accounting.

**35A.37.010 Segregating and accounting.** Code cities shall establish such funds for the segregation, budgeting, expenditure and accounting for moneys received for special purposes as are required by general law applicable to such cities' activities and the officers thereof shall pay into, expend from, and account for such moneys in the manner provided therefor including but not limited to the requirements of the following:

- (1) Accounting funds as required by RCW 35.37.010;
- (2) Annexation and consolidation fund as required by chapters 35.10 and 35.13 RCW;
- (3) Assessment fund as required by RCW 8.12.480;
- (4) Equipment rental fund as authorized by RCW 35.21.088;
- (5) Current expense fund as required by RCW 35.37.010, usually referred to as the general fund;
- (6) Local improvement guaranty fund as required by RCW 35.54.010;
- (7) An indebtedness and sinking fund, together with separate funds for utilities and institutions as required by RCW 35.37.020;
- (8) Local improvement district fund and revolving fund as required by RCW 35.45.130 and 35.48.010;
- (9) City street fund as required by chapter 35.76 RCW and RCW 47.24.040;
- (10) Firemen's relief and pension fund as required by chapters 41.16 and 41.18 RCW;
- (11) Policemen's relief and pension fund as required by RCW 41.20.130 and 63.32.030;
- (12) First class cities' employees retirement and pension system as authorized by chapter 41.28 RCW;
- (13) Applicable rules of the division of municipal corporations office of state auditor. RCW 43.09.190 through 43.09.282. [1983 c 3 § 62; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.37.010.]

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### Chapter 35A.38

#### EMERGENCY SERVICES

##### Sections

35A.38.010 Local organization.

**35A.38.010 Local organization.** A code city may participate in the creation of local organizations for emergency services, provide for mutual aid, and exercise all of the powers and privileges and perform all of the functions and duties, and the officers and employees thereof shall have the same powers, duties, rights, privileges and immunities as any city of any class, and the employees thereof, have in connection with emergency services as provided in chapter 38.52 RCW in the manner provided by said chapters or by general law. [1974 ex.s. c 171 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.38.010.]

### Chapter 35A.39

#### PUBLIC DOCUMENTS AND RECORDS

##### Sections

35A.39.010 Legislative and administrative records.

**35A.39.010 Legislative and administrative records.** Every code city shall keep a journal of minutes of its legislative meetings with orders, resolutions and ordinances passed, and records of the proceedings of any city department, division or commission performing quasi judicial functions as required by ordinances of the city and general laws of the state and shall keep such records open to the public as required by RCW 42.32.030 and shall keep and preserve all public records and publications or reproduce and destroy the same as provided by Title 40 RCW. Each code city shall provide three copies of each of its ordinances of general application to the association of Washington cities without charge and may duplicate and sell copies of its ordinances at fees reasonably calculated to defray the cost of such duplication and handling. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.39.010.]

### Chapter 35A.40

#### FISCAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO CODE CITIES

##### Sections

- 35A.40.010 Accounting—Funds—Indebtedness—Bonds.  
 35A.40.020 Code city may elect to use checks when funds are solvent.  
 35A.40.030 Fiscal—Depositaries.  
 35A.40.050 Fiscal—Investment of funds.  
 35A.40.060 Fiscal—Validation and funding of debts.  
 35A.40.070 Fiscal—Municipal revenue bond act.  
 35A.40.080 Bonds—Form, terms, and maturity.  
 35A.40.090 Limitation on indebtedness.  
 35A.40.100 Bankruptcy, readjustment and relief from debts.  
 35A.40.110 Employee checks, drafts, warrants—City may cash.  
 35A.40.200 General law relating to public works and contracts.  
 35A.40.210 Public work contracts or purchases—Procedures.

**35A.40.010 Accounting—Funds—Indebtedness—Bonds.** Municipal accounts and funds, the contracting of indebtedness for municipal purposes and the issuance and



payment of bonds therefor, the validation of preexisting obligations by the voters of a consolidated city, debt limitations, elections for authorization of the incurring of indebtedness, and provisions pertaining to the issuance, sale, funding and redemption of general obligation bonds and remedies for nonpayment thereof are governed and controlled by the general law as contained in, but not limited to chapters 35.37, 39.40, 39.46, 39.52, 39.56, and 43.80 RCW, and are hereby recognized as applicable to code cities. [1984 c 186 § 24; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.40.010.]

**Purpose—1984 c 186:** See note following RCW 39.46.110.

**35A.40.020 Code city may elect to use checks when funds are solvent.** A code city, by ordinance, may adopt a policy for the payment of claims or other obligations of the city, which are payable out of solvent funds, electing either to pay such obligations by warrant, or to pay such obligations by check: PROVIDED, That no check shall be issued when the applicable fund is not solvent at the time payment is ordered, but a warrant shall be issued therefor. When checks are to be used, the legislative body shall designate the qualified public depository whereon such checks are to be drawn, and the officers authorized or required to sign such checks. Wherever in this title, reference is made to warrants, such term shall include checks where authorized by this section. [1984 c 177 § 5; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.40.020.]

**35A.40.030 Fiscal—Depositaries.** The legislative body of a code city, at the end of each fiscal year, or at such other times as the legislative body may direct, shall designate one or more financial institutions which are qualified public depositaries as set forth by the public deposit protection commission as depository or depositaries of the moneys required to be kept by the code city treasurer or other officer performing the duties commonly performed by the treasurer of a code city: PROVIDED, That where any bank has been designated as a depository hereunder such designation shall continue in force until revoked by a majority vote of the legislative body of such code city. The provisions relating to depositaries, contained in chapter 39.58 RCW, as now or hereafter amended, are hereby recognized as applicable to code cities and to the depositaries designated by them. [1984 c 177 § 6; 1973 c 126 § 4; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.40.030.]

**35A.40.050 Fiscal—Investment of funds.** Excess and inactive funds on hand in the treasury of any code city may be invested in the same manner and subject to the same limitations as provided for city and town funds in all applicable statutes, including, but not limited to the following: RCW 35.39.030, 35.58.510, 35.81.070, 35.82.070, 36.29.020, 39.58.020, 39.58.080, 39.58.130, 39.60.010, 39.60.020, 41.16.040, 68.52.060, 68.52.065, and 72.19.120.

The responsibility for determining the amount of money available in each fund for investment purposes shall be placed upon the department, division or board responsible for the administration of such fund.

Moneys thus determined available for this purpose may be invested on an individual fund basis or may, unless otherwise restricted by law be commingled within one

common investment portfolio for the mutual benefit of all participating funds: PROVIDED, That if such moneys are commingled in a common investment portfolio, all income derived therefrom shall be apportioned among the various participating funds in direct proportion to the amount of money invested by each.

Any excess or inactive funds on hand in the city treasury not otherwise invested for the specific benefit of any particular fund, may be invested by the city treasurer in United States government bonds, notes, bills or certificates of indebtedness for the benefit of the general or current expense fund. [1987 c 331 § 77; 1983 c 66 § 2; 1983 c 3 § 64; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.40.050.]

**Effective date—1987 c 331:** See RCW 68.05.900.

**Severability—1983 c 66:** See note following RCW 39.58.010.

**35A.40.060 Fiscal—Validation and funding of debts.** The provisions of general law contained in chapters 35.40 and 39.90 RCW, relating to the validation and funding of debts and elections pertaining thereto is hereby recognized as applicable to code cities. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.40.060.]

**35A.40.070 Fiscal—Municipal revenue bond act.** All provisions of chapter 35.41 RCW, the Municipal Revenue Bond Act, shall be applicable and/or available to code cities. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.40.070.]

**35A.40.080 Bonds—Form, terms, and maturity.** In addition to any other authority granted by law, a code city shall have authority to ratify and fund indebtedness as provided by chapter 35.40 RCW; to issue revenue bonds, coupons and warrants as authorized by chapter 35.41 RCW; to authorize and issue local improvement bonds and warrants, installment notes and interest certificates as authorized by chapter 35.45 RCW; to fund indebtedness and to issue other bonds as authorized by chapters 39.44, 39.48, 39.52 RCW, RCW 39.56.020, and 39.56.030 in accordance with the procedures and subject to the limitations therein provided. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.40.080.]

**35A.40.090 Limitation on indebtedness.** No code city shall incur an indebtedness exceeding three-fourths of one percent of the value of the taxable property in such city without the assent of three-fifths of the voters therein voting at an election to be held for that purpose nor, with such assent, to exceed two and one-half percent of the value of the taxable property therein except as otherwise provided in chapter 39.36 RCW and subject to the provisions of this chapter and shall have the authority and be subject to the constitutional and/or statutory limitations relating to levy of taxes. The term "value of the taxable property" shall have the meaning set forth in RCW 39.36.015. [1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 29; 1970 ex.s. c 42 § 16; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.40.090. Cf. 1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 141.]

**Severability—Effective dates and termination dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195:** See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

**Severability—Effective date—1970 ex.s. c 42:** See notes following RCW 39.36.015.

**35A.40.100 Bankruptcy, readjustment and relief from debts.** A code city may exercise the powers and obtain the benefits relating to bankruptcy, readjustment and relief from debts as authorized by chapter 39.64 RCW in accordance with the procedures therein prescribed. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.40.100.]

**35A.40.110 Employee checks, drafts, warrants—City may cash.** Any code city is hereby authorized, at its option and after the adoption of the appropriate ordinance, to accept in exchange for cash a payroll check, draft, or warrant; expense check, draft, or warrant; or personal check from a city employee in accordance with the following conditions:

(1) The check, warrant, or draft must be drawn to the order of cash or bearer and be immediately payable by a drawee financial institution;

(2) The person presenting the check, draft, or warrant to the city must produce identification as outlined by the city in the authorizing ordinance;

(3) The payroll check, draft, or warrant or expense check, draft, or warrant must have been issued by the city; and

(4) Personal checks cashed pursuant to this authorization cannot exceed two hundred dollars.

In the event that any personal check cashed for a city employee by the city under this section is dishonored by the drawee financial institution when presented for payment, the city is authorized, after notice to the drawer or endorser of the dishonor, to withhold from the drawer's or endorser's next payroll check, draft, or warrant the full amount of the dishonored check. [1991 c 185 § 2.]

**35A.40.200 General law relating to public works and contracts.** Every code city shall have the authority to make public improvements and to perform public works under authority provided by general law for any class of city and to make contracts in accordance with procedure and subject to the conditions provided therefor, including but not limited to the provisions of: (1) Chapter 39.04 RCW, relating to public works; (2) RCW 35.23.352 relating to competitive bidding for public works, materials and supplies; (3) RCW 9.18.120 and 9.18.150 relating to suppression of competitive bidding; (4) chapter 60.28 RCW relating to liens for materials and labor performed; (5) chapter 39.08 RCW relating to contractor's bonds; (6) chapters 39.12, 39.16, and 43.03 RCW relating to prevailing wages; (7) chapter 49.12 RCW relating to hours of labor; (8) chapter 51.12 RCW relating to workers' compensation; (9) chapter 49.60 RCW relating to antidiscrimination in employment; (10) chapter 39.24 RCW relating to the use of Washington commodities; and (11) chapter 39.28 RCW relating to emergency public works. [1987 c 185 § 4; 1983 c 3 § 65; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.40.200.]

**Intent—Severability—1987 c 185:** See notes following RCW 51.12.130.

**35A.40.210 Public work contracts or purchases—Procedures.** Procedures for any public work or improvement contracts or purchases for code cities shall be governed by the following statutes, as indicated:

(1) For code cities of twenty thousand population or over, RCW 35.22.620; and

(2) For code cities under twenty thousand population; RCW 35.23.352. [1989 c 11 § 8; 1979 ex.s. c 89 § 3.]

**Severability—1989 c 11:** See note following RCW 9A.56.220.

## Chapter 35A.41

### PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT

#### Sections

35A.41.010 Retirement and pension systems for code cities having a population of more than twenty thousand.

35A.41.020 Public employment and civil service.

35A.41.030 City contracts to obtain sheriff's office law enforcement services.

**35A.41.010 Retirement and pension systems for code cities having a population of more than twenty thousand.** A code city having a population of more than twenty thousand inhabitants, or having been classed theretofore as a city of the first class may exercise all of the powers relating to retirement and pension systems for employees as authorized by RCW 35A.11.020 and by chapter 41.28 RCW in accordance with the procedures prescribed therein and subject to the limitations and penalties thereof. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.41.010.]

**35A.41.020 Public employment and civil service.** Except as otherwise provided in this title, the general provisions relating to public employment, including hospitalization and medical aid as provided in chapter 41.04 RCW, and the application of federal social security for public employees, the acceptance of old age and survivors insurance as provided in chapters 41.47 and 41.48 RCW, military leave as provided in RCW 38.40.060, self-insurance as provided in chapter 48.62 RCW, the application of industrial insurance as provided in Title 51 RCW, and chapter 43.101 RCW relating to training of law enforcement officers, shall apply to code cities. Any code city may retain any civil service system theretofore in effect in such city and may adopt any system of civil service which would be available to any class of city under general law. [1991 sp.s. c 30 § 20; 1983 c 3 § 66; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.41.020.]

**Effective date, implementation, application—Severability—1991 sp.s. c 30:** See RCW 48.62.900 and 48.62.901.

*Political activities of public employees:* RCW 41.06.250.

**35A.41.030 City contracts to obtain sheriff's office law enforcement services.** See RCW 41.14.250 through 41.14.280.

## Chapter 35A.42

### PUBLIC OFFICERS AND AGENCIES, MEETINGS, DUTIES AND POWERS

#### Sections

35A.42.010 City treasurer—Miscellaneous authority and duties.

35A.42.020 Qualification, removal, code of ethics, duties.

35A.42.030 Continuity of government—Enemy attack.

35A.42.040 City clerks and controllers.

35A.42.050 Public officers and employees—Conduct.

*Dog handler using dog in line of duty—Immunity: RCW 4.24.410.*

**35A.42.010 City treasurer—Miscellaneous authority and duties.** In addition to authority granted and duties imposed upon code city treasurers by this title, code city treasurers, or the officers designated by charter or ordinance to perform the duties of a treasurer, shall have the duties and the authority to perform the following: (1) As provided in RCW 8.12.500 relating to bonds and compensation payments in eminent domain proceedings; (2) as provided in RCW 68.52.050 relating to cemetery improvement funds; (3) as provided in RCW 41.28.080 relating to custody of employees' retirement funds; (4) as provided in RCW 47.08.100 relating to the use of city street funds; (5) as provided in RCW 46.68.080 relating to motor vehicle funds; (6) as provided in RCW 41.16.020 and chapter 41.20 RCW relating to police and firemen's relief and pension boards; (7) as provided in chapter 42.20 RCW relating to misappropriation of funds; and (8) as provided in chapter 39.60 RCW relating to investment of municipal funds. The treasurer shall be subject to the penalties imposed for the violation of any of such provisions. Where a provision of this title, or the general law, names the city treasurer as an officer of a board or other body, or assigns duties to a city treasurer, such position shall be filled, or such duties performed, by the officer of a code city who is performing the duties usually performed by a city treasurer, although he may not have that designation. [1987 c 331 § 78; 1984 c 258 § 320; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.42.010.]

**Effective date—1987 c 331:** See RCW 68.05.900.

**Court Improvement Act of 1984—Effective dates—Severability—Short title—1984 c 258:** See notes following RCW 3.30.010.

**Intent—1984 c 258:** See note following RCW 3.46.120.

**35A.42.020 Qualification, removal, code of ethics, duties.** Except as otherwise provided in this title, every elective and appointive officer and all employees of code cities shall: (1) Be possessed of the qualifications and be subject to forfeiture of office, impeachment or removal and recall as provided in chapter 42.04 RCW and RCW 9.81.040; and (2) provide official bonds in accordance with the requirements of this title, and as required in compliance with chapters 42.08 and 48.28 RCW.

When vacancies in public offices in code cities shall occur the term of a replacement officer shall be fixed as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW. A public officer charged with misconduct as defined in chapter 42.20 RCW, shall be charged and, upon conviction, punished as provided for such misconduct in chapter 42.20 RCW. The officers and employees of code cities shall be guided and governed by the code of ethics as provided in chapter 42.23 RCW. Vouchers for the payment of public funds and the provisions for certifying the same shall be as provided in chapter 42.24 RCW. The meetings of any board, agency, or commission of a code city shall be open to the public to the extent and notice given in the manner required by chapter 42.32 RCW. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.42.020.]

**Reviser's note:** RCW 42.32.010 and 42.32.020 were repealed by 1971 ex.s. c 250 § 15; later enactment, see chapter 42.30 RCW.

**Recall of elective officers: State Constitution Art. 1 §§ 33, 34 (Amendment 8); chapter 29.82 RCW.**

**Residence qualifications of officials and employees: RCW 35.21.200.**

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**35A.42.030 Continuity of government—Enemy attack.** In the event that the mayor, manager or other chief executive officer of any code city is unavailable by reason of enemy attack to exercise the powers and to discharge the duties of his office, his successor or substitute shall be selected in the manner provided by RCW 42.14.050 subject to rules and regulations providing for the appointment of temporary interim successors adopted under RCW 42.14.070. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.42.030.]

**35A.42.040 City clerks and controllers.** In addition to any specific enumeration of duties of city clerks in a code city's charter or ordinances, and without limiting the generality of RCW 35A.21.030 of this title, the clerks of all code cities shall perform the following duties in the manner prescribed, to wit: (1) Certification of city streets as part of the highway system in accordance with the provisions of RCW 47.24.010; (2) perform the functions of a member of a firemen's pension board as provided by RCW 41.16.020; (3) keep a record of ordinances of the city and provide copies thereof as authorized by RCW 5.44.080; (4) serve as applicable the trustees of any police relief and pension board as authorized by RCW 41.20.010; and (5) serve as secretary-treasurer of volunteer fire fighters' relief and pension boards as provided in RCW 41.24.060. [1991 c 81 § 39; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.42.040.]

**Effective date—1991 c 81:** See note following RCW 29.85.010.

**35A.42.050 Public officers and employees—Conduct.** In addition to provisions of general law relating to public officials and others in public administration, employment or public works, the duties and conduct of such officers and other persons shall be governed by: (1) Chapter 9A.68 RCW relating to bribery of a public officer; (2) Article II, section 30 of the Constitution of the state of Washington relating to bribery or corrupt solicitation; (3) RCW 35.17.150 relating to misconduct in code cities having a commission form of government; (4) chapter 42.23 RCW in regard to interest in contracts; (5) chapter 29.85 RCW relating to misconduct in connection with elections; (6) RCW 49.44.060 and 49.44.070 relating to grafting by employees; (7) RCW 49.44.020 and 49.44.030 relating to the giving or solicitation of a bribe to a labor representative; (8) chapter 42.20 RCW relating to misconduct of a public officer; (9) RCW 49.52.050 and 49.52.090 relating to rebating by employees; and (10) chapter 9.18 RCW relating to bribery and grafting. [1983 c 3 § 67; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.42.050.]

## Chapter 35A.43

### LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS IN CODE CITIES

#### Sections

35A.43.010 General law applicable to code cities.

35A.43.020 Public lands subject to local assessments.

**35A.43.010 General law applicable to code cities.** Chapters 35.43, 35.44, 35.45, 35.47, 35.48, 35.49, 35.50, 35.53, 35.54, 35.55, and 35.56 RCW all relating to municipal local improvements and made applicable to all incorporated

cities and towns by RCW 35.43.030 are hereby recognized as applicable to all code cities, and the provisions thereof shall supersede the provisions of any charter of a charter code city inconsistent therewith. The provisions of the chapters named in this section shall be effective as to charter code cities to the same extent as such provisions are effective as to cities of the first class, and all code cities may exercise, in the manner provided, any authority therein granted to any class of city. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.43.010.]

*Local improvements, supplemental authority: Chapter 35.51 RCW.*

**35A.43.020 Public lands subject to local assessments.** In addition to the authority provided by chapter 35.44 RCW, and chapter 79.44 RCW, a code city may assess public lands for the cost of local improvements specially benefiting such lands. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.43.020.]

### Chapter 35A.44 CENSUS

#### Sections

35A.44.010 Population determination.

**35A.44.010 Population determination.** The population of code cities shall be determined for specific purposes in accordance with any express provision of state law relating thereto. Where no express provision is made, the provisions of RCW 43.41.110(7) relating to the office of financial management and the provisions of RCW 35.13.260 shall govern. [1979 ex.s. c 18 § 32; 1979 c 151 § 36; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.44.010.]

*Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18: See note following RCW 35A.01.070.*

### Chapter 35A.46 MOTOR VEHICLES

#### Sections

35A.46.010 State law applicable.

**35A.46.010 State law applicable.** The provisions of Title 46 of the Revised Code of Washington relating to regulation of motor vehicles shall be applicable to code cities, its officers and employees to the same extent as such provisions grant powers and impose duties upon cities of any class, their officers and agents, including without limitation the following: (1) Authority to provide for angle parking on certain city streets designated as forming a route of a primary state highway as authorized in RCW 46.61.575; (2) application of city police regulations to port districts as authorized by RCW 53.08.230; (3) authority to establish local regulations relating to city streets forming a part of the state highway system as authorized by RCW 46.44.080; (4) authority to install and operate a station for the inspection of vehicle equipment in conformity with rules, regulations, procedure and standards prescribed by the Washington state patrol as authorized under \*RCW 46.32.030; (5) exemption from the payment of license fees for city owned vehicles as authorized by RCW 46.16.020 and 46.16.290; (6) authority to establish traffic schools as provided by chapter 46.83

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RCW; and (7) authority to enforce the provisions of RCW 81.48.050 relating to railroad crossings. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.46.010.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 46.32.030 was repealed by 1986 c 123 § 7.

### Chapter 35A.47 HIGHWAYS AND STREETS

#### Sections

35A.47.010 Highways, granting land for.

35A.47.020 Streets—Acquisition, standards of design, use, vacation and abandonment—Funds.

35A.47.030 Public highways—Acquisition, agreements, transfers, regulations.

35A.47.040 Franchises and permits—Streets and public ways.

*Contracts for street improvements: Chapter 35.72 RCW.*

*Local adopt-a-highway programs: RCW 47.40.105.*

**35A.47.010 Highways, granting land for.** A code city may exercise the powers relating to granting of property for state highway purposes as authorized by RCW 47.12.040 in accordance with the procedures therein prescribed. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.47.010.]

**35A.47.020 Streets—Acquisition, standards of design, use, vacation and abandonment—Funds.** The designation of code city streets as a part of the state highway system, the jurisdiction and control of such streets, the procedure for acquisition or abandonment of rights of way for city streets and state highways, and the sale or lease of state highway land or toll facility to a code city, the requirements for accounting and expenditure of street funds, and the authority for contracting for the construction, repair and maintenance of streets by the state or county shall be the same as is provided in RCW 36.75.090, chapters 47.08, 47.12, 47.24 and 47.56 RCW, and the regulation of signs thereon as provided in chapter 47.42 RCW. Code cities shall be regulated in the acquisition, construction, maintenance, use and vacation of alleys, city streets, parkways, boulevards and sidewalks and in the design standards therefor as provided in chapters 35.68 through 35.79, 35.85, and 35.86 RCW and RCW 79.93.010 relating to dedication of tidelands and shorelands to public use and in the use of state shared funds as provided by general law. [1983 c 3 § 68; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.47.020.]

**35A.47.030 Public highways—Acquisition, agreements, transfers, regulations.** The provisions of Title 47 RCW shall apply to code cities, its officers and employees to the same extent as such provisions are applicable to any other class of city within the state, including, without limitation, the following: (1) The acquisition by the state of municipal lands and the exchange of state highway and municipal lands, as provided in chapter 47.12 RCW; (2) the dedication of public land for city streets as provided by RCW 36.34.290 and 36.34.300; (3) city contributions to finance toll facilities as provided in RCW 47.56.250; (4) contracts with the department of transportation, as provided in RCW 47.01.210; (5) the construction, maintenance, jurisdiction, and control of city streets, as provided in chapter 47.24 RCW; (6) agreements between the department of

transportation and a city for the benefit or improvement of highways, roads, or streets, as provided in RCW 47.28.140; (7) sales, leases, or transfers as authorized by RCW 47.12.063, 47.12.066, and 47.12.080; (8) the erection of information signs as regulated by RCW 47.42.050 and 47.42.060; (9) provisions relating to limited access highways under chapter 47.52 RCW; (10) the acquisition and abandonment for state highways as provided by RCW 36.75.090 and 90.28.020; and (11) the sharing of maintenance of streets and alleys as an extension of county roads as provided by RCW 35.77.020. [1984 c 258 § 321; 1983 c 3 § 69; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.47.030.]

**Court Improvement Act of 1984—Effective dates—Severability—Short title—1984 c 258:** See notes following RCW 3.30.010.

**Intent—1984 c 258:** See note following RCW 3.46.120.

**35A.47.040 Franchises and permits—Streets and public ways.** Every code city shall have authority to permit and regulate under such restrictions and conditions as it may set by charter or ordinance and to grant nonexclusive franchises for the use of public streets, bridges or other public ways, structures or places above or below the surface of the ground for railroads and other routes and facilities for public conveyances, for poles, conduits, tunnels, towers and structures, pipes and wires and appurtenances thereof for transmission and distribution of electrical energy, signals and other methods of communication, for gas, steam and liquid fuels, for water, sewer and other private and publicly owned and operated facilities for public service. The power hereby granted shall be in addition to the franchise authority granted by general law to cities.

No ordinance or resolution granting any franchise in a code city for any purpose shall be adopted or passed by the city's legislative body on the day of its introduction nor for five days thereafter, nor at any other than a regular meeting nor without first being submitted to the city attorney, nor without having been granted by the approving vote of at least a majority of the entire legislative body, nor without being published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the city before becoming effective.

The city council may require a bond in a reasonable amount for any person or corporation obtaining a franchise from the city conditioned upon the faithful performance of the conditions and terms of the franchise and providing a recovery on the bond in case of failure to perform the terms and conditions of the franchise.

A code city may exercise the authority hereby granted, notwithstanding a contrary limitation of any preexisting charter provision. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.47.040.]

### Chapter 35A.49

#### LABOR AND SAFETY REGULATIONS

##### Sections

35A.49.010 Labor regulations—Safety regulations, discrimination in employment, hours, wages.

**35A.49.010 Labor regulations—Safety regulations, discrimination in employment, hours, wages.** Provisions of state laws relating to labor and safety regulations as provided in Title 49 RCW shall apply to code cities to the

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same extent as such laws apply to other classes of cities. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.49.010.]

### Chapter 35A.56

#### LOCAL SERVICE DISTRICTS

##### Sections

35A.56.010 Laws relating to special service districts, application to code cities.

**35A.56.010 Laws relating to special service districts, application to code cities.** Except as otherwise provided in this title, state laws relating to special service or taxing districts shall apply to, grant powers, and impose duties upon code cities and their officers to the same extent as such laws apply to and affect other classes of cities and towns and their employees, including, without limitation, the following: (1) Chapter 70.94 RCW, relating to air pollution control; (2) chapter 68.52 RCW, relating to cemetery districts; (3) chapter 29.68 RCW, relating to congressional districts; (4) chapters 14.07 and 14.08 RCW, relating to municipal airport districts; (5) chapter 36.88 RCW, relating to county road improvement districts; (6) Title 85 RCW, relating to diking districts, drainage districts, and drainage improvement districts; (7) chapter 36.54 RCW, relating to ferry districts; (8) Title 52 RCW, relating to fire protection districts; (9) Title 86 RCW, relating to flood control districts and flood control; (10) chapter 70.46 RCW, relating to health districts; (11) chapters 87.03 through 87.84 and 89.12 RCW, relating to irrigation districts; (12) chapter 35.61 RCW, relating to metropolitan park districts; (13) chapter 35.58 RCW, relating to metropolitan municipalities; (14) chapter 17.28 RCW, relating to mosquito control districts; (15) chapter 17.12 RCW, relating to agricultural pest districts; (16) \*chapter 13.12 RCW, relating to parental or truant schools; (17) Title 53 RCW, relating to port districts; (18) chapter 70.44 RCW, relating to public hospital districts; (19) Title 54 RCW, relating to public utility districts; (20) chapter 91.08 RCW, relating to public waterway districts; (21) Title 56 RCW for sewer districts; (22) chapter 89.12 RCW, relating to reclamation districts; (23) chapters 57.02 through 57.36 RCW, relating to water districts; and (24) chapter 17.04 RCW, relating to weed districts. [1987 c 331 § 79; 1979 ex.s. c 30 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.56.010.]

\*Reviser's note: Chapter 13.12 RCW was repealed by 1971 c 44 § 1.

**Effective date—1987 c 331:** See RCW 68.05.900.

### Chapter 35A.57

#### INCLUSION OF CODE CITIES IN METROPOLITAN MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS

##### Sections

35A.57.020 Metropolitan municipal corporations—May be formed around charter code city.

**35A.57.020 Metropolitan municipal corporations—May be formed around charter code city.** Any area of the state containing two or more cities, at least one of which is a code city having at least ten thousand population, may

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organize as a metropolitan municipal corporation. The presence in such area of a code city having at least ten thousand population, shall fulfill the requirement of RCW 35.58.030 as to the class of city required to be included in an area incorporating as a metropolitan municipal corporation. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.57.020.]

### Chapter 35A.58

#### BOUNDARIES AND PLATS

##### Sections

35A.58.010 Locating corners and boundaries.  
35A.58.020 Alteration and vacation of plats.  
35A.58.030 Platting and subdivision of land.

**35A.58.010 Locating corners and boundaries.** General laws shall govern the methods, procedures, and standards for surveying, establishing corners and boundaries, describing and perpetuating and recording information and descriptions relating thereto. The boundaries and corners of sections, parcels, plats, and subdivisions of land within a code city, may be surveyed, established, relocated, and perpetuated whenever a majority of the resident owners of any section or part or parts of any section of land within the city makes application in accordance with the provisions of chapter 58.04 RCW. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.58.010.]

**35A.58.020 Alteration and vacation of plats.** The provisions of \*chapters 58.11 and 58.12 RCW shall apply in appropriate cases to the alteration or vacation of plats including land or lots within a code city or the vacation of streets therein as provided in chapter 35.79 RCW. The vacation of waterways within a code city shall be governed by the provisions of \*\*chapter 79.16 RCW. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.58.020.]

Reviser's note: \*(1) Chapters 58.11 and 58.12 RCW were repealed by 1987 c 354 § 8.

\*\* (2) Chapter 79.16 RCW was repealed by 1982 1st ex.s. c 21 § 183. For later enactment, see chapters 79.90 through 79.96 RCW.

**35A.58.030 Platting and subdivision of land.** The provisions of chapter 58.17 RCW together with the provisions of a code city's subdivision regulations as adopted by ordinance not inconsistent with the provisions of chapter 58.17 RCW shall control the platting and subdividing of land into lots or tracts comprising five or more of such lots or tracts or containing a dedication of any part thereof as a public street or highway, or other public place or use: PROVIDED, That nothing herein shall prohibit the legislative body of a code city from adopting reasonable ordinances regulating the subdivision of land into two or more parcels without requiring compliance with all of the requirements of the platting law. [1983 c 3 § 70; 1971 ex.s. c 251 § 9; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.58.030.]

Severability—1971 ex.s. c 251: See RCW 35A.90.050.

### Chapter 35A.60

#### LIENS

##### Sections

35A.60.010 General law applicable.

**35A.60.010 General law applicable.** The general law relating to liens including but not limited to the provisions of Title 60 RCW, as the same relates to cities of any class shall apply to code cities. Every code city may exercise the authority to perform services to property within the city and to claim and foreclose liens allowed therefor by general laws for any class of city including but not limited to the following provisions: (1) Chapter 35.80 RCW, relating to unfit dwellings, buildings and structures; (2) RCW 35.22.320, relating to the cost of filling cesspools; (3) RCW 35.85.030, relating to assessment liens for viaducts, elevated roadways, tunnels, and subways; (4) RCW 35.21.130, 35.21.140, 35.21.150, and 35.22.320 for garbage collection; (5) chapters 35.50, 35.55 and 35.56 RCW relating to enforcement of local improvement liens; (6) RCW 35.73.050 relating to the expense of sanitary fills; (7) RCW 35.67.200 through 35.67.290, relating to sewerage systems and service; (8) RCW 35.68.070, 35.69.030, 35.70.090, relating to sidewalks; (9) RCW \*35.49.120 through 35.49.160, relating to priority of tax liens; (10) RCW 35.21.290 and 35.21.300, providing for liens for utility services; (11) chapter 84.60 RCW relating to lien of taxes upon property; (12) RCW 4.16.030, relating to foreclosure of local improvement liens; (13) chapter 60.76 RCW, relating to lien of employees for contribution to benefit plans; and (14) chapter 60.28 RCW, relating to lien for labor and materials on public works. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.60.010.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 35.49.120 was repealed by 1994 c 301 § 57.

### Chapter 35A.61

#### METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICTS

##### Sections

35A.61.010 Metropolitan park districts.

**35A.61.010 Metropolitan park districts.** Charter code cities and such contiguous property the residents of which may decide in favor thereof in the manner set forth in chapter 35.61 RCW, may create a metropolitan park district for the management, control, improvement, maintenance, and acquisition of parks, parkways, and boulevards in the manner provided in chapter 35.61 RCW, subject to the provisions of said chapter, which shall be effective as to such charter code city to the same extent as such provisions are applicable to first class cities included in such a metropolitan park district as authorized by said chapter. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.61.010.]

Chapter 35A.63

PLANNING AND ZONING IN CODE CITIES

Sections

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- 35A.63.015 "Solar energy system" defined.
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*Acquisition of interests in land for conservation, protection, preservation, or open space purposes by cities: RCW 64.04.130.*

*Appearance of fairness doctrine—Application to local land use decisions: RCW 42.36.010.*

*Associations of municipal corporations or municipal officers to furnish information to legislature and governor: RCW 44.04.170.*

**35A.63.010 Definitions.** The following words or terms as used in this chapter shall have the meanings set forth below unless different meanings are clearly indicated by the context:

(1) "Chief administrative officer" means the mayor in code cities operating under the mayor-council and commission forms, the city manager in code cities operating under the council-manager forms, or such other officer as the charter of a charter code city designates as the chief administrative officer.

(2) "City" means an incorporated city or town.

(3) "Code city" is used where the application of this chapter is limited to a code city; where joint, regional, or cooperative action is intended, a code city may be included in the unrestricted terms "city" or "municipality".

(4) "Comprehensive plan" means the policies and proposals approved by the legislative body as set forth in

RCW 35A.63.060 through 35A.63.072 of this chapter and containing, at least, the elements set forth in RCW 35A.63.061.

(5) "Legislative body" means a code city council, a code city commission, and, in cases involving regional or cooperative planning or action, the governing body of a municipality.

(6) "Municipality" includes any code city and, in cases of regional or cooperative planning or action, any city, town, township, county, or special district.

(7) "Ordinance" means a legislative enactment by the legislative body of a municipality; in this chapter "ordinance" is synonymous with the term "resolution" when "resolution" is used as representing a legislative enactment.

(8) "Planning agency" means any person, body, or organization designated by the legislative body to perform a planning function or portion thereof for a municipality, and includes, without limitation, any commission, committee, department, or board together with its staff members, employees, agents, and consultants.

(9) "Special district" means that portion of the state, county, or other political subdivision created under general law for rendering of one or more local public services or for administrative, educational, judicial, or political purposes. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.63.010.]

**35A.63.015 "Solar energy system" defined.** As used in this chapter, "solar energy system" means any device or combination of devices or elements which rely upon direct sunlight as an energy source, including but not limited to any substance or device which collects sunlight for use in:

- (1) The heating or cooling of a structure or building;
- (2) The heating or pumping of water;
- (3) Industrial, commercial, or agricultural processes;
- (4) The generation of electricity.

A solar energy system may be used for purposes in addition to the collection of solar energy. These uses include, but are not limited to, serving as a structural member or part of a roof of a building or structure and serving as a window or wall. [1979 ex.s. c 170 § 6.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 170:** See note following RCW 64.04.140.

*Local governments authorized to encourage and protect solar energy systems: RCW 64.04.140.*

**35A.63.020 Planning agency—Creation—Powers and duties—Conflicts of interest.** By ordinance a code city may create a planning agency and provide for its membership, organization, and expenses. The planning agency shall serve in an advisory capacity to the chief administrative officer or the legislative body, or both, as may be provided by ordinance and shall have such other powers and duties as shall be provided by ordinance. If any person or persons on a planning agency concludes that he has a conflict of interest or an appearance of fairness problem with respect to a matter pending before the agency so that he cannot discharge his duties on such an agency, he shall disqualify himself from participating in the deliberations and the decision-making process with respect to the matter. If this occurs, the appointing authority that appoints such a person may appoint a person to serve as an alternate on the agency to serve in



his stead in regard to such a matter. [1979 ex.s. c 18 § 33; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.63.020.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18:** See note following RCW 35A.01.070.

**35A.63.030 Joint meetings and cooperative action.**

Pursuant to the authorization of the legislative body, a code city planning agency may hold joint meetings with one or more city or county planning agencies (including city or county planning agencies in adjoining states) in any combination and may contract with another municipality for planning services. A code city may enter into cooperative arrangements with one or more municipalities and with any regional planning council organized under this chapter for jointly engaging a planning director and such other employees as may be required to operate a joint planning staff. [1969 ex.s. c 81 § 5; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.63.030.]

**Effective date—1969 ex.s. c 81:** See note following RCW 35A.13.035.

**35A.63.040 Regional planning.** A code city with one or more municipalities within a region, otherwise authorized by law to plan, including municipalities of adjoining states, when empowered by ordinances of their respective legislative bodies, may cooperate to form, organize, and administer a regional planning commission to prepare a comprehensive plan and perform other planning functions for the region defined by agreement of the respective municipalities. The various agencies may cooperate in all phases of planning, and professional staff may be engaged to assist in such planning. All costs shall be shared on a pro rata basis as agreed among the various entities. A code city may also cooperate with any department or agency of a state government having planning functions. [1969 ex.s. c 81 § 6; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.63.040.]

**Effective date—1969 ex.s. c 81:** See note following RCW 35A.13.035.

**35A.63.050 Receipt and expenditure of funds.** Any code city or any regional planning commission that includes a code city, when authorized by the legislative bodies of the municipalities represented by the regional planning commission, may enter into an agreement with any department or agency of the government of the United States or the state of Washington, or its agencies or political subdivisions, or any other public or private agency, to arrange for the receipt and expenditure of funds for planning in the interest of furthering the planning program. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.63.050.]

**35A.63.060 Comprehensive plan—General.** Every code city, by ordinance, shall direct the planning agency to prepare a comprehensive plan for anticipating and influencing the orderly and coordinated development of land and building uses of the code city and its environs. The comprehensive plan may be prepared as a whole or in successive parts. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.63.060.]

**35A.63.061 Comprehensive plan—Required elements.** The comprehensive plan shall be in such form and of such scope as the code city's ordinance or charter may require. It may consist of a map or maps, diagrams, charts,

reports and descriptive and explanatory text or other devices and materials to express, explain, or depict the elements of the plan; and it shall include a recommended plan, scheme, or design for each of the following elements:

(1) A land-use element that designates the proposed general distribution, general location, and extent of the uses of land. These uses may include, but are not limited to, agricultural, residential, commercial, industrial, recreational, educational, public, and other categories of public and private uses of land. The land-use element shall also include estimates of future population growth in, and statements of recommended standards of population density and building intensity for, the area covered by the comprehensive plan. The land use element shall also provide for protection of the quality and quantity of ground water used for public water supplies and shall review drainage, flooding, and storm water run-off in the area and nearby jurisdictions and provide guidance for corrective actions to mitigate or cleanse those discharges that pollute Puget Sound or waters entering Puget Sound.

(2) A circulation element consisting of the general location, alignment, and extent of existing and proposed major thoroughfares, major transportation routes, and major terminal facilities, all of which shall be correlated with the land-use element of the comprehensive plan. [1985 c 126 § 2; 1984 c 253 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.63.061.]

**35A.63.062 Comprehensive plan—Optional elements.** The comprehensive plan may include also any or all of the following optional elements:

(1) A conservation element for the conservation, development, and utilization of natural resources.

(2) An open space, park, and recreation element.

(3) A transportation element showing a comprehensive system of surface, air, and water transportation routes and facilities.

(4) A public-use element showing general locations, designs, and arrangements of public buildings and uses.

(5) A public utilities element showing general plans for public and franchised services and facilities.

(6) A redevelopment or renewal element showing plans for the redevelopment or renewal of slum and blighted areas.

(7) An urban design element for general organization of the physical parts of the urban landscape.

(8) Other elements dealing with subjects that, in the opinion of the legislative body, relate to the development of the municipality, or are essential or desirable to coordinate public services and programs with such development.

(9) A solar energy element for encouragement and protection of access to direct sunlight for solar energy systems. [1979 ex.s. c 170 § 7; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.63.062.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 170:** See note following RCW 64.04.140.

**35A.63.070 Comprehensive plan—Notice and hearing.** After preparing the comprehensive plan, or successive parts thereof, as the case may be, the planning agency shall hold at least one public hearing on the comprehensive plan or successive part. Notice of the time, place, and purpose of such public hearing shall be given as provided by ordinance and including at least one publication

in a newspaper of general circulation delivered in the code city and in the official gazette, if any, of the code city, at least ten days prior to the date of the hearing. Continued hearings may be held at the discretion of the planning agency but no additional notices need be published. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.63.070.]

**35A.63.071 Comprehensive plan—Forwarding to legislative body.** Upon completion of the hearing or hearings on the comprehensive plan or successive parts thereof, the planning agency, after making such changes as it deems necessary following such hearing, shall transmit a copy of its recommendations for the comprehensive plan, or successive parts thereof, to the legislative body through the chief administrative officer, who shall acknowledge receipt thereof and direct the clerk to certify thereon the date of receipt. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.63.071.]

**35A.63.072 Comprehensive plan—Approval by legislative body.** Within sixty days from its receipt of the recommendation for the comprehensive plan, as above set forth, the legislative body at a public meeting shall consider the same. The legislative body within such period as it may by ordinance provide, shall vote to approve or disapprove or to modify and approve, as modified, the comprehensive plan or to refer it back to the planning agency for further proceedings, in which case the legislative body shall specify the time within which the planning agency shall report back to the legislative body its findings and recommendations on the matters referred to it. The final form and content of the comprehensive plan shall be determined by the legislative body. An affirmative vote of not less than a majority of total members of the legislative body shall be required for adoption of a resolution to approve the plan or its parts. The comprehensive plan, or its successive parts, as approved by the legislative body, shall be filed with an appropriate official of the code city and shall be available for public inspection. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.63.072.]

**35A.63.073 Comprehensive plan—Amendments and modifications.** All amendments, modifications, or alterations in the comprehensive plan or any part thereof shall be processed in the same manner as set forth in RCW 35A.63.070 through 35A.63.072. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.63.073.]

**35A.63.080 Comprehensive plan—Effect.** From the date of approval by the legislative body the comprehensive plan, its parts and modifications thereof, shall serve as a basic source of reference for future legislative and administrative action: PROVIDED, That the comprehensive plan shall not be construed as a regulation of property rights or land uses: PROVIDED, FURTHER, That no procedural irregularity or informality in the consideration, hearing, and development of the comprehensive plan or a part thereof, or any of its elements, shall affect the validity of any zoning ordinance or amendment thereto enacted by the code city after the approval of the comprehensive plan.

The comprehensive plan shall be consulted as a preliminary to the establishment, improvement, abandonment, or vacation of any street, park, public way, public building, or

public structure, and no dedication of any street or other area for public use shall be accepted by the legislative body until the location, character, extent, and effect thereof shall have been considered by the planning agency with reference to the comprehensive plan. The legislative body shall specify the time within which the planning agency shall report and make a recommendation with respect thereto. Recommendations of the planning agency shall be advisory only. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.63.080.]

**35A.63.100 Municipal authority.** After approval of the comprehensive plan, as set forth above, the legislative body, in developing the municipality and in regulating the use of land, may implement or give effect to the comprehensive plan or parts thereof by ordinance or other action to such extent as the legislative body deems necessary or appropriate. Such ordinances or other action may provide for:

(1) Adoption of an official map and regulations relating thereto designating locations and requirements for one or more of the following: Streets, parks, public buildings, and other public facilities, and protecting such sites against encroachment by buildings and other physical structures.

(2) Dividing the municipality, or portions thereof, into appropriate zones within which specific standards, requirements, and conditions may be provided for regulating the use of public and private land, buildings, and structures, and the location, height, bulk, number of stories, and size of buildings and structures, size of yards, courts, open spaces, density of population, ratio of land area to the area of buildings and structures, setbacks, area required for off-street parking, protection of access to direct sunlight for solar energy systems, and such other standards, requirements, regulations, and procedures as are appropriately related thereto. The ordinance encompassing the matters of this subsection is hereinafter called the "zoning ordinance". No zoning ordinance, or amendment thereto, shall be enacted by the legislative body without at least one public hearing, notice of which shall be given as set forth in RCW 35A.63.070. Such hearing may be held before the planning agency or the board of adjustment or such other body as the legislative body shall designate.

(3) Adoption of design standards, requirements, regulations, and procedures for the subdivision of land into two or more parcels, including, but not limited to, the approval of plats, dedications, acquisitions, improvements, and reservation of sites for public use.

(4) Scheduling public improvements on the basis of recommended priorities over a period of years, subject to periodic review.

(5) Such other matters as may be otherwise authorized by law or as the legislative body deems necessary or appropriate to effectuate the goals and objectives of the comprehensive plan or parts thereof and the purposes of this chapter. [1979 ex.s. c 170 § 8; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.63.100.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 170:** See note following RCW 64.04.140.

**35A.63.105 Development regulations—Consistency with comprehensive plan.** Beginning July 1, 1992, the development regulations of each code city that does not plan

under RCW 36.70A.040 shall not be inconsistent with the city's comprehensive plan. For the purposes of this section, "development regulations" has the same meaning as set forth in RCW 36.70A.030. [1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 23.]

**Severability—Part, section headings not law—1990 1st ex.s. c 17:** See RCW 36.70A.900 and 36.70A.901.

**35A.63.110 Board of adjustment—Creation—Powers and duties.** A code city which pursuant to this chapter creates a planning agency and which has twenty-five hundred or more inhabitants, by ordinance, shall create a board of adjustment and provide for its membership, terms of office, organization, jurisdiction. A code city which pursuant to this chapter creates a planning agency and which has a population of less than twenty-five hundred may, by ordinance, similarly create a board of adjustment. In the event a code city with a population of less than twenty-five hundred creates a planning agency, but does not create a board of adjustment, the code city shall provide that the city legislative authority shall itself hear and decide the items listed in subdivisions (1), (2), and (3) of this section. The action of the board of adjustment shall be final and conclusive, unless, within ten days from the date of the action, the original applicant or an adverse party makes application to the superior court for the county in which that city is located for a writ of certiorari, a writ of prohibition, or a writ of mandamus. No member of the board of adjustment shall be a member of the planning agency or the legislative body. Subject to conditions, safeguards, and procedures provided by ordinance, the board of adjustment may be empowered to hear and decide:

(1) Appeals from orders, recommendations, permits, decisions, or determinations made by a code city official in the administration or enforcement of the provisions of this chapter or any ordinances adopted pursuant to it.

(2) Applications for variances from the terms of the zoning ordinance, the official map ordinance or other land-use regulatory ordinances under procedures and conditions prescribed by city ordinance, which among other things shall provide that no application for a variance shall be granted unless the board of adjustment finds:

(a) the variance shall not constitute a grant of special privilege inconsistent with the limitation upon uses of other properties in the vicinity and zone in which the property on behalf of which the application was filed is located; and

(b) that such variance is necessary, because of special circumstances relating to the size, shape, topography, location, or surroundings of the subject property, to provide it with use rights and privileges permitted to other properties in the vicinity and in the zone in which the subject property is located; and

(c) that the granting of such variance will not be materially detrimental to the public welfare or injurious to the property or improvements in the vicinity and zone in which the subject property is situated.

(3) Applications for conditional-use permits, unless such applications are to be heard and decided by the planning agency. A conditional use means a use listed among those classified in any given zone but permitted to locate only after review as herein provided in accordance with standards and criteria set forth in the zoning ordinance.

(4) Such other quasi judicial and administrative determinations as may be delegated by ordinance.

In deciding any of the matters referred to in subsections (1), (2), (3), and (4) of this section, the board of adjustment shall issue a written report giving the reasons for its decision. If a code city provides for a hearing examiner and vests in him the authority to hear and decide the items listed in subdivisions (1), (2), and (3) of this section pursuant to RCW 35A.63.170, then the provisions of this section shall not apply to such a city. [1979 ex.s. c 18 § 34; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.63.110.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 18:** See note following RCW 35A.01.070.

**35A.63.120 Administration and enforcement.** In order to carry into effect the purposes of this chapter, administrative and enforcement responsibilities, other than those set forth in RCW 35A.63.110, may be assigned by ordinance to such departments, boards, officials, employees, or agents as the legislative body deems appropriate. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.63.120.]

**35A.63.130 Provisions inconsistent with charters.** Insofar as the provisions of an existing charter of a municipality are inconsistent with this chapter, a municipality may exercise the authority, or any part thereof, granted by this chapter notwithstanding the inconsistent provision of an existing charter. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.63.130.]

**35A.63.140 Duties and responsibilities imposed by other acts.** Any duties and responsibilities which by other statutes are imposed upon a planning commission may, in a code city, be performed by a planning agency, as provided in this chapter. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.63.140.]

**35A.63.145 Prohibitions on manufactured homes—Review required—"Designated manufactured home" defined.** (1) Each comprehensive plan which does not allow for the siting of manufactured homes on individual lots shall be subject to a review by the city of the need and demand for such homes. The review shall be completed by December 31, 1990.

(2) For the purpose of providing an optional reference for cities which choose to allow manufactured homes on individual lots, a "designated manufactured home" is a manufactured home constructed after June 15, 1976, in accordance with state and federal requirements for manufactured homes, which:

(a) Is comprised of at least two fully enclosed parallel sections each of not less than twelve feet wide by thirty-six feet long;

(b) Was originally constructed with and now has a composition or wood shake or shingle, coated metal, or similar roof of not less than 3:12 pitch; and

(c) Has exterior siding similar in appearance to siding materials commonly used on conventional site-built uniform building code single-family residences.

(3) Nothing in this section precludes cities from allowing any manufactured home from being sited on individual lots through local standards which differ from the designated manufactured home as described in this section, except that the term "designated manufactured home" shall not be used

except as defined in subsection (2) of this section. [1988 c 239 § 2.]

**35A.63.149 Residential care facilities—Review of need and demand—Adoption of ordinances.** Each municipality that does not provide for the siting of residential care facilities in zones or areas that are designated for single family or other residential uses, shall conduct a review of the need and demand for the facilities, including the cost of any conditional or special use permit that may be required. The review shall be completed by August 31, 1990. A copy of the findings, conclusions, and recommendations resulting from the review shall be sent to the \*department of community development by September 30, 1990.

On or before June 30, 1991, each municipality that plans and zones under this chapter shall have adopted an ordinance or ordinances that are necessary to implement the findings of this review, if the findings indicate that such changes are necessary, or shall notify the \*department of community development as to why such implementing ordinances were not adopted. [1989 c 427 § 37.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Powers, duties, and functions of the department of community development and the department of trade and economic development were transferred to the department of community, trade, and economic development by 1993 c 280, effective July 1, 1994.

**Severability—1989 c 427:** See RCW 74.39.900.

*Report to legislature, model ordinance:* RCW 70.128.180.

**35A.63.150 Public hearings.** The legislative body may provide by ordinance for such additional public hearings and notice thereof as it deems to be appropriate in connection with any action contemplated under this chapter. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.63.150.]

**35A.63.152 Public notice—Identification of affected property.** Any notice made under chapter 35A.63 RCW that identifies affected property may identify this affected property without using a legal description of the property including, but not limited to, identification by an address, written description, vicinity sketch, or other reasonable means. [1988 c 168 § 10.]

**35A.63.160 Construction—1967 ex.s. c 119.** This title is intended to implement and preserve to code cities all powers authorized by Article XI, section 11 of the Constitution of the state of Washington and the provision of this title shall not limit any code city from exercising its constitutionally granted power to plan for and to make and enforce within its limits all such local police, sanitary, and other regulations in the manner that its charter or ordinances may provide. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.63.160.]

**35A.63.170 Hearing examiner system—Adoption authorized—Alternative—Functions—Procedures.** (1) As an alternative to those provisions of this chapter relating to powers or duties of the planning commission to hear and report on any proposal to amend a zoning ordinance, the legislative body of a city may adopt a hearing examiner system under which a hearing examiner or hearing examiners may hear and decide applications for amending the zoning ordinance when the amendment which is applied for is not

of general applicability. In addition, the legislative body may vest in a hearing examiner the power to hear and decide applications for conditional uses, variances or any other class of applications for or pertaining to land uses which the legislative body believes should be reviewed and decided by a hearing examiner. The legislative body shall prescribe procedures to be followed by a hearing examiner. If the legislative authority vests in a hearing examiner the authority to hear and decide variances, then the provisions of RCW 35A.63.110 shall not apply to the city.

Each city legislative body electing to use a hearing examiner pursuant to this section shall by ordinance specify the legal effect of the decisions made by the examiner. Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the legal effect of such decisions may vary for the different classes of applications decided by the examiner but shall include one of the following:

(a) The decision may be given the effect of a recommendation to the legislative body;

(b) The decision may be given the effect of an administrative decision appealable within a specified time limit to the legislative body.

(2) The legislative body shall specify the legal effect of a hearing examiner's procedural determination under the state environmental policy act, as defined in RCW 43.21C.075(3)(a). It may have the effect under subsection (1) (a) or (b) of this section, or may be given the effect of a final decision of the legislative body.

(3) Each final decision of a hearing examiner shall be in writing and shall include findings and conclusions, based on the record, to support the decision. Such findings and conclusions shall also set forth the manner in which the decision would carry out and conform to the city's comprehensive plan and the city's development regulations. Each final decision of a hearing examiner, unless a longer period is mutually agreed to in writing by the applicant and the hearing examiner, shall be rendered within ten working days following conclusion of all testimony and hearings. [1994 c 257 § 7; 1977 ex.s. c 213 § 2.]

**Severability—1994 c 257:** See note following RCW 36.70A.270.

**Severability—1977 ex.s. c 213:** See note following RCW 35.63.130.

**35A.63.200 Conformance with chapter 43.97 RCW required.** With respect to the National Scenic Area, as defined in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act, P.L. 99-663, the exercise of any power or authority by a city pursuant to this chapter shall be subject to and in conformity with the requirements of chapter 43.97 RCW, including the Interstate Compact adopted by RCW 43.97.015, and with the management plan regulations and ordinances adopted by the Columbia River Gorge commission pursuant to the Compact. [1987 c 499 § 7.]

**35A.63.210 Child care facilities—Review of need and demand—Adoption of ordinances.** Each municipality that does not provide for the siting of family day care homes in zones or areas that are designated for single family or other residential uses, and for the siting of mini-day care centers and day care centers in zones or areas that are designated for any residential or commercial uses, shall conduct a review of the need and demand for child care

facilities, including the cost of any conditional or special use permit that may be required. The review shall be completed by August 31, 1990. A copy of the findings, conclusions, and recommendations resulting from the review shall be sent to the \*department of community development by September 30, 1990.

On or before June 30, 1991, each municipality that plans and zones under this chapter shall have adopted an ordinance or ordinances that are necessary to implement the findings of this review, if the findings indicate that such changes are necessary, or shall notify the \*department of community development as to why such implementing ordinances were not adopted. [1989 c 335 § 5.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Powers, duties, and functions of the department of community development and the department of trade and economic development were transferred to the department of community, trade, and economic development by 1993 c 280, effective July 1, 1994.

**Findings—Purpose—Severability—1989 c 335:** See notes following RCW 35.63.170.

**Definitions for RCW 35A.63.210:** See RCW 35.63.170.

**35A.63.215 Family day-care provider's home facility—City may not prohibit in residential or commercial area.** No city may enact, enforce, or maintain an ordinance, development regulation, zoning regulation, or official control, policy, or administrative practice which prohibits the use of a residential dwelling, located in an area zoned for residential or commercial use, as a family day-care provider's home facility.

A city may require that the facility: (1) Comply with all building, fire, safety, health code, and business licensing requirements; (2) conform to lot size, building size, setbacks, and lot coverage standards applicable to the zoning district except if the structure is a legal nonconforming structure; (3) is certified by the state department of licensing as providing a safe passenger loading area; (4) include signage, if any, that conforms to applicable regulations; and (5) limit hours of operations to facilitate neighborhood compatibility, while also providing appropriate opportunity for persons who use family day-care and who work a nonstandard work shift.

A city may also require that the family day-care provider, before state licensing, require proof of written notification by the provider that the immediately adjoining property owners have been informed of the intent to locate and maintain such a facility. If a dispute arises between neighbors and the family day-care provider over licensing requirements, the licensor may provide a forum to resolve the dispute.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a city from imposing zoning conditions on the establishment and maintenance of a family day-care provider's home in an area zoned for residential or commercial use, so long as such conditions are no more restrictive than conditions imposed on other residential dwellings in the same zone and the establishment of such facilities is not precluded. As used in this section, "family day-care provider" is as defined in RCW 74.15.020. [1994 c 273 § 16.]

**35A.63.220 Moratoria, interim zoning controls—Public hearing—Limitation on length.** A legislative body that adopts a moratorium or interim zoning ordinance, without holding a public hearing on the proposed moratorium or

interim zoning ordinance, shall hold a public hearing on the adopted moratorium or interim zoning ordinance within at least sixty days of its adoption, whether or not the legislative body received a recommendation on the matter from the planning agency. If the legislative body does not adopt findings of fact justifying its action before this hearing, then the legislative body shall do so immediately after this public hearing. A moratorium or interim zoning ordinance adopted under this section may be effective for not longer than six months, but may be effective for up to one year if a work plan is developed for related studies providing for such a longer period. A moratorium of interim zoning ordinance may be renewed for one or more six-month periods if a subsequent public hearing is held and findings of fact are made prior to each renewal. [1992 c 207 § 3.]

**35A.63.230 Accessory apartments.** Any local government, as defined in RCW 43.63A.215, that is planning under this chapter shall comply with RCW 43.63A.215(3). [1993 c 478 § 9.]

**35A.63.240 Treatment of residential structures occupied by persons with handicaps.** No city may enact or maintain an ordinance, development regulation, zoning regulation or official control, policy, or administrative practice which treats a residential structure occupied by persons with handicaps differently than a similar residential structure occupied by a family or other unrelated individuals. As used in this section, "handicaps" are as defined in the federal fair housing amendments act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 3602). [1993 c 478 § 21.]

## Chapter 35A.64

### PUBLIC PROPERTY, REAL AND PERSONAL

#### Sections

35A.64.010 Acquisition of by conditional sales contracts.

35A.64.020 Purchase of products made by blind.

35A.64.180 Disinfection of property.

35A.64.200 Eminent domain by cities.

**35A.64.010 Acquisition of by conditional sales contracts.** A code city may exercise the powers relating to acquisition of real or personal property under executory conditional sales contracts as authorized by RCW 39.30.010. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.64.010.]

**35A.64.020 Purchase of products made by blind.** A code city may exercise the powers relating to the acquisition of products made by the blind as authorized by RCW 19.06.020. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.64.020.]

**35A.64.180 Disinfection of property.** Every code city shall disinfect or destroy all infected trees or shrubs growing upon public property within the city's jurisdiction and may expend city funds in carrying out the provisions of this section, and shall otherwise be governed by the provisions of chapter 15.08 RCW relating to horticultural pests and diseases. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.64.180.]

**35A.64.200 Eminent domain by cities.** A code city may exercise all powers relating to eminent domain as authorized by chapters 8.12 and 8.28 RCW in accordance with the procedures therein prescribed and subject to any limitations therein provided. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.64.200.]

### Chapter 35A.65

#### PUBLICATION AND PRINTING

##### Sections

- 35A.65.010 Public printing.  
35A.65.020 Publication of legal notice.

**35A.65.010 Public printing.** All printing, binding and stationery work done for any code city shall be done within the state and all proposals, requests and invitations to submit bids, prices or contracts thereon and all contracts for such work shall so stipulate subject to the limitations contained in RCW 43.78.130 and 35.23.352. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.65.010.]

**35A.65.020 Publication of legal notice.** The publication of a legal notice required by general law or by a code city ordinance shall be in a newspaper of general circulation within the city having the qualifications prescribed by chapter 65.16 RCW and shall be governed by the provisions thereof as the same relate to a city of any class. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.65.020.]

### Chapter 35A.66

#### HEALTH AND SAFETY—ALCOHOL

##### Sections

- 35A.66.010 Alcoholism—Standards for institutions.  
35A.66.020 Liquors, local option on sale of—Enforcement of state laws, sharing proceeds of liquor profits and excise tax.

**35A.66.010 Alcoholism—Standards for institutions.** In addition to regulating the use of alcoholic beverages, a code city may exercise the powers relating to prescribing standards for institutions for treating alcoholism as authorized by RCW 71.12.550. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.66.010.]

**35A.66.020 Liquors, local option on sale of—Enforcement of state laws, sharing proceeds of liquor profits and excise tax.** The qualified electors of any code city may petition for an election upon the question of whether the sale of liquor shall be permitted within the boundaries of such city as provided by chapter 66.40 RCW, and shall be governed by the procedure therein, and may regulate music, dancing and entertainment as authorized by RCW 66.28.080: PROVIDED, That every code city shall enforce state laws relating to the investigation and prosecution of all violations of Title 66 RCW relating to control of alcoholic beverages and shall be entitled to retain the fines collected therefrom as therein provided. Every code city shall also share in the allocation and distribution of liquor profits and excise as provided in RCW 82.08.170, 66.08.190, and 66.08.210, and make reports of seizure as required by

RCW 66.32.090, and otherwise regulate by ordinances not in conflict with state law or liquor board regulations. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.66.020.]

*State liquor control board: Chapter 66.08 RCW.*

### Chapter 35A.67

#### RECREATION AND PARKS

##### Sections

- 35A.67.010 Parks, beaches and camps.

**35A.67.010 Parks, beaches and camps.** In addition to exercising all powers relating to the acquisition of land, the improvement and operation thereof, or cooperation with other taxing districts in connection with park or recreation facilities, any code city may exercise the powers relating to acquisition and operation of recreational facilities, establishment and operation of public camps, and contracting with other taxing or governmental agencies for the acquisition or operation of public parks, camps and recreational facilities as authorized by chapter 67.20 RCW, in accordance with the procedures prescribed in and authorized by RCW 79.08.080 and 79.08.090 in the application for use of state-owned tide or shorelands for a municipal park or playground purposes. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.67.010.]

*Acquisition of interests in land for conservation, protection, preservation, or open space purposes by cities: RCW 64.04.130.*

### Chapter 35A.68

#### CEMETERIES AND MORGUES

##### Sections

- 35A.68.010 Acquisition—Care and investment of funds.

**35A.68.010 Acquisition—Care and investment of funds.** A code city may exercise the powers to acquire, own, improve, manage, operate and regulate real and personal property for the operation of the city morgue, cemetery or other place for the burial of the dead, to create cemetery boards or commissions, to establish and manage funds for cemetery improvement and care and to make all necessary or desirable rules and regulations concerning the control and management of burial places and the investment of funds relating thereto and accounting therefor as is authorized by chapter 68.52 RCW, RCW 35.22.280, 35.23.440, \*35.24.300 and 35.27.370(2) in accordance with the procedures and requirements prescribed by said laws and authority to be included within a cemetery district as authorized and conformed to the requirements of Title 68 RCW. [1987 c 331 § 80; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.68.010.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 35.24.300 was recodified as RCW 35.23.452 pursuant to 1994 c 81 § 90.

**Effective date—1987 c 331:** See RCW 68.05.900.

**Chapter 35A.69**  
**FOOD AND DRUG**

## Sections

35A.69.010 Powers and duties prescribed.

**35A.69.010 Powers and duties prescribed.** Every code city shall have the powers, perform the functions and duties and enforce the regulations prescribed by general laws relating to food and drugs for any class of city as provided by Title 69 RCW; relating to inspection of foods, meat, dairies, and milk as provided by chapter 16.49A RCW; relating to water pollution control as provided by chapter 90.48 RCW; and relating to food fish and shellfish as provided by Title 75 RCW. [1994 c 143 § 512. Prior: 1983 1st ex.s. c 46 § 177; 1983 c 3 § 71; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.69.010.]

**Intent—Savings—Effective date—1983 1st ex.s. c 46:** See RCW 75.98.005 through 75.98.007.

**Chapter 35A.70**  
**HEALTH AND SAFETY**

## Sections

35A.70.010 Waters within city—City's water supply.  
35A.70.020 Regulating boarding homes.  
35A.70.040 Buildings, construction standards.  
35A.70.050 City electrical code—State safety regulations.  
35A.70.060 Elevators, moving walks.  
35A.70.070 Public health and safety, general laws applicable.

**35A.70.010 Waters within city—City's water supply.** Every code city shall have authority to protect waters within the city or comprising part of the city's water supply pursuant to the authority provided therefor by RCW 9.66.050, 54.16.050, 56.08.010, 69.30.130, 57.08.010, 8.12.030, 70.54.010 and 70.54.030. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.70.010.]

**35A.70.020 Regulating boarding homes.** A code city may exercise the powers relating to enforcement of regulations for boarding homes as authorized by RCW 18.20.100, in accordance with the procedures therein prescribed and subject to any limitations therein provided. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.70.020.]

**35A.70.040 Buildings, construction standards.** In addition to other provisions of the law granting authority and imposing duties, a code city may exercise the powers relating to providing standards for the construction of buildings as provided in chapter 70.86 RCW and shall report the issuance of building permits for new construction as required by \*RCW 36.21.040 through 36.21.060. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.70.040.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 36.21.040 through 36.21.060 were repealed by 1989 c 246 § 8.

**35A.70.050 City electrical code—State safety regulations.** Every code city may adopt ordinances regulating or otherwise controlling the installation of electrical wiring, equipment, apparatus or appliances as authorized by

RCW 19.28.360 and by other general law and shall obey, observe and comply with every order, approval, direction or requirement made by the director or the commission under authority of chapter 19.29 RCW. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.70.050.]

**35A.70.060 Elevators, moving walks.** All conveyances owned or operated by code cities as defined by the provisions of chapter 70.87 RCW, shall be subject to the provisions of that chapter to the extent specifically provided for therein. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.70.060.]

**35A.70.070 Public health and safety, general laws applicable.** Every code city may exercise the powers authorized and shall perform the duties imposed upon cities of like population relating to the public health and safety as provided by Title 70 RCW and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, shall: (1) Organize boards of health and appoint a health officer with the authority, duties and functions as provided in chapter 70.05 RCW, or provide for combined city-county health departments as provided and in accordance with the provisions of chapter 70.08 RCW; (2) contribute and participate in public health pooling funds as authorized by chapter 70.12 RCW; (3) control and provide for treatment of \*venereal diseases as authorized by chapter 70.24 RCW; (4) provide for the care and control of tuberculosis as provided in chapters 70.28, 70.30, 70.32, and 70.54 RCW; (5) participate in health districts as authorized by chapter 70.46 RCW; (6) exercise control over water pollution as provided in chapter 35.88 RCW; (7) for all code cities having a population of more than twenty thousand serve as a primary district for registration of vital statistics in accordance with the provisions of chapter 70.58 RCW; (8) observe and enforce the provisions relating to fireworks as provided in chapter 70.77 RCW; (9) enforce the provisions relating to swimming pools provided in chapter 70.90 RCW; (10) enforce the provisions of chapter 18.20 RCW when applicable; (11) perform the functions relating to mentally ill prescribed in chapters 72.06 and 71.12 RCW; (12) cooperate with the state department of social and health services in mosquito control as authorized by RCW 70.22.060; and (13) inspect nursing homes as authorized by RCW 18.51.145. [1987 c 223 § 4; 1985 c 213 § 12; 1981 1st ex.s. c 2 § 25; 1979 c 141 § 42; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.70.070.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The term "venereal diseases" was changed to "sexually transmitted diseases" by 1988 c 206.

**Savings—Effective date—1985 c 213:** See notes following RCW 43.20.050.

**Severability—Effective date—1981 1st ex.s. c 2:** See notes following RCW 18.51.010.

**Chapter 35A.74**  
**WELFARE**

## Sections

35A.74.010 General law applicable.

**35A.74.010 General law applicable.** Code cities may exercise authority granted by general law and available to any class of city for the relief of the poor and destitute, including, but not limited to the provisions of \*RCW



74.04.390 through 74.04.470. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.74.010.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 74.04.390 through 74.04.470 were repealed by 1991 c 126 § 11.

### Chapter 35A.79 PROPERTY AND MATERIALS

#### Sections

35A.79.010 Powers to acquire, use and manage.

**35A.79.010 Powers to acquire, use and manage.** A code city shall have all powers provided by general law to cities of any class relating to the receipt of donations of money and property, the acquisition, leasing and disposition of municipal property, both real and personal, including, but not limited to, the following: (1) Intergovernmental leasing, transfer or disposition of property as provided by chapter 39.33 RCW; (2) disposition of unclaimed property as provided by chapters 63.32 and 63.21 RCW; (3) disposition of local improvement district foreclosures as provided by chapter 35.53 RCW; (4) materials removed from public lands as provided by RCW 79.90.150; (5) purchase of federal surplus property as provided by chapter 39.32 RCW; and (6) land for recreation as provided by chapter 43.99 RCW. A code city in connection with the acquisition of property shall be subject to provisions relating to tax liens as provided by RCW 84.60.050 and 84.60.070. The general law relating to the damage or destruction of public property of a code city or interferences with the duties of a police or other officer shall relate to code city's properties and officers to the same extent as such laws apply to any class of city, its property or officers. [1983 c 3 § 72; 1979 ex.s. c 30 § 3; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.79.010.]

### Chapter 35A.80 PUBLIC UTILITIES

#### Sections

35A.80.010 General laws applicable.

35A.80.020 Electric energy.

35A.80.030 Hydroelectric resources—Separate legal authority—Creation by irrigation districts and cities, towns, or public utility districts.

35A.80.040 Code cities encouraged to provide utility customers with landscaping information and to request voluntary donations for urban forestry.

**35A.80.010 General laws applicable.** A code city may provide utility service within and without its limits and exercise all powers to the extent authorized by general law for any class of city or town. The cost of such improvements may be financed by procedures provided for financing local improvement districts in chapters 35.43 through 35.54 RCW and by revenue and refunding bonds as authorized by chapters 35.41, 35.67 and 35.89 RCW and Title 85 RCW. A code city may protect and operate utility services as authorized by chapters 35.88, 35.91, 35.92, and 35.94 RCW and may acquire and damage property in connection therewith as provided by chapter 8.12 RCW and shall be governed by the regulations of the department of ecology as

provided in RCW 90.48.110. [1988 c 127 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.80.010.]

**35A.80.020 Electric energy.** Any code city is authorized to enter into contracts or compacts with any commission or any operating agency or publicly or privately owned utility for the purchase and sale of electric energy or falling waters as provided in RCW 43.52.410 and chapter 35.84 RCW and to exercise any other authority granted to cities as provided in chapter 43.52 RCW. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.80.020.]

**35A.80.030 Hydroelectric resources—Separate legal authority—Creation by irrigation districts and cities, towns, or public utility districts.** See RCW 87.03.825 through 87.03.840.

**35A.80.040 Code cities encouraged to provide utility customers with landscaping information and to request voluntary donations for urban forestry.** (1) Code cities providing utility services under this chapter are encouraged to provide information to their customers regarding landscaping that includes tree planting for energy conservation.

(2) Code cities providing utility services under this chapter are encouraged to request voluntary donations from their customers for the purposes of urban forestry. The request may be in the form of a check-off on the billing statement or other form of a request for a voluntary donation. [1993 c 204 § 3.]

**Findings—1993 c 204:** See note following RCW 35.92.390.

### Chapter 35A.81 PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

#### Sections

35A.81.010 Application of general law.

**35A.81.010 Application of general law.** Motor vehicles owned and operated by any code city shall be exempt from the provisions of chapter 81.80 RCW, except where specifically otherwise provided. Urban passenger transportation systems shall receive a refund of the amount of the motor vehicle fuel tax paid on each gallon of motor vehicle fuel used in such systems to the extent authorized by chapter 82.36 RCW. Notwithstanding any provision of the law to the contrary, every urban passenger transportation system as defined in RCW 82.38.080 shall be exempt from the provisions of chapter 82.38 RCW which requires the payment of use fuel taxes. [1983 c 3 § 73; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.81.010.]

### Chapter 35A.82 TAXATION—EXCISES

#### Sections

35A.82.010 State shared excises.

35A.82.020 Licenses and permits—Excises for regulation.

35A.82.025 Authority to regulate massage practitioners—Limitations.

35A.82.030 City and county retail sales excise tax and use tax.

- 35A.82.040 City and town license fees and taxes on financial institutions.
- 35A.82.042 City license fees or taxes on certain business activities to be at a single uniform rate.
- 35A.82.050 License fees or taxes upon certain business activities to be at single uniform rate.
- 35A.82.055 License fees or taxes on telephone business to be at uniform rate.
- 35A.82.060 License fees or taxes on telephone business—Imposition on certain gross revenues authorized—Limitations.
- 35A.82.065 Taxes on network telephone services.
- 35A.82.070 Taxes on telephone business—Deferral of rate reduction.

**35A.82.010 State shared excises.** A code city shall collect, receive and share in the distribution of state collected and distributed excise taxes to the same extent and manner as general laws relating thereto apply to any class of city or town including, but not limited to, funds distributed to cities pursuant to RCW 82.37.190 relating to motor vehicle fuel importer's tax, and RCW 82.36.020 relating to motor vehicle fuel tax, and RCW 82.38.290 relating to use fuel tax, and RCW 82.36.275 and 82.38.080(9). [1985 c 7 § 102; 1983 c 3 § 74; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.82.010.]

**35A.82.020 Licenses and permits—Excises for regulation.** A code city may exercise the authority authorized by general law for any class of city to license and revoke the same for cause, to regulate, make inspections and to impose excises for regulation or revenue in regard to all places and kinds of business, production, commerce, entertainment, exhibition, and upon all occupations, trades and professions and any other lawful activity: PROVIDED, That no license or permit to engage in any such activity or place shall be granted to any who shall not first comply with the general laws of the state.

No such license shall be granted to continue for longer than a period of one year from the date thereof and no license or excise shall be required where the same shall have been preempted by the state, nor where exempted by the state, including, but not limited to, the provisions of RCW 36.71.090 and chapter 73.04 RCW relating to veterans. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.82.020.]

**35A.82.025 Authority to regulate massage practitioners—Limitations.** (1) A state licensed massage practitioner seeking a city license to operate a massage business must provide verification of his or her state massage license as provided for in RCW 18.108.030.

(2) The city may charge a licensing or operating fee, but the fee charged a state licensed massage practitioner shall not exceed the licensing or operating fee imposed on similar health care providers, such as physical therapists or occupational therapists, operating within the same city.

(3) A state licensed massage practitioner is not subject to additional licensing requirements not currently imposed on similar health care providers, such as physical therapists or occupational therapists. [1991 c 182 § 2.]

**Reviser's note:** 1991 c 182 directed that this section be added to chapter 35A.11 RCW. This section has been codified as a part of chapter 35A.82 RCW, which relates more directly to code city licensing authority.

**35A.82.030 City and county retail sales excise tax and use tax.** See chapter 82.14 RCW.

**35A.82.040 City and town license fees and taxes on financial institutions.** See chapter 82.14A RCW.

**35A.82.042 City license fees or taxes on certain business activities to be at a single uniform rate.** See RCW 35.21.710.

**35A.82.050 License fees or taxes upon certain business activities to be at single uniform rate.** Any code city which imposes a license fee or tax upon business activities consisting of the making of retail sales of tangible personal property which are measured by gross receipts or gross income from such sales, shall impose such tax at a single uniform rate upon all such business activities. This section shall not apply to any business activities subject to the tax imposed by chapter 82.16 RCW. For purposes of this section, the providing to consumers of competitive telephone service, as defined in RCW 82.04.065, shall be deemed to be the retail sale of tangible personal property. [1983 2nd ex.s. c 3 § 34; 1981 c 144 § 7; 1972 ex.s. c 134 § 7.]

**Construction—Severability—Effective dates—1983 2nd ex.s. c 3:** See notes following RCW 82.04.255.

**Intent—Severability—Effective date—1981 c 144:** See notes following RCW 82.16.010.

**35A.82.055 License fees or taxes on telephone business to be at uniform rate.** Any code city which imposes a license fee or tax upon the business activity of engaging in the telephone business, as defined in RCW 82.04.065, which is measured by gross receipts or gross income from the business shall impose the tax at a uniform rate on all persons engaged in the telephone business in the code city.

This section does not apply to the providing of competitive telephone service as defined in RCW 82.04.065. [1983 2nd ex.s. c 3 § 36; 1981 c 144 § 9.]

**Construction—Severability—Effective dates—1983 2nd ex.s. c 3:** See notes following RCW 82.04.255.

**Intent—Severability—Effective date—1981 c 144:** See notes following RCW 82.16.010.

**35A.82.060 License fees or taxes on telephone business—Imposition on certain gross revenues authorized—Limitations.** Any code city which imposes a license fee or tax upon the business activity of engaging in the telephone business, as defined in RCW 82.04.065, which is measured by gross receipts or gross income may impose the fee or tax, if it desires, on one hundred percent of the total gross revenue derived from intrastate toll telephone services subject to the fee or tax: PROVIDED, That the city shall not impose the fee or tax on that portion of network telephone service, as defined in RCW 82.04.065, which represents charges to another telecommunications company, as defined in RCW 80.04.010, for connecting fees, switching charges, or carrier access charges relating to intrastate toll telephone services, or for access to, or charges for, interstate services, or charges for network telephone service that is purchased for the purpose of resale. [1989 c 103 § 3; 1986 c 70 § 4; 1983 2nd ex.s. c 3 § 38; 1981 c 144 § 11.]

**Severability—1989 c 103:** See note following RCW 35.21.714.

**Effective date—1986 c 70 §§ 1, 2, 4, 5:** See note following RCW 35.21.714.

**Construction—Severability—Effective dates—1983 2nd ex.s. c 3:** See notes following RCW 82.04.255.

**Intent—Severability—Effective date—1981 c 144:** See notes following RCW 82.16.010.

**35A.82.065 Taxes on network telephone services.** Notwithstanding RCW 35.21.714 or 35A.82.060, any city or town which imposes a tax upon business activities measured by gross receipts or gross income from sales, may impose such tax on that portion of network telephone service, as defined in RCW 82.04.065, which represents charges to another telecommunications company, as defined in RCW 80.04.010, for connecting fees, switching charges, or carrier access charges relating to intrastate toll services, or charges for network telephone service that is purchased for the purpose of resale. Such tax shall be levied at the same rate as is applicable to other competitive telephone service as defined in RCW 82.04.065. [1989 c 103 § 4; 1986 c 70 § 5.]

**Severability—1989 c 103:** See note following RCW 35.21.714.

**Effective date—1986 c 70 §§ 1, 2, 4, 5:** See note following RCW 35.21.714.

**35A.82.070 Taxes on telephone business—Deferral of rate reduction.** A city or town required by RCW 35.21.870(2) to reduce its rate of taxation on telephone business may defer for one year the required reduction in rates for the year 1987. If the delay in rate reductions authorized by the preceding sentence is inadequate for a code city to offset the impact of revenue reductions arising from the removal of revenues from connecting fees, switching charges, or carrier access charges under the provisions of RCW 35A.82.060, then the legislative body of such code city may reimpose for 1987 the rates that such code city had in effect upon telephone business during 1985. In each succeeding year, the city or town shall reduce the rate by one-tenth of the difference between the tax rate on April 20, 1982, and six percent. [1986 c 70 § 6.]

## Chapter 35A.84

### TAXATION—PROPERTY

#### Sections

- 35A.84.010 Procedure and rules relating to ad valorem taxes.
- 35A.84.020 Assessment for and collection of ad valorem taxes.
- 35A.84.030 Ex officio collector of code city taxes.

**35A.84.010 Procedure and rules relating to ad valorem taxes.** The taxation of property in code cities shall be governed by general provisions of the law including, but not limited to, the provisions of: (1) Chapter 84.09 RCW, relating to the time for establishment of official boundaries of taxing districts on the first day of March of each year; (2) chapter 84.12 RCW relating to the assessment and taxation of public utilities; (3) chapter 84.16 RCW, relating to the apportionment of taxation on private car companies; (4) chapter 84.20 RCW, relating to the taxation of easements of public utilities; (5) \*chapter 84.24 RCW, relating to the reassessment of property; (6) chapter 84.36 RCW, relating to

property subject to taxation and exemption therefrom; (7) chapter 84.40 RCW relating to the listing of property for assessment; (8) chapter 84.41 RCW, relating to reevaluation of property; (9) chapter 84.44 RCW, relating to the taxable situs of personalty; (10) chapter 84.48 RCW, relating to the equalization of assessments; (11) chapter 84.52 RCW, relating to the levy of taxes, both regular and excess; (12) chapter 84.56 RCW, relating to the collection of taxes; (13) chapter 84.60 RCW, relating to the lien of taxes and the priority thereof; (14) chapter 84.69 RCW, relating to refunds and claims therefor against the code city; and (15) RCW 41.16.060, relating to taxation for firemen's pension fund. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.84.010.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Chapter 84.24 RCW was repealed by 1994 c 124 § 42.

**35A.84.020 Assessment for and collection of ad valorem taxes.** For the purpose of assessment of all property in all code cities, other than code cities having a population of more than twenty thousand inhabitants, the county assessor of the county wherein such code city is situated shall be the ex officio assessor, and as to the code cities having a population of more than twenty thousand inhabitants such county assessor shall perform the duties as provided in \*RCW 36.21.020. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.84.020.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 36.21.020 was repealed by 1994 c 301 § 57.

**35A.84.030 Ex officio collector of code city taxes.** The treasurer of the county wherein a code city is situated shall be the ex officio collector of such code city's taxes and give bond, and account for the city's funds as provided in chapter 36.29 RCW. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.84.030.]

## Chapter 35A.88

### HARBORS AND NAVIGATION

#### Sections

- 35A.88.010 Discharge of ballast.
- 35A.88.020 Wharves and landings.
- 35A.88.030 General laws applicable.

**35A.88.010 Discharge of ballast.** A code city may exercise the powers relating to regulation of discharge of ballast in harbors within or in front of such city as authorized by RCW 88.28.060. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.88.010.]

**35A.88.020 Wharves and landings.** A code city shall have and exercise all powers granted by general laws to cities and towns of any class relative to docks and other appurtenances to harbor and shipping, including but not limited to, the provisions of RCW 35.22.280, 35.23.440, \*35.24.290, and 88.24.030. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.88.020.]

**\*Reviser's note:** RCW 35.24.290 was repealed by 1994 c 81 § 89.

**35A.88.030 General laws applicable.** General laws relating to harbor areas within cities, including but not limited to, chapter 36.08 RCW relating to transfer of territory lying in two or more counties; RCW 79.92.110

relating to disposition of rental from leasehold in the harbor areas; and RCW 88.32.240 and 88.32.250 relating to joint planning by cities and counties shall apply to, benefit and obligate code cities to the same extent as such general laws apply to any class of city. [1985 c 7 § 103; 1983 c 3 § 75; 1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.88.030.]

## Chapter 35A.90 CONSTRUCTION

### Sections

35A.90.010 Becoming code city—Rights, actions saved—Continuation of ordinances.

35A.90.020 Invalidity of part of title not to affect remainder.

35A.90.030 Title, chapter, section headings not part of law.

35A.90.040 Effective date—1967 ex.s. c 119.

35A.90.050 Severability—1971 ex.s. c 251.

**35A.90.010 Becoming code city—Rights, actions saved—Continuation of ordinances.** Unless otherwise provided by this title, the election by a city or town to become a code city and to be governed by this title shall not affect any right or liability either in favor of or against such city or town existing at the time, nor any civil or criminal proceeding involving or relating to such city or town; and all rights and property of every description which were vested in such city or town immediately prior to becoming a code city shall continue to be vested in such code city; and all charter provisions, ordinances, resolutions, rules, regulations, or orders lawfully in force in such city or town at the time of becoming a code city, and not inconsistent with or repugnant to this title, shall continue in force in such code city until amended or repealed as provided by law. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.90.010.]

**35A.90.020 Invalidity of part of title not to affect remainder.** If any provision, section, or chapter of this title or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the provision, section, chapter, or title, or the application thereof to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.90.020.]

**35A.90.030 Title, chapter, section headings not part of law.** Title headings, chapter headings, and section or subsection headings, as used in this title, do not constitute any part of the law. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.90.030.]

**35A.90.040 Effective date—1967 ex.s. c 119.** The effective date of this act shall be July 1, 1969. [1967 ex.s. c 119 § 35A.90.040.]

**35A.90.050 Severability—1971 ex.s. c 251.** If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1971 ex.s. c 251 § 17.]

# Title 36

## COUNTIES

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## Title 36

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 through *84.52.056.*  
 limitation on levies, county application: *State Constitution Art. 7 § 2*  
 (Amendments 55, 59); *RCW 84.52.050.*

state, county liability for share of: *State Constitution Art. 11 § 9.*

**Taxing district**

county as: *RCW 84.04.120.*  
 relief act, county application: *Chapter 39.64 RCW.*

Teletypewriter communications network, county participation: *Chapter 43.89 RCW.*

Toll roads, bridges and ferries (state), county participation and liability: *Chapter 47.56 RCW.*

Township organization in: *State Constitution Art. 11 § 4 (Amendment 21).*

**Townships**

county aid to: *RCW 45.56.050.*  
 division of county into: *Chapter 45.08 RCW.*  
 road district obligations continue upon organization: *Chapter 45.72*  
*RCW.*

**Traffic**

enforcement agencies, duty: *Chapter 46.64 RCW.*  
 schools, county participation: *Chapter 46.83 RCW.*

Unfit dwellings, buildings and structures: *Chapter 35.80 RCW.*

Uniform system of accounting: *Chapter 43.09 RCW.*

Validation of bonds and financing proceedings: *Chapter 39.90 RCW.*

**Veterans**

in business, peddling, county licensing limitations: *RCW 73.04.050*  
 through *73.04.060.*  
 indigent and deceased, burial as county responsibility: *RCW 73.08.070.*  
 preference in county employment reemployment: *RCW 41.04.010, Chapter*  
*73.16 RCW.*  
 public officials duty as considered leave of absence: *RCW 73.16.041.*

**Veterans'**

meeting hall, county may furnish free of charge: *RCW 73.04.070.*  
 meeting place, rent from county funds: *RCW 73.04.080.*  
 relief as county responsibility: *Chapter 73.08 RCW.*

Vital statistics, county as a primary registration area: *RCW 70.58.010.*

**Wages**

deductions and rebates, application to counties: *Chapter 49.52 RCW.*  
 payment and collection of, county employee exclusion: *RCW 49.48.080.*  
 rebates of on public works, penalty: *RCW 49.52.090.*

Warrants, interest rate on: *RCW 39.56.020, 39.56.030.*

Water pollution control, county application: *Chapter 90.48 RCW.*

**Water rights**

appropriation of by counties; procedure: *Chapter 90.03 RCW.*  
 United States, county application: *Chapter 90.40 RCW.*

Wharves, counties may authorize and prescribe rates: *RCW 88.24.020.*

Workers' compensation, county coverage: *RCW 51.12.050.*

World fair or exposition, county participation: *Chapter 35.60 RCW.*

**36.01.010 Corporate powers.** The several counties in this state shall have capacity as bodies corporate, to sue and be sued in the manner prescribed by law; to purchase and hold lands; to make such contracts, and to purchase and hold such personal property, as may be necessary to their

corporate or administrative powers, and to do all other necessary acts in relation to all the property of the county. [1986 c 278 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.01.010. Prior: Code 1881 § 2653; 1863 p 538 § 1; 1854 p 329 § 1; RRS § 3982.]

**Severability—1986 c 278:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1986 c 278 § 65.]

**36.01.020 Corporate name.** The name of a county, designated by law, is its corporate name, and it must be known and designated thereby in all actions and proceedings touching its corporate rights, property, and duties. [1963 c 4 § 36.01.020. Prior: Code 1881 § 2654; RRS § 3983.]

**36.01.030 Powers—How exercised.** Its powers can only be exercised by the county commissioners, or by agents or officers acting under their authority or authority of law. [1963 c 4 § 36.01.030. Prior: Code 1881 § 2655; RRS § 3984.]

**36.01.040 Conveyances for use of county.** Every conveyance of lands, or transfer of other property, made in any manner for the use of any county, shall have the same force and effect as if made to the county in its proper and corporate name. [1963 c 4 § 36.01.040. Prior: Code 1881 § 2656; 1863 p 538 § 2; 1854 p 329 § 2; RRS § 3985.]

**36.01.050 Venue of actions by or against counties.** All actions against any county may be commenced in the superior court of such county, or of the adjoining county, and all actions by any county shall be commenced in the superior court of the county in which the defendant resides, or in the county adjoining the county by which such action is commenced. [1963 c 4 § 36.01.050. Prior: 1854 p 329 § 6; No RRS.]

**36.01.060 County liable for certain court costs.** Each county shall be liable to pay the per diem and mileage, or other compensation in lieu thereof, to jurors of the county attending the superior court; the fees of the sheriff for maintaining prisoners charged with crimes, and the sheriff's costs in conveying them to and from the court, as well as their board while there; the per diem and mileage, or such other compensation as is allowed in lieu thereof, of the sheriff of the county, when in criminal cases the sheriff is required to attend or travel to the superior court out of the limits of the sheriff's county; the costs in criminal cases taken from the courts of limited jurisdiction to the superior court; but no such claims shall be paid by the treasurer unless the particular items are approved by the judge and certified by the clerk under the seal of the court. For the time or travel which may be paid by the parties or United States, no payment from the county shall be allowed, and no officer, juror, or witness shall receive from the county double pay as a per diem for the same time, or as traveling expenses or mileage for the same travel, in however many different capacities or in however many different causes they may be summoned, notified, or called upon to testify or attend in. [1987 c 202 § 200; 1963 c 4 § 36.01.060. Prior:

Code 1881 § 2110; 1869 p 420 § 9; 1863 p 425 § 10; 1857 p 22 § 10; RRS § 508.]

Intent—1987 c 202: See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**36.01.070 Counties may engage in probation and parole services.** Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 72.01 RCW or any other provision of law, counties may engage in probation and parole services and employ personnel therefor under such terms and conditions as any such county shall so determine. [1967 c 200 § 9.]

Severability—1967 c 200: See note following RCW 9.45.122.

Indeterminate sentences: Chapter 9.95 RCW.

**36.01.080 Parking facilities—Construction, operation and rental charges.** Counties may construct, maintain, operate and collect rentals for parking facilities as a part of a courthouse or combined county-city building facility. [1969 ex.s. c 8 § 1.]

Revenue bonds for parking facilities: RCW 36.67.520.

**36.01.085 Economic development programs.** It shall be in the public purpose for all counties to engage in economic development programs. In addition, counties may contract with nonprofit corporations in furtherance of this and other acts relating to economic development. [1985 c 92 § 2.]

**36.01.090 Tourist promotion.** See RCW 36.32.450.

**36.01.095 Emergency medical services—Authorized—Fees.** Any county may establish a system of emergency medical service as defined by RCW 18.73.030(11). The county legislative authority may adopt by resolution procedures to collect reasonable fees in order to reimburse the county in whole or in part for its costs of providing such service: PROVIDED, That any county which provides emergency medical services supported by an excess levy may waive such charges for service: PROVIDED FURTHER, That whenever the county legislative authority determines that the county or a substantial portion of the county is not adequately served by existing private ambulance service, and existing private ambulance service cannot be encouraged to expand service on a contract basis, the emergency medical service that is established by the county shall not be deemed to compete with any existing private ambulance service as provided for in RCW 36.01.100. [1975 1st ex.s. c 147 § 1.]

**36.01.100 Ambulance service authorized—Restriction.** The legislative authority of any county may by appropriate legislation provide for the establishment of a system of ambulance service for the entire county or for portions thereof, and award contracts for ambulance service: PROVIDED, That such legislation may not provide for the establishment of any system which would compete with any existing private system. [1972 ex.s. c 89 § 1.]

**36.01.104 Levy for emergency medical care and services.** See RCW 84.52.069.

**36.01.105 Fire protection, ambulance or other emergency services provided by municipal corporation within county—Financial and other assistance authorized.** See RCW 36.32.470.

**36.01.110 Federal grants and programs—Powers and authority of counties to participate in—Public corporations, commissions or authorities.** See RCW 35.21.730 through 35.21.755.

**36.01.115 Nonpolluting power generation by individual—Exemption from regulation—Authorization to contract with utility.** See chapter 80.58 RCW.

**36.01.120 Foreign trade zones—Legislative finding, intent.** It is the finding of the legislature that foreign trade zones serve an important public purpose by the creation of employment opportunities within the state and that the establishment of zones designed to accomplish this purpose is to be encouraged. It is the further intent of the legislature that the \*department of trade and economic development provide assistance to entities planning to apply to the United States for permission to establish such zones. [1985 c 466 § 44; 1977 ex.s. c 196 § 5.]

\*Reviser's note: Powers, duties, and functions of the department of community development and the department of trade and economic development were transferred to the department of community, trade, and economic development by 1993 c 280, effective July 1, 1994.

Effective date—Severability—1985 c 466: See notes following RCW 43.31.085.

Effective date—1977 ex.s. c 196: See note following RCW 24.46.010.

**36.01.125 Foreign trade zones—Authority to apply for permission to establish, operate and maintain.** A county, as zone sponsor, may apply to the United States for permission to establish, operate, and maintain foreign trade zones: PROVIDED, That nothing herein shall be construed to prevent these zones from being operated and financed by a private corporation(s) on behalf of such county acting as zone sponsor. [1977 ex.s. c 196 § 6.]

Effective date—1977 ex.s. c 196: See note following RCW 24.46.010.

**36.01.130 Controls on rent for residential structures—Prohibited—Exceptions.** The imposition of controls on rent is of state-wide significance and is preempted by the state. No county may enact, maintain or enforce ordinances or other provisions which regulate the amount of rent to be charged for single family or multiple unit residential rental structures or sites other than properties in public ownership, under public management, or properties providing low-income rental housing under joint public-private agreements for the financing or provision of such low-income rental housing. This section shall not be construed as prohibiting any county from entering into agreements with private persons which regulate or control the amount of rent to be charged for rental properties. [1991 c 363 § 43; 1981 c 75 § 2.]

Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363: See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**Applicability to floating home moorage sites—Severability—1981 c 75:** See notes following RCW 35.21.830.

**36.01.150 Facilitating recovery from Mt. St. Helens eruption—Scope of local government action.** All entities of local government and agencies thereof are authorized to take action as follows to facilitate recovery from the devastation of the eruption of Mt. St. Helens:

(1) Cooperate with the state, state agencies, and the United States Army Corps of Engineers and other agencies of the federal government in planning dredge site selection and dredge spoils removal;

(2) Counties and cities may re-zone areas and sites as necessary to facilitate recovery operations;

(3) Counties may manage and maintain lands involved and the deposited dredge spoils; and

(4) Local governments may assist the Army Corps of Engineers in the dredging and dredge spoils deposit operations. [1982 c 7 § 3.]

**Severability—1982 c 7:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1982 c 7 § 11.] For codification of 1982 c 7, see Codification Tables, Volume 0.

*Exemptions for emergency recovery operations from Mt. St. Helens eruption authorized—Exception—Expiration of section:* RCW 43.21A.500, 43.21C.500, 89.16.500, and 90.58.500.

*Facilitating recovery from Mt. St. Helens eruption—Legislative findings—Purpose:* RCW 43.01.200.

*Scope of state agency action:* RCW 43.01.210.

**36.01.160 Penalty for act constituting a crime under state law—Limitation.** Except as limited by the maximum penalty authorized by law, no county may establish a penalty for an act that constitutes a crime under state law that is different from the penalty prescribed for that crime by state statute. [1993 c 83 § 2.]

**Effective date—1993 c 83:** See note following RCW 35.21.163.

## Chapter 36.04 COUNTY BOUNDARIES

Sections

- 36.04.010 Adams county.
- 36.04.020 Asotin county.
- 36.04.030 Benton county.
- 36.04.040 Chelan county.
- 36.04.050 Clallam county.
- 36.04.060 Clark county.
- 36.04.070 Columbia county.
- 36.04.080 Cowlitz county.
- 36.04.090 Douglas county.
- 36.04.100 Ferry county.
- 36.04.110 Franklin county.
- 36.04.120 Garfield county.
- 36.04.130 Grant county.
- 36.04.140 Grays Harbor county.
- 36.04.150 Island county.
- 36.04.160 Jefferson county.
- 36.04.170 King county.
- 36.04.180 Kitsap county.
- 36.04.190 Kittitas county.
- 36.04.200 Klickitat county.
- 36.04.210 Lewis county.
- 36.04.220 Lincoln county.
- 36.04.230 Mason county.

- 36.04.240 Okanogan county.
- 36.04.250 Pacific county.
- 36.04.260 Pend Oreille county.
- 36.04.270 Pierce county.
- 36.04.280 San Juan county.
- 36.04.290 Skagit county.
- 36.04.300 Skamania county.
- 36.04.310 Snohomish county.
- 36.04.320 Spokane county.
- 36.04.330 Stevens county.
- 36.04.340 Thurston county.
- 36.04.350 Wahkiakum county.
- 36.04.360 Walla Walla county.
- 36.04.370 Whatcom county.
- 36.04.380 Whitman county.
- 36.04.390 Yakima county.
- 36.04.400 Survey of county boundaries.

**Reviser's note:** For the reasons set out in the second paragraph of the explanatory note appended to chapter 4, Laws of 1963, the session laws comprising chapter 36.04 RCW were neither repealed nor reenacted in the 1963 reenactment of Title 36 RCW. Pending reenactment of this chapter, it is herein republished as revised by the 1941 code committee; for rules of construction concerning such revision, see RCW 1.04.020 and 1.04.021.

**36.04.010 Adams county.** Adams county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Beginning at the northwest corner of township fourteen north, range twenty-eight east of the Willamette Meridian; running thence north to the fourth standard parallel; thence east to the Columbia River Guide Meridian; thence north to the fifth standard parallel; thence east on said parallel to the line between the ranges thirty-eight and thirty-nine; thence south on said line to where it intersects the Palouse river in township sixteen; thence down said river to where the line between townships fourteen and fifteen crosses said river; thence west on said line to place of beginning. [1883 p 93 § 1; RRS § 3924.]

**36.04.020 Asotin county.** Asotin county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing at a point in the channel of Snake river on the township line between ranges forty-four and forty-five east, Willamette Meridian; thence running south to the northwest corner of section thirty, township eleven north, range forty-five east, Willamette Meridian; thence west six miles; south one mile; west two miles; south one mile; west one mile to the northwest corner of section three in township ten north, of range forty-three east, Willamette Meridian; thence south eighteen miles; thence west three miles; thence south to the Oregon line; thence east on said line to the midchannel of Snake river; thence down the midchannel of Snake river to the place of beginning. [1883 p 96 § 1; RRS § 3925.]

**36.04.030 Benton county.** Benton county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Beginning at the point of intersection of the middle of the main channel of the Columbia river with the township line between township thirteen north, range twenty-three east, and township thirteen north, range twenty-four east, Willamette Meridian; thence running south along the township line, being the line between range twenty-three east and range twenty-four east to the line between Yakima county and Klickitat county; thence south along the township lines, being the lines between ranges twenty-three east and twenty-four east, to the point of intersection with the middle of the main channel of the Columbia river, or to its intersection

with the line between the states of Washington and Oregon; thence northeasterly, northerly and northwesterly and westerly along the middle of the main channel of the Columbia river and up said stream to the place of beginning. [1905 c 89 § 1; RRS § 3926.]

**36.04.040 Chelan county.** Chelan county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Beginning at the point of intersection of the middle of the main channel of the Columbia river with the fifth standard parallel north, thence running west along said fifth standard parallel north to the point where said fifth standard parallel north intersects the summit of the main divide between the waters flowing northerly and easterly into the Wenatchee and Columbia rivers, and the waters flowing southerly and westerly into the Yakima river, thence in a general northwesterly direction along the summit of said main divide between the waters flowing northerly and easterly into the Wenatchee and Columbia rivers and the waters flowing southerly and westerly into the Yakima river, following the course of the center of the summit of the watershed dividing the said respective waters, to the center of the summit of the Cascade mountains, at the eastern boundary line of King county; thence north along the east boundary lines of King, Snohomish and Skagit counties to the point upon the said east boundary of Skagit county, where said boundary is intersected by the watershed between the waters flowing northerly and easterly into the Methow river and the waters flowing southerly and westerly into Lake Chelan, thence in a general southeasterly direction along the summit of the main divide between the waters flowing northerly and easterly into the Methow river and the waters flowing westerly and southerly into Lake Chelan and its tributaries; following the course of the center of the summit of the watershed dividing said respective waters, to the point where the seventh standard parallel north intersects said center of the summit of said watershed; thence east along the said seventh standard parallel north to the point of intersection of the middle of the main channel of the Columbia river with said seventh standard parallel north; thence down the middle of the main channel of the Columbia river to the point of beginning. [1899 c 95 § 1; RRS § 3928.]

**36.04.050 Clallam county.** Clallam county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing at the northwest corner of Jefferson county at a point opposite the middle of the channel between Protection Island and Diamond Point on the west of Port Discovery Bay; thence following up the middle of said channel to a point directly east of the mouth of Eagle creek; thence west to the mouth of Eagle creek; thence one mile west from the mouth of said creek; thence south to the north boundary line of township twenty-seven north, range two west; thence west to the west boundary of the state in the Pacific Ocean; thence northerly along said boundary to a point marking the north terminus of the west boundary of the state in the Pacific Ocean opposite the Strait of Juan de Fuca; thence easterly along said Strait of Juan de Fuca, where it forms the boundary between the state and British possessions, to the place of beginning. [(i) 1869 p 292 § 1; 1867 p 45 § 1;

1854 p 472 § 1; RRS § 3929. (ii) 1925 ex.s. c 40 § 1; RRS § 3963-1.]

**36.04.060 Clark county.** Clark county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing at the Columbia river opposite the mouth of Lewis river; thence up Lewis river to the forks of said river; thence up the north fork of Lewis river to where said north fork of Lewis river intersects the range line between ranges four and five east; thence due south to the Columbia river; thence with the main channel of said river to the place of beginning. [(i) 1873 p 561 § 1; 1871 p 153 § 1; 1869 p 295 § 1; RRS § 3930. (ii) 1925 ex.s. c 51 § 1; RRS § 3930-1.]

**36.04.070 Columbia county.** Columbia county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing at a point in the middle of the channel of Snake river, where the range line between ranges thirty-six and thirty-seven east of the Willamette Meridian intersects said point; thence south on said range line to the northwest corner of township nine north, range thirty-seven east; thence east on the north boundary line of township nine north, range thirty-seven east, to the northeast corner of said township; thence south on the line between ranges thirty-seven and thirty-eight east of the Willamette Meridian, to the northwest corner of township eight north, range thirty-eight east; thence along the north boundary line of township eight north, range thirty-eight east, to the northeast corner of said township; thence due south to the line dividing the state of Washington from the state of Oregon; thence due east on said dividing line to the range line between ranges forty-one and forty-two east; thence north on said range line to the corner of sections thirteen, eighteen, nineteen and twenty-four, township ten north, ranges forty-one and forty-two east; thence west three miles; thence north three miles; thence west one mile; thence north one mile; thence west one mile; thence north three miles; thence west one mile; thence north to the southwest corner of township twelve north, range forty-one east; thence west on township line six miles; thence north on range line between ranges thirty-nine and forty to a point in the midchannel of Snake river; thence down the midchannel of said river to the place of beginning. [(i) 1 H.C. § 6; 1875 p 133 § 1; RRS § 3931. (ii) 1879 p 226 § 1; RRS § 3960-1. (iii) 1881 p 175 § 1; RRS § 3936.]

**36.04.080 Cowlitz county.** Cowlitz county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing at the Columbia river opposite the mouth of Lewis river; thence up Lewis river to the forks of said river; thence up the north fork of Lewis river to where said north fork of Lewis river intersects the range line between ranges four and five east; thence north to the line between townships ten and eleven north; thence west to the first section line east of the range line between ranges four and five west; thence south on said line to the Columbia river, and up the Columbia river to the place of beginning. [1873 p 561 § 1; 1871 p 153 § 1; 1869 p 295 § 1; 1867 p 48 § 1; 1855 p 39; 1854 p 471 § 1; RRS § 3932.]

**36.04.090 Douglas county.** Douglas county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Begin-

ning at the point where the Columbia Guide Meridian intersects the Columbia river on the northern boundary of Lincoln county; thence running south on said Columbia Guide Meridian to the township line between townships sixteen and seventeen north; thence running west on said township line to the range line between ranges twenty-seven and twenty-eight east; thence south on said range line to the section line between sections twenty-four and twenty-five in township fourteen north, range twenty-seven east; thence west on said section line to the midchannel of the Columbia river; thence up said channel of said river to the place of beginning, excepting therefrom the territory hereinafter constituted as Grant county. [1883 p 95 § 1; RRS § 3933. (Grant county, 1909 c 17 § 1; RRS § 3937.)]

**36.04.100 Ferry county.** Ferry county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing at the point where the east boundary line of Okanogan county intersects the Columbia river; thence up the midchannel of the Columbia river to the mouth of Kettle river; thence up the midchannel of Kettle river to the boundary line between the United States and British Columbia; thence westerly along the said boundary line to the intersection thereof with the said east boundary line of Okanogan county; thence southerly along the said boundary line to the place of beginning. [1899 c 18 § 1; RRS § 3934.]

**36.04.110 Franklin county.** Franklin county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Beginning at a point where the midchannel of the Snake river intersects that of the Columbia river, and running thence up the Columbia river to a point where the section line between sections twenty-one and twenty-eight, township fourteen north, range twenty-seven east, Willamette Meridian, strikes the main body of the Columbia river, on the east side of the island; thence east on said section line to range line between ranges twenty-seven and twenty-eight east; thence north on said range line to the north boundary of township fourteen; thence east on said north boundary of township fourteen to the Palouse river; thence down said river to midchannel of Snake river; thence down Snake river to place of beginning. [1883 p 87 § 1; RRS § 3935.]

**36.04.120 Garfield county.** Garfield county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing at a point in the midchannel of Snake river on range line between ranges thirty-nine and forty east, W.M.; thence on said line south to the southwest corner of township twelve north, range forty; thence east on township line six miles; thence south to the southwest corner of section seven, township eleven north, range forty-one east; thence east one mile; thence south three miles; thence east one mile; thence south one mile; thence east one mile; thence south three miles; thence east three miles; thence south on township line to the Oregon line; thence due east on said line six miles to the southwest corner of Asotin county; thence northerly following the westerly boundary of Asotin county to a point where the same intersects the midchannel of Snake river; thence down the said midchannel of Snake river to the point of beginning. [1883 p 96 § 1; 1881 p 175 § 1; RRS § 3936.]

**36.04.130 Grant county.** Grant county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Beginning at the southeast corner of township seventeen north, range thirty east of the Willamette Meridian, thence running west on the township line between townships sixteen and seventeen to the range line between ranges twenty-seven and twenty-eight; thence south on said range line to the section line between sections twenty-four and twenty-five in township fourteen north, range twenty-seven east; thence west on said section line to the midchannel of the Columbia river; thence up the channel of the river to a point, thence at right angles to the course of said channel to the meander corner of section thirteen, township twenty north, range twenty-two east Willamette Meridian, and section eighteen, township twenty north, range twenty-three east Willamette Meridian; thence north along the range line between ranges twenty-two and twenty-three to the northwest corner of section eighteen, township twenty-one north, range twenty-three east Willamette Meridian; thence east one mile to the southeast corner section seven, township twenty-one, range twenty-three east; north one mile to the northwest corner section eight, township twenty-one, range twenty-three east; east one mile to the southeast corner of section five, township twenty-one, range twenty-three east; north one mile to the northeast corner section five, township twenty-one, range twenty-three east; east one mile to the northeast corner of section four, township twenty-one, range twenty-three east; north one mile to the southeast corner section twenty-eight, township twenty-two, range twenty-three east; east one mile to the southeast corner section twenty-seven, township twenty-two, range twenty-three east; north two miles to the northeast corner of section twenty-two, township twenty-two, range twenty-three east; east one mile to the southeast corner of section fourteen, township twenty-two, range twenty-three east; north one mile to the southeast corner section eleven, township twenty-two, range twenty-three east; east one mile to the southeast corner of section twelve, township twenty-two, range twenty-three east; north two miles to the northwest corner of section six, township twenty-two north, range twenty-four east; east sixteen miles to the northeast corner of section three, township twenty-two north, range twenty-six east; north six miles to the northeast corner of section three, township twenty-three north, range twenty-six east; east one mile to the northeast corner of section two, township twenty-three north, range twenty-six east; north one mile to the northeast corner of section thirty-five, township twenty-four north, range twenty-six east; east one mile to the southeast corner of section twenty-five, township twenty-four north, range twenty-six east; north one mile to the southeast corner of section twenty-four, township twenty-four north, range twenty-six east; east one mile to the southeast corner of section nineteen, township twenty-four north, range twenty-seven east; north one mile to the southeast corner of section eighteen, township twenty-four north, range twenty-seven east; east one mile to the southeast corner of section seventeen, township twenty-four north, range twenty-seven east; north one mile to the southeast corner of section eight, township twenty-four north, range twenty-seven east; east one mile to the southeast corner of section nine, township twenty-four north, range twenty-seven east; north one mile to the southeast corner of section four, township twenty-four north, range twenty-seven east; east one mile to the southeast

corner of section three, township twenty-four, range twenty-seven east; north one mile to the northeast corner of section three, township twenty-four, range twenty-seven east; east three miles to the southeast corner of section thirty-one, township twenty-five north, range twenty-eight east; north one mile to the southeast corner of section thirty, township twenty-five north, range twenty-eight east; east one mile to the southeast corner of section twenty-nine, township twenty-five north, range twenty-eight east; north three miles to the southeast corner of section eight, township twenty-five north, range twenty-eight east; east one mile to the southeast corner of section nine, township twenty-five north, range twenty-eight east; north four miles to the southeast corner of section twenty-one, township twenty-six north, range twenty-eight east; east one mile to the southeast corner of section twenty-two, township twenty-six north, range twenty-eight east; north one mile to the southeast corner of section fifteen, township twenty-six north, range twenty-eight east; east one mile to the southeast corner of section fourteen, township twenty-six north, range twenty-eight east; north two miles to the southeast corner of section two, township twenty-six north, range twenty-eight east; east one mile to the southeast corner of section one, township twenty-six north, range twenty-eight east; north two miles to the southeast corner of section twenty-five, township twenty-seven north, range twenty-eight east; east one mile to the southeast corner of section thirty, township twenty-seven north, range twenty-nine east; north six miles to the southeast corner of section thirty, township twenty-eight north, range twenty-nine east; east one mile to the southeast corner of section twenty-nine, township twenty-eight north, range twenty-nine east; north one mile to the southeast corner of section twenty, township twenty-eight north, range twenty-nine east; east two miles to the southeast corner of section twenty-two, township twenty-eight north, range twenty-nine east; north one mile to the southeast corner of section fifteen, township twenty-eight north, range twenty-nine east; east one mile to the southeast corner of section fourteen, township twenty-eight north, range twenty-nine east; north two miles to the southeast corner of section two, township twenty-eight north, range twenty-nine east; east one mile to the southeast corner of section one, township twenty-eight north, range twenty-nine east; north one mile to the northeast corner of section one, township twenty-eight north, range twenty-nine east; thence east along township line between townships twenty-eight and twenty-nine to the midchannel of the Columbia river; thence up said channel of said river to the point where the Columbia Guide Meridian intersects said channel; thence running south on said Columbia Guide Meridian to the place of beginning. [1909 c 17 § 1; RRS § 3937.]

**36.04.140 Grays Harbor county.** Grays Harbor county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing at the northeast corner of Pacific county; thence west to the west boundary of the state in the Pacific Ocean; thence northerly along said boundary, including Gray's Harbor, to a point opposite the mouth of Queets river; thence east to the west boundary line of Mason county; thence south to the northeast corner of township eighteen north, range seven west; thence east fourteen miles to the southeast corner of section thirty-two, township

nineteen north, range four west; thence south six miles to the southeast corner of section thirty-two in township eighteen north, range four west; thence east two miles to the southeast corner of section thirty-four in the same township; thence south to a point due east of the northeast corner of Pacific county; thence west to the place of beginning. [(i) 1 H.C. § 3; 1873 p 482 § 1; 1869 p 296 § 1; RRS § 3927. (ii) 1915 c 77 § 1; RRS § 3938. (iii) 1925 ex.s. c 40 § 1; RRS § 3963-1.]

**36.04.150 Island county.** Island county shall consist of all of the islands known as Whidbey, Camano, Smith's Deception and Ure's and shall extend into the adjacent channels to connect with the boundaries of adjoining counties as defined by statute. [1891 c 119 p 217 § 1; 1877 p 425 §§ 1, 2; 1869 p 292 § 1; 1868 p 68 § 1; 1867 p 46 § 1; RRS § 3939.]

**36.04.160 Jefferson county.** Jefferson county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing at the middle of the channel of Admiralty Inlet due north of Point Wilson; thence westerly along the Strait of Juan de Fuca to the north of Protection Island, to a point opposite the middle of the channel between Protection Island and Diamond Point on the west of Port Discovery Bay; thence following up the middle of said channel to a point direct east of the mouth of Eagle creek; thence west to the mouth of Eagle creek; thence one mile west from the mouth of said creek; thence south to the summit of the Olympic range of mountains, it being the southeast corner of Clallam county, on the north boundary line of township twenty-seven north, range two west; thence west to the west boundary of the state in the Pacific Ocean; thence southerly along said west boundary to a point opposite the mouth of the Queets river; thence east to the range line dividing ranges six and seven west; thence north on said range line to the sixth standard parallel; thence east to the middle of the channel of Hood Canal; thence northerly along said channel to the middle of the channel of Admiralty Inlet; thence northerly following the channel of said inlet to a point due north of Point Wilson and place of beginning. [(i) 1 H.C. § 12; 1877 p 406 § 1; 1869 p 292 § 1; RRS § 3940. (ii) 1925 ex.s. c 40 § 1; RRS § 3963-1.]

**36.04.170 King county.** King county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Beginning at the point of intersection of the center of East Passage (also known as Admiralty Inlet) on Puget Sound and the northerly line of the Puyallup Indian Reservation (projected northwesterly); thence southeasterly in a straight line along said northerly line of Puyallup Indian Reservation and same extended to a point on the east line of section thirty-one, township twenty-one, north, range four east, Willamette Meridian; thence south along said east line of section thirty-one, township twenty-one, range four east, Willamette Meridian, to the township line between township twenty north and township twenty-one north (being the fifth standard parallel north); thence east along said township line between township twenty north and township twenty-one north to the middle of the main channel of White river, near the northeast corner of section three, township twenty north,



range five east, Willamette Meridian; thence upstream along the middle of the main channel of White river to the forks of White river and Greenwater river; thence upstream along the middle of the main channel of the Greenwater river to the forks of the Greenwater river and Meadow creek; thence upstream along the middle of the main channel of Meadow creek to the summit of the Cascade mountains, at a point known as Naches Pass, said point lying in the southwest quarter of section thirty-five, township nineteen north, range eleven east, Willamette Meridian; thence northerly along the summit of the Cascade mountains to a point on the township line between township twenty-six north and township twenty-seven north, said point lying near the north quarter-corner of section three, township twenty-six north, range thirteen east, Willamette Meridian; thence west along said township line between township twenty-six north and twenty-seven north to the middle of the channel known as Admiralty Inlet on Puget Sound; thence southerly along said middle of channel known as Admiralty Inlet through Colvo's Passage (West Passage) on the west side of Vashon Island to a point due north of Point Defiance; thence southeasterly along middle of channel between Vashon Island and Point Defiance (Dalcos Passage) to a point due south of Quartermaster Harbor; thence northeasterly along middle of channel known as Admiralty Inlet to point of beginning. [1 H.C. § 13; 1869 p 293 § 1; 1867 p 46 § 1; 1854 p 470 § 1; RRS § 3941.]

**Reviser's note:** Change in boundary by virtue of election in 1901 under chapter 36.08 RCW incorporated herein.

**36.04.180 Kitsap county.** Kitsap county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing in the middle of Colvo's Passage at a point due east of the meander post between sections nine and sixteen, on west side of Colvo's Passage, in township twenty-two north, range two east; thence west on the north boundary line of sections sixteen, seventeen and eighteen, to the head of Case's Inlet; thence north along the east boundary of Mason county through the center of townships twenty-two and twenty-three, range one west, to the north line of said township twenty-three; thence due west to the middle of the channel of Hood Canal; thence along said channel to the middle of the main channel of Admiralty Inlet; thence following the main channels of said inlet and Puget Sound up to the middle of Colvo's Passage; thence following the channel of said passage to the place of beginning. [1877 p 406 § 1; 1869 p 293 § 1; 1867 p 46 § 1; 1858 p 51 § 1; RRS § 3942.]

**36.04.190 Kittitas county.** Kittitas county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing at a point where the main channel of the Columbia river crosses the township line between township fourteen and fifteen north, range twenty-three east of the Willamette Meridian, and running thence west on said township line to the range line between ranges eighteen and nineteen east; thence north on said range line six miles, or to the township line between the townships fifteen and sixteen north; thence west on said township line to the range line between ranges seventeen and eighteen east; thence north to the township line between townships sixteen and seventeen north; thence west along said township line and a line prolonged due west to the Naches river; and thence northerly along the main

channel of the Naches river to the summit of the Cascade mountains, or to the eastern boundary of King county; thence north along the eastern boundary of King county to the point where such boundary intersects the summit of the main divide between the waters flowing northerly and easterly into the Wenatchee and Columbia rivers and the water flowing southerly and westerly into the Yakima river; thence in a general southeasterly direction along the summit of such main divide between the waters flowing northerly and easterly into the Wenatchee and Columbia rivers and the waters flowing southerly and westerly into the Yakima river, following the course of the center of the summit of the watershed dividing such respective waters, to the fifth standard parallel north; thence east along the fifth standard parallel north to the middle of the main channel of the Columbia river; thence down the main channel of the Columbia to the place of beginning. [1899 c 95 § 1; 1886 p 168 § 1; 1883 p 90 § 1; RRS § 3943.]

**36.04.200 Klickitat county.** Klickitat county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing at a point in the midchannel of the Columbia river opposite the mouth of the White Salmon river; thence up the channel of the White Salmon river as far north as the southern boundary of township four north, range ten east of Willamette Meridian; thence due west on the township line to range nine east of Willamette Meridian; thence north following said range line to where it intersects the south boundary of Yakima county projected; thence east along the north boundary of township six north until that line intersects the range line between range twenty-three east and range twenty-four east; thence south along such range line to the Columbia river; thence down the Columbia river, midchannel, to the place of beginning. [1905 c 89 § 1; 1 H.C. § 17; 1881 p 187 § 1; 1873 p 571 § 1; 1869 p 296 § 1; 1868 p 60 § 1; 1867 p 49 § 1; 1861 p 59 § 1; 1859 p 420 § 1; RRS § 3944.]

**36.04.210 Lewis county.** Lewis county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Beginning at the northwest corner of section eighteen, township fifteen north, range five west; thence south along the west boundary of range five west to the southwest corner of township eleven north, range five west; thence east along the south boundary of township eleven north to the summit of the Cascade mountains; thence northerly along said summit to a point due east of the head of Nisqually river; thence west to the head of the Nisqually river; thence westerly down the channel of the river to a point two miles north of the line between townships fourteen and fifteen north; thence west to the northwest corner of section twenty-six, township fifteen north, range four west; thence north two miles to the northwest corner of section fourteen, township fifteen north, range four west; thence west to place of beginning. [1 H.C. §§ 18, 19; 1888 p 73 § 1; 1879 p 213 § 1; 1869 p 295 § 1; 1867 p 48 § 1; 1861 p 33 § 1; RRS § 3945.]

**36.04.220 Lincoln county.** Lincoln county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Beginning at the point in township twenty-seven north, where the Colville Guide Meridian between ranges thirty-nine and forty

east, Willamette Meridian, intersects the Spokane river, and running thence south along said meridian line to the township line between townships twenty and twenty-one north; thence west along said township line to its intersection with the Columbia Guide Meridian between ranges thirty and thirty-one east, Willamette Meridian; thence north along said meridian line to a point where it intersects the midchannel of the Columbia river; thence up said river in the middle of the channel thereof to the mouth of the Spokane river; thence up the Spokane river, in the middle of the channel thereof, to the place of beginning. [1883 p 89 § 1; 1883 p 95 § 1; RRS § 3946.]

**36.04.230 Mason county.** Mason county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing in middle of the main channel of Puget Sound where it is intersected in the midchannel of Case's Inlet; thence westerly along the midchannel of Puget Sound, via Dana's Passage, into Totten's Inlet, and up said inlet to its intersection by section line between sections twenty-eight and twenty-nine, township nineteen north, range three west of the Willamette Meridian; thence south to the southwest corner of section thirty-three in township nineteen north, range three west; thence west along the township line dividing townships eighteen and nineteen, twenty miles, to the township line dividing ranges six and seven west, of the Willamette Meridian, which constitutes a part of the east boundary line of Grays Harbor county; thence north along said township line to the sixth standard parallel; thence east along said parallel line to the middle of the channel of Hood Canal; thence southerly along said midchannel to a point due west of the intersection of the shore line of said Hood Canal by the township line between townships twenty-three and twenty-four; thence east along said township line to the line dividing sections three and four in said township twenty-three north, range one west of the Willamette Meridian; thence south along said section line to the head of Case's Inlet; thence south by the midchannel of said inlet to the place of beginning. [1877 p 406 § 1; 1869 p 293 § 1; 1867 p 45 § 1; 1864 p 71 § 1; 1863 p 7 (local laws portion) § 1; 1861 p 56 § 1; 1861 p 30 § 1; 1860 p 458 § 1; 1854 p 474 § 1; 1854 p 470 § 1; RRS § 3947.]

**36.04.240 Okanogan county.** Okanogan county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Beginning at the intersection of the forty-ninth parallel with the range line between ranges thirty-one and thirty-two east, and from thence running in a southerly direction on said range line to the intersection of the said range line with the Columbia river, and thence down the river to the seventh standard parallel north; thence west along the seventh standard parallel north to the watershed between the waters flowing northerly and easterly into the Methow river and the waters flowing southerly and westerly into Lake Chelan; thence in a general northwesterly direction along the summit of the main divide between the waters flowing northerly and easterly into the Methow river and the waters flowing westerly and southerly into Lake Chelan and its tributaries; following the course of the center of the summit of the watershed dividing said respective waters to the point where the same intersects the east boundary of Skagit county and

the summit of the Cascade mountains; thence northerly with said summit to the forty-ninth parallel, and thence on the said parallel to the place of beginning. [1899 c 95 § 1; 1888 p 70 § 1; RRS § 3948.]

**36.04.250 Pacific county.** Pacific county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing at the midchannel of the Columbia river at the point of intersection of the line between ranges eight and nine west; thence north along said line to the north boundary of township ten north; thence east along said boundary to the line between ranges five and six west; thence north along the west boundary of range five west to the northwest corner of section eighteen in township fifteen north, range five west; thence west to the west boundary of the state in the Pacific Ocean; thence southerly along said boundary, including Shoalwater Bay, to a point opposite Cape Disappointment; thence up midchannel of the Columbia river to the place of beginning. [(i) 1879 p 213 § 1; 1873 p 538 § 1; 1867 p 49 § 1; 1860 p 429 § 1; 1854 p 471 § 1; RRS § 3949. (ii) 1925 ex.s. c 40 § 1; RRS § 3963-1.]

**36.04.260 Pend Oreille county.** Pend Oreille county shall consist of the territory bounded and described as follows, to wit: Beginning at the southeast corner of section thirty-six in township thirty north, range forty-two east of the Willamette Meridian; thence running north, along the east line of said township thirty north, range forty-two east of the Willamette Meridian, to the northeast corner of section one, in said township thirty; thence west to the southwest corner of section thirty-four in township thirty-one north, range forty-two east of Willamette Meridian; thence north, along the west line of sections thirty-four, twenty-seven and twenty-two of said township thirty-one north, range forty-two east of Willamette Meridian; thence north on a line from the northwest corner of section twenty-two in township thirty-one to a point on the north line of township thirty-one, midway between the northeast corner and the northwest corner of said township thirty-one, which line will be the west line of sections fifteen, ten and three of said township thirty-one, when the same are surveyed; thence to the center point on the south line of township thirty-two north, range forty-two east of Willamette Meridian; thence north on the north and south center line of said township thirty-two, which line will be the west line of sections thirty-four, twenty-seven, twenty-two, fifteen, ten, and three of township thirty-two when the same is surveyed, to the north line of said township thirty-two; thence to the center point on the south line of township thirty-three north, range forty-two east of Willamette Meridian; thence north, on the north and south center line of township thirty-three north of range forty-two east of Willamette Meridian, which line will be the west line of sections thirty-four, twenty-seven, twenty-two, fifteen, ten and three of said township thirty-three, when the same is surveyed, to the north line of said township thirty-three; thence to the center point on the south line of township thirty-four north, range forty-two east of Willamette Meridian; thence north on the north and south center line of said township thirty-four, which line will be the west line of sections thirty-four, twenty-seven, twenty-two, fifteen, ten and three of said township thirty-four when the same are sur-

veyed, to the north line of said township; thence to the center point on the south line of township thirty-five north, range forty-two east of Willamette Meridian; thence north, on the north and south center line of township thirty-five north, range forty-two east of Willamette Meridian, which line will be the west line of sections thirty-four, twenty-seven, twenty-two, fifteen, ten and three of said township thirty-five when the same are surveyed to the north line of said township thirty-five; thence to the southwest corner of section thirty-four in township thirty-six north, range forty-two east of Willamette Meridian; thence north, along the west line of sections thirty-four, twenty-seven, twenty-two, fifteen, ten and three to the northwest corner of section three of said township thirty-six; thence west along the south line of township thirty-seven north, range forty-two, and township thirty-seven north, range forty-one east of the Willamette Meridian, to the center point on the south line of said township thirty-seven north, range forty-one east of the Willamette Meridian, which point will be the southwest corner of section thirty-four in said township thirty-seven north, range forty-one east of the Willamette Meridian, when the same are surveyed; thence north along the north and south center line of said township thirty-seven north, range forty-one east of the Willamette Meridian, which line will be the west line of sections thirty-four, twenty-seven, twenty-two, fifteen, ten and three of said township when the same are surveyed, to the north line of said township thirty-seven; thence east, along the south line of township thirty-eight north, range forty-one east of Willamette Meridian to the southeast corner of said township thirty-eight north, range forty-one east of the Willamette Meridian; thence to the southwest corner of section thirty-one in township thirty-eight north, range forty-two east of Willamette Meridian; thence north, along the west line of said township thirty-eight, to the northwest corner of said township thirty-eight; thence east along the north line of township thirty-eight, to the center point on the south line of township thirty-nine north, range forty-two east of Willamette Meridian, which point will be the southwest corner of section thirty-four of said township thirty-nine when the same are surveyed; thence north along the north and south center line of said township thirty-nine, which line will be the west line of sections thirty-four, twenty-seven, twenty-two, fifteen, ten and three of said township thirty-nine, when the same are surveyed, to the north line of said township thirty-nine; thence east along the south line of township forty north, range forty-two east, of Willamette Meridian to the southeast corner of said township forty; thence north, along the east line of said township forty, to the international boundary line; thence east along the international boundary line, to the intersection of the state line between the states of Washington and Idaho with said international boundary line; thence south along said state line, to the southeast corner of section thirty-one, township thirty north, range forty-six east of Willamette Meridian; thence due west to the southeast corner of section thirty-six, township thirty north, range forty-two east of Willamette Meridian, to the place of beginning. [1911 c 28 § 1; RRS § 3950.]

**36.04.270 Pierce county.** Pierce county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing at

the mouth, midchannel, of the Nisqually river; thence following the main channel of said river to its head; thence due east to the summit of the Cascade mountains; thence northerly along the summit to the head of the Green Water; thence westerly down said river to its confluence with White river; thence down the main channel of White river to the intersection of the fifth standard parallel; thence west along said line to the southeast corner of section thirty-one, township twenty-one north, range four east of Willamette Meridian; thence north along the east line of said section thirty-one to its intersection with the northerly line of the Puyallup Indian reservation; thence northwesterly on said line of the Puyallup Indian reservation, projected northwesterly in a straight line, to its intersection with the center line of Puget Sound; thence southwesterly and westerly following the channel of Dalco Passage to the south entrance of Colvo's Passage; thence down the channel of said passage to the northeast corner of section sixteen, in township twenty-two north, range two east; thence west to the northeast corner of section sixteen, in township twenty-two north, range one west; thence southerly along the channels of Case's Inlet and Puget Sound, to the middle of the mouth of the Nisqually river and place of beginning. [1869 p 294 § 1; 1867 p 47 § 1; 1859 p 59 § 1; 1855 p 43 § 1; RRS § 3951.]

**36.04.280 San Juan county.** San Juan county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing in the Gulf of Georgia at the place where the boundary line between the United States and the British possessions deflects from the forty-ninth parallel of north latitude; thence following said boundary line through the Gulf of Georgia and Haro Strait to the middle of the Strait of Fuca; thence easterly through Fuca Straits along the center of the main channel between Blunt's Island and San Juan and Lopez Islands to a point easterly from the west entrance of Deception Pass, until opposite the middle of the entrance to the Rosario Straits; thence northerly through the middle of Rosario Straits and through the Gulf of Georgia to the place of beginning. [1877 p 425 § 1; 1873 p 461 § 1; RRS § 3952.]

**36.04.290 Skagit county.** Skagit county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing at midchannel of Rosario Strait where the dividing line between townships thirty-six and thirty-seven intersects the same; thence east on said township line to the summit of the Cascade mountains; thence south along the summit of said mountain range to the eighth standard parallel; thence west along the parallel to the center of the channel or deepest channel of the nearest arm of Puget Sound and extending along said channel to the east entrance of Deception Pass; thence through said pass to the center of the channel of Rosario Strait; thence northerly along said channel to the place of beginning. [1883 p 97 § 1; RRS § 3953.]

**36.04.300 Skamania county.** Skamania county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing on the Columbia river at a point where range line four east strikes said river; thence north to the north boundary of township ten north; thence east to a point due north

of the mouth of White Salmon; thence south to the township line dividing townships six and seven; thence west to the northwest corner of Klickitat county; thence south along the west boundary of said county to the Columbia river; thence along the midchannel of said river to the place of beginning. [1881 p 187 § 1; 1879 p 213 § 1; 1867 p 49 § 1; 1854 p 472 § 1; RRS § 3954.]

**36.04.310 Snohomish county.** Snohomish county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing at the southwest corner of Skagit county; thence east along the eighth standard parallel to the summit of the Cascade mountains; thence southerly along the summit of the Cascade mountains to the northeast corner of King county, it being a point due east of the northeast corner of township twenty-six north, range four east; thence due west along the north boundary of King county to Puget Sound; thence northerly along the channel of Puget Sound and Possession Sound to the entrance of Port Susan, including Gedney Island; thence up the main channel of Port Susan to the mouth of the Stillaguamish river; thence northwesterly through the channel of the slough at the head of Camano Island, known as Davis Slough; thence northerly to the place of beginning. [1877 p 426 § 3; 1869 p 291 § 1; 1867 p 44 § 1; 1862 p 107 § 1; 1861 p 19 § 1; RRS § 3955.]

**36.04.320 Spokane county.** Spokane county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing at the northeast corner of Lincoln county; thence up the midchannel of the Spokane river to the Little Spokane river; thence north to the township line between townships twenty-nine and thirty; thence east to the boundary line between Washington and Idaho; thence south on said boundary line to the fifth standard parallel; thence west on said parallel to the Colville Guide Meridian; thence north on said meridian to the place of beginning. [1879 p 203; 1864 p 70; 1860 p 436; 1858 p 51; RRS § 3956.]

**36.04.330 Stevens county.** Stevens county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing at the southeast corner of township thirty north, range forty-two east of the Willamette Meridian; thence north to the northeast corner of said township; thence west to the southwest corner of section thirty-four, township thirty-one north, range forty-two east; thence north along the center line of townships thirty-one, thirty-two, thirty-three, thirty-four, thirty-five and thirty-six in said range forty-two east to the northwest corner of section three in township thirty-six north; thence west to the northwest corner of section three, township thirty-six north, range forty-one east; thence north along the center line of township thirty-seven to the northwest corner of section three in said township; thence east to the northeast corner of said township; thence north to the northwest corner of township thirty-eight, range forty-two east; thence east to the northwest corner of section three of said township; thence north along the center line of township thirty-nine to the northwest corner of section three in said township; thence east to the northeast corner of said township; thence north to the northern boundary line of the state; thence west to where said boundary line intersects the middle of the channel of the Kettle river; thence south along

said channel to its confluence with the Columbia river; thence continuing south along the middle of the channel of the Columbia river to its confluence with the Spokane river; thence easterly along the channel of the Spokane to the Little Spokane river; thence north to the township line separating townships twenty-nine and thirty; thence east to the place of beginning. [(i) 1 H.C. § 30; 1888 p 70; 1879 p 203; 1869 p 297; 1867 p 50; 1864 p 70; 1863 p 6; RRS § 3957. (ii) 1899 c 18 § 1; RRS § 3934.]

**36.04.340 Thurston county.** Thurston county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing at the southeast corner of section thirty-two in township nineteen north, range four west; thence east on the township line to the southeast corner of section thirty-two in township nineteen north, range three west; thence north to the middle of the channel of Totten's Inlet; thence along said channel to the waters of Puget Sound, intersecting the line in the channel of Puget Sound west of the southern portion of Squaxen Reservation; thence following said channel to the mouth of the Nisqually river; thence up midchannel of said river to a point where it strikes the north boundary of Lewis county; thence due west to the northwest corner of section twenty-six, township fifteen north, range four west; thence north to the southeast corner of section thirty-four in township eighteen north, range four west; thence west on the township line to the southeast corner of section thirty-two; thence north on the section line to the place of beginning. [1 H.C. § 31; 1873 p 482; 1869 p 294; 1867 p 47; 1863 p 7; 1860 p 458; RRS § 3958.]

**36.04.350 Wahkiakum county.** Wahkiakum county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing at the southeast corner of Pacific county, on the Columbia river; thence up midchannel of said river to the southwest corner of Cowlitz county; thence north to the northwest corner of Cowlitz county; thence west on the northern boundary of township ten north to the line between ranges eight and nine west; thence south to the place of beginning. [1879 p 213; 1869 p 295; 1867 p 48; 1854 p 474; RRS § 3959.]

**36.04.360 Walla Walla county.** Walla Walla county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing at a point where the boundary line between Washington and Oregon intersects the Columbia river; thence up the main channel of the Columbia to the mouth of the Snake river; thence up the main channel of said river to where the range line between ranges thirty-six and thirty-seven intersects said point; thence south on said range line to the northwest corner of township nine north, range thirty-seven east; thence east on the north boundary line of township nine north, range thirty-seven east, to the northeast corner of said township; thence south on the line between ranges thirty-seven and thirty-eight east, of the Willamette Meridian, to the northwest corner of township eight north, range thirty-eight east; thence along the north boundary line of township eight north, range thirty-eight east, to the northeast corner of said township; thence due south to the line dividing the state of Washington from the state of Oregon; thence due west on said dividing line to the place

of beginning. [(i) 1 H.C. § 33; 1879 p 226; 1875 p 133; 1869 p 397; 1868 p 60; 1867 p 50; 1858 p 51; 1854 p 472; RRS § 3960. (ii) 1879 p 226; RRS § 3960-1.]

**36.04.370 Whatcom county.** Whatcom county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing on the forty-ninth parallel at the point dividing the American and British possessions in the Gulf of Georgia; thence along said boundary line to where it deflects at the north entrance to the Haro Strait; thence along the northeastern boundary of San Juan county to the ninth standard parallel, or the northwest corner of Skagit county; thence due east along said parallel to the summit of the Cascade mountains; thence northerly along the summit of said mountains to the forty-ninth parallel of north latitude; thence west along said parallel to the place of beginning. [1 H.C. § 34; 1877 p 426; 1869 p 291; 1867 p 44; 1859 p 60; 1854 p 475; RRS § 3961.]

**36.04.380 Whitman county.** Whitman county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing at a point where the range line between ranges thirty-eight and thirty-nine east intersects the fifth standard parallel, being the northeast corner of Adams county; thence east on said parallel to the boundary line between Idaho and Washington; thence south on said boundary line to the midchannel of the Snake river; thence down the midchannel of the Snake river to its intersection with the midchannel of the Palouse river; thence north along the midchannel of the Palouse river to the point where the same intersects the range line between ranges thirty-eight and thirty-nine east; thence north along said range line to the place of beginning. [(i) 1 H.C. § 35; 1875 p 189; 1871 p 134; RRS § 3962. (ii) 1883 p 87; RRS § 3935. (iii) 1883 p 93; RRS § 3924.]

**36.04.390 Yakima county.** Yakima county shall consist of the territory bounded as follows, to wit: Commencing at the northwest corner of township six north of range twelve east; thence east along the north boundary of township six north until said line intersects the range line between range twenty-three east and range twenty-four east; thence north along said range line to the Columbia river; thence north up the midchannel of said river to the southeast corner of Kittitas county; thence along the southern boundary of Kittitas county to the summit of the Cascade mountains; thence southerly to the southeast corner of Lewis county; thence west along the line of said county to the northeast corner of Skamania county; thence along the east line of Skamania county to the line between townships six and seven north; thence east along said line to the place of beginning. [1905 c 89 § 1; 1886 p 168; 1873 p 571; 1869 p 296; 1868 p 60; 1867 p 50; RRS § 3963.]

**36.04.400 Survey of county boundaries.** All common boundaries and common corners of counties not adequately marked by natural objects or lines, or by surveys lawfully made, must be definitely established by surveys jointly made by all the counties affected thereby, and approved by the board of county commissioners of such counties. The cost of making such surveys shall be apportioned equally among the counties interested, and the board

of county commissioners shall audit the same, and the amounts shall be paid out of the county current expense fund. [Code 1881 § 2661; RRS § 3990.]

## Chapter 36.05

### ACTIONS TO ESTABLISH BOUNDARIES

#### Sections

36.05.010	Suit in equity authorized—Grounds.
36.05.020	Noninterested judge to sit.
36.05.030	Residents of area may intervene.
36.05.040	Questions of fact to be determined.
36.05.050	Court may establish boundary line.
36.05.060	Practice in civil actions to prevail.
36.05.070	Copies of decree to be filed and recorded.
36.05.080	"Territory" defined.

*Lines not to be changed by special act: State Constitution Art. 2 § 28(18).*

**36.05.010 Suit in equity authorized—Grounds.** Whenever the boundary line between two or more adjoining counties in this state are in dispute, or have been lost by time, accident or any other cause, or have become obscure or uncertain, one or more of the counties, in its corporate name, may bring and maintain suit against such other adjoining county or counties, in equity, in the superior court, to establish the location of the boundary line or lines. [1963 c 4 § 36.05.010. Prior: 1897 c 76 § 1; RRS § 3964.]

**36.05.020 Noninterested judge to sit.** A suit to establish county boundary lines shall be tried before a judge of the superior court who is not a resident of a county which is a party to such suit, or of a judicial district embracing any such county. [1963 c 4 § 36.05.020. Prior: 1897 c 76 § 2; RRS § 3965.]

**36.05.030 Residents of area may intervene.** A majority of the voters living in the territory embracing such disputed, lost, obscure, or uncertain boundary line may, by petition, duly verified by one or more of them, intervene in the suit, and thereupon the court shall have jurisdiction and power, in locating and establishing the boundary line or lines, to strike or transfer from one county to another a strip or portion of such territory not exceeding two miles in width. [1963 c 4 § 36.05.030. Prior: 1897 c 76 § 3; RRS § 3966.]

**36.05.040 Questions of fact to be determined.** The boundaries of such territory, the number of voters living therein, and the sufficiency of such petition are questions of fact to be determined by the court. [1963 c 4 § 36.05.040. Prior: 1897 c 76 § 5; RRS § 3968.]

**36.05.050 Court may establish boundary line.** The court shall have power to move or establish such boundary line on any government section line or subdivisional line thereof, of the section in or through which said disputed, lost, obscure or uncertain boundary line may be located, or if such boundary line is in unsurveyed territory, then the court shall have power to move or establish such boundary line so it will conform to extensions of government section lines already surveyed in that vicinity. [1963 c 4 § 36.05.050. Prior: 1897 c 76 § 6; RRS § 3969.]

**36.05.060 Practice in civil actions to prevail.** The practice, procedure, rules of evidence, and appeals to the supreme court or the court of appeals applicable to civil actions, are preserved under this chapter. [1971 c 81 § 96; 1963 c 4 § 36.05.060. Prior: 1897 c 76 § 7; RRS § 3970.]

**36.05.070 Copies of decree to be filed and recorded.** The clerk of the court in whose office a decree is entered under the provisions of this chapter, shall forthwith furnish certified copies thereof to the secretary of state, and to the auditors of the counties, which are parties to said suit. The secretary of state, and the county auditors, shall file and record said copies of the decree in their respective offices. [1963 c 4 § 36.05.070. Prior: 1897 c 76 § 8; RRS § 3971.]

**36.05.080 "Territory" defined.** The term "territory," as used in this chapter, means that portion of counties lying along the boundary line and within one mile on either side thereof. [1963 c 4 § 36.05.080. Prior: 1897 c 76 § 4; RRS § 3967.]

### Chapter 36.08

#### TRANSFER OF TERRITORY WHERE CITY'S HARBOR LIES IN TWO COUNTIES

##### Sections

36.08.010	Petition and notice of election.
36.08.020	Conduct of election—Proclamation of change.
36.08.030	Official proceedings not disturbed by transfer.
36.08.040	Local officers to serve out terms.
36.08.050	Transferee county liable for existing debts—Exception.
36.08.060	Adjustment of indebtedness.
36.08.070	Arbitration of differences.
36.08.080	Expense of proceedings.
36.08.090	Transcript of records by county auditor.
36.08.100	Construction—Limitations.

**36.08.010 Petition and notice of election.** If a harbor, inlet, bay, or mouth of river is embraced within two adjoining counties, and an incorporated city is located upon the shore of such harbor, bay, inlet, or mouth of river and it is desired to embrace within the limits of one county, the full extent of the shore line of the harbor, port, or bay, and the waters thereof, together with a strip of the adjacent and contiguous upland territory not exceeding three miles in width, to be measured back from highwater mark, and six miles in length, and not being at a greater distance in any part of said strip from the courthouse in the county seat of the county to which the territory is proposed to be annexed, as such county seat and courthouse are now situated, than ten miles, a majority of the qualified electors living in such territory may petition to have the territory stricken from the county of which it shall then be a part, and added to and made a part of the county contiguous thereto.

The petition shall describe with certainty the bounds and area of the territory, with the reasons for making the change and shall be presented to the board of county commissioners of the county in which the territory is located, which shall proceed to ascertain if the petition contains the requisite number of petitioners, who must be bona fide residents of the territory sought to be stricken off and transferred to the contiguous county.

If satisfied that the petition is signed by a majority of the bona fide electors of the territory, and that there will remain in the county from which it is taken more than four thousand inhabitants, the board shall make an order that a special election be held within the limits of the territory described in the petition, on a date to be named in the order.

Notices of the election shall contain a description of the territory proposed to be transferred and the names of the counties from and to which the transfer is intended to be made, and shall be posted and published as required for general elections. [1963 c 4 § 36.08.010. Prior: 1891 c 144 § 1; RRS § 3972.]

**36.08.020 Conduct of election—Proclamation of change.** The election shall be conducted in all respects as general elections are conducted under the laws governing general elections, in so far as they may be applicable, except that there shall be triplicate returns made, one to each of the respective county auditors and another to the office of the secretary of state. The ballots used at such election shall contain the words "for transferring territory," or "against transferring territory." The votes shall be canvassed, as by law required, within twenty days, and if three-fifths of the votes cast in the territory at such election are "for transferring territory," the territory described in the petition shall become a part of and be added to and made a part of the county contiguous thereto, and within thirty days after the canvass of the returns of the election, the governor shall issue his proclamation of the change of county lines. [1963 c 4 § 36.08.020. Prior: 1891 c 144 § 2; RRS § 3973.]

**36.08.030 Official proceedings not disturbed by transfer.** All assessments and collection of taxes, and all judicial or other official proceedings commenced prior to the governor's proclamation transferring territory to a contiguous county, shall be continued, prosecuted, and completed in the same manner as if no such transfer had been made. [1963 c 4 § 36.08.030. Prior: 1891 c 144 § 3; RRS § 3974.]

**36.08.040 Local officers to serve out terms.** All township, precinct, school, and road district officers within the transferred territory shall continue to hold their respective offices within the county to which they may be transferred until their respective terms of office expire, and until their successors are elected and qualified. [1963 c 4 § 36.08.040. Prior: 1891 c 144 § 4; RRS § 3975.]

**36.08.050 Transferee county liable for existing debts—Exception.** Every county which is thus enlarged by territory taken from another county shall be liable for a just proportion of the existing debts of the county from which such territory is stricken, which proportion shall be paid by the county to which such territory is transferred at such time and in such manner as may be agreed upon by the boards of county commissioners of both counties: PROVIDED, That the county to which the territory is transferred shall not be liable for any portion of the debt of the county from which the territory is taken, incurred in the purchase of any county property, or the construction of any county building then in use or under construction, which shall fall within and be retained by the county from which the territory is taken.

[1963 c 4 § 36.08.050. Prior: 1891 c 144 § 5; RRS § 3976.]

**36.08.060 Adjustment of indebtedness.** The county auditors of the respective counties interested in the transfer of territory, as in this chapter provided, are constituted a board of appraisers and adjusters, to appraise the property, both real and personal, owned by the county from which the territory is taken, and to adjust the indebtedness of such county with the county to which such territory is transferred, in proportion to the amount of taxable property within the territory taken from the one county and transferred to the other. [1963 c 4 § 36.08.060. Prior: 1891 c 144 § 6; RRS § 3977.]

**36.08.070 Arbitration of differences.** If the board of appraisers and adjusters do not agree on any subject, value, or settlement, they shall choose a third man from an adjoining county to settle their differences, and the decision thus arrived at shall be final. [1963 c 4 § 36.08.070. Prior: 1891 c 144 § 7; RRS § 3978.]

**36.08.080 Expense of proceedings.** The expense of the proceedings and election provided for in this chapter shall be paid by the county to which the territory is attached. [1963 c 4 § 36.08.080. Prior: 1891 c 144 § 8; RRS § 3979.]

**36.08.090 Transcript of records by county auditor.** The county auditor of the county to which any territory may be transferred may take transcripts of all records, books, papers, etc., on file in the office of the county auditor of the county from which the territory has been transferred, which may be necessary to perfect the records of his county, and for this purpose he shall have access to the records of the county from which such territory is stricken, free of cost. [1963 c 4 § 36.08.090. Prior: 1891 c 144 § 9; RRS § 3980.]

**36.08.100 Construction—Limitations.** Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to authorize the annexing of territory of one county to a neighboring county, where the territory proposed to be annexed, or any part thereof, is at a greater distance than ten miles from the courthouse in the county seat of the county to which said territory is proposed to be annexed, as said courthouse is now located, nor to authorize the annexation of any territory at a greater distance than three miles from high water mark of tide water, but such annexation shall be strictly confined within said limits. [1963 c 4 § 36.08.100. Prior: 1891 c 144 § 10; RRS § 3981.]

## Chapter 36.09

### NEW COUNTY—LIABILITY FOR DEBTS

(Formerly: Division of county)

#### Sections

- 36.09.010 Debts and property to be apportioned.  
36.09.020 Procedure to settle amount charged new county—Basis of apportionment.

36.09.035 Procedure to settle amount charged new county—Disagreement between auditors—Determination by third person.

36.09.040 Payment of indebtedness—Transfer of property.

36.09.050 Collection of taxes levied—Apportionment.

*Combined city and county municipal corporations: State Constitution Art. 11 § 16 (Amendment 58).*

#### *New county*

*formation by special act allowed: State Constitution Art. 2 § 28(18).  
restrictions on formation: State Constitution Art. 11 § 3.*

**36.09.010 Debts and property to be apportioned.** Whenever a new county shall be or shall have been organized out of the territory which was included within the limits of any other county or counties, the new county shall be liable for a reasonable proportion of the debts of the county from which it was taken, and entitled to its proportion of the property of the county. [1963 c 4 § 36.09.010. Prior: Code 1881 § 2657; 1863 p 538 § 3; 1854 p 330 § 1; RRS § 3986.]

**36.09.020 Procedure to settle amount charged new county—Basis of apportionment.** The auditor of the old county shall give the auditor of the new county reasonable notice to meet him on a certain day at the county seat of the old county, or at some other convenient place, to settle upon and fix the amount which the new county shall pay. In doing so, they shall not charge either county with any share of debts arising from the erection of public buildings, or out of the construction of roads or bridges which shall be and remain, after the division, within the limits of the other county, and of the other debts they shall apportion to each county such a share of the indebtedness as may be just and equitable, taking into consideration the population of such portion of territory so forming a part of the said counties while so united, and also the relative advantages, derived from the old county organization. [1963 c 4 § 36.09.020. Prior: (i) Code 1881 § 2658; 1863 p 538 § 4; 1854 p 330 § 2; RRS § 3987. FORMER PART OF SECTION: 1909 c 79 § 1, part; Code 1881 § 2662, part; RRS § 3991, part. Now codified in RCW 36.09.050.]

**36.09.035 Procedure to settle amount charged new county—Disagreement between auditors—Determination by third person.** In case the two auditors cannot agree, they shall call a third person, not a citizen of either county, or in any other manner interested, whose decision shall be binding. In case they cannot agree upon such third person, they shall each name one and decide by lot which it shall be. [1963 c 4 § 36.09.035. Prior: Code 1881 § 2659; 1863 p 539 § 5; 1854 p 330 § 3; RRS § 3988.]

**36.09.040 Payment of indebtedness—Transfer of property.** The auditor of the county indebted upon such decision shall give to the auditor of the other county his order upon the treasurer for the amount to be paid out of the proper fund, as in other cases, and also make out a transfer of such property as shall be assigned to either county. [1963 c 4 § 36.09.040. Prior: Code 1881 § 2660; 1863 p 539 § 6; 1854 p 330 § 4; RRS § 3989.]

**36.09.050 Collection of taxes levied—Apportionment.** When a county is divided or the boundary



is altered, all taxes levied before the division was made or boundaries changed, must be collected by the officers of the county in which the territory was situated before the division or change. And the auditor or auditors of the county or counties so divided or having boundaries changed, shall apportion the amount of the real property taxes so collected after division or change of boundary to the old county or counties and the new county or counties, in the ratio of the assessed value of such property situated in the territory of each county or counties respectively, and the old county that may have been divided or whose boundaries may have been changed, shall retain all of the personal property taxes on the said tax rolls, as compensation for cost of collection of the entire taxes: PROVIDED, That in such accounting neither county shall be charged with any debt or liability then existing incurred in the purchase of any county property, or in the purchase or construction of any county buildings then in use or under construction, which shall fall within and be retained by the county: PROVIDED FURTHER, That this shall not be construed to affect the rights of creditors: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That any such county property or buildings shall be the property of and owned by the county wherein the same is situated. In case the auditors of the interested counties are not able to agree upon the proportion to be awarded to each county, the same shall be determined by the judge of the superior court of the district in which all of the interested counties are situated, if they be in one district, and have one common judge, and if not, by the judges sitting en banc of the superior courts of the counties involved. Said auditors shall make said apportionment within sixty days after the creation of any new county or the changing of boundaries of any old county, and if they do not, within said time, agree upon said apportionment, thereafter either or any county affected may petition the judge or judges of any court given jurisdiction by this section, and upon ten days' notice to any other county affected, the same may be brought on for hearing and summarily disposed of by said judge or judges, after allowing each side an opportunity to be heard. [1963 c 4 § 36.09.050. Prior: 1909 c 79 § 1; Code 1881 § 2662; RRS § 3991. Formerly RCW 36.09.020, part, 36.09.030 and 36.09.050.]

## Chapter 36.12

### REMOVAL OF COUNTY SEATS

#### Sections

- 36.12.010 Petition for removal—Financial impact statement.
- 36.12.020 Requisites of petition—Submission to electors.
- 36.12.030 Notice of election—Election, how held.
- 36.12.040 Manner of voting.
- 36.12.050 Vote required—Notice of result.
- 36.12.060 Time of removal.
- 36.12.070 Notice to county clerk and secretary of state.
- 36.12.080 Failure of election—Limitation on subsequent removal election.
- 36.12.090 Limitation on successive removal elections.

#### County seats

*location and removal: State Constitution Art. 11 § 2.  
not to be changed by special act: State Constitution Art. 2 § 28(18).*

**36.12.010 Petition for removal—Financial impact statement.** Whenever the inhabitants of any county desire to remove the county seat of the county from the place

where it is fixed by law or otherwise, they shall present a petition to the board of county commissioners of their county praying such removal, and that an election be held to determine to what place such removal must be made. The petition shall set forth the names of the towns or cities to which the county seat is proposed to be removed and shall be filed at least six months before the election. The county shall issue a statement analyzing the financial impact of the proposed removal at least sixty days before the election. The financial impact statement shall include, but not be limited to, an analysis of the: (1) Probable costs to the county government involved in relocating the county seat; (2) probable costs to county employees as a result of relocating the county seat; and (3) probable impact on the city or town from which the county seat is proposed to be removed, and on the city or town where the county seat is proposed to be relocated. [1985 c 145 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.12.010. Prior: 1890 p 318 § 1; RRS § 3998.]

**36.12.020 Requisites of petition—Submission to electors.** If the petition is signed by qualified voters of the county equal in number to at least one-third of all the votes cast in the county at the last preceding general election the board must, at the next general election of county officers, submit the question of removal to the electors of the county. [1963 c 4 § 36.12.020. Prior: 1890 p 318 § 2; RRS § 3999.]

**36.12.030 Notice of election—Election, how held.** Notice of the election, clearly stating the object, shall be given, and the election must be held and conducted, and the returns made, in all respects in the manner prescribed by law in regard to elections for county officers. [1963 c 4 § 36.12.030. Prior: 1890 p 318 § 3; RRS § 4000.]

**36.12.040 Manner of voting.** In voting on the question, each voter must vote for or against the place named in the petition. [1963 c 4 § 36.12.040. Prior: 1890 p 318 § 4; RRS § 4001.]

**36.12.050 Vote required—Notice of result.** When the returns have been received and compared, and the results ascertained by the board, if three-fifths of the legal votes cast by those voting on the proposition are in favor of any particular place the proposition has been adopted. The board of county commissioners must give notice of the result by posting notices thereof in all the election precincts in the county. [1963 c 4 § 36.12.050. Prior: 1890 p 318 § 5; RRS § 4002.]

**36.12.060 Time of removal.** In the notice provided for in RCW 36.12.050, the place selected to be the county seat of the county must be so declared upon a day not more than ninety days after the election. After the day named the place chosen is the seat of the county; and the several county officers, whose offices are required by law to be kept at the county seat, shall remove their respective offices, files, records, office fixtures, furniture, and all public property pertaining to their respective offices to the new county seat. [1963 c 4 § 36.12.060. Prior: 1890 p 318 § 6; RRS § 4003.]

**36.12.070 Notice to county clerk and secretary of state.** Whenever any election has been held for change of county seat, the notice given by the board of county commissioners showing the result thereof must be deposited in the office of the county clerk, and a certified copy thereof transmitted to the secretary of state. [1963 c 4 § 36.12.070. Prior: 1890 p 319 § 7; RRS § 4004.]

**36.12.080 Failure of election—Limitation on subsequent removal election.** When an election has been held and no one place receives three-fifths of all the votes cast, the former county seat shall remain the county seat, and no second election may be held within eight years thereafter. [1985 c 145 § 2; 1963 c 4 § 36.12.080. Prior: 1890 p 319 § 8; RRS § 4005.]

**36.12.090 Limitation on successive removal elections.** When the county seat of a county has been removed by a popular vote of the people of the county, it may be again removed, from time to time, in the manner provided by this chapter, but no two elections to effect such removal may be held within eight years. [1985 c 145 § 3; 1963 c 4 § 36.12.090. Prior: 1890 p 319 § 9; RRS § 4006.]

## Chapter 36.13

### CLASSIFICATION OF COUNTIES

#### Sections

- 36.13.020 County census authorized.
- 36.13.030 County census authorized—Personnel—How conducted.
- 36.13.040 County census authorized—Information to be given enumerators.
- 36.13.050 County census authorized—Classification to be based on census.
- 36.13.070 County census authorized—Penalty.
- 36.13.100 Determination of population.

*Combined city and county municipal corporations: State Constitution Art. 11 § 16 (Amendment 58).*

**36.13.020 County census authorized.** The legislative authority of any county may order a county census to be taken of all the inhabitants of the county. The expense of such census enumeration shall be paid from the county current expense fund. [1991 c 363 § 44; 1977 ex.s. c 110 § 6; 1963 c 4 § 36.13.020. Prior: (i) 1923 c 177 § 1; RRS § 4200-6. (ii) 1923 c 177 § 5; RRS § 4200-10.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.13.030 County census authorized—Personnel—How conducted.** For the purpose of making a county census, the legislative authority of any county may employ one or more suitable persons. The census shall be conducted in accordance with standard census definitions and procedures as specified by the office of financial management. [1979 c 151 § 37; 1977 ex.s. c 110 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.13.030. Prior: 1923 c 177 § 2; RRS § 4200-7.]

*Population determinations, office of financial management: Chapter 43.62 RCW.*

**36.13.040 County census authorized—Information to be given enumerators.** All persons resident in the

county, having knowledge of the facts, shall give the information required herein to any duly authorized census enumerator when requested by him. [1963 c 4 § 36.13.040. Prior: 1923 c 177 § 4; RRS § 4200-9.]

**36.13.050 County census authorized—Classification to be based on census.** The board of county commissioners shall determine the population of the county based upon such special county census. Based upon such census, it shall enter an order declaring and fixing the population of the county in accordance with such determination, and from and after the entry of the order the county shall be considered and classified for all purposes according to the population thus determined. [1963 c 4 § 36.13.050. Prior: 1923 c 177 § 3; RRS § 4200-8.]

**36.13.070 County census authorized—Penalty.** Any person violating any of the provisions of RCW 36.13.020, 36.13.030, 36.13.040, and 36.13.050, or any officer or enumerator making, assisting, or permitting any duplication of names or making, permitting, or assisting in the enumeration of any fictitious names or persons in taking the census, shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [1963 c 4 § 36.13.070. Prior: 1923 c 177 § 6; RRS § 4200-11.]

**36.13.100 Determination of population.** Whenever any provision of law refers to the population of a county for purposes of distributing funds or for any other purpose, the population of the respective counties shall be determined by the most recent census, population estimate by the office of financial management, or special county census as certified by the office of financial management. [1991 c 363 § 45; 1963 c 4 § 36.13.100. Prior: 1949 c 92 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 4200-6a.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

*Population determinations, office of financial management: Chapter 43.62 RCW.*

## Chapter 36.16

### COUNTY OFFICERS—GENERAL

#### Sections

- 36.16.010 Time of election.
- 36.16.020 Term of county and precinct officers.
- 36.16.030 Elective county officers enumerated.
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- 36.16.140 Public auction sales, where held.
- Accounts, reports of to state auditor: RCW 43.09.230 through 43.09.240.
- Agricultural**  
agents, assistants, as college employees for retirement benefit purposes: RCW 28B.10.400.  
expert, pest extermination by: RCW 17.12.060.
- Air pollution control officer: RCW 70.94.170.
- Assistant superintendents of schools: RCW 28A.310.020, 28A.310.230.
- Board of adjustment for airport zoning: Chapter 14.12 RCW.
- Board of managers, county and city tuberculosis hospital: Chapter 70.30 RCW.
- Civil service for sheriff's office, county officers to aid in carrying out: RCW 41.14.200.
- Clerks, election**  
duties relating to  
polling place regulations after closing: Chapter 29.54 RCW.  
polling place regulations during voting hours: Chapter 29.51 RCW.  
generally: Chapter 29.45 RCW.  
violations by, penalties: Chapter 29.85 RCW.
- Code of ethics for municipal officers—Contract interests: Chapter 42.23 RCW.
- Compensation, constitutional provision: State Constitution Art. 11 § 5 (Amendment 57).
- Continuity of government act, effect as to: RCW 42.14.040, 42.14.070.
- County administrator (public assistance): RCW 74.04.070 through 74.04.080.
- County superintendent of schools**  
community center board of supervisors, superintendent as member: RCW 28A.335.270.  
penalties applicable to: Chapter 28A.635 RCW.  
powers and duties prescribed: Chapter 28A.310 RCW.
- Dental hygienists, licensed, county may employ: RCW 18.29.050.
- Department of revenue, to advise: Chapter 84.08 RCW.
- Detention home personnel: Chapter 13.04 RCW.
- Director of public health, generally: Chapter 70.08 RCW.
- District health officer**  
generally: Chapter 70.46 RCW.  
vital statistics, officer as registrar: Chapter 70.58 RCW.
- Electrical construction violations, county officers liable—Penalty: RCW 19.29.060.
- Eligibility to hold office: RCW 42.04.020.
- Employee safety award programs: RCW 36.32.460.
- Examiner of titles: RCW 65.12.090.
- Flood control activities, immunity of from liability: RCW 86.12.037.
- Free transportation for public officers prohibited: State Constitution Art. 12 § 20.
- Health officer**  
boarding homes, officer to aid in administration of licensing laws: Chapter 18.20 RCW.  
convention of: RCW 43.70.140.  
duties relating to  
certified copies of birth or death certificates: RCW 70.58.107.  
child welfare agencies: Chapter 74.15 RCW.  
dairy products handled by infected person: RCW 15.36.311.  
embalmers, licensing of: Chapter 18.39 RCW.  
sexually transmitted disease: Chapter 70.24 RCW.  
tuberculosis hospital care: Chapter 70.32 RCW.  
handicapped children, education of, officer to get cooperation: RCW 28A.155.030.  
hearing tests for pupils, officer may give: RCW 28A.210.020.  
producer-distributor dairy employees, officer to examine: RCW 15.36.311.  
sewer districts, health officer to determine necessity of: RCW 56.04.030.  
vital statistics, officer as registrar: Chapter 70.58 RCW.  
water recreational facilities: Chapter 70.90 RCW.
- Hospitalization and medical aid insurance for: RCW 41.04.180, 41.04.190.
- Interchange of personnel with federal agency, rights preserved: RCW 41.04.140 through 41.04.170.
- Juvenile probation officer, psychopathic delinquents, officer's duties: Chapter 71.06 RCW.
- Local authorities, county officer as for motor vehicle purposes: RCW 46.04.280.
- Lost or uncertain boundary lines, commissioners appointed to ascertain: RCW 58.04.030.
- Military**  
leaves for public employees: RCW 38.40.060.  
personnel, apprehension and restraint: Chapter 38.38 RCW.
- Misconduct of public officers: Chapter 42.20 RCW.
- Moneys, use by, of official, a felony: State Constitution Art. 11 § 14.
- Moneys to be deposited with treasurer: State Constitution Art. 11 § 15.
- Oaths, who may administer: RCW 5.28.010.
- Officers, elections, duties, terms, compensation: State Constitution Art. 11 § 5 (Amendment 57).
- Payroll deductions for: RCW 41.04.020 through 41.04.036.
- Probation counselors: Chapter 13.04 RCW.
- Probation officer, family court, officer's duties: RCW 26.12.070.
- Property tax advisor: RCW 84.48.140.
- Public bodies, meetings: Chapter 42.30 RCW.
- Public hospital district superintendent: Chapter 70.44 RCW.
- Public officers, terms when vacancies filled: RCW 42.12.030.
- P.U.D. taxes certified to and collected by county officials: RCW 54.16.080.
- Recall of: State Constitution Art. 1 §§ 33, 34 (Amendment 8).
- Registration of public officer, how effectuated: RCW 42.12.020.
- Retirement systems, retention of rights: Chapter 41.04 RCW.
- Review board, county officers to assist: RCW 35.13.173.
- Salaried officers not to receive witness fees: RCW 42.16.020, 42.16.030.
- Sanitary officers: Chapter 70.05 RCW.
- Social security, federal, coverage includes county employees: Chapter 41.48 RCW.
- Special commissioner (flood control by counties jointly): RCW 86.13.060.
- State board of health measures, officers to enforce: RCW 43.20.050.
- Supervisor of elections, duties relating to hospital district elections: Chapter 70.44 RCW.  
P.U.D. elections: RCW 54.04.060.
- Support of dependent children, officials to charge no fees in connection with: RCW 74.20.300.
- Surveyor to determine town boundaries: RCW 35.27.040.
- Unclaimed money and property in hands of public authority, disposition: RCW 63.29.130.
- Vacancies in county offices, how filled: State Constitution Art. 11 § 6 (Amendment 52).
- Voter registration assistants: RCW 29.07.010.
- 36.16.010 Time of election.** The election of county and precinct officers shall be held on the Tuesday next following the first Monday in November, 1922; and every four years thereafter on the Tuesday next following the first Monday in November, and all such elective county and precinct officers shall after midnight, June 11, 1919, be elected at the time herein specified: PROVIDED, That if a vacancy occur during the first biennium after any such election, an election to fill such vacancy for the unexpired term shall be held at the next succeeding general election. [1963 c 4 § 36.16.010. Prior: 1919 c 175 § 2; RRS § 4030.]
- 36.16.020 Term of county and precinct officers.** The term of office of all county and precinct officers shall

be four years and until their successors are elected and qualified and assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170: PROVIDED, That this section and RCW 36.16.010 shall not apply to county commissioners. [1979 ex.s. c 126 § 26; 1963 c 4 § 36.16.020. Prior: 1959 c 216 § 2; 1919 c 175 § 1; 1886 p 101 § 2; Code 1881 § 3153; 1877 p 330 § 2; 1871 p 35 § 3; 1867 p 7 § 4; RRS § 4029.]

**Purpose—1979 ex.s. c 126:** See RCW 29.04.170(1).

### 36.16.030 Elective county officers enumerated.

Except as provided elsewhere in this section, in every county there shall be elected from among the qualified voters of the county a county assessor, a county auditor, a county clerk, a county coroner, three county commissioners, a county prosecuting attorney, a county sheriff and a county treasurer, except that in each county with a population of less than forty thousand no coroner shall be elected and the prosecuting attorney shall be ex officio coroner. Whenever the population of a county increases to forty thousand or more, the prosecuting attorney shall continue as ex officio coroner until a coroner is elected, at the next general election at which the office of prosecuting attorney normally would be elected, and assumes office as provided in RCW 29.04.170. In any county where the population has once attained forty thousand people and a current coroner is in office and a subsequent census indicates less than forty thousand people, the county legislative authority may maintain the office of coroner by resolution or ordinance. If the county legislative authority has not passed a resolution or enacted an ordinance to maintain the office of coroner, the elected coroner shall remain in office for the remainder of the term for which he or she was elected, but no coroner shall be elected at the next election at which that office would otherwise be filled and the prosecuting attorney shall be the ex officio coroner. A noncharter county may have five county commissioners as provided in RCW 36.32.010 and 36.32.055 through 36.32.058. [1991 c 363 §§ 46, 47; 1990 c 252 § 8; 1963 c 4 § 36.16.030. Prior: 1955 c 157 § 5; prior: (i) Code 1881 § 2707; 1869 p 310 §§ 1-3; 1863 p 549 §§ 1-3; 1854 p 424 §§ 1-3; RRS § 4083. (ii) Code 1881 § 2738; 1863 p 552 § 1; 1854 p 426 § 1; RRS § 4106. (iii) 1891 c 5 § 1; RRS § 4127. (iv) 1890 p 478 § 1; 1886 p 164 § 1; 1883 p 39 § 1; Code 1881 § 2752; 1869 p 402 § 1; 1854 p 428 § 1; RRS § 4140. (v) 1943 c 139 § 1; Code 1881 § 2766; 1863 p 557 § 1; 1854 p 434 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 4155. (vi) Code 1881 § 2775, part; 1863 p 559 § 1, part; 1854 p 436 § 1, part; RRS § 4176, part. (vii) 1933 c 136 § 2; 1925 ex.s. c 148 § 2; RRS § 4200-2a. (viii) 1937 c 197 § 1; 1933 c 136 § 3; 1925 ex.s. c 148 § 3; RRS § 4200-3a. (ix) 1937 c 197 § 2; 1933 c 136 § 4; 1925 ex.s. c 148 § 4; RRS § 4200-4a. (x) 1927 c 37 § 1; 1890 p 304 § 2; RRS § 4205-1.]

**Effective dates—1991 c 363 §§ 28, 29, 33, 47, 131:** See note following RCW 28A.315.670.

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.16.032 Offices of auditor and clerk may be combined in counties with populations of less than five thousand—Salary.** The office of county auditor may be combined with the office of county clerk in each county with

a population of less than five thousand by unanimous resolution of the county legislative authority passed thirty days or more prior to the first day of filing for the primary election for county offices. The salary of such office of county clerk combined with the office of county auditor, and the salary of the office of county auditor that is not combined with the office of county clerk, shall be not less than ten thousand three hundred dollars. The county legislative authority of such county is authorized to increase or decrease the salary of such office: PROVIDED, That the legislative authority of the county shall not reduce the salary of any official below the amount which such official was receiving on January 1, 1973. [1991 c 363 § 48; 1973 1st ex.s. c 88 § 1; 1972 ex.s. c 97 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 77 § 1; 1963 c 164 § 2; 1963 c 4 § 36.16.032. Prior: 1957 c 219 § 4.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.16.040 Oath of office.** Every person elected to county office shall before he enters upon the duties of his office take and subscribe an oath or affirmation that he will faithfully and impartially discharge the duties of his office to the best of his ability. This oath, or affirmation, shall be administered and certified by an officer authorized to administer oaths, without charge therefor. [1963 c 4 § 36.16.040. Prior: 1955 c 157 § 6; prior: (i) Code 1881 § 2666; 1869 p 303 § 4; 1863 p 541 § 4; 1854 p 420 § 4; RRS § 4045. (ii) Code 1881 § 2708, part; 1869 p 310 § 4, part; 1863 p 549 § 4, part; 1854 p 424 § 4, part; RRS § 4084, part. (iii) 1943 c 249 § 1; Code 1881 § 2739; 1863 p 553 § 2, part; 1854 p 426 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 4107. (iv) 1886 p 61 § 4, part; 1883 p 73 § 9, part; Code 1881 § 2163, part; 1877 p 246 § 5, part; 1863 p 408 § 3, part; 1860 p 334 § 3, part; 1858 p 12 § 3, part; 1854 p 417 § 3, part; RRS § 4129, part. (v) 1897 c 71 § 44; 1893 c 124 § 46; Code 1881 § 2753; 1854 p 428 § 2; RRS § 4141. (vi) Code 1881 § 2774; 1863 p 558 § 9; 1854 p 435 § 9; RRS § 4156. (vii) Code 1881 § 2775, part; 1863 p 559 § 1, part; 1854 p 436 § 1, part; RRS § 4176, part. (viii) Code 1881 § 2096; 1869 p 374 § 18; RRS § 4231. (ix) 1909 c 97 p 280 § 1, part; 1903 c 104 § 13, part; 1899 c 142 § 5, part; 1897 c 118 § 30, part; 1890 p 355 § 10, part; Code 1881 § 3170, part; RRS § 4767, part. (x) 1925 ex.s. c 130 § 55; 1891 c 140 § 46; 1890 p 548 § 50; RRS § 11138.]

*Election officials, oaths of office:* RCW 29.45.080 through 29.45.110.

*Examiner of titles, oath of:* RCW 65.12.090.

**36.16.050 Official bonds.** Every county official before he or she enters upon the duties of his or her office shall furnish a bond conditioned that he or she will faithfully perform the duties of his or her office and account for and pay over all money which may come into his or her hands by virtue of his or her office, and that he or she, or his or her executors or administrators, will deliver to his or her successor safe and undefaced all books, records, papers, seals, equipment, and furniture belonging to his or her office. Bonds of elective county officers shall be as follows:

(1) Assessor: Amount to be fixed and sureties to be approved by proper county legislative authority;

(2) Auditor: Amount to be fixed at not less than ten thousand dollars and sureties to be approved by the proper county legislative authority;

(3) Clerk: Amount to be fixed in a penal sum not less than double the amount of money liable to come into his or her hands and sureties to be approved by the judge or a majority of the judges presiding over the court of which he or she is clerk: PROVIDED, That the maximum bond fixed for the clerk shall not exceed in amount that required for the treasurer in a county of that class;

(4) Coroner: Amount to be fixed at not less than five thousand dollars with sureties to be approved by the proper county legislative authority;

(5) Members of the proper county legislative authority: Sureties to be approved by the county clerk and the amounts to be:

(a) In each county with a population of one hundred twenty-five thousand or more, twenty-five thousand dollars;

(b) In each county with a population of from seventy thousand to less than one hundred twenty-five thousand, twenty-two thousand five hundred dollars;

(c) In each county with a population of from forty [thousand] to less than seventy thousand, twenty thousand dollars;

(d) In each county with a population of from eighteen thousand to less than forty thousand, fifteen thousand dollars;

(e) In each county with a population of from twelve thousand to less than eighteen thousand, ten thousand dollars;

(f) In each county with a population of from eight thousand to less than twelve thousand, seven thousand five hundred dollars;

(g) In all other counties, five thousand dollars;

(6) Prosecuting attorney: In the amount of five thousand dollars with sureties to be approved by the proper county legislative authority;

(7) Sheriff: Amount to be fixed and bond approved by the proper county legislative authority at not less than five thousand nor more than fifty thousand dollars; surety to be a surety company authorized to do business in this state;

(8) Treasurer: Sureties to be approved by the proper county legislative authority and the amounts to be fixed by the proper county legislative authority at double the amount liable to come into the treasurer's hands during his or her term, the maximum amount of the bond, however, not to exceed:

(a) In each county with a population of two hundred ten thousand or more, two hundred fifty thousand dollars;

(b) In each county with a population of from one hundred twenty-five thousand to less than two hundred ten thousand, two hundred thousand dollars;

(c) In each county with a population of from eighteen thousand to less than one hundred twenty-five thousand, one hundred fifty thousand dollars;

(d) In all other counties, one hundred thousand dollars.

The treasurer's bond shall be conditioned that all moneys received by him or her for the use of the county shall be paid as the proper county legislative authority shall from time to time direct, except where special provision is made by law for the payment of such moneys, by order of any court, or otherwise, and for the faithful discharge of his or her duties.

Bonds for other than elective officials, if deemed necessary by the proper county legislative authority, shall be in such amount and form as such legislative authority shall determine.

In the approval of official bonds, the chair may act for the county legislative authority if it is not in session. [1991 c 363 § 49; 1971 c 71 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 176 § 91; 1963 c 4 § 36.16.050. Prior: 1955 c 157 § 7; prior: (i) 1895 c 53 § 1; RRS § 70. (ii) 1895 c 53 § 2, part; RRS § 71, part. (iii) 1921 c 132 § 1, part; 1893 c 75 § 7, part; RRS § 4046, part. (iv) Code 1881 § 2708, part; 1869 p 310 § 4, part; 1863 p 549 § 4, part; 1854 p 424 § 4, part; RRS § 4084, part. (v) 1943 c 249 § 1, part; Code 1881 § 2739, part; 1863 p 553 § 2, part; 1854 p 426 § 2, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 4107, part. (vi) 1886 p 61 § 4, part; 1883 p 73 § 9, part; Code 1881 § 2163, part; 1877 p 246 § 5, part; 1863 p 408 § 3, part; 1860 p 334 § 3, part; 1858 p 12 § 3, part; 1854 p 417 § 3, part; RRS 4129, part. (vii) 1897 c 71 § 44, part; 1893 p 124 § 46, part; Code 1881 § 2753, part; 1854 p 428 § 2, part; RRS § 4141, part. (viii) 1943 c 139 § 1, part; Code 1881 § 2766, part; 1863 p 557 § 1, part; 1854 p 434 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 4155, part. (ix) Code 1881 § 2775, part; 1863 p 559 § 1, part; 1854 p 436 § 1, part; RRS § 4176, part. (x) 1909 c 97 p 280 § 1, part; 1903 c 104 § 13, part; 1899 c 142 § 5, part; 1897 c 118 § 30, part; 1890 p 355 § 10, part; Code 1881 § 3170, part; RRS § 4767, part. (xi) 1890 p 35 § 5, part; RRS § 9934, part. (xii) 1925 ex.s. c 130 § 55, part; 1891 c 140 § 46, part; 1890 p 548 § 50, part; RRS § 11138, part.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

*Auditor as registrar of titles, bond for:* RCW 65.12.055.

*Examiner of titles, bond:* RCW 65.12.090.

*Public officers, official bonds*

*Code of 1881, county application:* RCW 42.08.010 through 42.08.050.

*1890 act, county application:* RCW 42.08.060 through 42.08.170.

**36.16.060 Place of filing oaths and bonds.** Every county officer, before entering upon the duties of his office, shall file his oath of office in the office of the county auditor and his official bond in the office of the county clerk: PROVIDED, That the official bond of the county clerk, after first being recorded by the county auditor, shall be filed in the office of the county treasurer.

Oaths and bonds of deputies shall be filed in the offices in which the oaths and bonds of their principals are required to be filed. [1963 c 4 § 36.16.060. Prior: 1955 c 157 § 8; prior: (i) 1895 c 53 § 2, part; RRS § 71, part. (ii) 1890 p 35 § 5, part; RRS § 9934, part.]

**36.16.070 Deputies and employees.** In all cases where the duties of any county office are greater than can be performed by the person elected to fill it, the officer may employ deputies and other necessary employees with the consent of the board of county commissioners. The board shall fix their compensation and shall require what deputies shall give bond and the amount of bond required from each. The sureties on deputies' bonds must be approved by the board and the premium therefor is a county expense.

A deputy may perform any act which his principal is authorized to perform. The officer appointing a deputy or other employee shall be responsible for the acts of his

appointees upon his official bond and may revoke each appointment at pleasure. [1969 ex.s. c 176 § 92; 1963 c 4 § 36.16.070. Prior: 1959 c 216 § 3; 1957 c 219 § 2; prior: (i) Code 1881 § 2716; 1869 p 312 § 10; 1863 p 550 § 7; 1854 p 425 § 7; RRS § 4093. (ii) Code 1881 § 2741; 1863 p 553 § 4; 1854 p 427 § 4; RRS § 4108. (iii) Code 1881 § 2767, part; 1871 p 110 § 1, part; 1863 p 557 § 2, part; 1854 p 434 § 2, part; RRS § 4160, part. (iv) 1905 c 60 § 1; RRS § 4177. (v) 1905 c 60 § 2; RRS § 4178. (vi) 1905 c 60 § 3; RRS § 4179. (vii) 1949 c 200 § 1, part; 1945 c 87 § 1, part; 1937 c 197 § 3, part; 1925 ex.s. c 148 § 6, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 4200-5a, part. (viii) 1943 c 260 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 4200-5b.]

*County clerk, deputies of: Chapter 2.32 RCW.*

**36.16.087 Deputies and employees—County treasurer—Prior deeds validated.** In all cases in which the county treasurer of any county in the state of Washington shall have executed a tax deed or deeds prior to February 21, 1903, either to his county or to any private person or persons or corporation whomsoever, said deed or deeds shall not be deemed invalid by reason of the county treasurer who executed the same not having affixed a seal of office to the same, or having affixed a seal not an official seal; nor shall said deed or deeds be deemed invalid by reason of the fact that at the date of the execution of said deed or deeds there was in the state of Washington no statute providing for an official seal for the office of county treasurer. [1963 c 4 § 36.16.087. Prior: 1903 c 15 § 2; RRS § 4126. Formerly RCW 36.16.080.]

**36.16.090 Office space.** The boards of county commissioners of the several counties of the state shall provide a suitable furnished office for each of the county officers in their respective courthouses. [1963 c 4 § 36.16.090. Prior: 1893 c 82 § 1; Code 1881 § 2677; 1869 p 306 § 15; 1854 p 422 § 15; RRS § 4032. SLC-RO-14.]

**36.16.100 Offices to be open certain days and hours.** All county and precinct offices shall be kept open for the transaction of business during such days and hours as the board of county commissioners shall by resolution prescribe. [1963 c 4 § 36.16.100. Prior: 1955 ex.s. c 9 § 2; prior: 1951 c 100 § 1; 1941 c 113 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 9963-1, part.]

**36.16.110 Vacancies in office.** The board of county commissioners in each county shall, at its next regular or special meeting after being appraised of any vacancy in any county, township, precinct, or road district office of the county, fill the vacancy by the appointment of some person qualified to hold such office, and the officers thus appointed shall hold office until the next general election, and until their successors are elected and qualified. [1963 c 4 § 36.16.110. Prior: 1927 c 163 § 1; RRS § 4059; prior: Code 1881 § 2689; 1867 p 57 § 28.]

**36.16.115 Vacancy in partisan elective office—Appointment of acting official.** Where a vacancy occurs in any partisan county elective office, other than a member of

the county legislative authority, the county legislative authority may appoint an employee that was serving as a deputy or assistant in such office at the time the vacancy occurred as an acting official to perform all necessary duties to continue normal office operations. The acting official will serve until a successor is either elected or appointed as required by law. This section does not apply to any vacancy occurring in a charter county which has charter provisions inconsistent with this section. [1981 c 180 § 3.]

**Reviser's note:** 1981 c 180 § 3 directed that this section be added to chapter 29.18 RCW. Since this placement appears inappropriate, this section has been codified as part of chapter 36.16 RCW.

**Severability—1981 c 180:** See note following RCW 42.12.040.

*Election of successor: RCW 42.12.040.*

*Filing period, special: RCW 29.15.230.*

**36.16.120 Officers must complete business.** All county officers shall complete the business of their offices, to the time of the expiration of their respective terms, and in case any officer, at the close of his term, leaves to his successor official labor to be performed, which it was his duty to perform, he shall be liable to his successor for the full value of such services. [1963 c 4 § 36.16.120. Prior: 1890 p 315 § 43; RRS § 4031.]

**36.16.130 Group false arrest insurance for law enforcement personnel.** Any county may contract with an insurance company authorized to do business in this state to provide group false arrest insurance for its law enforcement personnel and pursuant thereto may use such portion of its revenues to pay the premiums therefor as the county may determine. [1963 c 127 § 2.]

**36.16.136 Liability insurance for officers and employees.** The board of county commissioners of each county may purchase liability insurance with such limits as they may deem reasonable for the purpose of protecting their officials and employees against liability for personal or bodily injuries and property damage arising from their acts or omissions while performing or in good faith purporting to perform their official duties. [1969 ex.s. c 59 § 1.]

**36.16.138 Liability insurance for officers and employees of municipal corporations and political subdivisions authorized.** Any board of commissioners, council, or board of directors or other governing board of any county, city, town, school district, port district, public utility district, sewer district, water district, irrigation district, or other municipal corporation or political subdivision is authorized to purchase insurance to protect and hold personally harmless any of its commissioners, council members, directors, or other governing board members, and any of its other officers, employees, and agents from any action, claim, or proceeding instituted against the foregoing individuals arising out of the performance, purported performance, or failure of performance, in good faith of duties for, or employment with, such institutions and to hold these individuals harmless from any expenses connected with the defense, settlement, or monetary judgments from such actions, claims, or proceedings. The purchase of such insurance for any of the foregoing individuals and the policy

limits shall be discretionary with the municipal corporation or political subdivision, and such insurance shall not be considered to be compensation for these individuals.

The provisions of this section are cumulative and in addition to any other provision of law authorizing any municipal corporation or political subdivision to purchase liability insurance. [1975 c 16 § 1.]

*Liability insurance for officers and employees authorized:* RCW 28A.400.360, 28B.10.660, 35.21.205, 52.12.071, 53.08.205, 54.16.095, 56.08.105, 57.08.105, and 87.03.162.

**36.16.139 Liability insurance and workers' compensation for offenders performing court-ordered community service.** The legislative authority of a county may purchase liability insurance in an amount it deems reasonable to protect the county, its officers, and employees against liability for the wrongful acts of offenders or injury or damage incurred by offenders in the course of community service imposed by court order or pursuant to RCW 13.40.080. The legislative authority of a county may elect to treat offenders as employees and/or workers under Title 51 RCW. [1984 c 24 § 3.]

*Workers' compensation coverage of offenders performing community service:* RCW 51.12.045.

**36.16.140 Public auction sales, where held.** Public auction sales of property conducted by or for the county shall be held at such places as the county legislative authority may direct. [1991 c 363 § 50; 1991 c 245 § 3; 1965 ex.s. c 23 § 6.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 1991 c 245 § 3 and by 1991 c 363 § 50, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section pursuant to RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

*Building permit—County must require payroll estimate under industrial insurance act:* RCW 51.12.070.

*Public lands—Place of sale—Hours:* RCW 79.01.196.

*Sales of county property, where held:* RCW 36.34.080.

*Tax sales, where held:* RCW 84.64.080, 84.64.270.

## Chapter 36.17

### SALARIES OF COUNTY OFFICERS

#### Sections

36.17.010	Salary full compensation.
36.17.020	Schedule of salaries.
36.17.031	Reimbursement for travel allowances and allowances in lieu of actual expenses.
36.17.040	Payment of salaries of officers and employees.
36.17.042	Biweekly pay periods.
36.17.045	Deductions for contributions, payments and dues, authorized.
36.17.050	Salary warrant may be withheld.
36.17.055	Salary adjustment for county legislative authority office—Ratification and validation of preelection action.

*Cemetery and morgue employees, salary of:* RCW 68.52.020.

*Compensation of county officials: State Constitution Art. II § 5 (Amendment 57).*

*County commissioners, compensation and/or expenses determining towns boundaries:* RCW 35.27.060.

*flood control by counties jointly, duties:* RCW 86.13.060.

*metropolitan council member:* RCW 35.58.160.

*pest exterminator:* RCW 17.12.060.

*State committee on agency officials' salaries to study salaries of elective county officials:* RCW 43.03.028.

**36.17.010 Salary full compensation.** The county officers of the counties of this state shall receive a salary for the services required of them by law, or by virtue of their office, which salary shall be full compensation for all services of every kind and description rendered by them. [1991 c 363 § 51; 1963 c 4 § 36.17.010. Prior: 1890 p 312 § 32; RRS § 4210.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.17.020 Schedule of salaries.** The county legislative authority of each county is authorized to establish the salaries of the elected officials of the county. One-half of the salary of each prosecuting attorney shall be paid by the state. The annual salary of a county elected official shall not be less than the following:

(1) In each county with a population of one million or more: Auditor, clerk, treasurer, sheriff, members of the county legislative authority, and coroner, eighteen thousand dollars; assessor, nineteen thousand dollars; and prosecuting attorney, thirty thousand three hundred dollars;

(2) In each county with a population of from two hundred ten thousand to less than one million: Auditor, seventeen thousand six hundred dollars; clerk, seventeen thousand six hundred dollars; treasurer, seventeen thousand six hundred dollars; sheriff, nineteen thousand five hundred dollars; assessor, seventeen thousand six hundred dollars; prosecuting attorney, twenty-four thousand eight hundred dollars; members of the county legislative authority, nineteen thousand five hundred dollars; and coroner, seventeen thousand six hundred dollars;

(3) In each county with a population of from one hundred twenty-five thousand to less than two hundred ten thousand: Auditor, sixteen thousand dollars; clerk, sixteen thousand dollars; treasurer, sixteen thousand dollars; sheriff, seventeen thousand six hundred dollars; assessor, sixteen thousand dollars; prosecuting attorney, twenty-four thousand eight hundred dollars; members of the county legislative authority, seventeen thousand six hundred dollars; and coroner, sixteen thousand dollars;

(4) In each county with a population of from seventy thousand to less than one hundred twenty-five thousand: Auditor, fourteen thousand nine hundred dollars; clerk, fourteen thousand nine hundred dollars; treasurer, fourteen thousand nine hundred dollars; assessor, fourteen thousand nine hundred dollars; sheriff, fourteen thousand nine hundred dollars; prosecuting attorney, twenty-three thousand seven hundred dollars; members of the county legislative authority, fourteen thousand nine hundred dollars; and coroner, fourteen thousand nine hundred dollars;

(5) In each county with a population of from forty thousand to less than seventy thousand: Auditor, thirteen thousand eight hundred dollars; clerk, thirteen thousand eight hundred dollars; treasurer, thirteen thousand eight hundred dollars; assessor, thirteen thousand eight hundred dollars; sheriff, thirteen thousand eight hundred dollars; prosecuting attorney, twenty-three thousand seven hundred dollars; members of the county legislative authority, thirteen thousand eight hundred dollars;



sand eight hundred dollars; and coroner, thirteen thousand eight hundred dollars;

(6) In each county with a population of from eighteen thousand to less than forty thousand: Auditor, twelve thousand one hundred dollars; clerk, twelve thousand one hundred dollars; treasurer, twelve thousand one hundred dollars; sheriff, twelve thousand one hundred dollars; assessor, twelve thousand one hundred dollars; prosecuting attorney in such a county in which there is no state university or college, fourteen thousand three hundred dollars; in such a county in which there is a state university or college, sixteen thousand five hundred dollars; and members of the county legislative authority, eleven thousand dollars;

(7) In each county with a population of from twelve thousand to less than eighteen thousand: Auditor, ten thousand one hundred dollars; clerk, ten thousand one hundred dollars; treasurer, ten thousand one hundred dollars; assessor, ten thousand one hundred dollars; sheriff, eleven thousand two hundred dollars; prosecuting attorney, thirteen thousand two hundred dollars; and members of the county legislative authority, nine thousand four hundred dollars;

(8) In each county with a population of from eight thousand to less than twelve thousand: Auditor, ten thousand one hundred dollars; clerk, ten thousand one hundred dollars; treasurer, ten thousand one hundred dollars; assessor, ten thousand one hundred dollars; sheriff, eleven thousand two hundred dollars; prosecuting attorney, nine thousand nine hundred dollars; and members of the county legislative authority, seven thousand dollars;

(9) In each county with a population of from five thousand to less than eight thousand: Auditor, nine thousand one hundred dollars; clerk, nine thousand one hundred dollars; treasurer, nine thousand one hundred dollars; assessor, nine thousand one hundred dollars; sheriff, ten thousand five hundred dollars; prosecuting attorney, nine thousand nine hundred dollars; and members of the county legislative authority, six thousand five hundred dollars;

(10) In each other county: Auditor, nine thousand one hundred dollars; clerk, nine thousand one hundred dollars; treasurer, nine thousand one hundred dollars; sheriff, ten thousand five hundred dollars; assessor, nine thousand one hundred dollars; prosecuting attorney, nine thousand nine hundred dollars; and members of the county legislative authority, six thousand five hundred dollars. [1994 1st sp.s. c 4 § 1; 1991 c 363 § 52; 1973 1st ex.s. c 88 § 2; 1971 ex.s. c 237 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 226 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 77 § 2; 1967 c 218 § 3; 1963 c 164 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.17.020. Prior: 1957 c 219 § 3; prior: (i) 1953 c 264 § 1; 1949 c 200 § 1, part; 1945 c 87 § 1, part; 1937 c 197 § 3, part; 1933 c 136 § 6, part; 1925 ex.s. c 148 § 6, part; 1919 c 168 § 2, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 4200-5a, part. (ii) 1921 c 184 § 2; RRS § 4203.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**Severability—1971 ex.s. c 237:** "If any provision of this 1971 amendatory act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1971 ex.s. c 237 § 4.]

**Effective date—1971 ex.s. c 237:** "This act shall take effect on January 1, 1972." [1971 ex.s. c 237 § 5.]

The above two annotations apply to 1971 ex.s. c 237. For codification of that act, see Codification Tables, Volume 0.

*Counties with populations of less than five thousand, combined office of auditor and clerk, salary: RCW 36.16.032.*

**36.17.031 Reimbursement for travel allowances and allowances in lieu of actual expenses.** See RCW 42.24.090.

**36.17.040 Payment of salaries of officers and employees.** The salaries of county officers and employees of counties other than counties with a population of less than five thousand may be paid twice monthly out of the county treasury, and the county auditor, for services rendered from the first to the fifteenth day, inclusive, may, not later than the last day of the month, draw a warrant upon the county treasurer in favor of each of such officers and employees for the amount of salary due him or her, and such auditor, for services rendered from the sixteenth to the last day, inclusive, may similarly draw a warrant, not later than the fifteenth day of the following month, and the county legislative authority, with the concurrence of the county auditor, may enter an order on the record journal empowering him or her so to do: PROVIDED, That if the county legislative authority does not adopt the semimonthly pay plan, it, by resolution, shall designate the first pay period as a draw day. Not more than forty percent of said earned monthly salary of each such county officer or employee shall be paid to him or her on the draw day and the payroll deductions of such officer or employee shall not be deducted from the salary to be paid on the draw day. If officers and employees are paid once a month, the draw day shall not be later than the last day of each month. The balance of the earned monthly salary of each such officer or employee shall be paid not later than the fifteenth day of the following month.

In counties with a population of less than five thousand salaries shall be paid monthly unless the county legislative authority by resolution adopts the foregoing draw day procedure. [1991 c 363 § 53; 1988 c 281 § 9; 1963 c 4 § 36.17.040. Prior: 1959 c 300 § 1; 1953 c 37 § 1; 1890 p 314 § 37; RRS § 4220.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**Severability—1988 c 281:** See RCW 39.59.900.

**36.17.042 Biweekly pay periods.** In addition to the pay periods permitted under RCW 36.17.040, the legislative authority of any county may establish a biweekly pay period where county officers and employees receive their compensation not later than seven days following the end of each two week pay period for services rendered during that pay period.

However, in a county that has assumed the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of a metropolitan municipal corporation under chapter 36.56 RCW, the county legislative authority may establish a biweekly pay period where the county officers and employees receive their compensation not later than thirteen days following the end of each two-week pay period for services rendered during that pay period. [1994 c 301 § 5; 1977 c 42 § 1.]

**36.17.045 Deductions for contributions, payments and dues, authorized.** Employees of the counties shall

have the right to voluntarily authorize the monthly deduction of their pledges to the United Good Neighbor or its successor, monthly payment to a credit unit, and monthly dues to a labor union, from their salaries or wages. When such written authorization is received by the county auditor, he shall make such monthly deduction. [1963 c 164 § 3.]

**36.17.050 Salary warrant may be withheld.** The auditor shall not draw his warrant for the salary of any officer until the latter shall have first filed his duplicate receipt with the auditor, properly signed by the treasurer, showing he has made the last required monthly statement and settlement. [1963 c 4 § 36.17.050. Prior: 1890 p 314 § 38; RRS § 4221.]

**36.17.055 Salary adjustment for county legislative authority office—Ratification and validation of preelection action.** See RCW 36.40.205.

### Chapter 36.18

#### FEES OF COUNTY OFFICERS

##### Sections

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36.18.190	Collection of unpaid court obligations—Collection contracts.

**36.18.005 Definitions.** The definitions set forth in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Recording officer" means the county auditor, or in charter counties the county official charged with the responsibility for recording instruments in the county records.

(2) "File," "filed," or "filing" means the act of delivering an instrument to the auditor or recording officer for recording into the official public records.

(3) "Record," "recorded," or "recording" means the process, such as electronic, mechanical, optical, magnetic, or microfilm storage used by the auditor or recording officer after filing to incorporate the instrument into the public records. [1991 c 26 § 1.]

**36.18.010 Auditor's fees.** County auditors or recording officers shall collect the following fees for their official services:

For recording instruments, for the first page, legal size (eight and one-half by fourteen inches or less), five dollars;

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for each additional legal size page, one dollar; the fee for recording multiple transactions contained in one instrument will be calculated individually for each transaction requiring separate indexing as required under RCW 65.04.050;

For preparing and certifying copies, for the first legal size page, three dollars; for each additional legal size page, one dollar;

For preparing noncertified copies, for each legal size page, one dollar;

For administering an oath or taking an affidavit, with or without seal, two dollars;

For issuing a marriage license, eight dollars, (this fee includes taking necessary affidavits, filing returns, indexing, and transmittal of a record of the marriage to the state registrar of vital statistics) plus an additional five-dollar fee for use and support of the prevention of child abuse and neglect activities to be transmitted monthly to the state treasurer and deposited in the state general fund, which five-dollar fee shall expire June 30, 1995, plus an additional ten-dollar fee to be transmitted monthly to the state treasurer and deposited in the state general fund. The legislature intends to appropriate an amount at least equal to the revenue generated by this fee for the purposes of the displaced homemaker act, chapter 28B.04 RCW;

For searching records per hour, eight dollars;

For recording plats, fifty cents for each lot except cemetery plats for which the charge shall be twenty-five cents per lot; also one dollar for each acknowledgment, dedication, and description: PROVIDED, That there shall be a minimum fee of twenty-five dollars per plat;

For recording of miscellaneous records, not listed above, for first legal size page, five dollars; for each additional legal size page, one dollar;

For modernization and improvement of the recording and indexing system, a surcharge as provided in RCW 36.22.170. [1991 c 26 § 2. Prior: 1989 c 304 § 1; 1989 c 204 § 6; 1987 c 230 § 1; 1985 c 44 § 2; 1984 c 261 § 4; 1982 1st ex.s. c 15 § 7; 1982 c 4 § 12; 1977 ex.s. c 56 § 1; 1967 c 26 § 8; 1963 c 4 § 36.18.010; prior: 1959 c 263 § 6; 1953 c 214 § 2; 1951 c 51 § 4; 1907 c 56 § 1, part, p 92; 1903 c 151 § 1, part, p 295; 1893 c 130 § 1, part, p 423; Code 1881 § 2086, part, p 358; 1869 p 369 § 3; 1865 p 94 § 1; part; 1863 p 391 § 1, part, p 394; 1861 p 34 § 1, part, p 37; 1854 p 368 § 1, part, p 371; RRS §§ 497, part, 4105.]

**Findings—1989 c 204:** See note following RCW 36.22.160.

**Effective date—1987 c 230:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect July 1, 1987." [1987 c 230 § 4.]

**Severability—1984 c 261:** See note following RCW 43.121.020.

**Severability—1982 c 4:** See RCW 43.121.910.

**Effective date—1967 c 26:** See note following RCW 43.70.150.

**Family court funding, marriage license fee increase authorized:** RCW 26.12.220.

**36.18.020 Clerk's fees.** Clerks of superior courts shall collect the following fees for their official services:

(1) The party filing the first or initial paper in any civil action, including an action for restitution, or change of name, shall pay, at the time said paper is filed, a fee of one hundred ten dollars except in proceedings filed under RCW 26.50.030 or 49.60.227 where the petitioner shall pay a filing

fee of twenty dollars, or an unlawful detainer action under chapter 59.18 or 59.20 RCW where the plaintiff shall pay a filing fee of thirty dollars. If the defendant serves or files an answer to an unlawful detainer complaint under chapter 59.18 or 59.20 RCW, the plaintiff shall pay, prior to proceeding with the unlawful detainer action, an additional eighty dollars which shall be considered part of the filing fee. The thirty dollar filing fee under this subsection for an unlawful detainer action shall not include an order to show cause or any other order or judgment except a default order or default judgment in an unlawful detainer action.

(2) Any party, except a defendant in a criminal case, filing the first or initial paper on an appeal from a court of limited jurisdiction or any party on any civil appeal, shall pay, when said paper is filed, a fee of one hundred ten dollars.

(3) The party filing a transcript or abstract of judgment or verdict from a United States court held in this state, or from the superior court of another county or from a district court in the county of issuance, shall pay at the time of filing, a fee of fifteen dollars.

(4) For the filing of a tax warrant by the department of revenue of the state of Washington, a fee of five dollars shall be paid.

(5) For the filing of a petition for modification of a decree of dissolution, a fee of twenty dollars shall be paid.

(6) The party filing a demand for jury of six in a civil action, shall pay, at the time of filing, a fee of fifty dollars; if the demand is for a jury of twelve the fee shall be one hundred dollars. If, after the party files a demand for a jury of six and pays the required fee, any other party to the action requests a jury of twelve, an additional fifty-dollar fee will be required of the party demanding the increased number of jurors.

(7) For filing any paper, not related to or a part of any proceeding, civil or criminal, or any probate matter, required or permitted to be filed in the clerk's office for which no other charge is provided by law, or for filing a petition, written agreement, or memorandum as provided in RCW 11.96.170, the clerk shall collect twenty dollars.

(8) For preparing, transcribing or certifying any instrument on file or of record in the clerk's office, with or without seal, for the first page or portion thereof, a fee of two dollars, and for each additional page or portion thereof, a fee of one dollar. For authenticating or exemplifying any instrument, a fee of one dollar for each additional seal affixed.

(9) For executing a certificate, with or without a seal, a fee of two dollars shall be charged.

(10) For each garnishee defendant named in an affidavit for garnishment and for each writ of attachment, a fee of twenty dollars shall be charged.

(11) For approving a bond, including justification thereon, in other than civil actions and probate proceedings, a fee of two dollars shall be charged.

(12) In probate proceedings, the party instituting such proceedings, shall pay at the time of filing the first paper therein, a fee of one hundred ten dollars: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, A fee of twenty dollars shall be charged for filing a will only, when no probate of the will is contemplated. Except as provided for in subsection (13) of this section a fee of two dollars shall be charged for filing a petition,

written agreement, or memorandum as provided in RCW 11.96.170.

(13) For filing any petition to contest a will admitted to probate or a petition to admit a will which has been rejected, or a petition objecting to a written agreement or memorandum as provided in RCW 11.96.170, there shall be paid a fee of one hundred ten dollars.

(14) For the issuance of each certificate of qualification and each certified copy of letters of administration, letters testamentary or letters of guardianship there shall be a fee of two dollars.

(15) For the preparation of a passport application the clerk may collect an execution fee as authorized by the federal government.

(16) For clerks' special services such as processing ex parte orders by mail, performing historical searches, compiling statistical reports, and conducting exceptional record searches the clerk may collect a fee not to exceed twenty dollars per hour or portion of an hour.

(17) For duplicated recordings of court's proceedings there shall be a fee of ten dollars for each audio tape and twenty-five dollars for each video tape.

(18) Upon conviction or plea of guilty, upon failure to prosecute an appeal from a court of limited jurisdiction as provided by law, or upon affirmance of a conviction by a court of limited jurisdiction, a defendant in a criminal case shall be liable for a fee of one hundred ten dollars.

(19) With the exception of demands for jury hereafter made and garnishments hereafter issued, civil actions and probate proceedings filed prior to midnight, July 1, 1972, shall be completed and governed by the fee schedule in effect as of January 1, 1972: PROVIDED, That no fee shall be assessed if an order of dismissal on the clerk's record be filed as provided by rule of the supreme court.

(20) No fee shall be collected when a petition for relinquishment of parental rights is filed pursuant to RCW 26.33.080 or for forms and instructional brochures provided under RCW 26.50.030. [1993 c 435 § 1; 1992 c 54 § 1; 1989 c 342 § 1. Prior: 1987 c 382 § 3; 1987 c 202 § 201; 1987 c 56 § 3; prior: 1985 c 24 § 1; 1985 c 7 § 104; 1984 c 263 § 29; 1981 c 330 § 5; 1980 c 70 § 1; 1977 ex.s. c 107 § 1; 1975 c 30 § 1; 1973 c 16 § 1; 1973 c 38 § 1; prior: 1972 ex.s. c 57 § 5; 1972 ex.s. c 20 § 1; 1970 ex.s. c 32 § 1; 1967 c 26 § 9; 1963 c 4 § 36.18.020; prior: 1961 c 304 § 1; 1961 c 41 § 1; 1951 c 51 § 5; 1907 c 56 § 1, part, p 89; 1903 c 151 § 1, part, p 294; 1893 c 130 § 1, part, p 421; Code 1881 § 2086, part, p 355; 1869 p 364 § 1, part; 1863 p 391 § 1, part; 1861 p 34 § 1, part; 1854 p 368 § 1, part; RRS § 497, part.]

*Rules of court:* Cf. RAP 14.3, 18.22.

**Effective date—1992 c 54:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect April 1, 1992." [1992 c 54 § 7.]

**Severability—Effective date—1989 c 342:** See RCW 59.18.910 and 59.18.911.

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**Effective date—Severability—1984 c 263:** See RCW 26.50.901 and 26.50.902.

**Severability—1981 c 330:** See note following RCW 3.62.060.

**Effective date—1972 ex.s. c 20:** "This act shall take effect July 1, 1972." [1972 ex.s. c 20 § 3.]

**Effective date—1967 c 26:** See note following RCW 43.70.150.

**36.18.022 Filing fees may be waived—When.** The court may waive the filing fees provided for under RCW 36.18.020 (1) and (2) upon affidavit by a party that the party is unable to pay the fee due to financial hardship. [1992 c 54 § 5.]

**Effective date—1992 c 54:** See note following RCW 36.18.020.

**36.18.025 Portion of filing fees to be remitted to state treasurer.** Forty-six percent of the money received from filing fees paid pursuant to RCW 36.18.020 shall be transmitted by the county treasurer each month to the state treasurer for deposit in the public safety and education account established under RCW 43.08.250. [1992 c 54 § 2; 1985 c 389 § 9; 1984 c 258 § 322; 1972 ex.s. c 20 § 2.]

**Effective date—1992 c 54:** See note following RCW 36.18.020.

**Effective date—1985 c 389:** See note following RCW 27.24.070.

**Court Improvement Act of 1984—Effective dates—Severability—Short title—1984 c 258:** See notes following RCW 3.30.010.

**Intent—1984 c 258:** See note following RCW 3.46.120.

**Effective date—1972 ex.s. c 20:** See note following RCW 36.18.020.

**36.18.030 Coroner's fees.** Coroners shall collect for their official services, the following fees:

For each inquest held, besides mileage, twenty dollars.

For issuing a venire, two dollars.

For drawing all necessary writings, two dollars for first page and one dollar for each page thereafter.

For mileage each way, per mile, ten cents.

For performing the duties of a sheriff, he shall receive the same fees as a sheriff would receive for the same service. [1963 c 4 § 36.18.030. Prior: 1959 c 263 § 7; 1907 c 56 § 1, part, p 93; 1903 c 151 § 1, part, p 296; 1893 c 130 § 1, part, p 424; Code 1881 § 2086, part, p 360; 1869 p 372 § 7, part; 1863 p 391 § 1, part, p 396; 1861 p 34 § 1, part, p 39; 1854 p 368 § 1, part, p 373; RRS §§ 497, part, 4185.]

**36.18.040 Sheriff's fees.** (1) Sheriffs shall collect the following fees for their official services:

(a) For service of each summons and complaint, notice and complaint, summons and petition, and notice of small claim on one defendant at any location, ten dollars, and on two or more defendants at the same residence, twelve dollars, besides mileage;

(b) For making a return, besides mileage actually traveled, seven dollars;

(c) For levying each writ of attachment or writ of execution upon real or personal property, besides mileage, thirty dollars per hour;

(d) For filing copy of writ of attachment or writ of execution with auditor, ten dollars plus auditor's filing fee;

(e) For serving writ of possession or restitution without aid of the county, besides mileage, twenty-five dollars;

(f) For serving writ of possession or restitution with aid of the county, besides mileage, forty dollars plus thirty dollars for each hour after one hour;

(g) For serving an arrest warrant in any action or proceeding, besides mileage, thirty dollars;

(h) For executing any other writ or process in a civil action or proceeding, besides mileage, thirty dollars per hour;

(i) For each mile actually and necessarily traveled in going to or returning from any place of service, or attempted service, thirty-five cents;

(j) For making a deed to lands sold upon execution or order of sale or other decree of court, to be paid by the purchaser, thirty dollars;

(k) For making copies of papers when sufficient copies are not furnished, one dollar for first page and fifty cents per each additional page;

(l) For the service of any other document and supporting papers for which no other fee is provided for herein, twelve dollars;

(m) For posting a notice of sale, or postponement, ten dollars besides mileage;

(n) For certificate or bill of sale of property, or certificate of redemption, thirty dollars;

(o) For conducting a sale of property, thirty dollars per hour spent at a sheriff's sale;

(p) For notarizing documents, five dollars for each document;

(q) For fingerprinting for noncriminal purposes, ten dollars for each person for up to two sets, three dollars for each additional set;

(r) For mailing required by statute, whether regular, certified, or registered, the actual cost of postage;

(s) For an internal criminal history records check, ten dollars;

(t) For the reproduction of audio, visual, or photographic material, to include magnetic microfilming, the actual cost including personnel time.

(2) Fees allowable under this section may be recovered by the prevailing party incurring the same as court costs. Nothing contained in this section permits the expenditure of public funds to defray costs of private litigation. Such costs shall be borne by the party seeking action by the sheriff, and may be recovered from the proceeds of any subsequent judicial sale, or may be added to any judgment upon proper application to the court entering the judgment.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, a county legislative authority may set the amounts of fees that shall be collected by the sheriff under subsection (1) of this section to cover the costs of administration and operation. [1992 c 164 § 1; 1981 c 194 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 94 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.18.040. Prior: 1959 c 263 § 8; 1951 c 51 § 6; 1907 c 56 § 1, part, p 91; 1903 c 151 § 1, part, p 294; 1893 c 130 § 1, p 422; Code 1881 § 2086, part, p 356; 1869 p 364 § 1, part, p 365; 1865 p 94 § 1, part, p 97; 1863 p 391 § 1, part, p 392; 1861 p 34 § 1, part, p 35; 1854 p 368 § 1, part, p 369; RRS § 497, part.]

**Severability—1981 c 194:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1981 c 194 § 5.]

**36.18.045 Treasurer's fees.** County treasurers shall collect the following fees for their official services:

For preparing and certifying copies, with or without seal for the first legal size page, two dollars, for each additional legal size page, one dollar. [1963 c 4 § 36.18.045. Prior: 1959 c 263 § 10.]

**36.18.050 Fees in special cases.** Every officer who shall be called on or required to perform service for which no fees or compensation are provided for in this chapter shall be allowed fees similar and equal to those allowed him for services of the same kind for which allowance is made herein. [1963 c 4 § 36.18.050. Prior: Code 1881 § 2098; 1869 p 374 § 20; 1863 p 398 § 5; 1861 p 41 § 5; 1854 p 375 § 4; RRS § 4234.]

**36.18.060 Fees payable in advance—Exception.** The officers mentioned in this chapter except the county sheriff shall not, in any case, except for the state or county, perform any official services unless the fees prescribed therefor are paid in advance, and on such payment the officer must perform the services required. The county sheriff may allow payment to be made after official services have been performed as the sheriff deems appropriate. For every failure or refusal to perform official duty when the fees are tendered, the officer is liable on his official bond. [1981 c 194 § 2; 1963 c 4 § 36.18.060. Prior: 1890 p 315 § 39; RRS § 506.]

**Severability—1981 c 194:** See note following RCW 36.18.040.

**36.18.070 Single mileage chargeable when.** When any sheriff, constable or coroner serves more than one process in the same cause or on the same person not requiring more than one journey from his office, he shall receive mileage only for the most distant service. [1963 c 4 § 36.18.070. Prior: Code 1881 § 2094; 1869 p 373 § 16; RRS § 501.]

**36.18.080 Fee schedule to be kept posted.** Every county officer entitled to collect fees from the public shall keep posted in his office a plain and legible statement of the fees allowed by law and failure so to do shall subject the officer to a fine of one hundred dollars and costs, to be recovered in any court of competent jurisdiction. [1963 c 4 § 36.18.080. Prior: 1890 p 315 § 41; RRS § 4223. Cf. Code 1881 § 2091; 1869 p 373 § 13.]

**36.18.090 Itemized receipt to be given.** Every officer, when requested so to do, shall make out a bill of his fees in every case, and for any services, specifying each particular item thereof, and receipt the same when it is paid, which bill of fees shall always be subject to examination and correction by the courts. Any officer who fails to comply with the requirements of this section shall be liable to the person paying the fees in treble the amount so paid. [1963 c 4 § 36.18.090. Prior: (i) 1890 p 315 § 40; RRS § 4222. (ii) Code 1881 § 2102; 1869 p 374 § 24; 1863 p 398 § 3; 1861 p 41 § 3; 1854 p 376 § 6; RRS § 4235.]

**36.18.110 Monthly statement to county auditor.** Every salaried county and precinct officer authorized to receive fees shall on or before the first Monday of each month and at the end of his or her term of office submit to the county auditor a statement for the month last past. [1985 c 44 § 3; 1984 c 128 § 3; 1963 c 4 § 36.18.110. Prior: 1907 c 65 § 1; RRS § 4214.]

**36.18.120 Statements to be checked.** The county auditor shall check the statements submitted to the county auditor and the records pertaining thereto, and if they are found to be correct, shall return them after having attached thereto the official certificates. [1985 c 44 § 4; 1984 c 128 § 4; 1963 c 4 § 36.18.120. Prior: 1907 c 65 § 2; RRS § 4215.]

**36.18.130 Errors or irregularities.** If any errors or irregularities are found by the checking officer he shall immediately notify the officer interested, and if within three days after such notification the errors or irregularities are not corrected by such officer, the checking officer shall notify the board of county commissioners in writing and upon receipt of such notification the board shall proceed against such officer in the manner provided by law. [1963 c 4 § 36.18.130. Prior: 1907 c 65 § 4; RRS § 4216.]

**36.18.160 Penalty for taking illegal fees.** If any officer takes more or greater fees than are allowed by law he shall be subject to prosecution, and on conviction, shall be removed from office and fined in a sum not exceeding one thousand dollars. [1963 c 4 § 36.18.160. Prior: Code 1881 § 2090; 1869 p 373 § 12; RRS § 4225. Cf. RCW 9.33.040.]

**36.18.170 Penalty for failure to pay over fees.** Any salaried county or precinct officer, who fails to pay to the county treasury all sums that have come into the officer's hands for fees and charges for the county, or by virtue of the officer's office, whether under the laws of this state or of the United States, shall be guilty of embezzlement, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by imprisonment in a state correctional facility not less than one year nor more than three years: PROVIDED, That upon conviction, his or her office shall be declared to be vacant by the court pronouncing sentence. [1992 c 7 § 33; 1963 c 4 § 36.18.170. Prior: 1893 c 81 § 2; RRS § 4226. Cf. RCW 42.20.070.]

**36.18.180 Office to be declared vacant on conviction.** The board of county commissioners of any county in this state, upon receiving a certified copy of the record of conviction of any officer for receiving illegal fees, or where the officer collects fees and fails to account for the same, upon proof thereof must declare his office vacant and appoint his successor. [1963 c 4 § 36.18.180. Prior: 1890 p 315 § 42; RRS § 4224.]

**36.18.190 Collection of unpaid court obligations—Collection contracts.** Superior court clerks may contract with collection agencies or may use county collection services for the collection of unpaid court obligations. The costs for the agencies or county services shall be paid by the debtor. Collection may not be initiated with respect to a criminal offender who is under the supervision of the department of corrections without the prior agreement of the department.

Any contract with a collection agency shall be awarded only after competitive bidding. Factors that a court clerk shall consider in awarding a collection contract include but are not limited to: (1) A collection agency's history and

reputation in the community; and (2) the agency's access to a local data base that may increase the efficiency of its collections.

The servicing of an unpaid court obligation does not constitute assignment of a debt, and no contract with a collection agency may remove the court's control over unpaid obligations owed to the court. [1994 c 185 § 9.]

## Chapter 36.21 COUNTY ASSESSOR

### Sections

- 36.21.011 Valuation of property—Deputies and assistants—Expert appraisers—Employment and classification plans for appraisers (as amended by 1994 c 124).
- 36.21.011 Assessor may appoint deputies and engage expert appraisers—Employment and classification plans for appraisers (as amended by 1994 c 301).
- 36.21.015 Qualifications for persons assessing real property—Examination—Examination waiver—Continuing education requirement.
- 36.21.070 New construction building permits—Appraisal of building.
- 36.21.080 New construction building permits—When property placed on assessment rolls.
- 36.21.090 Initial placement of mobile home on assessment roll.
- 36.21.100 Annual report to department of revenue on property tax levies and related matters.

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- cemetery district organization: Chapter 68.52 RCW.*
- drainage district revenue act: Chapter 85.32 RCW.*
- drainage districts: Chapter 85.06 RCW.*
- fire protection district, resolution creating: RCW 52.02.120, 52.02.150.*
- flood control districts: Chapter 86.09 RCW.*
- forest insect and disease control: Chapter 76.06 RCW.*
- forest rehabilitation: Chapter 76.14 RCW.*
- irrigation districts*
- dissolution of districts with bonds: Chapter 87.53 RCW.*
- dissolution of insolvent districts: Chapter 87.56 RCW.*
- generally: Chapter 87.03 RCW.*
- joint control of: RCW 87.80.090.*
- metropolitan municipal corporation: Chapter 35.58 RCW.*
- mosquito control districts: Chapter 17.28 RCW.*
- pest districts: Chapter 17.12 RCW.*
- reforestation: Chapter 76.12 RCW.*
- school district organization: Chapter 28A.315 RCW.*
- school districts, appeals from boundary changes, decisions: RCW 28A.645.040.*
- section and corner lines, establishment of: Chapter 58.04 RCW.*
- taxes, property*
- certification of on operating property of private car companies: RCW 84.16.130.*
- certification of on operating property of public utilities: RCW 84.12.370.*
- collection of: Chapter 84.56 RCW.*
- equalization of assessments: Chapter 84.48 RCW.*
- exemptions: Chapter 84.36 RCW.*
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- lien on: Chapter 84.60 RCW.*
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- nonoperating property of private car companies: RCW 84.16.140.*
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- revaluation: Chapter 84.41 RCW.*
- taxable situs: Chapter 84.44 RCW.*
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- Lands lying in both a fire protection district and forest protection assessment area, assessment by: RCW 52.16.170.*
- Mobile home movement permits: RCW 46.44.173.*
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*Public lands, harbor areas, re-lease of, rental based on assessor's valuation: RCW 79.92.080.*

*Revenue, department of, to test work of, advise: RCW 84.08.020, 84.08.030, 84.08.190.*

*Taxes, property, penalty for nonperformance of duty: RCW 84.09.040.*

*Taxes for city and town purposes: State Constitution Art. 11 § 12.*

*Township assessors, board of review, duties vested in: RCW 45.54.020.*

*Transfer of ownership of mobile home, county assessor notified: RCW 46.12.105.*

*Washington Clean Air Act, assessors' duties under: RCW 70.94.095.*

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**36.21.011 Valuation of property—Deputies and assistants—Expert appraisers—Employment and classification plans for appraisers (as amended by 1994 c 124).** Any assessor who deems it necessary in order to ~~(enable him to)~~ complete the listing and the valuation of the property of ~~(his)~~ the county within the time prescribed by law, (1) may appoint one or more well qualified persons to act as ~~(his)~~ assistants or deputies who shall not engage in the private practice of appraising within the county in which he or she is employed without the written permission of the ~~(county)~~ assessor filed with the ~~(county)~~ auditor; and each such assistant or deputy so appointed shall, under the direction of the assessor, after taking the required oath, perform all the duties enjoined upon, vested in or imposed upon assessors, and (2) may contract with any persons, firms or corporations, who are expert appraisers, to assist in the valuation of property.

To assist each assessor in obtaining adequate and well qualified assistants or deputies, the state department of personnel, after consultation with the Washington state association of county assessors, the Washington state association of counties, and the department of revenue, shall establish by July 1, 1967, and shall thereafter maintain, a classification and salary plan for those employees of an assessor who act as appraisers. The plan shall recommend the salary range and employment qualifications for each position encompassed by it, and shall, to the fullest extent practicable, conform to the classification plan, salary schedules and employment qualifications for state employees performing similar appraisal functions.

If an assessor intends to put such plan into effect in ~~(his)~~ the county, ~~(he)~~ the assessor shall inform the department of revenue and the ~~(board of county commissioners)~~ county legislative authority of this intent in writing. The department of revenue and the ~~(board)~~ county legislative authority may thereupon each designate a representative, and such representative or representatives as may be designated by the department of revenue or the ~~(board)~~ county legislative authority, or both, shall form with the assessor a committee. The committee so formed may, by unanimous vote only, determine the required number of certified appraiser positions and their salaries necessary to enable the ~~(county)~~ assessor to carry out the requirements relating to revaluation of property in chapter 84.41 RCW. The determination of the committee shall be certified to the ~~(board of county commissioners)~~ county legislative authority. The committee ~~(provided for herein)~~ may be formed only once in a period of four calendar years.

After such determination, the assessor may provide, in each of ~~(his)~~ the four next succeeding annual budget estimates, for as many positions as are established in such determination. Each ~~(board of county commissioners)~~ county legislative authority to which such a budget estimate is submitted shall allow sufficient funds for such positions. An employee may be appointed to a position covered by the plan only if the employee meets the employment qualifications established by the plan. [1994 c 124 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 11 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 85 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 146 § 7; 1963 c 4 § 36.21.011. Prior: 1955 c 251 § 10.]

**36.21.011 Assessor may appoint deputies and engage expert appraisers—Employment and classification plans for appraisers (as amended by 1994 c 301).** Any assessor who deems it necessary to enable him or her to complete the listing and the valuation of the property of his or her county within the time prescribed by law, (1) may appoint one or more well qualified persons to act as ~~(his)~~ assistants or deputies who shall not engage in the private practice of appraising within the county ~~(in which he is)~~ where employed without the written permission of the county assessor filed with the county auditor; and each such assistant or deputy so appointed shall, under the direction of the assessor, after taking the required oath, perform all the duties enjoined upon, vested in or imposed upon

assessors, and (2) may contract with any persons, firms or corporations, who are expert appraisers, to assist in the valuation of property.

To assist each assessor in obtaining adequate and well qualified assistants or deputies, the state department of personnel, after consultation with the Washington state association of county assessors, the Washington state association of counties, and the department of revenue, shall establish by July 1, 1967, and shall thereafter maintain, a classification and salary plan for those employees of an assessor who act as appraisers. The plan shall recommend the salary range and employment qualifications for each position encompassed by it, and shall, to the fullest extent practicable, conform to the classification plan, salary schedules and employment qualifications for state employees performing similar appraisal functions.

~~((#))~~ An assessor who intends to put such plan into effect ~~((in his county, he))~~ shall inform the department of revenue and the ~~((board of))~~ county ~~((commissioners))~~ legislative authority of this intent in writing. The department of revenue and the ~~((board))~~ authority may thereupon each designate a representative, and such representative or representatives as may be designated by the department of revenue or the ~~((board))~~ legislative authority, or both, shall form with the assessor a committee. The committee so formed may, by unanimous vote only, determine the required number of certified appraiser positions and their salaries necessary to enable the county assessor to carry out the requirements relating to revaluation of property in chapter 84.41 RCW. The determination of the committee shall be certified to the ~~((board of))~~ county ~~((commissioners))~~ legislative authority. The committee provided for herein may be formed only once in a period of four calendar years.

After such determination, the assessor may provide, in each of ~~((his))~~ the four next succeeding annual budget estimates, for as many positions as are established in such determination. Each ~~((board of))~~ county ~~((commissioners))~~ legislative authority to which such a budget estimate is submitted shall allow sufficient funds for such positions. An employee may be appointed to a position covered by the plan only if the employee meets the employment qualifications established by the plan. [1994 c 301 § 6; 1973 1st ex.s. c 11 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 85 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 146 § 7; 1963 c 4 § 36.21.011. Prior: 1955 c 251 § 10.]

Reviser's note: RCW 36.21.011 was amended twice during the 1994 legislative session, each without reference to the other. For rule of construction concerning sections amended more than once during the same legislative session, see RCW 1.12.025.

**36.21.015 Qualifications for persons assessing real property—Examination—Examination waiver—Continuing education requirement.** (1) Any person having the responsibility of valuing real property for purposes of taxation including persons acting as assistants or deputies to a county assessor under RCW 36.21.011 shall have first:

(a) Had at least one year of experience in transactions involving real property, in appraisal of real property, or in assessment of real property, or at least one year of experience in a combination of the three;

(b) Become knowledgeable in repair and remodeling of buildings and improvement of land, and in the significance of locality and area to the value of real property;

(c) Become knowledgeable in the standards for appraising property set forth by the department of revenue; and

(d) Met other minimum requirements specified by department of revenue rule.

(2) The department of revenue shall prepare and administer an examination on subjects related to the valuation of real property. No person shall assess real property for purposes of taxation without having passed said examination or having received an examination waiver from the department of revenue upon showing education or experience determined by the department to be equivalent to passing the examination. A person passing said examination or receiving an examination waiver shall be accredited accordingly by the department of revenue.

(3) The department of revenue may by rule establish continuing education requirements for persons assessing real property for purposes of taxation. The department shall provide accreditation of completion of requirements imposed under this section. No person shall assess real property for purposes of taxation without complying with requirements imposed under this subsection.

(4) To the extent practical, the department of revenue shall coordinate accreditation requirements under this section with the requirements for certified real estate appraisers under chapter 18.140 RCW.

(5) The examination requirements of subsection (2) of this section shall not apply to any person who shall have either:

(a) Been certified as a real property appraiser by the department of personnel prior to July 1, 1992; or

(b) Attended and satisfactorily completed the assessor's school operated jointly by the department of revenue and the Washington state assessors association prior to August 9, 1971. [1991 c 218 § 3; 1977 c 75 § 30; 1971 ex.s. c 288 § 17; 1971 ex.s. c 27 § 1.]

**Effective date—1991 c 218:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately, except section 3 of this act, which shall take effect July 1, 1992." [1991 c 218 § 5.]

**Savings—Severability—1971 ex.s. c 288:** See notes following RCW 84.40.030.

**36.21.070 New construction building permits—Appraisal of building.** Upon receipt of a copy of a building permit, the county assessor shall, within twelve months of the date of issue of such permit, proceed to make a physical appraisal of the building or buildings covered by the permit. [1989 c 246 § 3; 1987 c 134 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.21.070. Prior: 1955 c 129 § 4.]

**36.21.080 New construction building permits—When property placed on assessment rolls.** The county assessor is authorized to place any property that is increased in value due to construction or alteration for which a building permit was issued, or should have been issued, under chapter 19.27, 19.27A, or 19.28 RCW or other laws providing for building permits on the assessment rolls for the purposes of tax levy up to August 31st of each year. The assessed valuation of the property shall be considered as of July 31st of that year. [1989 c 246 § 4; 1987 c 319 § 5; 1985 c 220 § 1; 1982 1st ex.s. c 46 § 4; 1981 c 274 § 3; 1975 1st ex.s. c 120 § 1; 1974 ex.s. c 196 § 7; 1963 c 4 § 36.21.080. Prior: 1955 c 129 § 5.]

**Severability—1974 ex.s. c 196:** See note following RCW 84.56.020.

*Destroyed property, reduction in value, abatement or refund of taxes: Chapter 84.70 RCW.*

**36.21.090 Initial placement of mobile home on assessment roll.** When any mobile home first becomes subject to assessment for property taxes in this state, the county assessor is authorized to place the mobile home on the assessment rolls for purposes of tax levy up to August 31st of each year. The assessed valuation of the mobile home shall be considered as of the July 31st immediately



preceding the date that the mobile home is placed on the assessment roll. [1987 c 134 § 2; 1977 ex.s. c 22 § 7.]

**Severability—1977 ex.s. c 22:** See note following RCW 46.04.302.

**36.21.100 Annual report to department of revenue on property tax levies and related matters.** Every county assessor shall report to the department of revenue on the property tax levies and related matters within the county annually at a date and in a form prescribed by the department of revenue. The report shall include, but need not be limited to, the results of sales-assessment ratio studies performed by the assessor. The ratio studies shall be based on use classes of real property and shall be performed under a plan approved by the department of revenue. [1991 c 218 § 4; 1987 c 138 § 8.]

**Effective date—1991 c 218:** See note following RCW 36.21.015.

## Chapter 36.22 COUNTY AUDITOR

### Sections

- 36.22.010 Duties of auditor.
  - 36.22.020 Publisher of commission proceedings—Custodian of commissioners' seal.
  - 36.22.030 May administer oaths.
  - 36.22.040 Duty to audit claims against county.
  - 36.22.050 Issuance of warrants—Multiple warrants.
  - 36.22.060 Record of warrants.
  - 36.22.070 Original claims to be retained.
  - 36.22.080 Claims of auditor.
  - 36.22.090 Warrants of political subdivisions.
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  - 36.22.110 Auditor cannot act as attorney or lobbyist—Incompatibility.
  - 36.22.120 Temporary clerk may be appointed.
  - 36.22.140 Auditor deputy state supervisor.
  - 36.22.150 Duty of retiring auditor or his representative in case of death.
  - 36.22.160 Copying, preserving, and indexing documents.
  - 36.22.170 Surcharge for preservation of historical documents—Fifty percent to state treasurer—Creation of account.
  - 36.22.190 Distribution of funds.
  - 36.22.200 Action for change of name—Filing and recording.
  - 36.22.210 Process servers—Registration—Fees.
  - 36.22.220 Election assistants, deputies—Appointment, qualifications.
  - 36.22.230 Election assistants, deputies—Additional qualifications.
- Acknowledgments, auditor may take:* RCW 64.08.010.
- Appointment as agent for licensing of vehicles:* RCW 46.01.130, 46.01.140, 46.01.270.
- Canvassing board, auditor as member:* RCW 39.40.030.
- Cities and towns, certificates of election, auditor to issue:* RCW 35.02.130.
- Civil actions, judgment by confession acknowledged before:* RCW 4.60.040.
- County accounts, expense for examination of, auditor to issue warrant for:* RCW 43.09.280.
- County canvassing board, auditor as member:* RCW 29.62.020.
- Custodian of records, auditor as:* RCW 65.04.140.
- Department of revenue to advise:* RCW 84.08.020.
- Diking district, auditor as agent of county commissioners in signing petition for:* RCW 85.05.083.
- Dissolution of inactive port districts:* Chapter 53.47 RCW.
- District court districting committee, auditor as member of:* RCW 3.38.010.
- Duties relating to*
- absentee voting:* Chapter 29.36 RCW.
  - air pollution control districts:* Chapter 70.94 RCW.
  - aircraft excise taxes:* Chapter 82.48 RCW.
  - appeals from tax levies:* Chapter 84.08 RCW.
  - assessor's plats:* RCW 58.18.010.

- basic juvenile court act:* Chapter 13.04 RCW.
- boundary line proceedings:* RCW 58.04.040.
- cemetery districts:* Chapter 68.52 RCW.
- cemetery plat, filing of:* RCW 68.24.030.
- certification of offices, notice of election:* Chapter 29.27 RCW.
- chattel liens:* Chapter 60.08 RCW.
- chattel mortgages:* Chapter 60.08 RCW, Article 62A.9 RCW.
- assignment and satisfaction of:* Chapter 61.16 RCW, RCW 62A.9-404, 62A.9-405, 62A.9-406.
- cities and towns*
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- determining town's uncertain boundaries:* RCW 35.27.040, 35.27.050.
- disincorporation of:* Chapter 35.07 RCW.
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- incorporation proceedings:* Chapter 35.02 RCW.
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- maintenance costs and levies:* Chapter 85.16 RCW.
- diking, drainage district benefits to roads, how paid:* RCW 85.07.040, 85.07.050.
- diking districts:* Chapter 85.05 RCW.
- levy for continuous benefits:* Chapter 85.18 RCW.
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- reorganization of (1933 act):* Chapter 85.22 RCW.
- disinfection of horticultural premises:* Chapter 15.08 RCW.
- dissolution of inactive special purpose districts:* Chapter 36.96 RCW.
- doctors, nurses and hospital services, lien for:* Chapter 60.44 RCW.
- drainage district revenue act:* Chapter 85.32 RCW.
- drainage districts:* Chapter 85.06 RCW.
- reorganization of (1917 act):* Chapter 85.20 RCW.
- reorganization of (1933 act):* Chapter 85.22 RCW.
- elections*
- absentee voting:* Chapter 29.36 RCW.
- auditor as ex officio supervisor of:* RCW 29.04.020.
- ballots:* Chapter 29.30 RCW, RCW 29.19.050.
- canvassing returns:* Chapter 29.62 RCW.
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- change of precinct boundaries:* RCW 29.10.060.
- combining or dividing precincts, election boards:* RCW 29.04.055, 29.19.050.
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- regulations before polls open: Chapter 29.48 RCW.  
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excise on real estate sales: RCW 82.45.090.  
internal revenue, liens for: Chapter 60.68 RCW.  
motor vehicle excise: Chapter 82.44 RCW.  
motor vehicle fuel: RCW 82.36.110.  
motor vehicle fuel importer use: RCW 82.37.090.  
motor vehicle use tax: RCW 82.12.045.  
property  
collection of: Chapter 84.56 RCW.  
equalization of assessments: Chapter 84.48 RCW.  
recovery: Chapter 84.68 RCW.  
townships  
actions against: Chapter 45.64 RCW.  
assessments: Chapter 45.54 RCW.  
disorganization of: Chapter 45.76 RCW.  
county-wide: Chapter 45.80 RCW.  
organization of: Chapters 45.04, 45.08 RCW.  
supplies required: Chapter 45.28 RCW.  
townsites on United States lands, acquisition of lands by inhabitants: Chapter 58.28 RCW.  
tuberculosis fund: Chapter 70.32 RCW.  
unemployment compensation contributions, lien for: RCW 50.24.050.  
vehicle licensing: RCW 46.01.130, 46.01.140, 46.01.270.  
veterans' meeting place, rent by county: RCW 73.04.080.  
veterans' relief: Chapter 73.08 RCW.  
water districts  
annexation of property to: Chapter 57.24 RCW.  
consolidation of: Chapter 57.32 RCW.

*funds of: Chapter 57.20 RCW.*

*generally: Title 57 RCW.*

*merger of: Chapter 57.36 RCW.*

*transfer of part: RCW 57.32.160.*

*withdrawal of territory from: Chapter 57.28 RCW.*

*water rights certificates: RCW 90.03.330.*

*water rights, United States: Chapter 90.40 RCW.*

*weed districts: Chapter 17.04 RCW.*

*workers' compensation contributions, liens for: RCW 51.16.170.*

*Election of, special canvass (of votes) for: RCW 29.62.030.*

*Eminent domain by*

*cities of county land, auditor served: RCW 8.12.080.*

*state, decree of appropriation filed with auditor: RCW 8.04.120.*

*state of county land, notice of served on auditor: RCW 8.04.020.*

*Mobile home identification tags, issuance: RCW 46.01.130, 46.01.140.*

*Motor vehicle licensing: RCW 46.01.130, 46.01.140, 46.01.270.*

*Plats, validation of defective city or town plats in office of: Chapter 58.10 RCW.*

*Public lands, sales and lease of, duties of auditor in certain counties transferred to treasurer: RCW 79.08.170.*

*Public lands and materials on, sale of, auditor as auctioneer: RCW 79.01.204.*

*Reclamation district commission, auditor as clerk of: RCW 89.30.058.*

*Registrar of titles*

*auditor as: RCW 65.12.050.*

*not to practice law, when: RCW 65.12.065.*

*Summons for claim against county served on auditor: RCW 4.28.080.*

*Support of dependent children, auditor to charge no fees in connection with: RCW 74.20.300.*

*Taxes, property, penalty for nonperformance of duty: RCW 84.09.040.*

*Television reception improvement districts, auditor's duties: Chapter 36.95 RCW.*

*Temporary gate across highways, auditor to grant permit for, when: RCW 16.60.085.*

*Veterans, auditor to furnish marital status certificates to free: RCW 73.04.120.*

*Veterans' discharge, auditor to record without fee: RCW 73.04.030 through 73.04.042.*

*Veterans' pension papers, auditor to charge no fee: RCW 73.04.010.*

### **36.22.010 Duties of auditor.** The county auditor:

(1) Shall be recorder of deeds and other instruments in writing which by law are to be filed and recorded in and for the county for which he is elected;

(2) Shall examine and settle the accounts of all persons indebted to the county or who hold money payable into the county treasury, certify the amount to the treasurer, and give to the person paying, a discharge upon presentation and filing of the treasurer's receipt therefor, charging the treasurer with the amount;

(3) Shall keep an account current with the county treasurer, charge him with all money received as shown by his receipts issued and credit him with all disbursements paid out according to the record of settlement of the treasurer with the board of county commissioners;

(4) Shall make out and transmit to the state auditor a complete statement of the state fund account with the county for the past fiscal year certified by his certificate and seal, immediately after the completion of the annual settlement of the county treasurer with the board of county commissioners.

This statement shall show:

The total amount of tax levy for the current year as returned on the original assessment roll;

The amount of the supplemental taxes levied by the treasurer;

The amount collected from delinquent tax rolls of previous years, since the last report;

The amount of errors, double assessments, and rebates allowed on settlement of the treasurer with the board of county commissioners;

The amount paid to the state treasurer since the last annual settlement and all such other credits as the county may be entitled to receive in abatement of state taxes;

The balance of the delinquent tax account for the current year.

(5) Shall make a complete exhibit of the finances of the county immediately after the July settlement between the county treasurer and the county commissioners. He shall cause the exhibit to be published in some newspaper printed within the county; if there is none, he shall post the exhibit in a conspicuous place in his office.

The exhibit shall show:

The amount of taxes assessed in the county for the preceding year for state, county, road, bridge, school, and other purposes;

The amount of taxes collected on such assessment;

The amount of money received from other sources;

The amount received into the treasury;

The amount still due and not collected;

The number of warrants issued, the several purposes for which they were issued, the amount for each purpose, and the total amount;

The total amount of warrants redeemed;

The amount of outstanding warrants;

The present condition of the treasury;

Remarks.

(6) Shall make out a register of all warrants legally authorized and directed to be issued by any superior court cost bill, not earlier than ten days after receipt thereof, or by the board of county commissioners at any regular, adjourned, or special meeting thereof, not earlier than ten days after adjournment. He shall also make out a certified copy of the register of warrants under his hand and seal and deliver it forthwith to the county treasurer who shall record it in a book kept for that purpose. The auditor shall file and carefully preserve the original in his office for future reference. The register of warrants shall be part of the records of the county.

(7) Shall examine the books of the treasurer between the first and tenth of each month and see that they have been correctly kept.

(8) As clerk of the board of county commissioners, shall:

Record all of the proceedings of the board;

Make full entries of all of their resolutions and decisions on all questions concerning the raising of money for and the allowance of accounts against the county;

Record the vote of each member on any question upon which there is a division or at the request of any member present;

Sign all orders made and warrants issued by order of the board for the payment of money;

Record the reports of the county treasurer of the receipts and disbursements of the county;

Preserve and file all accounts acted upon by the board;

Preserve and file all petitions and applications for franchises and record the action of the board thereon;

Record all orders levying taxes;

Perform all other duties required by any rule or order of the board. [1984 c 128 § 2; 1963 c 4 § 36.22.010. Prior: 1955 c 157 § 9; prior: (i) Code 1881 § 2707; 1869 p 310 §§ 1, 2, 3; 1863 p 549 §§ 1, 2, 3; 1854 p 424 §§ 1, 2, 3; RRS § 4083. (ii) Code 1881 § 2709; RRS § 4085. (iii) Code 1881 § 2711; RRS § 4088. (iv) 1893 c 119 § 2; Code 1881 § 2712; 1869 p 311 § 6; 1863 p 550 § 6; 1854 p 425 § 6; RRS § 4089. (v) 1893 c 119 § 3; Code 1881 § 2571; RRS § 4090. (vi) 1893 c 119 § 4; Code 1881 § 2713; 1869 p 311 § 7; 1867 p 130 § 1; RRS § 4091. (vii) 1893 c 119 § 5; Code 1881 § 2714; 1869 p 311 § 8; 1867 p 131 § 2; RRS § 4092. (viii) 1893 c 119 § 7; Code 1881 § 2718; 1869 p 312 § 13; RRS § 4095. (ix) Code 1881 § 2719; RRS § 4098. (x) 1893 c 119 § 8; Code 1881 § 2720; RRS § 4099.]

**36.22.020 Publisher of commission proceedings—Custodian of commissioners' seal.** It shall be the duty of the county auditor of each county, within fifteen days after the adjournment of each regular term, to publish a summary of the proceedings of the board of county commissioners at such term, in any newspaper published in the county or having a general circulation therein, or the auditor may post copies of such proceedings in three of the most public places in the county. The seal of the county commissioners for each county, used by the county auditor as clerk to attest the proceedings of the board of county commissioners, shall be and remain in the custody of the county auditor as clerk of the board, and said auditor is hereby authorized to use such seal in attestation of all his official acts, whether as clerk of said board, as auditor or recorder of deeds; and all certificates, exemplifications of records, or other acts by him performed as county auditor, certified under the seal of said county commissioners, heretofore made or hereafter to be made pursuant to this section, in this state, shall be as valid and legally binding as though attested by a seal of office of the said county auditor. [1963 c 4 § 36.22.020. Prior: Code 1881 § 2724; 1869 p 313 § 17; RRS §§ 4102, 4103. Formerly RCW 36.16.080, 36.22.020, and 36.22.130.]

**36.22.030 May administer oaths.** Auditors and their deputies may administer oaths necessary in the performance of their duties and in all other cases where oaths are required by law to be administered and take acknowledgments of deeds and other instruments in writing: PROVIDED, That any deputy county auditor, in administering such oath or taking such acknowledgment, shall certify to the same in his own name as deputy, and not in the name of his principal, and shall attach thereto the seal of the office: PROVIDED, That all oaths administered or acknowledgments taken by any deputy of any county auditor certifying to the same in the name of his principal by himself as such deputy, prior to the taking effect of chapter 119, Laws of 1893 be and the same are hereby legalized and made valid and binding. [1963 c 4 § 36.22.030. Prior: 1893 c 119 § 6; Code 1881 § 2717; 1869 p 312 § 11; 1863 p 550 § 8; 1854 p 425 § 8; RRS § 4094.]

**36.22.040 Duty to audit claims against county.** The county auditor shall audit all claims, demands, and accounts against the county which by law are chargeable to the

county, except such cost or fee bills as are by law to be examined or approved by some other judicial tribunal or officer. Such claims as it is his duty to audit shall be presented to the board of county commissioners for their examination and allowance. [1963 c 4 § 36.22.040. Prior: 1893 c 119 § 1, part; Code 1881 § 2710, part; 1869 p 310 § 5, part; 1863 p 549 § 5, part; 1854 p 425 § 5, part; RRS § 4086, part.]

**36.22.050 Issuance of warrants—Multiple warrants.** For claims allowed by the county commissioners, and also for cost bills and other lawful claims duly approved by the competent tribunal designated by law for their allowance, he shall draw a warrant on the county treasurer, made payable to the claimant or his order, bearing date from the time of and regularly numbered in the order of their issue. If there is not sufficient cash in the county treasury to cover such claims or cost bills, or if a claimant requests, the auditor may issue a number of smaller warrants, the total principal amounts of which shall equal the amount of said claim or cost bill. [1975 c 31 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 87 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.22.050. Prior: (i) 1893 c 119 § 1, part; Code 1881 § 2710, part; 1869 p 310 § 5, part; 1863 p 549 § 5, part; 1854 p 425 § 5, part; RRS § 4086, part. (ii) 1893 c 48 § 2; RRS § 4087.]

**36.22.060 Record of warrants.** He shall carefully keep proper warrant books, and when a warrant is issued the stub shall be carefully retained, upon which shall be recorded the number, date, name of payee, amount, nature of claims or services briefly stated and by whom allowed. In all cases where multiple warrants are issued for one claim the auditor must preserve as many stub entries as there have been warrants issued, noting upon each stub the claim for which it was issued and the number of warrants which aggregate the amount of the entire claim allowed. [1963 c 4 § 36.22.060. Prior: 1893 c 119 § 1, part; Code 1881 § 2710, part; 1869 p 310 § 5, part; 1863 p 549 § 5, part; 1854 p 425 § 5, part; RRS § 4086, part.]

**36.22.070 Original claims to be retained.** He shall also retain all original bills and indorse thereon claimant's name, nature of claim, the action had, and if a warrant was issued, date and number the voucher or claim the same as the warrant. [1963 c 4 § 36.22.070. Prior: 1893 c 119 § 1, part; Code 1881 § 2710, part; 1869 p 310 § 5, part; 1863 p 549 § 5, part; 1854 p 425 § 5, part; RRS § 4086, part.]

**36.22.080 Claims of auditor.** All claims of the county auditor against the county for services shall be audited and allowed by the board of county commissioners as other claims are audited and allowed. Such warrants shall in all respects be audited, approved, issued, numbered, registered, and paid the same as any other county warrant. [1963 c 4 § 36.22.080. Prior: 1893 c 119 § 1, part; Code 1881 § 2710, part; 1869 p 310 § 5, part; 1863 p 549 § 5, part; 1854 p 425 § 5, part; RRS § 4086, part.]

**36.22.090 Warrants of political subdivisions.** All warrants for the payment of claims against diking, ditch, drainage and irrigation districts and school districts of the

second class, who do not issue their own warrants, as well as political subdivisions within the county for which no other provision is made by law, shall be drawn and issued by the county auditor of the county wherein such subdivision is located upon vouchers properly approved by the governing body thereof. [1975 c 43 § 31; 1973 c 111 § 4; 1963 c 4 § 36.22.090. Prior: 1915 c 74 § 1; RRS § 4096.]

**Effective date—Severability—1975 c 43:** See notes following RCW 28A.315.230.

**Severability—1973 c 111:** See note following RCW 28A.330.230.

**36.22.100 Cancellation of unclaimed warrants.** Registered or interest bearing county warrants not presented within one year of the date of their call, and all other county warrants not presented within one year of the date of their issue shall be canceled by the legislative authority of the county and the auditor and treasurer of the county shall cancel all record of such warrants, so as to leave the funds as if such warrants had never been drawn. [1971 ex.s. c 120 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.22.100. Prior: 1909 c 170 § 1; 1886 p 161 § 1; RRS § 4097.]

**36.22.110 Auditor cannot act as attorney or lobbyist—Incompatibility.** The person holding the office of county auditor, or deputy, or performing its duties, shall not practice as an attorney or represent any person who is making any claim against the county, or who is seeking to procure any legislative or other action by the board of county commissioners. The county auditor, during his term of office, and any deputy appointed by him is disqualified from performing the duties of any other county officer or acting as deputy for any other county officer. Nor shall any other county officer or his deputy act as auditor or deputy, or perform any of the duties of said office. [1963 c 4 § 36.22.110. Prior: Code 1881 § 2722; 1869 p 312 § 12; 1863 p 550 § 9; 1854 p 425 § 9; RRS § 4100.]

**36.22.120 Temporary clerk may be appointed.** In case the auditor is unable to attend to the duties of his office during any session of the board of county commissioners, and has no deputy by him appointed in attendance, the board may temporarily appoint a suitable person not by law disqualified from acting as such to perform the auditor's duties. [1963 c 4 § 36.22.120. Prior: Code 1881 § 2723; 1869 p 313 § 15; 1863 p 550 § 12; 1854 p 425 § 11; RRS § 4101.]

**36.22.140 Auditor deputy state supervisor.** Each county auditor shall be ex officio deputy supervisor of the division of municipal corporations and in such capacity shall be under the direction of the chief supervisor, but he shall receive no additional salary or compensation by virtue thereof and shall perform no duties as such, except in connection with county business. [1963 c 4 § 36.22.140. Prior: 1909 c 76 § 12; RRS § 9962.]

**36.22.150 Duty of retiring auditor or his representative in case of death.** Each auditor, on retiring from office, shall deliver to his successor the seal of office and all the books, records, and instruments of writing belonging to the office, and take his receipt therefor. In case of the death

of the auditor, his legal representatives shall deliver over the seal, books, records and papers. [1963 c 4 § 36.22.150. Prior: Code 1881 § 2725; 1869 p 314 § 22; RRS § 4104.]

**36.22.160 Copying, preserving, and indexing documents.** Each county auditor is hereby authorized to provide for the installation and thereafter for the maintenance of an improved system for copying, preserving, and indexing documents recorded in the county. Such a system may utilize the latest technology including, but not limited to, photomicrographic and computerized electronic digital storage methodology. The initial installation of the improved system shall include the following:

(1) The acquisition, installation, operation, and maintenance of the equipment provided for in the definition above; and

(2) The establishment of procedures for the continued preservation, indexing, and filing of all instruments and records that will, after the effective installation date, constitute a part of the improved system. [1989 c 204 § 2.]

**Reviser's note:** 1989 c 204 § 7 directed that this section be added to chapter 36.18 RCW. This placement appears inappropriate and the section has been codified as a part of chapter 36.22 RCW.

**Findings—1989 c 204:** "The legislature, finding in this centennial year that many old documents recorded or filed with county officials are deteriorating due to age and environmental degradation and that such documents require preservation in the public interest before they are irreparably damaged, enacts the centennial document preservation act of 1989." [1989 c 204 § 1.]

**36.22.170 Surcharge for preservation of historical documents—Fifty percent to state treasurer—Creation of account.** A surcharge of two dollars per instrument shall be charged by the county auditor for each document recorded, which will be in addition to any other charge authorized by law. Fifty percent of the revenue generated through this surcharge shall be transmitted monthly to the state treasurer who shall distribute such funds to each county treasurer within the state in July of each year in accordance with the formula described in RCW 36.22.190. The county treasurer shall place the funds received in a special account titled the auditor's centennial document preservation and modernization account to be used solely for ongoing preservation of historical documents of all county offices and departments and shall not be added to the county current expense fund. Fifty percent of the revenue generated by this surcharge shall be retained by the county and deposited in the auditor's operation and maintenance fund for ongoing preservation of historical documents of all county offices and departments.

The centennial document preservation and modernization account is hereby created in the custody of the state treasurer and shall be classified as a treasury trust account. State distributions from the centennial document preservation and modernization account shall be made without appropriation. [1993 c 37 § 1; 1989 c 204 § 3.]

**Findings—1989 c 204:** See note following RCW 36.22.160.

**36.22.190 Distribution of funds.** After deduction of those costs of the state treasurer that are described under \*RCW 36.22.180, the balance of the funds will be distributed to the counties according to the following formula: One-half of the funds available shall be equally distributed among

the thirty-nine counties; and the balance will be distributed among the counties in direct proportion to their population as it relates to the total state's population based on the most recent population statistics. [1989 c 204 § 5.]

**Reviser's note:** (1) 1989 c 204 § 7 directed that this section be added to chapter 36.18 RCW. This placement appears inappropriate and the section has been codified as a part of chapter 36.22 RCW.

\*(2) RCW 36.22.180 was repealed by 1991 sp.s. c 13 § 122, effective July 1, 1991.

**Findings—1989 c 204:** See note following RCW 36.22.160.

**36.22.200 Action for change of name—Filing and recording.** Upon receipt of the fee and the name change order from the district court as provided in RCW 4.24.130, the county auditor shall file and record the name change order. [1992 c 30 § 2.]

**36.22.210 Process servers—Registration—Fees.** (1) Each county auditor shall develop a registration process to register process servers required to register under RCW 18.180.010.

(2) The county auditor may collect an annual registration fee from the process server not to exceed ten dollars.

(3) The office of the administrator for the courts shall develop a registration form for the county auditors to use in the registration process for the purpose of identifying and locating the registrant, including the process server's name, birthdate, and social security number, and the process server's business name, business address, and business telephone number.

(4) The county auditor shall maintain a register of process servers and assign a number to each registrant. Upon renewal of the registration as required in RCW 18.180.020, the auditor shall continue to assign the same registration number. A successor entity composed of one or more registrants shall be permitted to transfer one or more registration numbers to the new entity. [1992 c 125 § 2.]

**Construction—1992 c 125:** See RCW 18.180.900.

**36.22.220 Election assistants, deputies—Appointment, qualifications.** The county auditor of each county, as ex officio supervisor of all primaries and elections, general or special, within the county under Title 29 RCW, may appoint one or more well-qualified persons to act as assistants or deputies; however, not less than two persons of the auditor's office who conduct primaries and elections in the county shall be certified under chapter 29.60 RCW as elections administrators. [1992 c 163 § 12.]

**Effective date—1992 c 163 §§ 5-13:** See note following RCW 29.60.030.

**36.22.230 Election assistants, deputies—Additional qualifications.** Each deputy or assistant appointed under RCW 36.22.220 shall have been graduated from an accredited high school or shall have passed a high school equivalency examination. Each shall be knowledgeable in the rules and laws of conducting elections. [1992 c 163 § 13.]

**Effective date—1992 c 163 §§ 5-13:** See note following RCW 29.60.030.

## Chapter 36.23 COUNTY CLERK

### Sections

- 36.23.020 New bond may be required.
- 36.23.030 Records to be kept.
- 36.23.040 Custody and delivery of records.
- 36.23.065 Destruction and reproduction of court records—Destruction of receipts for expenses under probate proceedings.
- 36.23.067 Reproduced court records have same force and effect as original.
- 36.23.070 Destruction of court exhibits—Preservation for historical purposes.
- 36.23.080 Office at county seat.
- 36.23.090 Search for birth parents—County clerk's duty.

*Civil actions, generally, clerk's duties: Title 4 RCW.*

### County clerk

*as clerk of superior court: State Constitution Art. 4 § 26.  
not to practice law: RCW 2.32.090.  
powers and duties: RCW 2.32.050.*

*Dissolution of inactive port districts: Chapter 53.47 RCW.*

*Execution docket, clerk to keep: RCW 4.64.060.*

*Judgment journal, clerk to keep: RCW 4.64.030.*

*Judgment roll, clerk to keep: RCW 4.64.040.*

*Lien foreclosure, clerk's duties: Chapter 84.64 RCW.*

*Oaths, clerk may administer: RCW 5.28.010.*

*Official bonds filed with: RCW 42.08.100.*

*Record index, clerk to keep: RCW 4.64.070.*

*Registration of land titles, clerk's duties: Chapter 65.12 RCW.*

*Support of dependent children, clerk to charge no fees in connection with: RCW 74.20.300.*

*Tax warrants, clerk's duties: Chapter 82.32 RCW.*

*Telegraphic copies as evidence, clerk to certify: RCW 5.52.050.*

*Veterans, clerk to furnish marital status certificates to free: RCW 73.04.120.*

*Witness fees and expenses, civil proceedings, clerk's duties: Chapter 2.40 RCW, RCW 5.56.010.*

**36.23.020 New bond may be required.** When the judge or judges of any court, or a majority of them, believe that the clerk of the court does not have a good and sufficient bond on file, or that the bond is not large enough in amount, such judge or judges shall enter an order requiring him, within such time as may be specified in the order, to execute and present to them a good and sufficient bond, in such sum as may be fixed by the order. In case of his failure to file the bond within ten days from the expiration of the date fixed the judge or judges shall declare the office vacant. [1963 c 4 § 36.23.020. Prior: 1895 c 53 § 3; RRS § 72.]

**36.23.030 Records to be kept.** The clerk of the superior court at the expense of the county shall keep the following records:

(1) A record in which he shall enter all appearances and the time of filing all pleadings in any cause;

(2) A docket in which before every session, he shall enter the titles of all causes pending before the court at that session in the order in which they were commenced, beginning with criminal cases, noting in separate columns the names of the attorneys, the character of the action, the pleadings on which it stands at the commencement of the session. One copy of this docket shall be furnished for the

use of the court and another for the use of the members of the bar;

(3) A record for each session in which he shall enter the names of witnesses and jurors, with time of attendance, distance of travel, and whatever else is necessary to enable him to make out a complete cost bill;

(4) A record in which he shall record the daily proceedings of the court, and enter all verdicts, orders, judgments, and decisions thereof, which may, as provided by local court rule, be signed by the judge; but the court shall have full control of all entries in said record at any time during the session in which they were made;

(5) An execution docket and also one for a final record in which he shall make a full and perfect record of all criminal cases in which a final judgment is rendered, and all civil cases in which by any order or final judgment the title to real estate, or any interest therein, is in any way affected, and such other final judgments, orders, or decisions as the court may require;

(6) A journal in which shall be entered all orders, decrees, and judgments made by the court and the minutes of the court in probate proceedings;

(7) A record of wills and bonds shall be maintained. Originals shall be placed in the original file and shall be preserved or duplicated pursuant to RCW 36.23.065;

(8) A record of letters testamentary, administration and guardianship in which all letters testamentary, administration and guardianship shall be recorded;

(9) A record of claims shall be entered in the appearance docket under the title of each estate or case, stating the name of each claimant, the amount of his claim and the date of filing of such;

(10) A memorandum of the files, in which at least one page shall be given to each estate or case, wherein shall be noted each paper filed in the case, and the date of filing each paper;

(11) Such other records as are prescribed by law and required in the discharge of the duties of his office. [1987 c 363 § 3; 1967 ex.s. c 34 § 2; 1963 c 4 § 36.23.030. Prior: (i) 1923 c 130 § 1; Code 1881 § 2179; 1863 p 417 § 6; 1854 p 366 § 6; RRS § 75. (ii) 1917 c 156 § 2; RRS § 1372. (iii) 1917 c 156 § 57; Code 1881 § 1384; 1863 p 219 § 118; 1860 p 181 § 85; RRS § 1427. (iv) 1917 c 156 § 72; Code 1881 § 1411; 1863 p 221 § 130; 1860 p 183 § 97; RRS § 1442.]

**36.23.040 Custody and delivery of records.** The clerk shall be responsible for the safe custody and delivery to his successor of all books and papers belonging to his office. [1963 c 4 § 36.23.040. Prior: Code 1881 § 2181; 1863 p 418 § 8; 1854 p 367 § 8; RRS § 76.]

**36.23.065 Destruction and reproduction of court records—Destruction of receipts for expenses under probate proceedings.** Notwithstanding any other law relating to the destruction of court records, the county clerk may cause to be destroyed all documents, records, instruments, books, papers, depositions, and transcripts, in any action or proceeding in the superior court, or otherwise filed in his office pursuant to law, if all of the following conditions exist:

(1) The county clerk maintains for the use of the public a photographic film, microphotographic, photostatic or similar reproduction of each document, record, instrument, book, paper, deposition, or transcript so destroyed: PROVIDED, That all receipts and canceled checks filed by a personal representative pursuant to RCW 11.76.100 may be removed from the file by order of the court and destroyed the same as an exhibit pursuant to RCW 36.23.070.

(2) At the time of the taking of said photographic film, microphotographic, photostatic or similar reproduction, the county clerk or other person under whose direction and control the same was taken, attached thereto, or to the sealed container in which the same was placed and has been kept, or incorporated in said photographic film, microphotographic, photostatic or similar reproduction, a certification that the copy is a correct copy of the original, or of a specified part thereof, as the case may be, the date on which taken, and the fact it was taken under his direction and control. The certificate must be under the official seal of the certifying officer, if there be any, or if he be the clerk of a court having a seal, under the seal of such court.

(3) The county clerk promptly seals and stores at least one original negative of each such photographic film, microphotographic, photostatic or similar reproduction in such manner and place as reasonably to assure its preservation indefinitely against loss, theft, defacement, or destruction. [1981 c 277 § 10; 1973 c 14 § 1; 1971 c 29 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.23.065. Prior: 1957 c 201 § 1.]

**36.23.067 Reproduced court records have same force and effect as original.** Any print, whether enlarged or not, from any photographic film, including any photographic plate, microphotographic film, or photostatic negative or similar reproduction, of any original record, document, instrument, book, paper, deposition or transcript which has been processed in accordance with the provisions of RCW 36.23.065, and has been certified by the county clerk under his official seal as a true copy, may be used in all instances, including introduction in evidence in any judicial or administrative proceeding, that the original record, document, instrument, book, paper, deposition or transcript might have been used, and shall have the full force and effect of said original for all purposes. [1963 c 4 § 36.23.067. Prior: 1957 c 201 § 2.]

**36.23.070 Destruction of court exhibits—Preservation for historical purposes.** A county clerk may at any time more than six years after the entry of final judgment in any action apply to the superior court for an authorizing order and, upon such order being signed and entered, turn such exhibits of possible value over to the sheriff for disposal in accordance with the provisions of chapter 63.40 RCW, and destroy any other exhibits, unopened depositions, and reporters' notes which have theretofore been filed in such cause: PROVIDED, That reporters' notes in criminal cases must be preserved for at least fifteen years: PROVIDED FURTHER, That any exhibits which are deemed to possess historical value may be directed to be delivered by the clerk to libraries or historical societies. [1981 c 154 § 1; 1973 c 14 § 2; 1967 ex.s. c 34 § 3; 1963



c 4 § 36.23.070. Prior: 1957 c 201 § 3; 1947 c 277 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 81-1.]

**36.23.080 Office at county seat.** The office of the clerk of the superior court shall be kept at the county seat of the county of which he is clerk. [1963 c 4 § 36.23.080. Prior: 1891 c 57 § 1; RRS § 73, part. Cf. Code 1881 § 2125.]

**36.23.090 Search for birth parents—County clerk's duty.** The county clerk shall provide the name and telephone number of at least one resource to assist adopted persons who are searching for birth parents, or birth parents who are searching for children they have relinquished, if these resources have contacted the clerk's office and requested that their name be made available to persons making inquiry. [1990 c 146 § 10.]

## Chapter 36.24 COUNTY CORONER

### Sections

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**36.24.010 To act as sheriff under certain conditions.** The coroner shall perform the duties of the sheriff in all

cases where the sheriff is interested or otherwise incapacitated from serving; and whenever the coroner acts as sheriff he shall possess the powers and perform all the duties of sheriff, and shall be liable on his official bond in like manner as the sheriff would be, and shall be entitled to the same fees as are allowed by law to the sheriff for similar services: PROVIDED, That nothing herein contained shall prevent the court from appointing a suitable person to discharge such duties, as provided by RCW 36.28.090. [1963 c 4 § 36.24.010. Prior: 1897 c 21 § 1; Code 1881 § 2776; 1863 p 559 § 2; 1854 p 436 § 2; RRS § 4180.]

**36.24.020 Inquests.** Any coroner, in his or her discretion, may hold an inquest if the coroner suspects that the death of a person was unnatural, or violent, or resulted from unlawful means, or from suspicious circumstances, or was of such a nature as to indicate the possibility of death by the hand of the deceased or through the instrumentality of some other person: PROVIDED, That, except under suspicious circumstances, no inquest shall be held following a traffic death.

The coroner in the county where an inquest is to be convened pursuant to this chapter shall notify the superior court to provide persons to serve as a jury of inquest to hear all the evidence concerning the death and to inquire into and render a true verdict on the cause of death. Jurors shall be selected and summoned in the same manner and shall have the same qualifications as specified in chapter 2.36 RCW. The prosecuting attorney having jurisdiction shall be notified in advance of any such inquest to be held, and at his discretion may be present at and assist the coroner in the conduct of the same. The coroner may adjourn the inquest from time to time as he may deem necessary.

The costs of inquests shall be borne by the county in which the inquest is held. [1988 c 188 § 18; 1963 c 4 § 36.24.020. Prior: 1953 c 188 § 3; Code 1881 § 2777; 1863 p 560 § 3; 1854 p 436 § 3; RRS § 4181.]

**Legislative findings—Severability—Effective date—1988 c 188:** See notes following RCW 2.36.010.

**36.24.030 Penalty for nonattendance of juror.** Every person summoned as a juror who fails to appear without having a reasonable excuse shall forfeit a sum not exceeding twenty dollars, to be recovered by the coroner, in the name of the state, before any district judge of the county. The penalty when collected shall be paid over to the county treasurer for the use of the county. [1987 c 202 § 202; 1963 c 4 § 36.24.030. Prior: Code 1881 § 2778; 1863 p 560 § 4; 1854 p 436 § 4; RRS § 4182.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**36.24.040 Duty of coroner's jury—Oath.** When four or more of the jurors attend, they shall be sworn by the coroner to inquire who the person was, and when, where, and by what means he came to his death, and into the circumstances attending his death, and to render a true verdict therein, according to the evidence afforded them, or arising from the inspection of the body. [1963 c 4 § 36.24.040. Prior: Code 1881 § 2779; 1863 p 560 § 5; 1854 p 436 § 5; RRS § 4183.]

**36.24.050 Power to summon witnesses—Subpoenas.** The coroner may issue subpoenas for witnesses returnable forthwith or at such time and place as the coroner may appoint, which may be served by any competent person. The coroner must summon and examine as witnesses, on oath administered by the coroner, every person, who, in his or her opinion or that of any of the jury, has any knowledge of the facts. A witness served with a subpoena may be compelled to attend and testify, or be punished by the coroner for disobedience, in like manner as upon a subpoena issued by a district judge. [1987 c 202 § 203; 1963 c 4 § 36.24.050. Prior: (i) 1901 c 131 § 1, part; Code 1881 § 2780, part; 1863 p 560 § 6, part; 1854 p 436 § 6, part; RRS § 4184, part. (ii) Code 1881 § 2781; 1863 p 560 § 7; 1854 p 437 § 7; RRS § 4186.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**36.24.060 Power to employ physician or surgeon—Compensation.** The coroner may summon a surgeon or physician to inspect the body and give under oath a professional opinion as to the cause of death. The fees for the coroner's physician or surgeon shall not be less than ten dollars. [1963 c 4 § 36.24.060. Prior: (i) 1901 c 131 § 1, part; Code 1881 § 2780, part; 1863 p 560 § 6, part; 1854 p 436 § 6, part; RRS § 4184, part.]

**36.24.070 Verdict of jury.** After hearing the testimony, the jury shall render its verdict and certify the same in writing signed by the jurors, and setting forth who the person killed is, if known, and when, where and by what means he came to his death; or if he was killed, or his death was occasioned by the act of another by criminal means, who is guilty thereof, if known. [1963 c 4 § 36.24.070. Prior: 1953 c 188 § 4; Code 1881 § 2782; 1863 p 560 § 8; 1854 p 437 § 8; RRS § 4187.]

**36.24.080 Testimony reduced to writing in certain cases and witnesses recognized.** In all cases where murder or manslaughter is supposed to have been committed, the testimony of witnesses taken before the coroner's jury shall be reduced to writing by the coroner, or under his direction, and he shall also recognize such witnesses to appear and testify in the superior court of the county, and shall forthwith file the written testimony, inquisition, and recognizance with the clerk of such court. [1963 c 4 § 36.24.080. Prior: Code 1881 § 2783; 1863 p 561 § 9; 1854 p 437 § 9; RRS § 4188.]

**36.24.090 Procedure where accused is under arrest.** If the person charged with the commission of the offense has been arrested before the inquisition has been filed, the coroner shall deliver the recognizance and the inquisition, with the testimony taken, to the magistrate before whom such person may be brought, who shall return the same, with the depositions and statements taken before him to the clerk of the superior court of the county. [1963 c 4 § 36.24.090. Prior: Code 1881 § 2784; 1863 p 561 § 10; 1854 p 437 § 10; RRS § 4189.]

**36.24.100 Procedure where accused is at large—Warrant of arrest.** If the jury finds that the person was

killed and the party committing the homicide is ascertained by the inquisition, but is not in custody, the coroner shall issue a warrant for the arrest of the person charged, returnable forthwith to the nearest magistrate. [1963 c 4 § 36.24.100. Prior: Code 1881 § 2785; 1863 p 561 § 11; 1854 p 437 § 11; RRS § 4190.]

**36.24.110 Form of warrant.** The coroner's warrant shall be in substantially the following form:

State of Washington, }  
County of . . . . . } ss.

To any sheriff or constable of the county.  
An inquisition having been this day found by the coroner's jury, before me, stating that A B has come to his death by the act of C D, by criminal means (or as the case may be, as found by the inquisition), you are therefore commanded, in the name of the state of Washington, forthwith to arrest the above named C D, and take him before the nearest or most accessible magistrate in this county.

Given under my hand this . . . . day of . . . . ., A.D. 19. . .

E F, coroner of the county of . . . . .

[1963 c 4 § 36.24.110. Prior: Code 1881 § 2786; 1863 p 561 § 12; 1854 p 437 § 12; RRS § 4191.]

**36.24.120 Service of warrant.** The coroner's warrant may be served in any county, and the officers serving it shall proceed thereon, in all respects, as upon a warrant of arrest. [1963 c 4 § 36.24.120. Prior: Code 1881 § 2787; 1863 p 561 § 13; 1854 p 438 § 13; RRS § 4192.]

**36.24.130 Property of deceased.** The coroner must, within thirty days after the inquest upon a dead body, deliver to the county treasurer any money or other property which may be found upon the body, unless claimed in the meantime by the legal representatives of the deceased. If he fails to do so, the treasurer may proceed against the coroner to recover the same by a civil action in the name of the county. [1963 c 4 § 36.24.130. Prior: Code 1881 § 2789; 1863 p 562 § 15; 1854 p 438 § 15; RRS § 4194.]

**36.24.140 Duty of treasurer.** Upon the delivery of money to the treasurer, he shall place it to the credit of the county. If it is property other than money, he shall, within thirty days, sell it at public auction, upon reasonable public notice, and place the proceeds to the credit of the county. [1963 c 4 § 36.24.140. Prior: Code 1881 § 2790; 1863 p 562 § 16; 1854 p 438 § 16; RRS § 4195.]

**36.24.150 Delivery to representatives.** If the money in the treasury is demanded within six years by the legal representatives of the deceased, the treasurer shall pay it to them after deducting the fees and expenses of the coroner and of the county in relation to the matter, or the same may be so paid at any time thereafter, upon the order of the board of county commissioners of the county. [1963 c 4 §

36.24.150. Prior: Code 1881 § 2791; 1863 p 562 § 17; 1854 p 438 § 17; RRS § 4196.]

**36.24.155 Undisposed of remains—Entrusting to funeral homes or mortuaries.** Whenever anyone shall die within a county without making prior plans for the disposition of his body and there is no other person willing to provide for the disposition of the body, the county coroner shall cause such body to be entrusted to a funeral home in the county where the body is found. Disposition shall be on a rotation basis, which shall treat equally all funeral homes or mortuaries desiring to participate, such rotation to be established by the coroner after consultation with representatives of the funeral homes or mortuaries in the county or counties involved. [1969 ex.s. c 259 § 2.]

*Undisposed of remains, disposition of: RCW 68.50.230.*

**36.24.160 District judge may act as coroner.** If the office of coroner is vacant, or the coroner is absent or unable to attend, the duties of the coroner's office may be performed by any district judge in the county with the like authority and subject to the same obligations and penalties as the coroner. For such service a district judge shall be entitled to the same fees, payable in the same manner. [1987 c 202 § 204; 1963 c 4 § 36.24.160. Prior: (i) Code 1881 § 2793; 1863 p 562 § 19; 1854 p 438 § 19; RRS § 4198. (ii) Code 1881 § 2795; 1863 p 562 § 21; 1854 p 438 § 21; RRS § 4199.]

*Intent—1987 c 202: See note following RCW 2.04.190.*

**36.24.170 Coroner not to practice law.** The coroner shall not appear or practice as attorney in any court, except in defense of himself or his deputies. [1963 c 4 § 36.24.170. Prior: 1891 c 45 § 4, part; Code 1881 § 2770, part; 1863 p 558 § 5, part; 1854 p 434 § 5, part; RRS § 4171, part.]

**36.24.175 Coroner not to be owner or employee of funeral home or mortuary—Counties with populations of forty thousand or more.** In each county with a population of forty thousand or more, no person shall be qualified for the office of county coroner as provided for in RCW 36.16.030 who is an owner or employee of any funeral home or mortuary. [1991 c 363 § 54; 1969 ex.s. c 259 § 3.]

*Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363: See notes following RCW 2.32.180.*

**36.24.180 Audit of coroner's account.** Before auditing and allowing the account of the coroner the board of county commissioners shall require from him a verified statement in writing, accounting for all money or other property found upon persons on whom inquests have been held by him, and that the money or property mentioned in it has been delivered to the legal representatives of the deceased, or to the county treasurer. [1963 c 4 § 36.24.180. Prior: Code 1881 § 2792; 1863 p 562 § 18; 1854 p 438 § 18; RRS § 4197.]

## Chapter 36.26 PUBLIC DEFENDER

### Sections

36.26.010	Definitions.
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36.26.030	Selection committee.
36.26.040	Public defender—Qualifications—Term.
36.26.050	Reports—Records—Costs and expenses.
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36.26.070	Duty to represent indigent defendants.
36.26.080	Duty to counsel, defend and prosecute appeals.
36.26.090	Appointment of attorney other than public defender.
36.26.900	Chapter cumulative and nonexclusive.

### 36.26.010 Definitions.

As used in this chapter:  
(1) "County commissioners" or "board of county commissioners" means and includes:

(a) Any single board of county commissioners, county council, or other governing body of any county which has neither a board of county commissioners nor a county council denominated as such; and

(b) The governing bodies, including any combination or mixture of more than one board of county commissioners, county council, or otherwise denominated governing body of a county, of any two or more contiguous counties electing to participate jointly in the support of any intercounty public defender.

(2) "District" or "public defender district" means any one or more entire counties electing to employ a public defender; and no county shall be divided in the creation of any public defender district. [1969 c 94 § 1.]

**36.26.020 Public defender district—Creation—Office of public defender.** The board of county commissioners of any single county or of any two or more territorially contiguous counties or acting in cooperation with the governing authority of any city located within the county or counties may, by resolution or by ordinance, or by concurrent resolutions or concurrent ordinances, constitute such county or counties or counties and cities as a public defender district, and may establish an office of public defender for such district. [1969 c 94 § 2.]

**36.26.030 Selection committee.** The board of county commissioners of every county electing to become or to join in a public defender district shall appoint a selection committee for the purpose of selecting a full or part time public defender for the public defender district. Such selection committee shall consist of one member of each board of county commissioners, one member of the superior court from each county, and one practicing attorney from each county within the district. [1969 c 94 § 3.]

**36.26.040 Public defender—Qualifications—Term.** Every public defender and every assistant public defender must be a qualified attorney licensed to practice law in this state; and the term of the public defender shall coincide with the elected term of the prosecuting attorney. [1969 c 94 § 4.]

**36.26.050 Reports—Records—Costs and expenses.** The public defender shall make an annual report to each board of county commissioners within his district. If any public defender district embraces more than one county or a cooperating city, the public defender shall maintain records of expenses allocable to each county or city within the district, and shall charge such expenses only against the county or city for which the services were rendered or the costs incurred. The boards of county commissioners of counties and the governing authority of any city participating jointly in a public defender district are authorized to provide for the sharing of the costs of the district by mutual agreement, for any costs which cannot be specifically apportioned to any particular county or city within the district.

Expenditures by the public defender shall be subject to the provisions of chapter 36.40 RCW and other statutes relating to expenditures by counties or cities. [1969 c 94 § 5.]

**36.26.060 Compensation—Office—Assistants, clerks, investigators, etc.** (1) The board of county commissioners shall:

(a) Fix the compensation of the public defender and of any staff appointed to assist him in the discharge of his duties: PROVIDED, That the compensation of the public defender shall not exceed that of the county prosecutor in those districts which comprise only one county;

(b) Provide office space, furniture, equipment and supplies for the use of the public defender suitable for the conduct of his office in the discharge of his duties, or provide an allowance in lieu of facilities and supplies.

(2) The public defender may appoint as many assistant attorney public defenders, clerks, investigators, stenographers and other employees as the board of county commissioners considers necessary in the discharge of his duties as a public defender. [1969 c 94 § 6.]

**36.26.070 Duty to represent indigent defendants.** The public defender must represent, without charge to any accused, every indigent person who is or has been arrested or charged with a crime for which court appointed counsel for indigent defendants is required either under the Constitution of the United States or under the Constitution and laws of the state of Washington:

(1) If such arrested person or accused, having been apprised of his constitutional and statutory rights to counsel, requests the appointment of counsel to represent him; and

(2) If a court, on its own motion or otherwise, does not appoint counsel to represent the accused; and

(3) Unless the arrested person or accused, having been apprised of his right to counsel in open court, affirmatively rejects or intelligently repudiates his constitutional and statutory rights to be represented by counsel. [1984 c 76 § 18; 1969 c 94 § 7.]

**36.26.080 Duty to counsel, defend and prosecute appeals.** Whenever the public defender represents any indigent person held in custody without commitment or charged with any criminal offense, he must (1) counsel and defend such person, and (2) prosecute any appeals and other

remedies, whether before or after conviction, which he considers to be in the interests of justice. [1969 c 94 § 8.]

**36.26.090 Appointment of attorney other than public defender.** For good cause shown, or in any case involving a crime of widespread notoriety, the court may, upon its own motion or upon application of either the public defender or of the indigent accused, appoint an attorney other than the public defender to represent the accused at any stage of the proceedings or on appeal: PROVIDED, That the public defender may represent an accused, not an indigent, in any case of public notoriety where the court may find that adequate retained counsel is not available. The court shall award, and the county in which the offense is alleged to have been committed shall pay, such attorney reasonable compensation and reimbursement for any expenses reasonably and necessarily incurred in the presentation of the accused's defense or appeal, in accordance with RCW 4.88.330. [1984 c 76 § 19; 1983 c 3 § 76; 1969 c 94 § 9.]

**36.26.900 Chapter cumulative and nonexclusive.** The provisions of this chapter shall be cumulative and nonexclusive and shall not affect any other remedy, particularly in counties electing not to create the office of public defender: PROVIDED, That nothing herein shall be construed to prevent the appointment of a full time or part time assigned-counsel administrator for the purpose of maintaining a centrally administered system for the assignment of counsel to represent indigent persons. [1969 c 94 § 10.]

## Chapter 36.27

### PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

#### Sections

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**36.27.005 Defined.** Prosecuting attorneys are attorneys authorized by law to appear for and represent the state and the counties thereof in actions and proceedings before the courts and judicial officers. [1963 c 4 § 36.27.005. Prior: 1891 c 55 § 3; RRS § 113.]

**36.27.010 Eligibility to office.** No person shall be eligible to the office of prosecuting attorney in any county of this state, unless he is a qualified elector therein, and has been admitted as an attorney and counselor of the courts of this state. [1963 c 4 § 36.27.010. Prior: 1891 c 55 § 4; RRS § 4128. Cf. 1883 p 72 § 7.]

**36.27.020 Duties.** The prosecuting attorney shall:

(1) Be legal adviser of the board of county commissioners, giving them his or her written opinion when required by the board or the chairperson thereof touching any subject which the board may be called or required to act upon relating to the management of county affairs;

(2) Be legal adviser to all county and precinct officers and school directors in all matters relating to their official business, and when required draw up all instruments of an official nature for the use of said officers;

(3) Appear for and represent the state, county, and all school districts subject to the supervisory control and direction of the attorney general in all criminal and civil proceedings in which the state or the county or any school district in the county may be a party;

(4) Prosecute all criminal and civil actions in which the state or the county may be a party, defend all suits brought against the state or the county, and prosecute actions upon forfeited recognizances and bonds and actions for the recovery of debts, fines, penalties, and forfeitures accruing to the state or the county;

(5) Attend and appear before and give advice to the grand jury when cases are presented to it for consideration and draw all indictments when required by the grand jury;

(6) Institute and prosecute proceedings before magistrates for the arrest of persons charged with or reasonably suspected of felonies when the prosecuting attorney has information that any such offense has been committed and the prosecuting attorney shall for that purpose attend when required by them if the prosecuting attorney is not then in attendance upon the superior court;

(7) Carefully tax all cost bills in criminal cases and take care that no useless witness fees are taxed as part of the costs and that the officers authorized to execute process tax no other or greater fees than the fees allowed by law;

(8) Receive all cost bills in criminal cases before district judges at the trial of which the prosecuting attorney was not present, before they are lodged with the board of county

commissioners for payment, whereupon the prosecuting attorney may retax the same and the prosecuting attorney must do so if the board of county commissioners deems any bill exorbitant or improperly taxed;

(9) Present all violations of the election laws which may come to the prosecuting attorney's knowledge to the special consideration of the proper jury;

(10) Examine at least once in each year the public records and books of the auditor, assessor, treasurer, superintendent of schools, and sheriff of his or her county and report to the board of county commissioners every failure, refusal, omission, or neglect of such officers to keep such records and books as required by law;

(11) Examine once in each year the official bonds of all county and precinct officers and report to the board of county commissioners any defect in the bonds of any such officer;

(12) Make an annual report to the governor as of the 31st of December of each year setting forth the amount and nature of business transacted by the prosecuting attorney in that year with such other statements and suggestions as the prosecuting attorney may deem useful;

(13) Send to the state liquor control board at the end of each year a written report of all prosecutions brought under the state liquor laws in the county during the preceding year, showing in each case, the date of trial, name of accused, nature of charges, disposition of case, and the name of the judge presiding;

(14) Seek to reform and improve the administration of criminal justice and stimulate efforts to remedy inadequacies or injustice in substantive or procedural law. [1987 c 202 § 205; 1975 1st ex.s. c 19 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.27.020. Prior: (i) 1911 c 75 § 1; 1891 c 55 § 7; RRS § 116. (ii) 1886 p 65 § 5; 1883 p 73 § 10; Code 1881 § 2171; 1879 p 93 § 6; 1877 p 246 § 6; 1863 p 408 § 4; 1860 p 335 § 3; 1858 p 12 § 4; 1854 p 416 § 4; RRS § 4130. (iii) 1886 p 61 § 7; 1883 p 73 § 12; Code 1881 § 2168; 1879 p 94 § 8; 1877 p 247 § 8; RRS § 4131. (iv) 1886 p 61 § 8; 1883 p 74 § 13; Code 1881 § 2169; 1879 p 94 § 8; 1877 p 247 § 9; RRS § 4132. (v) 1886 p 61 § 9; 1883 p 74 § 14; Code 1881 § 2170; 1879 p 94 § 9; 1877 p 247 § 10; RRS § 4133. (vi) 1886 p 62 § 13; 1883 p 74 § 18; Code 1881 § 2165; 1879 p 95 § 13; 1877 p 248 § 14; 1863 p 409 § 5; 1860 p 334 § 4; 1858 p 12 § 5; 1854 p 417 § 5; RRS § 4134. (vii) Referendum No. 24; 1941 c 191 § 1; 1886 p 63 § 18; 1883 p 76 § 24; Code 1881 § 2146; 1879 p 96 § 18; RRS § 4136. (viii) Code 1881 § 3150; 1866 p 52 § 10; RRS § 4137. (ix) 1933 ex.s. c 62 § 81, part; RRS § 7306-81, part.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

*Annual report to include number of child abuse reports and cases:* RCW 26.44.075.

**36.27.030 Disability of prosecuting attorney.** When from illness or other cause the prosecuting attorney is temporarily unable to perform his duties, the court or judge may appoint some qualified person to discharge the duties of such officer in court until the disability is removed.

When any prosecuting attorney fails, from sickness or other cause, to attend a session of the superior court of his county, or is unable to perform his duties at such session, the court or judge may appoint some qualified person to dis-

charge the duties of such session, and the appointee shall receive a compensation to be fixed by the court, to be deducted from the stated salary of the prosecuting attorney, not exceeding, however, one-fourth of the quarterly salary of the prosecuting attorney: PROVIDED, That in counties wherein there is no person qualified for the position of prosecuting attorney, or wherein no qualified person will consent to perform the duties of that office, the judge of the superior court shall appoint some suitable person, a duly admitted and practicing attorney at law and resident of the state to perform the duties of prosecuting attorney for such county, and he shall receive such reasonable compensation for his services as shall be fixed and ordered by the court, to be paid by the county for which the services are performed. [1963 c 4 § 36.27.030. Prior: (i) 1891 c 55 § 5; RRS § 114. (ii) 1893 c 52 § 1; 1886 p 62 § 14; 1883 p 74 § 19; Code 1881 § 2166; 1879 p 95 § 14; 1877 p 248 § 15; 1863 p 409 § 6; 1860 p 335 § 5; 1858 p 13 § 6; 1854 p 417 § 6; RRS § 4135.]

**36.27.040 Appointment of deputies—Special and temporary deputies.** The prosecuting attorney may appoint one or more deputies who shall have the same power in all respects as their principal. Each appointment shall be in writing, signed by the prosecuting attorney, and filed in the county auditor's office. Each deputy thus appointed shall have the same qualifications required of the prosecuting attorney, except that such deputy need not be a resident of the county in which he serves. The prosecuting attorney may appoint one or more special deputy prosecuting attorneys upon a contract or fee basis whose authority shall be limited to the purposes stated in the writing signed by the prosecuting attorney and filed in the county auditor's office. Such special deputy prosecuting attorney shall be admitted to practice as an attorney before the courts of this state but need not be a resident of the county in which he serves and shall not be under the legal disabilities attendant upon prosecuting attorneys or their deputies except to avoid any conflict of interest with the purpose for which he has been engaged by the prosecuting attorney. The prosecuting attorney shall be responsible for the acts of his deputies and may revoke appointments at will.

Two or more prosecuting attorneys may agree that one or more deputies for any one of them may serve temporarily as deputy for any other of them on terms respecting compensation which are acceptable to said prosecuting attorneys. Any such deputy thus serving shall have the same power in all respects as if he were serving permanently.

The provisions of chapter 39.34 RCW shall not apply to such agreements. [1975 1st ex.s. c 19 § 2; 1963 c 4 § 36.27.040. Prior: 1959 c 30 § 1; 1943 c 35 § 1; 1903 c 7 § 1; 1891 c 55 § 6; 1886 p 63 § 17; 1883 p 76 § 23; Code 1881 § 2142; 1879 p 95 § 16; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 115.]

**36.27.045 Employment of legal interns.** Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, nothing in this chapter shall be deemed to prevent a prosecuting attorney from employing legal interns as otherwise authorized by statute or court rule. [1974 ex.s. c 6 § 1.]

**36.27.050 Special emoluments prohibited.** No prosecuting attorney shall receive any fee or reward from any person, on behalf of any prosecution, or for any of his official services, except as provided in this title, nor shall he be engaged as attorney or counsel for any party in any action depending upon the same facts involved in any criminal proceeding. [1963 c 4 § 36.27.050. Prior: 1888 p 189 § 1; 1886 p 62 § 12; 1883 p 74 § 17; Code 1881 § 2164; 1879 p 94 § 12; 1877 p 248 § 13; 1863 p 409 § 8; 1860 p 335 § 7; 1858 p 13 § 8; 1854 p 417 § 7; RRS § 4138.]

**36.27.060 Private practice prohibited in certain counties—Deputy prosecutors.** (1) The prosecuting attorney, and deputy prosecuting attorneys, of each county with a population of eighteen thousand or more shall serve full time and except as otherwise provided for in this section shall not engage in the private practice of law.

(2) Deputy prosecuting attorneys in a county with a population of from eighteen thousand to less than one hundred twenty-five thousand may serve part time and engage in the private practice of law if the county legislative authority so provides.

(3) Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, nothing in this section prohibits a prosecuting attorney or deputy prosecuting attorney in any county from:

(a) Performing legal services for himself or herself or his or her immediate family; or

(b) Performing legal services of a charitable nature.

(4) The legal services identified in subsection (3) of this section may not be performed if they would interfere with the duties of a prosecuting attorney, or deputy prosecuting attorney and no services that are performed shall be deemed within the scope of employment of a prosecutor or deputy prosecutor. [1991 c 363 § 55; 1989 c 39 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 86 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 237 § 2; 1969 ex.s. c 226 § 2; 1963 c 4 § 36.27.060. Prior: 1941 c 46 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 4139-1.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**Effective date—1973 1st ex.s. c 86:** "This 1973 amendatory act shall take effect on the second Monday in the month of January, 1975." [1973 1st ex.s. c 86 § 2.]

**Severability—Effective date—1971 ex.s. c 237:** See notes following RCW 36.17.020.

**36.27.070 Office at county seat.** The prosecuting attorney of each county in the state of Washington must keep an office at the county seat of the county of which he is prosecuting attorney. [1963 c 4 § 36.27.070. Prior: 1909 c 122 § 1; RRS § 4139.]

**36.27.100 State-wide drug prosecution assistance program—Created.** The legislature recognizes that, due to the magnitude or volume of offenses in a given area of the state, there is a recurring need for supplemental assistance in the prosecuting of drug and drug-related offenses that can be directed to the area of the state with the greatest need for short-term assistance. A state-wide drug prosecution assistance program is created within the \*department of community development to assist county prosecuting attorneys in the prosecution of drug and drug-related offenses. [1989 c 271 § 236.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Powers, duties, and functions of the department of community development and the department of trade and economic development were transferred to the department of community, trade, and economic development by 1993 c 280, effective July 1, 1994.

**Severability—1989 c 271:** See note following RCW 9.94A.310.

**36.27.110 State-wide drug prosecution assistance program—Advisory committee—Selection of project director.** There is established a state-wide advisory committee comprised of the attorney general, the chief of the Washington state patrol, both United States attorneys whose offices are located in Washington state, and three county prosecuting attorneys appointed by the Washington association of prosecuting attorneys, who will also act as supervising attorneys. The state-wide advisory committee shall select one of the supervising attorneys to act as project director of the drug prosecution assistance program. [1989 c 271 § 237.]

**Severability—1989 c 271:** See note following RCW 9.94A.310.

**36.27.120 State-wide drug prosecution assistance program—Personnel—Review of assignments—Supervision of special deputies.** The project director of the drug prosecution assistance program shall employ up to five attorneys to act as special deputy prosecuting attorneys. A county or counties may request the assistance of one or more of the special deputy prosecuting attorneys. The project director after consultation with the advisory committee shall determine the assignment of the special deputy prosecutors. Within funds appropriated for this purpose, the project director may also employ necessary support staff and purchase necessary supplies and equipment.

The advisory committee shall regularly review the assignment of the special deputy prosecuting attorneys to ensure that the program's impact on the drug abuse problem is maximized.

During the time a special deputy prosecuting attorney is assigned to a county, the special deputy is under the direct supervision of the county prosecuting attorney for that county. The advisory committee may reassign a special deputy at any time: PROVIDED, That adequate notice must be given to the county prosecuting attorney if the special deputy is involved in a case scheduled for trial. [1989 c 271 § 238.]

**Severability—1989 c 271:** See note following RCW 9.94A.310.

## Chapter 36.28 COUNTY SHERIFF

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- 36.28.010 General duties.** The sheriff is the chief executive officer and conservator of the peace of the county. In the execution of his office, he and his deputies:
- (1) Shall arrest and commit to prison all persons who break the peace, or attempt to break it, and all persons guilty of public offenses;
  - (2) Shall defend the county against those who, by riot or otherwise, endanger the public peace or safety;
  - (3) Shall execute the process and orders of the courts of justice or judicial officers, when delivered for that purpose, according to law;
  - (4) Shall execute all warrants delivered for that purpose by other public officers, according to the provisions of particular statutes;
  - (5) Shall attend the sessions of the courts of record held within the county, and obey their lawful orders or directions;
  - (6) Shall keep and preserve the peace in their respective counties, and quiet and suppress all affrays, riots, unlawful assemblies and insurrections, for which purpose, and for the service of process in civil or criminal cases, and in apprehending or securing any person for felony or breach of the

peace, they may call to their aid such persons, or power of their county as they may deem necessary. [1965 c 92 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.28.010. Prior: (i) 1891 c 45 § 1; RRS § 4157. (ii) Code 1881 § 2769; 1863 p 557 § 4; 1854 p 434 § 4; RRS § 4168.]

**36.28.011 Duty to make complaint.** In addition to the duties contained in RCW 36.28.010, it shall be the duty of all sheriffs to make complaint of all violations of the criminal law, which shall come to their knowledge, within their respective jurisdictions. [1963 c 4 § 36.28.011. Prior: 1955 c 10 § 1. Cf. Code 1881 § 2801, part; 1869 p 264 § 311, part; RRS § 4173, part.]

**36.28.020 Powers of deputies, regular and special.** Every deputy sheriff shall possess all the power, and may perform any of the duties, prescribed by law to be performed by the sheriff, and shall serve or execute, according to law, all process, writs, precepts, and orders, issued by lawful authority.

Persons may also be deputed by the sheriff in writing to do particular acts; including the service of process in civil or criminal cases, and the sheriff shall be responsible on his official bond for their default or misconduct. [1963 c 4 § 36.28.020. Prior: 1961 c 35 § 2; prior: (i) Code 1881 § 2767, part; 1871 p 110 § 1, part; 1863 p 557 § 2, part; 1854 p 434 § 2, part; RRS § 4160, part. (ii) 1886 p 174 § 1; Code 1881 § 2768; 1863 p 557 § 3; 1854 p 434 § 3; RRS § 4167.]

**36.28.025 Qualifications.** A person who files a declaration of candidacy for the office of sheriff after September 1, 1979, shall have, within twelve months of assuming office, a certificate of completion of a basic law enforcement training program which complies with standards adopted by the criminal justice training commission pursuant to RCW 43.101.080 and \*43.101.160.

This requirement does not apply to persons holding the office of sheriff in any county on September 1, 1979. [1979 ex.s. c 153 § 6.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 43.101.160 was repealed by 1983 c 197 § 55, effective June 30, 1987.

**36.28.030 New or additional bond of sheriff.** Whenever the company acting as surety on the official bond of a sheriff is disqualified, insolvent, or the penalty of the bond becomes insufficient on account of recovery had thereon, or otherwise, the sheriff shall submit a new or additional bond for approval to the board of county commissioners, if in session, or, if not in session, for the approval of the chairman of such board, and file the same, when approved, in the office of the county clerk of his county, and such new or additional bond shall be in a penal sum sufficient in amount to equal the sum specified in the original bond when added to the penalty of any existing bond, so that under one or more bonds there shall always be an enforceable obligation of the surety on the official bond or bonds of the sheriff in a penal sum of not less than the amount of the bond as originally approved. [1963 c 4 § 36.28.030. Prior: 1943 c 139 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 4155-1.]

**36.28.040 May demand fees in advance.** No sheriff, deputy sheriff, or coroner shall be liable for any damages for neglecting or refusing to serve any civil process unless his legal fees are first tendered him. [1963 c 4 § 36.28.040. Prior: 1941 c 237 § 1, part; 1935 c 33 § 1, part; Code 1881 § 2772, part; 1863 p 558 § 7, part; 1854 p 434 § 7, part; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 4172, part.]

**36.28.050 May demand indemnifying bond.** If any property levied upon by virtue of any writ of attachment or execution or other order issued to the sheriff out of any court in this state is claimed by any person other than the defendant, and such person or his agent or attorney makes affidavit of his title thereto or his right to possession thereof, stating the value thereof and the basis of such right or title, the sheriff may release such levy, unless the plaintiff on demand indemnifies the sheriff against such claim by an undertaking executed by a sufficient surety.

No claim to such property by any person other than the defendant shall be valid against the sheriff, unless the supporting affidavit is made. Notwithstanding receipt of a proper claim the sheriff shall retain such property under levy a reasonable time to demand such indemnity.

Any sheriff, or other levying officer, may require an indemnifying bond of the plaintiff in all cases where he has to take possession of personal property. [1963 c 4 § 36.28.050. Prior: 1941 c 237 § 1, part; 1935 c 33 § 1, part; Code 1881 § 2772, part; 1863 p 558 § 7, part; 1854 p 434 § 7, part; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 4172, part.]

**36.28.060 Duplicate receipts.** The sheriff shall make duplicate receipts for all payments for his services specifying the particular items thereof, at the time of payment, whether paid by virtue of the laws of this state or of the United States. Such duplicate receipts shall be numbered consecutively for each month commencing with number one. One of such receipts shall have written or printed upon it the word "original"; and the other shall have written or printed upon it the word "duplicate." [1963 c 4 § 36.28.060. Prior: (i) 1909 c 105 § 1; RRS § 4161. (ii) 1909 c 105 § 2; RRS § 4162.]

**36.28.070 Duplicate to payer.** At the time of payment of any fees, the sheriff shall deliver to the person making payment, either personally or by mail, the copy of the receipt designated "duplicate." [1963 c 4 § 36.28.070. Prior: 1909 c 105 § 3; RRS § 4163.]

**36.28.080 Original to be filed.** The receipts designated "original" for each month shall be attached to the verified statement of fees for the corresponding month and the sheriff shall file with the county treasurer of his county all original receipts for each month with such verified statement. A sheriff shall not receive his salary for the preceding month until the provisions of this section and RCW 36.28.060 and 36.28.070 have been complied with. [1963 c 4 § 36.28.080. Prior: (i) 1909 c 105 § 4; RRS § 4164. (ii) 1909 c 105 § 5; RRS § 4165.]

**36.28.090 Service of process when sheriff disqualified.** When there is no sheriff of a county, or he is disqualified.

fied from any cause from discharging any particular duty, it shall be lawful for the officer or person commanding or desiring the discharge of that duty to appoint some suitable person, a citizen of the county, to execute the same: PROVIDED, That final process shall in no case be executed by any person other than the legally authorized officer; or in case he is disqualified, some suitable person appointed by the court, or judge thereof, out of which the process issues, who shall make such appointment in writing; and before such appointment shall take effect, the person appointed shall give security to the party interested for the faithful performance of his duties, which bond of suretyship shall be in writing, approved by the court or judge appointing him, and be placed on file with the papers in the case. [1963 c 4 § 36.28.090. Prior: Code 1881 § 745; 1869 p 172 § 687; RRS § 4170.]

**36.28.100 Employment of prisoners.** The sheriff or director of public safety shall employ all able bodied persons sentenced to imprisonment in the county jail in such manner and at such places within the county as may be directed by the legislative authority of the county. [1973 1st ex.s. c 154 § 54; 1963 c 4 § 36.28.100. Prior: 1909 c 249 § 27; RRS § 2279.]

**Severability—1973 1st ex.s. c 154:** See note following RCW 2.12.030.

**36.28.110 Sheriff not to practice law.** No sheriff shall appear or practice as attorney in any court, except in their own defense. [1992 c 225 § 2; 1963 c 4 § 36.28.110. Prior: 1891 c 45 § 4, part; Code 1881 § 2770, part; 1863 p 558 § 5, part; 1854 p 434 § 5, part; RRS § 4171, part.]

**36.28.120 Duty of retiring sheriffs, constables and coroners—Successors' duties.** All sheriffs, constables and coroners, upon the completion of their term of office and the qualification of their successors, shall deliver and turn over to their successors all writs and other processes in their possession not wholly executed, and all personal property in their possession or under their control held under such writs or processes, and take receipts therefor in duplicate, one of which shall be filed in the office from which such writ or process issued as a paper in the action, which receipt shall be good and sufficient discharge to such officer of and from further charge of the execution of such writs and processes; and they shall also deliver to their successors all official papers and property in their possession or under their control. The successors shall execute or complete the execution of all such writs and processes, and finish and complete all business turned over to them. [1963 c 4 § 36.28.120. Prior: 1895 c 17 § 1; RRS § 4174.]

**36.28.130 Actions by successors and by officials after expiration of term of office validated.** In all cases where any sheriff, constable or coroner has executed any writ or other process delivered to him by his predecessor, or has completed any business commenced by his predecessor under any writ or process, and has completed any other business commenced by his predecessor, and in all cases where any sheriff, constable or coroner has executed any writ or other process, or completed any business connected

with his office after the expiration of his term of office, which writ or process he had commenced to execute, or which business he had commenced to perform, prior to the expiration of his term of office, such action shall be valid and effectual for all purposes. [1963 c 4 § 36.28.130. Prior: 1895 c 17 § 2; RRS § 4175.]

**36.28.140 Penalty for violation of RCW 36.28.060 through 36.28.080.** Any sheriff violating any of the provisions of RCW 36.28.060, 36.28.070 or 36.28.080, or failing to perform any of the duties required thereby, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in any sum not less than ten dollars nor more than fifty dollars for each offense. [1963 c 4 § 36.28.140. Prior: 1909 c 105 § 6; RRS § 4166.]

**36.28.150 Liability for fault or misconduct.** Whenever any sheriff neglects to make due return of any writ or other process delivered to him to be executed, or is guilty of any default or misconduct in relation thereto, he shall be liable to fine or attachment, or both, at the discretion of the court, subject to appeal, such fine, however, not to exceed two hundred dollars; and also to an action for damages to the party aggrieved. [1963 c 4 § 36.28.150. Prior: Code 1881 § 2771; 1863 p 558 § 6; 1854 p 434 § 6; RRS § 4169.]

**36.28.160 Office at county seat.** The sheriff must keep his office at the county seat of the county of which he is sheriff. [1963 c 4 § 36.28.160. Prior: 1891 c 45 § 2; RRS § 4158. SLC-RO-14.]

**36.28.170 Standard uniform for sheriffs and deputies.** The executive secretary of the Washington state association of elected county officials, upon written approval of a majority of the sheriffs in the state, shall file with the secretary of state a description of a standard uniform which may be withdrawn or modified by re-filing in the same manner as originally filed. A uniform of the description so filed shall thereafter be reserved exclusively for the use of sheriffs and their deputies: PROVIDED, That the filing of a standard uniform description shall not make mandatory the adoption of said uniform by any county sheriff or his deputies. [1963 c 50 § 1.]

**36.28.180 Allowance for clothing and other incidentals.** A county may from available funds provide for an allowance for clothing and other incidentals necessary to the performance of official duties for the sheriff and his deputies. [1979 c 132 § 1; 1963 c 50 § 2.]

**36.28.190 City contracts to obtain sheriff's office law enforcement services.** See RCW 41.14.250 through 41.14.280.

**Chapter 36.28A**  
**ASSOCIATION OF SHERIFFS AND POLICE**  
**CHIEFS**

Sections

- 36.28A.010 Declarations.
- 36.28A.020 Local law and justice plan assistance.
- 36.28A.030 Malicious harassment—Information reporting and dissemination.

**36.28A.010 Declarations.** The Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs is hereby declared to be a combination of units of local government: **PROVIDED**, That such association shall not be considered an "employer" within the meaning of RCW 41.26.030(2) or 41.40.010(4): **PROVIDED FURTHER**, That no compensation received as an employee of the association shall be considered salary for purposes of the provisions of any retirement system created pursuant to the general laws of this state: **PROVIDED FURTHER**, That such association shall not qualify for inclusion under the unallocated two mills of the property tax of any political subdivision: **PROVIDED FURTHER**, That the association shall not have the authority to assess any excess levy or bond measure. [1975 1st ex.s. c 172 § 1.]

**36.28A.020 Local law and justice plan assistance.** The Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs may, upon request of a county's legislative authority, assist the county in developing and implementing its local law and justice plan. In doing so, the association shall consult with the office of financial management and the department of corrections. [1991 c 363 § 56.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.28A.030 Malicious harassment—Information reporting and dissemination.** (1) The Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs shall establish and maintain a central repository for the collection and classification of information regarding violations of RCW 9A.36.080. Upon establishing such a repository, the association shall develop a procedure to monitor, record, and classify information relating to violations of RCW 9A.36.080 and any other crimes of bigotry or bias apparently directed against other persons because the people committing the crimes perceived that their victims were of a particular race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or had a mental, physical, or sensory handicap.

(2) All local law enforcement agencies shall report monthly to the association concerning all violations of RCW 9A.36.080 and any other crimes of bigotry or bias in such form and in such manner as prescribed by rules adopted by the association. Agency participation in the association's reporting programs, with regard to the specific data requirements associated with violations of RCW 9A.36.080 and any other crimes of bigotry or bias, shall be deemed to meet agency reporting requirements. The association must summarize the information received and file an annual report with the governor and the senate law and justice committee and the house of representatives judiciary committee.

(3) The association shall disseminate the information according to the provisions of chapters 10.97 and 10.98

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RCW, and all other confidentiality requirements imposed by federal or Washington law. [1993 c 127 § 4.]

**Severability—1993 c 127:** See note following RCW 9A.36.078.

**Chapter 36.29**  
**COUNTY TREASURER**

Sections

- 36.29.010 General duties.
- 36.29.020 Custodian of moneys—Investment of funds not required for immediate expenditures, service fee.
- 36.29.022 Combining of moneys for investment.
- 36.29.024 Investment expenses.
- 36.29.025 Official seal.
- 36.29.040 Interest on unpaid warrants.
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 public health pooling fund: RCW 70.12.030 through 70.12.070.  
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   privilege tax, distribution of: Chapter 54.28 RCW.  
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   funds, investment by: RCW 28A.330.320.  
   organization: Chapter 28A.315 RCW.  
   first class, signing of warrants by: RCW 28A.330.080.  
   validation of indebtedness: Chapter 28A.535 RCW.  
   warrants of: Chapter 28A.350 RCW.  
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### **36.29.010 General duties.** The county treasurer:

- (1) Shall receive all money due the county and disburse it on warrants issued and attested by the county auditor;
- (2) Shall issue a receipt in duplicate for all money received other than taxes; the treasurer shall deliver immediately to the person making the payment the original receipt and the duplicate shall be retained by the treasurer;
- (3) Shall affix on the face of all paid warrants the date of redemption or, in the case of proper contract between the treasurer and a qualified public depositary, the treasurer may consider the date affixed by the financial institution as the date of redemption;
- (4) Shall indorse, before the date of issue by the county or by any taxing district for whom the county treasurer acts as treasurer, on the face of all warrants for which there are not sufficient funds for payment, "interest bearing warrant."

When there are funds to redeem outstanding warrants, the county treasurer shall give notice:

(a) By publication in a legal newspaper published or circulated in the county; or

(b) By posting at three public places in the county if there is no such newspaper; or

(c) By notification to the financial institution holding the warrant;

(5) Shall pay interest on all interest-bearing warrants from the date of issue to the date of notification;

(6) Shall maintain financial records reflecting receipts and disbursement by fund in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;

(7) Shall account for and pay all bonded indebtedness for the county and all special districts for which the county treasurer acts as treasurer;

(8) Shall invest all funds of the county or any special district in the treasurer's custody, not needed for immediate expenditure, in a manner consistent with appropriate statutes. If cash is needed to redeem warrants issued from any fund in the custody of the treasurer, the treasurer shall liquidate investments in an amount sufficient to cover such warrant redemptions; and

(9) May provide certain collection services for county departments.

The treasurer, at the expiration of the term of office, shall make a complete settlement with the county legislative authority, and shall deliver to the successor all public money, books, and papers in the treasurer's possession. [1994 c 301 § 7; 1991 c 245 § 4; 1963 c 4 § 36.29.010. Prior: (i) 1893 c 104 § 1; Code 1881 § 2740; 1863 p 553 § 3; 1854 p 427 § 3; RRS § 4109. (ii) Code 1881 § 2742; 1863 p 553 § 5; 1854 p 427 § 5; RRS § 4110. (iii) Code 1881 § 2743; 1863 p 553 § 6; 1854 p 427 § 6; RRS § 4111. (iv) 1895 c 73 § 4; Code 1881 § 2744; 1863 p 553 § 7; 1854 p 427 § 7; RRS § 4113. (v) Code 1881 § 2745; 1863 p 553 § 8; RRS § 4114. (vi) 1893 c 104 § 3; Code 1881 § 2748; 1863 p 554 § 11; 1854 p 428 § 11; RRS § 4120. (vii) Code 1881 § 2750; 1863 p 554 § 13; 1854 p 428 § 13; RRS § 4121. (viii) 1895 c 73 § 3; RRS § 4122.]

**36.29.020 Custodian of moneys—Investment of funds not required for immediate expenditures, service fee.** The county treasurer shall keep all moneys belonging to the state, or to any county, in his or her own possession until disbursed according to law. The county treasurer shall not place the same in the possession of any person to be used for any purpose; nor shall he or she loan or in any manner use or permit any person to use the same; but it shall be lawful for a county treasurer to deposit any such moneys in any regularly designated qualified public depository. Any municipal corporation may by action of its governing body authorize any of its funds which are not required for immediate expenditure, and which are in the custody of the county treasurer or other municipal corporation treasurer, to be invested by such treasurer. The county treasurer may invest in savings or time accounts in designated qualified public depositories or in certificates, notes, or bonds of the United States, or other obligations of the United States or its agencies, or of any corporation wholly owned by the government of the United States; in bankers' acceptances

purchased on the secondary market, in federal home loan bank notes and bonds, federal land bank bonds and federal national mortgage association notes, debentures and guaranteed certificates of participation, or the obligations of any other government sponsored corporation whose obligations are or may become eligible as collateral for advances to member banks as determined by the board of governors of the federal reserve system or deposit such funds or any portion thereof in investment deposits as defined in RCW 39.58.010 secured by collateral in accordance with the provisions of chapters 39.58 and 39.59 RCW: PROVIDED, Five percent of the earnings, with an annual maximum of fifty dollars, on each transaction authorized by the governing body shall be paid as an investment service fee to the office of the county treasurer or other municipal corporation treasurer when the earnings become available to the governing body: PROVIDED FURTHER, That if such investment service fee amounts to five dollars or less the county treasurer or other municipal corporation treasurer may waive such fee.

Whenever the funds of any municipal corporation which are not required for immediate expenditure are in the custody or control of the county treasurer, and the governing body of such municipal corporation has not taken any action pertaining to the investment of any such funds, the county finance committee shall direct the county treasurer to invest, to the maximum prudent extent, such funds or any portion thereof in savings or time accounts in designated qualified public depositories or in certificates, notes, or bonds of the United States, or other obligations of the United States or its agencies, or of any corporation wholly owned by the government of the United States, in bankers' acceptances purchased on the secondary market, in federal home loan bank notes and bonds, federal land bank bonds and federal national mortgage association notes, debentures and guaranteed certificates of participation, or the obligations of any other government sponsored corporation whose obligations are or may become eligible as collateral for advances to member banks as determined by the board of governors of the federal reserve system or deposit such funds or any portion thereof in investment deposits as defined in RCW 39.58.010 secured by collateral in accordance with the provisions of chapters 39.58 and 39.59 RCW: PROVIDED, That the county treasurer shall have the power to select the specific qualified financial institution in which the funds may be invested. The interest or other earnings from such investments or deposits shall be deposited in the current expense fund of the county and may be used for general county purposes. The investment or deposit and disposition of the interest or other earnings therefrom authorized by this paragraph shall not apply to such funds as may be prohibited by the state Constitution from being so invested or deposited. [1991 c 245 § 5; 1984 c 177 § 7; 1982 c 73 § 1; 1980 c 56 § 1; 1979 c 57 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 140 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 193 § 26; 1967 c 173 § 1; 1965 c 111 § 2; 1963 c 4 § 36.29.020. Prior: 1961 c 254 § 1; 1895 c 73 § 1; RRS § 4112.]

**Construction—Severability—1969 ex.s. c 193:** See notes following RCW 39.58.010.

*Liability of treasurers for losses on public deposits:* RCW 39.58.140.

*Public depositories:* Chapter 39.58 RCW.

**36.29.022 Combining of moneys for investment.** Upon the request of one or several units of local government that invest their money with the county under the provisions of RCW 36.29.020, the treasurer of that county may combine those units' moneys for the purposes of investment. [1986 c 294 § 11.]

**36.29.024 Investment expenses.** The county treasurer may deduct the amounts necessary to reimburse the treasurer's office for the actual expenses the office incurs and to repay any county funds appropriated and expended for the initial administrative costs of establishing a county investment pool provided in RCW 36.29.022. Any credits or payments to political subdivisions shall be calculated and made in a manner which equitably reflects the differing amounts of the political subdivision's respective deposits in the county investment pool and the differing periods of time for which the amounts were placed in the county investment pool. [1988 c 281 § 5.]

Severability—1988 c 281: See RCW 39.59.900.

**36.29.025 Official seal.** The county treasurer in each of the organized counties of the state of Washington, shall be by his county provided with a seal of office for the authentication of all tax deeds, papers, writing and documents required by law to be certified or authenticated by him. Such seal shall bear the device of crosskeys and the words: Official Seal Treasurer . . . . County, Washington; and an imprint of such seal, together with the certificate of the county treasurer that such seal has been regularly adopted, shall be filed in the office of the county auditor of such county. [1963 c 4 § 36.29.025. Prior: 1903 c 15 § 1; RRS § 4125.]

**36.29.040 Interest on unpaid warrants.** All county, school, city and town warrants, and taxing district warrants when not otherwise provided for by law, shall be paid according to their number, date and issue, and when not paid upon presentation shall draw interest from the date of their presentation to the proper treasurers or from the date the warrants were originally issued, as determined by the proper treasurer. No compound interest shall be paid directly or indirectly on any such warrants. [1980 c 100 § 3; 1963 c 4 § 36.29.040. Prior: 1893 c 48 § 1, part; RRS § 4116, part.]

**36.29.050 Interest to be entered on warrant register.** When the county treasurer redeems any warrant on which interest is due, he shall enter on his warrant register account the amount of interest paid, distinct from the principal. [1969 ex.s. c 48 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.29.050. Prior: Code 1881 § 2746; 1863 p 554 § 9; 1854 p 427 § 9; RRS § 4117.]

**36.29.060 Warrant calls.** Whenever the county treasurer has funds belonging to any fund upon which "interest-bearing" warrants are outstanding, the treasurer shall have the discretion to call warrants. The county treasurer shall give notice as provided for in RCW 36.29.010(4). The treasurer shall pay on demand, in the order of their issue, any warrants when there shall be in the treasury sufficient

funds applicable to such payment. [1991 c 245 § 6; 1985 c 469 § 44; 1980 c 100 § 4; 1963 c 4 § 36.29.060. Prior: 1895 c 152 § 1, part; RRS § 4118, part.]

**36.29.070 Penalty for failure to call.** Any treasurer who knowingly fails to call for or pay any warrant in accordance with the provisions of RCW 36.29.060 shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof, be fined not less than twenty-five dollars nor more than five hundred dollars, and such conviction shall be sufficient cause for removal from office. [1963 c 4 § 36.29.070. Prior: 1895 c 152 § 2, part; RRS § 4119, part.]

**36.29.090 Suspension of treasurer.** Whenever an action based upon official misconduct is commenced against any county treasurer the county commissioners may suspend him from office until such suit is determined, and may appoint some person to fill the vacancy. [1963 c 4 § 36.29.090. Prior: 1895 c 73 § 2; Code 1881 § 2749; 1863 p 554 § 12; 1854 p 428 § 12; RRS § 4124.]

**36.29.100 Ex officio collector of first class city taxes.** The county treasurer of each county in which there is a city of the first class is ex officio collector of city taxes of such city, and before entering upon the duties of his office he shall execute in favor of the city and file with the clerk thereof a good and sufficient bond, the penal sum to be fixed by the city council, such bond to be approved by the mayor of such city or other authority thereof by whom the bond of the city treasurer is required to be approved. All special assessments and special taxation for local improvements assessed on property benefited shall be collected by the city treasurer. [1963 c 4 § 36.29.100. Prior: 1895 c 160 § 1; 1893 c 71 § 4; RRS § 11321.]

**36.29.110 City taxes.** All city taxes and earnings on such taxes, as provided for in RCW 36.29.020, collected during the month shall be remitted to the city by the county treasurer on or before the tenth day of the following month. The county treasurer shall submit a statement of taxes collected with such remittance. To facilitate the investment of collected taxes, the treasurer may invest as provided for in RCW 36.29.020 without the necessity of the cities specifically requesting combining funds for the purposes of investment. [1991 c 245 § 7; 1963 c 4 § 36.29.110. Prior: 1905 c 157 § 1; 1895 c 160 § 2; 1893 c 71 § 5; RRS § 11322.]

**36.29.120 Ex officio collector of other city taxes.** For the purpose of collection of all taxes levied for cities and towns of other than the first class, the county treasurer of the county wherein such city or town is situated shall be ex officio tax collector. [1963 c 4 § 36.29.120. Prior: 1893 c 72 § 3; RRS § 11330.]

**36.29.130 Duty to collect taxes.** The county treasurer, upon receipt of the tax roll, shall proceed to collect and receipt for the municipal taxes extended thereon at the same time and in the same manner as he proceeds in the collection



of other taxes on such roll. [1963 c 4 § 36.29.130. Prior: 1893 c 72 § 7; RRS § 11334.]

**36.29.150 First class city to pay clerk hire.** Each city of the first class shall pay to the county one thousand dollars per annum for clerk hire. [1963 c 4 § 36.29.150. Prior: 1895 c 160 § 4; 1893 c 71 § 10; RRS § 11327.]

**36.29.160 Duty to segregate certified assessments and charges in public utility, sewer, water, and county road improvement districts.** The county treasurer shall make segregation, collect, and receive from any owner or owners of any subdivision or portion of any lot, tract or parcel of land upon which assessments or charges have been made or may be made hereafter in public utility districts, sewer districts, water districts, or county road improvement districts, under the terms of Title 54 RCW, Title 56 RCW, Title 57 RCW, or chapter 36.88 RCW, such portion of the assessments or charges levied or to be levied against such lot, tract or parcel of land in payment of such assessment or charges as the board of commissioners of the public utility district, sewer district, the water district commissioners or the board of county commissioners, respectively, shall certify to be chargeable to such subdivision, which certificate shall state that such property as segregated is sufficient security for the assessment or charges. Upon making collection upon any such subdivision the county treasurer shall note such payment upon his records and give receipt therefor. [1963 c 4 § 36.29.160. Prior: 1959 c 142 § 2; 1953 c 210 § 1.]

**36.29.170 Office at county seat.** The county treasurer shall keep his office at the seat of justice of his county, and shall keep the same open for transaction of business during business hours; and he and his deputy are authorized to administer all oaths necessary in the discharge of the duties of his office. [1963 c 4 § 36.29.170. Prior: Code 1881 § 2742; 1863 p 553 § 5; 1854 p 427 § 5; RRS § 4110.]

**36.29.180 Fees for handling, collecting, dispersing, and accounting for special assessments, fees, rates, or charges.** The county treasurer, in all instances where required by law to handle, collect, disburse, and account for special assessments, fees, rates, or charges within the county, may charge and collect a fee for services not to exceed four dollars per parcel for each year in which the funds are collected. Such charges for services shall be based upon costs incurred by the treasurer in handling, collecting, disbursing, and accounting for the funds.

Such fees shall be a charge against the district and shall be credited to the county current expense fund by the county treasurer. [1991 c 245 § 8; 1963 c 4 § 36.29.180. Prior: 1961 c 270 § 1.]

## Chapter 36.32

### COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

#### Sections

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- 36.32.425 Juvenile curfews.
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- 36.32.450 Tourist promotion.
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- 36.32.560 Home rule charter counties—Residential care facilities—Review of need and demand—Adoption of ordinances.
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- 36.32.600 Amateur radio antennas—Local regulation to conform with federal law.
- Air pollution control*  
*advisory council, commissioner as member: RCW 70.94.240.*  
*district, commissioner as member: RCW 70.94.100.*
- Board of law library trustees, commissioner as member: RCW 27.24.020.*
- Canvassing board, commissioner as member: RCW 39.40.030.*
- Cemeteries and funeral facilities, acquisition and operation of: Chapter 68.52 RCW.*
- Certified transcripts of commissioner meetings as evidence: RCW 5.44.070.*
- Continuity of government act, effect as to: RCW 42.14.040, 42.14.070.*
- County board of equalization, commissioners as: Chapter 84.48 RCW.*
- County board of health, commissioners as members of: RCW 70.05.030.*
- County canvassing board, commissioner as member: RCW 29.62.020.*
- County health boards, commissioners as, duties: Chapter 70.05 RCW.*
- District court districting committee, commissioner as member of: RCW 3.38.010.*
- Duties relating to*  
*air pollution control districts: Chapter 70.94 RCW.*  
*assessor's plats: RCW 58.18.010.*  
*bailiffs of the superior court: RCW 2.32.360.*  
*basic juvenile court act: Chapter 13.04 RCW.*  
*billiard table, pigeon-hole table: RCW 67.14.050.*  
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*cemetery districts: Chapter 68.52 RCW.*  
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*advancement of classification: Chapter 35.06 RCW.*  
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*annexation of unincorporated areas: Chapter 35.13 RCW.*  
*county aid on street construction, etc.: RCW 47.24.050.*  
*disincorporation of: Chapter 35.07 RCW.*  
*erection of drawbridges in: Chapter 35.74 RCW.*  
*general indebtedness bonds, county tax levy to pay: RCW 35.37.120.*  
*incorporation proceedings: Chapter 35.02 RCW.*  
*L.I.D. assessments of county property: RCW 35.44.140, 35.49.070.*  
*civil service for sheriff's office: Chapter 41.14 RCW.*  
*combined city-county health department: Chapter 70.08 RCW.*  
*county airport districts: Chapter 14.08 RCW.*  
*county and city tuberculosis hospitals: Chapter 70.30 RCW.*  
*county flood control: Chapter 86.12 RCW.*  
*county road fund, illegal use of: RCW 47.08.100.*  
*penalty: RCW 47.08.110.*  
*county road projects if let to department of transportation where matching funds: RCW 47.08.080.*  
*county superintendent of schools: Chapter 28A.310 RCW.*  
*county teachers' institute: Chapter 28A.310 RCW.*  
*county tuberculosis funds: Chapter 70.32 RCW.*  
*court commissioner's salary: RCW 2.24.030.*  
*dancing, license to conduct: Chapter 67.12 RCW.*  
*detention facilities for juveniles: Chapter 13.16 RCW.*  
*devices to protect fish in lakes: RCW 90.24.050.*  
*diking and drainage intercounty districts: Chapter 85.24 RCW.*  
*diking districts: Chapter 85.05 RCW.*  
*reorganization of (1917 act): Chapter 85.20 RCW.*  
*reorganization of (1933 act): Chapter 85.22 RCW.*  
*diking, drainage and sewerage improvement districts: Chapter 85.08 RCW.*  
*federal aid to: Chapter 85.12 RCW.*  
*maintenance costs and levies: Chapter 85.16 RCW.*  
*diking, drainage district benefits to roads, how paid: RCW 85.07.040, 85.07.050.*  
*diseased animals: RCW 16.36.070.*  
*district court*  
*clerks, assistants: Chapter 3.54 RCW.*  
*facilities: RCW 3.58.050.*  
*legislative authority: RCW 3.42.040.*  
*district courts and other inferior courts, 1961 act: Chapters 3.30, 3.34, 3.38, 3.42, 3.46, 3.50, 3.54, 3.58, 3.62, 3.66, 3.70, 3.74 RCW.*  
*drainage districts: Chapter 85.06 RCW.*  
*reorganization of (1917 act): Chapter 85.20 RCW.*  
*reorganization of (1933 act): Chapter 85.22 RCW.*  
*drawbridges, municipal: RCW 35.74.020, 35.74.030.*  
*elections*  
*creating new precincts: RCW 29.04.040, 29.04.050.*  
*precinct officers: Chapter 29.45 RCW.*  
*special: RCW 29.13.010.*  
*voting systems: Chapter 29.33 RCW.*  
*electric franchises and rights of way: RCW 80.32.010.*  
*eminent domain by*  
*counties: Chapter 8.08 RCW.*  
*county, wharves for: RCW 88.24.070.*  
*federal property, purchase of: Chapter 39.32 RCW.*  
*federal tax lien index: RCW 60.68.045.*  
*ferry system tariffs and charges, review committee: RCW 47.60.310.*  
*fire protection district commissioner vacancy: RCW 52.14.050.*  
*fire protection districts: Chapters 52.04, 52.08, 52.12, 52.16 RCW.*  
*flood control by counties jointly: Chapter 86.13 RCW.*  
*flood control districts (1937 act): Chapter 86.09 RCW.*  
*flood control zone districts: Chapter 86.15 RCW.*  
*funding indebtedness of counties: Chapter 39.52 RCW.*  
*game, use of state lands for game purposes: RCW 77.12.360 through 77.12.390.*  
*health districts: Chapter 70.46 RCW.*  
*hospital districts: Chapter 70.44 RCW.*  
*housing authority act: Chapter 35.82 RCW.*  
*housing projects, cooperation: Chapter 35.83 RCW.*  
*human remains: Chapter 68.50 RCW.*  
*industrial development districts: Chapter 53.25 RCW.*  
*infected horticultural premises: RCW 15.04.060.*  
*intercounty rural library districts: Chapter 27.12 RCW.*  
*intercounty weed districts: Chapter 17.06 RCW.*  
*internal revenue taxes, lien for: RCW 60.68.045.*  
*irrigation and rehabilitation district rules and regulations: RCW 87.84.090.*  
*irrigation districts*  
*director divisions: Chapter 87.04 RCW.*  
*dissolution of districts with bonds: Chapter 87.53 RCW.*  
*generally: Chapter 87.03 RCW.*  
*joint control of: Chapter 87.80 RCW.*  
*merger with drainage, joint drainage or consolidated drainage improvement district: RCW 87.03.720 through 87.03.745.*  
*joint aid river and harbor improvements: RCW 88.32.230 through 88.32.235.*  
*legal aid: Chapter 2.50 RCW.*  
*lien foreclosure: Chapter 84.64 RCW.*  
*liquor*  
*retail license: RCW 67.14.040.*

- sale or other disposition of:* RCW 67.14.020.  
*wholesale license:* RCW 67.14.050.
- medical care by state, in county hospitals:* Chapter 74.09 RCW.  
*metropolitan municipal corporations:* Chapter 35.58 RCW.  
*mineral and petroleum leases on county lands:* Chapter 78.16 RCW.  
*mines, abandoned mining shafts and excavations:* Chapter 78.12 RCW.  
*mosquito control districts:* Chapter 17.28 RCW.  
*motor vehicle maximum speed limits outside cities and towns:* RCW 46.61.400 through 46.61.425.  
*parks, bathing beaches, public camps, acquisition and operation of:* Chapter 67.20 RCW.  
*pest districts:* Chapter 17.12 RCW.  
*planning commission:* Chapter 35.63 RCW.  
*port districts*
  - annexation of land to:* Chapter 53.04 RCW.
  - commissioner elections:* Chapter 53.12 RCW.
  - consolidation of:* Chapter 53.46 RCW.
  - formation of:* Chapter 53.04 RCW.
- public cemetery and morgue:* RCW 68.52.010, 68.52.020.  
*public health pooling fund:* RCW 70.12.030.  
*public lands*
  - rights of way over for roads, county wharves:* RCW 79.01.340.
  - tide and shorelands, petition for replat:* RCW 79.94.100.
- public utility districts:* Chapters 54.08, 54.40 RCW.  
*privilege tax:* Chapter 54.28 RCW.  
*public waterway districts:* Chapter 91.08 RCW.  
*railroad grade crossings:* Chapter 81.53 RCW.  
*reclamation districts of one million acres:* Chapter 89.30 RCW.  
*reforestation:* Chapter 76.12 RCW.  
*county exchange of land to block up holdings:* RCW 76.12.050 through 76.12.060.  
*right to back and hold waters over county roads:* RCW 90.28.010, 90.28.020.  
*river and harbor improvement districts:* Chapter 88.32 RCW.  
*river and harbor improvements by counties jointly:* RCW 88.32.180 through 88.32.220.  
*roads, closure of:* Chapter 47.48 RCW.  
*roads and bridges, limited access facilities:* Chapter 47.52 RCW.  
*rural county library districts:* Chapter 27.12 RCW.  
*rural pool halls, billiard halls and bowling alleys, licensing of:* Chapter 67.12 RCW.  
*school district organization:* Chapter 28A.315 RCW.  
*school districts*
  - penalties relating to:* Chapter 28A.635 RCW.
  - second class, expenditures:* Chapter 28A.330 RCW.
  - validation of indebtedness:* Chapter 28A.535 RCW.
- school funds:* Chapter 28A.545 RCW.  
*section and corner lines, establishment of:* Chapter 58.04 RCW.  
*sewer districts*
  - annexation of territory to:* Chapter 56.24 RCW.
  - generally:* Title 56 RCW.
  - withdrawing territory from:* RCW 56.28.010.
- special districts in counties with a population of two hundred ten thousand or more, disincorporation of:* Chapter 57.90 RCW.  
*state highways, acquisition of county lands for:* RCW 47.12.040.  
*stock restricted areas:* Chapter 16.24 RCW.  
*street railways:* Chapter 81.64 RCW.  
*superior court special sessions:* RCW 2.08.140, 2.08.150.  
*taxes, excise tax on real estate sales:* Chapter 82.45 RCW.  
*property*
  - collection of:* Chapter 84.56 RCW.
  - levy of:* Chapter 84.52 RCW.
  - lien foreclosure:* Chapter 84.64 RCW.
  - listing of:* Chapter 84.40 RCW.
  - revaluation:* Chapter 84.41 RCW.
- temporary gates across highways:* RCW 16.60.080.  
*temporary quarters for court:* RCW 2.28.141.  
*towns, uncertain boundaries:* RCW 35.27.040 through 35.27.060.  
*townships*
  - county aid to:* RCW 45.56.050.
  - disorganization of:* Chapter 45.76 RCW.
  - county-wide:* Chapter 45.80 RCW.
  - division of county into:* Chapter 45.08 RCW.
  - officers' resignations:* Chapter 45.20 RCW.
  - organization of:* Chapters 45.04, 45.08, 45.12 RCW.
- traffic control devices:* Chapter 47.36 RCW.  
*traffic schools:* Chapter 46.83 RCW.  
*underground storage of natural gas, lease of county lands for:* RCW 80.40.070.  
*United States reclamation areas, contracts to bring county lands into:* RCW 89.12.110.  
*veterans, indigent, deceased, burial of:* RCW 73.08.070.  
*veterans' meeting places, rent by county:* RCW 73.04.080.  
*veterans' relief:* Chapter 73.08 RCW.  
*vouchers on public funds:* Chapter 42.24 RCW.  
*water districts*
  - annexation of property to:* Chapter 57.24 RCW.
  - board of commissioners, vacancies:* RCW 57.12.020.
  - consolidation of:* Chapter 57.32 RCW.
  - generally:* Title 57 RCW.
  - transfer of part:* RCW 57.32.160.
  - withdrawal of territory from:* Chapter 57.28 RCW.
- weed district tax on county lands:* RCW 17.04.180.  
*weed districts:* Chapter 17.04 RCW.  
*wharves, authorizing of and prescribing rates:* RCW 88.24.020.
- Exemptions for emergency recovery operations from Mt. St. Helens eruption authorized—Exception—Expiration of section:* RCW 43.21A.500, 43.21C.500, 89.16.500, 90.58.500.
- Expediting flood-control, sediment retention site acquisition, and dredging operations in rivers affected by Mt. St. Helens eruption—Fish resource preservation—Expiration of section:* RCW 75.20.300.
- Flood control*
  - district (1937 act) board, commissioner to act for absent member:* RCW 86.09.292.
  - zone districts, commissioners as ex officio supervisors:* RCW 86.15.050.
- Health districts:* Chapter 70.46 RCW.  
*Metropolitan sewer advisory committee, commissioner as member:* RCW 35.58.210.  
*Metropolitan water advisory committee, commissioner as member:* RCW 35.58.230.  
*Property tax advisor:* RCW 84.48.140.  
*Rangers, commissioners as ex officio:* RCW 76.04.045.  
*Reclamation district commission, commissioner as member of:* RCW 89.30.055.  
*Redistricting by local governments and municipal corporations—Census information for—Plan, prepared when, criteria for, hearing on, request for review of, certification, remand—Sanctions when review request frivolous:* RCW 29.70.100.  
*Revenue, department of, to advise commissioners:* RCW 84.08.020.  
*Review board, commissioner as member of:* RCW 35.13.171.  
*Solid waste collection districts:* Chapter 36.58A RCW.  
*Townships, disorganization of*
  - commissioner as receiver:* Chapter 45.76 RCW.
  - county-wide, commissioner as receiver:* Chapter 45.80 RCW.
- Traffic safety commission, member of association of county commissioners appointed to:* RCW 43.59.030.  
*United States townsite law, dedication of streets, etc., under commissioners may alienate:* RCW 58.28.440.
- 36.32.005 "County commissioners" defined.** The term "county commissioners" when used in this title or any other provision of law shall include the governmental authority empowered to so act under the provisions of a charter adopted by any county of the state. [1971 ex.s. c 117 § 1.]
- 36.32.010 Board of commissioners established—Quorum.** There is established in each county in this state a board of county commissioners. Except as provided in RCW 36.32.055 and 36.32.0552, each board of county commissioners shall consist of three qualified electors, two of whom shall constitute a quorum to do business. [1990 c 252 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.32.010. Prior: Code 1881 § 2663;

1869 p 303 § 1; 1867 p 52 § 1; 1863 p 540 § 1; 1854 p 420 § 1; RRS § 4036.]

**36.32.020 Commissioner districts.** The board of county commissioners of each county shall divide their county into three commissioner districts so that each district shall comprise as nearly as possible one-third of the population of the county: PROVIDED, That the territory comprised in any voting precincts of such districts shall remain compact, and shall not be divided by the lines of said districts.

However, the commissioners of any county composed entirely of islands and with a population of less than thirty-five thousand may divide their county into three commissioner districts without regard to population, except that if any single island is included in more than one district, the districts on such island shall comprise, as nearly as possible, equal populations.

The lines of the districts shall not be changed oftener than once in four years and only when a full board of commissioners is present. The districts shall be designated as districts numbered one, two and three. [1982 c 226 § 4; 1970 ex.s. c 58 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.32.020. Prior: 1893 c 39 § 2; 1890 p 317 §§ 1, 2; RRS § 4037.]

**Effective date—1982 c 226:** See note following RCW 35.21.180.

**36.32.030 Terms of commissioners.** The terms of office of county commissioners shall be four years and until their successors are elected and qualified and assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170: PROVIDED, That the terms shall be staggered so that either one or two commissioners are elected at a general election held in an even-numbered year. [1979 ex.s. c 126 § 27; 1963 c 4 § 36.32.030. Prior: 1951 c 89 § 1. Formerly: (i) 1891 c 97 §§ 1, 2; RRS § 4038. (ii) 1891 c 67 § 3; RRS § 4039. (iii) 1891 c 89 § 4; RRS § 4040. (iv) 1891 c 67 § 5; RRS § 4041.]

**Purpose—1979 ex.s. c 126:** See RCW 29.04.170(1).

**36.32.040 Nomination by districts.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the qualified electors of each county commissioner district, and they only, shall nominate from among their own number, candidates for the office of county commissioner of such commissioner district to be voted for at the following general election. Such candidates shall be nominated in the same manner as candidates for other county and district offices are nominated in all other respects.

(2) Where the commissioners of a county composed entirely of islands with a population of less than thirty-five thousand have chosen to divide the county into unequal-sized commissioner districts pursuant to the exception provided in RCW 36.32.020, the qualified electors of the entire county shall nominate from among their own number who reside within a commissioner district, candidates for the office of county commissioner of such commissioner district to be voted for at the following general election. Such candidates shall be nominated in the same manner as candidates for other county offices are nominated in all other respects. [1982 c 226 § 5; 1963 c 4 § 36.32.040. Prior: 1909 c 232 § 1; RRS § 4043.]

**Effective date—1982 c 226:** See note following RCW 35.21.180.

**36.32.050 Elected by entire county.** County commissioners shall be elected by the qualified voters of the county and the person receiving the highest number of votes for the office of commissioner for the district in which he resides shall be declared duly elected from that district. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.050. Prior: 1895 c 110 § 1; 1893 c 39 § 1; 1891 c 67 § 6; 1890 p 317 § 3; RRS § 4042.]

**36.32.055 Five-member commission—When authorized—Ballot proposition—Petition—Procedures.** (1) The board of commissioners of any noncharter county with a population of three hundred thousand or more may cause a ballot proposition to be submitted at a general election to the voters of the county authorizing the board of commissioners to be increased to five members.

(2) As an alternative procedure, a ballot proposition shall be submitted to the voters of a noncharter county authorizing the board of commissioners to be increased to five members, upon petition of the county voters equal to at least ten percent of the voters voting at the last county general election. At least twenty percent of the signatures on the petition shall come from each of the existing commissioner districts.

Any petition requesting that such an election be held shall be submitted to the county auditor for verification of the signatures thereon. Within no more than thirty days after the submission of the petition, the auditor shall determine if the petition contains the requisite number of valid signatures. The auditor shall certify whether or not the petition has been signed by the requisite number of county voters and forward such petition to the board of county commissioners. If the petition has been signed by the requisite number of county voters, the board of county commissioners shall submit such a proposition to the voters for their approval or rejection at the next general election held at least sixty days after the proposition has been certified by the auditor. [1990 c 252 § 2.]

**36.32.0552 Five-member commission—Newly created positions—How filled—County divided into five districts.** If the ballot proposition receives majority voter approval, the size of the board of county commissioners shall be increased to five members as provided in this section.

The two newly created positions shall be filled at elections to be held in the next year. The county shall, as provided in this section, be divided into five commissioner districts, so that each district shall comprise as nearly as possible one-fifth of the population of the county. No two members of the existing board of county commissioners may, at the time of the designation of such districts, permanently reside in one of the five districts. The division of the county into five districts shall be accomplished as follows:

(1) The board of county commissioners shall, by the second Monday of March of the year following the election, adopt a resolution creating the districts;

(2) If by the second Tuesday of March of the year following the election the board of county commissioners has failed to create the districts, the prosecuting attorney of

the county shall petition the superior court of the county to appoint a referee to designate the five commissioner districts. The referee shall designate such districts by no later than June 1st of the year following the election. The two commissioner districts within which no existing member of the board of county commissioners permanently resides shall be designated as districts four and five. [1990 c 252 § 3.]

**36.32.0554 Five-member commission—Newly created positions—Terms of initially elected commissioners.** The terms of the persons who are initially elected to positions four and five under RCW 36.32.0552 shall be as follows:

(1) If the year in which the primary and general elections are held is an even-numbered year, the person elected to position four shall be elected for a two-year term, and the person elected to position five shall be elected for a four-year term; or

(2) If the year in which the primary and general elections are held is an odd-numbered year, the person elected to position four shall be elected for a one-year term, and the person elected to position five shall be elected for a three-year term.

The length of the terms shall be calculated from the first day of January in the year following the election. Each person elected pursuant to subsection (1) or (2) of this section shall take office immediately upon the issuance of a certificate of his or her election.

Thereafter, persons elected to commissioner positions four and five shall be elected for four-year terms and shall take office at the same time the other members of the board of county commissioners take office. [1990 c 252 § 4.]

**36.32.0556 Five-member commissions—Four-year terms—Nominations by districts—Elected by entire county—Quorum.** The commissioners in a five-member board of county commissioners shall be elected to four-year staggered terms. Each commissioner shall reside in a separate commissioner district. Each commissioner shall be nominated from a separate commissioner district by the voters of that district. Each shall be elected by the voters of the entire county. Three members of a five-member board of commissioners shall constitute a quorum to do business. [1990 c 252 § 5.]

**36.32.0558 Five-member commissions—Vacancies.** Vacancies on a board of county commissioners consisting of five members shall be filled as provided in RCW 36.32.070, except that:

(1) Whenever there are three or more vacancies, the governor shall appoint one or more commissioners until there are a total of three commissioners;

(2) Whenever there are two vacancies, the three commissioners shall fill one of the vacancies; and

(3) Whenever there is one vacancy, the four commissioners shall fill the single vacancy. [1990 c 252 § 6.]

**36.32.060 Conditions of official bond.** The bond of each county commissioner shall be payable to the county, and it shall be conditioned that the commissioner shall well and faithfully discharge the duties of his office, and not

approve, audit, or order paid any illegal, unwarranted, or unjust claim against the county for personal services. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.060. Prior: 1955 c 157 § 10; prior: 1921 c 132 § 1, part; 1893 c 75 § 7, part; RRS § 4046, part.]

**36.32.070 Vacancies on board.** Whenever there is a vacancy in the board of county commissioners, except as provided in RCW 36.32.0558, it shall be filled as follows:

(1) If there are three vacancies, the governor of the state shall appoint two of the officers. The two commissioners thus appointed shall then meet and select the third commissioner. If the two appointed commissioners fail to agree upon selection of the third after the expiration of five days from the day they were appointed, the governor shall appoint the remaining commissioner.

(2) Whenever there are two vacancies in the office of county commissioner, the governor shall appoint one commissioner, and the two commissioners then in office shall appoint the third commissioner. If they fail to agree upon a selection after the expiration of five days from the day of the governor's appointment, the governor shall appoint the third commissioner.

(3) Whenever there is one vacancy in the office of county commissioner, the two remaining commissioners shall fill the vacancy. If the two commissioners fail to agree upon a selection after the expiration of five days from the day the vacancy occurred, the governor shall appoint the third commissioner. [1990 c 252 § 7; 1963 c 4 § 36.32.070. Prior: 1933 c 100 § 1; RRS § 4038-1.]

**36.32.080 Regular meetings.** The county legislative authority of each county shall hold regular meetings at the county seat to transact any business required or permitted by law. [1989 c 16 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.32.080. Prior: 1893 c 105 § 1; Code 1881 § 2667; 1869 p 303 § 5; 1867 p 53 § 5; 1863 p 541 § 5; 1854 p 420 § 5; RRS § 4047. Cf. 1893 c 75 § 1; RRS § 4048.]

**36.32.090 Special meetings.** The county legislative authority of each county may hold special meetings to transact the business of the county. Notice of a special meeting shall be made as provided in RCW 42.30.080. A special meeting may be held outside of the county seat at any location within the county if the agenda item or items are of unique interest or concern to the citizens of the portion of the county in which the special meeting is to be held. [1989 c 16 § 2; 1963 c 4 § 36.32.090. Prior: Code 1881 § 2669; 1869 p 304 § 7; 1867 p 53 § 7; 1863 p 541 § 7; 1854 p 420 § 7; RRS § 4049. Cf. 1893 c 75 § 2; RRS § 4050.]

**36.32.100 Chairman of board—Election, powers.** The board of county commissioners at their first session after the general election shall elect one of its number to preside at its meetings. He shall sign all documents requiring the signature of the board, and his signature as chairman of the board shall be as legal and binding as if all members had affixed their names. In case the chairman is absent at any meeting of the board, all documents requiring the signature of the board shall be signed by both members present. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.100. Prior: Code 1881 § 2676; 1869 p

305 § 14; 1867 p 55 § 14; 1863 p 542 § 14; 1854 p 421 § 14; RRS § 4051.]

**36.32.110 Clerk of board.** The county auditor shall be the clerk of the board of county commissioners unless the board of county commissioners designates one of its employees to serve as clerk who shall attend its meetings and keep a record of its proceedings. [1981 c 240 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.32.110. Prior: Code 1881 § 2668; 1869 p 304 § 6; 1867 p 53 § 6; 1863 p 541 § 6; 1854 p 420 § 6; RRS § 4052.]

**36.32.120 Powers of legislative authorities.** The legislative authorities of the several counties shall:

(1) Provide for the erection and repairing of court houses, jails, and other necessary public buildings for the use of the county;

(2) Lay out, discontinue, or alter county roads and highways within their respective counties, and do all other necessary acts relating thereto according to law, except within cities and towns which have jurisdiction over the roads within their limits;

(3) License and fix the rates of ferrriage; grant grocery and other licenses authorized by law to be by them granted at fees set by the legislative authorities which shall not exceed the costs of administration and operation of such licensed activities;

(4) Fix the amount of county taxes to be assessed according to the provisions of law, and cause the same to be collected as prescribed by law;

(5) Allow all accounts legally chargeable against the county not otherwise provided for, and audit the accounts of all officers having the care, management, collection, or disbursement of any money belonging to the county or appropriated to its benefit;

(6) Have the care of the county property and the management of the county funds and business and in the name of the county prosecute and defend all actions for and against the county, and such other powers as are or may be conferred by law;

(7) Make and enforce, by appropriate resolutions or ordinances, all such police and sanitary regulations as are not in conflict with state law, and within the unincorporated area of the county may adopt by reference Washington state statutes and recognized codes and/or compilations printed in book form relating to the construction of buildings, the installation of plumbing, the installation of electric wiring, health, or other subjects, and may adopt such codes and/or compilations or portions thereof, together with amendments thereto, or additions thereto: PROVIDED, That except for Washington state statutes, there shall be filed in the county auditor's office one copy of such codes and compilations ten days prior to their adoption by reference, and additional copies may also be filed in library or city offices within the county as deemed necessary by the county legislative authority: PROVIDED FURTHER, That no such regulation, code, compilation, and/or statute shall be effective unless before its adoption, a public hearing has been held thereon by the county legislative authority of which at least ten days' notice has been given. Any violation of such regulations, ordinances, codes, compilations, and/or statutes or resolutions shall constitute a misdemeanor or a civil violation subject to

a monetary penalty: PROVIDED FURTHER, That violation of a regulation, ordinance, code, compilation, and/or statute relating to traffic including parking, standing, stopping, and pedestrian offenses is a traffic infraction, except that violation of a regulation, ordinance, code, compilation, and/or statute equivalent to those provisions of Title 46 RCW set forth in RCW 46.63.020 remains a misdemeanor. However, the punishment for any criminal ordinance shall be the same as the punishment provided in state law for the same crime and no act that is a state crime may be made a civil violation. The notice must set out a copy of the proposed regulations or summarize the content of each proposed regulation; or if a code is adopted by reference the notice shall set forth the full official title and a statement describing the general purpose of such code. For purposes of this subsection, a summary shall mean a brief description which succinctly describes the main points of the proposed regulation. When the county publishes a summary, the publication shall include a statement that the full text of the proposed regulation will be mailed upon request. An inadvertent mistake or omission in publishing the text or a summary of the content of a proposed regulation shall not render the regulation invalid if it is adopted. The notice shall also include the day, hour, and place of hearing and must be given by publication in the newspaper in which legal notices of the county are printed;

(8) Have power to compound and release in whole or in part any debt due to the county when in their opinion the interest of their county will not be prejudiced thereby, except in cases where they or any of them are personally interested;

(9) Have power to administer oaths or affirmations necessary in the discharge of their duties and commit for contempt any witness refusing to testify before them with the same power as district judges. [1994 c 301 § 8; 1993 c 83 § 9; 1989 c 378 § 39; 1988 c 168 § 8; 1987 c 202 § 206; 1986 c 278 § 2; 1985 c 91 § 1; 1982 c 226 § 3; 1979 ex.s. c 136 § 35; 1975 1st ex.s. c 216 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 59 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.32.120. Prior: 1961 c 27 § 2; prior: (i) 1947 c 61 § 1; 1943 c 99 § 1; Code 1881 § 2673; 1869 p 305 § 11; 1867 p 54 § 11; 1863 p 542 § 11; 1854 p 421 § 11; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 4056. (ii) Code 1881 § 2681; 1869 p 307 § 20; 1867 p 56 § 20; 1863 p 543 § 20; 1854 p 422 § 20; RRS § 4061. (iii) Code 1881 § 2687; 1869 p 308 § 26; 1867 p 57 § 26; 1863 p 545 § 28; 1854 p 423 § 22; RRS § 4071.]

**Effective date—1993 c 83:** See note following RCW 35.21.163.

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**Severability—1986 c 278:** See note following RCW 36.01.010.

**Effective date—1982 c 226:** See note following RCW 35.21.180.

**Effective date—Severability—1979 ex.s. c 136:** See notes following RCW 46.63.010.

**36.32.122 Authority to regulate massage practitioners—Limitations.** (1) A state licensed massage practitioner seeking a county license to operate a massage business must provide verification of his or her state massage license as provided for in RCW 18.108.030.

(2) The county may charge a licensing or operating fee, but the fee charged a state licensed massage practitioner shall not exceed the licensing or operating fee imposed on

similar health care providers, such as physical therapists or occupational therapists, operating within the same county.

(3) A state licensed massage practitioner is not subject to additional licensing requirements not currently imposed on similar health care providers, such as physical therapists or occupational therapists. [1991 c 182 § 3.]

**36.32.125 Adoption of certain regulations proscribed.** Nothing in this chapter shall permit the counties to adopt, by reference or by ordinance, regulations relating to the subject matter contained in chapters 19.28, 43.22, 70.79, or 70.87 RCW. [1971 ex.s. c 117 § 2.]

*Adoption of provisions relating to electricians and electrical installations by ordinance proscribed: RCW 19.28.210.*

**36.32.127 Driving while under the influence of liquor or drug—Minimum penalties.** No county may establish a penalty for an act that constitutes the crime of driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, as provided for in RCW 46.61.502, or the crime of being in actual physical control of a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, as provided in RCW 46.61.504, that is less than the penalties prescribed for those crimes in RCW 46.61.5051, 46.61.5052, and 46.61.5053. [1994 c 275 § 37; 1983 c 165 § 41.]

**Short title—Effective date—1994 c 275:** See notes following RCW 46.04.015.

**Legislative finding, intent—Effective dates—Severability—1983 c 165:** See notes following RCW 46.20.308.

**36.32.130 Postponement of action.** When only two members are present at a meeting of the board, and a division takes place on any question, the matter under consideration shall be postponed to the next subsequent meeting. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.130. Prior: Code 1881 § 2671; 1869 p 304 § 9; 1867 p 53 § 9; 1863 p 541 § 9; 1854 p 421 § 9; RRS § 4055.]

**36.32.135 Official seal.** The county commissioners of each county shall have and use a seal for the purpose of sealing their proceedings, and copies of the same when signed and sealed by the said county commissioners, and attested by their clerk, shall be admitted as evidence of such proceedings in the trial of any cause in any court in this state; and until such seal shall be provided, the private seal of the chairman of such board of county commissioners shall be adopted as a seal. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.135. Prior: Code 1881 § 2672; 1854 p 421 § 10; RRS § 4069. Formerly RCW 36.16.080.]

**36.32.140 Record of proceedings.** The board of county commissioners shall cause to be recorded, in a book kept for that purpose, all their proceedings and determinations touching all matters properly cognizable before it; and all books, accounts, vouchers, and papers, touching the business or property of the county shall be carefully kept by the clerk, and be open to public inspection. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.140. Prior: Code 1881 § 2675; 1869 p 305 § 13; 1867 p 54 § 13; 1863 p 542 § 13; 1854 p 421 § 13; RRS § 4072.]

**36.32.150 Transcribing mutilated records.** The county commissioners shall, when any of the county records become so mutilated that their handling becomes dangerous to the safety of such records, and when in the judgment of the county commissioners it may become necessary to, order the transcribing of said records at a sum not exceeding eight cents per folio of one hundred words, in books to be provided for that purpose by the county. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.150. Prior: 1893 c 14 § 1; RRS § 4065.]

**36.32.155 Transcribing mutilated records—Prior transcribing validated.** All records transcribed by order of any board of county commissioners in this state prior to the effective date of chapter 14, Laws of 1893, shall be and are hereby declared the legal records of said county the same as if transcribed under the provisions of RCW 36.32.150 through 36.32.170. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.155. Prior: 1893 c 14 § 4; RRS § 4068.]

**36.32.160 Transcribing mutilated records—Auditor to direct transcribing, certify.** The books containing the transcribed records shall be certified by the county auditor, under whose direction the transcribing was done, as being true copies of the original. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.160. Prior: 1893 c 14 § 2; RRS § 4066.]

**36.32.170 Transcribing mutilated records—Original records to be preserved.** All the original record books, after the transcribing thereof, shall be filed away in the auditor's office and only be used in case of contest on the correctness of the transcribed records. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.170. Prior: 1893 c 14 § 3; RRS § 4067.]

**36.32.200 Special attorneys, employment of.** It shall be unlawful for a county legislative authority to employ or contract with any attorney or counsel to perform any duty which any prosecuting attorney is authorized or required by law to perform, unless the contract of employment of such attorney or counsel has been first reduced to writing and approved by the presiding superior court judge of the county in writing endorsed thereon. This section shall not prohibit the appointment of deputy prosecuting attorneys in the manner provided by law.

Any contract written pursuant to this section shall be limited to two years in duration. [1983 c 129 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.32.200. Prior: 1905 c 25 § 1; RRS § 4075.]

**36.32.210 Inventory of county personal property—Individual commissioner inventory statement—Contents.** (1) Each county commissioner of the several counties of the state of Washington shall, on the first Monday of March of each year beginning with the year 1964, file with the auditor of the county wherein such commissioner resides a statement verified by oath of such county commissioner showing for the twelve months period ending December 31st of the preceding year, the following:

(a) A full and complete inventory of all tools, machinery, equipment and appliances belonging to the district of such commissioner used or intended to be used in any public work, except the repair, construction or maintenance of any road, within said county for which public funds are to be



expended in whole or in part and which said inventory shall be segregated to show the following subheads:

(i) The equipment on hand, together with a statement of the date when acquired, the amount paid therefor, the present value, the estimated life thereof and a sufficient description to fully identify such property;

(ii) All equipment of every kind or nature sold or disposed of in any manner during such preceding twelve months period, together with the name of the purchaser, the amount paid therefor, whether or not the same was sold at public or private sale, the reason for such disposal and a sufficient description to fully identify the same;

(iii) All the equipment purchased during said period, together with the date of purchase, the amount paid therefor, whether or not the same was bought under competitive bidding, the price paid therefor and the probable life thereof, the reason for making the purchase and a sufficient description to fully identify such property;

(b) The exact amount of money derived from sources other than tax levy coming into possession or under the control of such commissioner for or on account of such district or of the commissioner making such statement; with the name of the party paying the same, the source from which derived, why so derived, and the date of its reception.

(c) The person to whom such money or any part thereof was paid and why so paid and the date of such payment.

(2) No county commissioner shall maintain official records which duplicate the records of the county road engineer or any part thereof. [1969 ex.s. c 182 § 2; 1963 c 108 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.32.210. Prior: 1931 c 95 § 1; RRS § 4056-1. FORMER PARTS OF SECTION: (i) 1931 c 95 § 2; RRS § 4056-2, now codified as RCW 36.32.213. (ii) 1931 c 95 § 3; RRS § 4056-3, now codified as RCW 36.32.215.]

*State building code: Chapter 19.27 RCW.*

**36.32.213 Inventory of county personal property—Inventory by board.** It shall be the duty of the board of county commissioners to make an inventory of all personal property of said county, bought out of the general fund, or any other fund of the county, which inventory shall contain the same information and be compiled in the same manner as provided in RCW 36.32.210 for the separate commissioner districts, provided that the same must be verified by all members of the board. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.213. Prior: 1931 c 95 § 2; RRS § 4056-2. Formerly RCW 36.32.210, part.]

**36.32.215 Inventory of county personal property—Filing and publication.** Such inventories shall be filed with the county auditor as a public record and shall be open to the inspection of the public, provided further that such county auditor shall cause such inventory and/or inventories to be published once in the official newspaper of such county within five days after the filing thereof. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.215. Prior: 1931 c 95 § 3; RRS § 4056-3. Formerly RCW 36.32.210, part.]

**36.32.220 Inventory of county personal property—Penalty.** Any county commissioner failing to file such statement or wilfully making any false or incorrect statement therein or aiding or abetting in the making of any false or

incorrect statement shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.220. Prior: 1931 c 95 § 4; RRS § 4056-4.]

**36.32.225 Inventory of county personal property—Prosecutions.** It is the duty of the prosecuting attorney of each county to within three days from the calling to his attention of any violation to institute proceedings against such offending official and in addition thereto to prosecute appropriate action to remove such commissioner from office. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.225. Prior: 1931 c 95 § 5; RRS § 4056-5. Formerly RCW 36.32.230, part.]

**36.32.230 Inventory of county personal property—Taxpayer's action.** Any taxpayer of such county is hereby authorized to institute said action in conjunction with or independent of the action of the prosecuting attorney. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.230. Prior: 1931 c 95 § 6; RRS § 4056-6. FORMER PART OF SECTION: 1931 c 95 § 5; RRS § 4057-5, now codified as RCW 36.32.225.]

**36.32.240 Competitive bids—Purchasing department.** In any county the county legislative authority may by resolution establish a county purchasing department. In each county which exercises this option, the purchasing department shall contract on a competitive basis for all public works, enter into leases of personal property on a competitive basis, and purchase all supplies, materials, and equipment, on a competitive basis, for all departments of the county, as provided in this chapter and chapter 39.04 RCW, except that the county purchasing department is not required to make purchases for the county hospital, or make purchases that are paid from the county road fund or equipment rental and revolving fund. [1993 c 198 § 5; 1991 c 363 § 57; 1985 c 169 § 8; 1983 c 3 § 77; 1974 ex.s. c 52 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 144 § 15; 1963 c 4 § 36.32.240. Prior: 1961 c 169 § 1; 1949 c 33 § 1; 1945 c 61 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 10322-15.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**Severability—1967 ex.s. c 144:** See note following RCW 36.900.030.

**36.32.245 Competitive bids—Requirements—Advertisements—Exceptions—Recycled materials.** (1) No contract for the purchase of materials, equipment, or supplies may be entered into by the county legislative authority or by any elected or appointed officer of the county until after bids have been submitted to the county. Bid specifications shall be in writing and shall be filed with the clerk of the county legislative authority for public inspection. An advertisement shall be published in the official newspaper of the county stating the time and place where bids will be opened, the time after which bids will not be received, the materials, equipment, supplies, or services to be purchased, and that the specifications may be seen at the office of the clerk of the county legislative authority. The advertisement shall be published at least once at least thirteen days prior to the last date upon which bids will be received.

(2) The bids shall be in writing and filed with the clerk. The bids shall be opened and read in public at the time and

place named in the advertisement. Contracts requiring competitive bidding under this section may be awarded only to the lowest responsible bidder. Immediately after the award is made, the bid quotations shall be recorded and open to public inspection and shall be available by telephone inquiry. Any or all bids may be rejected for good cause.

(3) For advertisement and formal sealed bidding to be dispensed with as to purchases between two thousand five hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars, the county legislative authority must use the uniform process to award contracts as provided in RCW 39.04.190. Advertisement and formal sealed bidding may be dispensed with as to purchases of less than two thousand five hundred dollars upon the order of the county legislative authority.

(4) This section does not apply to performance-based contracts, as defined in RCW 39.35A.020(3), that are negotiated under chapter 39.35A RCW; or contracts and purchases for the printing of election ballots, voting machine labels, and all other election material containing the names of candidates and ballot titles.

(5) Nothing in this section shall prohibit the legislative authority of any county from allowing for preferential purchase of products made from recycled materials or products that may be recycled or reused.

(6) This section does not apply to contracting for public defender services by a county. [1993 c 233 § 1; 1993 c 198 § 7; 1991 c 363 § 62.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 1993 c 198 § 7 and by 1993 c 233 § 1, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section pursuant to RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.32.250 Competitive bids—Contract procedure—Contracts under ten thousand dollars—Small works roster process.** No contract for public works may be entered into by the county legislative authority or by any elected or appointed officer of the county until after bids have been submitted to the county upon specifications therefor. Such specifications shall be in writing and shall be filed with the clerk of the county legislative authority for public inspection. An advertisement shall be published in the county official newspaper stating the time and place where bids will be opened, the time after which bids will not be received, the character of the work to be done, the materials and equipment to be furnished, and that specifications therefor may be seen at the office of the clerk of the county legislative authority. An advertisement shall also be published in a legal newspaper of general circulation in or as near as possible to that part of the county in which such work is to be done. If the county official newspaper is a newspaper of general circulation covering at least forty percent of the residences in that part of the county in which such public works are to be done, then the publication of an advertisement of the applicable specifications in the county official newspaper shall be sufficient. Such advertisements shall be published at least once at least thirteen days prior to the last date upon which bids will be received. The bids shall be in writing, shall be filed with the clerk, shall be opened and read in public at the time and place named therefor in the advertisements, and after being opened, shall

be filed for public inspection. No bid may be considered for public work unless it is accompanied by a bid deposit in the form of a surety bond, postal money order, cash, cashier's check, or certified check in an amount equal to five percent of the amount of the bid proposed. The contract for the public work shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. Any or all bids may be rejected for good cause. The county legislative authority shall require from the successful bidder for such public work a contractor's bond in the amount and with the conditions imposed by law. If the bidder to whom the contract is awarded fails to enter into the contract and furnish the contractor's bond as required within ten days after notice of the award, exclusive of the day of notice, the amount of the bid deposit shall be forfeited to the county and the contract awarded to the next lowest and best bidder. The bid deposit of all unsuccessful bidders shall be returned after the contract is awarded and the required contractor's bond given by the successful bidder is accepted by the county legislative authority. In the letting of any contract for public works involving less than ten thousand dollars, advertisement and competitive bidding may be dispensed with on order of the county legislative authority. Immediately after the award is made, the bid quotations obtained shall be recorded and open to public inspection and shall be available by telephone inquiry.

For advertisement and competitive bidding to be dispensed with as to public works projects with an estimated value of ten thousand dollars up to one hundred thousand dollars, a county must use a small works roster process as provided in RCW 39.04.155.

This section does not apply to performance-based contracts, as defined in RCW 39.35A.020(3), that are negotiated under chapter 39.35A RCW. [1993 c 198 § 8; 1991 c 363 § 58. Prior: 1989 c 431 § 57; 1989 c 244 § 6; prior: 1985 c 369 § 1; 1985 c 169 § 9; 1977 ex.s. c 267 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 230 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 144 § 16; 1967 c 97 § 1; 1965 c 113 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.32.250; prior: 1945 c 61 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 10322-16.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**Severability—1989 c 431:** See RCW 70.95.901.

**Severability—1967 ex.s. c 144:** See note following RCW 36.900.030.

*Subcontractors to be identified by bidder, when:* RCW 39.30.060.

**36.32.253 Competitive bids—Leases of personal property.** No lease of personal property may be entered into by the county legislative authority or by any elected or appointed officer of the county except upon use of the procedures specified in this chapter and chapter 39.04 RCW for awarding contracts for purchases when it leases personal property from the lowest responsible bidder. [1993 c 198 § 6; 1991 c 363 § 63.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.32.256 Competitive bids—Multiple awards for road maintenance materials.** A county when calling for competitive bids for the procurement of road maintenance materials may award to multiple bidders for the same commodity when the bid specifications provide for the

factors of haul distance to be included in the determination of which vendor is truly the lowest price to the county. The county may readvertise for additional bidders and vendors if it deems it necessary in the public interest. [1991 c 363 § 61.]

~~Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:~~ See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.32.260 Competitive bids—Purchasing agent.** In any county having a purchasing department the board of county commissioners shall appoint a county purchasing agent, who shall be the head of such purchasing department. The county purchasing agent shall have had previous purchasing experience as purchasing agent of a commercial, industrial, institutional, or governmental plant or agency, and shall be placed under such bond as the board may require. The board may establish a central storeroom or storerooms in charge of the county purchasing agent in which supplies and equipment may be stored and issued upon proper requisition by department heads. The purchasing agent shall be responsible for maintaining perpetual inventories of supplies and equipment and shall at least yearly, or oftener when so required by the board, report to the county commissioners a balancing of the inventory record with the actual amount of supplies or equipment on hand. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.260. Prior: 1961 c 169 § 2; 1945 c 61 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 10322-17.]

**36.32.265 Competitive bids—Inapplicability to certain agreements relating to water pollution control, solid waste handling facilities.** RCW 36.32.240, 36.32.250, and 36.32.260 do not apply to the selection of persons or entities to construct or develop water pollution control facilities or to provide water pollution control services under RCW 70.150.040 or the selection of persons or entities to construct or develop solid waste handling facilities or to provide solid waste handling services under RCW 36.58.090. [1989 c 399 § 8; 1987 c 436 § 9.]

**36.32.267 Competitive bids—Inapplicability to certain convention centers. (Effective until June 30, 1996.)** RCW 36.32.240, 36.32.250, and 36.32.260 do not apply to the selection of persons or entities in respect to convention centers undertaken under chapter 67.28 RCW by a county located in whole or in part in a national scenic area and the population of which is less than twenty thousand.

This section shall expire June 30, 1996. [1991 c 357 § 3.]

~~Effective date, application—1991 c 357:~~ See note following RCW 67.28.080.

**36.32.270 Competitive bids—Emergency purchases.** In the event of an emergency when the public interest or property of the county would suffer material injury or damage by delay, upon resolution of the board of county commissioners declaring the existence of such emergency and reciting the facts constituting the same, the board may waive the requirements of this chapter with reference to any purchase or contract. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.270. Prior: 1961 c 169 § 3; 1945 c 61 § 4; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 10322-18.]

**36.32.280 Regulation of watercourses.** The state in the exercise of its sovereign and police power authorizes any county alone or acting jointly with any other county to regulate and control the flow of waters, both navigable and nonnavigable, within such county or counties, for the purpose of preventing floods which may threaten or cause damage, public or private. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.280. Prior: 1921 c 30 § 1; RRS § 4057-1.]

**36.32.290 Regulation of watercourses—Removal of obstructions.** When the board of county commissioners of any county deems it essential to the public interest for flood prevention purposes it may remove drifts, jams, logs, debris, gravel, earth, stone or bars forming obstructions to the stream, or other material from the beds, channels, and banks of watercourses in any manner deemed expedient, including the deposit thereof on bars not forming obstructions to the stream, or on subsidiary or high water channels of such watercourses. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.290. Prior: 1921 c 30 § 2; RRS § 4057-2.]

**36.32.300 Regulation of watercourses—Trees may be removed from river banks.** When any forest trees are situated upon the bank of any watercourse or so close thereto as to be in danger of falling into it, the owner or occupant of any of the premises shall be notified to remove them forthwith. The notice shall be based upon a resolution or order of the county commissioners and may be given by mail to the last known address of the owner or occupant. If the trees are not removed within ten days after the date of the notice, the county may thereupon fell them. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.300. Prior: 1921 c 30 § 3; RRS § 4057-3.]

**36.32.310 Compensation for extra services.** Whenever a member of the board of county commissioners of any county has a claim for compensation for per diem and expenses for attendance upon any special session of the board or a claim for compensation for extra services or expenses incurred as such commissioners, including services performed as road commissioner, the claim shall be verified by him and after being approved by a majority of the board of county commissioners of the county shall be filed with the clerk of the superior court and be approved by a judge of the superior court of such county or any superior court judge holding court in such county. The judge may make such investigation as he deems necessary to determine the correctness of the claim and may, after such investigation, approve or reject any part of such claim. If the judge so approve the claim or any part thereof the same shall be certified by the clerk under the seal of his office and be returned to the county auditor who shall draw a warrant therefor. The court shall not be required oftener than once in each month to pass upon such claims and it may fix a time in each month by general order filed with the clerk of the board of county commissioners on or before which such claims must be filed with the clerk of the court. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.310. Prior: 1921 c 100 § 1; 1911 c 66 § 1; RRS § 4053.]

**36.32.330 Appeals from board's action.** Any person may appeal to the superior court from any decision or order

of the board of county commissioners. Such appeal shall be taken within twenty days after the decision or order, and the appellant shall within that time serve notice of appeal on the county commissioners. The notice shall be in writing and shall be delivered to at least one of the county commissioners personally, or left with the county auditor. The appellant shall, within ten days after service of the notice of appeal give a bond to the county with one or more sureties, to be approved by the county auditor, conditioned for the payment of all costs which shall be adjudged against him on such appeal in the superior court. The practice regulating appeals from and writs of certiorari to justice's courts shall, insofar as applicable, govern in matters of appeal from a decision or order of the board of county commissioners.

Nothing herein contained shall be construed to prevent a party having a claim against any county in this state from enforcing the collection thereof by civil action in any court of competent jurisdiction after the same has been presented to and filed as provided by law and disallowed in whole or in part by the board of county commissioners of the proper county. Such action must, however, be commenced within the time limitation provided in \*RCW 36.45.030. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.330. Prior: 1957 c 224 § 5; 1893 c 121 § 1; Code 1881 § 2695; 1869 p 308 § 29; 1867 p 57 § 29; 1863 p 545 § 30; 1854 p 423 § 24; RRS § 4076. Cf. 1879 p 143 §§ 1, 2.]

\*Reviser's note: RCW 36.45.030 was repealed by 1993 c 449 § 13.

**36.32.335 Coordination of county administrative programs—Legislative declaration.** The public necessity for the coordination of county administrative programs, especially in the fields of highways and social security, be and is hereby recognized. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.335. Prior: 1939 c 188 § 1; RRS § 4077-2.]

**36.32.340 Coordination of county administrative programs—Duties incident to.** The county commissioners shall take such action as is necessary to effect coordination of their administrative programs, prepare reports annually on the operations of all departments under their jurisdiction, and submit biennially to the governor and the legislature their joint recommendations on procedural changes which would increase the efficiency of any department. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.340. Prior: 1939 c 188 § 2; RRS § 4077-3.]

**36.32.350 Coordination of county administrative programs—Coordinating agency—Agency reimbursement.** County legislative authorities may designate the Washington state association of counties as a coordinating agency in the execution of duties imposed by RCW 36.32.335 through 36.32.360 and reimburse the association from county current expense funds in the county legislative authority's budget for the costs of any such services rendered. Such reimbursement shall be paid on vouchers submitted to the county auditor and approved by the county legislative authority in the manner provided for the disbursement of other current expense funds and the vouchers shall set forth the nature of the service rendered, supported by affidavit that the service has actually been performed. [1991 c 363 § 59; 1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 30; 1971 ex.s. c 85 § 3;

1970 ex.s. c 47 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.32.350. Prior: 1947 c 49 § 1; 1939 c 188 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 4077-4.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**Severability—Effective dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195:** See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

*Associations of municipal corporations or municipal officers to furnish information to legislature and governor:* RCW 44.04.170.

*Merger of state association of counties with state association of county officials:* RCW 36.47.070.

*Winter recreation advisory committee, representative of association of counties as member:* RCW 43.51.340.

**36.32.360 Coordination of county administrative programs—Attendance at conventions authorized.** County commissioners are hereby authorized to take such other and further action as may be deemed necessary to the compliance with the intent of RCW 36.32.335 through 36.32.360, including attendance at such state or district meetings as may be required to formulate the reports directed in RCW 36.32.340. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.360. Prior: 1939 c 188 § 4; RRS § 4077-5.]

**36.32.370 Land surveys.** Except as otherwise provided in this title, the board of county commissioners, through a surveyor employed by it shall execute all surveys of land that may be required by the county. The certificate of the surveyor so employed of any survey made of lands within the county shall be presumptive evidence of the facts therein contained. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.370. Prior: (i) 1895 c 77 § 3; RRS § 4144. (ii) 1895 c 77 § 4; RRS § 4145.]

**36.32.380 Land surveys—Record of surveys.** Except as otherwise provided in this title, the board of county commissioners shall cause to be recorded in a suitable book all surveys except such as are made for a temporary purpose. The record book shall be so constructed as to have one page for diagrams to be numbered progressively and the opposite page for notes and remarks; no diagram shall be so constructed as to scale less than one inch to twenty chains. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.380. Prior: 1895 c 77 § 5; RRS § 4150.]

**36.32.390 Nonmonthly employees, vacations and sick leaves.** Each employee of any county in this state who is employed on an hourly or per diem basis, who shall have worked fifteen hundred hours or more in any one year may in the discretion of the board of county commissioners be given the same vacations and sick leaves as are provided for the employees of the county employed on a monthly basis. [1963 c 4 § 36.32.390. Prior: 1951 c 187 § 1.]

**36.32.400 Health care and group insurance.** Subject to chapter 48.62 RCW, any county by a majority vote of its board of county commissioners may enter into contracts to provide health care services and/or group insurance for the benefit of its employees, and may pay all or any part of the cost thereof. Any two or more counties, by a majority vote of their respective boards of county commissioners may, if deemed expedient, join in the procuring of such health care services and/or group insurance, and the board of county commissioners of each participating county may, by appro-

appropriate resolution, authorize their respective counties to pay all or any portion of the cost thereof.

Nothing in this section shall impair the eligibility of any employee of a county, municipality, or other political subdivision under RCW 41.04.205. [1991 sp.s. c 30 § 21; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 106 § 7; 1963 c 4 § 36.32.400. Prior: 1957 c 106 § 1; 1955 c 51 § 1.]

**Effective date, implementation, application—Severability—1991 sp.s. c 30:** See RCW 48.62.900 and 48.62.901.

**36.32.410 Participation in Economic Opportunity Act programs.** The board of county commissioners of any county is hereby authorized and empowered in its discretion by resolution or ordinance passed by a majority of the board, to take whatever action it deems necessary to enable the county to participate in the programs set forth in the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 (Public Law 88-452; 78 Stat. 508), as amended. Such participation may be engaged in as a sole county operation or in conjunction or cooperation with the state, any other county, city, or municipal corporation, or any private corporation qualified under said Economic Opportunity Act. [1971 ex.s. c 177 § 1; 1965 c 14 § 1.]

**36.32.415 Low-income housing—Loans and grants.** A county may assist in the development or preservation of publicly or privately owned housing for persons of low income by providing loans or grants of general county funds to the owners or developers of the housing. The loans or grants shall be authorized by the legislative authority of a county. They may be made to finance all or a portion of the cost of construction, reconstruction, acquisition, or rehabilitation of housing that will be occupied by a person or family of low income. As used in this section, "low income" means income that does not exceed eighty percent of the median income for the standard metropolitan statistical area in which the county is located. Housing constructed with loans or grants made under this section shall not be considered public works or improvements subject to competitive bidding or a purchase of services subject to the prohibition against advance payment for services: PROVIDED, That whenever feasible the borrower or grantee shall make every reasonable and practicable effort to utilize a competitive public bidding process. [1986 c 248 § 2.]

**36.32.420 Youth agencies—Establishment authorized.** See RCW 35.21.630.

**36.32.425 Juvenile curfews.** (1) The legislative authority of any county has the authority to enact an ordinance, for the purpose of preserving the public safety or reducing acts of violence by or against juveniles that are occurring at such rates as to be beyond the capacity of the police to assure public safety, establishing times and conditions under which juveniles may be present on the public streets, in the public parks, or in any other public place during specified hours.

(2) The ordinance shall not contain any criminal sanctions for a violation of the ordinance. [1994 1st sp.s. c 7 § 504.]

**Finding—Intent—Severability—1994 1st sp.s. c 7:** See notes following RCW 43.70.540.

**36.32.430 Parks, may designate name of.** The board of county commissioners is authorized to designate the name of any park established by the county. [1965 ex.s. c 76 § 3.] *Acquisition of property for park, recreational, viewpoint, greenbelt, conservation, historic, scenic, or view purposes: RCW 36.34.340.*

**36.32.435 Historic preservation—Authorization to acquire property, borrow money, issue bonds, etc.** Any county may acquire title to or any interest in real and personal property for the purpose of historic preservation and may restore, improve, maintain, manage, and lease the property for public or private use and may enter into contracts, borrow money, and issue bonds and other obligations for such purposes. This authorization shall not expand the eminent domain powers of counties. [1984 c 203 § 4.]

**Severability—1984 c 203:** See note following RCW 35.43.140.

**36.32.440 Staff to aid in purchasing, poverty programs, parks, emergency services, budget, etc., authorized.** The board of county commissioners of the several counties may employ such staff as deemed appropriate to serve the several boards directly in matters including but not limited to purchasing, poverty and relief programs, parks and recreation, emergency services, budgetary preparations set forth in RCW 36.40.010-36.40.050, code enforcement and general administrative coordination. Such authority shall in no way infringe upon or relieve the county auditor of responsibilities contained in RCW 36.22.010(9) and 36.22.020. [1974 ex.s. c 171 § 3; 1969 ex.s. c 252 § 3.]

**36.32.450 Tourist promotion.** Any county in this state acting through its council or other legislative body shall have power to expend moneys and conduct promotion of resources and facilities in the county or general area by advertising, publicizing, or otherwise distributing information for the purpose of attracting visitors and encouraging tourist expansion. [1971 ex.s. c 61 § 1.]

**36.32.460 Employee safety award programs.** The board of county commissioners may establish an employee safety award program to reward and encourage the safe performance of assigned duties by county employees.

The board may establish standards and regulations necessary or appropriate for the proper administration and for otherwise accomplishing the purposes of such program.

The board may authorize every department head and other officer of county government who oversees or directs county employees to make the determination as to whether an employee safety award will be made.

Such awards shall be made annually from the county general fund by warrant on vouchers duly authorized by the board according to the following schedule based upon safe and accident-free performance:

5 years	.....	\$ 2.50
10 years	.....	5.00
15 years	.....	7.50
20 years	.....	10.00
25 years	.....	12.50
30 years	.....	20.00:

PROVIDED, That the board may give such department heads and other officers overseeing and directing county employees discretion to purchase a noncash award of equal value in lieu of the cash award. If a noncash award is given the warrants shall be made payable to the business enterprise from which the noncash award is purchased.

However, safety awards made to persons whose safe and accident-free performance has directly benefited the county road system shall be made from the county road fund by warrant on vouchers duly authorized by the board. [1971 c 79 § 1.]

**36.32.470 Fire protection, ambulance or other emergency services provided by municipal corporations within county—Financial and other assistance authorized.**

The legislative authority of any county shall have the power to furnish, upon such terms as the board may deem proper, with or without consideration, financial or other assistance to any municipal corporation, or political subdivision within such county for the purpose of implementing the fire protection, ambulance, medical or other emergency services provided by such municipal corporation, or political subdivision: PROVIDED, That no such municipal corporation or political subdivision shall be authorized to expend any funds or property received as part of such assistance for any purpose, or in any manner, for which it could not otherwise legally expend its own funds. [1974 ex.s. c 51 § 1.]

*Ambulance services may be provided by county: RCW 36.01.100.*

**36.32.480 Emergency medical service districts—Creation authorized.** A county legislative authority may adopt an ordinance creating an emergency medical service district in all or a portion of the unincorporated area of the county. The ordinance may only be adopted after a public hearing has been held on the creation of such a district and the county legislative authority makes a finding that it is in the public interest to create the district. The members of the county legislative authority shall be the governing body of the emergency medical service district.

An emergency medical service district shall be a quasi-municipal corporation and an independent taxing "authority" within the meaning of Article 7, Section 1, Washington State Constitution. Emergency medical service districts shall also be "taxing authorities" within the meaning of Article 7, Section 2, Washington State Constitution.

An emergency medical service district shall have the authority to provide emergency medical services. [1979 ex.s. c 200 § 2.]

*Severability—1979 ex.s. c 200: See note following RCW 84.52.069. Levy for emergency medical care and services: RCW 84.52.069.*

**36.32.490 County freeholders—Method of filling vacancies.** Vacancies in the position of county freeholder shall be filled with a person qualified for the position who is appointed by majority action of the remaining county freeholders. [1984 c 163 § 1.]

**36.32.510 Right of way donations—Credit against required improvements.** Where the zoning and planning provisions of a county require landscaping, parking, or other improvements as a condition to granting permits for com-

mercial or industrial developments, the county may credit donations of right of way in excess of that required for traffic improvement against such landscaping, parking, or other requirements. [1987 c 267 § 10.]

*Severability—1987 c 267: See RCW 47.14.910.*

*Right of way donations: Chapter 47.14 RCW.*

**36.32.520 Child care facilities—Review of need and demand—Adoption of ordinances.** If a county operating under home rule charter zones pursuant to its inherent charter authority and not pursuant to chapter 35.63 RCW, nor chapter 36.70 RCW, and that county does not provide for the siting of family day care homes in zones or areas that are designated for single family or other residential uses, and for the siting of mini-day care centers and day care centers in zones or areas that are designated for any residential or commercial uses, the county shall conduct a review of the need and demand for child care facilities, including the cost of any conditional or special use permit that may be required. The review shall be completed by August 30, 1990. A copy of the findings, conclusions, and recommendations resulting from the review shall be sent to the \*department of community development by September 30, 1990.

On or before June 30, 1991, each municipality that plans and zones under this chapter shall have adopted an ordinance or ordinances that are necessary to implement the findings of this review, if the findings indicate that such changes are necessary, or shall notify the \*department of community development as to why such implementing ordinances were not adopted. [1989 c 335 § 8.]

*\*Reviser's note: Powers, duties, and functions of the department of community development and the department of trade and economic development were transferred to the department of community, trade, and economic development by 1993 c 280, effective July 1, 1994.*

*Findings—Purpose—Severability—1989 c 335: See notes following RCW 35.63.170.*

*Definitions for RCW 36.32.520: See RCW 35.63.170.*

**36.32.540 Settlement of Indian claims.** (1) The settlement of Indian land and other claims against public and private property owners is declared to be in the interest of public health and safety, orderly government, environmental protection, economic development, and the social well-being of the citizens of this state, and to specifically benefit the properties released from those claims.

It is the purpose of \*this act to encourage the settlement of such Indian land and other claims lawsuits by permitting the establishment and use of local improvement districts to finance all or a portion of the settlement costs of such lawsuits.

(2) A local improvement district may be established by a county legislative authority to finance all or part of the settlement costs in an Indian land and other claims settlement related to public and private property located within the incorporated or unincorporated areas of the county. The settlement of an Indian land and other claims lawsuit shall be deemed to be an improvement that may be financed in whole or in part through use of a local improvement district.

(3) Except as expressly provided in this section, all matters relating to the establishment and operation of such a local improvement district, the levying and collection of special assessments, the issuance of local improvement

district bonds and other obligations, and all related matters, shall be subject to the provisions of chapter 36.94 RCW concerning the use of local improvement districts to finance sewer or water facilities. The requirements of chapter 36.94 RCW concerning the preparation of a general plan and formation of a review committee shall not apply to a local improvement district used to finance all or a portion of Indian land and other claims settlements. The resolution or petition that initiates the creation of a local improvement district used to finance all or a portion of an Indian land and other claims settlement shall describe the general nature of the Indian land and other claims and the proposed settlement. The value of a contribution by any person, municipal corporation, political subdivision, or the state of money, real property, or personal property to the settlement of Indian land and other claims shall be credited to any assessment for a local improvement district under this section. [1989 1st ex.s. c 4 § 3.]

**\*Reviser's note:** "This act" consists of the enactment of this section, RCW 35.43.280, and an uncodified section.

**Severability—1989 1st ex.s. c 4:** See note following RCW 35.43.280.

**36.32.550 Conformance with chapter 43.97 RCW required.** With respect to the National Scenic Area, as defined in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act, P.L. 99-663, the exercise of any power or authority by a county pursuant to this chapter shall be subject to and in conformity with the requirements of chapter 43.97 RCW, including the Interstate Compact adopted by RCW 43.97.015, and with the management plan regulations and ordinances adopted by the Columbia River Gorge commission pursuant to the Compact. [1987 c 499 § 8.]

**36.32.560 Home rule charter counties—Residential care facilities—Review of need and demand—Adoption of ordinances.** If a county operating under home rule charter zones pursuant to its inherent charter authority and not pursuant to chapter 35.63 RCW, nor chapter 36.70 RCW, and that county does not provide for the siting of residential care facilities in zones or areas that are designated for single family or other residential uses, the county shall conduct a review of the need and demand for the facilities, including the cost of any conditional or special use permit that may be required. The review shall be completed by August 30, 1990. A copy of the findings, conclusions, and recommendations resulting from the review shall be sent to the \*department of community development by September 30, 1990.

On or before June 30, 1991, each municipality that plans and zones under this chapter shall have adopted an ordinance or ordinances that are necessary to implement the findings of this review, if the findings indicate that such changes are necessary, or shall notify the \*department of community development as to why such implementing ordinances were not adopted. [1989 c 427 § 40.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Powers, duties, and functions of the department of community development and the department of trade and economic development were transferred to the department of community, trade, and economic development by 1993 c 280, effective July 1, 1994.

**Severability—1989 c 427:** See RCW 74.39.900.

*Report to legislature, model ordinance: RCW 70.128.180.*

**36.32.570 Conservation area acquisition and maintenance.** The legislative authority of each county may acquire a fee simple interest, or lesser interest, in conservation areas in the county and may maintain the conservation areas. The conservation areas may be acquired and maintained with moneys obtained from the excise tax under RCW 82.46.070, or any other moneys available for such purposes.

As used in this section, the term "conservation area" means land and water that has environmental, agricultural, aesthetic, cultural, scientific, historic, scenic, or low-intensity recreational value for existing and future generations, and includes, but is not limited to, open spaces, wetlands, marshes, aquifer recharge areas, shoreline areas, natural areas, and other lands and waters that are important to preserve flora and fauna. [1990 1st ex.s. c 5 § 2.]

**Purpose—1990 1st ex.s. c 5:** "The purpose of this act is to provide a mechanism for the acquisition and maintenance of conservation areas through an orderly process that is approved by the voters of a county. The authorities provided in this act are supplemental, and shall not be construed to limit otherwise existing authorities." [1990 1st ex.s. c 5 § 1.]

**36.32.580 Home rule charter counties subject to limitations on moratoria, interim zoning controls.** A charter county that plans under the authority of its charter is subject to the provisions of RCW 36.70.795. [1992 c 207 § 5.]

**36.32.590 Building construction projects—County prohibited from requiring state agencies or local governments to provide bond or other security as a condition for issuance of permit.** A county legislative authority may not require any state agency or unit of local government to secure the performance of a permit requirement with a surety bond or other financial security device, including cash or assigned account, as a condition of issuing a permit to that unit of local government for a building construction project.

As used in this section, "building construction project" includes, in addition to its usual meaning, associated landscaping, street alteration, pedestrian or vehicular access alteration, or other amenities or alterations necessarily associated with the project. [1993 c 439 § 3.]

**36.32.600 Amateur radio antennas—Local regulation to conform with federal law.** No county shall enact or enforce an ordinance or regulation that fails to conform to the limited preemption entitled "Amateur Radio Preemption, 101 FCC 2nd 952 (1985)" issued by the federal communications commission. An ordinance or regulation adopted by a county with respect to amateur radio antennas shall conform to the limited federal preemption, that states local regulations that involve placement, screening, or height of antennas based on health, safety, or aesthetic considerations must be crafted to reasonably accommodate amateur communications, and to represent the minimal practicable regulation to accomplish the local authority's legitimate purpose. [1994 c 50 § 3.]

**Effective date—1994 c 50:** See note following RCW 35.21.315.



**Chapter 36.33**  
**COUNTY FUNDS**

## Sections

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*Abandoned mining shafts and excavation violations, fines for as:* RCW 78.12.050.

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*legal aid:* Chapter 2.50 RCW.  
*mosquito control:* Chapter 70.22 RCW.  
*public utility district election costs:* RCW 54.08.041.  
*railroad crossing signals, warning devices:* RCW 81.53.271 through 81.53.281.  
*river and harbor improvement district joint board expenses:* RCW 88.32.220.  
*sewer district election costs:* RCW 56.12.030.  
*toll bridges, tunnels, and ferries:* Chapter 47.56 RCW.  
*townships:* RCW 45.56.050.  
*traffic schools:* RCW 46.83.030.  
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*Billiard tables, licensing of, receipts as:* RCW 67.14.120.

*Bonds, notes of port district toll facility as investment for:* RCW 53.34.150.

*Bonds for capitol building purposes, as investment for:* RCW 79.24.150 and chapter 43.83 RCW.

*Bonds of federal agencies as investment for:* Chapter 39.60 RCW.

*Bonds of housing authority as investment for:* RCW 35.82.220.

*Bonds to build schools as investment for:* Chapter 28A.525 RCW.

*Bonds to finance steam generating plant, as investment for:* RCW 43.21.400.

*Bowling alleys, licensing of, receipts as:* RCW 67.14.120.

*County and state tuberculosis funds:* Chapter 70.32 RCW.

*County law library fund:* RCW 27.24.070, 27.24.090.

*County road fund*

*illegal use of, department of transportation to investigate; penalties:* RCW 47.08.100, 47.08.110.

*moneys from may be paid on establishing, constructing, etc., of streets:* RCW 35.77.030.

*surplus, unclaimed money in public waterway district funds to go into:* RCW 91.08.610, 91.08.620.

*traffic control devices to be paid from:* RCW 47.36.040.

*County school funds:* Chapter 28A.545 RCW.

*apportionment of:* Chapter 28A.150 RCW.

*penalties collected paid into:* RCW 6.17.120.

*violations and penalties applicable to:* RCW 28A.635.050, 28A.635.070.

*County tax refund fund:* RCW 84.68.030.

*Dairy and dairy products law, fines for violations as:* RCW 15.36.501.

*Disposition of off-road vehicle moneys:* RCW 46.09.110.

*Distribution of snowmobile registration fees:* RCW 46.10.080.

*Employee safety award program, funds affected:* RCW 36.32.460.

*Fiscal agent for counties:* Chapter 43.80 RCW.

*Flood control maintenance fund:* RCW 86.26.070.

*Forest reserve funds, distribution of:* RCW 28A.520.010 and 28A.520.020.

*Game and game fish law, fines from violations as:* RCW 77.12.170.

*Horticultural tax receipts as:* Chapter 15.08 RCW.

*Indigent soldiers' relief funds, veterans meeting place rent paid from:* RCW 73.04.080.

*Intercounty river improvement fund:* RCW 86.13.030.

*Liquor*

*excise tax fund moneys as:* RCW 82.08.170.

*law violation receipts as:* RCW 66.44.010.

*licensing sale of, receipts as:* RCW 67.14.120.

*revolving fund moneys as:* Chapter 66.08 RCW.

*Metropolitan municipal corporation fund:* RCW 35.58.430.

*Mineral and petroleum leases, moneys as:* RCW 78.16.050.

*Moneys paid into from*

*general tax levy for road fund:* RCW 36.82.040.

*television reception improvement districts:* Chapter 36.95 RCW.

*Motor vehicle fuel importer use tax proceeds, as:* RCW 82.37.190.

*Motor vehicle fuel tax moneys as:* RCW 82.36.020, 82.36.100, 82.36.420.

*Motor vehicle funds allocated to counties*

*distribution of:* RCW 46.68.120.

*generally:* Chapter 46.68 RCW.

*Motor vehicle licensing fees for oversize or overweight movements paid to county, when:* RCW 46.44.096.

*Public assistance moneys, allocation to counties:* Chapter 74.04 RCW.

*Public health funds (county):* Chapter 70.12 RCW.

*Public health pooling fund:* RCW 70.12.030 through 70.12.070.

*Public utility district privilege taxes as:* Chapter 54.28 RCW.

*Reforestation lands proceeds as:* RCW 76.12.030, 76.12.120.

*Registration of land titles, disposition of fees:* RCW 65.12.800.

*Reserve fund for labor, material or tax liens on public works:* Chapter 60.28 RCW.

*River improvement fund*

*flood control maintenance account:* RCW 86.12.010, 86.12.020.

*generally:* Chapter 86.12 RCW.

*Sale of stock found in stock restricted area, proceeds as:* RCW 16.24.070.

*Taxes for city and town purposes:* State Constitution Art. 11 § 12.

*Teachers' institute fund:* RCW 28A.410.060.

*Tuberculosis funds, moneys to go into:* RCW 70.32.010.

*Witness fees of county officers as:* RCW 42.16.030.

**36.33.010 Current expense fund.** Every county shall maintain a current expense fund to which shall be credited all taxes levied for that purpose and all fees collected, fines assessed, and forfeitures adjudged in the county the proceeds of which have not been specifically allocated to any other

purpose. [1963 c 4 § 36.33.010. Prior: 1945 c 85 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 5634-1.]

*Moneys paid from for*

*disinfection of horticultural premises: Chapter 15.08 RCW.*  
*local horticultural inspectors: RCW 15.04.070.*  
*public health pooling fund: RCW 70.12.040.*  
*weed district taxes on county lands: RCW 17.04.180.*

*Moneys paid into from*

*disinfection of horticultural premises tax: RCW 15.08.170.*  
*horticultural tax funds: RCW 15.08.260.*  
*motor vehicle fuel tax violation fines: RCW 82.36.420.*  
*motor vehicle use tax collection fees: RCW 82.12.045.*  
*registration of land titles fees: RCW 65.12.800.*  
*unclaimed property in hands of sheriff, sale of: RCW 63.40.030.*  
*use tax on motor vehicles, auditor's collection fees: RCW 82.12.045.*  
*vehicle licensing handling fees: RCW 46.01.140.*  
*violations bureau funds: RCW 3.30.090.*

**36.33.020 Cumulative reserve fund—Purposes—Election to allow other specified use.** Any board of county commissioners may establish by resolution a cumulative reserve fund in general terms for several different county purposes as well as for a very specific county purpose, including that of buying any specified supplies, material or equipment, or the construction, alteration or repair of any public building or work, or the making of any public improvement. The resolution shall designate the fund as "cumulative reserve fund for . . . . . (naming the purpose or purposes for which the fund is to be accumulated and expended)." The moneys in said fund may be allowed to accumulate from year to year until the board of county commissioners of the county shall determine to expend the moneys in the fund for the purpose or purposes specified: PROVIDED, That any moneys in said fund shall never be expended for any other purpose or purposes than those specified, without an approving vote by a majority of the electors of the county at a general or special election to allow other specified uses to be made of said fund. [1963 c 4 § 36.33.020. Prior: 1961 c 172 § 1; 1945 c 51 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 5634-10.]

**36.33.030 Cumulative reserve fund—Accumulation of, current expense fund limits not to affect.** An item for said cumulative reserve fund may be included in the county's annual budget or estimate of amounts required to meet public expense for the ensuing year and a tax levy made within the limits and as authorized by law for said item; and said item and levy may be repeated from year to year until, in the judgment of the board of county commissioners of the county the amount required for the specified purpose or purposes has been raised or accumulated. The board of county commissioners may accept gifts or bequests for the cumulative reserve fund and may make transfers from the current expense fund to the cumulative reserve fund. Any moneys in said fund at the end of the fiscal year shall not lapse nor shall the same be a surplus available or which may be used for any other purpose or purposes than those specified, except as herein provided, nor shall moneys in said fund be considered when computing the limitations on cash balances set out in section 4, chapter 164, Laws of 1923 as last amended by section 1, chapter 145, Laws of 1943 and RCW 36.40.090. [1963 c 4 § 36.33.030. Prior:

1961 c 172 § 2; 1945 c 51 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 5634-11.]

**36.33.040 Cumulative reserve fund—Permissible uses of funds in.** No money in any cumulative reserve fund shall be used for any purpose other than that for which the fund was created except:

(1) If the purpose of the creation of a cumulative reserve fund has been accomplished by the completion of the proposed building or improvement, the balance remaining in the fund may be transferred to any other cumulative reserve fund or to the county current expense fund by order of the board.

(2) If the purpose of the creation of a cumulative reserve fund ceases to exist or is abandoned, the fund or any part thereof, may be transferred to any other cumulative reserve fund or to the county current expense fund by order of the board after a public hearing thereon pursuant to a notice by publication: PROVIDED, That if the amount to be transferred exceeds fifty thousand dollars, no transfer may be made until authorized by a majority of the voters of the county voting upon the question at an election. [1963 c 4 § 36.33.040. Prior: 1945 c 51 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 5634-12.]

**36.33.060 Salary fund—Reimbursement.** The county legislative authority of each county with a population of one hundred twenty-five thousand or more shall establish a salary fund to be used for paying the salaries and wages of all officials and employees. The county legislative authority of any other county may establish such a salary fund. Said salary fund shall be reimbursed from any county funds or other funds under the jurisdiction or control of the county treasurer or county auditor budgeted for salaries and wages. The deposits shall be made in the exact amount of the payroll or vouchers paid from the salary fund. [1991 c 363 § 64; 1973 1st ex.s. c 38 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 214 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.33.060. Prior: 1961 c 273 § 1; prior: (i) 1935 c 94 § 1; 1933 ex.s. c 14 § 1; RRS § 4201-1. (ii) 1933 ex.s. c 14 § 2; RRS § 4201-2. (iii) 1933 ex.s. c 14 § 3; RRS § 4201-3.]

~~Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:~~ See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.33.065 Claims fund—Reimbursement.** The county legislative authority of any county may establish by resolution a fund to be known as the claims fund, which shall be used for paying claims against the county. Such claims fund shall be reimbursed from any county funds or other funds under the jurisdiction or control of the county treasurer or county auditor budgeted for such expenditures. The deposits shall be made in the exact amount of the vouchers paid from the claims fund. [1991 c 363 § 65; 1973 1st ex.s. c 38 § 2; 1971 ex.s. c 214 § 2.]

~~Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:~~ See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.33.070 Investment in warrants on tax refund fund.** Whenever the county treasurer deems it expedient and for the best interests of the county he may invest any moneys in the county current expense fund in outstanding warrants on the county tax refund fund in the following

manner: When he has determined the amount of moneys in the county current expense fund available for investment, he shall call, in the order of their issuance, a sufficient number of warrants drawn on the county tax refund fund as nearly as possible equaling in amount but not exceeding the moneys to be invested, and upon presentation and surrender thereof he shall pay to the holders of such warrants the face amount thereof and the accrued interest thereon out of moneys in the county current expense fund. [1963 c 4 § 36.33.070. Prior: 1943 c 61 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 5545-10.]

**36.33.080 Investment in warrants on tax refund fund—Procedure upon purchase—Interest on.** Upon receipt of any such warrant on the tax refund fund the county treasurer shall enter the principal amount thereof, and accrued interest thereon, as a suspense credit upon his records, and shall hold the warrant until it with interest, if any, is paid in due course out of the county tax refund fund, and upon such payment, the amount thereof shall be restored to the county current expense fund. The refund warrants held by the county treasurer shall continue to draw interest until the payment thereof out of the county tax refund fund, which interest accruing subsequent to acquisition of the warrants by the county treasurer shall be paid into the county current expense fund. [1963 c 4 § 36.33.080. Prior: 1943 c 6 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 5545-11.]

**36.33.090 Investment in warrants on tax refund fund—Breaking of warrants authorized.** Whenever it appears to the county treasurer that the face amount plus accrued interest of the tax refund warrant next eligible for investment exceeds by one hundred dollars the amount of moneys in the county current expense fund available for investment, the county treasurer may notify the warrant holder who shall thereupon apply to the county auditor for the breaking of the warrant and the county auditor upon such application shall take up the original warrant and reissue, as of the date which the original warrant bears, two new refund warrants one of which shall be in an amount approximately equaling, with accrued interest, the amount of moneys in the county current expense fund determined by the county treasurer to be available for investment. The new warrants when issued shall be callable and payable in the same order with respect to other outstanding tax refund warrants as the original warrant in lieu of which the new warrants were issued. [1963 c 4 § 36.33.090. Prior: 1943 c 61 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 5545-12.]

**36.33.100 Investment in warrants on tax refund fund—Purchased warrants as cash.** In making settlements of accounts between outgoing and incoming county treasurers, any county tax refund warrant in which money in the county current expense fund has been invested shall be deemed in every way the equivalent of cash and shall be accepted for by the incoming county treasurer as such. [1963 c 4 § 36.33.100. Prior: 1943 c 61 § 4; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 5545-13.]

**36.33.120 County lands assessment fund created—Levy for.** The boards of county commissioners may annually levy a tax upon all taxable property in the county,

for the purpose of creating a fund to be known as "county lands assessment fund." [1963 c 4 § 36.33.120. Prior: 1929 c 193 § 1; RRS § 4027-1.]

**36.33.130 County lands assessment fund created—Purpose of fund.** The county lands assessment fund may be expended by the county commissioners to pay in full or in part, any assessment or installment of assessments of drainage improvement districts, diking improvement districts, or districts formed for the foregoing purposes, or assessments for road improvements, falling due against lands in the year when such lands are acquired by the county or while they are owned by the county, including lands acquired by the county for general purposes; also lands which have been acquired by the county by foreclosure of general taxes. Payment may be made of such assessments, or installments thereof, against such lands or classes of lands, and in such districts or classes of districts as the county commissioners deem advisable. No payment shall be made of any assessments or installments of assessments falling due prior to the year in which the lands were acquired by the county, nor shall any assessments be paid in advance of the time when they fall due. Assessments for maintenance and operation of dikes, drains, or other improvements of districts falling due upon such lands while owned by the county, may be paid without the payment of assessments or installments thereof for construction of the improvements, if the county commissioners elect so to do. [1963 c 4 § 36.33.130. Prior: 1929 c 193 § 2; RRS § 4027-2.]

**36.33.140 County lands assessment fund created—Amount of levy.** The amount of the levy in any year for the county lands assessment fund shall not exceed the estimated amount needed over and above all moneys on hand in the fund, to pay the aggregate amount of such assessments falling due against the lands in the ensuing year; and in no event shall the levy exceed twelve and one-half cents per thousand dollars of assessed value upon all taxable property in the county. [1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 31; 1963 c 4 § 36.33.140. Prior: 1929 c 193 § 3; RRS § 4027-3.]

**Severability—Effective dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195:** See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

**36.33.150 County lands assessment fund created—Surplus from tax sales to go into fund.** Into the county lands assessment fund shall also be paid any surplus moneys from the sale by the county, pursuant to foreclosure of real estate taxes, of any lands lying in any district formed for diking or drainage purposes or for assessment of road improvements, over and above the amount necessary to redeem the general taxes and other assessments against them, as required by law. Any surplus from any county levy for the fund, unexpended in any year, shall be carried forward in the fund to the next year. [1963 c 4 § 36.33.150. Prior: 1929 c 193 § 4; RRS § 4027-4.]

**36.33.160 County lands assessment fund created—List of lands to be furnished.** Upon request the county treasurer shall furnish to the county legislative authority a list of all lands owned by the county, together with the amounts levied as assessments and the district in or by

which such assessments are levied, against each description of the lands, as it appears on the assessment roll of the district. On or before the first day of August of each year, upon request, the treasurer shall furnish to the county legislative authority a similar list of all land owned by the county and subject to any such assessments, together with the amounts of any installment of assessments falling due against any of such lands in the ensuing year and an estimate of any maintenance or other assessments to be made against same to fall due in the ensuing year. [1991 c 245 § 9; 1963 c 4 § 36.33.160. Prior: 1929 c 193 § 5; RRS § 4027-5.]

**36.33.170 County lands assessment fund created—Rentals may be applied against assessments.** Moneys received as rentals of irrigated lands may be applied to the payment of current irrigation charges or assessments against the land. [1963 c 4 § 36.33.170. Prior: 1929 c 193 § 6; RRS § 4027-6.]

**36.33.180 County lands assessment fund created—Investment of surplus funds in United States bonds.** The county treasurer of every county shall call the attention of the county finance committee to any inactive fund or funds in excess of the current needs of the county. The committee may by order authorize him to invest such inactive or excess funds in bonds of the United States government, if prior to making the order, they have applied for and received from the state finance committee, its approval of such investment. [1963 c 4 § 36.33.180. Prior: 1951 c 161 § 1; 1937 c 209 § 1; RRS § 5646-11.]

**36.33.190 County lands assessment fund created—Disposal of bonds.** The county treasurer shall cash any United States bonds owned by the county as they mature or, with the approval of the state finance committee and of the county finance committee, he may at any time sell them. In either event he must return the proceeds into the treasury. [1963 c 4 § 36.33.190. Prior: 1937 c 209 § 2; RRS § 5646-12.]

**36.33.200 Election reserve fund.** The board of county commissioners may establish an election reserve fund for the payment of expenses of conducting regular and special state and county elections and compensation of election and registration officers and annually budget and levy a tax therefor. It may also make transfers into the election reserve fund from the current expense fund and receive funds for such purposes from cities, school districts and other subdivisions. [1963 c 4 § 36.33.200. Prior: 1955 c 48 § 1.]

**36.33.210 Election reserve fund—Accumulation of fund—Transfers.** The limits placed upon the amount to be accumulated in the current expense fund shall not affect the election reserve fund nor shall the existence of the election reserve fund affect the amount which may be accumulated in the current expense fund, nor shall any unexpended balance in the election reserve fund at the end of any budget year revert to the current expense fund but shall be carried forward in the election reserve fund to be used for the purposes for which the fund was created: PROVIDED, That [Title 36 RCW—page 70]

at a regular session, the county commissioners may transfer any surplus in said fund to the current expense fund if they deem it expedient to do so. [1963 c 4 § 36.33.210. Prior: 1955 c 48 § 2.]

**36.33.220 County road property tax revenues, expenditure for services authorized.** The legislative authority of any county may budget, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 36.40 RCW, and expend any portion of the county road property tax revenues for any service to be provided in the unincorporated area of the county notwithstanding any other provision of law, including chapter 36.82 RCW and RCW 84.52.050 and 84.52.043. [1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 142; 1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 32; 1971 ex. c 25 § 1.]

**Severability—Effective dates—Construction—1973 1st ex. c 195:** See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

**Severability—1971 ex.s. c 25:** "If any provision of this 1971 amendatory act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1971 ex.s. c 25 § 4.]

## Chapter 36.33A

### EQUIPMENT RENTAL AND REVOLVING FUND

#### Sections

36.33A.010	Equipment rental and revolving fund— Establishment—Purposes.
36.33A.020	Use of fund by other offices, departments or agencies.
36.33A.030	Administration of fund.
36.33A.040	Rates for equipment rental.
36.33A.050	Deposits in fund.
36.33A.060	Accumulated moneys.

**36.33A.010 Equipment rental and revolving fund—Establishment—Purposes.** Every county shall establish by resolution, an "equipment rental and revolving fund", hereinafter referred to as "the fund", in the county treasury to be used as a revolving fund for the purchase, maintenance, and repair of county road department equipment; for the purchase of equipment, materials, supplies, and services required in the administration and operation of the fund; and for the purchase or manufacture of materials and supplies needed by the county road department. [1977 c 67 § 1.]

**36.33A.020 Use of fund by other offices, departments or agencies.** The legislative body of any county may authorize, by resolution, the use of the fund by any other office or department of the county government or any other governmental agency for similar purposes. [1977 c 67 § 2]

**36.33A.030 Administration of fund.** With the approval of the county legislative body, the county engineer, or other appointee of the county legislative body, shall administer the fund and shall be responsible for establishing the terms and charges for the sale of any material or supplies which have been purchased, maintained, or manufactured with moneys from the fund. The terms and charges shall be set to cover all costs of purchasing, storing, and distributing the material or supplies, and may be amended as considered necessary. [1977 c 67 § 3.]

**36.33A.040 Rates for equipment rental.** Rates for the rental of equipment owned by the fund shall be set to cover all costs of maintenance and repair, material and supplies consumed in operating or maintaining the equipment, and the future replacement thereof. The rates shall be determined by the county engineer and shall be subject to annual review by the legislative body. [1977 c 67 § 4.]

**36.33A.050 Deposits in fund.** The legislative authority of the county may, from time to time, place moneys in the fund from any source lawfully available to it and may transfer equipment, materials, and supplies of any office or department to the equipment rental and revolving fund with or without charge consistent with RCW 43.09.210. Charges for the rental of equipment and for providing materials, supplies, and services to any county office or department shall be paid monthly into the fund. Proceeds received from other governmental agencies for similar charges and from the sale of equipment or other personal property owned by the equipment rental and revolving fund, which is no longer of any value to or needed by the county, shall be placed in the fund as received. [1977 c 67 § 5.]

**36.33A.060 Accumulated moneys.** Moneys accumulated in the equipment rental and revolving fund shall be retained therein from year to year; shall be used only for the purposes stated in this chapter; and shall be subject to the budgetary regulations in chapter 36.40 RCW. [1977 c 67 § 6.]

## Chapter 36.34 COUNTY PROPERTY

### Sections

- 36.34.005 Establishment of comprehensive procedures for management of county property authorized—Exemption from chapter.
- 36.34.010 Authority to sell—May sell timber, minerals separately—Mineral reservation.
- 36.34.020 Publication of notice of intention to sell.
- 36.34.030 Requirements of notice—Posting.
- 36.34.040 Public hearing.
- 36.34.050 Findings and determination—Minimum price.
- 36.34.060 Sales of personalty.
- 36.34.070 Sales and purchases of equipment—Trade-ins.
- 36.34.080 Sales to be at public auction.
- 36.34.090 Notice of sale.
- 36.34.100 Notice of sale—Requirements of.
- 36.34.110 Disposition of proceeds.
- 36.34.120 Used equipment sales.
- 36.34.130 Intergovernmental sales.
- 36.34.135 Leases of county property—Affordable housing.
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- 36.34.170 Objections to leasing.
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- 36.34.192 Application of RCW 36.34.150 through 36.34.190 to certain service provider agreements under chapter 70.150 RCW.
- 36.34.200 Execution of lease agreement.
- 36.34.210 Forest lands may be conveyed to United States.
- 36.34.220 Lease or conveyance to United States for flood control, navigation, and allied purposes.

- 36.34.230 Lease or conveyance to United States for flood control, navigation, and allied purposes—State consents to conveyance.
- 36.34.240 Lease or conveyance to United States for flood control, navigation, and allied purposes—Cession of jurisdiction.
- 36.34.250 Lease or conveyance to the state or to United States for military, housing, and other purposes.
- 36.34.260 Lease or conveyance to the state or to United States for military, housing, and other purposes—Procedure.
- 36.34.270 Lease or conveyance to the state or to United States for military, housing, and other purposes—Execution of instrument of transfer.
- 36.34.280 Conveyance to municipality.
- 36.34.290 Dedication of county land for streets and alleys.
- 36.34.300 Dedication of county land for streets and alleys—Execution of dedication—Effective date.
- 36.34.310 Long term leases to United States.
- 36.34.320 Executory conditional sales contracts for purchase of property—Limit on indebtedness—Election, when.
- 36.34.330 Exchange for privately owned real property of equal value.
- 36.34.340 May acquire property for park, recreational, viewpoint, greenbelt, conservation, historic, scenic, or view purposes.

*Acquisition and operation of public cemeteries and funeral facilities: Chapter 68.52 RCW.*

*Eminent domain by state of county property: Chapter 8.04 RCW.*

#### *Federal areas on*

*generally: Chapters 37.08, 37.16 RCW.*

*Indians and Indian lands, jurisdiction: Chapter 37.12 RCW.*

#### *King county*

*Auburn general depot: RCW 37.08.260.*

*Lake Washington ship canal: RCW 37.08.240, 37.08.250.*

*military installations (permanent United States), county aid in acquisition of land for: Chapter 37.16 RCW.*

*Flood control by counties jointly, lease or sale of property: RCW 86.13.100.*

*Industrial development districts, transfer of county lands to: Chapter 53.25 RCW.*

*Local improvement assessments against county lands: RCW 35.44.140, 35.49.070.*

*Mineral and petroleum leases on county lands: Chapter 78.16 RCW.*

*Property subject to diking, drainage or sewerage improvement assessments, resale or lease by county: RCW 85.08.500.*

*Rights of way over by diking districts: RCW 85.05.080.*

*Tax liens, property, county acquisitions as subject to: RCW 84.60.050.*

*Television reception improvement district dissolution, disposition of property: RCW 36.95.200.*

*Township property as upon disorganization: RCW 45.80.080.*

*Underground storage of natural gas, lease of county lands for: RCW 80.40.070.*

**36.34.005 Establishment of comprehensive procedures for management of county property authorized—Exemption from chapter.** Pursuant to public notice and hearing, any county may establish comprehensive procedures for the management of county property consistent with the public interest and counties establishing such procedures shall be exempt from the provisions of chapter 36.34 RCW: PROVIDED, That all counties shall retain all powers now or hereafter granted by chapter 36.34 RCW. [1973 1st ex.s. c 196 § 1.]

**36.34.010 Authority to sell—May sell timber, minerals separately—Mineral reservation.** Whenever it appears to the board of county commissioners that it is for the best interests of the county and the taxing districts and the people thereof that any part or parcel, or portion of such

part or parcel, of property, whether real, personal, or mixed, belonging to the county, including tax title land, should be sold, the board shall sell and convey such property, under the limitations and restrictions and in the manner hereinafter provided.

In making such sales the board of county commissioners may sell any timber, mineral, or other resources on any land owned by the county separate and apart from the land in the same manner and upon the same terms and conditions as provided in this chapter for the sale of real property.

The board of county commissioners may reserve mineral rights in such land and, if such reservation is made, any conveyance of the land shall contain the following reservation:

"The party of the first part hereby expressly saves, excepts, and reserves out of the grant hereby made, unto itself, its successors, and assigns, forever, all oils, gases, coals, ores, minerals, gravel, timber, and fossils of every name, kind, or description, and which may be in or upon said lands above described; or any part thereof, and the right to explore the same for such oils, gases, coals, ores, minerals, gravel, timber and fossils; and it also hereby expressly saves and reserves out of the grant hereby made, unto itself, its successors, and assigns, forever, the right to enter by itself, its agents, attorneys, and servants upon said lands, or any part or parts thereof, at any and all times, for the purpose of opening, developing, and working mines thereon, and taking out and removing therefrom all such oils, gases, coal, ores, minerals, gravel, timber, and fossils, and to that end it further expressly reserves out of the grant hereby made, unto itself, its successors, and assigns, forever, the right by it or its agents, servants, and attorneys at any and all times to erect, construct, maintain, and use all such buildings, machinery, roads and railroads, sink such shafts, remove such oil, and to remain on said lands or any part thereof, for the business of mining and to occupy as much of said lands as may be necessary or convenient for the successful prosecution of such mining business, hereby expressly reserving to itself, its successors, and assigns, as aforesaid, generally, all rights and powers in, to, and over said land, whether herein expressed or not, reasonably necessary or convenient to render beneficial and efficient the complete enjoyment of the property and the rights hereby expressly reserved."

No rights shall be exercised under the foregoing reservation until provision has been made to pay to the owner of the land upon which the rights reserved are sought to be exercised, full payment for all damages sustained by reason of entering upon the land: PROVIDED, That if the owner for any cause refuses or neglects to settle the damages, the county, its successors, or assigns, or any applicant for a lease or contract from the county for the purpose of prospecting for or mining valuable minerals, or operation contract, or lease, for mining coal, or lease for extracting petroleum or natural gas, shall have the right to institute such legal proceedings in the superior court of the county wherein the land is situated, as may be necessary to determine the damages which the owner of the land may suffer. Any of the reserved minerals or other resources not exceeding two hundred dollars in value may be sold, when the board deems it advisable, either with or without publication of notice of sale, and in such manner as the board may determine will be

most beneficial to the county. [1963 c 4 § 36.34.010. Prior: 1945 c 172 § 3; 1943 c 19 § 1; 1891 c 76 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 4007.]

#### **36.34.020 Publication of notice of intention to sell.**

Whenever the county legislative authority desires to dispose of any county property except:

- (1) When selling to a governmental agency;
- (2) When personal property to be disposed of is to be traded in upon the purchase of a like article;
- (3) When the value of the property to be sold is less than two thousand five hundred dollars;

(4) When the county legislative authority by a resolution setting forth the facts has declared an emergency to exist; it shall publish notice of its intention so to do once each week during two successive weeks in a legal newspaper of general circulation in the county. [1991 c 363 § 66; 1985 c 469 § 45; 1967 ex.s. c 144 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.34.020. Prior: 1945 c 254 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 4014-1; prior: 1891 c 76 § 2, part; RRS § 4008, part.]

~~Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:~~ See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

~~Severability—1967 ex.s. c 144:~~ See note following RCW 36.900.030.

**36.34.030 Requirements of notice—Posting.** The notice of hearing on the proposal to dispose of any county property must particularly describe the property or portion thereof proposed to be sold and designate the place where and the day and hour when a hearing will be held thereon and be posted in a conspicuous place in the courthouse. Both posting and the date of first publication must be at least ten days before the day set for the hearing. [1963 c 4 § 36.34.030. Prior: 1945 c 254 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 4014-2; prior: 1891 c 76 § 2, part; RRS § 4008, part.]

**36.34.040 Public hearing.** The board shall hold a public hearing upon a proposal to dispose of county property at the day and hour fixed in the notice at its usual place of business and admit evidence offered for and against the propriety and advisability of the proposed action. Any taxpayer in person or by counsel may submit evidence and submit an argument, but the board may limit the number to three on a side. [1963 c 4 § 36.34.040. Prior: 1945 c 254 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 4014-3; prior: 1891 c 76 § 2, part; RRS § 4008, part.]

**36.34.050 Findings and determination—Minimum price.** Within three days after the hearing upon a proposal to dispose of county property, the county legislative authority shall make its findings and determination thereon and cause them to be spread upon its minutes and made a matter of record. The county legislative authority may set a minimum sale price on property that is proposed for sale. [1991 c 363 § 67; 1963 c 4 § 36.34.050. Prior: 1945 c 254 § 4; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 4014-4; prior: 1891 c 76 § 3; RRS § 4009.]

~~Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:~~ See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.34.060 Sales of personalty.** Sales of personal property must be for cash except:

(1) When property is transferred to a governmental agency;

(2) When the county property is to be traded in on the purchase of a like article, in which case the proposed cash allowance for the trade-in must be part of the proposition to be submitted by the seller in the transaction. [1963 c 4 § 36.34.060. Prior: 1945 c 254 § 5; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 4014-5; prior: 1915 c 8 § 1, part; 1891 c 76 § 5, part; RRS § 4011, part.]

**36.34.070 Sales and purchases of equipment—Trade-ins.** The board may advertise and sell used highway or other equipment belonging to the county or to any taxing division thereof subject to its jurisdiction in the manner prescribed for the sale of county property, or it may trade it in on the purchase of new equipment. If the board elects to trade in the used equipment it shall include in its call for bids on the new equipment a notice that the county has for sale or trade-in used equipment of a specified type and description which will be sold or traded in on the same day and hour that the bids on the new equipment are opened. Any bidder on the new equipment may include in his offer to sell, an offer to accept the used equipment as a part payment of the new equipment purchase price, setting forth the amount of such allowance.

In determining the lowest and best bid on the new equipment the board shall consider the net cost to the county of such new equipment after trade-in allowances have been deducted. The board may accept the new equipment bid of any bidder without trading in the used equipment but may not require any such bidder to purchase the used equipment without awarding the bidder the new equipment contract. Nothing in this section shall bar anyone from making an offer for the purchase of the used equipment independent of a bid on the new equipment and the board shall consider such offers in relation to the trade-in allowances offered to determine the net best sale and purchase combination for the county. [1963 c 4 § 36.34.070. Prior: 1945 c 254 § 6; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 4014-6.]

**36.34.080 Sales to be at public auction.** All sales of county property ordered after a public hearing upon the proposal to dispose thereof must be supervised by the county treasurer and may be sold at a county or other government agency's public auction, at a privately operated consignment auction that is open to the public, or by sealed bid to the highest and best bidder meeting or exceeding the minimum sale price as directed by the county legislative authority. [1993 c 8 § 1. Prior: 1991 c 363 § 68; 1991 c 245 § 10; 1965 ex.s. c 23 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.34.080; prior: 1945 c 254 § 7; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 4014-7; prior: 1891 c 76 § 4, part; RRS § 4010, part.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

*Public auction sales, where held:* RCW 36.16.140.

**36.34.090. Notice of sale.** Whenever county property is to be sold at public auction, consignment auction, or sealed bid, the county auditor shall publish notice thereof once during each of two successive calendar weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county. Notice

thereof must also be posted in a conspicuous place in the courthouse. The posting and date of first publication must be at least ten days before the day fixed for the sale. [1991 c 363 § 69; 1985 c 469 § 46; 1963 c 4 § 36.34.090. Prior: 1945 c 254 § 8; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 4014-8; prior: 1891 c 76 § 4, part; RRS § 4010, part.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.34.100 Notice of sale—Requirements of.** The notice of sale of county property by auction sale must particularly describe the property to be sold and designate the day and hour and the location of the auction sale. The notice of sale of county property by sealed bid must describe the property to be sold, designate the date and time after which the bids are not received, the location to turn in the sealed bid, and the date, time, and location of the public meeting of the county legislative authority when the bids are opened and read in public. [1991 c 363 § 70; 1963 c 4 § 36.34.100. Prior: 1945 c 254 § 9; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 4014-9; prior: 1891 c 76 § 4, part; RRS § 4010, part.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.34.110 Disposition of proceeds.** The proceeds of sales of county property except in cases of trade-in allowances upon purchases of like property must be paid to the county treasurer who must receipt therefor and execute the proper documents transferring title attested to by the county auditor. In no case shall the title be transferred until the purchase price has been fully paid. [1963 c 4 § 36.34.110. Prior: 1945 c 254 § 10; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 4014-10; prior: (i) 1915 c 8 § 1, part; 1891 c 76 § 5, part; RRS § 4011, part. (ii) 1891 c 76 § 6, part; RRS § 4013, part.]

**36.34.120 Used equipment sales.** Proceeds from the sale of used equipment must be credited to the fund from which the original purchase price was paid. [1963 c 4 § 36.34.120. Prior: 1945 c 254 § 11; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 4014-11.]

**36.34.130 Intergovernmental sales.** The board of county commissioners may dispose of county property to another governmental agency and may acquire property for the county from another governmental agency by means of private negotiation upon such terms as may be agreed upon and for such consideration as may be deemed by the board of county commissioners to be adequate. [1963 c 4 § 36.34.130. Prior: 1945 c 254 § 12; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 4014-12.]

**36.34.135 Leases of county property—Affordable housing.** If a county owns property that is located anywhere within the county, including within the limits of a city or town, and that is suitable for affordable housing, the legislative authority of the county may, by negotiation, lease the property for affordable housing for a term not to exceed seventy-five years to any public housing authority or nonprofit organization that has demonstrated its ability to construct or operate housing for very low-income, low-income, or moderate-income households as defined in RCW



43.63A.510 and special needs populations. Leases for housing for very low-income, low-income, or moderate-income households and special needs populations shall not be subject to any requirement of periodic rental adjustments, as provided in RCW 36.34.180, but shall provide for such fixed annual rents as appear reasonable considering the public, social, and health benefits to be derived by providing an adequate supply of safe and sanitary housing for very low-income, low-income, or moderate-income households and special needs populations. [1993 c 461 § 6; 1990 c 253 § 7.]

**Finding—1993 c 461:** See note following RCW 43.63A.510.

**Legislative finding and purpose—1990 c 253:** See note following RCW 43.70.330.

**36.34.137 Affordable housing—Inventory of suitable property.** (1) Every county shall identify and catalog real property owned by the county that is no longer required for its purposes and is suitable for the development of affordable housing for very low-income, low-income, and moderate-income households as defined in RCW 43.63A.510. The inventory shall include the location, approximate size, and current zoning classification of the property. Every county shall provide a copy of the inventory to the \*department of community development by November 1, 1993, with inventory revisions each November 1 thereafter.

(2) By November 1 of each year, beginning in 1994, every county shall purge the inventory of real property of sites that are no longer available for the development of affordable housing. The inventory revision shall include an updated listing of real property that has become available since the last update. As used in this section, "real property" means buildings, land, or buildings and land. [1993 c 461 § 5.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Powers, duties, and functions of the department of community development and the department of trade and economic development were transferred to the department of community, trade, and economic development by 1993 c 280, effective July 1, 1994.

**Finding—1993 c 461:** See note following RCW 43.63A.510.

**36.34.140 Leases of county property—Airports.** The board of county commissioners, if it appears that it is for the best interests of the county and the people thereof, that any county real property and its appurtenances should be leased for a year or a term of years, may lease such property under the limitations and restrictions and in the manner provided in this chapter, and, if it appears that it is for the best interests of the county and the people thereof, that any county real property and its appurtenances which is now being, or is to be devoted to airport or aeronautical purposes or purposes incidental thereto, should be leased for a year or a term of years, said board of county commissioners may lease such property under the limitations and restrictions and in the manner provided in this chapter, and said board of county commissioners shall have power to lease such county real property and its appurtenances whether such property was heretofore or hereafter acquired or whether heretofore or hereafter acquired by tax deed under tax foreclosure proceedings for nonpayment of taxes or whether held or acquired in any other manner. Any lease executed under the authority of the provisions hereof creates a vested interest and a contract binding upon the county and the lessee.

[1963 c 4 § 36.34.140. Prior: 1951 2nd ex.s. c 14 § 1; prior: (i) 1901 c 87 § 1; RRS § 4019. (ii) 1901 c 87 § 6, part; RRS § 4024, part.]

**36.34.145 Leases of county property to nonprofit organizations for agricultural fairs.** The legislative authority of any county owning property in or outside the limits of any city or town, or anywhere within the county, which is suitable for agricultural fair purposes may by negotiation lease such property for such purposes for a term not to exceed seventy-five years to any nonprofit organization that has demonstrated its qualification to conduct agricultural fairs. Such agricultural fair leases shall not be subject to any requirement of periodic rental adjustments, as provided in RCW 36.34.180, but shall provide for such fixed annual rental as shall appear reasonable, considering the benefit to be derived by the county in the promotion of the fair and in the improvement of the property. The lessee may utilize or rent out such property at times other than during the fair season for nonfair purposes in order to obtain income for fair purposes, and during the fair season may sublease portions of the property for purposes and activities associated with such fair. No sublease shall be valid unless the same shall be approved in writing by the county legislative authority: PROVIDED, That failure of such lessee, except by act of God, war or other emergency beyond its control, to conduct an annual agricultural fair or exhibition, shall cause said lease to be subject to cancellation by the county legislative authority. A county legislative authority entering into an agreement with a nonprofit association to lease property for agricultural fair purposes shall, when requested to do so, file a copy of the lease agreement with the department of agriculture or the state fair commission in order to assure compliance with the provisions of RCW 15.76.165. [1986 c 171 § 2; 1963 c 4 § 36.34.145. Prior: 1957 c 134 § 1.]

**36.34.150 Application to lease—Deposit.** Any person desiring to lease county lands shall make application in writing to the board of county commissioners. Each application shall be accompanied by a deposit of not less than ten dollars or such other sum as the county commissioners may require, not to exceed twenty-five dollars. The deposit shall be in the form of a certified check or certificate of deposit on some bank in the county, or may be paid in cash. In case the lands applied for are leased at the time they are offered, the deposit shall be returned to the applicant, but if the party making application fails or refuses to comply with the terms of his application and to execute the lease, the deposit shall be forfeited to the county, and the board of county commissioners shall pay the deposit over to the county treasurer, who shall place it to the credit of the current expense fund. [1963 c 4 § 36.34.150. Prior: 1901 c 87 § 2; RRS § 4020.]

**36.34.160 Notice of intention to lease.** When, in the judgment of the board of county commissioners, it is found desirable to lease the land applied for, it shall first give notice of its intention to make such lease by publishing a notice in a legal newspaper at least once a week for the term of three weeks, and shall also post a notice of such intention

in a conspicuous place in the courthouse for the same length of time. The notice so published and posted shall designate and describe the property which is proposed to be leased, together with the improvements thereon and appurtenances thereto, and shall contain a notice that the board of county commissioners will meet at the county courthouse on a day and at an hour designated in the notice, for the purpose of leasing the property which day and hour shall be at a time not more than a week after the expiration of the time required for the publication of the notice. [1963 c 4 § 36.34.160. Prior: 1901 c 87 § 3; RRS § 4021.]

**36.34.170 Objections to leasing.** Any person may appear at the meeting of the county commissioners or any adjourned meeting thereof, and make objection to the leasing of the property, which objection shall be stated in writing. In passing upon objections the board of county commissioners shall, in writing, briefly give its reasons for accepting or rejecting the same, and such objections, and the reasons for accepting or refusing the application, shall be published by the board in the next subsequent weekly issue of the newspaper in which the notice of hearing was published. [1963 c 4 § 36.34.170. Prior: 1901 c 87 § 5; RRS § 4023.]

**36.34.180 Lease terms.** At the day and hour designated in the notice or at any subsequent time to which the meeting may be adjourned by the board of county commissioners, but not more than thirty days after the day and hour designated for the meeting in the published notice, the board may lease the property in such notice described for a term of years and upon such terms and conditions as to the board may seem just and right in the premises. No lease shall be for a longer term in any one instance than ten years, and no renewal of a lease once executed and delivered shall be had, except by a re-leasing and re-letting of the property according to the terms and conditions of this chapter: PROVIDED, That if a county owns property within or outside the corporate limits of any city or town or anywhere in the county suitable for municipal purposes, or for commercial buildings, or owns property suitable for manufacturing or industrial purposes or sites, or for military purposes, or for temporary or emergency housing, or for any requirement incidental to manufacturing, commercial, agricultural, housing, military, or governmental purposes, the board of county commissioners may lease it for such purposes for any period not to exceed thirty-five years: PROVIDED FURTHER, Where the property involved is or is to be devoted to airport purposes and construction work or the installation of new facilities is contemplated, the board may lease said property for such period as may equal the estimated useful life of such work or facilities but not to exceed seventy-five years.

If property is leased for municipal purposes or for commercial buildings or manufacturing or industrial purposes the lessee shall prior to the execution of the lease file with the board of county commissioners general plans and specifications of the building or buildings to be erected thereon for such purposes. All leases when executed shall provide that they shall be canceled by failure of the lessee to construct such building or buildings or other improvements for such purposes within three years from date of the lease, and in case of failure so to do the lease and all improve-

ments thereon including the rentals paid, shall thereby be forfeited to the county unless otherwise stipulated. No change or modification of the plans shall be made unless first approved by the board of county commissioners. If at any time during the life of the lease the lessee fails to use the property for the purposes leased, without first obtaining permission in writing from the board of county commissioners so to do, the lease shall be forfeited.

Any lease made for a longer period than ten years shall contain provisions requiring the lessee to permit the rentals for every five year period thereafter, or part thereof, at the commencement of such period, to be readjusted and fixed by the board of county commissioners. In the event that the lessee and the board cannot agree upon the rentals for said five year period, the lessee shall submit to have the disputed rentals for the subsequent period adjusted by arbitration. The lessee shall pick one arbitrator and the board one, and the two so chosen shall select a third. No board of arbitrators shall reduce the rentals below the sum fixed or agreed upon for the last preceding period. All buildings, factories, or other improvements made upon property leased shall belong to and become property of such county, unless otherwise stipulated, at the expiration of the lease.

No lease shall be assigned without the assignment being first authorized by resolution of the board of county commissioners and the consent in writing of at least two members of the board endorsed on the lease. All leases when drawn shall contain this provision.

This section shall not be construed to limit the power of the board of county commissioners to sell, lease, or by gift convey any property of the county to the United States or any of its governmental agencies to be used for federal government purposes. [1963 c 4 § 36.34.180. Prior: 1951 c 41 § 1; 1941 c 110 § 2; 1913 c 162 § 1; 1903 c 57 § 1; 1901 c 87 § 4; RRS § 4022.]

**36.34.190 Lease to highest responsible bidder.** No lease shall be made by the county except to the highest responsible bidder at the time of the hearing set forth in the notice of intention to lease. [1963 c 4 § 36.34.190. Prior: 1901 c 87 § 6, part; RRS § 4024, part.]

**36.34.192 Application of RCW 36.34.150 through 36.34.190 to certain service provider agreements under chapter 70.150 RCW.** RCW 36.34.150 through 36.34.190 shall not apply to agreements entered into pursuant to chapter 70.150 RCW provided there is compliance with the procurement procedure under RCW 70.150.040. [1986 c 244 § 12.]

**Severability—1986 c 244:** See RCW 70.150.905.

**36.34.200 Execution of lease agreement.** Upon the decision of the board of county commissioners to lease the lands applied for, a lease shall be executed in duplicate to the lessee by the chairman of the board and the county auditor, attested by his seal of office, which lease shall also be signed by the lessee. The lease shall refer to the order of the board directing the lease, with a description of the lands conveyed, the periods of payment, and the amounts to be paid for each period. [1963 c 4 § 36.34.200. Prior: 1901 c 87 § 7; RRS § 4025.]

**36.34.210 Forest lands may be conveyed to United States.** The board of county commissioners of any county which acquires any lands through foreclosure of tax liens or otherwise, which by reason of their location, topography, or geological formation are chiefly valuable for the purpose of developing and growing timber, and which are situated within the boundaries of any national forest, may, upon application by the proper forest service official of the United States government, convey such lands to the United States government for national forest purposes under the national forest land exchange regulations, for such compensation as may be deemed equitable. [1963 c 4 § 36.34.210. Prior: 1931 c 69 § 1; RRS § 4015-1.]

**36.34.220 Lease or conveyance to United States for flood control, navigation, and allied purposes.** If the board of county commissioners of any county adjudges that it is desirable and for the general welfare and benefit of the people of the county and for the interest of the county to lease or convey property, real or personal, belonging to the county, however acquired, whether by tax foreclosure or in any other manner, to the United States for the purpose of flood control, navigation, power development, or for use in connection with federal projects within the scope of the federal reclamation act of June 17, 1902, and the act of congress of August 30, 1935, entitled "An Act authorizing the construction, repair, and preservation of certain public works on rivers and harbors, and for other purposes," and federal acts amendatory thereof and supplemental thereto, for the reclamation and irrigation of arid lands, the board, by majority vote, may lease or convey such property to the United States for flood control, navigation, and power development purposes, or for use in connection with federal projects for the reclamation and irrigation of arid lands. This property may be conveyed or leased by deed or other instrument of conveyance or lease without notice and upon such consideration, if any, as shall be determined by the board and the deed or lease may be signed by the county treasurer when authorized to do so by resolution of the board. Any deed issued heretofore by any county to the United States under authority of section 1, chapter 46, Laws of 1937 and the amendments thereto, is ratified and approved and declared to be valid. [1963 c 4 § 36.34.220. Prior: 1945 c 94 § 1; 1941 c 142 § 1; 1937 c 46 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 4015-6.]

**36.34.230 Lease or conveyance to United States for flood control, navigation, and allied purposes—State consents to conveyance.** Pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the United States and the Constitution of this state, consent of the legislature is given to such conveyance by a county to the United States for such purposes. [1963 c 4 § 36.34.230. Prior: 1937 c 46 § 2; RRS § 4015-7.]

**36.34.240 Lease or conveyance to United States for flood control, navigation, and allied purposes—Cession of jurisdiction.** Pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the United States and the Constitution of this state, consent of the legislature is given to the exercise by the congress of the United States of exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever on such tract or parcels of land so conveyed to it: PROVID-

ED, That all civil process issued from the courts of the state and such criminal process as may issue under the authority of the state against any person charged with crime in cases arising outside of said tract may be served and executed thereon in the same manner as if such property were retained by the county. [1963 c 4 § 36.34.240. Prior: 1937 c 46 § 3; RRS § 4015-8.]

**36.34.250 Lease or conveyance to the state or to United States for military, housing, and other purposes.** The board of county commissioners of any county by a majority vote are hereby authorized to directly lease, sell, or convey by gift, all or any portion of real estate, or any interest therein owned by the county, however acquired, by tax foreclosure or in any other manner, to the United States for the use and benefit of any branch of the army, navy, marine corps or air forces of the United States, or for enlarging or improving any military base thereof, or for any governmental housing project, or for the purpose of constructing and operating any federal power project, or to the state of Washington, without requiring competitive bids or notice to the public and at such price and terms as the board may deem for the best interests of the county. The property may be conveyed to the United States or to the state of Washington by deed or other instrument of conveyance and shall not require any consideration, if donated, other than the benefit which may be derived by the county on account of the use thereof and development of such property by the United States government or the state. [1963 c 4 § 36.34.250. Prior: 1941 c 227 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 4026-1a.]

**36.34.260 Lease or conveyance to the state or to United States for military, housing, and other purposes—Procedure.** In any county where the federal government owns and maintains property under the jurisdiction of the navy department or war department, or any other federal department, the board of county commissioners by majority vote may sell, lease or transfer to the United States government any real or personal property owned by said county, however acquired, for the use and benefit of any branch of the army, navy, marine corps or air forces thereof or for enlarging or improving any military base thereof, or for any other governmental housing project, or to the state of Washington, without requiring competitive bids or notice to the public and at such price and terms as the board may deem for the best interests of the county. This property may be conveyed to the government of the United States by bill of sale or other instrument of conveyance and need not require consideration other than the benefit which may be derived by the county on account of the use thereof and development of such property by the United States government. The state of Washington may buy and/or sell such property, or the state of Washington may buy and/or sell such property for the purposes herein stated; or mutually interchange or trade such property or purchase one from the other. [1963 c 4 § 36.34.260. Prior: 1941 c 227 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 4026-1b.]

**36.34.270 Lease or conveyance to the state or to United States for military, housing, and other purposes—**

**Execution of instrument of transfer.** The resolution of the board of county commissioners to grant an option to purchase, contract to sell, lease, sell and convey, or donate, as provided, shall be entered by said board upon its journal, and any option to purchase, contract to sell, lease, sale and conveyance, or donation executed pursuant thereto, shall be signed on behalf of the county by the board of county commissioners, or a majority thereof, and shall be acknowledged in the manner prescribed by law. [1963 c 4 § 36.34.270. Prior: 1941 c 227 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 4026-1c.]

**36.34.280 Conveyance to municipality.** Whenever any county holds title to lands, for county purposes, acquired by grant, patent, or other conveyance from the United States executed under and pursuant to an act of congress, and the board of county commissioners of such county by resolution finds and determines that any portion thereof is not required for county purposes and that it would be for the best interest of the county to have such portion of the lands devoted to use by a municipality lying within the county, the board of county commissioners may, with the consent of the congress of the United States, by a proper instrument of conveyance executed by the board on behalf of the county, convey such lands to the municipality for municipal purposes, either with or without consideration, and shall not be required to advertise or offer such lands for sale or lease in the manner provided by law for the sale or lease of county property. [1963 c 4 § 36.34.280. Prior: 1917 c 69 § 1; RRS § 4015.]

**36.34.290 Dedication of county land for streets and alleys.** The boards of county commissioners of the several counties may dedicate any county land to public use for public streets and alleys in any city or town. [1963 c 4 § 36.34.290. Prior: 1903 c 89 § 1; RRS § 4026.]

**36.34.300 Dedication of county land for streets and alleys—Execution of dedication—Effective date.** Whenever the board of county commissioners of any county deems it for the best interests of the public that any county land lying in any city or town should be dedicated to the public use for streets or alleys, it shall make and enter an order upon its records, designating the land so dedicated, and shall cause a certified copy of the order to be recorded in the auditor's office of the county in which the land is situated, and from and after entry of such order of dedication and the recording thereof as herein provided, such lands shall be thereby dedicated to the public use. [1963 c 4 § 36.34.300. Prior: 1903 c 89 § 2; RRS § 4027.]

**36.34.310 Long term leases to United States.** Any county in the state may lease any property owned by it to the United States of America or to any agency thereof for a term not exceeding ninety-nine years upon such conditions as may be contained in a written agreement therefor executed on behalf of the county by its board of county commissioners, and by any person on behalf of the United States of America or any agency thereof who has been thereunto authorized: PROVIDED, That any lease made for a longer period than ten years hereunder shall contain provisions requiring the lessee to permit the rentals for every five-year

period thereafter, or part thereof, at the commencement of such period, to be readjusted upward and fixed by the board of county commissioners. In the event that the lessee and the board of county commissioners cannot agree upon the rentals for the five-year period, the lessee shall submit to have the disputed rentals for such subsequent period adjusted by arbitration. The lessee shall pick one arbitrator and the board of county commissioners one, and the two so chosen shall select a third. No board of arbitrators shall reduce the rentals below the sum fixed or agreed upon for the last preceding period. All buildings, factories or other improvements made upon property leased under this proviso shall belong to and become property of the county, unless otherwise stipulated, at the expiration of the lease. [1963 c 4 § 36.34.310. Prior: 1949 c 85 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 4019-1.]

**36.34.320 Executory conditional sales contracts for purchase of property—Limit on indebtedness—Election, when.** See RCW 39.30.010.

**36.34.330 Exchange for privately owned real property of equal value.** The board of county commissioners of any county shall have authority to exchange county real property for privately owned real property of equal value whenever it is determined by a decree of the superior court in the county in which the real property is located, after publication of notice of hearing is given as fixed and directed by such court, that:

(1) The county real property proposed to be exchanged is not necessary to the future foreseeable needs of such county; and

(2) The real property to be acquired by such exchange is necessary for the future foreseeable needs of such county; and

(3) The value of the county real property to be exchanged is not more than the value of the real property to be acquired by such exchange. [1965 ex.s. c 21 § 1.]

**36.34.340 May acquire property for park, recreational, viewpoint, greenbelt, conservation, historic, scenic, or view purposes.** Any county or city may acquire by purchase, gift, devise, bequest, grant or exchange, title to or any interests or rights in real property to be provided or preserved for (a) park or recreational purposes, viewpoint or greenbelt purposes, (b) the conservation of land or other natural resources, or (c) historic, scenic, or view purposes. [1965 ex.s. c 76 § 4.]

*Acquisition of interests in land for conservation, protection, preservation, or open space purposes by counties: RCW 64.04.130.*

*Historic preservation—Authority of county to acquire property: RCW 36.32.435.*

*Parks, county commissioners may designate name of: RCW 36.32.430.*

## Chapter 36.35

### TAX TITLE LANDS

#### Sections

- 36.35.010 Purpose—Powers of county legislative authority as to tax title lands.  
36.35.020 "Tax title lands" defined.

- 36.35.030 Conveyance—Use of proceeds.  
 36.35.040 Authority to manage, improve lands—Use of proceeds from rental.  
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 36.35.070 Chapter as alternative.  
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**36.35.010 Purpose—Powers of county legislative authority as to tax title lands.** The purpose of this chapter is to increase the power of county legislative authorities over tax title lands. The legislative authority of each county shall have the power to devote tax title lands to public use under its own control or the control of other governmental or quasi-governmental agencies, to exchange such lands for lands worth at least ninety percent of the value of the land exchanged, and to manage such lands to produce maximum revenue therefrom in the manner which derives the most income from such lands. The further purpose of this chapter is to relieve the courts of the obligation of supervising the county legislative authorities in the management and disposition of tax title lands. [1972 ex.s. c 150 § 1.]

**36.35.020 "Tax title lands" defined.** The term "tax title lands" as used in this chapter shall mean any tract of land acquired by the county for lack of other bidders at a tax foreclosure sale. [1972 ex.s. c 150 § 2.]

**36.35.030 Conveyance—Use of proceeds.** Whenever the legislative authority of any county deems tax title lands valuable for public use it shall have authority to convey such lands to the county in its proprietary capacity, free from any trust, upon payment by the county of the amount of delinquent taxes, and interest thereon, owing on the land at the time the county acquired same at tax foreclosure sale: PROVIDED, That in the event such lands shall be subsequently sold or leased, or income derived therefrom, the proceeds shall first go to reimburse the county for the cost of such sale or lease, for the cost of any improvements placed thereon at county expense, and the costs of managing such lands, with the balance of such proceeds to be distributed in the same manner as general taxes collected in the year in which such moneys are received by the county. [1972 ex.s. c 150 § 4.]

**36.35.040 Authority to manage, improve lands—Use of proceeds from rental.** The legislative authority of a county shall have authority to manage tax title lands acquired by it and to make improvements thereon which the legislative authority deems will enhance the value of such lands, or enhance the amount of income to be derived therefrom. Any proceeds received from the rental of such lands by the legislative authority shall first be used to reimburse the legislative authority for costs of management and costs of rental, and costs of any improvements to such lands paid for by the county and after such reimbursements have been made the balance shall be distributed in the same manner as general taxes collected in the year in which such proceeds are received by the county. [1972 ex.s. c 150 § 5.]

**36.35.050 Exchange of tax title lands with other entities—Appraisal.** The legislative authority of a county shall have authority to exchange parcels of tax title lands for lands of substantially the same market value with other governmental or municipal agencies or private parties or corporations by private negotiation and such lands received by the county in exchange may be held and managed in the same manner as the lands conveyed in exchange by the county, and the proceeds from any subsequent sales or rentals of such land by the county shall be applied and distributed in the same manner as would have been done had such proceeds and income been received by the county for the lands conveyed in exchange by the county: PROVIDED, That before any such exchange is made the lands to be exchanged by the county and the lands to be received by the county shall be appraised by two appraisers appointed by the court for such purpose: PROVIDED FURTHER, That both appraisers agree that the land to be received by the county in such exchange is worth at least ninety percent of the value of the land to be given by the county in such exchange. [1972 ex.s. c 150 § 6.]

**36.35.060 Lease—Approval of terms by school directors.** The legislative authority of a county shall have authority to lease tax title lands to public or private agencies or persons. The procedures and regulations of RCW 36.34.150 through 36.34.200 shall be followed: PROVIDED, That before any such lease agreement is executed the terms of the lease are approved by resolution of the board of directors of the school district which would be entitled to share in the proceeds of the income received therefrom at the time the lease is executed. [1972 ex.s. c 150 § 7.]

**36.35.070 Chapter as alternative.** The provisions of this chapter shall be deemed as alternatives to, and not be limited by, the provisions of RCW 39.33.010, 36.34.130, and 84.64.310, nor shall the authority granted in this chapter be held to be subjected to or qualified by the terms of such statutory provisions. [1972 ex.s. c 150 § 8.]

**36.35.080 Other lands not affected.** Nothing in this chapter shall affect any land deeded in trust to the department of natural resources or its successors pursuant to the provisions of Title 76 RCW. [1988 c 128 § 7; 1972 ex.s. c 150 § 9.]

**36.35.090 Chapter not affected by other acts.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, or provisions of law limiting the authority granted in this chapter, the legislative authority of any county shall have the authority to manage and exchange tax title lands heretofore or hereafter acquired in the manner and on the terms and conditions set forth in this chapter. [1972 ex.s. c 150 § 3.]

Chapter 36.36
AQUIFER PROTECTION AREAS

Sections
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36.36.030 Imposition of fees—Ballot proposition to authorize increased fees or additional purposes.
36.36.035 Reduced fees for low-income persons.
36.36.040 Use of fee revenues.
36.36.045 Lien for delinquent fees.
36.36.050 Dissolution of aquifer protection area—Petition—Ballot proposition.
36.36.900 Severability—1985 c 425.

36.36.010 Purpose. The protection of subterranean water from pollution or degradation is of great concern. The depletion of subterranean water is of great concern. The purpose of this chapter is to allow the creation of aquifer protection areas to finance the protection, preservation, and rehabilitation of subterranean water, and to reduce special assessments imposed upon households to finance facilities for such purposes.

36.36.020 Creation of aquifer protection area—Public hearing—Ballot proposition. The county legislative authority of a county may create one or more aquifer protection areas for the purpose of funding the protection, preservation, and rehabilitation of subterranean water.

When a county legislative authority proposes to create an aquifer protection area it shall conduct a public hearing on the proposal. Notice of the public hearing shall be published at least once, not less than ten days prior to the hearing, in a newspaper of general circulation within the proposed aquifer protection area.

After the public hearing, the county legislative authority may adopt a resolution causing a ballot proposition to be submitted to the registered voters residing within the proposed aquifer protection area to authorize the creation of the aquifer protection area, if the county legislative authority finds that the creation of the aquifer protection area would be in the public interest.

An aquifer protection area shall be created by ordinances of the county if the voters residing in the proposed aquifer protection area approve the ballot proposition by a simple majority vote. The ballot proposition shall be in substantial-ly the following form:

"Shall the . . . (insert the name) aquifer protection area be created and authorized to impose monthly fees on . . . (insert "the withdrawal of water" or "on-site sewage disposal") of not to exceed . . . (insert a dollar amount) per household unit for up to . . . (insert a number of years) to finance . . . (insert the type of activities proposed to be financed)?

Yes . . . . .
No . . . . ."

If both types of monthly fees are proposed to be imposed, maximum rates for each shall be included in the ballot proposition.

An aquifer protection area may not include territory located within a city or town without the approval of the city or town governing body, nor may it include territory located in the unincorporated area of another county without the approval of the county legislative authority of that county. [1985 c 425 § 2.]

36.36.030 Imposition of fees—Ballot proposition to authorize increased fees or additional purposes. Aquifer protection areas are authorized to impose fees on the withdrawal of subterranean water and on on-site sewage disposal. The fees shall be expressed as a dollar amount per household unit. Fees imposed for the withdrawal of water, or on-site sewage disposal, other than by households shall be expressed and imposed in equivalents of household units. If both types of fees are imposed, the rate imposed on on-site sewage disposal shall not exceed the rate imposed for the withdrawal of water.

No fees shall be imposed in excess of the amount authorized by the voters of the aquifer protection area. Fees shall only be used for the activity or activities authorized by the voters of the aquifer protection area. Ballot propositions may be submitted to the voters of an aquifer protection area to authorize a higher maximum level of such fees or to authorize additional activities for which the fees may be used. Such a ballot proposition shall be substantially in the form of that portion of the proposition to authorize the creation of an aquifer protection district that relates to fees or activities, as provided in RCW 36.36.020. Approval of the ballot proposition by simple majority vote shall authorize the higher maximum level of fees or additional activities for which the fees may be used.

A county may contract with existing public utilities to collect the fees, or collect the fees itself. [1985 c 425 § 3.]

36.36.035 Reduced fees for low-income persons. A county may adopt an ordinance reducing the level of fees, for the withdrawal of subterranean water or for on-site sewage disposal, that are imposed upon the residential property of a class or classes of low-income persons. [1987 c 381 § 1.]

36.36.040 Use of fee revenues. Aquifer protection areas may impose fees to fund:

(1) The preparation of a comprehensive plan to protect, preserve, and rehabilitate subterranean water, including ground water management programs adopted under chapter

90.44 RCW. This plan may be prepared as a portion of a county sewerage and/or water general plan pursuant to RCW 36.94.030;

(2) The construction of facilities for: (a) The removal of water-borne pollution; (b) water quality improvement; (c) sanitary sewage collection, disposal, and treatment; (d) storm water or surface water drainage collection, disposal, and treatment; and (e) the construction of public water systems;

(3) The proportionate reduction of special assessments imposed by a county, city, town, or special district in the aquifer protection area for any of the facilities described in subsection (2) of this section;

(4) The costs of monitoring and inspecting on-site sewage disposal systems or community sewage disposal systems for compliance with applicable standards and rules, and for enforcing compliance with these applicable standards and rules in aquifer protection areas created after June 9, 1988; and

(5) The costs of: (a) Monitoring the quality and quantity of subterranean water and analyzing data that is collected; (b) ongoing implementation of the comprehensive plan developed under subsection (1) of this section; (c) enforcing compliance with standards and rules relating to the quality and quantity of subterranean waters; and (d) public education relating to protecting, preserving, and enhancing subterranean waters. [1991 c 151 § 2; 1988 c 258 § 1; 1985 c 425 § 4.]

**36.36.045 Lien for delinquent fees.** The county shall have a lien for any delinquent fees imposed for the withdrawal of subterranean water or on-site sewage disposal, which shall attach to the property to which the fees were imposed, if the following conditions are met:

(1) At least eighteen months have passed since the first billing for a delinquent fee installment; and

(2) At least three billing notices and a letter have been mailed to the property owner, within the period specified in subsection (1) of this section, explaining that a lien may be imposed for any delinquent fee installment that has not been paid in that period.

The lien shall otherwise be subject to the provisions of chapter 36.94 RCW related to liens for delinquent charges. [1987 c 381 § 2.]

**36.36.050 Dissolution of aquifer protection area—Petition—Ballot proposition.** A county legislative authority may dissolve an aquifer protection area upon a finding that such dissolution is in the public interest.

A ballot proposition to dissolve an aquifer protection district shall be placed on the ballot for the approval or rejection of the voters residing in an aquifer protection area, when a petition requesting such a ballot proposition is signed by at least twenty percent of the voters residing in the aquifer protection area and is filed with the county legislative authority of the county originally creating the aquifer protection area. The ballot proposition shall be placed on the ballot at the next general election occurring sixty or more days after the petition has been filed. Approval of the ballot proposition by a simple majority vote shall cause the dissolution of the aquifer protection area. [1985 c 425 § 5.]

**36.36.900 Severability—1985 c 425.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1985 c 425 § 7.]

## Chapter 36.37

### AGRICULTURAL FAIRS AND POULTRY SHOWS

#### Sections

36.37.010	Fairs authorized—Declared county purpose.
36.37.020	Property may be acquired for fairs.
36.37.040	Expenditure of funds—Revolving fund—Management of fairs.
36.37.050	District or multiple county fairs authorized.
36.37.090	Poultry shows—Petition—Appropriation.
36.37.100	Poultry shows—Open to public—Admission charge.
36.37.110	Poultry shows—Conduct of shows.
36.37.150	Lease of state-owned lands for county fairgrounds.
36.37.160	Lease of state-owned lands for county fairgrounds—Lands adjacent to Northern State Hospital.

**36.37.010 Fairs authorized—Declared county purpose.** The holding of county fairs and agricultural exhibitions of stock, cereals, and agricultural produce of all kinds, including dairy produce, as well as arts and manufactures, by any county in the state, and the participation by any county in a district fair or agricultural exhibition, is declared to be in the interest of public good and a strictly county purpose. [1963 c 4 § 36.37.010. Prior: 1947 c 184 § 1; 1917 c 32 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 2750.]

**36.37.020 Property may be acquired for fairs.** The board of county commissioners of any county in the state may acquire by gift, devise, purchase, condemnation and purchase, or otherwise, lands, property rights, leases, easements, and all kinds of personal property and own and hold the same and construct and maintain temporary or permanent improvements suitable and necessary for the purpose of holding and maintaining county or district fairs for the exhibition of county or district resources and products. [1963 c 4 § 36.37.020. Prior: 1947 c 184 § 2; 1917 c 32 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 2751.]

**36.37.040 Expenditure of funds—Revolving fund—Management of fairs.** The board of county commissioners of any county may appropriate and expend each year such sums of money as they deem advisable and necessary for (1) acquisition of necessary grounds for fairs and world fairs, (2) construction, improvement and maintenance of buildings thereon, (3) payment of fair premiums, and (4) the general maintenance of such fair. The board of county commissioners of any county may also authorize the county auditor to provide a revolving fund to be used by the fair officials for the conduct of the fair. The board of county commissioners may employ persons to assist in the management of fairs or by resolution designate a nonprofit corporation as the exclusive agency to operate and manage such fairs. [1963 c 4 § 36.37.040. Prior: 1957 c 124 § 1; 1955 c 297 § 1; prior: (i) 1947 c 184 § 3; 1943 c 101 § 1; 1923 c 83 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 2753 1/2. (ii) 1923 c 83 § 1; 1917 c 32 § 4; RRS § 2753.]



**36.37.050 District or multiple county fairs authorized.** Each county is authorized to hold one county fair in each year, or, as an alternative, to participate with any other county or counties in the holding of a district fair. Where counties participate in the holding of a district fair, the boards of county commissioners of each of participating counties may enter into mutual agreements setting forth the manner and extent of the participation by each county in the management and support of the district fair, subject to the limitations imposed on each respective county by the provisions of this chapter. [1963 c 4 § 36.37.050. Prior: 1947 c 184 § 4; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 2753a.]

**36.37.090 Poultry shows—Petition—Appropriation.** Upon petition of twenty-five resident taxpayers of any county who are interested in the poultry industry, the board of county commissioners may set aside and include in its annual budget a sum equivalent to five percent of the assessed valuation of poultry in the county each year for the purpose of holding winter poultry shows, the said sum not to exceed five hundred dollars in any one year. [1963 c 4 § 36.37.090. Prior: 1929 c 109 § 1; RRS § 2755-1.]

**36.37.100 Poultry shows—Open to public—Admission charge.** All poultry shows shall be open to the public. Such admission charge may be made as is authorized by the board of county commissioners. [1963 c 4 § 36.37.100. Prior: 1929 c 109 § 2; RRS § 2755-2.]

**36.37.110 Poultry shows—Conduct of shows.** All such poultry shows shall be held under the rules of the American Poultry Association and only licensed poultry judges shall be employed thereat. [1963 c 4 § 36.37.110. Prior: 1929 c 109 § 3; RRS § 2755-3.]

**36.37.150 Lease of state-owned lands for county fairgrounds.** If requested by a county legislative authority, an agency of the state managing state-owned lands, other than state trust lands, shall consider leasing a requested portion of these lands that are not used for any significant purpose and if not otherwise prohibited, to the county to be used as county fairgrounds. If it is determined that such a lease shall be made, the agency in setting lease charges shall consider the fair market return for leasing the land, the public benefit for leasing the land to the county for county fair purposes at a level below the fair market return, and other appropriate factors. [1986 c 307 § 3.]

**Intent—1986 c 307:** "The legislature finds that county fairs provide unique educational opportunities to the people of this state and are a public purpose. By helping counties acquire lands for county fairs, the legislature intends to preserve and enhance the educational opportunities of the people of this state." [1986 c 307 § 1.]

**36.37.160 Lease of state-owned lands for county fairgrounds—Lands adjacent to Northern State Hospital.** If requested by a county legislative authority, the department of natural resources shall negotiate a lease for any requested portion of the state lands directly adjacent to buildings on the Northern State Hospital site that were transferred to the department under chapter 178, Laws of 1974 ex. sess., if not otherwise prohibited, to the county to use for the purpose of

establishing county fairgrounds. However, the portion to be leased shall be contiguous and compact, of an area not to exceed two hundred fifty acres and shall be segregated in such a manner that the remaining portion of these state lands can be efficiently managed by the department. The lease shall be for as long as the county is actually using the land as the site of the county fairgrounds. Notwithstanding chapter 178, Laws of 1974 ex. sess., the department shall charge the county the sum of one thousand dollars per year for the lease of such lands and this sum may be periodically adjusted to compensate the department for any increased costs in administration of the lease. The lease shall contain provisions directing payment of all assessments and authorizing the county to place any improvements on the leased lands if the improvements are consistent with the purposes of county fairs. [1986 c 307 § 2.]

**Intent—1986 c 307:** See note following RCW 36.37.150.

## Chapter 36.38 ADMISSIONS TAX

### Sections

- 36.38.010 Tax authorized—Exception as to schools.
- 36.38.020 Optional provisions in ordinance.
- 36.38.030 Form of ordinance.

*Taxes for city and town purposes: State Constitution Art. 11 § 12.*

**36.38.010 Tax authorized—Exception as to schools.** Any county may by ordinance enacted by its board of county commissioners, levy and fix a tax of not more than one cent on twenty cents or fraction thereof to be paid for county purposes by persons who pay an admission charge to any place, including a tax on persons who are admitted free of charge or at reduced rates to any place for which other persons pay a charge or a regular higher charge for the same or similar privileges or accommodations; and require that one who receives any admission charge to any place shall collect and remit the tax to the county treasurer of the county: **PROVIDED**, No county shall impose such tax on persons paying an admission to any activity of any elementary or secondary school.

As used in this chapter, the term "admission charge" includes a charge made for season tickets or subscriptions, a cover charge, or a charge made for use of seats and tables, reserved or otherwise, and other similar accommodations; a charge made for food and refreshments in any place where any free entertainment, recreation, or amusement is provided; a charge made for rental or use of equipment or facilities for purpose of recreation or amusement, and where the rental of the equipment or facilities is necessary to the enjoyment of a privilege for which a general admission is charged, the combined charges shall be considered as the admission charge. It shall also include any automobile parking charge where the amount of such charge is determined according to the number of passengers in any automobile.

The tax herein authorized shall not be exclusive and shall not prevent any city or town within the taxing county, when authorized by law, from imposing within its corporate limits a tax of the same or similar kind: **PROVIDED**, That whenever the same or similar kind of tax is imposed by any such city or town, no such tax shall be levied within the

corporate limits of such city or town by the board of county commissioners. [1963 c 4 § 36.38.010. Prior: 1957 c 126 § 2; 1951 c 34 § 1; 1943 c 269 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 11241-10.]

**36.38.020 Optional provisions in ordinance.** In addition to the provisions levying and fixing the amount of tax, the ordinance may contain any or all of the following provisions:

(1) A provision defining the words and terms used therein;

(2) A provision requiring the price (exclusive of the tax to be paid by the person paying for admission) at which every admission ticket or card is sold to be conspicuously and indelibly printed or written on the face or back of that part of the ticket which is to be taken up by the management of the place for which an admission charge is exacted, and making the violation of such provision a misdemeanor punishable by fine of not exceeding one hundred dollars;

(3) Provisions fixing reasonable exemptions from such tax;

(4) Provisions allowing as an offset against the tax, the amount of like taxes levied, fixed, and collected within their jurisdiction by incorporated cities and towns in the county;

(5) A provision requiring persons receiving payments for admissions taxed under said ordinance to collect the amount of the tax from the persons making such payments;

(6) A provision to the effect that the tax imposed by said ordinance shall be deemed to be held in trust by the person required to collect the same until paid to the county treasurer, and making it a misdemeanor for any person receiving payment of the tax and appropriating or converting the same to his own use or to any use other than the payment of the tax as provided in said ordinance to the extent that the amount of such tax is not available for payment on the due date for filing returns as provided in said ordinance;

(7) A provision that in case any person required by the ordinance to collect the tax imposed thereby fails to collect the same, or having collected the tax fails to pay the same to the county treasurer in the manner prescribed by the ordinance, whether such failure is the result of such person's own acts or the result of acts or conditions beyond such person's control, such person shall nevertheless be personally liable to the county for the amount of the tax;

(8) Provisions fixing the time when the taxes imposed by the ordinance shall be due and payable to the county treasurer; requiring persons receiving payments for admissions to make periodic returns to the county treasurer on such forms and setting forth such information as the county treasurer may specify; requiring such return to show the amount of tax upon admissions for which such person is liable for specified preceding periods, and requiring such person to sign and transmit the same to the county treasurer together with a remittance for the amount;

(9) A provision requiring taxpayers to file with the county treasurer verified annual returns setting forth such additional information as he may deem necessary to determine tax liability correctly;

(10) A provision to the effect that whenever a certificate of registration, if required by the ordinance, is obtained for

operating or conducting temporary places of amusement by persons who are not the owners, lessees, or custodians of the building, lot or place where the amusement is to be conducted, or whenever the business is permitted to be conducted without the procurement of a certificate, the tax imposed shall be returned and paid as provided in the ordinance by such owner, lessee, or custodian, unless paid by the person conducting the place of amusement;

(11) A provision requiring the applicant for a temporary certificate of registration, if required by the ordinance, to furnish with the application therefor, the name and address of the owner, lessee, or custodian of the premises upon which the amusement is to be conducted, and requiring the county treasurer to notify such owner, lessee, or custodian of the issuance of any such temporary certificate, and of the joint liability for such tax;

(12) A provision empowering the county treasurer to declare the tax upon temporary or itinerant places of amusement to be immediately due and payable and to collect the same, when he believes there is a possibility that the tax imposed under the ordinance will not be otherwise paid;

(13) Any or all of the applicable general administrative provisions contained in RCW 82.32.010 through 82.32.340 and 82.32.380, and the amendments thereto, except that unless otherwise indicated by the context of said sections, in all provisions so incorporated in such ordinance (a) the term "county treasurer" (of the county enacting said ordinance) shall be substituted for each reference made in said sections to the "department," the "department of revenue," "any employee of the department," or "director of the department of revenue"; (b) the name of the county enacting such ordinance shall be substituted for each reference made in said sections to the "state" or to the "state of Washington"; (c) the term "this ordinance" shall be substituted for each reference made in said sections to "this chapter"; (d) the name of the county enacting said ordinance shall be substituted for each reference made in said sections to "Thurston county"; and (e) the term "board of county commissioners" shall be substituted for each reference made in said sections to the "director of financial management." [1979 c 151 § 38; 1975 1st ex.s. c 278 § 21; 1963 c 4 § 36.38.020. Prior: 1943 c 269 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 11241-12.]

**Construction—Severability—1975 1st ex.s. c 278:** See notes following RCW 11.08.160.

**36.38.030 Form of ordinance.** The ordinance levying and fixing the tax shall be headed by a title expressing the subject thereof, and the style of the ordinance shall be: "Be it ordained by the Board of County Commissioners of . . . . County, State of Washington." The ordinance shall be enacted by a majority vote of the board at a regular meeting thereof, and only after the form of such ordinance as ultimately enacted has been on file with the clerk of the board and open to public inspection for not less than ten days. The ordinance shall not become effective until thirty days following its enactment, and within five days following its enactment it shall be printed and published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county. The ordinance shall be signed by a majority of the board, attested by the clerk of the board, and shall be duly entered and recorded in the book wherein orders of the board are entered and recorded. The ordinance may be at any time amended or repealed by

an ordinance enacted, published, and recorded in the same manner. [1963 c 4 § 36.38.030. Prior: 1943 c 269 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 11241-11.]

### Chapter 36.39

#### ASSISTANCE AND RELIEF

##### Sections

- 36.39.010 Public assistance.
- 36.39.030 Disposal of remains of indigent persons.
- 36.39.040 Federal surplus commodities—County expenses—Handling commodities for certified persons—County program, cooperative program.
- 36.39.050 Federal surplus commodities—Certification of persons by department of social and health services.
- 36.39.060 Senior citizens programs—Long-term care ombudsman programs—Authorization.

*Burial of indigent war veterans: Chapter 73.24 RCW.*

*Housing authorities law: Chapter 35.82 RCW.*

*Veterans' relief: Chapter 73.08 RCW.*

**36.39.010 Public assistance.** Public assistance generally, see Title 74 RCW.

**36.39.030 Disposal of remains of indigent persons.** The board of county commissioners of any county shall provide for the disposition of the remains of any indigent person including a recipient of public assistance who dies within the county and whose body is unclaimed by relatives or church organization. [1963 c 4 § 36.39.030. Prior: 1953 c 224 § 1; 1951 c 258 § 1.]

**36.39.040 Federal surplus commodities—County expenses—Handling commodities for certified persons—County program, cooperative program.** The county commissioners of any county may expend from the county general fund for the purpose of receiving, warehousing and distributing federal surplus commodities for the use of or assistance to recipients of public assistance or other needy families and individuals when such recipients, families or individuals are certified as eligible to obtain such commodities by the state department of social and health services. The county commissioners may expend county general fund moneys to carry out any such program as a sole county operation or in conjunction or cooperation with any similar program of distribution by private individuals or organizations, any department of the state, or any political subdivision of the state. [1979 c 141 § 43; 1963 c 4 § 36.39.040. Prior: 1957 c 187 § 5.]

**36.39.050 Federal surplus commodities—Certification of persons by department of social and health services.** See RCW 74.04.340 through 74.04.360.

**36.39.060 Senior citizens programs—Long-term care ombudsman programs—Authorization.** (1) Counties, cities, and towns are granted the authority, and it is hereby declared to be a public purpose for counties, cities, and towns, to establish and administer senior citizens programs either directly or by creating public corporations or authorities to carry out the programs and to expend their own funds

for such purposes, as well as to expend federal, state, or private funds that are made available for such purposes. Such federal funds shall include, but not be limited to, funds provided under the federal older Americans act, as amended (42 U.S.C. Sec. 3001 et seq.).

(2) Counties, cities, and towns may establish and administer long-term care ombudsman programs for residents, patients, and clients if such a program is not prohibited by federal or state law. Such local ombudsman programs shall be coordinated with the efforts of other long-term care ombudsman programs, including the office of the state long-term care ombudsman established in RCW 43.190.030, to avoid multiple investigation of complaints. [1983 c 290 § 13; 1979 c 109 § 1.]

**Severability—1983 c 290:** See RCW 43.190.900.

### Chapter 36.40

#### BUDGET

##### Sections

- 36.40.010 Estimates to be filed by county officials.
- 36.40.020 Commissioners to file road and bridge estimate and estimate of future bond expenditures.
- 36.40.030 Forms of estimates—Penalty for delay.
- 36.40.040 Preliminary budget prepared by auditor.
- 36.40.050 Revision by county commissioners.
- 36.40.060 Notice of hearing on budget.
- 36.40.070 Budget hearing.
- 36.40.071 Budget hearing—Alternate date for budget hearing.
- 36.40.080 Final budget to be fixed.
- 36.40.090 Taxes to be levied.
- 36.40.100 Budget constitutes appropriations—Transfers—Supplemental appropriations.
- 36.40.110 Additional limitation on road fund expenditures.
- 36.40.120 Limitation on use of borrowed money.
- 36.40.130 County not liable on overexpenditure—Penalty against officials.
- 36.40.140 Emergencies subject to hearing.
- 36.40.150 Emergencies subject to hearing—Right of taxpayer to review order.
- 36.40.160 Emergencies subject to hearing—Petition for review suspends order.
- 36.40.170 Emergencies subject to hearing—Court's power on review.
- 36.40.180 Emergencies subject to hearing—Nondebatable emergencies.
- 36.40.190 Payment of emergency warrants.
- 36.40.200 Lapse of budget appropriations.
- 36.40.205 Salary adjustment for county legislative authority office—Ratification and validation of preelection action.
- 36.40.210 Monthly report by auditor.
- 36.40.220 Rules, classifications, and forms.
- 36.40.230 No new funds created.
- 36.40.240 Penalty.

*County road property tax revenues, budgeting of for services: RCW 36.33.220.*

*Flood control zone district budget as affecting: RCW 86.15.140.*

*Juvenile detention facilities, budget allocation may be used for: RCW 13.16.080.*

*Metropolitan municipal corporation costs in: RCW 35.58.420.*

*Tuberculosis hospitalization budget: Chapter 70.32 RCW.*

**36.40.010 Estimates to be filed by county officials.** On or before the second Monday in July of each year the county auditor shall notify in writing each county official, elective or appointive, in charge of an office, department, service, or institution of the county, to file with him on or before the second Monday in August thereafter detailed and itemized estimates, both of the probable revenues from

sources other than taxation, and of all expenditures required by such office, department, service, or institution for the ensuing fiscal year. [1963 c 4 § 36.40.010. Prior: 1923 c 164 § 1, part; RRS § 3997-1, part.]

**36.40.020 Commissioners to file road and bridge estimate and estimate of future bond expenditures.** The county commissioners shall submit to the auditor a detailed statement showing all new road and bridge construction to be financed from the county road fund, and from bond issues theretofore issued, if any, for the ensuing fiscal year, together with the cost thereof as computed by the county road engineer or for constructions in charge of a special engineer, then by such engineer, and such engineer shall prepare such estimates of cost for the county commissioners. They shall also submit a similar statement showing the road and bridge maintenance program, as near as can be estimated.

The county commissioners shall also submit to the auditor detailed estimates of all expenditures for construction or improvement purposes proposed to be made from the proceeds of bonds or warrants not yet authorized. [1963 c 4 § 36.40.020. Prior: 1923 c 164 § 1, part; RRS § 3997-1, part.]

**36.40.030 Forms of estimates—Penalty for delay.** The estimates required in RCW 36.40.010 and 36.40.020 shall be submitted on forms provided by the auditor and classified according to the classification established by the division of municipal corporations. The auditor shall provide such forms. He shall also prepare the estimates for interest and debt redemption requirements and any other estimates the preparation of which properly falls within the duties of his office.

Each such official shall file his estimates within the time and in the manner provided in the notice and form and the auditor shall deduct and withhold as a penalty from the salary of each official failing or refusing to file such estimates as herein provided, the sum of ten dollars for each day of delay: PROVIDED, That the total penalty against any one official shall not exceed fifty dollars in any one year.

In the absence or disability of any official the duties required herein shall devolve upon the official or employee in charge of the office, department, service, or institution for the time being. The notice shall contain a copy of this penalty clause. [1963 c 4 § 36.40.030. Prior: 1923 c 164 § 1, part; RRS § 3997-1, part.]

**36.40.040 Preliminary budget prepared by auditor.** Upon receipt of the estimates the auditor shall prepare the county budget which shall set forth the complete financial program of the county for the ensuing fiscal year, showing the expenditure program and the sources of revenue by which it is to be financed.

The revenue section shall set forth the estimated receipts from sources other than taxation for each office, department, service, or institution for the ensuing fiscal year, the actual receipts for the first six months of the current fiscal year and the actual receipts for the last completed fiscal year, the estimated surplus at the close of the current fiscal year and the amount proposed to be raised by taxation.

The expenditure section shall set forth in comparative and tabular form by offices, departments, services, and institutions the estimated expenditures for the ensuing fiscal year, the appropriations for the current fiscal year, the actual expenditures for the first six months of the current fiscal year including all contracts or other obligations against current appropriations, and the actual expenditures for the last completed fiscal year.

All estimates of receipts and expenditures for the ensuing year shall be fully detailed in the annual budget and shall be classified and segregated according to a standard classification of accounts to be adopted and prescribed by the state auditor through the division of municipal corporations after consultation with the Washington state association of counties and the Washington state association of elected county officials.

The county auditor shall set forth separately in the annual budget to be submitted to the board of county commissioners the total amount of emergency warrants issued during the preceding fiscal year, together with a statement showing the amount issued for each emergency, and the board shall include in the annual tax levy, a levy sufficient to raise an amount equal to the total of such warrants: PROVIDED, That the board may fund the warrants or any part thereof into bonds instead of including them in the budget levy. [1973 c 39 § 1. Prior: 1971 ex.s. c 85 § 4; 1969 ex.s. c 252 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.40.040; prior: (i) 1923 c 164 § 2; RRS § 3997-2. (ii) 1925 ex.s. c 143 § 2, part; 1923 c 164 § 6, part; RRS § 3997-6, part.]

**36.40.050 Revision by county commissioners.** The budget shall be submitted by the auditor to the board of county commissioners on or before the first Tuesday in September of each year. The board shall thereupon consider the same in detail, making any revisions or additions it deems advisable. [1963 c 4 § 36.40.050. Prior: 1923 c 164 § 3, part; RRS § 3997-3, part.]

**36.40.060 Notice of hearing on budget.** The county legislative authority shall then publish a notice stating that it has completed and placed on file its preliminary budget for the county for the ensuing fiscal year, a copy of which will be furnished any citizen who will call at its office for it, and that it will meet on the first Monday in October thereafter for the purpose of fixing the final budget and making tax levies, designating the time and place of the meeting, and that any taxpayer may appear thereat and be heard for or against any part of the budget. The notice shall be published once each week for two consecutive weeks immediately following adoption of the preliminary budget in the official newspaper of the county. The county legislative authority shall provide a sufficient number of copies of the detailed and comparative preliminary budget to meet the reasonable demands of taxpayers therefor and the same shall be available for distribution not later than two weeks immediately preceding the first Monday in October. [1985 c 469 § 47; 1963 c 4 § 36.40.060. Prior: 1923 c 164 § 3, part; RRS § 3997-3, part.]

**36.40.070 Budget hearing.** On the first Monday in October in each year the board of county commissioners

shall meet at the time and place designated in the notice, whereat any taxpayer may appear and be heard for or against any part of the budget. The hearing may be continued from day to day until concluded but not to exceed a total of five days. The officials in charge of the several offices, departments, services, and institutions shall, at the time the estimates for their respective offices, departments, services or institutions are under consideration be called in and appear before such hearing by the board at the request of any taxpayer and may be questioned concerning such estimates by the commissioners or any taxpayer present. [1963 c 4 § 36.40.070. Prior: 1943 c 145 § 1, part; 1941 c 99 § 1, part; 1923 c 164 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 3997-4, part.]

**36.40.071 Budget hearing—Alternate date for budget hearing.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the board of county commissioners may meet for the purpose of holding a budget hearing, provided for in RCW 36.40.070, on the first Monday in December. The board of county commissioners may also set other dates relating to the budget process, including but not limited to the dates set in RCW 36.40.010, 36.40.050, and 36.81.130 to conform to the alternate date for the budget hearing. [1971 ex.s. c 136 § 1.]

**36.40.080 Final budget to be fixed.** Upon the conclusion of the budget hearing the board of county commissioners shall fix and determine each item of the budget separately and shall by resolution adopt the budget as so finally determined and enter the same in detail in the official minutes of the board, a copy of which budget shall be forwarded to the division of municipal corporations. [1963 c 4 § 36.40.080. Prior: 1943 c 145 § 1, part; 1941 c 99 § 1, part; 1923 c 164 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 3997-4, part.]

**36.40.090 Taxes to be levied.** The board of county commissioners shall then fix the amount of the levies necessary to raise the amount of the estimated expenditures as finally determined, less the total of the estimated revenues from sources other than taxation, including such portion of any available surplus as in the discretion of the board it shall be advisable to so use, and such expenditures as are to be met from bond or warrant issues: PROVIDED, That no county shall retain an unbudgeted cash balance in the current expense fund in excess of a sum equal to the proceeds of a one dollar and twenty-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value levy against the assessed valuation of the county. All taxes shall be levied in specific sums and shall not exceed the amount specified in the preliminary budget. [1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 33; 1963 c 4 § 36.40.090. Prior: 1943 c 145 § 1, part; 1941 c 99 § 1, part; 1923 c 164 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 3997-4, part.]

**Severability—Effective dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195:** See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

**36.40.100 Budget constitutes appropriations—Transfers—Supplemental appropriations.** The estimates of expenditures itemized and classified as required in RCW 36.40.040 and as finally fixed and adopted in detail by the

board of county commissioners shall constitute the appropriations for the county for the ensuing fiscal year; and every county official shall be limited in the making of expenditures or the incurring of liabilities to the amount of the detailed appropriation items or classes respectively: PROVIDED, That upon a resolution formally adopted by the board at a regular or special meeting and entered upon the minutes, transfers or revisions within departments, or supplemental appropriations to the budget from unanticipated federal or state funds may be made: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the board shall publish notice of the time and date of the meeting at which the supplemental appropriations resolution will be adopted, and the amount of the appropriation, once each week, for two consecutive weeks prior to the meeting in the official newspaper of the county. [1985 c 469 § 48; 1973 c 97 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 252 § 2; 1965 ex.s. c 19 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.40.100. Prior: 1945 c 201 § 1, part; 1943 c 66 § 1, part; 1927 c 301 § 1, part; 1923 c 164 § 5, part; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 3997-5, part.]

**36.40.110 Additional limitation on road fund expenditures.** In addition to the limitations set forth in RCW 36.40.100, neither the county commissioners nor any other county official shall make any expenditure or incur any liability, except for emergencies of the kind specified in RCW 36.40.180, for any purpose for which the county road fund may be properly expended in any amount in excess of eighty percent of the amount of the taxes levied for collection during the current fiscal year for such fund until the cash receipts from taxation or otherwise during the current fiscal year paid into the fund shall exceed such eighty percent of the tax levy by an amount not less than the amount of expenditure or liability in excess of such eighty percent of the tax levy sought to be made or incurred. [1963 c 4 § 36.40.110. Prior: 1945 c 201 § 1, part; 1943 c 66 § 1, part; 1927 c 301 § 1, part; 1923 c 164 § 5, part; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 3997-5, part.]

**36.40.120 Limitation on use of borrowed money.** Moneys received from borrowing shall be used for no other purpose than that for which borrowed except that if any surplus shall remain after the accomplishment of the purpose for which borrowed, it shall be used to redeem the county debt. Where the budget contains an expenditure program to be financed from a bond issue to be authorized thereafter no such expenditure shall be made or incurred until such bonds have been duly authorized. [1963 c 4 § 36.40.120. Prior: 1945 c 201 § 1, part; 1943 c 66 § 1, part; 1927 c 301 § 1, part; 1923 c 164 § 5, part; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 3997-5, part.]

**36.40.130 County not liable on overexpenditure—Penalty against officials.** Expenditures made, liabilities incurred, or warrants issued in excess of any of the detailed budget appropriations or as revised by transfer as in RCW 36.40.100, 36.40.110 or 36.40.120 provided shall not be a liability of the county, but the official making or incurring such expenditure or issuing such warrant shall be liable therefor personally and upon his official bond. The county auditor shall issue no warrant and the county commissioners shall approve no claim for any expenditure in excess of the detailed budget appropriations or as revised under the

provisions of RCW 36.40.100 through 36.40.130, except upon an order of a court of competent jurisdiction, or for emergencies as hereinafter provided. Any county commissioner, or county auditor, approving any claim or issuing any warrant in excess of any such budget appropriation except as herein provided shall forfeit to the county fourfold the amount of such claim or warrant which shall be recovered by action against such county commissioner or auditor, or all of them, and the several sureties on their official bonds. [1963 c 4 § 36.40.130. Prior: 1945 c 201 § 1, part; 1943 c 66 § 1, part; 1927 c 301 § 1, part; 1923 c 164 § 5, part; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 3997-5, part.]

**36.40.140 Emergencies subject to hearing.** When a public emergency, other than such as are specifically described in RCW 36.40.180, and which could not reasonably have been foreseen at the time of making the budget, requires the expenditure of money not provided for in the budget, the board of county commissioners by majority vote of the commissioners at any meeting the time and place of which all the commissioners have had reasonable notice, shall adopt and enter upon its minutes a resolution stating the facts constituting the emergency and the estimated amount of money required to meet it, and shall publish the same, together with a notice that a public hearing thereon will be held at the time and place designated therein, which shall not be less than one week after the date of publication, at which any taxpayer may appear and be heard for or against the expenditure of money for the alleged emergency. The resolution and notice shall be published once in the official county newspaper, or if there is none, in a legal newspaper in the county. Upon the conclusion of the hearing, if the board of county commissioners approves it, an order shall be made and entered upon its official minutes by a majority vote of all the members of the board setting forth the facts constituting the emergency, together with the amount of expenditure authorized, which order, so entered, shall be lawful authorization to expend said amount for such purpose unless a review is applied for within five days thereafter. [1969 ex.s. c 185 § 3; 1963 c 4 § 36.40.140. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 143 § 2, part; 1923 c 164 § 6, part; RRS § 3997-6, part.]

Severability—1969 ex.s. c 185: See RCW 36.87.900.

**36.40.150 Emergencies subject to hearing—Right of taxpayer to review order.** No expenditure shall be made or liability incurred pursuant to the order until a period of five days, exclusive of the day of entry of the order, have elapsed, during which time any taxpayer or taxpayers of the county feeling aggrieved by the order may have the superior court of the county review it by filing with the clerk of such court a verified petition, a copy of which has been served upon the county auditor. The petition shall set forth in detail the objections of the petitioners to the order and the reasons why the alleged emergency does not exist. [1963 c 4 § 36.40.150. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 143 § 2, part; 1923 c 164 § 6, part; RRS § 3997-6, part.]

**36.40.160 Emergencies subject to hearing—Petition for review suspends order.** The service and filing of the petition shall operate to suspend the emergency order and the

authority to make any expenditure or incur any liability thereunder until final determination of the matter by the court. [1963 c 4 § 36.40.160. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 143 § 2, part; 1923 c 164 § 6, part; RRS § 3997-6, part.]

**36.40.170 Emergencies subject to hearing—Court's power on review.** Upon the filing of a petition the court shall immediately fix a time for hearing it which shall be at the earliest convenient date. At such hearing the court shall hear the matter de novo and may take such testimony as it deems necessary. Its proceedings shall be summary and informal and its determination as to whether an emergency such as is contemplated within the meaning and purpose of this chapter exists or not and whether the expenditure authorized by said order is excessive or not shall be final. [1963 c 4 § 36.40.170. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 143 § 2, part; 1923 c 164 § 6, part; RRS § 3997-6, part.]

**36.40.180 Emergencies subject to hearing—Nondebatable emergencies.** Upon the happening of any emergency caused by fire, flood, explosion, storm, earthquake, epidemic, riot, or insurrection, or for the immediate preservation of order or of public health or for the restoration to a condition of usefulness of any public property the usefulness of which has been destroyed by accident, or for the relief of a stricken community overtaken by a calamity, or in settlement of approved claims for personal injuries or property damages, exclusive of claims arising from the operation of any public utility owned by the county, or to meet mandatory expenditures required by any law, the board of county commissioners may, upon the adoption by the unanimous vote of the commissioners present at any meeting the time and place of which all of such commissioners have had reasonable notice, of a resolution stating the facts constituting the emergency and entering the same upon their minutes, make the expenditures necessary to meet such emergency without further notice or hearing. [1963 c 4 § 36.40.180. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 143 § 2, part; 1923 c 164 § 6, part; RRS § 3997-6, part.]

**36.40.190 Payment of emergency warrants.** All emergency expenditures shall be paid for by the issuance of emergency warrants which shall be paid from any moneys on hand in the county treasury in the fund properly chargeable therewith and the county treasurer shall pay such warrants out of any moneys in the treasury in such fund. If at any time there are insufficient moneys on hand in the treasury to pay any of such warrants, they shall be registered, bear interest and be called in the manner provided by law for other county warrants. [1963 c 4 § 36.40.190. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 143 § 2, part; 1923 c 164 § 6, part; RRS § 3997-6, part.]

**36.40.200 Lapse of budget appropriations.** All appropriations shall lapse at the end of the fiscal year: PROVIDED, That the appropriation accounts shall remain open for a period of thirty days thereafter for the payment of claims incurred against such appropriations prior to the close of the fiscal year.

After such period has expired all appropriations shall become null and void and any claim presented thereafter

against any such appropriation shall be provided for in the next ensuing budget: PROVIDED, That this shall not prevent payments upon uncompleted improvements in progress at the close of the fiscal year. [1963 c 4 § 36.40.200. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 143 § 2, part; 1923 c 164 § 6, part; RRS § 3997-6, part.]

**36.40.205 Salary adjustment for county legislative authority office—Ratification and validation of preelection action.** If prior to the election for any county legislative authority office, a salary adjustment for such position to become effective upon the commencement of the term next following such election is adopted by ordinance or resolution of the legislative authority of such county, and a salary adjustment coinciding with such preceding ordinance or resolution thereof is properly adopted as part of the county budget for the years following such election, such action shall be deemed a continuing part of and shall ratify and validate the preelection action as to such salary adjustment. [1975 1st ex.s. c 32 § 1.]

**36.40.210 Monthly report by auditor.** On or before the twenty-fifth day of each month the auditor shall submit to the board of county commissioners a report showing the expenditures and liabilities against each separate budget appropriation incurred during the preceding calendar month and like information for the whole of the current fiscal year to the first day of said month, together with the unexpended and unencumbered balance of each appropriation. He shall also set forth the receipts from taxes and from sources other than taxation for the same periods. [1963 c 4 § 36.40.210. Prior: 1923 c 164 § 7; RRS § 3997-7.]

**36.40.220 Rules, classifications, and forms.** The division of municipal corporations may make such rules, classifications, and forms as may be necessary to carry out the provisions in respect to county budgets, define what expenditures shall be chargeable to each budget account, and establish such accounting and cost systems as may be necessary to provide accurate budget information. [1963 c 4 § 36.40.220. Prior: 1923 c 164 § 8; RRS § 3997-8.]

**36.40.230 No new funds created.** This chapter shall not be construed to create any new fund. [1963 c 4 § 36.40.230. Prior: 1923 c 164 § 9; RRS § 3997-9.]

**36.40.240 Penalty.** Any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not less than twenty-five dollars nor more than five hundred dollars. [1963 c 4 § 36.40.240. Prior: 1923 c 164 § 10; RRS § 3997-10.]

## Chapter 36.42

### RETAIL SALES AND USE TAXES

*County and city sales and use taxes: Chapter 82.14 RCW.*

## Chapter 36.43

### BUILDING CODES AND FIRE REGULATIONS

#### Sections

- 36.43.010 Authority to adopt.
- 36.43.020 Area to which applicable.
- 36.43.030 Enforcement—Inspectors.
- 36.43.040 Penalty for violation of code or regulation.

*Electrical construction regulations applicable to counties: RCW 19.29.010.*

*Energy-related building standards: Chapter 19.27A RCW.*

*State building code: Chapter 19.27 RCW.*

**36.43.010 Authority to adopt.** The boards of county commissioners may adopt standard building codes and standard fire regulations to be applied within their respective jurisdictions. [1963 c 4 § 36.43.010. Prior: 1943 c 204 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 4077-10.]

**36.43.020 Area to which applicable.** The building codes or fire regulations when adopted by the board of county commissioners shall be applicable to all the area of the county situated outside the corporate limits of any city or town, or to such portion thereof as may be prescribed in such building code or fire regulation. [1963 c 4 § 36.43.020. Prior: 1943 c 204 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 4077-11.]

**36.43.030 Enforcement—Inspectors.** The boards of county commissioners may appoint fire inspectors or other inspectors to enforce any building code or fire regulation adopted by them. The boards must enforce any building code or fire regulation adopted by them. [1963 c 4 § 36.43.030. Prior: 1943 c 204 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 4077-12.]

**36.43.040 Penalty for violation of code or regulation.** Any person violating the provisions of any building code or any fire regulation lawfully adopted by any board of county commissioners shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [1963 c 4 § 36.43.040. Prior: 1943 c 204 § 4; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 4077-13.]

## Chapter 36.45

### CLAIMS AGAINST COUNTIES

#### Sections

- 36.45.010 Manner of filing.
- 36.45.040 Labor and material claims.

*Assessor's expense when meeting with department of revenue as: RCW 84.08.190.*

*Autopsy costs as: RCW 68.50.104, 68.50.106.*

*Claims, reports, etc., filing: RCW 1.12.070.*

*Compromise of unlawful, when: RCW 43.09.260.*

*Costs against county, civil actions: RCW 4.84.170.*

*Courtrooms, expense of sheriff in providing as county charge: RCW 2.28.140.*

*Diking, drainage, or sewerage improvement assessments as: RCW 85.08.500, 85.08.530.*

*Elections, expense of registration of voters as: RCW 29.07.030.*

*Expense of keeping jury as: RCW 4.44.310.*

*Flood control  
by counties jointly, county liability: RCW 86.13.080.*



*districts (1937 act) assessments as: RCW 86.09.526, 86.09.529.*

*Health officers' convention expense as: RCW 43.70.140.*

*Incorporation into city or town of intercounty areas as: RCW 35.02.240.*

*Liability of county on failure to require contractors bond: RCW 39.08.015.*

*Lien for labor, material, taxes on public works: Chapter 60.28 RCW.*

*Metropolitan municipal corporation costs as: Chapter 35.58 RCW.*

*Municipal court expenses as: RCW 35.20.120.*

*Port district election costs as: RCW 53.04.070.*

*Railroad grade crossing costs as: Chapter 81.53 RCW.*

*Reclamation district commission expenses as: RCW 89.30.070.*

*Regional jail camps, cost of committing county prisoners to as: RCW 72.64.110.*

*Superior court, expenses of visiting judge as: RCW 2.08.170.*

*Tortious conduct of political subdivisions, municipal corporations and quasi municipal corporations, liability for damages: Chapter 4.96 RCW.*

*Veterans' meeting place rental as: RCW 73.04.080.*

*Vital statistics registrars' fees as charge against: RCW 70.58.040.*

**36.45.010 Manner of filing.** All claims for damages against any county shall be filed in the manner set forth in chapter 4.96 RCW. [1993 c 449 § 10; 1967 c 164 § 14; 1963 c 4 § 36.45.010. Prior: 1957 c 224 § 7; prior: 1919 c 149 § 1, part; RRS § 4077, part.]

**Purpose—Severability—1993 c 449:** See notes following RCW 4.96.010.

**Severability—Purpose—1967 c 164:** See notes following RCW 4.96.010.

*Tortious conduct of political subdivisions and municipal corporations, liability for damages: Chapter 4.96 RCW.*

**36.45.040 Labor and material claims.** Whenever any county, by its board of county commissioners, has entered into a contract for the construction of any public improvement for the benefit of the county, whereby the contractor agreed to furnish all labor, material, and supplies necessary for the improvement, and the contractor has proceeded with such improvement and procured from other persons labor, material, or supplies and used the same in the construction of the improvement, but has failed to pay such persons therefor, and such persons have filed claims therefor against the county, and the claims have been audited in the manner provided by law and found to be just claims against the county, and valid obligations of the county except for the fact that they were not filed within the time provided by law; the board of county commissioners may provide funds sufficient therefor, and cause the payment, of such claims in the manner provided by law for the payment of valid claims against the county. [1963 c 4 § 36.45.040. Prior: 1927 c 220 § 1; RRS § 4077-1.]

## Chapter 36.47

### COORDINATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE PROGRAMS

#### Sections

- 36.47.010 Declaration of necessity.
- 36.47.020 Joint action by officers of each county—Joint reports to governor and legislature.
- 36.47.030 State association of county officials may be coordinating agency.
- 36.47.040 Reimbursement for costs and expenses to state association of county officials.

- 36.47.050 County officials—Further action authorized—Meetings.
- 36.47.060 Association financial records subject to audit by division of municipal corporations.
- 36.47.070 Merger of state association of county officials with state association of counties.

**36.47.010 Declaration of necessity.** The necessity and the desirability of coordinating the administrative programs of all of the counties in this state is recognized by this chapter. [1963 c 4 § 36.47.010. Prior: 1959 c 130 § 1.]

**36.47.020 Joint action by officers of each county—Joint reports to governor and legislature.** It shall be the duty of the assessor, auditor, clerk, coroner, sheriff, superintendent of schools, treasurer, and prosecuting attorney of each county in the state, including appointive officials in charter counties heading like departments, to take such action as they jointly deem necessary to effect the coordination of the administrative programs of each county and to submit to the governor and the legislature biennially a joint report or joint reports containing recommendations for procedural changes which would increase the efficiency of the respective departments headed by such county officials. [1969 ex.s. c 5 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.47.020. Prior: 1959 c 130 § 2.]

**36.47.030 State association of county officials may be coordinating agency.** The county officials enumerated in RCW 36.47.020 are empowered to designate the Washington state association of county officials as a coordinating agency through which the duties imposed by RCW 36.47.020 may be performed, harmonized, or correlated. [1969 ex.s. c 5 § 2; 1963 c 4 § 36.47.030. Prior: 1959 c 130 § 3.]

**36.47.040 Reimbursement for costs and expenses to state association of county officials.** Each county which designates the Washington state association of county officials as the agency through which the duties imposed by RCW 36.47.020 may be executed is authorized to reimburse the association from the county current expense fund for the cost of any such services rendered: PROVIDED, That no reimbursement shall be made to the association for any expenses incurred under RCW 36.47.050 for travel, meals, or lodging of such county officials, or their representatives at such meetings, but such expenses may be paid by such official's respective county as other expenses are paid for county business. Such reimbursement shall be paid only on vouchers submitted to the county auditor and approved by the legislative authority of each county in the manner provided for the disbursement of other current expense funds. Each such voucher shall set forth the nature of the services rendered by the association, supported by affidavit that the services were actually performed. [1991 c 363 § 71; 1977 ex.s. c 221 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 35; 1970 ex.s. c 47 § 2; 1969 ex.s. c 5 § 3; 1963 c 4 § 36.47.040. Prior: 1959 c 130 § 4.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**Severability—Effective dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195:** See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

**36.47.050 County officials—Further action authorized—Meetings.** The county officials enumerated in RCW 36.47.020 are authorized to take such further action as they deem necessary to comply with the intent of this chapter, including attendance at state and district meetings which may be required to formulate the reports provided for in RCW 36.47.020. [1969 ex.s. c 5 § 4; 1963 c 4 § 36.47.050. Prior: 1959 c 130 § 5.]

**36.47.060 Association financial records subject to audit by division of municipal corporations.** The financial records of the Washington state association of county officials shall be subject to audit by the Washington state division of municipal corporations. [1969 ex.s. c 5 § 5; 1963 c 4 § 36.47.060. Prior: 1959 c 130 § 6.]

**36.47.070 Merger of state association of county officials with state association of counties.** It is the desire of the legislature that the Washington State Association of County Officials, as set forth in chapter 36.47 RCW and the Washington State Association of Counties, as set forth in RCW 36.32.350, shall merge into one association of elected county officers. Only one association shall carry out the duties imposed by RCW 36.32.335 through 36.32.360 and 36.47.020 through 36.47.060.

The two organizations shall report to the legislature by January 1, 1978 on the details of this merger. [1977 ex.s. c 221 § 2.]

**Chapter 36.48  
DEPOSITARIES**

Sections

- 36.48.010 Depositories to be designated by treasurer.
- 36.48.040 Depositories to be designated by treasurer—Deposited funds deemed in county treasury.
- 36.48.050 Depositories to be designated by treasurer—Treasurer's liability and bond additional.
- 36.48.060 Definition—"Financial institution."
- 36.48.070 County finance committee created—Committee shall approve county investment policy—Records, rules and regulations.
- 36.48.080 County clerk's funds may be deposited.
- 36.48.090 Clerk's trust fund created—Deposits—Interest—Investments.

**36.48.010 Depositories to be designated by treasurer.** Each county treasurer shall annually at the end of each fiscal year or at such other times as may be deemed necessary, designate one or more financial institutions in the state which are qualified public depositories as set forth by the public deposit protection commission as depository or depositories for all public funds held and required to be kept by him as such treasurer, and no county treasurer shall deposit any public money in financial institutions, except as herein provided. [1984 c 177 § 8; 1973 c 126 § 5; 1969 ex.s. c 193 § 27; 1963 c 4 § 36.48.010. Prior: 1907 c 51 § 1; RRS § 5562.]

**Construction—Severability—1969 ex.s. c 193:** See notes following RCW 39.58.010.

*Public depositories: Chapter 39.58 RCW.*

**36.48.040 Depositories to be designated by treasurer—Deposited funds deemed in county treasury.** The county treasurer shall deposit with any depository, which has fully complied with all requirements of RCW 36.48.010 through 36.48.060, any county money in his hands or under his official control, and for the purpose of making the quarterly settlement and counting funds in the hands of the treasurer any sums so on deposit shall be deemed to be in the county treasury. [1963 c 4 § 36.48.040. Prior: 1907 c 51 § 4; RRS § 5565.]

**36.48.050 Depositories to be designated by treasurer—Treasurer's liability and bond additional.** The provisions of RCW 36.48.010 through 36.48.060 shall in no way relieve or release the county treasurer from any liability upon his official bond as such treasurer, or any surety upon such bond, and shall in no way affect the duty of the several county treasurers to give bond as required by law. [1963 c 4 § 36.48.050. Prior: 1907 c 51 § 5; RRS § 5566.]

**36.48.060 Definition—"Financial institution."** "Financial institution," whenever it occurs in RCW 36.48.010 through 36.48.050, means a branch of a bank engaged in banking in this state in accordance with RCW 30.04.300, and any state bank or trust company, national banking association, stock savings bank, mutual savings bank, or savings and loan association, which institution is located in this state and lawfully engaged in business. [1984 c 177 § 9; 1963 c 4 § 36.48.060. Prior: 1907 c 51 § 6; RRS § 5567.]

**36.48.070 County finance committee created—Committee shall approve county investment policy—Records, rules and regulations.** The county treasurer, the county auditor, and the chair of the county legislative authority, ex officio, shall constitute the county finance committee. The county treasurer shall act as chair of the committee and the county auditor as secretary thereof. The committee shall keep a full and complete record of all its proceedings in appropriate books of record and all such records and all correspondence relating to the committee shall be kept in the office of the county auditor and shall be open to public inspection. The committee shall approve county investment policy and shall make appropriate rules and regulations for the carrying out of the provisions of RCW 36.48.010 through 36.48.060, not inconsistent with law. [1991 c 245 § 11; 1963 c 4 § 36.48.070. Prior: 1933 ex.s. c 45 § 2; RRS § 5567-1.]

**36.48.080 County clerk's funds may be deposited.** The county clerks of all the counties of the state shall deposit all funds in their custody, as clerk of the superior court of their respective counties, in one or more qualified depositories, as provided in chapter 39.58 RCW, as now or hereafter amended. [1973 c 126 § 7; 1963 c 4 § 36.48.080. Prior: 1933 ex.s. c 40 § 1; RRS § 5561-1.]

**36.48.090 Clerk's trust fund created—Deposits—Interest—Investments.** Whenever the clerk of the superior court has funds held in trust for any litigant or for any purpose, they shall be deposited in a separate fund designated "clerk's trust fund," and shall not be commingled with

any public funds. However, in the case of child support payments, the clerk may send the checks or drafts directly to the recipient or endorse the instrument to the recipient and the clerk is not required to deposit such funds. In processing child support payments, the clerk shall comply with RCW 26.09.120. The clerk may invest the funds in any of the investments authorized by RCW 36.29.020. The clerk shall place the income from such investments in the county current expense fund to be used by the county for general county purposes unless: (1) The funds being held in trust in a particular matter are two thousand dollars or more, and (2) a litigant in the matter has filed a written request that such investment be made of the funds being held in trust. Interest income accrued from the date of filing of the written request for investment shall be paid to the beneficiary. In such an event, any income from such investment shall be paid to the beneficiary of such trust upon the termination thereof: PROVIDED, That five percent of the income shall be deducted by the clerk as an investment service fee and placed in the county current expense fund to be used by the county for general county purposes.

In any matter where funds are held in the clerk's trust fund, any litigant who is not represented by an attorney and who has appeared in matters where the funds held are two thousand dollars or more shall receive written notice of the provisions of this section from the clerk. [1994 c 185 § 4; 1987 c 363 § 4; 1979 ex.s. c 227 § 1; 1977 c 63 § 1; 1973 c 126 § 8; 1963 c 4 § 36.48.090. Prior: 1933 ex.s. c 40 § 2; RRS § 5561-2.]

### Chapter 36.49 DOG LICENSE TAX

#### Sections

- 36.49.020 Treasurer to collect—Tags.
- 36.49.030 Application for license after assessor's list returned.
- 36.49.040 Delinquent tax, how collected.
- 36.49.050 "County dog license tax fund"—Created.
- 36.49.060 "County dog license tax fund"—Transfer of excess funds in.
- 36.49.070 Penalty.

*Indemnity for dogs doing damage, etc.: RCW 16.08.010 through 16.08.030.*

*Taxes for city and town purposes: State Constitution Art. 11 § 12.*

**36.49.020 Treasurer to collect—Tags.** The county assessor shall turn over the list of dog owners to the county treasurer for collection of the taxes. Upon the payment of the license tax upon any dog or kennel the county treasurer shall deliver to the owner or keeper of such dog or kennel a license, and a metallic tag for each dog taxed and licensed or kept in such kennel. The license shall be dated and numbered and shall bear the name of the county issuing it, the name and address of the owner of the dog or kennel licensed; and if a dog license, a description of the dog including its breed, age, color, and markings; and if a kennel license, a description of the breed, number, and ages of the dogs kept in such kennel. The metallic tag shall bear the name of the county issuing it, a serial number corresponding with the number on the license, and the calendar year in which it is issued. Every owner or keeper of a dog shall keep a substantial collar on the dog and attached firmly thereto the license tag for the current year. [1963 c 4 §

36.49.020. Prior: 1929 c 198 § 2; RRS § 8304-2; prior: 1919 c 6 § 2, part.]

**36.49.030 Application for license after assessor's list returned.** Any person becoming the owner of a dog or kennel after the assessment has been returned by the assessor and any owner of a dog or kennel which for any reason the assessor has failed to assess, may at any time apply to the county treasurer, and upon the payment of the required fee procure a license and a metallic tag or tags. [1963 c 4 § 36.49.030. Prior: 1929 c 198 § 3, part; RRS § 8304-3, part.]

**36.49.040 Delinquent tax, how collected.** If any person whose name appears upon the list prepared by the county assessor fails to pay the license tax to the county treasurer on or before the first day of August of the year in which the list is made, the county treasurer shall proceed to collect the delinquent license taxes in the manner provided by law for collection of delinquent personal property taxes. [1963 c 4 § 36.49.040. Prior: 1929 c 198 § 3, part; RRS § 8304-3, part.]

**36.49.050 "County dog license tax fund"—Created.** All license taxes collected in accordance with the provisions of this chapter shall be placed in a separate fund in the office of the county treasurer to be known as the "county dog license tax fund." [1963 c 4 § 36.49.050. Prior: 1929 c 198 § 4; RRS § 8304-4; prior: 1919 c 6 § 2, part.]

**36.49.060 "County dog license tax fund"—Transfer of excess funds in.** On the first day of March of each year all moneys in the county dog license tax fund in excess of five hundred dollars shall be transferred and credited by the county treasurer to the current expense fund of the county. [1963 c 4 § 36.49.060. Prior: 1929 c 198 § 8; RRS § 8304-5.]

**36.49.070 Penalty.** Any person or officer who refuses to comply with or enforce any of the provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [1963 c 4 § 36.49.070. Prior: 1929 c 198 § 9; RRS § 8304-6.]

### Chapter 36.50 FARM AND HOME EXTENSION WORK

#### Sections

- 36.50.010 Cooperative extension work in agriculture and home economics authorized.

**36.50.010 Cooperative extension work in agriculture and home economics authorized.** The board of county commissioners of any county and the governing body of any municipality are authorized to establish and conduct extension work in agriculture and home economics in cooperation with Washington State University, upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon by any such board or governing body and the director of the extension service of Washington State University; and may employ such means and appropriate and expend such sums of money as may be

necessary to effectively establish and carry on such work in agriculture and home economics in their respective counties and municipalities. [1963 c 4 § 36.50.010. Prior: 1949 c 181 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 4589-1.]

### Chapter 36.53

#### FERRIES—PRIVATELY OWNED

##### Sections

36.53.010	Grant of license—Term.
36.53.020	Licensing tax.
36.53.030	To whom license granted—Notice of intention if nonowner.
36.53.040	Notice of application to be posted.
36.53.050	Bond of licensee.
36.53.060	Duties of licensee.
36.53.070	Duties of licensee—Duties as to ferriage—Liability for non-performance.
36.53.080	Rates of ferriage.
36.53.090	Commissioners may fix and alter rates.
36.53.100	Rates to be posted.
36.53.110	Order of ferriage—Liability for nonperformance.
36.53.120	Grant exclusive.
36.53.130	Revocation of license.
36.53.140	Penalty for maintaining unlicensed ferry.
36.53.150	Interstate ferry—County may contribute to—Grant of permit to operator.

**36.53.010 Grant of license—Term.** The board of county commissioners may grant a license to keep a ferry across any lake or stream within its county, upon being satisfied that a ferry is necessary at the point applied for, which license shall continue in force for a term to be fixed by the commissioners not exceeding five years. [1963 c 4 § 36.53.010. Prior: Code 1881 § 3002; 1879 p 61 § 38; 1869 p 280 § 40; 1863 p 521 § 1; 1854 p 354 § 1; RRS § 5462.]

**36.53.020 Licensing tax.** The county legislative authority may charge such sum as may be fixed under the authority of RCW 36.32.120(3) for such license, and the person to whom the license is granted shall pay to the appropriate county official the tax for one year in advance. [1985 c 91 § 2; 1963 c 4 § 36.53.020. Prior: Code 1881 § 3003; 1879 p 61 § 39; 1869 p 280 § 41; 1863 p 522 § 2; 1854 p 354 § 2; RRS § 5463.]

**36.53.030 To whom license granted—Notice of intention if nonowner.** No license shall be granted to any person other than the owner of the land embracing or adjoining the lake or stream where the ferry is proposed to be kept, unless the owner neglects to apply therefor. Whenever application for a license is made by any person other than the owner, the board of county commissioners shall not grant it, unless proof is made that the applicant caused notice, in writing, of his intention to make such application to be given to such owner, if residing in the county, at least ten days before the session of the board of county commissioners at which application is made. [1963 c 4 § 36.53.030. Prior: Code 1881 § 3004; 1879 p 61 § 40; 1869 p 280 § 42; 1863 p 522 § 3; 1854 p 354 § 3; RRS § 5464.]

**36.53.040 Notice of application to be posted.** Every person intending to apply for a license to keep a ferry at any place shall give notice of his intention by posting up at least three notices in public places in the neighborhood where the ferry is proposed to be kept, twenty days prior to any regular session of the board of county commissioners at which the application is to be made. [1963 c 4 § 36.53.040. Prior: Code 1881 § 3005; 1879 p 61 § 41; 1869 p 281 § 43; 1863 p 522 § 4; 1854 p 354 § 4; RRS § 5465.]

**36.53.050 Bond of licensee.** Every person applying for a license to keep a ferry shall, before the same is issued, enter into a bond with one or more sureties, to be approved by the county auditor, in a sum not less than one hundred nor more than five hundred dollars, conditioned that such person will keep the ferry according to law and that if default at any time is made in the condition of the bond, damages, not exceeding the penalty, may be recovered by any person aggrieved, before any court having jurisdiction. [1963 c 4 § 36.53.050. Prior: Code 1881 § 3006; 1879 p 62 § 42; 1869 p 281 § 44; 1863 p 522 § 5; 1854 p 354 § 5; RRS § 5466.]

**36.53.060 Duties of licensee.** Every person obtaining a license to keep a ferry shall provide and keep in good and complete repair the necessary boat or boats for the safe conveyance of all persons and property, and furnish such boats at all times with suitable oars, setting poles, and other implements necessary for the service thereof, and shall keep a sufficient number of discreet and skillful men to attend and manage the same; and he shall also at all times keep the place of embarking and landing in good order and repair, by cutting away the bank of the stream so that persons and property may be embarked and landed without danger or unnecessary delay. [1963 c 4 § 36.53.060. Prior: Code 1881 § 3007; 1879 p 62 § 43; 1869 p 281 § 45; 1863 p 522 § 6; 1854 p 354 § 6; RRS § 5467.]

**36.53.070 Duties of licensee—Duties as to ferriage—Liability for nonperformance.** Every person obtaining a ferry license shall give constant and diligent attention to such ferry from daylight in the morning until dark in the evening of each day, and shall, moreover, at any hour in the night, if required, except in cases of imminent danger, give passage to all persons requiring the same on the payment of double rate of ferriage allowed to be taken in the daytime.

If the licensee at any time neglects or refuses to give passage to any person or property, the licensee shall forfeit and pay to the party aggrieved for every such offense the sum of five dollars, to be recovered before any district judge having jurisdiction; the licensee shall, moreover, be liable in an action at law for any special damage which such person may have sustained in consequence of such neglect or refusal.

No forfeiture or damages shall be recovered for a failure or refusal to convey any person or property across the stream when it is manifestly hazardous to do so, by reason of any storm, flood, or ice; nor shall any keeper of a ferry be compelled to give passage to any person or property until the fare or toll chargeable by law has been fully paid or tendered. [1987 c 202 § 207; 1963 c 4 § 36.53.070. Prior:

Code 1881 § 3008; 1879 p 62 § 44; 1869 p 281 § 46; 1863 p 523 § 7; 1854 p 355 § 7; RRS § 5468.]

Intent—1987 c 202: See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**36.53.080 Rates of ferriage.** Whenever the board of county commissioners grants a license to keep a ferry across any lake or stream, it shall establish the rates of ferriage which may be lawfully demanded for the transportation of persons and property across the same, having due regard for the breadth and situation of the stream, and the dangers and difficulties incident thereto, and the publicity of the place at which the same is established, and every keeper of a ferry who at any time demands and receives more than the amount so designated for ferrying shall forfeit and pay to the party aggrieved, for every such offense, the sum of five dollars, over and above the amount which has been illegally received, to be recovered before any district judge having jurisdiction. [1987 c 202 § 208; 1963 c 4 § 36.53.080. Prior: Code 1881 § 3009; 1879 p 63 § 45; 1869 p 282 § 47; 1863 p 523 § 8; 1854 p 355 § 8; RRS § 5469.]

Intent—1987 c 202: See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**36.53.090 Commissioners may fix and alter rates.** The boards of county commissioners may fix, alter, and establish from time to time, the rates of ferriage to be levied and collected at all ferries established by law, within or bordering upon the county lines of any of the counties in this state. [1963 c 4 § 36.53.090. Prior: Code 1881 § 3010; 1879 p 63 § 46; 1869 p 282 § 48; RRS § 5470.]

**36.53.100 Rates to be posted.** Every person licensed to keep a ferry shall post up, in some conspicuous place near his ferry landing a list of the rates of ferriage which are chargeable by law at such ferry, which list of rates shall at all times be plain and legible and posted up so near the place where persons pass across the ferry that it may be easily read. If the keeper neglects or refuses to post and keep up such list, it shall not be lawful to charge or take any ferriage or compensation at the ferry, during the time of such delinquency. [1963 c 4 § 36.53.100. Prior: Code 1881 § 3011; 1879 p 63 § 47; 1869 p 283 § 49; 1863 p 523 § 9; 1854 p 355 § 9; RRS § 5471.]

**36.53.110 Order of ferriage—Liability for nonperformance.** All persons shall be received into the ferry boats and conveyed across the stream over which a ferry is established according to their arrival thereat, and if the keeper of a ferry acts contrary to this regulation, the keeper shall forfeit and pay to the party aggrieved the sum of ten dollars for every such offense, to be recovered before any district judge having jurisdiction: PROVIDED, That public officers on urgent business, post riders, couriers, physicians, surgeons, and midwives shall in all cases be first carried over, when all cannot go at the same time. [1987 c 202 § 209; 1963 c 4 § 36.53.110. Prior: Code 1881 § 3012; 1879 p 63 § 48; 1869 p 283 § 50; 1863 p 524 § 10; 1854 p 356 § 10; RRS § 5472.]

Intent—1987 c 202: See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**36.53.120 Grant exclusive.** Every person licensed to keep a ferry under the provisions of RCW 36.53.010 through 36.53.140 shall have the exclusive privilege of transporting all persons and property over and across the stream where the ferry is established, and shall be entitled to all the fare arising by law therefrom: PROVIDED, That any person may cross such stream at the ferry location in his own boat, or take in and carry over his neighbor, when done without fee or charge, and not with intent to injure the person licensed to keep a ferry. [1963 c 4 § 36.53.120. Prior: Code 1881 § 3013; 1879 p 63 § 49; 1869 p 283 § 51; 1863 p 524 § 11; 1854 p 356 § 11; RRS § 5473.]

**36.53.130 Revocation of license.** If any person licensed to keep a ferry fails to pay the taxes assessed thereon when due, or to provide and keep in good and complete repair the necessary boat or boats, with the oars, setting poles, and other necessary implements for the service thereof, or to employ a sufficient number of skilled and discreet ferrymen within three months from the time license is granted, or if the ferry is not at any time kept in good condition and repair, or if it is abandoned, disused, or unfrequented for the space of six months at any one time, the board of county commissioners, on complaint being made in writing, may summon the person licensed to keep such ferry, to show cause why his license should not be revoked. The board may revoke or not according to the testimony adduced and the laws of this state, the decision subject to review by the superior court: PROVIDED, That if disuse resulted because the stream is fordable at certain seasons of the year, or because travel by that route is subject to periodical fluctuations, it shall not work a forfeiture within the meaning of this section. [1963 c 4 § 36.53.130. Prior: Code 1881 § 3014; 1879 p 64 § 50; 1869 p 283 § 52; 1863 p 524 § 12; 1854 p 356 § 12; RRS § 5474.]

**36.53.140 Penalty for maintaining unlicensed ferry.** Any person who maintains any ferry and receives ferriage without first obtaining a license therefor shall pay a fine of ten dollars for each offense, to be collected for the use of the county, by suit before any district judge having jurisdiction, and any person may bring such suit: PROVIDED, That it shall not be unlawful for any person to transport any other person or property over any stream for hire, when there is no ferry, or the ferry established at such place was not in actual operation at the time, or in sufficient repair to have afforded to such person or property a safe and speedy passage. [1987 c 202 § 210; 1963 c 4 § 36.53.140. Prior: Code 1881 § 3015; 1879 p 64 § 51; 1869 p 284 § 53; 1863 p 525 § 13; 1854 p 356 § 13; RRS § 5475.]

Intent—1987 c 202: See note following RCW 2.04.190.

**36.53.150 Interstate ferry—County may contribute to—Grant of permit to operator.** Whenever the board of county commissioners of any county determines that the construction or maintenance of a ferry in a state adjoining such county or connecting such county with the adjoining state is of necessity or convenience to the citizens of the county, the board may enter into a contract for the construction or maintenance of such ferry, or make such contribution as may be deemed advisable toward the construction or

maintenance thereof, and may lease, or grant exclusive permits to use, any wharf or landing owned or leased by the board to any person, firm or corporation furnishing, or agreeing to furnish, ferry service between such county and the adjoining state. [1963 c 4 § 36.53.150. Prior: 1921 c 165 § 1; 1915 c 26 § 1; RRS § 5478.]

### Chapter 36.54

#### FERRIES—COUNTY OWNED—FERRY DISTRICTS

##### Sections

- 36.54.010 County may acquire, construct, maintain, and operate ferry.
- 36.54.015 Ferries—Fourteen year long range improvement plan—  
Contents.
- 36.54.020 Joint ferries—Generally.
- 36.54.030 Joint ferries over water boundary between two counties.
- 36.54.040 Joint ferries over water boundary between two counties—  
Joint board of commissioners to administer—Records kept.
- 36.54.050 Joint ferries over water boundary between two counties—  
Commission authority—Expenses shared.
- 36.54.060 Joint ferries over water boundary between two counties—  
Audit and allowance of claims.
- 36.54.070 Joint ferries over water boundary between two counties—  
County commissioner duties enumerated—Omission as ground for impeachment.

**36.54.010 County may acquire, construct, maintain, and operate ferry.** Any county may construct, condemn, or purchase, operate and maintain ferries or wharves at any unfordable stream, lake, estuary or bay within or bordering on said county, or between portions of the county, or between such county and other counties, together with all the necessary boats, grounds, roads, approaches, and landings appertaining thereto under the direction and control of the board of county commissioners free or for toll and as the board shall by resolution determine. [1963 c 4 § 36.54.010. Prior: 1919 c 115 § 1; 1899 c 29 § 1; 1895 c 130 § 2; RRS § 5477.]

**36.54.015 Ferries—Fourteen year long range improvement plan—Contents.** The legislative authority of every county operating ferries shall prepare, with the advice and assistance of the county engineer, a fourteen year long range capital improvement plan embracing all major elements of the ferry system. Such plan shall include a listing of each major element of the system showing its estimated current value, its estimated replacement cost, and its amortization period. [1975 1st ex.s. c 21 § 2.]

**36.54.020 Joint ferries—Generally.** The board of county commissioners of any county may, severally or jointly with any other county, city or town, or the state of Washington, or any other state or any county, city or town of any other state, construct or acquire by purchase, gift, or condemnation, and operate any ferry necessary for continuation or connection of any county road across any navigable water. The procedure with respect to the exercise of the power herein granted shall be the same as provided for the joint erection or acquisition of bridges, trestles, or other structures. Any such ferries may be operated as free ferries or as toll ferries under the provisions of law of this state

relating thereto. [1963 c 4 § 36.54.020. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 31; RRS § 6450-31.]

**36.54.030 Joint ferries over water boundary between two counties.** Whenever a river, lake, or other body of water is on the boundary line between two counties, the boards of county commissioners of the counties adjoining such stream or body of water may construct, purchase, equip, maintain, and operate a ferry across such river, lake, or other body of water, when such ferry connects the county roads or other public highways of their respective counties. All costs and expenses of constructing, purchasing, maintaining, and operating such ferry shall be paid by the two counties, each paying such proportion thereof as shall be agreed upon by the boards of county commissioners. [1963 c 4 § 36.54.030. Prior: 1917 c 158 § 1; RRS § 5479.]

**36.54.040 Joint ferries over water boundary between two counties—Joint board of commissioners to administer—Records kept.** The boards of county commissioners of the two counties, participating in a joint ferry, shall meet in joint session at the county seat of one of the counties interested, and shall elect one of their members as chairman of the joint board of commissioners, who shall act as such chairman during the remainder of his term of office, and, at the expiration of his term of office, the two boards of county commissioners shall meet and elect a new chairman, who shall act as such chairman during his term of office as county commissioner, and they shall continue to elect a chairman in like manner thereafter. The county auditors of the counties shall be clerks of such joint commission, and the county auditor of the county where each meeting is held shall act as clerk of the commission at all meetings held in his county. Each county auditor, as soon as the joint commission is organized, shall procure a record book and enter therein a complete record of the proceedings of the commission, and immediately after each adjournment the county auditor of the county in which the meeting is held shall forward a complete copy of the minutes of the proceedings of the commission to the auditor of the other county to be entered by him in his record. Each county shall keep a complete record of the proceedings of the commission. [1963 c 4 § 36.54.040. Prior: 1917 c 158 § 2; RRS § 5480.]

**36.54.050 Joint ferries over water boundary between two counties—Commission authority—Expenses shared.** The joint commission is authorized to transact all business necessary in carrying out the purposes of RCW 36.54.030 through 36.54.070 and its acts shall be binding upon the two counties, and one-half of all bills and obligations created by the commission shall be binding and a legal charge against the road fund of each county and the claims therefor shall be allowed and paid out of the county road fund the same as other claims against said fund are allowed and paid. [1963 c 4 § 36.54.050. Prior: 1917 c 158 § 3; RRS § 5481.]

**36.54.060 Joint ferries over water boundary between two counties—Audit and allowance of claims.** All claims and accounts for the construction, operation and

maintenance of a joint county ferry shall be presented to and audited by the joint commission: PROVIDED, That items of expense connected with the operation of such ferry which do not exceed the sum of thirty dollars may be presented to the chairman of the joint commission and allowed by him and when allowed shall be a joint charge against the road fund of each of the counties operating such ferry. [1963 c 4 § 36.54.060. Prior: 1917 c 158 § 4; RRS § 5482.]

**36.54.070 Joint ferries over water boundary between two counties—County commissioner duties enumerated—Omission as ground for impeachment.** The members of the board of county commissioners of each county shall be members of the joint commission and their refusal to act shall be ground for impeachment. They shall provide for the maintenance and operation of the ferry until it is discontinued by a majority vote of the joint commission. [1963 c 4 § 36.54.070. Prior: 1917 c 158 § 5; RRS § 5483.]

## Chapter 36.55

### FRANCHISES ON ROADS AND BRIDGES

#### Sections

36.55.010	Pipe line and wire line franchises on county roads.
36.55.020	Cattleguards, tramroad, and railway rights.
36.55.030	Franchises on county bridges.
36.55.040	Application—Notice of hearing.
36.55.050	Hearing—Order.
36.55.060	Limitations upon grants.
36.55.070	Existing franchises validated.
36.55.080	Record of franchises.

**36.55.010 Pipe line and wire line franchises on county roads.** Any board of county commissioners may grant franchises to persons or private or municipal corporations to use the right of way of county roads in their respective counties for the construction and maintenance of waterworks, gas pipes, telephone, telegraph, and electric light lines, sewers and any other such facilities. [1963 c 4 § 36.55.010. Prior: 1961 c 55 § 2; prior: 1937 c 187 § 38, part; RRS § 6450-38, part.]

**36.55.020 Cattleguards, tramroad, and railway rights.** Any board of county commissioners may grant to any person the right to build and maintain tramroads and railway roads upon county roads under such regulations and conditions as the board may prescribe, and may grant to any person the right to build and maintain cattleguards across the entire right of way on any county road, under such regulations and conditions as the board may prescribe: PROVIDED, That such tramroad or railway road shall not occupy more than eight feet of the county road upon which the same is built and shall not be built upon the roadway of such county road nor in such a way as to interfere with the public travel thereon. [1963 c 4 § 36.55.020. Prior: 1941 c 138 § 1; 1937 c 187 § 39; Rem. Supp. 1941 § 6450-39.]

**36.55.030 Franchises on county bridges.** Any board of county commissioners may grant franchises upon bridges, trestles, or other structures constructed and maintained by it,

severally or jointly with any other county or city or town of this state, or jointly with any other state or any county, city or town of any other state, in the same manner and under the same provisions as govern the granting of franchises on county roads. [1963 c 4 § 36.55.030. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 40; RRS § 6450-40.]

**36.55.040 Application—Notice of hearing.** On application being made to the county legislative authority for franchise, it shall fix a time and place for hearing the same, and shall cause the county auditor to give public notice thereof at the expense of the applicant, by posting notices in three public places in the county seat of the county at least fifteen days before the day fixed for the hearing. The county legislative authority shall also publish a like notice two times in the official newspaper of the county, the last publication to be not less than five days before the day fixed for the hearing. The notice shall state the name or names of the applicant or applicants, a description of the county roads by reference to section, township and range in which the county roads or portions thereof are physically located, to be included in the franchise for which the application is made, and the time and place fixed for the hearing. [1985 c 469 § 49; 1963 c 4 § 36.55.040. Prior: 1961 c 55 § 3; prior: 1937 c 187 § 38, part; RRS § 6450-38, part.]

**36.55.050 Hearing—Order.** The hearing may be adjourned from time to time by the order of the board of county commissioners. If, after the hearing, the board deems it to be for the public interest to grant the franchise in whole or in part, it may make and enter a resolution to that effect and may require the applicant to place his utility and its appurtenances in such location on or along the county road as the board finds will cause the least interference with other uses of the road. [1963 c 4 § 36.55.050. Prior: 1961 c 55 § 4; prior: 1937 c 187 § 38, part; RRS § 6450-38, part.]

**36.55.060 Limitations upon grants.** (1) Any person constructing or operating any utility on or along a county road shall be liable to the county for all necessary expense incurred in restoring the county road to a suitable condition for travel.

(2) No franchise shall be granted for a period of longer than fifty years.

(3) No exclusive franchise or privilege shall be granted.

(4) The facilities of the holder of any such franchise shall be removed at the expense of the holder thereof, to some other location on such county road in the event it is to be constructed, altered, or improved or becomes a primary state highway and such removal is reasonably necessary for the construction, alteration, or improvement thereof. [1963 c 4 § 36.55.060. Prior: 1961 c 55 § 5; prior: 1937 c 187 § 38, part; RRS § 6450-38, part.]

**36.55.070 Existing franchises validated.** All rights, privileges, or franchises granted or attempted to be granted by the board of county commissioners of any county prior to April 1, 1937, when such board of county commissioners was in regular or special session and when the action of such board is shown by its records, to any person to erect, construct, maintain, or operate any railway or poles, pole



lines, wires, or any other thing for the furnishing, transmission, delivery, enjoyment, or use of electric energy, electric power, electric light, and telephone connection therewith, or any other matter relating thereto; or to lay or maintain pipes for the distribution of water, or gas, or to or for any other such facilities in, upon, along, through or over any county roads, are confirmed and declared to be valid to the extent that such rights, privileges, or franchises specifically refer or apply to any county road or county roads, or to the extent that any such county road has prior to April 1, 1937, been actually occupied by the bona fide construction and operation of such utility, and such rights, privileges, and franchises hereby confirmed shall have the same force and effect as if the board of county commissioners prior to the time of granting said rights, privileges, and franchises, had been specifically authorized to grant them. [1963 c 4 § 36.55.070. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 41; RRS § 6450-41.]

**36.55.080 Record of franchises.** The board of county commissioners shall cause to be recorded with the county auditor a complete record of all existing franchises upon the county roads of its county and the auditor shall keep and maintain a currently correct record of all franchises existing or granted with the information describing the holder of the franchise, the purpose thereof, the portion of county road over or along which granted, the date of granting, term for which granted, and date of expiration, and any other information with reference to any special provisions of such franchises. [1963 c 4 § 36.55.080. Prior: 1937.c 187 § 42; RRS § 6450-42.]

## Chapter 36.56

### METROPOLITAN MUNICIPAL CORPORATION FUNCTIONS, ETC.—ASSUMPTION BY COUNTIES

#### Sections

- 36.56.010 Assumption of rights, powers, functions, and obligations authorized.
- 36.56.020 Ordinance or resolution of intention to assume rights, powers, functions and obligations—Adoption—Publication—Hearing.
- 36.56.030 Hearing.
- 36.56.040 Declaration of intention to assume—Submission of ordinance or resolution to voters required—Extent of rights, powers, functions and obligations assumed and vested in county—Abolition of metropolitan council—Transfer of rights, powers, functions and obligations to county.
- 36.56.050 Employees and personnel.
- 36.56.060 Apportionment of budgeted funds—Transfer and adjustment of funds, accounts and records.
- 36.56.070 Existing rights, actions, proceedings, etc. not impaired or altered.
- 36.56.080 Collective bargaining units or agreements.
- 36.56.090 Rules and regulations, pending business, contracts, obligations, validity of official acts.
- 36.56.100 Real and personal property—Reports, books, records, etc.—Funds, credits, assets—Appropriations or federal grants.
- 36.56.110 Debts and obligations.
- 36.56.900 Severability—Construction—1977 ex.s. c 277.
- 36.56.910 Effective date—1977 ex.s. c 277.

*Acquisition of interests in land for conservation, protection, preservation, or open space purposes by county or metropolitan municipal corporation: RCW 64.04.130.*

**36.56.010 Assumption of rights, powers, functions, and obligations authorized.** Any county with a population of two hundred ten thousand or more in which a metropolitan municipal corporation has been established pursuant to chapter 35.58 RCW with boundaries coterminous with the boundaries of the county may by ordinance or resolution, as the case may be, of the county legislative authority assume the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of such metropolitan municipal corporation in accordance with the provisions of \*this 1977 amendatory act. The definitions contained in RCW 35.58.020 shall be applicable to this chapter. [1991 c 363 § 72; 1977 ex.s. c 277 § 1.]

\*Reviser's note: "this 1977 amendatory act" or "this act" [1977 ex.s. c 277] consists of chapter 36.56 RCW and the amendment to RCW 35.58.020 by 1977 ex.s. c 277.

~~Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:~~ See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.56.020 Ordinance or resolution of intention to assume rights, powers, functions and obligations—Adoption—Publication—Hearing.** The assumption of the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of a metropolitan municipal corporation may be initiated by the adoption of an ordinance or a resolution, as the case may be, by the county legislative authority indicating its intention to conduct a hearing concerning assumption of such rights, powers, functions, and obligations. In the event the county legislative authority adopts such an ordinance or a resolution of intention, such ordinance or resolution shall set a time and place at which it will consider the proposed assumption of the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of the metropolitan municipal corporation, and shall state that all persons interested may appear and be heard. Such ordinance or resolution of intention shall be published for at least four times during the four weeks next preceding the scheduled hearing in newspapers of daily general circulation printed or published in said county. [1977 ex.s. c 277 § 2.]

**36.56.030 Hearing.** At the time scheduled for the hearing in the ordinance or resolution of intention, the county legislative authority shall consider the assumption of the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of the metropolitan municipal corporation, and hear those appearing and all protests and objections to it. The county legislative authority may continue the hearing from time to time, not exceeding sixty days in all. [1977 ex.s. c 277 § 3.]

**36.56.040 Declaration of intention to assume—Submission of ordinance or resolution to voters required—Extent of rights, powers, functions and obligations assumed and vested in county—Abolition of metropolitan council—Transfer of rights, powers, functions and obligations to county.** If, from the testimony given before the county legislative authority, it appears that the public interest or welfare would be satisfied by the county assuming the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of the metropolitan municipal corporation, the county legislative authority may declare that to be its intent and assume such rights, powers, functions, and obligations by ordinance or resolution, as the case may be, providing that the county shall be vested with every right, power, function, and

obligation currently granted to or possessed by the metropolitan municipal corporation pursuant to chapter 35.58 RCW (including RCW 35.58.273 relating to levy and use of the motor vehicle excise tax) or other provision of state law, including but not limited to, the power and authority to levy a sales and use tax pursuant to chapter 82.14 RCW or other provision of law: PROVIDED, That such ordinance or resolution shall be submitted to the voters of the county for their adoption and ratification or rejection, and if a majority of the persons voting on the proposition residing within the central city shall vote in favor thereof and a majority of the persons voting on the proposition residing in the metropolitan area outside of the central city shall vote in favor thereof, the ordinance or resolution shall be deemed adopted and ratified.

Upon assumption of the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of the metropolitan municipal corporation by the county, the metropolitan council established pursuant to the provisions of RCW 35.58.120 through 35.58.160 shall be abolished, said provisions shall be inapplicable to the county, and the county legislative authority shall thereafter be vested with all rights, powers, duties, and obligations otherwise vested by law in the metropolitan council: PROVIDED, That in any county with a home rule charter such rights, powers, functions, and obligations shall vest in accordance with the executive and legislative responsibilities defined in such charter. [1977 ex.s. c 277 § 4.]

**36.56.050 Employees and personnel.** All employees and personnel of the metropolitan municipal corporation who are under a personnel system pursuant to RCW 35.58.370 shall be assigned to the county personnel system to perform their usual duties upon the same terms as formerly, without any loss of rights, subject to any action that may be appropriate thereafter in accordance with the laws and rules governing the county personnel system. [1977 ex.s. c 277 § 5.]

**36.56.060 Apportionment of budgeted funds—Transfer and adjustment of funds, accounts and records.** If apportionments of budgeted funds are required because of the transfers authorized by this chapter, the county budget office shall certify such apportionments to the agencies and local governmental units affected and to the state auditor. Each of these shall make the appropriate transfer and adjustments in funds and appropriation accounts and equipment records in accordance with such certification. [1977 ex.s. c 277 § 6.]

**36.56.070 Existing rights, actions, proceedings, etc. not impaired or altered.** No transfer of any function made pursuant to this chapter shall be construed to impair or alter any existing rights acquired under the provisions of chapter 35.58 RCW or any other provision of law relating to metropolitan municipal corporations, nor as impairing or altering any actions, activities, or proceedings validated thereunder, nor as impairing or altering any civil or criminal proceedings instituted thereunder, nor any rule, regulation, or order promulgated thereunder, nor any administrative action taken thereunder; and neither the assumption of control of any metropolitan municipal function by a county, nor any

transfer of rights, powers, functions, and obligations as provided in this chapter, shall impair or alter the validity of any act performed by such metropolitan municipal corporation or division thereof or any officer thereof prior to the assumption of such rights, powers, functions, and obligations by any county as authorized by this chapter. [1977 ex.s. c 277 § 7.]

**36.56.080 Collective bargaining units or agreements.** Nothing contained in this chapter shall be construed to alter any existing collective bargaining unit or the provisions of any existing collective bargaining agreement until any such agreement has expired or until any such bargaining unit has been modified as provided by law. [1977 ex.s. c 277 § 8.]

**36.56.090 Rules and regulations, pending business, contracts, obligations, validity of official acts.** All rules and regulations, and all pending business before the committees, divisions, boards, and other agencies of any metropolitan municipal corporation transferred pursuant to the provisions of this chapter shall be continued and acted upon by the county.

All existing contracts and obligations of the transferred metropolitan municipal corporation shall remain in full force and effect, and shall be performed by the county. No transfer authorized in this chapter shall affect the validity of any official act performed by any official or employee prior to the transfer authorized pursuant to \*this amendatory act. [1977 ex.s. c 277 § 9.]

\*Reviser's note: "this amendatory act," see note following RCW 36.56.010.

**36.56.100 Real and personal property—Reports, books, records, etc.—Funds, credits, assets—Appropriations or federal grants.** When the rights, powers, functions, and obligations of a metropolitan municipal corporation are transferred pursuant to this chapter, all real and personal property owned by the metropolitan municipal corporation shall become that of the county.

All reports, documents, surveys, books, records, files, papers, or other writings relating to the administration of the powers, duties, and functions transferred pursuant to this chapter and available to the metropolitan municipal corporation shall be made available to the county.

All cabinets, furniture, office equipment, motor vehicles, and other tangible property employed in carrying out the rights, powers, functions, and obligations transferred by this chapter and available to the metropolitan municipal corporation shall be made available to the county.

All funds, credits, or other assets held in connection with powers, duties, and functions herein transferred shall be assigned to the county.

Any appropriations or federal grant made to any committee, division, board, or other department of a metropolitan municipal corporation for the purpose of carrying out the rights, powers, functions, and obligations authorized to be assumed by a county pursuant to this chapter shall on the effective date of such transfer be credited to the county for the purpose of carrying out such transferred rights, powers, functions, and obligations. [1977 ex.s. c 277 § 10.]

**36.56.110 Debts and obligations.** The county shall assume and agree to provide for the payment of all of the indebtedness of the metropolitan municipal corporation including the payment and retirement of outstanding general obligation and revenue bonds issued by the metropolitan municipal corporation. Until the indebtedness of a metropolitan municipal corporation thus assumed by a county has been discharged, all property within the boundaries of the metropolitan municipal corporation and the owners and occupants of that property, shall continue to be liable for taxes, special assessments, and other charges legally pledged to pay the indebtedness of the metropolitan municipal corporation. The county shall assume the obligation of causing the payment of such indebtedness, collecting such taxes, assessments, and charges and observing and performing the other contractual obligations of the metropolitan municipal corporation. The legislative authority of the county shall act in the same manner as the governing body of the metropolitan municipal corporation for the purpose of certifying the amount of any property tax to be levied and collected therein, and may cause service and other charges and assessments to be collected from such property or owners or occupants thereof, enforce such collection and perform all acts necessary to ensure performance of the contractual obligations of the metropolitan municipal corporation in the same manner and by the same means as if the property of the metropolitan municipal corporation had not been acquired by the county.

When a county assumes the obligation of paying indebtedness of a metropolitan municipal corporation and if property taxes or assessments have been levied and service and other charges have accrued for such purpose but have not been collected by the metropolitan municipal corporation prior to such assumption, the same when collected shall belong and be paid to the county and be used by such county so far as necessary for payment of the indebtedness of the metropolitan municipal corporation existing and unpaid on the date such county assumed that indebtedness. Any funds received by the county which have been collected for the purpose of paying any bonded or other indebtedness of the metropolitan municipal corporation shall be used for the purpose for which they were collected and for no other purpose until such indebtedness has been paid and retired or adequate provision has been made for such payment and retirement. No transfer of property as provided in \*this act shall derogate from the claims or rights of the creditors of the metropolitan municipal corporation or impair the ability of the metropolitan municipal corporation to respond to its debts and obligations. [1977 ex.s. c 277 § 11.]

\*Reviser's note: "this act," see note following RCW 36.56.010.

**36.56.900 Severability—Construction—1977 ex.s. c 277.** If any provision of this 1977 amendatory act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. In the event the provisions in RCW 36.56.040 requiring approval by both the voters of a central city and the county voters residing outside of the central city are held to be invalid, then such provisions shall be severable and the ballot proposition on the transfer of the metropolitan municipal corporation to the

county shall be decided by the majority vote of the voters voting thereon in a county-wide election. [1977 ex.s. c 277 § 14.]

**36.56.910 Effective date—1977 ex.s. c 277.** This 1977 amendatory act shall take effect July 1, 1978. [1977 ex.s. c 277 § 15.]

## Chapter 36.57 COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

### Sections

36.57.010	Definitions.
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36.57.040	Powers and duties.
36.57.050	Chairman—General manager.
36.57.060	Transportation fund—Contributions.
36.57.070	Public transportation plan.
36.57.080	Transfer of transportation powers and rights to authority—Funds—Contract indebtedness.
36.57.090	Acquisition of existing transportation system—Assumption of labor contracts—Transfer of employees—Preservation of benefits—Collective bargaining.
36.57.100	Counties authorized to perform public transportation function in unincorporated areas—Exceptions.
36.57.110	Boundaries of unincorporated transportation benefit areas.

*Financing of public transportation systems: Chapter 35.95 RCW and RCW 82.14.045.*

*Municipality defined for purposes of RCW 36.57.080, 36.57.100, and 36.57.110: RCW 35.58.272.*

**36.57.010 Definitions.** For the purposes of this chapter the following definitions shall apply:

(1) "Authority" means the county transportation authority created pursuant to this chapter.

(2) "Population" means the number of residents as shown by the figures released for the most recent official state, federal, or county census, or population determination made by the office of financial management.

(3) "Public transportation function" means the transportation of passengers and their incidental baggage by means other than by chartered bus, sightseeing bus, together with the necessary passenger terminals and parking facilities or other properties necessary for passenger and vehicular access to and from such people-moving systems, and may include contracting for the provision of ambulance services for the transportation of the sick and injured: PROVIDED, That such contracting for ambulance services shall not include the exercise of eminent domain powers: PROVIDED, FURTHER, That nothing shall prohibit an authority from leasing its buses to private certified carriers or prohibit the county from providing school bus service. [1981 c 319 § 1; 1979 c 151 § 39; 1974 ex.s. c 167 § 1.]

*Population determinations, office of financial management: Chapter 43.62 RCW.*

**36.57.020 Public transportation authority authorized.** Every county, except a county in which a metropolitan municipal corporation is performing the function of public transportation on May 5, 1974, is authorized to create a county transportation authority which shall perform the

function of public transportation. Such authority shall embrace all the territory within a single county and all cities and towns therein. [1974 ex.s. c 167 § 2.]

**36.57.030 Membership—Compensation.** Every county which undertakes the transportation function pursuant to RCW 36.57.020 shall create by resolution of the county legislative body a county transportation authority which shall be composed as follows:

- (1) The elected officials of the county legislative body, not to exceed three such elected officials;
- (2) The mayor of the most populous city within the county;
- (3) The mayor of a city with a population less than five thousand, to be selected by the mayors of all such cities within the county;
- (4) The mayor of a city with a population greater than five thousand, excluding the most populous city, to be selected by the mayors of all such cities within the county: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That if there is no city with a population greater than five thousand, excluding the most populous city, then the sixth member who shall be an elected official, shall be selected by the other two mayors selected pursuant to subsections (2) and (3) of this section.

The members of the authority shall be selected within sixty days after the date of the resolution creating such authority.

Any member of the authority who is a mayor or an elected official selected pursuant to subsection (4) above and whose office is not a full time position shall receive one hundred dollars for each day attending official meetings of the authority. [1974 ex.s. c 167 § 3.]

**36.57.040 Powers and duties.** Every county transportation authority created to perform the function of public transportation pursuant to RCW 36.57.020 shall have the following powers:

- (1) To prepare, adopt, carry out, and amend a general comprehensive plan for public transportation service.
- (2) To acquire by purchase, condemnation, gift, or grant and to lease, construct, add to, improve, replace, repair, maintain, operate, and regulate the use of any transportation facilities and properties, including terminal and parking facilities, together with all lands, rights of way, property, equipment, and accessories necessary for such systems and facilities.
- (3) To fix rates, tolls, fares, and charges for the use of such facilities and to establish various routes and classes of service. Fares or charges may be adjusted or eliminated for any distinguishable class of users including, but not limited to senior citizens, handicapped persons, and students.
- (4) If a county transit authority extends its transportation function to any area in which service is already offered by any company holding a certificate of public convenience and necessity from the Washington utilities and transportation commission under RCW 81.68.040, to acquire by purchase or condemnation at the fair market value, from the person holding the existing certificate for providing the services, that portion of the operating authority and equipment representing the services within the area of public operation, or to contract with such person or corporation to continue to

operate such service or any part thereof for time and upon such terms and conditions as provided by contract.

(5)(a) To contract with the United States or any agency thereof, any state or agency thereof, any metropolitan municipal corporation, any other county, city, special district, or governmental agency and any private person, firm, or corporation for the purpose of receiving gifts or grants or securing loans or advances for preliminary planning and feasibility studies, or for the design, construction, operation, or maintenance of transportation facilities and ambulance services: PROVIDED, That before the authority enters into any such contract for the provision of ambulance service, it shall submit to the voters a proposition authorizing such contracting authority, and a majority of those voting thereon shall have approved the proposition; and

(b) To contract with any governmental agency or with any private person, firm, or corporation for the use by either contracting party of all or any part of the facilities, structures, lands, interests in lands, air rights over lands, and rights of way of all kinds which are owned, leased, or held by the other party and for the purpose of planning, constructing, or operating any facility or performing any service related to transportation which the county is authorized to operate or perform, on such terms as may be agreed upon by the contracting parties: PROVIDED, That before any contract for the lease or operation of any transportation facilities shall be let to any private person, firm, or corporation, competitive bids shall first be called for and contracts awarded in accord with the procedures established in accord with RCW 36.32.240, 36.32.250, and 36.32.270.

(6) In addition to all other powers and duties, an authority shall have the power to own, construct, purchase, lease, add to, and maintain any real and personal property or property rights necessary for the conduct of the affairs of the authority. An authority may sell, lease, convey, or otherwise dispose of any authority real or personal property no longer necessary for the conduct of the affairs of the authority. An authority may enter into contracts to carry out the provisions of this section. [1982 c 10 § 6. Prior: 1981 c 319 § 2; 1981 c 25 § 3; 1974 ex.s. c 167 § 4.]

**Severability—1982 c 10:** See note following RCW 6.13.080.

**36.57.050 Chairman—General manager.** The authority shall elect a chairman, and appoint a general manager who shall be experienced in administration, and who shall act as executive secretary to, and administrative officer for the authority. He shall also be empowered to employ such technical and other personnel as approved by the authority. The general manager shall be paid such salary and allowed such expenses as shall be determined by the authority. The general manager shall hold office at the pleasure of the authority, and shall not be removed until after notice is given him, and an opportunity for a hearing before the authority as to the reason for his removal. [1974 ex.s. c 167 § 5.]

**36.57.060 Transportation fund—Contributions.** Each authority shall establish a fund to be designated as the "transportation fund", in which shall be placed all sums received by the authority from any source, and out of which shall be expended all sums disbursed by the authority. The

county treasurer shall be the custodian of the fund, and the county auditor shall keep the record of the receipts and disbursements, and shall draw and the county treasurer shall honor and pay all warrants, which shall be approved before issuance and payment as directed by the authority.

The county and each city or town which is included in the authority shall contribute such sums towards the expense for maintaining and operating the authority as shall be agreed upon between them. [1974 ex.s. c 167 § 6.]

**36.57.070 Public transportation plan.** The authority shall adopt a public transportation plan. Such plan shall be a general comprehensive plan designed to best serve the residents of the entire county. Prior to adoption of the plan, the authority shall provide a minimum of sixty days during which sufficient hearings shall be held to provide interested persons an opportunity to participate in development of the plan. [1974 ex.s. c 167 § 7.]

**36.57.080 Transfer of transportation powers and rights to authority—Funds—Contract indebtedness.** On the effective date of the proposition approved by the voters in accord with RCW 35.95.040 or 82.14.045, as now or hereafter amended, the authority shall have and exercise all rights with respect to the construction, acquisition, maintenance, operation, extension, alteration, repair, control and management of passenger transportation which the county or any city located within such county shall have been previously empowered to exercise and such powers shall not thereafter be exercised by the county or such cities without the consent of the authority. The county and all cities within such county upon demand of the authority shall transfer to the authority all unexpended funds earmarked or budgeted from any source for public transportation, including funds receivable. The county in which an authority is located shall have the power to contract indebtedness and issue bonds pursuant to chapter 36.67 RCW to enable the authority to carry out the purposes of this chapter and RCW 35.95.040 or 82.14.045, as now or hereafter amended, and the purposes of this chapter and RCW 35.95.040 or 82.14.045, as now or hereafter amended, shall constitute a "county purpose" as that term is used in chapter 36.67 RCW. [1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 5; 1974 ex.s. c 167 § 8.]

**Severability—Effective date—1975 1st ex.s. c 270:** See notes following RCW 35.58.272.

**36.57.090 Acquisition of existing transportation system—Assumption of labor contracts—Transfer of employees—Preservation of benefits—Collective bargaining.** A county transportation authority may acquire any existing transportation system by conveyance, sale, or lease. In any purchase from a county or city, the authority shall receive credit from the county or city for any federal assistance and state matching assistance used by the county or city in acquiring any portion of such system. The authority shall assume and observe all existing labor contracts relating to such system and, to the extent necessary for operation of facilities, all of the employees of such acquired transportation system whose duties are necessary to operate efficiently the facilities acquired shall be appointed to comparable positions to those which they held at the time of

such transfer, and no employee or retired or pensioned employee of such systems shall be placed in any worse position with respect to pension seniority, wages, sick leave, vacation or other benefits that he enjoyed as an employee of such system prior to such acquisition. The authority shall engage in collective bargaining with the duly appointed representatives of any employee labor organization having existing contracts with the acquired transportation system and may enter into labor contracts with such employee labor organization. [1974 ex.s. c 167 § 9.]

**36.57.100 Counties authorized to perform public transportation function in unincorporated areas—Exceptions.** Every county, except a county in which a metropolitan municipal corporation is performing the public transportation function as of July 1, 1975, is authorized to perform such function in such portions of the unincorporated areas of the county, except within the boundaries of a public transportation benefit area established pursuant to chapter 36.57A RCW, as the county legislative body shall determine and the county shall have those powers as are specified in RCW 36.57.040 with respect to the provision of public transportation as is authorized pursuant to RCW 36.57.040. [1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 9.]

**Severability—Effective date—1975 1st ex.s. c 270:** See notes following RCW 35.58.272.

**36.57.110 Boundaries of unincorporated transportation benefit areas.** The legislative body of any county is hereby authorized to create and define the boundaries of unincorporated transportation benefit areas within the unincorporated areas of the county, following school district or election precinct lines, as far as practicable. Such areas shall include only those portions of the unincorporated area of the county which could reasonably assume to benefit from the provision of public transportation services. [1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 10.]

**Severability—Effective date—1975 1st ex.s. c 270:** See notes following RCW 35.58.272.

## Chapter 36.57A

### PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION BENEFIT AREAS

Sections	
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36.57A.030	Establishment or change in boundaries of public transportation benefit area—Hearing—Notice—Procedure— Authority of county to terminate public transportation benefit area.
36.57A.040	Cities included or excluded—Boundaries—Only benefited areas included—One area per county, exception.
36.57A.050	Governing body—Selection, qualification, number of members—Travel expenses, compensation.
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36.57A.060	Comprehensive plan—Development—Elements.
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36.57A.080	General powers.
36.57A.090	Additional powers—Acquisition of existing system.

- 36.57A.100 Agreements with operators of local public transportation services—Operation without agreement prohibited—Purchase or condemnation of assets.
- 36.57A.110 Powers of component city concerning passenger transportation transferred to benefit area—Operation of system by city until acquired by benefit area—Consent.
- 36.57A.120 Acquisition of existing system—Labor contracts, employee rights preserved—Collective bargaining.
- 36.57A.130 Treasurer and auditor—Powers and duties—Transportation fund—Contribution of sums for expenses.
- 36.57A.140 Annexation of additional area.
- 36.57A.150 Advanced financial support payments.
- 36.57A.160 Dissolution and liquidation.

*Financing of public transportation systems: Chapter 35.95 RCW and RCW 82.14.045.*

*Transportation centers authorized: Chapter 81.75 RCW.*

**36.57A.010 Definitions.** The definitions set forth in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Public transportation benefit area" means a municipal corporation of the state of Washington created pursuant to this chapter.

(2) "Public transportation benefit area authority" or "authority" means the legislative body of a public transportation benefit area.

(3) "City" means an incorporated city or town.

(4) "Component city" means an incorporated city or town within a public transportation benefit area.

(5) "City council" means the legislative body of any city or town.

(6) "County legislative authority" means the board of county commissioners or the county council.

(7) "Population" means the number of residents as shown by the figures released for the most recent official state, federal, or county census, or population determination made by the office of financial management.

(8) "Public transportation service" means the transportation of packages, passengers, and their incidental baggage by means other than by chartered bus, sight-seeing bus, together with the necessary passenger terminals and parking facilities or other properties necessary for passenger and vehicular access to and from such people moving systems: PROVIDED, That nothing shall prohibit an authority from leasing its buses to private certified carriers or prohibit the authority from providing school bus service.

(9) "Public transportation improvement conference" or "conference" means the body established pursuant to RCW 36.57A.020 which shall be authorized to establish, subject to the provisions of RCW 36.57A.030, a public transportation benefit area pursuant to the provisions of this chapter. [1983 c 65 § 1; 1979 c 151 § 40; 1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 11.]

*Severability—Effective date—1975 1st ex.s. c 270:* See notes following RCW 35.58.272.

*Population determinations, office of financial management: Chapter 43.62 RCW.*

**36.57A.011 Municipality defined.** See RCW 35.58.272.

**36.57A.020 Public transportation improvement conference—Convening—Purpose—Multi-county conferences.** The county legislative authority of every county with a population of forty thousand or more shall, and the

legislative authority of every other county may, within ninety days of July 1, 1975, and as often thereafter as it deems necessary, and upon thirty days prior written notice addressed to the legislative body of each city within the county and with thirty days public notice, convene a public transportation improvement conference to be attended by an elected representative selected by the legislative body of each city, within such county, and by the county legislative authority. Such conference shall be for the purpose of evaluating the need for and the desirability of the creation of a public transportation benefit area within certain incorporated and unincorporated portions of the county to provide public transportation services within such area. In those counties where county officials believe the need for public transportation service extends across county boundaries so as to provide public transportation service in a metropolitan area, the county legislative bodies of two or more neighboring counties may elect to convene a multi-county conference. In addition, county-wide conferences may be convened by resolution of the legislative bodies of two or more cities within the county, not to exceed one in any twelve month period, or a petition signed by at least ten percent of the registered voters in the last general election of the city, county or city/county areas of a proposed benefit area. The chair of the conference shall be elected from the members at large. [1991 c 363 § 73; 1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 12.]

*Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:* See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

*Severability—Effective date—1975 1st ex.s. c 270:* See notes following RCW 35.58.272.

**36.57A.030 Establishment or change in boundaries of public transportation benefit area—Hearing—Notice—Procedure—Authority of county to terminate public transportation benefit area.** Any conference which finds it desirable to establish a public transportation benefit area or change the boundaries of any existing public transportation benefit area shall fix a date for a public hearing thereon, or the legislative bodies of any two or more component cities or the county legislative body by resolution may require the public transportation improvement conference to fix a date for a public hearing thereon. Prior to the convening of the public hearing, the county governing body shall delineate the area of the county proposed to be included within the transportation benefit area, and shall furnish a copy of such delineation to each incorporated city within such area. Each city shall advise the county governing body, on a preliminary basis, of its desire to be included or excluded from the transportation benefit area. The county governing body shall cause the delineations to be revised to reflect the wishes of such incorporated cities. This delineation shall be considered by the conference at the public hearing for inclusion in the public transportation benefit area.

Notice of such hearing shall be published once a week for at least four consecutive weeks in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the area. The notice shall contain a description and map of the boundaries of the proposed public transportation benefit area and shall state the time and place of the hearing and the fact that any changes in the boundaries of the public transportation benefit area will be considered at such time and place. At such hearing or any continuation thereof, any interested person may

appear and be heard on all matters relating to the effect of the formation of the proposed public transportation benefit area.

The conference may make such changes in the boundaries of the public transportation benefit area as they shall deem reasonable and proper, but may not delete any portion of the proposed area which will create an island of included or excluded lands, and may not delete a portion of any city. If the conference shall determine that any additional territory should be included in the public transportation benefit area, a second hearing shall be held and notice given in the same manner as for the original hearing. The conference may adjourn the hearing on the formation of a public transportation benefit area from time to time not exceeding thirty days in all.

Following the conclusion of such hearing the conference shall adopt a resolution fixing the boundaries of the proposed public transportation benefit area, declaring that the formation of the proposed public transportation benefit area will be conducive to the welfare and benefit of the persons and property therein.

Within thirty days of the adoption of such conference resolution, the county legislative authority of each county wherein a conference has established proposed boundaries of a public transportation benefit area, may by resolution, upon making a legislative finding that the proposed benefit area includes portions of the county which could not be reasonably expected to benefit from such benefit area or excludes portions of the county which could be reasonably expected to benefit from its creation, disapprove and terminate the establishment of such public transportation benefit area within such county. [1977 ex.s. c 44 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 13.]

**Severability—1977 ex.s. c 44:** "If any provision of this 1977 amendatory act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1977 ex.s. c 44 § 7.]

**Effective date—1977 ex.s. c 44:** "This 1977 amendatory act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect July 1, 1977." [1977 ex.s. c 44 § 8.]

**Severability—Effective date—1975 1st ex.s. c 270:** See notes following RCW 35.58.272.

**36.57A.040 Cities included or excluded—Boundaries—Only benefited areas included—One area per county, exception.** At the time of its formation no public transportation benefit area may include only a part of any city, and every city shall be either wholly included or wholly excluded from the boundaries of such area. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if subsequent to the formation of a public transportation benefit area additional area became or will become a part of a component city by annexation, merger, or otherwise, the additional area shall be included within the boundaries of the transportation benefit area and be subject to all taxes and other liabilities and obligations of the public transportation benefit area. The component city shall be required to notify the public transportation benefit area at the time the city has added the additional area. Furthermore, notwithstanding any other provisions of law except as specifically provided in this section, if a city that is not a component city of the public transportation benefit area adds area to its boundaries that is

within the boundaries of the public transportation benefit area, the area so added shall be deemed to be excluded from the public transportation benefit area: PROVIDED, That the public transportation benefit area shall be given notice of the city's intention to add such area. If a city extends its boundaries through annexation across a county boundary line and such extended boundaries include areas within the public transportation benefit area, then the entire area of the city within the county that is within the public transportation benefit area shall be included within the public transportation benefit area boundaries. Such area of the city in the public transportation benefit area shall be considered a component city of the public transportation benefit area corporation.

The boundaries of any public transportation benefit area shall follow school district lines or election precinct lines, as far as practicable. Only such areas shall be included which the conference determines could reasonably benefit from the provision of public transportation services. Except as provided in RCW 36.57A.140(2), only one public transportation benefit area may be created in any county. [1992 c 16 § 1; 1991 c 318 § 15; 1983 c 65 § 2; 1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 14.]

**Intent—1991 c 318:** "The legislature recognizes that certain communities have important cultural, economic, or transportation linkages to communities in other counties. Many public services can most efficiently be delivered from public agencies located in counties other than the county within which the community is located. It is the intent of the legislature by enacting sections 15 through 17 of this act to further more effective public transportation linkages between communities, regardless of county association, in order to better serve state citizen needs." [1991 c 318 § 14.] Sections 15 through 17 of this act are the 1991 c 318 amendments to RCW 36.57A.040, 36.57A.055, and 36.57A.140.

**Severability—Effective date—1975 1st ex.s. c 270:** See notes following RCW 35.58.272.

**36.57A.050 Governing body—Selection, qualification, number of members—Travel expenses, compensation.** Within sixty days of the establishment of the boundaries of the public transportation benefit area the members of the county legislative authority and the elected representative of each city within the area shall provide for the selection of the governing body of such area, the public transportation benefit area authority, which shall consist of elected officials selected by and serving at the pleasure of the governing bodies of component cities within the area and the county legislative authority of each county within the area. If at the time a public transportation benefit area authority assumes the public transportation functions previously provided under the Interlocal Cooperation Act (chapter 39.34 RCW) there are citizen positions on the governing board of the transit system, those positions may be retained as positions on the governing board of the public transportation benefit area authority.

Within such sixty-day period, any city may by resolution of its legislative body withdraw from participation in the public transportation benefit area. The county legislative authority and each city remaining in the public transportation benefit area may disapprove and prevent the establishment of any governing body of a public transportation benefit area if the composition thereof does not meet its approval.

In no case shall the governing body of a single county public transportation benefit area be greater than nine members and in the case of a multicounty area, fifteen



members. Those cities within the transportation benefit area and excluded from direct membership on the authority are hereby authorized to designate a member of the authority who shall be entitled to represent the interests of such city which is excluded from direct membership on the authority. The legislative body of such city shall notify the authority as to the determination of its authorized representative on the authority.

Each member of the authority is eligible to be reimbursed for travel expenses in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060 and to receive compensation, as set by the authority, in an amount not to exceed forty-four dollars for each day during which the member attends official meetings of the authority or performs prescribed duties approved by the chairman of the authority. In no event may a member be compensated in any year for more than seventy-five days, except the chairman who may be paid compensation for not more than one hundred days: PROVIDED, That compensation shall not be paid to an elected official or employee of federal, state, or local government who is receiving regular full-time compensation from such government for attending meetings and performing prescribed duties of the authority. [1983 c 65 § 3; 1977 ex.s. c 44 § 2; 1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 15.]

**Severability—Effective date—1977 ex.s. c 44:** See notes following RCW 36.57A.030.

**Severability—Effective date—1975 1st ex.s. c 270:** See notes following RCW 35.58.272.

**36.57A.055 Governing body—Periodic review of composition.** After a public transportation benefit area has been in existence for four years, members of the county legislative authority and the elected representative of each city within the boundaries of the public transportation benefit area shall review the composition of the governing body of the benefit area and change the composition of the governing body if the change is deemed appropriate. The review shall be at a meeting of the designated representatives of the component county and cities, and the majority of those present shall constitute a quorum at such meeting. Twenty days notice of the meeting shall be given by the chief administrative officer of the public transportation benefit area authority. After the initial review, a review shall be held every four years.

If an area having a population greater than fifteen percent, or areas with a combined population of greater than twenty-five percent of the population of the existing public transportation benefit area as constituted at the last review meeting, annex to the public transportation benefit area, or if an area is added under RCW 36.57A.140(2), the representatives of the component county and cities shall meet within ninety days to review and change the composition of the governing body, if the change is deemed appropriate. This meeting is in addition to the regular four-year review meeting and shall be conducted pursuant to the same notice requirement and quorum provisions of the regular review. [1991 c 318 § 16; 1983 c 65 § 4.]

**Intent—1991 c 318:** See note following RCW 36.57A.040.

**36.57A.060 Comprehensive plan—Development—Elements.** The public transportation benefit area authority

authorized pursuant to RCW 36.57A.050 shall develop a comprehensive transit plan for the area. Such plan shall include, but not be limited to the following elements:

(1) The levels of transit service that can be reasonably provided for various portions of the benefit area.

(2) The funding requirements, including local tax sources, state and federal funds, necessary to provide various levels of service within the area.

(3) The impact of such a transportation program on other transit systems operating within that county or adjacent counties.

(4) The future enlargement of the benefit area or the consolidation of such benefit area with other transit systems. [1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 16.]

**Severability—Effective date—1975 1st ex.s. c 270:** See notes following RCW 35.58.272.

**36.57A.070 Comprehensive plan—Review—Approval or disapproval—Resubmission.** The comprehensive transit plan adopted by the authority shall be reviewed by the state transportation commission to determine:

(1) The completeness of service to be offered and the economic viability of the transit system proposed in such comprehensive transit plan;

(2) Whether such plan integrates the proposed transportation system with existing transportation modes and systems that serve the benefit area;

(3) Whether such plan coordinates that area's system and service with nearby public transportation systems;

(4) Whether such plan is eligible for matching state or federal funds;

After reviewing the comprehensive transit plan, the state transportation commission shall have sixty days in which to approve such plan and to certify to the state treasurer that such public transportation benefit area shall be eligible to receive the motor vehicle excise tax proceeds authorized pursuant to RCW 35.58.273, as now or hereafter amended in the manner prescribed by chapter 82.44 RCW, as now or hereafter amended. To be approved a plan shall provide for coordinated transportation planning, the integration of such proposed transportation program with other transportation systems operating in areas adjacent to, or in the vicinity of the proposed public transportation benefit area, and be consistent with the public transportation coordination criteria adopted pursuant to the urban mass transportation act of 1964 as amended as of July 1, 1975. In the event such comprehensive plan is disapproved and ruled ineligible to receive motor vehicle tax proceeds, the state transportation commission shall provide written notice to the authority within thirty days as to the reasons for such plan's disapproval and such ineligibility. The authority may resubmit such plan upon reconsideration and correction of such deficiencies in the plan cited in such notice of disapproval. [1985 c 6 § 5; 1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 17.]

**Severability—Effective date—1975 1st ex.s. c 270:** See notes following RCW 35.58.272.

**36.57A.080 General powers.** In addition to the powers specifically granted by this chapter a public transportation benefit area shall have all powers which are necessary to carry out the purposes of the public transportation benefit

area. A public transportation benefit area may contract with the United States or any agency thereof, any state or agency thereof, any other public transportation benefit area, any county, city, metropolitan municipal corporation, special district, or governmental agency, within or without the state, and any private person, firm or corporation for the purpose of receiving gifts or grants or securing loans or advances for preliminary planning and feasibility studies, or for the design, construction or operation of transportation facilities. In addition a public transportation benefit area may contract with any governmental agency or with any private person, firm or corporation for the use by either contracting party of all or any part of the facilities, structures, lands, interests in lands, air rights over lands and rights of way of all kinds which are owned, leased or held by the other party and for the purpose of planning, constructing or operating any facility or performing any service which the public transportation benefit area may be authorized to operate or perform, on such terms as may be agreed upon by the contracting parties. Before any contract for the lease or operation of any public transportation benefit area facilities shall be let to any private person, firm or corporation, a general schedule of rental rates for bus equipment with or without drivers shall be publicly posted applicable to all private certificated carriers, and for other facilities competitive bids shall first be called upon such notice, bidder qualifications and bid conditions as the public transportation benefit area authority shall determine.

A public transportation benefit area may sue and be sued in its corporate capacity in all courts and in all proceedings. [1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 18.]

**Severability—Effective date—1975 1st ex.s. c 270:** See notes following RCW 35.58.272.

**36.57A.090 Additional powers—Acquisition of existing system.** A public transportation benefit area authority shall have the following powers in addition to the general powers granted by this chapter:

(1) To prepare, adopt, and carry out a general comprehensive plan for public transportation service which will best serve the residents of the public transportation benefit area and to amend said plan from time to time to meet changed conditions and requirements.

(2) To acquire by purchase, condemnation, gift, or grant and to lease, construct, add to, improve, replace, repair, maintain, operate, and regulate the use of transportation facilities and properties within or without the public transportation benefit area or the state, including systems of surface, underground, or overhead railways, tramways, buses, or any other means of local transportation except taxis, and including escalators, moving sidewalks, or other people-moving systems, passenger terminal and parking facilities and properties, and such other facilities and properties as may be necessary for passenger and vehicular access to and from such people-moving systems, terminal and parking facilities and properties, together with all lands, rights of way, property, equipment, and accessories necessary for such systems and facilities. Public transportation facilities and properties which are owned by any city may be acquired or used by the public transportation benefit area authority only with the consent of the city council of the city owning such facilities. Cities are hereby authorized to convey or lease

such facilities to a public transportation benefit area authority or to contract for their joint use on such terms as may be fixed by agreement between the city council of such city and the public transportation benefit area authority, without submitting the matter to the voters of such city.

The facilities and properties of a public transportation benefit area system whose vehicles will operate primarily within the rights of way of public streets, roads, or highways, may be acquired, developed, and operated without the corridor and design hearings which are required by RCW 35.58.273, as now or hereafter amended, for mass transit facilities operating on a separate right of way.

(3) To fix rates, tolls, fares, and charges for the use of such facilities and to establish various routes and classes of service. Fares or charges may be adjusted or eliminated for any distinguishable class of users including, but not limited to, senior citizens, handicapped persons, and students.

In the event any person holding a certificate of public convenience and necessity from the Washington utilities and transportation commission under RCW 81.68.040 has operated under such certificate for a continuous period of one year prior to the date of certification and is offering service within the public transportation benefit area on the date of the certification by the county canvassing board that a majority of votes cast authorize a tax to be levied and collected by the public transportation benefit area authority, such authority may by purchase or condemnation acquire at the fair market value, from the person holding the existing certificate for providing the services, that portion of the operating authority and equipment representing the services within the area of public operation. The person holding such existing certificate may require the public transportation benefit area authority to initiate such purchase of those assets of such person, existing as of the date of the county canvassing board certification, within sixty days after the date of such certification. [1981 c 25 § 4; 1977 ex.s. c 44 § 3; 1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 19.]

**Severability—Effective date—1977 ex.s. c 44:** See notes following RCW 36.57A.030.

**Severability—Effective date—1975 1st ex.s. c 270:** See notes following RCW 35.58.272.

**36.57A.100 Agreements with operators of local public transportation services—Operation without agreement prohibited—Purchase or condemnation of assets.** Except in accordance with an agreement made as provided in this section or in accordance with the provisions of RCW 36.57A.090(3) as now or hereafter amended, upon the effective date on which the public transportation benefit area commences to perform the public transportation service, no person or private corporation shall operate a local public passenger transportation service within the public transportation benefit area with the exception of taxis, buses owned or operated by a school district or private school, and buses owned or operated by any corporation or organization solely for the purposes of the corporation or organization and for the use of which no fee or fare is charged.

An agreement may be entered into between the public transportation benefit area authority and any person or corporation legally operating a local public passenger transportation service wholly within or partly within and partly without the public transportation benefit area and on

said effective date under which such person or corporation may continue to operate such service or any part thereof for such time and upon such terms and conditions as provided in such agreement. Such agreement shall provide for a periodic review of the terms and conditions contained therein. Where any such local public passenger transportation service will be required to cease to operate within the public transportation benefit area, the public transportation benefit area authority may agree with the owner of such service to purchase the assets used in providing such service, or if no agreement can be reached, the public transportation benefit area authority shall condemn such assets in the manner and by the same procedure as is or may be provided by law for the condemnation of other properties for cities of the first class, except insofar as such laws may be inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter.

Wherever a privately owned public carrier operates wholly or partly within a public transportation benefit area, the Washington utilities and transportation commission shall continue to exercise jurisdiction over such operation as provided by law. [1977 ex.s. c 44 § 4; 1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 20.]

**Severability—Effective date—1977 ex.s. c 44:** See notes following RCW 36.57A.030.

**Severability—Effective date—1975 1st ex.s. c 270:** See notes following RCW 35.58.272.

**36.57A.110 Powers of component city concerning passenger transportation transferred to benefit area—Operation of system by city until acquired by benefit area—Consent.** The public transportation benefit area shall have and exercise all rights with respect to the construction, acquisition, maintenance, operation, extension, alteration, repair, control and management of passenger transportation which any component city shall have been previously empowered to exercise and such powers shall not thereafter be exercised by such component cities without the consent of the public transportation benefit area: PROVIDED, That any city owning and operating a public transportation system on July 1, 1975 may continue to operate such system within such city until such system shall have been acquired by the public transportation benefit area and a public transportation benefit area may not acquire such system without the consent of the city council of such city. [1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 21.]

**Severability—Effective date—1975 1st ex.s. c 270:** See notes following RCW 35.58.272.

**36.57A.120 Acquisition of existing system—Labor contracts, employee rights preserved—Collective bargaining.** If a public transportation benefit area shall acquire any existing transportation system, it shall assume and observe all existing labor contracts relating to such system and, to the extent necessary for operation of facilities, all of the employees of such acquired transportation system whose duties are necessary to operate efficiently the facilities acquired shall be appointed to comparable positions to those which they held at the time of such transfer, and no employee or retired or pensioned employee of such systems shall be placed in any worse position with respect to pension seniority, wages, sick leave, vacation or other benefits that he enjoyed as an employee of such system prior to such acquisition. The

public transportation benefit area authority shall engage in collective bargaining with the duly appointed representatives of any employee labor organization having existing contracts with the acquired transportation system and may enter into labor contracts with such employee labor organization. [1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 22.]

**Severability—Effective date—1975 1st ex.s. c 270:** See notes following RCW 35.58.272.

**36.57A.130 Treasurer and auditor—Powers and duties—Transportation fund—Contribution of sums for expenses.** The treasurer of the county in which a public transportation benefit area authority is located shall be ex officio treasurer of the authority. In the case of a multicounty public transportation benefit area the county treasurer of the largest component county, by population, shall be the treasurer of the authority. However, the authority, by resolution, and upon the approval of the county treasurer, may designate some other person having experience in financial or fiscal matters as treasurer of the authority. Such a treasurer shall possess all of the powers, responsibilities, and duties the county treasurer possesses for a public transportation benefit area authority related to investing surplus authority funds. The authority may (and if the treasurer is not a county treasurer, it shall) require a bond with a surety company authorized to do business in the state of Washington in an amount and under the terms and conditions the authority, by resolution, from time to time finds will protect the authority against loss. The premium on any such bond shall be paid by the authority.

All authority funds shall be paid to the treasurer and shall be disbursed by the treasurer only on warrants issued by the county auditor, upon orders or vouchers approved by the authority. However, the authority may, by resolution, designate some person having experience in financial or fiscal matters, other than the county auditor, as the auditor of the authority. Such an auditor shall possess all of the powers, responsibilities, and duties that the county auditor possesses for a public transportation benefit area authority related to creating and maintaining funds, issuing warrants, and maintaining a record of receipts and disbursements.

The treasurer shall establish a "transportation fund," into which shall be paid all authority funds, and the treasurer shall maintain such special accounts as may be created by the authority into which shall be placed all money as the authority may, by resolution, direct.

If the treasurer of the authority is a treasurer of the county, all authority funds shall be deposited with the county depository under the same restrictions, contracts, and security as provided for county depositories. If the treasurer of the authority is some other person, all funds shall be deposited in such bank or banks authorized to do business in this state that have qualified for insured deposits under any federal deposit insurance act as the authority, by resolution, shall designate.

An authority may provide and require a reasonable bond of any other person handling moneys or securities of the authority, but the authority shall pay the premium on the bond.

The county or counties and each city or town which is included in the authority shall contribute such sums towards the expense for maintaining and operating the public

transportation system as shall be agreed upon between them. [1983 c 151 § 1; 1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 23.]

**Severability—Effective date—1975 1st ex.s. c 270:** See notes following RCW 35.58.272.

**36.57A.140 Annexation of additional area.** (1) An election to authorize the annexation of territory contiguous to a public transportation benefit area may be called within the area to be annexed pursuant to resolution or petition in the following manner:

(a) By resolution of a public transportation benefit area authority when it determines that the best interests and general welfare of the public transportation benefit area would be served. The authority shall consider the question of areas to be annexed to the public transportation benefit area at least once every two years.

(b) By petition calling for such an election signed by at least four percent of the qualified voters residing within the area to be annexed and filed with the auditor of the county wherein the largest portion of the public transportation benefit area is located, and notice thereof shall be given to the authority. Upon receipt of such a petition, the auditor shall examine it and certify to the sufficiency of the signatures thereon.

(c) By resolution of a public transportation benefit area authority upon request of any city for annexation thereto.

(2) If the area proposed to be annexed is located within another county, the petition or resolution for annexation as set forth in subsection (1) of this section must be approved by the legislative authority of the county if the area is unincorporated or by the legislative authority of the city or town if the area is incorporated. Any annexation under this subsection must involve contiguous areas.

(3) The resolution or petition shall describe the boundaries of the area to be annexed. It shall require that there also be submitted to the electorate of the territory sought to be annexed a proposition authorizing the inclusion of the area within the public transportation benefit area and authorizing the imposition of such taxes authorized by law to be collected by the authority. [1991 c 318 § 17; 1983 c 65 § 5; 1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 24.]

**Intent—1991 c 318:** See note following RCW 36.57A.040.

**Severability—Effective date—1975 1st ex.s. c 270:** See notes following RCW 35.58.272.

**36.57A.150 Advanced financial support payments.** Counties that have established a county transportation authority pursuant to chapter 36.57 RCW and public transportation benefit areas that have been established pursuant to this chapter are eligible to receive a one-time advanced financial support payment from the state to assist in the development of the initial comprehensive transit plan required by RCW 36.57.070 and 36.57A.060. The amount of this support payment is established at one dollar per person residing within each county or public transportation benefit area, as determined by the office of financial management, but no single payment shall exceed fifty thousand dollars. Repayment of an advanced financial support payment shall be made to the public transportation account in the general fund or, if such account does not exist, to the general fund by each agency within two years of the date

such advanced payment was received. Such repayment shall be waived within two years of the date such advanced payment was received if the voters in the appropriate counties or public transportation benefit areas do not elect to levy and collect taxes enabled under authority of this chapter and RCW 35.95.040 and 82.14.045. The state department of transportation shall provide technical assistance in the preparation of local transit plans, and administer the advanced financial support payments authorized by this section. [1985 c 6 § 6; 1979 c 151 § 41; 1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 25.]

**Severability—Effective date—1975 1st ex.s. c 270:** See notes following RCW 35.58.272.

**36.57A.160 Dissolution and liquidation.** A public transportation benefit area established pursuant to this chapter may be dissolved and its affairs liquidated when so directed by a majority of persons in the benefit area voting on such question. An election placing such question before the voters may be called in the following manner:

(1) By resolution of the public transportation benefit area authority;

(2) By resolution of the county legislative body or bodies with the concurrence therein by resolution of the city council of a component city; or

(3) By petition calling for such election signed by at least ten percent of the qualified voters residing within the area filed with the auditor of the county wherein the largest portion of the public transportation benefit area is located. The auditor shall examine the same and certify to the sufficiency of the signatures thereon: PROVIDED, That to be validated, signatures must have been collected within a ninety day period as designated by the petition sponsors.

Any dissolution of a public transportation benefit area authority shall be carried out in accordance with the procedures in chapter 53.48 RCW. Any remaining deficit of the authority determined pursuant to RCW 53.48.080 shall be paid from the moneys collected from the tax source under which the authority operated. [1977 ex.s. c 44 § 5; 1975 1st ex.s. c 270 § 26.]

**Severability—Effective date—1977 ex.s. c 44:** See notes following RCW 36.57A.030.

**Severability—Effective date—1975 1st ex.s. c 270:** See notes following RCW 35.58.272.

## Chapter 36.58

### SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL

#### Sections

- 36.58.010 Acquisition of solid waste or recyclable materials sites authorized.
- 36.58.020 Rules and regulations as to use—Penalty.
- 36.58.030 "Transfer station" defined.
- 36.58.040 Solid waste handling systems authorized—Disposal sites—Contracts for solid waste handling and collection of source separated recyclable material—Waste reduction and recycling.
- 36.58.045 County may impose fee upon solid waste collection services—Revenue to fund compliance with comprehensive solid waste management plan.
- 36.58.050 Solid waste disposal—Transfer stations.
- 36.58.060 Solid waste disposal—Ownership of solid wastes—Responsibility for handling.

- 36.58.080 County solid waste facilities—Exempt from municipal taxes—Charges to mitigate impacts—Negotiation and arbitration.
- 36.58.090 Contracts with vendors for solid waste handling systems, plants, sites, or facilities—Requirements—Vendor selection procedures.
- 36.58.100 Solid waste disposal district—Authorized—Boundaries—Powers—Governing body.
- 36.58.110 Solid waste disposal district—Establishment, modification, or dissolution—Hearing—Notice.
- 36.58.120 Solid waste disposal district—Establishment—Ordinance.
- 36.58.130 Solid waste disposal district—Powers—Restrictions—Fees.
- 36.58.140 Solid waste disposal district—Excise tax—Lien for delinquent taxes and penalties.
- 36.58.150 Solid waste disposal district—Excess levies authorized—General obligation and revenue bonds.
- 36.58.160 Collection and transportation of recyclable materials by recycling companies or nonprofit entities—Reuse or reclamation—Application of chapter.

*Solid waste collection companies: Chapter 81.77 RCW.*

**36.58.010 Acquisition of solid waste or recyclable materials sites authorized.** Any county legislative authority may acquire by purchase or by gift, dedication, or donation, sites for the use of the public in disposing of solid waste or recyclable materials. However, no county legislative authority shall be authorized to require any retail enterprise engaged in the sale of consumer-packaged products to locate or place a public solid waste collection site or buy-back center upon or within a certain distance of the retail establishment as a condition of engaging in the sale of consumer-packaged products. [1989 c 431 § 52; 1963 c 4 § 36.58.010. Prior: 1943 c 87 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6294-150.]

*Severability—1989 c 431: See RCW 70.95.901.*

**36.58.020 Rules and regulations as to use—Penalty.** Any board of county commissioners may make such rules and regulations as may be deemed necessary for the use and occupation of such sites, and may provide for the maintenance and care thereof. Any person violating any of the rules and regulations made by the board relating to the use or occupation of any site owned or occupied by the county for garbage disposal purposes shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [1963 c 4 § 36.58.020. Prior: 1943 c 87 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6294-151.]

**36.58.030 "Transfer station" defined.** As used in RCW 36.58.030 through 36.58.060, the term "transfer station" means a staffed, fixed supplemental facility used by persons and route collection vehicles to deposit solid wastes into transfer trailers for transportation to a disposal site. This does not include detachable containers, except in counties with a population of less than seventy thousand, and in any county with a population of from one hundred twenty-five thousand to less than two hundred ten thousand that is located east of the crest of the Cascade mountain range, where detachable containers shall be securely fenced, staffed by an attendant during all hours when the detachable container is open to the public, charge a tipping fee that shall cover the cost of providing and for use of the service, and shall be operated as a transfer station. [1991 c 363 § 74; 1989 c 431 § 27; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 58 § 1.]

~~Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:~~ See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

*Severability—1989 c 431: See RCW 70.95.901.*

**36.58.040 Solid waste handling systems authorized—Disposal sites—Contracts for solid waste handling and collection of source separated recyclable material—Waste reduction and recycling.** The legislative authority of a county may by ordinance provide for the establishment of a system or systems of solid waste handling for all unincorporated areas of the county or for portions thereof. A county may designate a disposal site or sites for all solid waste collected in the unincorporated areas pursuant to the provisions of a comprehensive solid waste plan adopted pursuant to chapter 70.95 RCW. However for any solid waste collected by a private hauler operating under a certificate granted by the Washington utilities and transportation commission under the provisions of chapter 81.77 RCW and which certificate is for collection in a geographic area lying in more than one county, such designation of disposal sites shall be pursuant to an interlocal agreement between the involved counties.

A county may construct, lease, purchase, acquire; add to, alter, or extend solid waste handling systems, plants, sites, or other facilities and shall have full jurisdiction and authority to manage, regulate, maintain, utilize, operate, control, and establish the rates and charges for those solid waste handling systems, plants, sites, or other facilities. A county may enter into agreements with public or private parties to: (1) Construct, purchase, acquire, lease, add to, alter, extend, maintain, manage, utilize, or operate publicly or privately owned or operated solid waste handling systems, plants, sites, or other facilities; (2) establish rates and charges for those systems, plants, sites, or other facilities; (3) designate particular publicly or privately owned or operated systems, plants, sites, or other facilities as disposal sites; (4) process, treat, or convert solid waste into other valuable or useful materials or products; and (5) sell the material or products of those systems, plants, or other facilities.

The legislative authority of a county may award contracts for solid waste handling that provide that a county provide for a minimum periodic fee or other method of compensation in consideration of the operational availability of those solid waste handling systems, plants, sites, or other facilities at a specified minimum level, without regard to the ownership of the systems, plants, sites or other facilities, or the amount of solid waste actually handled during all or any part of the contract. When a minimum level of solid waste is specified in a contract entered into under this section, there shall be a specific allocation of financial responsibility in the event the amount of solid waste handled falls below the minimum level provided in the contract. Solid waste handling systems, plants, sites, or other facilities constructed, purchased, acquired, leased, added to, altered, extended, maintained, managed, utilized, or operated pursuant to this section, whether publicly or privately owned, shall be in substantial compliance with the solid waste management plan applicable to the county adopted pursuant to chapter 70.95 RCW. Agreements relating to such solid waste handling systems, plants, sites, or other facilities may be for such term and may contain such covenants, conditions, and remedies as the legislative authority of the county may deem necessary or appropriate.

As used in this chapter, the terms "solid waste" and "solid waste handling" shall be as defined in RCW 70.95.030.

The legislative authority of a county may:

(1) By ordinance award a contract to collect source separated recyclable materials from residences within unincorporated areas. The legislative authority has complete authority to manage, regulate, and fix the price of the source separated recyclable collection service. The contracts may provide that the county pay minimum periodic fees to a municipal entity or permit holder; or

(2) Notify the commission in writing to carry out and implement the provisions of the waste reduction and recycling element of the comprehensive solid waste management plan.

This election may be made by counties at any time after July 23, 1989. An initial election must be made no later than ninety days following approval of the local comprehensive waste management plan required by RCW 70.95.090.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize the operation of a solid waste collection system by counties or to authorize counties to affect the authority of the utilities and transportation commission under RCW 81.77.020. [1992 c 131 § 3. Prior: 1989 c 431 § 28; 1989 c 399 § 9; 1986 c 282 § 20; 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 58 § 2.]

**Severability—1989 c 431:** See RCW 70.95.901.

**Severability—Legislative findings—Construction—Liberal construction—Supplemental powers—1986 c 282:** See notes following RCW 35.21.156.

**36.58.045 County may impose fee upon solid waste collection services—Revenue to fund compliance with comprehensive solid waste management plan.** (1) The legislative authority of any county may impose a fee upon the solid waste collection services of a solid waste collection company operating within the unincorporated areas of the county, to fund the administration and planning expenses that may be incurred by the county in complying with the requirements in RCW 70.95.090. The fee may be in addition to any other solid waste services fees and charges a county may legally impose.

(2) Each county imposing the fee authorized by this section shall notify the Washington utilities and transportation commission and the affected solid waste collection companies of the amount of the fee ninety days prior to its implementation. [1989 c 431 § 15.]

**Severability—Sections captions not law—1989 c 431:** See RCW 70.95.901 and 70.95.902.

**36.58.050 Solid waste disposal—Transfer stations.**

When a comprehensive solid waste plan, as provided in RCW 70.95.080, incorporates the use of transfer stations, such stations shall be considered part of the disposal site and as such, along with the transportation of solid wastes between disposal sites, shall be exempt from regulation by the Washington utilities and transportation commission as provided in chapter 81.77 RCW.

Each county may enter into contracts for the hauling of trailers of solid wastes from these transfer stations to disposal sites and return either by (1) the normal bidding process, or (2) negotiation with the qualified collection

company servicing the area under authority of chapter 81.77 RCW. [1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 58 § 3.]

**36.58.060 Solid waste disposal—Ownership of solid wastes—Responsibility for handling.** Ownership of solid wastes shall be vested in the person or local jurisdiction managing disposal and/or resource recovery facilities upon the arrival of said solid wastes at said facility: PROVIDED, That the original owner retains ownership of the solid wastes until they arrive at the disposal site or transfer station or detachable container, and the original owner has the right of recovery to any valuable items inadvertently discarded: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the person or agency providing the collection service shall be responsible for the proper handling of the solid wastes from the point of collection to the disposal or recovery facility. [1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 58 § 4.]

**36.58.080 County solid waste facilities—Exempt from municipal taxes—Charges to mitigate impacts—Negotiation and arbitration.** County-owned solid waste facilities shall not be subject to any tax or excise imposed by any city or town. Cities or towns may charge counties to mitigate impacts directly attributable to the solid waste facility: PROVIDED, That any city or town establishes that such charges are reasonably necessary to mitigate such impacts and that revenue generated from such charges is expended only to mitigate such impacts. Impacts resulting from commercial and residential solid waste collection within any city or town shall not be considered to be directly attributable to the solid waste facility. In the event that no agreement can be reached between the city or town and the county following a reasonable period of good faith negotiations, including mediation where appropriate, the matter shall be resolved by a board of arbitrators, to be convened at the request of either party, such board of arbitrators to consist of a representative from the city or town involved, a representative of the county, and a third representative to be appointed by the other two representatives. If no agreement can be reached with regard to said third representative, the third representative shall be appointed by a judge of the superior court of the county of the jurisdiction owning the solid waste facility. The determination by the board of arbitrators of the sum to be paid by the county shall be binding on all parties. Each party shall pay the costs of their individual representatives on the board of arbitrators and they shall pay one-half of the cost of the third representative. [1983 c 171 § 1; 1982 c 175 § 8.]

**Severability—1982 c 175:** See note following RCW 36.58.100.

**36.58.090 Contracts with vendors for solid waste handling systems, plants, sites, or facilities—Requirements—Vendor selection procedures.** (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of any county charter or any law to the contrary, and in addition to any other authority provided by law, the legislative authority of a county may contract with one or more vendors for one or more of the design, construction, or operation of, or other service related to, the solid waste handling systems, plants, sites, or other facilities in accordance with the procedures set forth in this section. When a contract for design services is entered into

separately from other services permitted under this section, procurement shall be in accord with chapter 39.80 RCW. For the purpose of this chapter, the term "legislative authority" shall mean the board of county commissioners or, in the case of a home rule charter county, the official, officials, or public body designated by the charter to perform the functions authorized therein.

(2) If the legislative authority of the county decides to proceed with the consideration of qualifications or proposals for services from vendors, the county shall publish notice of its requirements and request submission of qualifications statements or proposals. The notice shall be published in the official newspaper of the county at least once a week for two weeks not less than sixty days before the final date for the submission of qualifications statements or proposals. The notice shall state in summary form (a) the general scope and nature of the design, construction, operation, or other service, (b) the name and address of a representative of the county who can provide further details, (c) the final date for the submission of qualifications statements or proposals, (d) an estimated schedule for the consideration of qualifications, the selection of vendors, and the negotiation of a contract or contracts for services, (e) the location at which a copy of any request for qualifications or request for proposals will be made available, and (f) the criteria established by the legislative authority to select a vendor or vendors, which may include but shall not be limited to the vendor's prior experience, including design, construction, or operation of other similar facilities; respondent's management capability, schedule availability and financial resources; cost of the services, nature of facility design proposed by the vendor; system reliability; performance standards required for the facilities; compatibility with existing service facilities operated by the public body or other providers of service to the public; project performance guarantees; penalty and other enforcement provisions; environmental protection measures to be used; consistency with the applicable comprehensive solid waste management plan; and allocation of project risks.

(3) If the legislative authority of the county decides to proceed with the consideration of qualifications or proposals, it may designate a representative to evaluate the vendors who submitted qualifications statements or proposals and conduct discussions regarding qualifications or proposals with one or more vendors. The legislative authority or representative may request submission of qualifications statements and may later request more detailed proposals from one or more vendors who have submitted qualifications statements, or the representative may request detailed proposals without having first received and evaluated qualifications statements. The representative shall evaluate the qualifications or proposals, as applicable. If two or more vendors submit qualifications or proposals that meet the criteria established by the legislative authority of the county, discussions and interviews shall be held with at least two vendors. Any revisions to a request for qualifications or request for proposals shall be made available to all vendors then under consideration by the city or town and shall be made available to any other person who has requested receipt of that information.

(4) Based on criteria established by the legislative authority of the county, the representative shall recommend to the legislative authority a vendor or vendors that are

initially determined to be the best qualified to provide one or more of the design, construction, or operation of, or other service related to, the proposed project or services. The legislative authority may select one or more qualified vendors for one or more of the design, construction, or operation of, or other service related to, the proposed project or services.

(5) The legislative authority or its representative may attempt to negotiate a contract with the vendor or vendors selected for one or more of the design, construction, or operation of, or other service related to, the proposed project or services on terms that the legislative authority determines to be fair and reasonable and in the best interest of the county. If the legislative authority or its representative is unable to negotiate such a contract with any one or more of the vendors first selected on terms that it determines to be fair and reasonable and in the best interest of the county, negotiations with any one or more of the vendors shall be terminated or suspended and another qualified vendor or vendors may be selected in accordance with the procedures set forth in this section. If the legislative authority decides to continue the process of selection, negotiations shall continue with a qualified vendor or vendors in accordance with this section at the sole discretion of the legislative authority until an agreement is reached with one or more qualified vendors, or the process is terminated by the legislative authority. The process may be repeated until an agreement is reached.

(6) Prior to entering into a contract with a vendor, the legislative authority of the county shall make written findings, after holding a public hearing on the proposal, that it is in the public interest to enter into the contract, that the contract is financially sound, and that it is advantageous for the county to use this method for awarding contracts compared to other methods.

(7) Each contract shall include a project performance bond or bonds or other security by the vendor that in the judgment of the legislative authority of the county is sufficient to secure adequate performance by the vendor.

(8) The provisions of chapters 39.12, 39.19, and \*39.25 RCW shall apply to a contract entered into under this section to the same extent as if the systems and plants were owned by a public body.

(9) The vendor selection process permitted by this section shall be supplemental to and shall not be construed as a repeal of or limitation on any other authority granted by law.

(10) The alternative selection process provided by this section may not be used in the selection of a person or entity to construct a publicly owned facility for the storage or transfer of solid waste or solid waste handling equipment unless the facility is either (a) privately operated pursuant to a contract greater than five years, or (b) an integral part of a solid waste processing facility located on the same site. Instead, the applicable provisions of RCW 36.32.250 and chapters 39.04 and 39.30 RCW shall be followed. [1992 c 131 § 4; 1989 c 399 § 10; 1986 c 282 § 19.]

\*Reviser's note: Chapter 39.25 RCW was repealed by 1994 c 138 § 2.

Construction of 1986 c 282 § 19—1990 c 279: "Section 19, chapter 282, Laws of 1986, codified as RCW 36.58.090, established an alternate procedure by which a county was authorized to procure systems and plants



for solid waste handling and to contract with private vendors for the design, construction, or operation thereof. Any county with a population of over one hundred thousand that, prior to the effective date of chapter 399, Laws of 1989 [July 23, 1989], complied with the requirements of either (1) section 10 (3), (4), and (5), chapter 399, Laws of 1989, or (2) section 19(3), chapter 282, Laws of 1986, shall be deemed to have complied with the requirements of section 19(3), chapter 282, Laws of 1986." [1990 c 279 § 1.]

**Severability—Legislative findings—Construction—Liberal construction—Supplemental powers—1986 c 282:** See notes following RCW 35.21.156.

**36.58.100 Solid waste disposal district—Authorized—Boundaries—Powers—Governing body.** The legislative authority of any county with a population of less than one million is authorized to establish one or more solid waste disposal districts within the county for the purpose of providing and funding solid waste disposal services. No solid waste disposal district may include any area within the corporate limits of a city or town unless the city or town governing body adopts a resolution approving inclusion of the area within its limits. The county legislative authority may modify the boundaries of the solid waste disposal district by the same procedure used to establish the district. A solid waste disposal district may be dissolved by the county legislative authority after holding a hearing as provided in RCW 36.58.110.

As used in RCW 36.58.100 through 36.58.150 the term "county" includes all counties other than a county with a population of one million or more.

A solid waste disposal district is a quasi-municipal corporation, an independent taxing "authority" within the meaning of Article VII, section 1 of the state Constitution, and a "taxing district" within the meaning of Article VII, section 2 of the state Constitution.

A solid waste disposal district shall constitute a body corporate and shall possess all the usual powers of a corporation for public purposes as well as all other powers that may now or hereafter be specifically conferred by statute: PROVIDED, That a solid waste disposal district shall not have the power of eminent domain.

The county legislative authority shall be the governing body of a solid waste disposal district. The electors of a solid waste disposal district shall be all registered voters residing within the district. [1991 c 363 § 75; 1982 c 175 § 1.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**Severability—1982 c 175:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1982 c 175 § 9.]

**36.58.110 Solid waste disposal district—Establishment, modification, or dissolution—Hearing—Notice.** A county legislative authority proposing to establish a solid waste disposal district or to modify or dissolve an existing solid waste disposal district shall conduct a hearing at the time and place specified in a notice published at least once not less than ten days prior to the hearing in a newspaper of general circulation within the proposed solid waste disposal district. This notice shall be in addition to any other notice required by law to be published. Additional notice of such hearing may be given by mail, posting within

the proposed solid waste disposal district, or in any manner local authorities deem necessary to notify affected persons. All hearings shall be public and the county legislative authority shall hear objections from any person affected by the formation, modification, or dissolution of the solid waste disposal district and make such changes in the boundaries of the district or any other modifications that the county legislative authority deems necessary. [1982 c 175 § 2.]

**Severability—1982 c 175:** See note following RCW 36.58.100.

**36.58.120 Solid waste disposal district—Establishment—Ordinance.** No solid waste disposal district shall be established within a county unless the county legislative authority determines, following a hearing held pursuant to RCW 36.58.110, that it is in the public interest to form the district and the county legislative authority adopts an ordinance creating the solid waste disposal district and establishing its boundaries. [1982 c 175 § 3.]

**Severability—1982 c 175:** See note following RCW 36.58.100.

**36.58.130 Solid waste disposal district—Powers—Restrictions—Fees.** A solid waste disposal district may provide for all aspects of disposing of solid wastes. All moneys received by a solid waste disposal district shall be used exclusively for district purposes. Nothing in this chapter shall permit waste disposal districts to engage in the collection of residential or commercial garbage.

A solid waste disposal district shall perform all construction in excess of twenty-five thousand dollars by contract let pursuant to RCW 36.32.250.

A solid waste disposal district may collect disposal fees based exclusively upon utilization by weight or volume for accepting solid wastes at a disposal site or transfer station. The county may transfer moneys to a solid waste disposal district to be used for district purposes. [1982 c 175 § 4.]

**Severability—1982 c 175:** See note following RCW 36.58.100.

**36.58.140 Solid waste disposal district—Excise tax—Lien for delinquent taxes and penalties.** A solid waste disposal district may levy and collect an excise tax on the privilege of living in or operating a business in a solid waste disposal taxing district sufficient to fund its solid waste disposal activities: PROVIDED, That any property which is producing commercial garbage shall be exempt if the owner is providing regular collection and disposal. The excise tax shall be billed and collected at times and in the manner fixed and determined by the solid waste disposal district. Penalties for failure to pay the tax on time may be provided for. A solid waste disposal district shall have a lien for delinquent taxes and penalties, plus an interest rate equal to the interest rate for delinquent property taxes. The lien shall be attached to each parcel of property in the district that is occupied by the person so taxed and shall be superior to all other liens and encumbrances except liens for property taxes.

The solid waste disposal district shall periodically certify the delinquencies to the county treasurer at which time the lien shall be attached. The lien shall be foreclosed in the same manner as the foreclosure of real property taxes. [1982 c 175 § 5.]

**Severability—1982 c 175:** See note following RCW 36.58.100.

**36.58.150 Solid waste disposal district—Excess levies authorized—General obligation and revenue bonds.**

(1) A solid waste disposal district shall not have the power to levy an annual levy without voter approval, but it shall have the power to levy a tax, in excess of the one percent limitation, upon the property within the district for a one year period to be used for operating or capital purposes whenever authorized by the electors of the district pursuant to RCW 84.52.052 and Article VII, section 2(a) of the state Constitution.

A solid waste disposal district may issue general obligation bonds for capital purposes only, subject to the limitations prescribed in RCW 39.36.020(1), and may provide for the retirement of the bonds by voter-approved bond retirement tax levies pursuant to Article VII, section 2(b) of the state Constitution and RCW 84.52.056. Such general obligation bonds shall be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW.

A solid waste disposal district may issue revenue bonds to fund its activities. Such revenue bonds may be in any form, including bearer bonds or registered bonds as provided in RCW 39.46.030.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, such revenue bonds may be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1984 c 186 § 25; 1983 c 167 § 71; 1982 c 175 § 6.]

**Purpose—1984 c 186:** See note following RCW 39.46.110.

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**Severability—1982 c 175:** See note following RCW 36.58.100.

**36.58.160 Collection and transportation of recyclable materials by recycling companies or nonprofit entities—Reuse or reclamation—Application of chapter.**

Nothing in this chapter shall prevent a recycling company or nonprofit entity from collecting and transporting recyclable materials from a buy-back center, drop-box, or from a commercial or industrial generator of recyclable materials, or upon agreement with a solid waste collection company.

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as prohibiting a commercial or industrial generator of commercial recyclable materials from selling, conveying, or arranging for transportation of such material to a recycler for reuse or reclamation. [1989 c 431 § 34.]

**Severability—1989 c 431:** See RCW 70.95.901.

## Chapter 36.58A

### SOLID WASTE COLLECTION DISTRICTS

#### Sections

- 36.58A.010 Authorized—Conditions—Modification or dissolution of district.
- 36.58A.020 Hearings upon establishing, modification or dissolution of district—Notice—Scope.
- 36.58A.030 County legislative authority determination required to establish district—Commission findings as to present services.
- 36.58A.040 County may collect fees of garbage and refuse collection company—Disposition of fees—Subrogation—Lien.

*Dissolution of inactive special purpose districts: Chapter 36.96 RCW.*

**36.58A.010 Authorized—Conditions—Modification or dissolution of district.** Any county legislative authority may establish solid waste collection districts within the county boundaries for the mandatory collection of solid waste: PROVIDED, That no such district shall include any area within the corporate limits of any city or town without the consent of the legislative authority of the city or town. Such districts may be established only after approval of a coordinated, comprehensive solid waste management plan adopted pursuant to chapter 134, Laws of 1969 ex. sess. and chapter 70.95 RCW or pursuant to another solid waste management plan adopted prior to May 21, 1971 or within one year thereafter. The legislative authority of the county may modify or dissolve such district after a hearing as provided for in RCW 36.58A.020. [1971 ex.s. c 293 § 2.]

*Certain provisions not to detract from commission powers, duties, and functions: RCW 80.01.300.*

**36.58A.020 Hearings upon establishing, modification or dissolution of district—Notice—Scope.**

The county legislative authority proposing to establish a solid waste collection district or to modify or dissolve an existing solid waste collection district shall conduct a hearing at the time and place specified in a notice published at least once not less than ten days prior to the hearing in a newspaper of general circulation within the county. Additional notice of such hearing may be given by mail, posting on the property, or in any manner local authorities deem necessary to notify adjacent landowners and the public. All hearings shall be public and the legislative authority shall hear objections from any person affected by the formation of the solid waste collection district and make such changes in the boundaries of the district or any other modifications of plans that the legislative authority deems necessary. [1971 ex.s. c 293 § 3.]

*Certain provisions not to detract from commission powers, duties, and functions: RCW 80.01.300.*

**36.58A.030 County legislative authority determination required to establish district—Commission findings as to present services.**

No solid waste collection district shall be established in an area within the county boundaries unless the county legislative authority, after the hearing regarding formation of such district, determines from that hearing that mandatory solid waste collection is in the public interest and necessary for the preservation of public health. Such determination by the county legislative authority shall require the utilities and transportation commission to investigate and make a finding as to the ability and willingness of the existing garbage and refuse collection companies servicing the area to provide the required service.

If the utilities and transportation commission finds that the existing garbage and refuse collection company or companies are unable or unwilling to provide the required service it shall proceed to issue a certificate of public need and necessity to any qualified person or corporation in accordance with the provisions of RCW 81.77.040.

The utilities and transportation commission shall notify the county legislative authority within sixty days of its findings and actions and if no qualified garbage and refuse collection company or companies are available in the

proposed solid waste collection district, the county legislative authority may provide county garbage and refuse collection services in the area and charge and collect reasonable fees therefor. The county shall not provide service in any portion of the area found by the utilities and transportation commission to be receiving adequate service from an existing certificated carrier unless the county shall acquire the rights of such existing certificated carrier by purchase or condemnation. [1971 ex.s. c 293 § 4.]

*Certain provisions not to detract from commission powers, duties, and functions: RCW 80.01.300.*

**36.58A.040 County may collect fees of garbage and refuse collection company—Disposition of fees—Subrogation—Lien.** If any garbage and refuse collection company certified by the utilities and transportation commission which operates in any solid waste collection district fails to collect any fees due and payable to it for garbage and refuse collection services, such company may request the county to collect such fees. Upon the collection of such fees, the county shall pay one-half of the fees actually collected to the garbage and refuse collection company entitled to receive such and shall deposit the remaining one-half in the county general fund.

When the county undertakes to collect such fees as requested by the garbage and refuse collection companies, the county shall be subrogated to all of the rights of such companies. Any such fees which the county fails to collect shall become liens on the real or personal property of the persons owing such fees and the county may take all appropriate legal action to enforce such liens. [1971 ex.s. c 293 § 6.]

*Certain provisions not to detract from commission powers, duties, and functions: RCW 80.01.300.*

## Chapter 36.60

### COUNTY RAIL DISTRICTS

#### Sections

36.60.010	Establishment of district—Boundaries—Powers.
36.60.020	Establishment, modification, or dissolution of district— Public notice and hearing—Election.
36.60.030	Authority of district to provide rail service.
36.60.040	Excess property tax levies authorized.
36.60.050	General obligation bonds authorized—Limitations—Terms.
36.60.060	Revenue bonds authorized—Limitations—Terms.
36.60.070	Power of eminent domain.
36.60.100	Establishment, modification, or dissolution of district— Alternate method.
36.60.110	Establishment, modification, or dissolution of district— Alternate method—Petition.
36.60.120	Establishment, modification, or dissolution of district— Alternate method—Public hearing.
36.60.130	Establishment, modification, or dissolution of district— Alternate method—Determination by county legislative authority.
36.60.140	Annexation by boundary modification—Assumption of out- standing indebtedness.
36.60.900	Liberal construction.
36.60.905	Severability—1983 c 303.

**36.60.010 Establishment of district—Boundaries—Powers.** Subject to RCW 36.60.020, the legislative authority of a county may establish one or more county rail districts

within the county for the purpose of providing and funding improved rail freight service. The boundaries of county rail districts shall be drawn to include contiguous property in an area from which agricultural or other goods could be shipped by the rail service provided. The district shall not include property outside this area which does not, or, in the judgment of the county legislative authority, is not expected to produce goods which can be shipped by rail, or property substantially devoted to fruit crops or producing goods that are shipped in a direction away from the district. A county rail district is a quasi municipal corporation, an independent taxing "authority" within the meaning of Article VII, section 1 of the state Constitution, and a "taxing district" within the meaning of Article VII, section 2 of the state Constitution.

A county rail district shall constitute a body corporate and shall possess all the usual powers of a corporation for public purposes as well as all other powers that may now or hereafter be specifically conferred by statute, including, but not limited to, the authority to hire employees, staff, and services, to enter into contracts, to accept and expend or use gifts, grants, and donations, and to sue and be sued.

The county legislative authority shall be the governing body of a county rail district. The county treasurer shall act as the ex officio treasurer of the county rail district. The electors of a district are all registered voters residing within the district.

This authority and that provided in RCW 36.60.030 may only be exercised outside the boundaries of the county rail district if such extraterritorial rail services, equipment, or facilities are found, by resolution of the county legislative authority exercising such authority, to be reasonably necessary to link the rail services, equipment, and facilities within the rail district to an interstate railroad system; however, if such extraterritorial rail services, equipment, or facilities are in or are to be located in one or more other counties, the legislative authority of such other county must consent by resolution to the proposed plan of the originating county which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld. [1985 c 187 § 1; 1983 c 303 § 8.]

**36.60.020 Establishment, modification, or dissolution of district—Public notice and hearing—Election.** (1) A county legislative authority proposing to establish a county rail district, or to modify the boundaries of an existing county rail district, or to dissolve an existing county rail district, shall conduct a hearing at the time and place specified in a notice published at least once, not less than ten days prior to the hearing, in a newspaper of general circulation within the proposed county rail district. This notice shall be in addition to any other notice required by law to be published. Additional notice of the hearing may be given by mail, posting within the proposed county rail district, or in any manner the county legislative authority deems necessary to notify affected persons. All hearings shall be public and the county legislative authority shall hear objections from any person affected by the formation, modification of the boundaries, or dissolution of the county rail district.

(2) Following the hearing held under subsection (1) of this section, the county legislative authority may adopt a resolution providing for the submission of a proposal to establish a county rail district, modify the boundaries of an

existing county rail district, or dissolve an existing county rail district, if the county legislative authority finds the proposal to be in the public interest. The resolution shall contain the boundaries of the district if applicable.

A proposition to create a county rail district, modify the boundaries of an existing county rail district, or dissolve an existing rail district shall be submitted to the affected voters at the next general election held sixty or more days after the adoption of the resolution providing for the submittal by the county legislative authority. The resolution shall establish the boundaries of the district and include a finding that the creation of the district is in the public interest and that the area included within the district can reasonably be expected to benefit from its creation. No portion of a city may be included in such a district unless the entire city is included.

The district shall be created upon approval of the proposition by simple majority vote. The ballot proposition submitted to the voters shall be in substantially the following form:

**FORMATION OF COUNTY RAIL DISTRICT . . . . .**

Shall a county rail district be established for the area described in a resolution of the legislative authority of . . . . . county, adopted on the . . . . day of . . . . ., 19. . . ?  
[1983 c 303 § 9.]

*Dissolution of inactive special purpose districts: Chapter 36.96 RCW.*

**36.60.030 Authority of district to provide rail service.** A county rail district is authorized to contract with a person, partnership, or corporation to provide rail service along a light-density essential-service rail line for the purpose of carrying commodities. The district shall also have the power to acquire, maintain, improve, or extend rail facilities within the district that are necessary for the safe and efficient operation of the contracted rail service. A county rail district may receive state rail assistance under chapter 47.76 RCW. Two or more county rail districts may enter into interlocal cooperation agreements under chapter 39.34 RCW to carry out the purposes of this chapter. [1983 c 303 § 10.]

**36.60.040 Excess property tax levies authorized.** A county rail district is not authorized to impose a regular ad valorem property tax levy but may:

(1) Levy an ad valorem property tax, in excess of the one percent limitation, upon the property within the district for a one-year period to be used for operating or capital purposes whenever authorized by the voters of the district pursuant to RCW 84.52.052 and Article VII, section 2(a) of the state Constitution.

(2) Provide for the retirement of voter approved general obligation bonds, issued for capital purposes only, by levying bond retirement ad valorem property tax levies, in excess of the one percent limitation, whenever authorized by the voters of the district pursuant to Article VII, section 2(b) of the state Constitution and RCW 84.52.056. [1983 c 303 § 11.]

**36.60.050 General obligation bonds authorized—Limitations—Terms.** (1) To carry out the purpose of this chapter, a county rail district may issue general obligation bonds, not to exceed an amount, together with any outstand-

ing nonvoter approved general obligation indebtedness, equal to three-eighths of one percent of the value of taxable property within the district, as the term "value of taxable property" is defined in RCW 39.36.015. A county rail district may additionally issue general obligation bonds for capital purposes only, together with any outstanding general obligation indebtedness, not to exceed an amount equal to one and one-fourth percent of the value of the taxable property within the district, as the term "value of taxable property" is defined in RCW 39.36.015, as prescribed in Article VIII, section 6 of the state Constitution, and to provide for the retirement thereof by excess property tax levies as provided in RCW 36.60.040(2). The county rail district may submit a single proposition to the voters which, if approved, authorizes both the issuance of the bonds and the bond retirement property tax levies.

(2) General obligation bonds with a maturity in excess of forty years shall not be issued. The governing body of the county rail district shall by resolution determine for each general obligation bond issue the amount, date or dates, terms, conditions, denominations, interest rate or rates, which may be fixed or variable, maturity or maturities, redemption rights, registration privileges, manner of execution, price, manner of sale, and covenants. The bonds may be in any form, including bearer bonds or registered bonds. Facsimile signatures may be used on the bonds and any coupons. Refunding general obligation bonds may be issued in the same manner as general obligation bonds are issued.

(3) Whenever general obligation bonds are issued to fund specific projects or enterprises that generate revenues, charges, user fees, or special assessments, the county rail district which issues the bonds may specifically pledge all or a portion of the revenues, charges, user fees, or special assessments to refund the general obligation bonds. [1983 c 303 § 12.]

**36.60.060 Revenue bonds authorized—Limitations—Terms.** (1) A county rail district may issue revenue bonds to fund revenue generating facilities which it is authorized to provide or operate. Whenever revenue bonds are to be issued, the governing body of the district shall create or have created a special fund or funds for the sole purpose of paying the principal of and interest on the bonds of each such issue, into which fund or funds the governing body may obligate the district to pay such amounts of the gross revenue of all or any part of the facilities constructed, acquired, improved, repaired, or replaced pursuant to this chapter as the governing body determines.

(2) The governing body of a county rail district issuing revenue bonds shall create a special fund or funds from which, along with any reserves created under RCW 39.44.140, the principal and interest on the revenue bonds shall exclusively be payable. The governing body may obligate the county rail district to set aside and pay into the special fund or funds a fixed proportion or a fixed amount of the revenues from the public improvements, projects, facilities, and all related additions funded by the revenue bonds. This amount or proportion shall be a lien and charge against these revenues, subject only to operating and maintenance expenses. The governing body shall consider the cost

of operation and maintenance of the public improvement, project, facility, or additions funded by the revenue bonds and shall not place into the special fund or funds a greater amount or proportion of the revenues than it thinks will be available after maintenance and operation expenses have been paid and after the payment of revenue previously pledged. The governing body may also provide that revenue bonds payable from the same source or sources of revenue may later be issued on parity with any revenue bonds issued and sold.

(3) Revenue bonds issued pursuant to this section shall not be an indebtedness of the county rail district issuing the bonds, and the interest and principal on the bonds shall only be payable from the revenues lawfully pledged to meet the principal and interest requirements and any reserves created pursuant to RCW 39.44.140. The owner of a revenue bond or any interest coupon issued pursuant to this section shall not have any claim against the county rail district arising from the bond or coupon except for payment from the revenues lawfully pledged to meet the principal and interest requirements and any reserves created pursuant to RCW 39.44.140. The substance of the limitations included in this subsection shall be plainly printed, written, or engraved on each bond issued pursuant to this section.

(4) Revenue bonds with a maturity in excess of thirty years shall not be issued. The governing body of the county rail district shall by resolution determine for each revenue bond issue the amount, date, terms, conditions, denominations, maximum fixed or variable interest rate or rates, maturity or maturities, redemption rights, registration privileges, manner of execution, manner of sale, callable provisions, if any, and covenants including the refunding of existing revenue bonds. The bonds may be in any form, including bearer bonds or registered bonds. Facsimile signatures may be used on the bonds and any coupons. Refunding revenue bonds may be issued in the same manner as revenue bonds are issued. [1983 c 303 § 13.]

**36.60.070 Power of eminent domain.** A county rail district may exercise the power of eminent domain to obtain property for its authorized purposes in the manner counties exercise the powers of eminent domain. [1983 c 303 § 14.]  
*Eminent domain by counties: Chapter 8.08 RCW.*

**36.60.100 Establishment, modification, or dissolution of district—Alternate method.** The method of establishing, modifying, or dissolving a county rail district in RCW 36.60.110 through 36.60.130 is an alternate method to that specified in RCW 36.60.020. [1986 c 26 § 1.]

**36.60.110 Establishment, modification, or dissolution of district—Alternate method—Petition.** A petition to establish, modify the boundaries, or dissolve a county rail district shall be filed with the county legislative authority. The petition shall be signed by the owners of property valued at not less than seventy-five percent according to the assessed valuation for general taxation of the property for which establishment, modification or dissolution is petitioned. The petition shall set forth a legal description of the property and shall be accompanied by a plat which outlines

the boundaries of the property sought to be annexed. [1986 c 26 § 2.]

**36.60.120 Establishment, modification, or dissolution of district—Alternate method—Public hearing.** If a petition to establish, modify the boundaries, or dissolve a county rail district is filed with the county legislative authority that complies with the requirements specified in RCW 36.60.110, the legislative authority may accept the petition, fix a date for a public hearing, and publish notice of the hearing in one issue of the official county newspaper. The notice shall also be posted in three public places within the area proposed for establishment, modification, or dissolution, and shall specify the time and place of hearing. The expense of publication and posting of the notice shall be paid by the signers of the petition. [1986 c 26 § 3.]

**36.60.130 Establishment, modification, or dissolution of district—Alternate method—Determination by county legislative authority.** Following the hearing, the county legislative authority shall determine by resolution whether the area proposed shall establish, modify the boundaries, or dissolve the county rail district. They may include all or any portion of the proposed area but may not include any property not described in the petition. [1986 c 26 § 4.]

**36.60.140 Annexation by boundary modification—Assumption of outstanding indebtedness.** All property annexed to a county rail district by a boundary modification under RCW 36.60.110 through 36.60.130 shall assume all or any portion of the outstanding indebtedness of the county rail district existing at the date of modification. [1986 c 26 § 5.]

**36.60.900 Liberal construction.** The rule of strict construction does not apply to this chapter, and this chapter shall be liberally construed to permit the accomplishment of its purposes. [1983 c 303 § 15.]

**36.60.905 Severability—1983 c 303.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1983 c 303 § 23.]

## Chapter 36.61

### LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS

Sections	
36.61.010	Purpose.
36.61.020	Creation of district—Special assessments or rates and charges.
36.61.030	Creation of district—Resolution or petition—Contents.
36.61.040	Creation of district—Public hearing—Notice—Contents.
36.61.050	Creation of district—Public hearing—Amendments to original plan.
36.61.060	Creation of district—Public hearing—Legislative authority may delegate responsibility.
36.61.070	Creation of district—Submittal of question to landowners.
36.61.080	Creation of district—Submittal of question to landowners—Mail ballot.

- 36.61.090 Creation of district—Submittal of question to landowners—Balloting—Conditions.
- 36.61.100 Creation of district—Submittal of question to landowners—Majority vote required—Adoption of ordinance.
- 36.61.110 Creation of district—Limitations on appeals.
- 36.61.115 Limitation on special assessments, rates and charges.
- 36.61.120 Special assessment roll—Adoption—Public hearing.
- 36.61.130 Special assessment roll—Public hearing—Legislative authority may delegate responsibility—Appeals.
- 36.61.140 Special assessment roll—Public hearing—Notice—Contents.
- 36.61.150 Special assessment roll—Appeal to superior and appellate courts—Procedure.
- 36.61.160 Special assessments—Calculation.
- 36.61.170 Special assessments—Limitations.
- 36.61.180 Special assessments—Modification.
- 36.61.190 Special assessments—Collection—Notice.
- 36.61.200 Special assessments—Payment period—Interest and penalty.
- 36.61.210 Special assessments—Subdivision of land—Segregation of assessment.
- 36.61.220 Special assessments—Filing with county treasurer.
- 36.61.230 Special assessments—Lien created.
- 36.61.240 Special assessments—Lien—Validity—Foreclosure.
- 36.61.250 Special assessments—Legislative authority may stop.
- 36.61.260 Bonds.
- 36.61.270 Imposition of rates and charges.

*Boat trailer fee: RCW 46.16.670.*

**36.61.010 Purpose.** The legislature finds that the environmental, recreational, and aesthetic values of many of the state's lakes are threatened by eutrophication and other deterioration and that existing governmental authorities are unable to adequately improve and maintain the quality of the state's lakes.

It is the purpose of this chapter to establish a governmental mechanism by which property owners can embark on a program of lake improvement and maintenance for their and the general public's benefit, health, and welfare. Public property, including state property, shall be considered the same as private property in this chapter, except liens for special assessments and liens for rates and charges shall not extend to public property. Lake bottom property shall not be considered to be benefited, shall not be subject to special assessments or rates and charges, and shall not receive voting rights under this chapter. [1987 c 432 § 1; 1985 c 398 § 1.]

**36.61.020 Creation of district—Special assessments or rates and charges.** Any county may create lake management districts to finance the improvement and maintenance of lakes located within or partially within the boundaries of the county. All or a portion of a lake and the adjacent land areas may be included within one or more lake management districts. More than one lake, or portions of lakes, and the adjacent land areas may be included in a single lake management district. A lake management district may be created for a period of up to ten years.

Special assessments or rates and charges may be imposed on the property included within a lake management district to finance lake improvement and maintenance activities, including: (1) The control or removal of aquatic plants and vegetation; (2) water quality; (3) the control of water levels; (4) storm water diversion and treatment; (5) agricultural waste control; (6) studying lake water quality problems and solutions; (7) cleaning and maintaining ditches and streams entering or leaving the lake; and (8) the related

administrative, engineering, legal, and operational costs, including the costs of creating the lake management district.

Special assessments or rates and charges may be imposed annually on all the land in a lake management district for the duration of the lake management district without a related issuance of lake management district bonds or revenue bonds. Special assessments also may be imposed in the manner of special assessments in a local improvement district with each landowner being given the choice of paying the entire special assessment in one payment, or to paying installments, with lake management district bonds being issued to obtain moneys not derived by the initial full payment of the special assessments, and the installments covering all of the costs related to issuing, selling, and redeeming the lake management district bonds. [1987 c 432 § 2; 1985 c 398 § 2.]

*Cities and towns authorized to establish lake management districts: RCW 35.21.403.*

*Flood control districts authorized to engage in activities under RCW 36.61.020: RCW 86.09.151.*

**36.61.030 Creation of district—Resolution or petition—Contents.** A lake management district may be initiated upon either the adoption of a resolution of intention by a county legislative authority or the filing of a petition signed by ten landowners or the owners of at least fifteen percent of the acreage contained within the proposed lake management district, whichever is greater. A petition or resolution of intention shall set forth: (1) The nature of the lake improvement or maintenance activities proposed to be financed; (2) the amount of money proposed to be raised by special assessments or rates and charges; (3) if special assessments are to be imposed, whether the special assessments will be imposed annually for the duration of the lake management district, or the full special assessments will be imposed at one time, with the possibility of installments being made to finance the issuance of lake management district bonds, or both methods; (4) if rates and charges are to be imposed, the annual amount of revenue proposed to be collected and whether revenue bonds payable from the rates and charges are proposed to be issued; (5) the number of years proposed for the duration of the lake management district; and (6) the proposed boundaries of the lake management district.

The county legislative authority may require the posting of a bond of up to five thousand dollars before the county considers the proposed creation of a lake management district initiated by petition. The bond may only be used by the county to finance its costs in studying, holding hearings, making notices, preparing special assessment rolls or rolls showing the rates and charges on each parcel, and conducting elections related to the lake management district if the proposed lake management district is not created.

A resolution of intention shall also designate the number of the proposed lake management district, and fix a date, time, and place for a public hearing on the formation of the proposed lake management district. The date for the public hearing shall be at least thirty days and no more than ninety days after the adoption of the resolution of intention unless an emergency exists.

Petitions shall be filed with the county legislative authority. The county legislative authority shall determine

the sufficiency of the signatures, which shall be conclusive upon all persons. No person may withdraw his or her name from a petition after it is filed. If the county legislative authority determines a petition to be sufficient and the proposed lake management district appears to be in the public interest and the financing of the lake improvement or maintenance activities is feasible, it shall adopt a resolution of intention, setting forth all of the details required to be included when a resolution of intention is initiated by the county legislative authority. [1987 c 432 § 3; 1985 c 398 § 3.]

**36.61.040 Creation of district—Public hearing—Notice—Contents.** Notice of the public hearing shall be published in at least two consecutive issues of a newspaper of general circulation in the proposed lake management district, the date of the first publication to be at least fifteen days prior to the date fixed for the public hearing by the resolution of intention. Notice of the public hearing shall also be given to the owner or reputed owner of any lot, tract, parcel of land, or other property within the proposed lake management district by mailing the notice at least fifteen days before the date fixed for the public hearing to the owner or reputed owner of the property as shown on the tax rolls of the county assessor at the address shown thereon. Notice of the public hearing shall also be mailed to the departments of fish and wildlife and ecology at least fifteen days before the date fixed for the public hearing.

Notices of the public hearing shall: (1) Refer to the resolution of intention; (2) designate the proposed lake management district by number; (3) set forth a proposed plan describing: (a) The nature of the proposed lake improvement or maintenance activities; (b) the amount of special assessments or rates and charges proposed to be raised by the lake management district; (c) if special assessments are proposed to be imposed, whether the special assessments will be imposed annually for the duration of the lake management district, or the full special assessments will be payable at one time, with the possibility of periodic installments being paid and lake management bonds being issued, or both; (d) if rates and charges are proposed to be imposed, the annual amount of revenue proposed to be collected and whether revenue bonds payable from the rates and charges are proposed to be issued; and (e) the proposed duration of the lake management district; and (4) indicate the date, time, and place of the public hearing designated in the resolution of intention.

In the case of the notice sent to each owner or reputed owner by mail, the notice shall set forth the estimated amount of the cost of the lake improvement or maintenance activities to be borne by special assessment, or annual special assessments, or rates and charges on the lot, tract, parcel of land, or other property owned by the owner or reputed owner.

If the county legislative authority has designated a committee of itself or an officer to hear complaints and make recommendations to the full county legislative authority, as provided in RCW 36.61.060, the notice shall also describe this additional step before the full county legislative authority may adopt a resolution creating the lake manage-

ment district. [1994 c 264 § 9; 1988 c 36 § 9; 1987 c 432 § 4; 1985 c 398 § 4.]

**36.61.050 Creation of district—Public hearing—Amendments to original plan.** The county legislative authority shall hold a public hearing on the proposed lake management district at the date, time, and place designated in the resolution of intention.

At this hearing the county legislative authority shall hear objections from any person affected by the formation of the lake management district. Representatives of the departments of fish and wildlife and ecology shall be afforded opportunities to make presentations on and comment on the proposal. Members of the public shall be afforded an opportunity to comment on the proposal. The county legislative authority must consider recommendations provided to it by the departments of fish and wildlife and ecology. The public hearing may be extended to other times and dates declared at the public hearing. The county legislative authority may make such changes in the boundaries of the lake management district or such modification in plans for the proposed lake improvement or maintenance activities as it deems necessary. The county legislative authority may not change boundaries of the lake management district to include property that was not included previously without first passing an amended resolution of intention and giving new notice to the owners or reputed owners of property newly included in the proposed lake management district in the manner and form and within the time provided for the original notice. The county legislative authority shall not alter the plans for the proposed lake improvement or maintenance activities to result in an increase in the amount of money proposed to be raised, and shall not increase the amount of money proposed to be raised, without first passing an amended resolution of intention and giving new notice to property owners in the manner and form and within the time provided for the original notice. [1994 c 264 § 10; 1988 c 36 § 10; 1985 c 398 § 5.]

**36.61.060 Creation of district—Public hearing—Legislative authority may delegate responsibility.** A county legislative authority may adopt an ordinance providing for a committee of itself, or an officer, to hold public hearings on the proposed formation of a lake management district and hear objections to the proposed formation as provided in RCW 36.61.050. The committee or officer shall make a recommendation to the full legislative authority, which need not hold a public hearing on the proposed creation of the lake management district. The full county legislative authority by resolution may approve or disapprove the recommendation and submit the question of creating the lake management district to the property owners as provided in RCW 36.61.070 through 36.61.100. [1985 c 398 § 10.]

**36.61.070 Creation of district—Submittal of question to landowners.** After the public hearing, the county legislative authority may adopt a resolution submitting the question of creating the lake management district to the owners of land within the proposed lake management district, including publicly owned land, if the county legislative authority finds that it is in the public interest to create



the lake management district and the financing of the lake improvement and maintenance activities is feasible. The resolution shall also include: (1) A plan describing the proposed lake improvement and maintenance activities which avoid adverse impacts on fish and wildlife and provide for appropriate measures to protect and enhance fish and wildlife; (2) the number of years the lake management district will exist; (3) the amount to be raised by special assessments or rates and charges; (4) if special assessments are to be imposed, whether the special assessments shall be imposed annually for the duration of the lake management district or only once with the possibility of installments being imposed and lake management bonds being issued, or both, and, if both types of special assessments are proposed to be imposed, the lake improvement or maintenance activities proposed to be financed by each type of special assessment; (5) if rates and charges are to be imposed, a description of the rates and charges and the possibility of revenue bonds being issued that are payable from the rates and charges; and (6) the estimated special assessment or rate and charge proposed to be imposed on each parcel included in the proposed lake management district.

No lake management district may be created by a county that includes territory located in another county without the approval of the legislative authority of the other county. [1987 c 432 § 5; 1985 c 398 § 6.]

**36.61.080 Creation of district—Submittal of question to landowners—Mail ballot.** A ballot shall be mailed to each owner or reputed owner of any lot, tract, parcel of land, or other property within the proposed lake management district, including publicly owned land, which ballot shall contain the following proposition:

"Shall lake management district No. . . . . be formed?  
 Yes . . . . .  
 No . . . . ."

In addition, the ballot shall contain appropriate spaces for the signatures of the landowner or landowners, or officer authorized to cast such a ballot. Each ballot shall include a description of the property owner's property and the estimated special assessment, or rate and charge, proposed to be imposed upon the property. A copy of the instructions and the resolution submitting the question to the landowners shall also be included. [1987 c 432 § 6; 1985 c 398 § 7.]

**36.61.090 Creation of district—Submittal of question to landowners—Balloting—Conditions.** The balloting shall be subject to the following conditions, which shall be included in the instructions mailed with each ballot, as provided in RCW 36.61.080: (1) All ballots must be signed by the owner or reputed owner of property according to the assessor's tax rolls; (2) each ballot must be returned to the county legislative authority not later than five o'clock p.m. of a specified day, which shall be at least twenty but not more than thirty days after the ballots are mailed; (3) each property owner shall mark his or her ballot for or against the creation of the proposed lake management district, with the ballot weighted so that the property owner has one vote for each dollar of estimated special assessment or rate and charge proposed to be imposed on his or her property; and

(4) the valid ballots shall be tabulated and a simple majority of the votes cast shall determine whether the proposed lake management district shall be approved or rejected. [1987 c 432 § 7; 1985 c 398 § 8.]

**36.61.100 Creation of district—Submittal of question to landowners—Majority vote required—Adoption of ordinance.** If the proposal receives a simple majority vote in favor of creating the lake management district, the county legislative authority shall adopt an ordinance creating the lake management district and may proceed with establishing the special assessments or rates and charges, collecting the special assessments or rates and charges, and performing the lake improvement or maintenance activities. If a proposed lake management district includes more than one lake and its adjacent areas, the lake management district may only be established if the proposal receives a simple majority vote in favor of creating it by the voters on each lake and its adjacent areas. The county legislative authority shall publish a notice in a newspaper of general circulation in a lake management district indicating that such an ordinance has been adopted within ten days of the adoption of the ordinance.

The ballots shall be available for public inspection after they are counted. [1987 c 432 § 8; 1985 c 398 § 9.]

**36.61.110 Creation of district—Limitations on appeals.** No lawsuit may be maintained challenging the jurisdiction or authority of the county legislative authority to proceed with the lake improvement and maintenance activities and creating the lake management district or in any way challenging the validity of the actions or decisions or any proceedings relating to the actions or decisions unless the lawsuit is served and filed no later than forty days after publication of a notice that the ordinance has been adopted ordering the lake improvement and maintenance activities and creating the lake management district. Written notice of the appeal shall be filed with the county legislative authority and clerk of the superior court in the county in which the property is situated. [1985 c 398 § 11.]

**36.61.115 Limitation on special assessments, rates and charges.** A special assessment, or rate and charge, on any lot, tract, parcel of land, or other property shall not be increased beyond one hundred ten percent of the estimated special assessment, or rate and charge, proposed to be imposed as provided in the resolution adopted in RCW 36.61.070, unless the creation of a lake management district is approved under another mailed ballot election that reflects the weighted voting arising from such increases. [1987 c 432 § 9.]

**36.61.120 Special assessment roll—Adoption—Public hearing.** After a lake management district is created, the county shall prepare a proposed special assessment roll. A separate special assessment roll shall be prepared for annual special assessments if both annual special assessments and special assessments paid at one time are imposed. The proposed special assessment roll shall list: (1) Each separate lot, tract, parcel of land, or other property in the lake management district; (2) the acreage of such property, and

the number of feet of lake frontage, if any; (3) the name and address of the owner or reputed owner of each lot, tract, parcel of land, or other property as shown on the tax rolls of the county assessor; and (4) the special assessment proposed to be imposed on each lot, tract, parcel of land, or other property, or the annual special assessments proposed to be imposed on each lot, tract, parcel of land, or other property.

At the time, date, and place fixed for a public hearing, the county legislative authority shall act as a board of equalization and hear objections to the special assessment roll, and at the times to which the public hearing may be adjourned, the county legislative authority may correct, revise, raise, lower, change, or modify the special assessment roll or any part thereof, or set the proposed special assessment roll aside and order a new proposed special assessment roll to be prepared. The county legislative authority shall confirm and approve a special assessment roll by adoption of a resolution.

If a proposed special assessment roll is amended to raise any special assessment appearing thereon or to include omitted property, a new public hearing shall be held. The new public hearing shall be limited to considering the increased special assessments or omitted property. Notices shall be sent to the owners or reputed owners of the affected property in the same manner and form and within the time provided for the original notice.

Objections to a proposed special assessment roll must be made in writing, shall clearly state the grounds for objections, and shall be filed with the governing body prior to the public hearing. Objections to a special assessment or annual special assessments that are not made as provided in this section shall be deemed waived and shall not be considered by the governing body or a court on appeal. [1985 c 398 § 12.]

**36.61.130 Special assessment roll—Public hearing—Legislative authority may delegate responsibility—Appeals.** A county legislative authority may adopt an ordinance providing for a committee of itself, or an officer, to hear objections to the special assessment roll, act as a board of equalization, and make recommendations to the full county legislative authority, which need not hold a public hearing on the special assessment roll. The ordinance shall provide a process by which an appeal may be made in writing to the full county legislative authority by a person protesting his or her special assessment or annual special assessments as confirmed by the committee or officer. The full county legislative authority by resolution shall approve the special assessment roll, modify and approve the special assessment roll as a result of hearing objections, or reject the special assessment roll and return it to the committee or officer for further work and recommendations. No objection to the decision of the full county legislative authority approving the special assessment roll may be considered by a court unless an objection to the decision has been timely filed with the county legislative authority as provided in this section. [1985 c 398 § 13.]

**36.61.140 Special assessment roll—Public hearing—Notice—Contents.** Notice of the original public hearing on the proposed special assessment roll, and any public hearing

held as a result of raising special assessments or including omitted property, shall be published and mailed to the owner or reputed owner of the property as provided in RCW 36.61.040 for the public hearing on the formation of the lake management district. However, the notice need only provide the total amount to be collected by the special assessment roll and shall state that: (1) A public hearing on the proposed special assessment roll will be held, giving the time, date, and place of the public hearing; (2) the proposed special assessment roll is available for public perusal, giving the times and location where the proposed special assessment roll is available for public perusal; (3) objections to the proposed special assessment must be in writing, include clear grounds for objections, and must be filed prior to the public hearing; and (4) failure to so object shall be deemed to waive an objection.

Notices mailed to the owners or reputed owners shall additionally indicate the amount of special assessment ascribed to the particular lot, tract, parcel of land, or other property owned by the person so notified. [1985 c 398 § 14.]

**36.61.150 Special assessment roll—Appeal to superior and appellate courts—Procedure.** The decision of a county legislative authority upon any objection to the special assessment roll may be appealed to the superior court only if the objection had been timely made in the manner prescribed in this chapter. The appeal shall be made within ten days after publication of a notice that the resolution confirming the special assessment roll has been adopted by filing written notice of the appeal with the county legislative authority and the clerk of the superior court in the county in which the real property is situated. The notice of appeal shall describe the property and set forth the objections of the appellant to the special assessment. Within ten days from the filing of such notice of appeal with the clerk of the superior court, the appellant shall file with the clerk of the court a transcript consisting of the special assessment roll and his or her objections thereto, together with the resolution confirming such special assessment roll and the record of the county legislative authority with reference to the special assessment or annual special assessments, which transcript, upon payment of the necessary fees therefor, shall be furnished by an officer of the county and by him or her certified to contain full, true, and correct copies of all matters and proceedings required to be included in the transcript. Such fees shall be the same as the fees payable to the county clerk for the preparation and certification of transcripts on appeal to the supreme court or the court of appeals in civil actions.

At the time of the filing of the notice of appeal with the clerk of the superior court a sufficient bond in the penal sum of two hundred dollars, with a surety or sureties thereon as provided by law for appeals in civil cases, shall be filed conditioned to prosecute such appeal without delay, and if unsuccessful, to pay all costs incurred by the county because of the appeal. The court may order the appellant, upon application therefor, to execute and file such additional bond or bonds as the necessity of the case may require.

Within three days after such transcript is filed in the superior court, the appellant shall give written notice to the

county legislative authority that such transcript is filed. The notice shall state a time, not less than three days from the service thereof, when the appellant will call up the cause for hearing.

The superior court shall, at this time or at such further time as may be fixed by order of the court, hear and determine such appeal without a jury, and such cause shall have preference over all civil causes pending in the court, except proceedings under an act relating to eminent domain in such county and actions of forcible entry and detainer. The judgment of the court shall confirm, correct, modify, or annul the special assessment or annual special assessments insofar as the same affects the property of the appellant. A certified copy of the decision of the court shall be filed with the officer having custody of the special assessment roll, and he or she shall modify and correct such special assessment roll in accordance with the decision.

An appeal shall lie to the supreme court or the court of appeals from the judgment of the superior court, as in other cases, however, such appeal must be taken within fifteen days after the date of the entry of the judgment of the superior court, and the record and opening brief of the appellant in the cause shall be filed in the supreme court or the court of appeals within sixty days after the appeal is taken by notice as provided in this section. The time for filing the record and serving and filing of briefs may be extended by order of the superior court, or by stipulation of the parties concerned. The supreme court or the court of appeals on such appeal may correct, modify, confirm, or annul the special assessment or annual special assessments insofar as the same affects the property of the appellant. A certified copy of the order of the supreme court or the court of appeals upon such appeal shall be filed with the officer having custody of such special assessment roll, who shall thereupon modify and correct such special assessment roll in accordance with such decision. [1985 c 398 § 15.]

**36.61.160 Special assessments—Calculation.** Whenever special assessments are imposed, all property included within a lake management district shall be considered to be the property specially benefited by the lake improvement or maintenance activities and shall be the property upon which special assessments are imposed to pay the costs and expenses of the lake improvement or maintenance activities, or such part of the costs and expenses as may be chargeable against the property specially benefited. The special assessments shall be imposed on property in accordance with the special benefits conferred on the property up to but not in excess of the total costs and expenses of the lake improvement or maintenance activities as provided in the special assessment roll.

Special assessments may be measured by front footage, acreage, the extent of improvements on the property, or any other factors that are deemed to fairly reflect special benefits, including those authorized under RCW 35.51.030. Special assessments may be calculated by using more than one factor. Zones around the public improvement may be used that reflect different levels of benefit in each zone that are measured by a front footage, acreage, the extent of improvements, or other factors.

Public property, including property owned by the state of Washington, shall be subject to special assessments to the same extent that private property is subject to the special assessments, except no lien shall extend to public property. [1987 c 432 § 10; 1985 c 398 § 16.]

**36.61.170 Special assessments—Limitations.** The total annual special assessments may not exceed the estimated cost of the lake improvement or maintenance activities proposed to be financed by such special assessments, as specified in the resolution of intention. The total of special assessments imposed in a lake management district that are of the nature of special assessments imposed in a local improvement district shall not exceed one hundred fifty percent of the estimated total cost of the lake improvement or maintenance activities that are proposed to be financed by the lake management district as specified in the resolution of intention. After a lake management district has been created, the resolution of intention may be amended to increase the amount to be financed by the lake management district by using the same procedure in which a lake management district is created. [1985 c 398 § 17.]

**36.61.180 Special assessments—Modification.** Whenever annual special assessments are being imposed, the county legislative authority may modify the level of annual special assessments imposed by conforming with the procedures and subject to the limitations included in RCW 36.61.120 through 36.61.170. [1985 c 398 § 18.]

**36.61.190 Special assessments—Collection—Notice.** Special assessments and installments on any special assessment shall be collected by the county treasurer.

The county treasurer shall publish a notice indicating that the special assessment roll has been confirmed and that the special assessments are to be collected. The notice shall indicate the duration of the lake management district and shall describe whether the special assessments will be paid in annual payments for the duration of the lake management district, or whether the full special assessments will be payable at one time, with the possibility of periodic installments being paid and lake management bonds being issued, or both.

If the special assessments are to be payable at one time, the notice additionally shall indicate that all or any portion of the special assessments may be paid within thirty days from the date of publication of the first notice without penalty or interest. This notice shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the lake management district.

Within ten days of the first newspaper publication, the county treasurer shall notify each owner or reputed owner of property whose name appears on the special assessment roll, at the address shown on the special assessment roll, for each item of property described on the list: (1) Whether one special assessment payable at one time or special assessments payable annually have been imposed; (2) the amount of the property subject to the special assessment or annual special assessments; and (3) the total amount of the special assessment due at one time, or annual amount of special assessments due. If the special assessment is due at one

time, the notice shall also describe the thirty-day period during which the special assessment may be paid without penalty, interest, or cost. [1985 c 398 § 19.]

**36.61.200 Special assessments—Payment period—Interest and penalty.** If the special assessments are to be payable at one time, all or any portion of any special assessment may be paid without interest, penalty, or costs during this thirty-day period and placed into a special fund to defray the costs of the lake improvement or maintenance activities. The remainder shall be paid in installments as provided in a resolution adopted by the county legislative authority, but the last installment shall be due at least two years before the maximum term of the bonds issued to pay for the improvements or maintenance. The installments shall include amounts sufficient to redeem the bonds issued to pay for the lake improvement and maintenance activities. A twenty-day period shall be allowed after the due date of any installment within which no interest, penalty, or costs on the installment may be imposed.

The county shall establish by ordinance an amount of interest that will be imposed on late special assessments imposed annually or at once, and on installments of a special assessment. The ordinance shall also specify the penalty, in addition to the interest, that will be imposed on a late annual special assessment, special assessment, or installment which shall not be less than five percent of the delinquent special assessment or installment.

The owner of any lot, tract, parcel of land, or other property charged with a special assessment may redeem it from all liability for the unpaid amount of the installments by paying, to the county treasurer, the remaining portion of the installments that is attributable to principal on the lake management district bonds. [1985 c 398 § 20.]

**36.61.210 Special assessments—Subdivision of land—Segregation of assessment.** Whenever any land against which there has been levied any special assessment or annual special assessments by any county has been sold in part, subdivided, or short subdivided, the county legislative authority may order a segregation of the special assessment or annual special assessments. If an installment has been made, the segregation shall apportion the remaining installments on the parts or lots created.

Any person desiring to have such a special assessment or annual special assessments against a tract of land segregated to apply to smaller parts thereof shall apply to the county legislative authority which levied the special assessment or annual special assessments. If the county legislative authority determines that a segregation should be made, it shall by resolution order the county treasurer to segregate the special assessment or annual special assessments on the original assessment roll as directed in the resolution. The segregation shall be made as nearly as possible on the same basis as the original special assessment or annual special assessments were levied, and the total of the segregated parts of the special assessment or annual special assessments shall equal the amount of the special assessment or annual special assessments unpaid before segregation. The resolution shall describe the original tract and the amount and date of the original special assessment or annual special assessments and

shall define the boundaries of the divided parts and the amount of the special assessment or annual special assessments chargeable to each part. A certified copy of the resolution shall be delivered to the county treasurer who shall proceed to segregate the special assessment or annual special assessments upon being tendered a fee of three dollars for each tract of land for which a segregation is to be made. In addition to such charge the county legislative authority may require as a condition to the order of segregation that the person seeking it pay the local government the reasonable engineering and clerical costs incident to making the segregation. [1985 c 398 § 21.]

**36.61.220 Special assessments—Filing with county treasurer.** Within fifteen days after a county creates a lake management district, the county shall cause to be filed with the county treasurer, a description of the lake improvement and maintenance activities proposed that the lake management district finances, the lake management district number, and a copy of the diagram or print showing the boundaries of the lake management district and preliminary special assessment roll or abstract of same showing thereon the lots, tracts, parcels of land, and other property that will be specially benefited thereby and the estimated cost and expense of such lake improvement and maintenance activities to be borne by each lot, tract, parcel of land, or other property. The treasurer shall immediately post the proposed special assessment roll upon his or her index of special assessments against the properties affected by the lake improvement or maintenance activities. [1985 c 398 § 22.]

**36.61.230 Special assessments—Lien created.** The special assessment or annual special assessments imposed upon the respective lots, tracts, parcels of land, and other property in the special assessment roll or annual special assessment roll confirmed by resolution of the county legislative authority for the purpose of paying the cost and expense in whole or in part of any lake improvement or maintenance activities shall be a lien upon the property assessed from the time the special assessment roll is placed in the hands of the county treasurer for collection, but as between the grantor and grantee, or vendor and vendee of any real property, when there is no express agreement as to payment of the special assessments against the real property, the lien of such special assessments shall attach thirty days after the filing of the diagram or print and the estimated cost and expense of such lake improvement or maintenance activities to be borne by each lot, tract, parcel of land, or other property, as provided in RCW 36.61.220. Interest and penalty shall be included in and shall be a part of the special assessment lien. No lien shall extend to public property subjected to special assessments.

The special assessment lien shall be paramount and superior to any other lien or encumbrance theretofore or thereafter created except a lien for general taxes. [1985 c 398 § 23.]

**36.61.240 Special assessments—Lien—Validity—Foreclosure.** Special assessments shall be valid and enforceable as such and the lien thereof on the property assessed shall be valid if the county legislative authority in

making the special assessments acted in good faith and without fraud. Delinquent special assessments or installments shall be foreclosed in the same manner as special assessments are foreclosed under chapter 36.94 RCW. Public property subject to special assessments shall not be subject to liens. [1985 c 398 § 24.]

**36.61.250 Special assessments—Legislative authority may stop.** The county legislative authority may stop the imposition of annual special assessments if, in its opinion, the public interest will be served by such action. [1985 c 398 § 25.]

**36.61.260 Bonds.** (1) Counties may issue lake management district bonds in accordance with this section. Lake management district bonds may be issued to obtain money sufficient to cover that portion of the special assessments that are not paid within the thirty-day period provided in RCW 36.61.190. The maximum term of lake management district bonds shall be ten years.

Whenever lake management district bonds are proposed to be issued, the county legislative authority shall create a special fund or funds for the lake management district from which all or a portion of the costs of the lake improvement and maintenance activities shall be paid. Lake management district bonds shall not be issued in excess of the costs and expenses of the lake improvement and maintenance activities and shall not be issued prior to twenty days after the thirty days allowed for the payment of special assessments without interest or penalties.

Lake management district bonds shall be exclusively payable from the special fund or funds and from a guaranty fund that the county may have created out of a portion of proceeds from the sale of the lake management district bonds.

(2) Lake management district bonds shall not constitute a general indebtedness of the county issuing the bond nor an obligation, general or special, of the state. The owner of any lake management district bond shall not have any claim for the payment thereof against the county that issues the bonds except for payment from the special assessments made for the lake improvement or maintenance activities for which the lake management district bond was issued and from a lake management district guaranty fund that may have been created. The county shall not be liable to the owner of any lake management district bond for any loss to the lake management district guaranty fund occurring in the lawful operation of the fund. The owner of a lake management district bond shall not have any claim against the state arising from the lake management district bond, special assessments, or guaranty fund. Tax revenues shall not be used to secure or guarantee the payment of the principal or interest on lake management district bonds.

The substance of the limitations included in this subsection shall be plainly printed, written, engraved, or reproduced on: (a) Each lake management district bond that is a physical instrument; (b) the official notice of sale; and (c) each official statement associated with the lake management district bonds.

(3) If the county fails to make any principal or interest payments on any lake management district bond or to

promptly collect any special assessment securing the bonds when due, the owner of the lake management district bond may obtain a writ of mandamus from any court of competent jurisdiction requiring the county to collect the special assessments, foreclose on the related lien, and make payments out of the special fund or guaranty fund if one exists. Any number of owners of lake management districts may join as plaintiffs.

(4) A county may create a lake management district bond guaranty fund for each issue of lake management district bonds. The guaranty fund shall only exist for the life of the lake management district bonds with which it is associated. A portion of the bond proceeds may be placed into a guaranty fund. Unused moneys remaining in the guaranty fund during the last two years of the installments shall be used to proportionally reduce the required level of installments and shall be transferred into the special fund into which installment payments are placed.

(5) Lake management district bonds shall be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. The authority to create a special fund or funds shall include the authority to create accounts within a fund. [1985 c 398 § 26.]

**36.61.270 Imposition of rates and charges.** Whenever rates and charges are to be imposed in a lake management district, the county legislative authority shall prepare a roll of rates and charges that includes those matters required to be included in a special assessment roll and shall hold a public hearing on the proposed roll of rates and charges as provided under RCW 36.61.120 through 36.61.150 for a special assessment roll. The county legislative authority shall have full jurisdiction and authority to fix, alter, regulate, and control the rates and charges imposed by a lake management district and may classify the rates or charges by any reasonable factor or factors, including benefit, use, front footage, acreage, the extent of improvements on the property, the type of improvements on the property, uses to which the property is put, service to be provided, and any other reasonable factor or factors. The flexibility to establish rates and charges includes the authority to reduce rates and charges on property owned by low-income persons.

Except as provided in this section, the collection of rates and charges, lien status of unpaid rates and charges, and method of foreclosing on such liens shall be subject to the provisions of chapter 36.94 RCW. Public property, including state property, shall be subject to the rates and charges to the same extent that private property is subject to them, except that liens may not be foreclosed on the public property, and the procedure for imposing such rates and charges on state property shall conform with the procedure provided for in chapter 79.44 RCW concerning the imposition of special assessments upon state property. The total amount of rates and charges cannot exceed the cost of lake improvement or maintenance activities proposed to be financed by such rates and charges, as specified in the resolution of intention. Revenue bonds exclusively payable from the rates and charges may be issued by the county under chapter 39.46 RCW. [1987 c 432 § 11.]

## Chapter 36.62

## HOSPITALS

## Sections

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**36.62.010 Authority to establish.** The legislative authority of any county may establish, provide, and maintain hospitals for the care and treatment of the indigent, sick, injured, or infirm, and for this purpose the county legislative authority may:

- (1) Purchase or lease real property or use lands already owned by the county;
- (2) Erect all necessary buildings, make all necessary improvements and repairs and alter any existing building for the use of said hospitals;
- (3) Use county moneys, levy taxes, and issue bonds as authorized by law, to raise a sufficient amount of money to cover the cost of procuring the site, constructing and operating hospitals, and for the maintenance thereof and all other necessary and proper expenses; and
- (4) Accept and hold in trust for the county any grant of land, gift or bequest of money, or any donation for the benefit of the purposes of this chapter, and apply the same in accordance with the terms of the gift. [1984 c 26 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.62.010. Prior: 1947 c 228 § 1, part; 1925 ex.s. c 174 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6090-1, part.]

**36.62.030 Hospital may be jointly owned and operated.** Any number of counties or any county and any city in which the county seat of the county is situated may contract one with the other for the joint purchase, acquisition,

ownership, control, and disposition of land and other property suitable as a site for a county hospital. [1963 c 4 § 36.62.030. Prior: 1947 c 228 § 1, part; 1925 ex.s. c 174 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6090-1, part.]

**36.62.040 Contract for joint hospital.** All contracts made in pursuance hereof shall be for such period of time and upon such terms and conditions as shall be agreed upon. The contract shall fully set forth the amount of money to be contributed by the county and city towards the acquisition of such site and the improvement thereof and the manner in which the property shall be improved and the character of the building or buildings to be erected thereon. It may provide for the amount of money to be contributed annually by the county and city for the upkeep and maintenance of the property and the building or buildings thereon, or it may provide for the relative proportion of such expense, which the county and city shall annually pay. The contract may specify the parts of such building or buildings which shall be set apart for the exclusive use and occupation of the county and city. The money to be contributed by the county or city may be raised by a sale of bonds of such county or city or by general taxation. Any such county or city now possessing funds or having funds available for a county or city hospital from a sale of bonds or otherwise may contract for the expenditure of such funds, as herein provided. Such contract shall be made only after a proper resolution or ordinance of the county legislative authority and ordinance of the city have been passed specifically authorizing it. The contract when made shall be binding upon the county and city during its existence or until it is modified or abrogated by mutual consent evidenced by appropriate legislation. A site with or without buildings may be contributed in lieu of money at a valuation to be agreed upon. [1984 c 26 § 2; 1963 c 4 § 36.62.040. Prior: (i) 1925 ex.s. c 174 § 2; RRS § 6090-2. (ii) 1947 c 228 § 1, part; 1925 ex.s. c 174 § 1, part; Rem. Supp. 1947 § 6090-1, part.]

**36.62.050 Petition to establish—Beds limited.** When it is proposed to establish such hospital, a petition shall be presented to the county legislative authority, signed by three hundred or more resident taxpayers of the county, requesting the county legislative authority to submit to the electors the proposition to issue bonds for the purpose of procuring a site, and erecting, equipping, and maintaining such hospital, and specifying the amount of bonds proposed to be issued for that purpose and the number of hospital beds. [1984 c 26 § 3; 1963 c 4 § 36.62.050. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 174 § 3; RRS § 6090-3.]

**36.62.060 Bond election.** Upon presentation of the petition, the county legislative authority may submit to the voters of the county at the next general election the question of issuing bonds and levying a tax for such hospital. [1984 c 26 § 4; 1963 c 4 § 36.62.060. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 174 § 4; RRS § 6090-4.]

**36.62.070 Issuance of bonds—Terms.** The bonds issued for such hospital shall not have maturities in excess of twenty years. Such bonds shall be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1984 c 186 § 26;

1984 c 26 § 5; 1983 c 167 § 72; 1970 ex.s. c 56 § 49; 1969 ex.s. c 232 § 26; 1963 c 4 § 36.62.070. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 174 § 5; RRS § 6090-5.]

**Purpose—1984 c 186:** See note following RCW 39.46.110.

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**Purpose—1970 ex.s. c 56:** See note following RCW 39.52.020.

**Validation—Saving—Severability—1969 ex.s. c 232:** See notes following RCW 39.52.020.

**36.62.090 Tax levy for maintenance.** If the hospital is established, the county legislative authority, at the time of levying general taxes, may levy a tax, not to exceed fifty cents per thousand dollars of assessed value in any one year, for the maintenance of the hospital. [1984 c 26 § 6; 1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 37; 1963 c 4 § 36.62.090. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 174 § 6; RRS § 6090-6.]

**Severability—Effective dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195:** See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

**36.62.100 Admission of patients—Liability for support.** Patients shall be admitted to such hospitals in accordance with policies to be proposed by the board of trustees and approved by the county legislative authority. The policies shall provide, within the resources available to the hospital, that admission of patients shall not be dependent upon their ability to pay. Whenever a patient has been admitted to the hospital and in accordance with rules established by the board of trustees, the hospital may determine the person's ability to pay for the care provided by the hospital, render billings for the care, and take necessary steps to obtain payment for the costs of the care from the person, from the person's estate, or from any persons or organizations legally liable for the person's support. [1984 c 26 § 7; 1963 c 4 § 36.62.100. Prior: 1945 c 62 § 1; 1925 ex.s. c 174 § 8; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6090-8.]

**36.62.110 Board of trustees—Membership.** Whenever any county, or any county and city jointly, or two or more counties jointly, establish a hospital for the care and treatment of the indigent, sick, injured, or infirm, under the provisions of this chapter, and such hospital is completed and ready for operation, the county legislative authority of the county in which the institution is located shall appoint thirteen persons as trustees for the institution. The thirteen trustees, together with the additional trustees required by RCW 36.62.130, if any, shall constitute a board of trustees for such hospital. [1984 c 26 § 8; 1967 ex.s. c 36 § 2; 1963 c 4 § 36.62.110. Prior: 1931 c 139 § 1, part; RRS § 6090-9, part.]

**Effective date—1967 ex.s. c 36:** See note following RCW 36.62.290.

**36.62.120 Board of trustees—Initial appointment—Terms of office.** The first members of the board of trustees of such institution shall be appointed by the county legislative authority within thirty days after the institution has been completed and is ready for operation. The county legislative authority appointing the initial members shall appoint three members for one-year terms, three members for two-year terms, three members for three-year terms, and four members for four-year terms, and until their successors are

appointed and qualified, and thereafter their successors shall be appointed for terms of four years and until their successors are appointed and qualified: PROVIDED, That the continuation of a member past the expiration date of the term shall not change the commencement date of the term of the succeeding member. Each term of the initial trustees shall be deemed to commence on the first day of August following the appointment but shall also include the period intervening between the appointment and the first day of August following the appointment.

For an institution which is already in existence on June 7, 1984, the county legislative authority shall appoint within thirty days of June 7, 1984, three additional members for one-year terms, two additional members for two-year terms, and two additional members for three-year terms, and until their successors are appointed and qualified, and thereafter their successors shall be appointed for terms of four years and until their successors are appointed and qualified: PROVIDED FURTHER, That the continuation of an additional member past the expiration date of the term shall not change the commencement date of the term of the succeeding member. Each term of the initial additional members shall be deemed to commence on the first day of August of the year of appointment but shall also include the period intervening between the appointment and the first day of August of the year of the appointment.

Upon expiration of the terms of current members, the successors to current members shall be appointed for four-year terms and until their successors are appointed and qualified: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That the continuation of a successor to a current member past the expiration date of the term shall not change the commencement date of the term of the succeeding member. Each term of the initial successors to current members shall be deemed to commence on the first day of August following the expiration of a current term but shall also include the period intervening between the appointment and the first day of August of the year of the appointment. [1984 c 26 § 9; 1963 c 4 § 36.62.120. Prior: (i) 1931 c 139 § 1, part; RRS § 6090-9, part. (ii) 1931 c 139 § 4, part; RRS § 6090-12, part.]

**36.62.130 Board of trustees—Additional trustees for joint hospital.** In case two or more counties establish a hospital jointly, the thirteen members of the board of trustees shall be chosen as provided from the county in which the institution is located and each county legislative authority of the other county or counties which contributed to the establishment of the hospital shall appoint two additional members of the board of trustees. The regular term of each of the two additional members shall be four years and until their successors are appointed and qualified. Such additional members shall be residents of the respective counties from which they are appointed and shall otherwise possess the same qualifications as other trustees. The first term of office of the persons first appointed as additional members shall be fixed by the county legislative authority of the county in which said hospital or institution is located, but shall not be for more than four years. [1984 c 26 § 10; 1963 c 4 § 36.62.130. Prior: 1931 c 139 § 1, part; RRS § 6090-9, part.]



**36.62.140 Board of trustees—Qualifications of trustees.** No person shall be eligible for appointment as a trustee who holds or has held during the period of two years immediately prior to appointment any salaried office or position in any office, department, or branch of the government which established or maintained the hospital. [1984 c 26 § 11; 1963 c 4 § 36.62.140. Prior: 1931 c 139 § 2; RRS § 6090-10.]

**36.62.150 Board of trustees—Removal of trustee—Procedure.** The county legislative authority which appointed a member of the board of trustees may remove the member for cause and in the manner provided in this section. Notice shall be provided by the county appointing authority to the trustee and the board of trustees generally. The notice shall set forth reasons which justify removal. The trustee shall be provided opportunity for a hearing before the county appointing authority: PROVIDED, That three consecutive unexcused absences from regular meetings of the board of trustees shall be deemed cause for removal of a trustee without hearing. Any trustee removed for a cause other than three consecutive unexcused absences may appeal the removal within twenty days of the order of removal by seeking a writ of review before the superior court pursuant to chapter 7.16 RCW. Removal shall disqualify the trustee from subsequent reappointment. [1984 c 26 § 12; 1963 c 4 § 36.62.150. Prior: 1933 c 174 § 1, part; 1931 c 139 § 3, part; RRS § 6090-11, part.]

**36.62.160 Board of trustees—Vacancies.** Any vacancy in the board of trustees shall be filled by appointment by the county legislative authority making the original appointment, and such appointee shall hold office for the remainder of the term of the trustee replaced. [1984 c 26 § 13; 1963 c 4 § 36.62.160. Prior: 1933 c 174 § 1, part; 1931 c 139 § 3, part; RRS § 6090-11, part.]

**36.62.170 Board of trustees—Quorum.** A majority of the trustees shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. [1984 c 26 § 14; 1963 c 4 § 36.62.170. Prior: 1931 c 139 § 4, part; RRS § 6090-12, part.]

**36.62.180 Board of trustees—Powers and duties.** The board of trustees shall:

(1) Have general supervision and care of such hospitals and institutions and the buildings and grounds thereof and power to do everything necessary to the proper maintenance and operation thereof within the limits of approved budgets and the appropriations authorized;

(2) Elect from among its members a president and vice president;

(3) Adopt bylaws and rules for its own guidance and for the government of the hospital;

(4) Prepare annually a budget covering both hospital operations and capital projects, in accordance with the provisions of applicable law, and file such budgets with the county treasurer or if the hospital has been established by more than one county, with the county treasurer of each county, and if a city has contributed to the establishment of the hospital, with the official of the city charged by law with the preparation of the city budget; and

(5) File with the legislative authority of each county and city contributing to the establishment of such hospital, at a time to be determined by the county legislative authority of the county in which the hospital is located, a report covering the proceedings of the board with reference to the hospital during the preceding twelve months and an annual financial report and statement. [1984 c 26 § 15; 1963 c 4 § 36.62.180. Prior: 1945 c 118 § 1, part; 1931 c 139 § 7, part; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6090-15, part.]

**36.62.190 Board of trustees—Authority to accept gifts and bequests.** The board of trustees may accept property by gift, devise, bequest, or otherwise for the use of such institution, except that acceptance of any interest in real property shall be by prior authorization by the county. [1984 c 26 § 16; 1963 c 4 § 36.62.190. Prior: (i) 1945 c 118 § 1, part; 1931 c 139 § 7, part; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6090-15, part. (ii) 1931 c 139 § 8; RRS § 6090-16.]

**36.62.200 Board of trustees—Trustees not compensated—Contract interest barred—Reimbursement for travel expenses.** No trustee shall receive any compensation or emolument whatever for services as trustee; nor shall any trustee have or acquire any personal interest in any lease or contract whatsoever, made by the county or board of trustees with respect to such hospital or institution: PROVIDED, That each member of a board of trustees of a county hospital may be reimbursed for travel expenses in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060 as now existing or hereafter amended: PROVIDED FURTHER, That, in addition, trustees of a county hospital shall be reimbursed for travel expenses for traveling from their home to a trustee meeting at a rate provided for in RCW 43.03.060 as now existing or hereafter amended. [1984 c 26 § 17; 1979 ex.s. c 17 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.62.200. Prior: 1931 c 139 § 5; RRS § 6090-13.]

**36.62.210 Superintendent—Appointment—Salary.** The board of trustees shall appoint a superintendent who shall be appointed for an indefinite time and be removable at the will of the board of trustees. Appointments and removals shall be by resolution, introduced at a regular meeting and adopted at a subsequent regular meeting by a majority vote. The superintendent shall receive such salary as the board of trustees shall fix by resolution. [1984 c 26 § 18; 1963 c 4 § 36.62.210. Prior: 1945 c 118 § 1, part; 1931 c 139 § 7, part; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6090-15, part.]

**36.62.230 Superintendent—Duties.** The superintendent shall be the chief executive officer of the hospital or institution and shall perform all administrative services necessary to the efficient and economical conduct of the hospital or institution and the admission and proper care of persons properly entitled to the services thereof as provided by law or by the rules and regulations of the board of trustees. [1984 c 26 § 19; 1963 c 4 § 36.62.230. Prior: 1931 c 139 § 9; RRS § 6090-17.]

**36.62.252 County hospital fund—Established—Purpose—Monthly report.** Every county which maintains a county hospital or infirmary shall establish a "county

hospital fund" into which fund shall be deposited all unrestricted moneys received from any source for hospital or infirmary services including money received for services to recipients of public assistance and other persons without income and resources sufficient to secure such services. The county may maintain other funds for restricted moneys. Obligations incurred by the hospital shall be paid from such funds by the county treasurer in the same manner as general county obligations are paid. The county treasurer shall furnish to the county legislative authority a monthly report of receipts and disbursements in the county hospital funds which report shall also show the balance of cash on hand. [1984 c 26 § 20; 1971 ex.s. c 277 § 1; 1967 ex.s. c 36 § 3; 1963 c 4 § 36.62.252. Prior: 1961 c 144 § 1; 1951 c 256 § 1.]

**Effective date—1967 ex.s. c 36:** See note following RCW 36.62.290.

**36.62.270 Supplementary budget.** In the event that additional funds are needed for the operation of a county hospital or infirmary, the county legislative authority shall have authority to adopt a supplemental budget. Such supplemental budget shall set forth the amount and sources of funds and the items of expenditure involved. [1984 c 26 § 21; 1971 ex.s. c 277 § 2; 1963 c 4 § 36.62.270. Prior: 1951 c 256 § 3.]

**36.62.290 Contracts between board of regents of state universities and hospital board of trustees for medical services and teaching and research activities.** Whenever any county, or any county and city jointly, or two or more counties jointly, establish a hospital under the provisions of this chapter, the board of trustees of the hospital is empowered, with the approval of the county legislative authority, to enter into a contract with the board of regents of a state university to provide hospital services, including management under the direction of a hospital administrator for the hospital, to provide for the rendering of medical services in connection with the hospital and to provide for the conduct of teaching and research activities by the university in connection with the hospital. Any such board of regents is empowered to enter into such a contract, to provide such hospital services, and to provide for the rendition of such medical services and for the carrying on of teaching and research in connection with such a hospital. If such a contract is entered into, the provisions of RCW 36.62.210 and 36.62.230 shall not be applicable during the term of the contract and all of the powers, duties and functions vested in the superintendent in this chapter shall be vested in the board of trustees. The board of trustees shall provide for such conditions and controls in the contract as it shall deem to be in the community interest. [1984 c 26 § 22; 1967 ex.s. c 36 § 1.]

**Effective date—1967 ex.s. c 36:** "This act shall take effect on July 1, 1967." [1967 ex.s. c 36 § 4.]

**36.62.300 Work ordered and materials purchased.** All work ordered and materials purchased by a hospital shall be subject to the requirements established in RCW 70.44.140 for public hospital districts. [1991 c 363 § 76.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

## Chapter 36.63

### JAILS

#### Sections

36.63.255 Transfer of convicted felon to state institution pending appeal.

*City and county jails act—Bond issue: Chapters 70.48 and 70.48A RCW. Use of strip and body cavity searches in correctional facilities: RCW 10.79.060 through 10.79.110.*

**36.63.255 Transfer of convicted felon to state institution pending appeal.** Any person imprisoned in a county jail pending the appeal of his conviction of a felony and who has not obtained bail bond pending his appeal shall be transferred after thirty days but within forty days from the date judgment was entered against him to a state institution for felons designated by the secretary of corrections: PROVIDED, That when good cause is shown, a superior court judge may order the prisoner detained in the county jail beyond said forty days for an additional period not to exceed ten days. [1981 c 136 § 60; 1969 ex.s. c 4 § 2; 1969 c 103 § 2.]

**Effective date—1981 c 136:** See RCW 72.09.900.

## Chapter 36.64

### JOINT GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

#### Sections

36.64.010 Joint courthouse and city hall.  
 36.64.020 Joint courthouse and city hall—Terms of contract.  
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 36.64.040 Joint courthouse and city hall—Funds, how provided.  
 36.64.050 Joint armory sites.  
 36.64.060 Joint canal construction.  
 36.64.070 Counties with populations of two hundred ten thousand or more—Contracts with cities concerning buildings and related improvements.  
 36.64.080 Conferences to study regional and governmental problems—Counties and cities may establish—Subjects—Recommendations.  
 36.64.090 Conferences to study regional and governmental problems—Articles—Officers—Agents and employees.  
 36.64.100 Conferences to study regional and governmental problems—Contracts with other governmental agencies—Grants and gifts—Consultants.  
 36.64.110 Conferences to study regional and governmental problems—Public purpose—Contributions to support by municipal corporations.

*Care, support, and relief of needy persons: RCW 74.04.040.*

*Cemetery facilities as: RCW 68.52.192, 68.52.193.*

#### Cities and towns

*agreements with county for planning, establishing, construction, and maintenance of streets: Chapter 35.77 RCW.*

*city may contribute to support of county in which city owned utility plant located: RCW 35.21.420.*

*urban renewal: RCW 35.21.660, 35.81.130.*

*Combined city-county health departments: Chapter 70.08 RCW.*

*County and city tuberculosis hospitals: Chapter 70.30 RCW.*

*County public works project, department of transportation cooperation: RCW 47.08.070.*

*County roads: RCW 47.04.080.*

*County superintendent of schools, consolidation of office into joint county district: Chapter 28A.310 RCW.*

*Diking and drainage, intercounty districts: Chapter 85.24 RCW.*

*Elevators, escalators, like conveyances, municipal governing over: RCW 70.87.050.*

*Executory conditional sales contracts for purchase of property for park and library purposes: RCW 39.30.010.*

*Fire protection districts, county contracts with: RCW 52.12.031.*

*Flood control*

*by counties jointly: Chapter 86.13 RCW.*

*county participation with flood control district: RCW 86.24.040.*

*county participation with state and federal governments: Chapter 86.24 RCW.*

*districts (1937 act): Chapter 86.09 RCW.*

*maintenance, county participation with state: Chapter 86.26 RCW.*

*Franchises across joint bridges: RCW 47.56.256.*

*Health districts as: Chapter 70.46 RCW.*

*Highways, construction, benefit of, cooperative agreements, prevention or minimization of flood damages: RCW 47.28.140.*

*Housing authorities, cooperation between: RCW 35.82.100.*

*Housing cooperation law: Chapter 35.83 RCW.*

*Intercounty rural library districts: Chapters 27.12, 27.14 RCW.*

*Intercounty weed districts: Chapter 17.06 RCW.*

*Intergovernmental disposition of property: RCW 39.33.010.*

*Interlocal cooperation act: Chapter 39.34 RCW.*

*Joint aid river and harbor improvements: RCW 88.32.230, 88.32.235.*

*Joint county teachers' institutes: Chapter 28A.415 RCW.*

*Joint hospitals: RCW 36.62.030.*

*Joint operations by political subdivisions, deposit and control of funds: RCW 43.09.285.*

*Joint planning for improvement of navigable stream: RCW 88.32.240, 88.32.250.*

*Limited access facilities, cooperative agreements: RCW 47.52.090.*

*Metropolitan municipal corporations: Chapter 35.58 RCW.*

*Mosquito control*

*districts: Chapter 17.28 RCW.*

*generally: Chapter 70.22 RCW.*

*Motor vehicles, removal of when disabled and impounding: RCW 46.55.113.*

*Municipal airports: Chapters 14.07 and 14.08 RCW.*

*Operating agencies (electricity, water resources): Chapter 43.52 RCW.*

*Pesticide application, agreements authorized: RCW 17.21.300.*

*Port districts*

*contracts with: RCW 53.08.240.*

*ownership of improvements by with county: RCW 53.20.030.*

*Public assistance, joint county administration: RCW 74.04.180.*

*Public health pooling fund: RCW 70.12.030 through 70.12.070.*

*Reclamation districts of one million acres: Chapter 89.30 RCW.*

*Regional libraries: Chapter 27.12 RCW.*

*Regional planning commission: RCW 35.63.070.*

*River and harbor improvements by counties jointly: RCW 88.32.180 through 88.32.220.*

*Roads and bridges, limited access facilities: Chapter 47.52 RCW.*

*Rural county library district local improvement districts: Chapter 27.14 RCW.*

*Soil and water conservation districts, county cooperation with: RCW 89.08.341.*

*Taxes, property*

*collection of: Chapter 84.56 RCW.*

*revaluation program: Chapter 84.41 RCW.*

*Toll bridges*

*state boundary, county participation: RCW 47.56.042.*

*tunnels and ferries: Chapter 47.56 RCW.*

*Traffic schools: Chapter 46.83 RCW.*

*Transfer of real property or contract for use for park and recreational purposes: RCW 39.33.060.*

*Washington clean air act: Chapter 70.94 RCW.*

*Water districts, county may contract with for joint use of facilities: RCW 57.08.045.*

*World fair or exposition participation: Chapter 35.60 RCW.*

**36.64.010 Joint courthouse and city hall.** If the county seat of a county is in an incorporated city, the county and city may contract, one with the other, for the joint purchase, acquisition, leasing, ownership, control, and disposition of land and other property suitable as a site for a county courthouse and city hall and for the joint construction, ownership, control, and disposition of a building or buildings thereon for the use by such county and city as a county courthouse and city hall. Any county or city owning a site or any interest therein, or a site with buildings thereon, may, upon such terms as appear fair and just to the board of county commissioners of such county and to the legislative body of such city, contract with reference to the joint ownership, acquisition, leasing, control, improvement, and occupation of such property. [1963 c 4 § 36.64.010. Prior: 1913 c 90 § 1; RRS § 3992.]

**36.64.020 Joint courthouse and city hall—Terms of contract.** A contract made in pursuance of RCW 36.64.010 shall fully set forth the amount of money to be contributed by each towards acquisition of the site and the improvement thereof and the manner in which such property shall be improved and the character of the building or buildings to be erected thereon. The contract may provide for the amount of money to be contributed annually by each for the upkeep and maintenance of the property and the building or buildings thereon, or it may provide for the relative proportion of such expense which such county and city shall annually pay. The contract shall specify the parts of such building or buildings which shall be set apart for the exclusive use and occupation of each. [1963 c 4 § 36.64.020. Prior: 1913 c 90 § 2; RRS § 3993.]

**36.64.030 Joint courthouse and city hall—Approval of contract.** The contract between a county and a city shall be made only after a proper resolution of the board of county commissioners of the county and a proper ordinance of the city have been passed specifically authorizing it. The contract shall be binding upon the county and the city during the term thereof, or until it is modified or abrogated by mutual consent evidenced by a proper resolution and ordinance of the county and city. [1963 c 4 § 36.64.030. Prior: 1913 c 90 § 4; RRS § 3995.]

**36.64.040 Joint courthouse and city hall—Funds, how provided.** The money to be contributed by a county or a city or both may be raised by a sale of its bonds, or by general taxation. Any county or city possessing funds or having funds available for a county courthouse or city hall from the sale of bonds or otherwise, may contract for the expenditure of such funds. [1963 c 4 § 36.64.040. Prior: 1913 c 90 § 3; RRS § 3994.]

**36.64.050 Joint armory sites.** Any city or county in the state may expend money from its current expense funds in payment in whole or in part for an armory site whenever the legislature has authorized the construction of an armory within such city or county. [1963 c 4 § 36.64.050. Prior: 1913 c 91 § 1; RRS § 3996.]

**36.64.060 Joint canal construction.** Whenever the county legislative authority of a county with a population of one hundred twenty-five thousand or more deems it for the interest of the county to construct or to aid the United States in constructing a canal to connect any bodies of water within the county, such county may construct such canal or aid the United States in constructing it and incur indebtedness for such purpose to an amount not exceeding five hundred thousand dollars and issue its negotiable bonds therefor in the manner and form provided in RCW 36.67.010. Such construction or aid in construction is a county purpose. [1991 c 363 § 77; 1985 c 7 § 105; 1983 c 3 § 78; 1963 c 4 § 36.64.060. Prior: (i) 1907 c 158 § 1; RRS § 9664. (ii) 1907 c 158 § 2; RRS § 9665.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.64.070 Counties with populations of two hundred ten thousand or more—Contracts with cities concerning buildings and related improvements.** Any county with a population of two hundred ten thousand or more may contract with any city or cities within such county for the financing, erection, ownership, use, lease, operation, control or maintenance of any building or buildings, including open spaces, off-street parking facilities for the use of county and city employees and persons doing business with such county or city, plazas and other improvements incident thereto, for county or city, or combined county-city, or other public use. Property for such buildings and related improvements may be acquired by either such county or city or by both by lease, purchase, donation, exchange, and/or gift or by eminent domain in the manner provided by law for the exercise of such power by counties and cities respectively and any property acquired hereunder, together with the improvements thereon, may be sold, exchanged or leased, as the interests of said county, city or cities may from time to time require. [1991 c 363 § 78; 1965 c 24 § 1.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.64.080 Conferences to study regional and governmental problems—Counties and cities may establish—Subjects—Recommendations.** The boards of county commissioners of any county and any counties contiguous thereto and the governing body of any cities and/or towns within said counties may establish and organize a regional agency hereinafter referred to as a conference, for the purpose of studying regional and governmental problems of mutual interest and concern, including but not limited to, facility studies on highways, transit, airports, ports or harbor development, water supply and distribution, codes and ordinances, governmental finances, flood control, air and water pollution, recommendations of sites for schools and educational institutions, hospitals and health facilities, parks and recreation, public buildings, land use and drainage; and to formulate recommendations for review and action by the member counties and/or cities legislative body. [1965 ex.s. c 84 § 1.]

*Youth agencies, joint establishment: RCW 35.21.630.*

**36.64.090 Conferences to study regional and governmental problems—Articles—Officers—Agents and employees.** The governing bodies of the counties and cities so associated in a conference shall adopt articles of association and bylaws, select a chairman and such other officers as they may determine, and may employ and discharge such agents and employees as the officers deem convenient to carry out the purposes of the conference. [1965 ex.s. c 84 § 2.]

**36.64.100 Conferences to study regional and governmental problems—Contracts with other governmental agencies—Grants and gifts—Consultants.** The conference is authorized to contract generally and to enter into any contract with the federal government, the state, any municipal corporation and/or other governmental agency for the purpose of conducting the study of regional problems of mutual concern, and shall have the power to receive grants and gifts in furtherance of the program. The conference may retain consultants if deemed advisable. [1965 ex.s. c 84 § 3.]

**36.64.110 Conferences to study regional and governmental problems—Public purpose—Contributions to support by municipal corporations.** The formation of the conference is hereby declared to be a public purpose, and any municipal corporation may contribute to the expenses of such conference pursuant to the budgetary laws of the municipal corporations and such bylaws as may be adopted by the conference: PROVIDED, That services and facilities may be provided by a municipal corporation in lieu of assessment. [1965 ex.s. c 84 § 4.]

## Chapter 36.65

### COMBINED CITY AND COUNTY MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS

#### Sections

36.65.010	Intent.
36.65.020	School districts to be retained as separate political subdivisions.
36.65.030	Tax on net income prohibited.
36.65.040	Method of allocating state revenues.
36.65.050	Fire protection or law enforcement units—Binding arbitration in collective bargaining.
36.65.060	Public employee retirement or disability benefits not affected.

**36.65.010 Intent.** It is the intent of the legislature in enacting this chapter to provide for the implementation and clarification of Article XI, section 16 of the state Constitution, which authorizes the formation of combined city and county municipal corporations.

"City-county," as used in this chapter, means a combined city and county municipal corporation under Article XI, section 16 of the state Constitution. [1984 c 91 § 1.]

**36.65.020 School districts to be retained as separate political subdivisions.** Recognizing the paramount duty of the state to provide for the common schools under Article IX, sections 1 and 2 of the state Constitution, school districts

shall be retained as separate political subdivisions within the city-county. [1984 c 91 § 2.]

**36.65.030 Tax on net income prohibited.** A county, city, or city-county shall not levy a tax on net income. [1984 c 91 § 3.]

**36.65.040 Method of allocating state revenues.** The method of allocating state revenues shall not be modified for a period of one year from the date the initial officers of the city-county assume office. During the one-year period, state revenue shares shall be calculated as if the preexisting county, cities, and special purpose districts had continued as separate entities. However, distributions of the revenue to the consolidated entities shall be made to the city-county. [1984 c 91 § 4.]

**36.65.050 Fire protection or law enforcement units—Binding arbitration in collective bargaining.** If the city-county government includes a fire protection or law enforcement unit that was, prior to the formation of the city-county, governed by a state statute providing for binding arbitration in collective bargaining, then the entire fire protection or law enforcement unit of the city-county shall be governed by that statute. [1984 c 91 § 5.]

**36.65.060 Public employee retirement or disability benefits not affected.** The formation of a city-county shall not have the effect of reducing, restricting, or limiting retirement or disability benefits of any person employed by or retired from a municipal corporation, or who had a vested right in any state or local retirement system, prior to the formation of the city-county. [1984 c 91 § 6.]

**Chapter 36.67**

**LIMITATION OF INDEBTEDNESS—COUNTY BONDS**

Sections

- 36.67.010 Authority to contract indebtedness—Limitations.
- 36.67.060 Bond retirement.
- 36.67.070 Payment of interest.

**REVENUE BONDS**

- 36.67.500 "This chapter" means RCW 36.67.510 through 36.67.570.
- 36.67.510 Revenue bonds authorized.
- 36.67.520 When issued—Amounts—Purposes—Costs and expenses.
- 36.67.530 Form—Terms—Interest—Execution and signatures.
- 36.67.540 Special funds, creation and use—Use of tax revenue prohibited—Bonds are negotiable instruments—Statement on face—Remedy for failure to set aside revenue.
- 36.67.550 Covenants—Law and resolutions constitute contract with holders—Remedies.
- 36.67.560 Funding and refunding.
- 36.67.570 Liberal construction—Effect of other acts.

*Airport purposes, bonds for:* Chapter 14.08 RCW.

*Bond elections, vote required:* Chapter 39.40 RCW.

*Bonds*

*as security for city depository:* RCW 35.38.040.  
*form, sale, terms of sale, payment, etc.:* Chapter 39.44 RCW.  
*sale to federal government at private sale:* Chapter 39.48 RCW.

*Funding indebtedness in counties:* Chapter 39.52 RCW.

*Housing authority act, bonds issued under:* Chapter 35.82 RCW.

*Industrial development revenue bonds:* Chapter 39.84 RCW.

*Juvenile detention facilities, bonds for:* Chapter 13.16 RCW.

*Limitation of indebtedness of taxing districts (counties):* Chapter 39.36 RCW.

*Public obligations as insurance investment:* RCW 48.13.040.

*State funds, investment in county bonds authorized:* RCW 43.84.080.

*Validation of bonds and financing proceedings:* Chapter 39.90 RCW.

**36.67.010 Authority to contract indebtedness—Limitations.** A county may contract indebtedness for general county purposes subject to the limitations on indebtedness provided for in RCW 39.36.020(2). Bonds evidencing such indebtedness shall be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1984 c 186 § 27; 1971 c 76 § 1; 1970 ex.s. c 42 § 17; 1963 c 4 § 36.67.010. Prior: 1890 p 37 § 1; RRS § 5575.]

**Purpose—1984 c 186:** See note following RCW 39.46.110.

**36.67.060 Bond retirement.** Bonds issued under this chapter shall be retired by an annual tax levy and by any other moneys lawfully available and pledged therefor. [1984 c 186 § 28; 1983 c 167 § 77; 1975 1st ex.s. c 188 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.67.060. Prior: (i) 1890 p 39 § 6; RRS § 5580. (ii) 1890 p 39 § 7; RRS § 5581.]

**Purpose—1984 c 186:** See note following RCW 39.46.110.

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**Severability—1975 1st ex.s. c 188:** See RCW 36.94.921.

**36.67.070 Payment of interest.** Any coupons for the payment of interest on the bonds shall be considered for all purposes as warrants drawn upon the current expense fund of the county issuing bonds, and if when presented to the treasurer of the county no funds are in the treasury to pay them, the treasurer shall indorse the coupons as presented for payment, in the same manner as county warrants are indorsed, and thereafter they shall bear interest at the same rate as county warrants presented and unpaid. If there are no funds in the treasury to make payment on a bond not having coupons, the interest payment shall continue bearing interest at the bond rate until it is paid, unless otherwise provided in the proceedings authorizing the sale of the bonds. [1983 c 167 § 78; 1963 c 4 § 36.67.070. Prior: 1890 p 39 § 8; RRS § 5582.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**REVENUE BONDS**

**36.67.500 "This chapter" means RCW 36.67.510 through 36.67.570.** As used in RCW 36.67.500 through 36.67.570 "this chapter" means RCW 36.67.510 through 36.67.570. [1965 c 142 § 8.]

**36.67.510 Revenue bonds authorized.** The county legislative authority of any county is hereby authorized for the purpose of carrying out the lawful powers granted to the counties by the laws of the state to contract indebtedness and to issue revenue bonds evidencing such indebtedness in conformity with this chapter. Such bonds may be issued and

sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1983 c 167 § 79; 1965 c 142 § 1.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**36.67.520 When issued—Amounts—Purposes—Costs and expenses.** All such revenue bonds authorized under the terms of this chapter may be issued and sold by the counties from time to time and in such amounts as is deemed necessary by the legislative authority of each county to provide sufficient funds for the carrying out of all county powers, without limiting the generality thereof, including the following: Acquisition; construction; reconstruction; maintenance; repair; additions; operations of parks and recreations; flood control facilities; pollution facilities; parking facilities as a part of a courthouse or combined county-city building facility; and any other county purpose from which revenues can be derived. Included in the costs thereof shall be any necessary engineering, inspection, accounting, fiscal, and legal expenses, the cost of issuance of bonds, including printing, engraving, and advertising and other similar expenses, payment of interest on such bonds during the construction of such facilities and a period no greater than one year after such construction is completed, and the proceeds of such bond issue are hereby made available for all such purposes. Revenue bonds may also be issued to refund revenue bonds or general obligation bonds which are issued for any of the purposes specified in this section. [1981 c 313 § 12; 1969 ex.s. c 8 § 2; 1965 c 142 § 2.]

**Severability—1981 c 313:** See note following RCW 36.94.020.

*Parking facilities as part of courthouse or county-city building:* RCW 36.01.080.

**36.67.530 Form—Terms—Interest—Execution and signatures.** (1) When revenue bonds are issued for authorized purposes, said bonds shall be either registered as to principal only or as to principal and interest as provided in RCW 39.46.030, or shall be bearer bonds; shall be in such denominations, shall be numbered, shall bear such date, shall be payable at such time or times up to a maximum period of not to exceed thirty years and payable at the office of the county treasurer, and such other places as determined by the county legislative authority of the county; shall bear interest payable and evidenced to maturity on bonds not registered as to interest by coupons attached to said bonds bearing a coupon interest rate or rates as authorized by the county legislative authority; shall be executed by the chairman of the county legislative authority, and attested by the clerk of the legislative authority, and the seal of such legislative authority shall be affixed to each bond, but not to any coupon; and may have facsimile signatures of the chairman and the clerk imprinted on each bond and any interest coupons in lieu of original signatures and the facsimile seal imprinted on each bond.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, such bonds may be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1983 c 167 § 80; 1981 c 313 § 13; 1970 ex.s. c 56 § 50; 1969 ex.s. c 232 § 27; 1965 c 142 § 3.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**Severability—1981 c 313:** See note following RCW 36.94.020.

**Purpose—1970 ex.s. c 56:** See note following RCW 39.52.020.

**Validation—Saving—Severability—1969 ex.s. c 232:** See notes following RCW 39.52.020.

**36.67.540 Special funds, creation and use—Use of tax revenue prohibited—Bonds are negotiable instruments—Statement on face—Remedy for failure to set aside revenue.** Bonds issued under the provisions of this chapter shall be payable solely out of the operating revenues of the county. Such bonds shall be authorized by resolution adopted by the county legislative authority, which resolution shall create a special fund or funds into which the county legislative authority may obligate and bind the county to set aside and pay any part or parts of, or all of, or a fixed proportion of, or fixed amounts of gross revenue received by the county from moneys for services or activities as stated in the resolution, for the purpose of paying the principal of and interest on such bonds as the same shall become due, and if deemed necessary to maintain adequate reserves therefor. Such fund or funds shall be drawn upon solely for the purpose of paying the principal and interest upon the bonds issued pursuant to this chapter.

The bonds shall be negotiable instruments within the provision and intent of the negotiable instruments law of this state, even though they shall be payable solely from such special fund or funds, and the tax revenue of the county may not be used to pay, secure, or guarantee the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds. The bonds and any coupons attached thereto shall state upon their face that they are payable solely from such special fund or funds. If the county fails to set aside and pay into such fund or funds, the payments provided for in such resolution, the owner of any such bonds may bring suit to compel compliance with the provisions of the resolution. [1983 c 167 § 81; 1965 c 142 § 4.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**36.67.550 Covenants—Law and resolutions constitute contract with holders—Remedies.** The board of county commissioners may provide covenants as it may deem necessary to secure the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds and may, but shall not be required to, include covenants to create a reserve fund or account and to authorize the payment or deposit of certain moneys therein for the purpose of securing the payment of such principal and interest; to establish, maintain, and collect rates, charges, fees, rentals, and the like on the facilities and service the income of which is pledged for the payment of such bonds, sufficient to pay or secure the payment of such principal and interest and to maintain an adequate coverage over annual debt service; and to make any and all other covenants not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter which will increase the marketability of such bonds. The board may also provide that revenue bonds payable out of the same source or sources may later be sold on a parity with any revenue bonds being issued and sold. The provisions of this chapter and any resolution or resolutions providing for the authorization, issuance, and sale of such bonds shall constitute a contract with the holder of such bonds, and the provisions thereof shall be enforceable by any owner or holder of such bonds by mandamus or any appropriate suit,

action or proceeding at law or in equity in any court of competent jurisdiction. [1965 c 142 § 5.]

**36.67.560 Funding and refunding.** (1) The county legislative authority of any county may by resolution, from time to time, provide for the issuance of funding or refunding revenue bonds to fund or refund any outstanding revenue bonds and any interest and premiums due thereon at or before the maturity of such bonds, and parts or all of various series and issues of outstanding revenue bonds in the amount thereof to be funded or refunded. Such bonds may be in any form, including bearer bonds or registered bonds as provided in RCW 39.46.030.

The county legislative authority shall create a special fund for the sole purpose of paying the principal of and interest on such funding or refunding revenue bonds, into which fund the legislative authority shall obligate and bind the county to set aside and pay any part or parts of, or all of, or a fixed proportion of, or a fixed amount of the revenue of the facility of the county sufficient to pay such principal and interest as the same shall become due, and if deemed necessary to maintain adequate reserves therefor.

Such funding or refunding bonds shall be negotiable instruments within the provisions and intent of the negotiable instruments law of this state, and the tax revenue of the county may not be used to pay, secure, or guarantee the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds.

The county may exchange such funding or refunding bonds for the bonds, and any coupons being funded or refunded, or it may sell such funding or refunding bonds in the manner, at such price and at such rate or rates of interest as the legislative authority shall deem to be for the best interest of the county and its inhabitants, either at public or private sale.

The provisions of this chapter relating to the terms, conditions, covenants, issuance, and sale of revenue bonds shall be applicable to such funding or refunding bonds except as may be otherwise specifically provided in this section.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, such bonds may be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1983 c 167 § 82; 1970 ex.s. c 56 § 51; 1969 ex.s. c 232 § 28; 1965 c 142 § 6.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**Purpose—1970 ex.s. c 56:** See note following RCW 39.52.020.

**Validation—Saving—Severability—1969 ex.s. c 232:** See notes following RCW 39.52.020.

**36.67.570 Liberal construction—Effect of other acts.** This chapter shall be complete authority for the issuance of the revenue bonds hereby authorized, and shall be liberally construed to accomplish its purposes. Any restrictions, limitations or regulations relative to the issuance of such revenue bonds contained in any other act shall not apply to the bonds issued under this chapter. Any act inconsistent herewith shall be deemed modified to conform with the provisions of this chapter for the purpose of this chapter only. [1965 c 142 § 7.]

## Chapter 36.68

### PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

#### Sections

- 36.68.010 Counties may establish park and playground systems—Disposition of surplus park property.
- 36.68.020 Programs of public recreation.
- 36.68.030 Park and recreation board—Composition.
- 36.68.040 Park and recreation board—Terms of members.
- 36.68.050 Park and recreation board—Removal of members—Vacancies.
- 36.68.060 Park and recreation board—Powers and duties.
- 36.68.070 Park and recreation fund.
- 36.68.080 Penalty for violations of regulations.
- 36.68.090 Counties authorized to build, improve, operate and maintain, etc., parks, playgrounds, gymnasiums, swimming pools, beaches, stadiums, golf courses, etc., and other recreational facilities—Regulation—Charges for use.
- 36.68.100 Moorage facilities—Regulations authorized—Port charges, delinquency—Abandoned vessels, public sale.
- 36.68.110 Counties authorized to permit public libraries on land used for park and recreation purposes.

#### PARK AND RECREATION SERVICE AREAS

- 36.68.400 Creation authorized—Purposes—Taxing districts—Powers.
  - 36.68.410 May be initiated by resolution or petition.
  - 36.68.420 Resolution or petition—Contents.
  - 36.68.430 Petitions—Verification of signatures.
  - 36.68.440 Feasibility and cost studies—Public hearing—Notice.
  - 36.68.450 Hearing procedure—Inclusion of property—Examination of reports—Recess.
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  - 36.68.470 Resolution ordering election—Election procedure—Formation.
  - 36.68.480 Property tax levies or bond retirement levies—Election.
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  - 36.68.500 Resolution declaring formation—Treasurer—Disbursement procedure.
  - 36.68.510 Local service area fund.
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  - 36.68.525 Six-year regular property tax levies—Limitations—Election.
  - 36.68.530 Budgets—Appropriations—Accumulation of reserves.
  - 36.68.541 Employees.
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  - 36.68.580 Ownership of parks and facilities—Expenditure of funds budgeted for park purposes.
  - 36.68.590 Purpose—Level of services—General park programs.
  - 36.68.600 Use of park and recreation service area funds in exercise of powers enumerated in chapter 67.20 RCW.
  - 36.68.610 Area which may be included—Inclusion of area within city or town—Procedure.
  - 36.68.620 Enlargement by inclusion of additional area—Procedure.
- Acquisition of interests in land for conservation, protection, preservation, or open space purposes by counties: RCW 64.04.130.*
- Contracts with community service organizations for public improvements: RCW 35.21.278.*
- Executory conditional sales contracts for purchase of property for park and library purposes: RCW 39.30.010.*
- Outdoor recreation land acquisition or improvement under marine recreation land act: Chapter 43.99 RCW.*
- Parks, bathing beaches, public camps, county may acquire and operate: Chapter 67.20 RCW.*
- RCW 39.33.060 to govern on sales by water district for park and recreational purposes: RCW 57.08.140.*
- State parks and recreation commission: Chapter 43.51 RCW.*
- Transfer of real property or contract for use for park and recreational purposes: RCW 39.33.060.*



**36.68.010 Counties may establish park and playground systems—Disposition of surplus park property.** Counties may establish park and playground systems for public recreational purposes and for such purposes shall have the power to acquire lands, buildings and other facilities by gift, purchase, lease, devise, bequest and condemnation. A county may lease or sell any park property, buildings or facilities surplus to its needs, or no longer suitable for park purposes: PROVIDED, That such park property shall be subject to the requirements and provisions of notice, hearing, bid or intergovernmental transfer as provided in chapter 36.34 RCW: PROVIDED FURTHER, That nothing in this section shall be construed as authorizing any county to sell any property which such county acquired by condemnation for park or playground or other public recreational purposes on or after January 1, 1960, until held for five years or more after such acquisition: PROVIDED FURTHER, That funds acquired from the lease or sale of any park property, buildings or facilities shall be placed in the park and recreation fund to be used for capital purposes. [1963 c 4 § 36.68.010. Prior: 1961 c 92 § 1; 1949 c 94 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 3991-14.]

**36.68.020 Programs of public recreation.** Counties may conduct programs of public recreation, and in any such program property or facilities owned by any individual, group or organization, whether public or private, may be utilized by consent of the owner. [1963 c 4 § 36.68.020. Prior: 1949 c 94 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 3991-15.]

**36.68.030 Park and recreation board—Composition.** Each county may form a county park and recreation board composed of seven members, who shall be appointed by the board of county commissioners to serve without compensation. [1969 ex.s. c 176 § 93; 1963 c 4 § 36.68.030. Prior: 1949 c 94 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 3991-16.]

**36.68.040 Park and recreation board—Terms of members.** For the appointive positions on the county park and recreation board the initial terms shall be two years for two positions, four years for two positions, and six years for the remaining positions plus the period in each instance to the next following June 30th; thereafter the term for each appointive position shall be six years and shall end on June 30th. [1969 ex.s. c 176 § 94; 1963 c 4 § 36.68.040. Prior: 1949 c 94 § 4; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 3991-17.]

**36.68.050 Park and recreation board—Removal of members—Vacancies.** Any appointed county park and recreation board member may be removed by a majority vote of the board of county commissioners either for cause or upon the joint written recommendation of five members of the county park and recreation board. Vacancies on the county park and recreation board shall be filled by appointment, made by the board of county commissioners for the unexpired portions of the terms vacated. [1963 c 4 § 36.68.050. Prior: 1949 c 94 § 5; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 3991-18.]

**36.68.060 Park and recreation board—Powers and duties.** The county park and recreation board:

(1) Shall elect its officers, including a chairman, vice chairman and secretary, and such other officers as it may determine it requires.

(2) Shall hold regular public meetings at least monthly.

(3) Shall adopt rules for transaction of business and shall keep a written record of its meetings, resolutions, transactions, findings and determinations, which record shall be a public record.

(4) Shall initiate, direct, and administer county recreational activities, and shall select and employ a county park and recreation superintendent and such other properly qualified employees as it may deem desirable.

(5) Shall improve, operate, and maintain parks, playgrounds, and other recreational facilities, together with all structures and equipment useful in connection therewith, and may recommend to the board of county commissioners acquisition of real property.

(6) Shall promulgate and enforce reasonable rules and regulations deemed necessary in the operation of parks, playgrounds, and other recreational facilities, and may recommend to the board of county commissioners adoption of any rules or regulations requiring enforcement by legal process which relate to parks, playgrounds, or other recreational facilities.

(7) Shall each year submit to the board of county commissioners for approval a proposed budget for the following year in the manner provided by law for the preparation and submission of budgets by elective or appointive county officials.

(8) May, subject to the approval of the board of county commissioners, enter into contracts with any other municipal corporation, governmental or private agency for the conduct of park and recreational programs. [1963 c 4 § 36.68.060. Prior: 1949 c 94 § 6; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 3991-19.]

**36.68.070 Park and recreation fund.** In counties in which county park and recreation boards are formed, a county park and recreation fund shall be established. Into this fund shall be placed the allocation as the board of county commissioners annually appropriates thereto, together with miscellaneous revenues derived from the operation of parks, playgrounds, and other recreational facilities, as well as grants, gifts, and bequests for park or recreational purposes. All expenditures shall be disbursed from this fund by the county park and recreation board, and all balances remaining in this fund at the end of any year shall be carried over in such fund to the succeeding year. [1963 c 4 § 36.68.070. Prior: 1949 c 94 § 7; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 3991-20.]

**36.68.080 Penalty for violations of regulations.** Any person violating any rules or regulations adopted by the board of county commissioners relating to parks, playgrounds, or other recreational facilities shall be guilty of a misdemeanor: PROVIDED, That violation of a rule or regulation relating to traffic including parking, standing, stopping, and pedestrian offenses is a traffic infraction, except that violation of a rule or regulation equivalent to those provisions of Title 46 RCW set forth in RCW 46.63.020 remains a misdemeanor. [1979 ex.s. c 136 § 36; 1963 c 4 § 36.68.080. Prior: 1949 c 94 § 8; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 3991-21.]

**Effective date—Severability—1979 ex.s. c 136:** See notes following RCW 46.63.010.

**36.68.090 Counties authorized to build, improve, operate and maintain, etc., parks, playgrounds, gymnasiums, swimming pools, beaches, stadiums, golf courses, etc., and other recreational facilities—Regulation—Charges for use.** Any county, acting through its board of county commissioners, is empowered to build, construct, care for, control, supervise, improve, operate and maintain parks, playgrounds, gymnasiums, swimming pools, field houses, bathing beaches, stadiums, golf courses, automobile race tracks and drag strips, coliseums for the display of spectator sports, public campgrounds, boat ramps and launching sites, public hunting and fishing areas, arboretums, bicycle and bridle paths, and other recreational facilities, and to that end may make, promulgate and enforce such rules and regulations regarding the use thereof, and make such charges for the use thereof, as may be deemed by said board to be reasonable. [1967 ex.s. c 144 § 11.]

**Severability—1967 ex.s. c 144:** See note following RCW 36.900.030.

*Authority to establish park and playground systems:* RCW 36.68.010.

*Stadiums, powers of cities and counties to acquire and operate:* Chapter 67.28 RCW.

**36.68.100 Moorage facilities—Regulations authorized—Port charges, delinquency—Abandoned vessels, public sale.** See RCW 53.08.310 and 53.08.320.

**36.68.110 Counties authorized to permit public libraries on land used for park and recreation purposes.** A county, acting through its county legislative authority, is authorized to permit the location of public libraries on land owned by the county that is used for park and recreation purposes, unless a covenant or other binding restriction precludes such uses. [1993 c 84 § 1.]

## PARK AND RECREATION SERVICE AREAS

**36.68.400 Creation authorized—Purposes—Taxing districts—Powers.** Any county shall have the power to create park and recreation service areas for the purpose of financing, acquiring, constructing, improving, maintaining, or operating any park, senior citizen activities centers, zoos, aquariums, and recreational facilities as defined in RCW 36.69.010 which shall be owned or leased by the county and administered as other county parks or shall be owned or leased and administered by a city or town or shall be owned or leased and administered by the park and recreation service area. A park and recreation service area may purchase athletic equipment and supplies, and provide for the upkeep of park buildings, grounds and facilities, and provide custodial, recreational and park program personnel at any park or recreational facility owned or leased by the service area or a county, city, or town. A park and recreation service area shall be a quasi-municipal corporation, an independent taxing "authority" within the meaning of section 1, Article 7 of the Constitution, and a "taxing district" within the meaning of section 2, Article 7 of the Constitution.

A park and recreation service area shall constitute a body corporate and shall possess all the usual powers of a corporation for public purposes including, but not limited to, the authority to hire employees, staff, and services, to enter into contracts, to accept and expend or use gifts, grants, and donations, and to sue and be sued as well as all other powers that may now or hereafter be specifically conferred by statute.

The members of the county legislative authority, acting ex officio and independently, shall compose the governing body of any park and recreation service area which is created within the county: **PROVIDED,** That where a park and recreation service area includes an incorporated city or town within the county, the park and recreation service area may be governed as provided in an interlocal agreement adopted pursuant to chapter 39.34 RCW. The voters of a park and recreation service area shall be all registered voters residing within the service area.

A multicounty park and recreation service area shall be governed as provided in an interlocal agreement adopted pursuant to chapter 39.34 RCW. [1988 c 82 § 1; 1985 c 253 § 1; 1981 c 210 § 1; 1965 ex.s. c 76 § 1; 1963 c 218 § 1.]

**Severability—1981 c 210:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1981 c 210 § 21.]

*Contracts with community service organizations for public improvements:* RCW 35.21.278.

*Dissolution of inactive special purpose districts:* Chapter 36.96 RCW.

*May acquire property for park, recreational, viewpoint, greenbelt, conservation, historic, scenic, or view purposes:* RCW 36.34.340.

*Parks, county commissioners may designate name of:* RCW 36.32.430.

**36.68.410 May be initiated by resolution or petition.** Park and recreation service areas may be initiated in any unincorporated area of any county by resolution adopted by the county legislative authority or by a petition signed by ten percent of the registered voters within the proposed park and recreation service area. Incorporated areas may be included under RCW 36.68.610 and 36.68.620. [1981 c 210 § 2; 1965 ex.s. c 76 § 2; 1963 c 218 § 2.]

**Severability—1981 c 210:** See note following RCW 36.68.400.

**36.68.420 Resolution or petition—Contents.** Any resolution or petition initiating a proposed park and recreation service area shall set forth the boundaries of the service area with certainty, describe the purpose or purposes for which the service area is to be formed, and contain an estimate of the initial cost of any capital improvements or services to be authorized in the service area.

"Initial costs" as used herein shall include the estimated cost during the first year of operation of:

- (1) Land to be acquired or leased for neighborhood park purposes by the service area to establish a park or park facility specified in the resolution or petition;
- (2) Capital improvements specified in the objectives or purposes of the service area;
- (3) Forming the service area; and
- (4) Personnel, maintenance or operation of any park facility within the service area as specified by the resolution or petition. [1981 c 210 § 3; 1963 c 218 § 3.]

**Severability—1981 c 210:** See note following RCW 36.68.400.

**36.68.430 Petitions—Verification of signatures.** Petitions shall be submitted to the county auditor who shall verify the signatures thereon to determine that the petition has been signed by the requisite number of persons who are registered voters within the proposed service area. If the petition is found not to have the requisite number of signatures, it shall be returned to the petitioners. If the petition is found to be sufficient, the auditor shall so certify and transmit the same to the board of county commissioners. [1963 c 218 § 4.]

**36.68.440 Feasibility and cost studies—Public hearing—Notice.** Upon accepting a petition to form a park and recreation service area, or upon passage of a resolution to establish such a service area, the county legislative authority shall order a full investigation for the purpose or purposes of the proposed service area to determine the feasibility of forming the same and to determine the estimated initial costs involved in obtaining the objectives set forth in the petition or resolution. The reports on the feasibility and the cost of the proposed service area shall be made available to the county legislative authority, and copies of such reports shall be filed with the clerk of the county legislative authority not more than eighty days after the county legislative authority first directs that the studies and reports be undertaken. The county legislative authority shall also provide by resolution that within twenty days after receiving the reports a public hearing shall be held at the county seat or at some convenient location within the proposed service area. At least five days before the hearing, the county legislative authority shall give notice of the hearing not less than twice in a legal newspaper of general circulation in the county. The notice shall describe the boundaries of the proposed service area, the purpose or purposes of the proposed service area, the estimated initial costs, indicate that the reports and other materials prepared at the order of the county legislative authority are available in the office of the clerk of the county legislative authority for the study and review of any interested party, and set the time, date and place of the hearing. [1981 c 210 § 4; 1963 c 218 § 5.]

**Severability—1981 c 210:** See note following RCW 36.68.400.

**36.68.450 Hearing procedure—Inclusion of property—Examination of reports—Recess.** At the hearing, the county legislative authority shall first provide for an explanation of the objectives of the proposed park and recreation service area and the estimated initial costs thereof. The county legislative authority shall permit any resident or property owner of the proposed service area to appear and be heard, and may permit property owners in contiguous areas to include their property within the proposed service area in the event that they make their request for inclusion in writing. The county legislative authority shall examine all reports on the feasibility of the proposed service area and its initial costs and may, if they deem it necessary, recess the hearing for not more than twenty days to obtain any additional information necessary to arrive at the findings provided for in RCW 36.68.420. [1981 c 210 § 5; 1963 c 218 § 6.]

**Severability—1981 c 210:** See note following RCW 36.68.400.

**36.68.460 Findings of county commissioners—Dismissal of proceedings, limitation on subsequent initiation.** At the conclusion of a hearing, the board of county commissioners shall make the following findings:

(1) Whether or not the service area’s objectives fit within the general framework of the county’s comprehensive park plan and general park policies.

(2) The exact boundaries of the service area: The board shall be empowered to modify the boundaries as originally defined in the petition or resolution initiating the proposed service area: PROVIDED, That the boundaries of the service area may not be enlarged unless the property owners within the area to be added consent to their inclusion in writing; or unless the board gives the property owners of the area to be added, written notice, mailed to their regular permanent residences as shown on the latest records of the county auditor, five days prior to a regular or continued hearing upon the formation of the proposed service area.

(3) A full definition or explanation of the nature of improvements or services to be financed by the proposed service area.

(4) Whether or not the objectives of the service area are feasible.

(5) The number or name of the service area.

If satisfactory findings cannot be made by the board, the petition or resolution shall be dismissed, and no petition or resolution embracing the same area may be accepted or heard for at least two years. [1963 c 218 § 7.]

**36.68.470 Resolution ordering election—Election procedure—Formation.** (1) Upon making findings under the provisions of RCW 36.68.460, the county legislative authority shall, by resolution, order an election of the voters of the proposed park and recreation service area to determine if the service area shall be formed. The county legislative authority shall in their resolution direct the county auditor to set the election to be held at the next general election or at a special election held for such purpose; describe the purposes of the proposed service area; set forth the estimated cost of any initial improvements or services to be financed by the service area should it be formed; describe the method of financing the initial improvements or services described in the resolution or petition; and order that notice of election be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county at least twice prior to the election date.

(2) A proposition to form a park and recreation service area shall be submitted to the voters of the proposed service area. Upon approval by a majority of the voters voting on the proposition, a park and recreation service area shall be established. The proposition submitted to the voters by the county auditor on the ballot shall be in substantially the following form:

**FORMATION OF PARK AND RECREATION SERVICE AREA**

Shall a park and recreation service area be established for the area described in a resolution of the legislative authority of . . . . . county, adopted on the . . . . day of . . . . . 19. . . , to provide financing for neighborhood park facilities, improvements, and services?

Yes . . . . . No . . . . .

[1981 c 210 § 6; 1963 c 218 § 8.]

**Severability—1981 c 210:** See note following RCW 36.68.400.

**36.68.480 Property tax levies or bond retirement levies—Election.** If the petition or resolution initiating the formation of the proposed park and recreation service area proposes that the initial capital or operational costs are to be financed by regular property tax levies for a six-year period as authorized by RCW 36.68.525, or an annual excess levy, or that proposed capital costs are to be financed by the issuance of general obligation bonds and bond retirement levies, a proposition or propositions for such purpose or purposes shall be submitted to the voters of the proposed service area at the same election. A proposition or propositions for regular property tax levies for a six-year period as authorized by RCW 36.68.525, an annual excess levy, or the issuance of general obligation bonds and bond retirement levies, may also be submitted to the voters at any general or special election. [1984 c 131 § 7; 1981 c 210 § 7; 1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 38; 1963 c 218 § 9.]

**Purpose—1984 c 131 §§ 3-9:** See note following RCW 29.30.111.

**Severability—1981 c 210:** See note following RCW 36.68.400.

**Severability—Effective dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195:** See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

**36.68.490 Annual excess levy or bond retirement levies—Election procedure—Vote required.** In order for the annual excess tax levy proposition or bond retirement levies proposition to be approved, voters exceeding in number at least sixty percent of the number of voters who cast ballots for the office of county legislative authority within the park and recreation area, or within the proposed service area, in the last preceding general election for that office must cast ballots on the tax levy proposition, and of all the votes cast at the election at least sixty percent of said votes must approve the annual excess tax levy or the bond retirement levies. [1981 c 210 § 8; 1963 c 218 § 10.]

**Severability—1981 c 210:** See note following RCW 36.68.400.

**36.68.500 Resolution declaring formation—Treasurer—Disbursement procedure.** If the formation of the service area is approved by the voters, the county legislative authority shall by resolution declare the service area to be formed and direct the county treasurer to be the treasurer of the service area. Expenditures of the service area shall be made upon warrants drawn by the county auditor pursuant to vouchers approved by the governing body of the service area. [1981 c 210 § 9; 1963 c 218 § 11.]

**Severability—1981 c 210:** See note following RCW 36.68.400.

**36.68.510 Local service area fund.** If the service area is formed, there shall be created in the office of the county treasurer a local service area fund with such accounts as the treasurer may find convenient, or as the state auditor may direct, into which shall be deposited all revenues received by the service area from tax levy, from gifts or donations, and from service or admission charges. Such fund shall be designated "(name of county) service area No. . . . fund." Or "(name of district) service area fund." Special accounts shall be established within the fund for the

deposit of the proceeds of each bond issue made for the construction of a specified project or improvement, and there shall also be established special accounts, within the fund for the deposit of revenues raised by special levy or derived from other specific revenues, to be used exclusively for the retirement of an outstanding bond issue or for paying the interest or service charges on any bond issue. [1963 c 218 § 12.]

**36.68.520 Annual excess property tax levy—General obligation bonds.** (1) A park and recreation service area shall have the power to levy annual excess levies upon the property included within the service area if authorized at a special election called for the purpose in the manner prescribed by section 2, Article VII of the Constitution and by RCW 84.52.052 for operating funds, capital outlay funds, and cumulative reserve funds.

(2) A park and recreation service area may issue general obligation bonds for capital purposes only, not to exceed an amount, together with any outstanding nonvoter approved general obligation indebtedness, equal to three-eighths of one percent of the value of the taxable property within the service area. Additionally, a park and recreation service area may issue general obligation bonds, together with any outstanding voter approved and nonvoter approved general indebtedness, equal to two and one-half percent of the value of the taxable property within the service area, as the term "value of the taxable property" is defined in RCW 39.36.015, when such bonds are approved by the voters of the service area at a special election called for the purpose in accordance with the provisions of Article VIII, section 6 of the Constitution. Such bonds shall be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW.

Bonds may be retired by excess property tax levies when such levies are approved by the voters at a special election in accordance with the provisions of Article VII, section 2 of the Constitution and RCW 84.52.056.

Any elections shall be held as provided in RCW 39.36.050. [1994 c 156 § 4. Prior: 1984 c 186 § 29; 1984 c 131 § 8; (1983 c 167 § 271 repealed by 1984 c 186 § 70; and repealed by 1984 c 131 § 10); 1983 c 167 § 83; 1981 c 210 § 10; 1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 39; 1970 ex.s. c 42 § 19; 1963 c 218 § 13.]

**Intent—1994 c 156:** See note following RCW 36.69.140.

**Purpose—1984 c 186:** See note following RCW 39.46.110.

**Purpose—1984 c 131 §§ 3-9:** See note following RCW 29.30.111.

**Effective dates—1983 c 167:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately, except sections 271 and 272 shall take effect July 1, 1985." [1983 c 167 § 274.] Sections 271 and 272 are amendments to RCW 36.68.520 and 56.16.040, respectively.

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**Severability—1981 c 210:** See note following RCW 36.68.400.

**Severability—Effective dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195:** See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

**Severability—Effective date—1970 ex.s. c 42:** See notes following RCW 39.36.015.

**36.68.525 Six-year regular property tax levies—Limitations—Election.** A park and recreation service area

may impose regular property tax levies in an amount equal to sixty cents or less per thousand dollars of assessed value of property in the service area in each year for six consecutive years when specifically authorized so to do by a majority of at least three-fifths of the voters thereof approving a proposition authorizing the levies submitted not more than twelve months prior to the date on which the proposed initial levy is to be made and not oftener than twice in such twelve month period, either at a special election or at the regular election of the service area, at which election the number of voters voting "yes" on the proposition shall constitute three-fifths of a number equal to forty percent of the number of voters voting in the service area at the last preceding general election when the number of voters voting on the proposition does not exceed forty percent of the number of voters voting in such taxing district in the last preceding general election; or by a majority of at least three-fifths of the voters thereof voting on the proposition if the number of voters voting on the proposition exceeds forty percent of the number of voters voting in such taxing district in the last preceding general election. A proposition authorizing such tax levies shall not be submitted by a park and recreation service area more than twice in any twelve-month period. Ballot propositions shall conform with RCW 29.30.111. If a park and recreation service area is levying property taxes, which in combination with property taxes levied by other taxing districts result in taxes in excess of the nine-dollar and fifteen cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation limitation provided for in RCW 84.52.043, the park and recreation service area property tax levy shall be reduced or eliminated before the property tax levies of other taxing districts are reduced. [1994 c 156 § 5; 1984 c 131 § 9.]

**Intent—1994 c 156:** See note following RCW 36.69.140.

**Purpose—1984 c 131 §§ 3-9:** See note following RCW 29.30.111.

**36.68.530 Budgets—Appropriations—Accumulation of reserves.** The governing body of each park and recreation service area shall annually compile a budget for each service area in a form prescribed by the state division of municipal corporations for the ensuing calendar year which shall, to the extent that anticipated income is actually realized, constitute the appropriations for the service area. The budget may include an amount to accumulate a reserve for a stated capital purpose. In compiling the budget, all available funds and anticipated income shall be taken into consideration, including contributions or contractual payments from school districts, cities, or towns, county or any other governmental entity, gifts and donations, special tax levy, fees and charges, proceeds of bond issues, and cumulative reserve funds. [1981 c 210 § 11; 1963 c 218 § 14.]

**Severability—1981 c 210:** See note following RCW 36.68.400.

*State auditor, division of municipal corporations: RCW 43.09.190.*

**36.68.541 Employees.** Park and recreation service areas may hire employees and may fund all or a portion of the salaries and benefits of county park employees who perform work on county park and recreation facilities within the service area and may fund all or a portion of the salaries and benefits of city or town park employees who perform

work on city or town park and recreation facilities within the service area. [1988 c 82 § 2; 1981 c 210 § 12.]

**Severability—1981 c 210:** See note following RCW 36.68.400.

**36.68.550 Use and admission fees and charges.** A park and recreation service area may impose and collect use fees or other direct charges on facilities financed, acquired, and operated by the park and recreation service area. The county legislative authority may allow admission fees or other direct charges which are paid by persons using county park facilities located within a park and recreation service area to be transferred to a park and recreation service area. Such direct charges to users may be made for the use of or admission to swimming pools, field houses, tennis and handball courts, bathhouses, swimming beaches, boat launching, storage or moorage facilities, ski lifts, picnic areas and other similar recreation facilities, and for parking lots used in conjunction with such facilities. All funds collected under the provisions of this section shall be deposited to the fund of the service area established in the office of the county treasurer, to be disbursed under the service area budget as approved by the governing body of the park and recreation service area. [1988 c 82 § 3; 1981 c 210 § 13; 1963 c 218 § 16.]

**Severability—1981 c 210:** See note following RCW 36.68.400.

**36.68.555 Eminent domain.** A park and recreation service area may exercise the power of eminent domain to obtain property for its authorized purposes in a manner consistent with the power of eminent domain of the county in which the park and recreation service area is located. [1988 c 82 § 8.]

**36.68.560 Concessions.** The county legislative authority may transfer the proceeds from concessions for food and other services accruing to the county from park or park facilities which are located in a park and recreation service area to the fund of the service area in the office of the county treasurer to be disbursed under the service area budget. [1981 c 210 § 14; 1963 c 218 § 17.]

**Severability—1981 c 210:** See note following RCW 36.68.400.

**36.68.570 Use of funds—Purchases.** A park and recreation service area may reimburse the county for any charge incurred by the county current expense fund which is properly an expense of the service area, including reasonable administrative costs incurred by the offices of county treasurer and the county auditor in providing accounting, clerical or other services for the benefit of the service area. The county legislative authority may, where a county purchasing department has been established, provide for the purchase of all supplies and equipment for a park and recreation service area through the department. The park and recreation service area may contract with the county to administer purchasing. [1988 c 82 § 4; 1981 c 210 § 15; 1963 c 218 § 18.]

**Severability—1981 c 210:** See note following RCW 36.68.400.

**36.68.580 Ownership of parks and facilities—Expenditure of funds budgeted for park purposes.** Any

park facility or park acquired, improved or otherwise financed in whole or in part by park and recreation service area funds shall be owned by the park service area and/or the county and/or the city or town in which the park or facility is located. The county may make expenditures from its current expense funds budgeted for park purposes for the maintenance, operation or capital improvement of any county park or park facility acquired, improved, or otherwise financed in whole or in part by park and recreation service area funds. Similarly, a city or town may make expenditures for any city or town park or park facility acquired, improved, or otherwise financed in whole or in part by park and recreation service area funds. [1988 c 82 § 5; 1981 c 210 § 16; 1963 c 218 § 19.]

**Severability—1981 c 210:** See note following RCW 36.68.400.

**36.68.590 Purpose—Level of services—General park programs.** The purpose of RCW 36.68.400 et seq. shall be to provide a higher level of park services and shall not in any way diminish the right of a county to provide a general park program financed from current expense funds. [1963 c 218 § 20.]

**36.68.600 Use of park and recreation service area funds in exercise of powers enumerated in chapter 67.20 RCW.** A park and recreation service area may exercise any of the powers enumerated in chapter 67.20 RCW with respect to any park and recreation facility financed in whole or part from park and recreation service area funds. [1988 c 82 § 6; 1981 c 210 § 17; 1963 c 218 § 21.]

**Severability—1981 c 210:** See note following RCW 36.68.400.

*Parks, bathing beaches, public camps: Chapter 67.20 RCW.*

**36.68.610 Area which may be included—Inclusion of area within city or town—Procedure.** A park and recreation service area may include any unincorporated area in the state, and when any part of the proposed district lies within the corporate limits of any city or town said resolution or petition shall be accompanied by a certified copy of a resolution of the governing body of said city or town, approving inclusion of the area within the corporate limits of the city or town. [1973 c 65 § 1.]

**36.68.620 Enlargement by inclusion of additional area—Procedure.** After a park and recreation service area has been organized, an additional area may be added by the same procedure within the proposed additional area as is provided herein for the organization of a park and recreation service area, and all electors within both the organized park and recreation service area and the proposed additional territory shall vote upon the proposition for enlargement. [1973 c 65 § 2.]

## Chapter 36.69

### PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICTS

(Formerly: Recreation districts act)

#### Sections

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*RCW 39.33.060 to govern on sales by water district for park and recreational purposes: RCW 57.08.140.*

*Transfer of real property or contract for use for park and recreational purposes: RCW 39.33.060.*

**36.69.010 Park and recreation districts authorized—"Recreational facilities" defined.** Park and recreation districts are hereby authorized to be formed as municipal corporations for the purpose of providing leisure time activities and facilities and recreational facilities, of a

nonprofit nature as a public service to the residents of the geographical areas included within their boundaries.

The term "recreational facilities" means parks, playgrounds, gymnasiums, swimming pools, field houses, bathing beaches, stadiums, golf courses, automobile race tracks and drag strips, coliseums for the display of spectator sports, public campgrounds, boat ramps and launching sites, public hunting and fishing areas, arboretums, bicycle and bridle paths, senior citizen centers, community centers, and other recreational facilities. [1991 c 363 § 79; 1990 c 32 § 1; 1972 ex.s. c 94 § 1; 1969 c 26 § 1; 1967 c 63 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.69.010. Prior: 1961 c 272 § 1; 1959 c 304 § 1; 1957 c 58 § 1.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.69.020 Formation of district by petition—Procedure.** The formation of a park and recreation district shall be initiated by a petition designating the boundaries thereof by metes and bounds, or by describing the land to be included therein by townships, ranges and legal subdivisions. Such petition shall set forth the object of the district and state that it will be conducive to the public welfare and convenience, and that it will be a benefit to the area therein. Such petition shall be signed by not less than fifteen percent of the registered voters residing within the area so described. The name of a person who has signed the petition may not be withdrawn from the petition after the petition has been filed.

The petition shall be filed with the auditor of the county within which the proposed district is located, accompanied by an obligation signed by two or more petitioners, agreeing to pay the cost of the publication of the notice provided for in RCW 36.69.040. The county auditor shall, within thirty days from the date of filing the petition, examine the signatures and certify to the sufficiency or insufficiency thereof.

If the petition is found to contain a sufficient number of signatures of qualified persons, the auditor shall transmit it, together with a certificate of sufficiency attached thereto, to the county legislative authority, which shall by resolution entered upon its minutes receive it and fix a day and hour when the legislative authority will publicly hear the petition, as provided in RCW 36.69.040. [1994 c 223 § 42; 1969 c 26 § 2; 1967 c 63 § 2; 1963 c 4 § 36.69.020. Prior: 1961 c 272 § 2; 1959 c 304 § 2; 1957 c 58 § 2.]

**36.69.030 Area which may be included—Resolution of governing body of city or town.** A park and recreation district may include any unincorporated area in the state and, when any part of the proposed district lies within the corporate limits of any city or town, said petition shall be accompanied by a certified copy of a resolution of the governing body of said city or town, approving inclusion of the area within the corporate limits of the city or town. [1969 c 26 § 3; 1967 c 63 § 3; 1963 c 4 § 36.69.030. Prior: 1961 c 272 § 3; 1959 c 304 § 3; 1957 c 58 § 3.]

**36.69.040 Hearing on petition—Notice.** The board of county commissioners shall set a time for a hearing on the petition for the formation of a park and recreation district to

be held not more than sixty days following the receipt of such petition. Notice of hearing shall be given by publication three times, at intervals of not less than one week, in a newspaper of general circulation within the county. Such notice shall state the time and place of hearing and describe particularly the area proposed to be included within the district. [1963 c 4 § 36.69.040. Prior: 1957 c 58 § 4.]

**36.69.050 Boundaries—Name—Inclusion, exclusion of lands.** The board of county commissioners shall designate a name for and fix the boundaries of the proposed district following such hearing. No land shall be included in the boundaries as fixed by the county commissioners which was not described in the petition, unless the owners of such land shall consent in writing thereto.

The board of county commissioners shall eliminate from the boundaries of the proposed district land which they find will not be benefited by inclusion therein. [1963 c 4 § 36.69.050. Prior: 1957 c 58 § 5.]

**36.69.065 Election for formation—Inclusion of proposition for tax levy or issuance of bonds.** If the petition or resolution initiating the formation of the proposed park and recreation district proposes that the initial capital or operational costs are to be financed by regular property tax levies for a \*five-year period as authorized by RCW 36.69.145, or an annual excess levy, or that proposed capital costs are to be financed by the issuance of general obligation bonds and bond retirement levies, a proposition or propositions for such purpose or purposes shall be submitted to the voters of the proposed park and recreation district at the same election. A proposition or propositions for regular property tax levies for a \*five-year period as authorized by RCW 36.69.145, an annual excess levy, or the issuance of general obligation bonds and bond retirement levies, may also be submitted to the voters at any general or special election. The ballot proposition or propositions authorizing the imposition of a tax levy or levies, or issuance of general obligation bonds and imposition of tax levies, shall be null and void if the park and recreation district was not authorized to be formed. [1989 c 184 § 1.]

**\*Reviser's note:** 1994 c 156 § 3 amended RCW 36.69.145 to authorize a six-year period.

**36.69.070 Elections—Procedures—Terms.** A ballot proposition authorizing the formation of the proposed park and recreation district shall be submitted to the voters of the proposed district for their approval or rejection at the next general state election occurring sixty or more days after the county legislative authority fixes the boundaries of the proposed district. Notices of the election for the formation of the park and recreation district shall state generally and briefly the purpose thereof and shall give the boundaries of the proposed district and name the day of the election and the hours during which the polls will be open. The proposition to be submitted to the voters shall be stated in such manner that the voters may indicate yes or no upon the proposition of forming the proposed park and recreation district.

The initial park and recreation commissioners shall be elected at the same election, but this election shall be null



and void if the district is not authorized to be formed. No primary shall be held to nominate candidates for the initial commissioner positions. Candidates shall run for specific commission positions. A special filing period shall be opened as provided in RCW 29.15.170 and 29.15.180. The person who receives the greatest number of votes for each commission position shall be elected to that position. The three persons who are elected receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected to four-year terms of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year or three-year terms of office if the election is held in an even-numbered year. The other two persons who are elected shall be elected to two-year terms of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year or one-year terms of office if the election is held in an even-numbered year. The initial commissioners shall take office immediately upon being elected and qualified, but the length of such terms shall be computed from the first day of January in the year following this election. [1994 c 223 § 43; 1979 ex.s. c 126 § 28; 1963 c 4 § 36.69.070. Prior: 1959 c 304 § 4; 1957 c 58 § 7.]

**Purpose—1979 ex.s. c 126:** See RCW 29.04.170(1).

**36.69.080 Election results.** If a majority of all votes cast upon the proposition favors the formation of the district, the county legislative authority shall, by resolution, declare the territory organized as a park and recreation district under the designated name. [1994 c 223 § 44; 1979 ex.s. c 126 § 29; 1963 c 4 § 36.69.080. Prior: 1957 c 58 § 8.]

**Purpose—1979 ex.s. c 126:** See RCW 29.04.170(1).

**36.69.090 Commissioners—Terms—Election procedures.** A park and recreation district shall be governed by a board of five commissioners. Except for the initial commissioners, all commissioners shall be elected to staggered four-year terms of office and shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified and assume office in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. Candidates shall run for specific commissioner positions.

Elections for park and recreation district commissioners shall be held biennially in conjunction with the general election in each odd-numbered year. Elections shall be held in accordance with the provisions of Title 29 RCW dealing with general elections. [1994 c 223 § 45; 1987 c 53 § 1; 1979 ex.s. c 126 § 30; 1963 c 200 § 18; 1963 c 4 § 36.69.090. Prior: 1957 c 58 § 9.]

**Purpose—1979 ex.s. c 126:** See RCW 29.04.170(1).

**36.69.100 Commissioners—Vacancies.** Vacancies on the board of park and recreation commissioners shall occur and shall be filled as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW. [1994 c 223 § 46; 1963 c 4 § 36.69.100. Prior: 1957 c 58 § 10.]

**36.69.110 Commissioners—Compensation, expenses.** The park and recreation commissioners shall receive no compensation for their services but shall receive necessary expenses in attending meetings of the board or when otherwise engaged on district business. [1963 c 4 § 36.69.110. Prior: 1957 c 58 § 11.]

**36.69.120 Commissioners—Duties.** The park and recreation district board of commissioners shall:

(1) Elect its officers including a chairman, vice chairman, secretary, and such other officers as it may determine it requires;

(2) Hold regular public meetings at least monthly;

(3) Adopt policies governing transaction of board business, keeping of records, resolutions, transactions, findings and determinations, which shall be of public record;

(4) Initiate, direct and administer district park and recreation activities, and select and employ such properly qualified employees as it may deem necessary. [1963 c 4 § 36.69.120. Prior: 1957 c 58 § 12.]

**36.69.130 Powers of districts.** Park and recreation districts shall have such powers as are necessary to carry out the purpose for which they are created, including, but not being limited to, the power: (1) To acquire and hold real and personal property; (2) to dispose of real and personal property only by unanimous vote of the district commissioners; (3) to make contracts; (4) to sue and be sued; (5) to borrow money to the extent and in the manner authorized by this chapter; (6) to grant concessions; (7) to make or establish charges, fees, rates, rentals and the like for the use of facilities (including recreational facilities) or for participation; (8) to make and enforce rules and regulations governing the use of property, facilities or equipment and the conduct of persons thereon; (9) to contract with any municipal corporation, governmental, or private agencies for the conduct of park and recreation programs; (10) to operate jointly with other governmental units any facilities or property including participation in the acquisition; (11) to hold in trust or manage public property useful to the accomplishment of their objectives; (12) to establish cumulative reserve funds in the manner and for the purposes prescribed by law for cities; (13) to acquire, construct, reconstruct, maintain, repair, add to, and operate recreational facilities; and, (14) to make improvements or to acquire property by the local improvement method in the manner prescribed by this chapter: PROVIDED, That such improvement or acquisition is within the scope of the purposes granted to such park and recreation district. [1972 ex.s. c 94 § 2; 1969 c 26 § 4; 1967 c 63 § 4; 1963 c 4 § 36.69.130. Prior: 1961 c 272 § 4; 1959 c 304 § 5; 1957 c 58 § 13.]

**36.69.140 Excess levies authorized—Bonds—Interest bearing warrants.** (1) A park and recreation district shall have the power to levy excess levies upon the property included within the district, in the manner prescribed by Article VII, section 2, of the Constitution and by RCW 84.52.052 for operating funds, capital outlay funds, and cumulative reserve funds.

(2) A park and recreation district may issue general obligation bonds for capital purposes only, not to exceed an amount, together with any outstanding nonvoter approved general obligation indebtedness equal to three-eighths of one percent of the value of the taxable property within such district, as the term "value of the taxable property" is defined in RCW 39.36.015. A park and recreation district may additionally issue general obligation bonds, together with outstanding voter approved and nonvoter approved general

obligation indebtedness, equal to one and one-fourth percent of the value of the taxable property within the district, as the term "value of the taxable property" is defined in RCW 39.36.015, when such bonds are approved by three-fifths of the voters of the district at a general or special election called for that purpose and may provide for the retirement thereof by levies in excess of dollar rate limitations in accordance with the provisions of RCW 84.52.056. When authorized by the voters of the district, the district may issue interest bearing warrants payable out of and to the extent of excess levies authorized in the year in which the excess levy was approved. These elections shall be held as provided in RCW 39.36.050. Such bonds and warrants shall be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1994 c 156 § 2; 1984 c 186 § 30; 1983 c 167 § 84; 1981 c 210 § 19; 1977 ex.s. c 90 § 1; 1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 40; 1970 ex.s. c 42 § 20; 1969 c 26 § 5; 1967 c 63 § 5; 1963 c 4 § 36.69.140. Prior: 1961 c 272 § 5; 1959 c 304 § 6; 1957 c 58 § 14.]

**Intent—1994 c 156:** "The intent of the legislature by enacting sections 2 through 5, chapter 156, Laws of 1994 is:

(1) To allow park and recreation districts and park and recreation service areas to place more than one excess levy on the same ballot, allowing districts and service areas to give voters the opportunity to vote on separate issues, such as for operating and capital funds, at the same election, thereby reducing election costs; and

(2) To increase the amount a park and recreation district or park and recreation service area may collect through a six-year property tax levy from a maximum of fifteen cents per thousand dollars of assessed value to a maximum of sixty cents per thousand dollars of assessed value. This would allow for a more stable funding source for park and recreation districts and park and recreation service areas at a realistic tax rate and reduce the need for holding excess levy elections on an annual or biannual basis. In addition, it would level out the collection of taxes over each of six years rather than the practice now of collecting in one year to fund two years." [1994 c 156 § 1.]

**Purpose—1984 c 186:** See note following RCW 39.46.110.

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**Severability—1981 c 210:** See note following RCW 36.68.400.

**Severability—Effective dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195:** See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

**Severability—Effective date—1970 ex.s. c 42:** See notes following RCW 39.36.015.

**36.69.145 Six-year regular property tax levies—Limitations—Election.** (1) A park and recreation district may impose regular property tax levies in an amount equal to sixty cents or less per thousand dollars of assessed value of property in the district in each year for six consecutive years when specifically authorized so to do by a majority of at least three-fifths of the voters thereof approving a proposition authorizing the levies submitted at a special election or at the regular election of the district, at which election the number of voters voting "yes" on the proposition shall constitute three-fifths of a number equal to forty per centum of the number of voters voting in such district at the last preceding general election when the number of voters voting on the proposition does not exceed forty per centum of the number of voters voting in such taxing district in the last preceding general election; or by a majority of at least three-fifths of the voters thereof voting on the proposition if the number of voters voting on the proposition exceeds forty per centum of the number of voters voting in such taxing district in the last preceding general election. A proposition autho-

rizing the tax levies shall not be submitted by a park and recreation district more than twice in any twelve-month period. Ballot propositions shall conform with RCW 29.30.111. In the event a park and recreation district is levying property taxes, which in combination with property taxes levied by other taxing districts subject to the one percent limitation provided for in Article 7, section 2, of our state Constitution result in taxes in excess of the limitation provided for in RCW 84.52.043, the park and recreation district property tax levy shall be reduced or eliminated before the property tax levies of other taxing districts are reduced.

(2) The limitation in RCW 84.55.010 shall not apply to the first levy imposed under this section following the approval of the levies by the voters under subsection (1) of this section. [1994 c 156 § 3; 1984 c 131 § 6; 1981 c 210 § 18.]

**Intent—1994 c 156:** See note following RCW 36.69.140.

**Purpose—1984 c 131 §§ 3-9:** See note following RCW 29.30.111.

**36.69.150 District treasurer—Warrants—Vouchers.** The county treasurer of the county in which the district shall be located shall be the treasurer of the district, and expenditures shall be made upon warrants drawn by the county auditor pursuant to vouchers approved by the board of park and recreation commissioners. [1963 c 4 § 36.69.150. Prior: 1957 c 58 § 16.]

**36.69.160 Budget.** The board of park and recreation commissioners of each park and recreation district shall annually compile a budget, in form prescribed by the state division of municipal corporations, for the ensuing calendar year, and which shall, to the extent that anticipated income is actually realized, constitute the appropriations for the district. The budget may include an amount to accumulate a reserve for a stated capital purpose. In compiling the budget, all available funds and anticipated income shall be taken into consideration, including contributions or contractual payments from school districts, cities or towns, county, or any other governmental unit; gifts and donations; special tax levy; assessments; fees and charges; proceeds of bond issues; cumulative reserve funds. [1963 c 4 § 36.69.160. Prior: 1957 c 58 § 17.]

**36.69.170 Expenditures.** Expenditures shall be made solely in accordance with the budget, and should revenues accrue at a rate below the anticipated amounts, the board of park and recreation commissioners shall reduce expenditures accordingly: PROVIDED, That the board may, by unanimous vote, authorize such expenditures, or authorize expenditures in excess of those budgeted, if sufficient revenue to pay such expenditures is derived by the levy of the district or if provided by other governmental agencies specifically for such purposes. [1963 c 4 § 36.69.170. Prior: 1957 c 58 § 18.]

**36.69.180 Violation of rules—Penalty.** The violation of any of the rules or regulations of a park and recreation district adopted by its board for the preservation of order, control of traffic, protection of life or property, or for the regulation of the use of park property shall constitute a

misdemeanor: PROVIDED, That violation of a rule or regulation relating to traffic including parking, standing, stopping, and pedestrian offenses is a traffic infraction, except that violation of a rule or regulation equivalent to those provisions of Title 46 RCW set forth in RCW 46.63.020 remains a misdemeanor. [1979 ex.s. c 136 § 37; 1963 c 4 § 36.69.180. Prior: 1957 c 58 § 19.]

**Effective date—Severability—1979 ex.s. c 136:** See notes following RCW 46.63.010.

### 36.69.190 Additional area may be added to district.

After a park and recreation district has been organized, an additional area may be added by the same procedure within the proposed additional area as is provided herein for the organization of a park and recreation district, except that no first commissioners shall be nominated by the board of county commissioners or elected, and all electors within both the organized park and recreation district and the proposed additional territory shall vote upon the proposition for enlargement. [1969 c 26 § 6; 1967 c 63 § 6; 1963 c 4 § 36.69.190. Prior: 1961 c 272 § 6; 1959 c 304 § 7; 1957 c 58 § 20.]

**36.69.200 L.I.D.'s—Authorization—Assessments, warrants, bonds—County treasurer's duties.** (1) Whenever the board of park and recreation commissioners of any district shall determine that any proposed capital improvement would be of special benefit to all or to any portion of the district, it may establish local improvement districts within its territory; levy special assessments under the mode of annual installments extending over a period not exceeding twenty years, on all property specially benefited by a local improvement, on the basis of special benefits to pay in whole or in part the damage or costs of any improvements ordered in the district; and issue local improvement bonds in the improvement district to be repaid by the collection of local improvement assessments. The method of establishment, levying, collection and enforcement of such assessments and issuance and redemption of local improvement warrants and bonds and the provisions regarding the conclusiveness of the assessment roll and the review by the superior court of any objections thereto shall be as provided for the levying, collection, and enforcement of local improvement assessments and the issuance of local improvement bonds by cities and towns, insofar as consistent herewith. The duties devolving upon the city treasurer are hereby imposed upon the county treasurer for the purposes hereof. The mode of assessment shall be determined by the board. Such bonds may be in any form, including coupon bonds or registered bonds as provided in RCW 39.46.030.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, such bonds may be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1983 c 167 § 85; 1983 c 3 § 80; 1963 c 4 § 36.69.200. Prior: 1957 c 58 § 21.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

*Local improvements, supplemental authority: Chapter 35.51 RCW.*

**36.69.210 L.I.D.'s—Initiation by resolution or petition.** Local improvement districts may be initiated either (1) by resolution of the board of park and recreation com-

missioners, or, (2) by petition signed by the owners (according to the county auditor's records) of at least fifty-one percent of the area of land within the limits of the local improvement district to be created. [1963 c 4 § 36.69.210. Prior: 1957 c 58 § 22.]

### 36.69.220 L.I.D.'s—Procedure when by resolution.

If the board of park and recreation commissioners desires to initiate the formation of a local improvement district by resolution, it shall first pass a resolution declaring its intention to order such improvement, setting forth the nature and territorial extent of such proposed improvement, designating the number of the proposed local improvement district and describing the boundaries thereof, stating the estimated cost and expense of the improvement and the proportionate amount thereof which will be borne by the property within the proposed district, and fixing a date, time and place for a public hearing on the formation of the proposed local district. [1963 c 4 § 36.69.220. Prior: 1957 c 58 § 23.]

### 36.69.230 L.I.D.'s—Procedure when by petition—Publication of notice of intent by either resolution or petition.

If such local improvement district is initiated by petition, such petition shall set forth the nature and territorial extent of the proposed improvement requested to be ordered and the fact that the signers thereof are the owners (according to the records of the county auditor) of at least fifty-one percent of the area of land within the limits of the local improvement district to be created. Upon the filing of such petition the board of park and recreation commissioners shall determine whether it is sufficient, and the board's determination thereof shall be conclusive upon all persons. No person shall withdraw his name from the petition after it has been filed with the board. If the board shall find the petition to be sufficient, it shall proceed to adopt a resolution declaring its intention to order the improvement petitioned for, setting forth the nature and territorial extent of said improvement, designating the number of the proposed local district and describing the boundaries thereof, stating the estimated cost and expense of the improvement and the proportionate amount thereof which will be borne by the property within the proposed local district, and fixing a date, time and place for a public hearing on the formation of the proposed local district.

The resolution of intention, whether adopted on the initiative of the board or pursuant to a petition of the property owners, shall be published in at least two consecutive issues of a newspaper of general circulation in the proposed local district, the date of the first publication to be at least fifteen days prior to the date fixed by such resolution for hearing before the board. [1963 c 4 § 36.69.230. Prior: 1957 c 58 § 24.]

**36.69.240 L.I.D.'s—Notice—Contents.** Notice of the adoption of the resolution of intention shall be given each owner or reputed owner of any lot, tract, parcel of land or other property within the proposed improvement district by mailing said notice at least fifteen days before the date fixed for the public hearing to the owner or reputed owner of the property as shown on the tax rolls of the county treasurer at the address shown thereon. The notice shall refer to the

resolution of intention and designate the proposed improvement district by number. Said notice shall also set forth the nature of the proposed improvement, the total estimated cost, the proportion of total cost to be borne by assessments, the estimated amount of the cost and expense of such improvement to be borne by the particular lot, tract or parcel, the date, time and place of the hearing before the board of park and recreation commissioners; and in the case of improvements initiated by resolution, the notice shall also state that all persons desiring to object to the formation of the proposed district must file their written protests with the secretary of the board before the time fixed for said public hearing. [1963 c 4 § 36.69.240. Prior: 1957 c 58 § 25.]

**36.69.245 L.I.D.'s—Notice must contain statement that assessments may vary from estimates.** Any notice given to the public or to the owners of specific lots, tracts, or parcels of land relating to the formation of a local improvement district shall contain a statement that actual assessments may vary from assessment estimates so long as they do not exceed a figure equal to the increased true and fair value the improvement adds to the property. [1989 c 243 § 4.]

**36.69.250 L.I.D.'s—Public hearing—Inclusion, exclusion of property.** Whether the improvement is initiated by petition or resolution, the board of park and recreation commissioners shall conduct a public hearing at the time and place designated in the notice to property owners. At this hearing the board shall hear objections from any person affected by the formation of the local district and may make such changes in the boundaries of the district or such modifications in the plans for the proposed improvement as shall be deemed necessary: PROVIDED, That the board may not change the boundaries of the district to include or exclude property not previously included or excluded without first passing a new resolution of intention and giving a new notice to property owners in the manner and form and within the time herein provided for the original notice. [1963 c 4 § 36.69.250. Prior: 1957 c 58 § 26.]

**36.69.260 L.I.D.'s—Protests—Procedure—Jurisdiction of board.** After said hearing the board of park and recreation commissioners shall have jurisdiction to overrule protests and proceed with any such improvement initiated by petition or resolution: PROVIDED, That the jurisdiction of the board to proceed with any improvement initiated by resolution shall be divested by a protest filed with the secretary of the board prior to said public hearing for the improvement signed by the owners of the property within the proposed local improvement district which is subject to sixty percent or more of the cost of the improvement as shown and determined by the preliminary estimates and assessment roll of the proposed improvement district. [1963 c 4 § 36.69.260. Prior: 1957 c 58 § 27.]

**36.69.270 L.I.D.'s—Powers and duties of board upon formation.** If the board of park and recreation commissioners finds that the district should be formed, it shall by resolution order the improvement, adopt detailed plans of the local improvement district and declare the

estimated cost thereof, acquire all necessary land therefor, pay all damages caused thereby, and commence in the name of the park and recreation district such eminent domain proceedings as may be necessary to entitle the district to proceed with the work. The board shall thereupon proceed with the work and file with the county treasurer its roll levying special assessments in the amount to be paid by special assessment against the property situated within the improvement district in proportion to the special benefits to be derived by the property therein from the improvement. [1963 c 4 § 36.69.270. Prior: 1957 c 58 § 28.]

**36.69.280 L.I.D.'s—Assessment roll—Procedure for approval—Objections.** Before approval of the roll a notice shall be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the local district, stating that the roll is on file and open to inspection in the office of the secretary, and fixing the time, not less than fifteen or more than thirty days from the date of the first publication of the notice within which protests must be filed with the secretary against any assessments shown thereon, and fixing a time when a hearing will be held by the board of park and recreation commissioners on the protests. Notice shall also be given by mailing, at least fifteen days before the hearing, a similar notice to the owners or reputed owners of the land in the local district as they appear on the books of the treasurer of the county in which the park and recreation district is located. At the hearing, or any adjournment thereof, the commissioners may correct, change or modify the roll, or any part thereof, or set aside the roll and order a new assessment, and may then by resolution approve it. If an assessment is raised a new notice similar to the first shall be given, after which final approval of the roll may be made. When property has been entered originally upon the roll and the assessment thereon is not raised, no objection thereto shall be considered by the commissioners or by any court on appeal unless the objection is made in writing at, or prior, to the date fixed for the original hearing upon the roll. [1963 c 4 § 36.69.280. Prior: 1957 c 58 § 29.]

**36.69.290 L.I.D.'s—Segregation of assessments—Power of board.** Whenever any land against which there has been levied any special assessment by any park and recreation district shall have been sold in part or subdivided, the board of park and recreation commissioners of such district shall have the power to order a segregation of the assessment. [1963 c 4 § 36.69.290. Prior: 1957 c 58 § 30.]

**36.69.300 L.I.D.'s—Segregation of assessments—Procedure—Fee, charges.** Any person desiring to have such a special assessment against a tract of land segregated to apply to smaller parts thereof shall apply to the board of park and recreation commissioners of the park and recreation district which levied the assessment. If the board determines that a segregation should be made, it shall by resolution order the county treasurer to make segregation on the original assessment roll as directed in the resolution. The segregation shall be made as nearly as possible on the same basis as the original assessment was levied, and the total of the segregated parts of the assessment shall equal the assessment before segregation. The resolution shall

describe the original tract, the amount and date of the original assessment, and shall define the boundaries of the divided parts and the amount of the assessment chargeable to each part. A certified copy of the resolution shall be delivered to the county treasurer who shall proceed to make the segregation ordered upon being tendered a fee of three dollars for each tract of land for which a segregation is to be made. In addition to such charge the board may require as a condition to the order of segregation that the person seeking it pay the district the reasonable engineering and clerical costs incident to making the segregation. [1963 c 4 § 36.69.300. Prior: 1957 c 58 § 31.]

**36.69.305 L.I.D.'s—Acquisition of property subject to unpaid or delinquent assessments by state or political subdivision—Payment of lien or installments.** See RCW 79.44.190.

**36.69.310 Dissolution.** Any park and recreation district formed under the provisions of this chapter may be dissolved in the manner provided in chapter 53.48 RCW, relating to port districts. [1963 c 4 § 36.69.310. Prior: 1957 c 58 § 32.]

**36.69.320 Disincorporation of district located in county with a population of two hundred ten thousand or more and inactive for five years.** See chapter 57.90 RCW.

**36.69.350 Board authorized to contract indebtedness and issue revenue bonds.** The board of parks and recreation commissioners is hereby authorized for the purpose of carrying out the lawful powers granted to park and recreation districts by the laws of the state to contract indebtedness and to issue revenue bonds evidencing such indebtedness in conformity with this chapter. [1972 ex.s. c 94 § 3.]

**36.69.360 Revenue bonds—Authorized purposes.** All such revenue bonds authorized under the terms of this chapter may be issued and sold by the district from time to time and in such amounts as is deemed necessary by the board of park and recreation commissioners of each district to provide sufficient funds for the carrying out of all district powers, without limiting the generality thereof, including the following: Acquisition; construction; reconstruction; maintenance; repair; additions; operations of recreational facilities; parking facilities as a part of a recreational facility; and any other district purpose from which revenues can be derived. Included in the costs thereof shall be any necessary engineering, inspection, accounting, fiscal, and legal expenses, the cost of issuance of bonds, including printing, engraving and advertising and other similar expenses, and the proceeds of such bond issue are hereby made available for all such purposes. [1972 ex.s. c 94 § 4.]

**36.69.370 Revenue bonds—Issuance, form, seal, etc.** (1) When revenue bonds are issued for authorized purposes, said bonds shall be either registered as to principal only or principal and interest as provided in RCW 39.46.030 or shall be bearer bonds; shall be in such denominations, shall be

numbered, shall bear such date, shall be payable at such time or times up to a maximum period of not to exceed thirty years and payable as determined by the park and recreation commissioners of the district; shall bear interest payable semiannually; shall be executed by the chairman of the board of park and recreation commissioners, and attested by the secretary of the board, and the seal of such board shall be affixed to each bond, but not to any coupon; and may have facsimile signatures of the chairman and the secretary imprinted on any interest coupons in lieu of original signatures.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, such bonds may be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1983 c 167 § 86; 1972 ex.s. c 94 § 5.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**36.69.380 Resolution to authorize bonds—Contents.** Bonds issued under the provisions of this chapter shall be payable solely out of the operating revenues of the park and recreation district. Such bonds shall be authorized by resolution adopted by the board of park and recreation commissioners, which resolution shall create a special fund or funds into which the board of park and recreation commissioners may obligate and bind the district to set aside and pay any part or parts of, or all of, or a fixed proportion of, or fixed amounts of gross revenue received by the district from moneys for services or activities as stated in the resolution, for the purpose of paying the principal of and interest on such bonds as the same shall become due, and if deemed necessary to maintain adequate reserves therefor. Such fund or funds shall be drawn upon solely for the purpose of paying the principal and interest upon the bonds issued pursuant to this chapter.

The bonds shall be negotiable instruments within the provision and intent of the negotiable instruments law of this state, even though they shall be payable solely from such special fund or funds, and the tax revenue of the district may not be used to pay, secure, or guarantee the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds. The bonds and any coupons attached thereto shall state upon their face that they are payable solely from such special fund or funds. If the county fails to set aside and pay into such fund or funds, the payments provided for in such resolution, the owner of any such bonds may bring suit to compel compliance with the provisions of the resolution. [1983 c 167 § 87; 1972 ex.s. c 94 § 6.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**36.69.390 Payment of bonds—Covenants—Enforcement.** The board of park and recreation commissioners may provide covenants as it may deem necessary to secure the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds and may, but shall not be required to, include covenants to create a reserve fund or account and to authorize the payment or deposit of certain moneys therein for the purpose of securing the payment of such principal and interest; to establish, maintain, and collect rates, charges, fees, rentals, and the like on the facilities and service the income of which is pledged for the payment of such bonds, sufficient to pay

or secure the payment of such principal and interest and to maintain an adequate coverage over annual debt service; and to make any and all other covenants not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter which will increase the marketability of such bonds. The board may also provide that revenue bonds payable out of the same source or sources may later be sold on a parity with any revenue bonds being issued and sold. The provisions of this chapter and any resolution or resolutions providing for the authorization, issuance, and sale of such bonds shall constitute a contract with the owner of such bonds, and the provisions thereof shall be enforceable by any owner of such bonds by mandamus or any appropriate suit, action or proceeding at law or in equity in any court of competent jurisdiction. [1983 c 167 § 88; 1972 ex.s. c 94 § 7.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**36.69.400 Funding, refunding bonds.** (1) The board of parks and recreation commissioners of any district may by resolution, from time to time, provide for the issuance of funding or refunding revenue bonds to fund or refund any outstanding revenue bonds and any interest and premiums due thereon at or before the maturity of such bonds, and parts or all of various series and issues of outstanding revenue bonds in the amount thereof to be funded or refunded.

The board shall create a special fund for the sole purpose of paying the principal of and interest on such funding or refunding revenue bonds, into which fund the board shall obligate and bind the district to set aside and pay any part or parts of, or all of, or a fixed proportion of, or a fixed amount of the revenue of the recreational facility of the district sufficient to pay such principal and interest as the same shall become due, and if deemed necessary to maintain adequate reserves therefor.

Such funding or refunding bonds shall be negotiable instruments within the provisions and intent of the negotiable instruments law of this state, and the tax revenue of the district may not be used to pay, secure, or guarantee the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds. Such bonds may be in any form, including bearer bonds or registered bonds as provided in RCW 39.46.030.

The district may exchange such funding or refunding bonds for the bonds, and any coupons being funded or refunded, or it may sell such funding or refunding bonds in the manner, at such price and at such rate or rates of interest as the board shall deem to be for the best interest of the district and its inhabitants, either at public or private sale.

The provisions of this chapter relating to the terms, conditions, covenants, issuance, and sale of revenue bonds shall be applicable to such funding or refunding bonds except as may be otherwise specifically provided in this section.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, such bonds may be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1983 c 167 § 89; 1972 ex.s. c 94 § 8.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**36.69.410 Authority for issuance of bonds—Construction.** This chapter shall be complete authority for the issuance of the revenue bonds hereby authorized, and shall be liberally construed to accomplish its purposes. Any restrictions, limitations or regulations relative to the issuance of such revenue bonds contained in any other act shall not apply to the bonds issued under this chapter. Any act inconsistent herewith shall be deemed modified to conform with the provisions of this chapter for the purpose of this chapter only. [1972 ex.s. c 94 § 9.]

**36.69.420 Joint park and recreation district—Authorization.** A park and recreation district may be formed encompassing portions of two or more counties. Such a district shall be known as a joint park and recreation district and shall have all powers and duties of a park and recreation district. The procedures established in this chapter for the formation of a park and recreation district shall be followed in the formation of a joint park and recreation district except as otherwise provided by RCW 36.69.430, 36.69.440, and 36.69.450. [1979 ex.s. c 11 § 1.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 11:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1979 ex.s. c 11 § 7.]

**36.69.430 Joint park and recreation district—Formation—Petition.** The formation of a joint park and recreation district shall be initiated by a petition as prescribed in RCW 36.69.020. The petition shall be filed with the county auditor of one of the counties within which a portion of the proposed joint district is located. A copy of the petition shall be filed with the county auditor of the other county or counties within which a portion of the proposed joint district is located. The county auditors shall jointly certify the sufficiency or insufficiency of the petition to the legislative authorities of the counties. [1979 ex.s. c 11 § 2.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 11:** See note following RCW 36.69.420.

**36.69.440 Joint park and recreation district—Formation—Hearing—Boundaries—Election.** (1) If the petition filed under RCW 36.69.430 is found to contain a sufficient number of signatures, the legislative authority of each county shall set a time for a hearing on the petition for the formation of a park and recreation district as prescribed in RCW 36.69.040.

(2) At the public hearing the legislative authority for each county shall fix the boundaries for that portion of the proposed park and recreation district that lies within the county as provided in RCW 36.69.050. Each county shall notify the other county or counties of the determination of the boundaries within ten days.

(3) If the territories created by the county legislative authorities are not contiguous, a joint park and recreation district shall not be formed. If the territories are contiguous, the county containing the portion of the proposed joint district having the larger population shall determine the name of the proposed joint district.

(4) The proposition for the formation of the proposed joint park and recreation district shall be submitted to the voters of the district at the next general election, which

election shall be conducted as required by RCW 36.69.070 and 36.69.080. [1994 c 223 § 47; 1979 ex.s. c 11 § 3.]

Severability—1979 ex.s. c 11: See note following RCW 36.69.420.

**36.69.450 Joint park and recreation district—Duties of county officers.** For all purposes essential to the maintenance, operation, and administration of a joint park and recreation district, including the apportionment of any funds, the county in which a joint park and recreation district shall be considered as belonging shall be the county containing the largest population of the joint district. Whenever the laws relating to park and recreation districts provide for an action by a county officer, the action, if required to be performed on behalf of a joint park and recreation district, shall be performed by the proper officer of the county to which the joint district belongs, except as otherwise provided by law. This delegation of authority extends but is not limited to:

(1) The declaration by the county legislative authority of the election results, as required by RCW 36.69.080;

(2) The filing of declarations of candidacy with the county auditor under RCW 36.69.090;

(3) The issuance of warrants by the county treasurer under RCW 36.69.150;

(4) The duties of the county treasurer and auditor in the establishment and operation of a local improvement district under RCW 36.69.200, 36.69.220, 36.69.240, and 36.69.300. If the local improvement district is located wholly within any one of the participating counties, then the officers of that county shall perform the duties relating to that local improvement district; and

(5) Receipt by the county treasurer of payments of revenue bonds under RCW 36.69.370. [1979 ex.s. c 11 § 4.]

Severability—1979 ex.s. c 11: See note following RCW 36.69.420.

**36.69.460 Joint park and recreation district—Population determinations.** Population determinations for the purposes of RCW 36.69.440 and 36.69.450 shall be made by the office of financial management. [1979 ex.s. c 11 § 5.]

Severability—1979 ex.s. c 11: See note following RCW 36.69.420.

**36.69.900 Short title.** This chapter may be cited as the "Recreation Districts Act for Counties." [1969 c 26 § 7; 1967 c 63 § 7; 1963 c 4 § 36.69.900. Prior: 1961 c 272 § 7; 1959 c 304 § 9; 1957 c 58 § 33.]

**Chapter 36.70**

**PLANNING ENABLING ACT**

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**36.70.010 Purpose and intent.** The purpose and intent of this chapter is to provide the authority for, and the procedures to be followed in, guiding and regulating the physical development of a county or region through correlating both public and private projects and coordinating their execution with respect to all subject matters utilized in developing and servicing land, all to the end of assuring the highest standards of environment for living, and the operation of commerce, industry, agriculture and recreation, and assuring maximum economies and conserving the highest degree of public health, safety, morals and welfare. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.010. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 1.]

**36.70.015 Expenditure of funds declared public purpose.** Regional planning under the provisions of this chapter is hereby declared to be a proper public purpose for the expenditure of the funds of counties, school districts, public utility districts, housing authorities, port districts, cities or towns or any other public organization interested in regional planning. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.015. Prior: 1961 c 232 § 6.]

**36.70.020 Definitions.** The following words or terms as used in this chapter shall have the following meaning

unless a different meaning is clearly indicated by the context:

(1) "Approval by motion" is a means by which a board, through other than by ordinance, approves and records recognition of a comprehensive plan or amendments thereto.

(2) "Board" means the board of county commissioners.

(3) "Certification" means the affixing on any map or by adding to any document comprising all or any portion of a comprehensive plan a record of the dates of action thereon by the commission and by the board, together with the signatures of the officer or officers authorized by ordinance to so sign.

(4) "Commission" means a county or regional planning commission.

(5) "Commissioners" means members of a county or regional planning commission.

(6) "Comprehensive plan" means the policies and proposals approved and recommended by the planning agency or initiated by the board and approved by motion by the board (a) as a beginning step in planning for the physical development of the county; (b) as the means for coordinating county programs and services; (c) as a source of reference to aid in developing, correlating, and coordinating official regulations and controls; and (d) as a means for promoting the general welfare. Such plan shall consist of the required elements set forth in RCW 36.70.330 and may also include the optional elements set forth in RCW 36.70.350 which shall serve as a policy guide for the subsequent public and private development and official controls so as to present all proposed developments in a balanced and orderly relationship to existing physical features and governmental functions.

(7) "Conditional use" means a use listed among those classified in any given zone but permitted to locate only after review by the board of adjustment, or zoning adjutor if there be such, and the granting of a conditional use permit imposing such performance standards as will make the use compatible with other permitted uses in the same vicinity and zone and assure against imposing excessive demands upon public utilities, provided the county ordinances specify the standards and criteria that shall be applied.

(8) "Department" means a planning department organized and functioning as any other department in any county.

(9) "Element" means one of the various categories of subjects, each of which constitutes a component part of the comprehensive plan.

(10) "Ex officio member" means a member of the commission who serves by virtue of his official position as head of a department specified in the ordinance creating the commission.

(11) "Official controls" means legislatively defined and enacted policies, standards, precise detailed maps and other criteria, all of which control the physical development of a county or any part thereof or any detail thereof, and are the means of translating into regulations and ordinances all or any part of the general objectives of the comprehensive plan. Such official controls may include, but are not limited to, ordinances establishing zoning, subdivision control, platting, and adoption of detailed maps.

(12) "Ordinance" means a legislative enactment by a board; in this chapter the word, "ordinance", is synonymous

with the term "resolution", as representing a legislative enactment by a board of county commissioners.

(13) "Planning agency" means (a) a planning commission, together with its staff members, employees and consultants, or (b) a department organized and functioning as any other department in any county government together with its planning commission.

(14) "Variance." A variance is the means by which an adjustment is made in the application of the specific regulations of a zoning ordinance to a particular piece of property, which property, because of special circumstances applicable to it, is deprived of privileges commonly enjoyed by other properties in the same vicinity and zone and which adjustment remedies disparity in privileges. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.020. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 2.]

**36.70.025 "Solar energy system" defined.** As used in this chapter, "solar energy system" means any device or combination of devices or elements which rely upon direct sunlight as an energy source, including but not limited to any substance or device which collects sunlight for use in:

- (1) The heating or cooling of a structure or building;
- (2) The heating or pumping of water;
- (3) Industrial, commercial, or agricultural processes; or
- (4) The generation of electricity.

A solar energy system may be used for purposes in addition to the collection of solar energy. These uses include, but are not limited to, serving as a structural member or part of a roof of a building or structure and serving as a window or wall. [1979 ex.s. c 170 § 9.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 170:** See note following RCW 64.04.140.

*Local governments authorized to encourage and protect solar energy systems: RCW 64.04.140.*

**36.70.030 Commission—Creation.** By ordinance a board may create a planning commission and provide for the appointment by the commission of a director of planning. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.030. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 3.]

**36.70.040 Department—Creation—Creation of commission to assist department.** By ordinance a board may, as an alternative to and in lieu of the creation of a planning commission as provided in RCW 36.70.030, create a planning department which shall be organized and function as any other department of the county. When such department is created, the board shall also create a planning commission which shall assist the planning department in carrying out its duties, including assistance in the preparation and execution of the comprehensive plan and recommendations to the department for the adoption of official controls and/or amendments thereto. To this end, the planning commission shall conduct such hearings as are required by this chapter and shall make findings and conclusions therefrom which shall be transmitted to the department which shall transmit the same on to the board with such comments and recommendations it deems necessary. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.040. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 4.]

**36.70.050 Authority for planning.** Upon the creation of a planning agency as authorized in RCW 36.70.030 and 36.70.040, a county may engage in a planning program as

defined by this chapter. Two or more counties may jointly engage in a planning program as defined herein for their combined areas. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.050. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 5.]

**36.70.060 Regional planning commission—Appointment and powers.** A county or a city may join with one or more other counties, cities and towns, and/or with one or more school districts, public utility districts, private utilities, housing authorities, port districts, or any other private or public organizations interested in regional planning to form and organize a regional planning commission and provide for the administration of its affairs. Such regional planning commission may carry on a planning program involving the same subjects and procedures provided by this chapter for planning by counties, provided this authority shall not include enacting official controls other than by the individual participating municipal corporations. The authority to initiate a regional planning program, define the boundaries of the regional planning district, specify the number, method of appointment and terms of office of members of the regional planning commission and provide for allocating the cost of financing the work shall be vested individually in the governing bodies of the participating municipal corporations.

Any regional planning commission or municipal corporation participating in any regional planning district is authorized to receive grants-in-aid from, or enter into reasonable agreement with any department or agency of the government of the United States or of the state of Washington to arrange for the receipt of federal funds and state funds for planning in the interests of furthering the planning program. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.060. Prior: 1961 c 232 § 1; 1959 c 201 § 6.]

*Commission as employer for retirement system purposes: RCW 41.40.010.*

**36.70.070 Commission—Composition.** Whenever a commission is created by a county, it shall consist of five, seven, or nine members as may be provided by ordinance: PROVIDED, That where a commission, on June 10, 1959, is operating with more than nine members, no further appointments shall be made to fill vacancies for whatever cause until the membership of the commission is reduced to five, seven or nine, whichever is the number specified by the county ordinance under this chapter. Departments of a county may be represented on the commission by the head of such departments as are designated in the ordinance creating the commission, who shall serve in an ex officio capacity, but such ex officio members shall not exceed one of a five-member commission, two of a seven-member commission, or three of a nine-member commission. At no time shall there be more than three ex officio members serving on a commission: PROVIDED FURTHER, That in lieu of one ex officio member, only, one employee of the county other than a department head may be appointed to serve as a member of the commission. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.070. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 7.]

**36.70.080 Commission—Appointment—County.** The members of a commission shall be appointed by the chairman of the board with the approval of a majority of the

board: PROVIDED, That each member of the board shall submit to the chairman a list of nominees residing in his commissioner district, and the chairman shall make his appointments from such lists so that as nearly as mathematically possible, each commissioner district shall be equally represented on the commission. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.080. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 8.]

**36.70.090 Commission—Membership—Terms—Existing commissions.** When a commission is created after June 10, 1959, the first terms of the members of the commission consisting of five, seven, and nine members, respectively, other than ex officio members, shall be as follows:

(1) For a five-member commission—one, shall be appointed for one year; one, for two years; one, for three years; and two, for four years.

(2) For a seven-member commission—one, shall be appointed for one year; two, for two years; two, for three years; and two, for four years.

(3) For a nine-member commission—two, shall be appointed for one year; two, for two years; two, for three years; and three, for four years.

Thereafter, the successors to the first member shall be appointed for four year terms: PROVIDED, That where the commission includes one ex officio member, the number of appointive members first appointed for a four year term shall be reduced by one; if there are to be two ex officio members, the number of appointive members for the three year and four year terms shall each be reduced by one; if there are to be three ex officio members, the number of appointive members for the four year term, the three year term, and the two year term shall each be reduced by one. The term of an ex officio member shall correspond to his official tenure: PROVIDED FURTHER, That where a commission, on the effective date of this chapter, is operating with members appointed for longer than four year terms, such members shall serve out the full term for which they were appointed, but their successors, if any, shall be appointed for four year terms. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.090. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 9.]

**36.70.100 Commission—Vacancies.** Vacancies occurring for any reason other than the expiration of the term shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired portion of the term except if, on June 10, 1959, the unexpired portion of a term is for more than four years the vacancy shall be filled for a period of time that will obtain the maximum staggered terms, but shall not exceed four years. Vacancies shall be filled from the same commissioner district as that of the vacating member. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.100. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 10.]

**36.70.110 Commission—Removal.** After public hearing, any appointee member of a commission may be removed by the chairman of the board, with the approval of the board, for inefficiency, neglect of duty, or malfeasance in office. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.110. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 11.]

**36.70.120 Commission—Officers.** Each commission shall elect its chairman and vice chairman from among the appointed members. The commission shall appoint a

secretary who need not be a member of the commission. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.120. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 12.]

**36.70.130 Planning agency—Meetings.** Each planning agency shall hold not less than one regular meeting in each month: PROVIDED, That if no matters over which the planning agency has jurisdiction are pending upon its calendar, a meeting may be canceled. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.130. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 13.]

**36.70.140 Planning agency—Rules and records.** Each planning agency shall adopt rules for the transaction of its business and shall keep a public record of its transactions, findings, and determinations. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.140. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 14.]

**36.70.150 Planning agency—Joint meetings.** Two or more county planning agencies in any combination may hold joint meetings and by approval of their respective boards may have the same chairman. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.150. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 15.]

**36.70.160 Director—Appointment.** If a director of planning is provided for, he shall be appointed:

(1) By the commission when a commission is created under RCW 36.70.030;

(2) If a planning department is established as provided in RCW 36.70.040, then he shall be appointed by the board. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.160. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 16.]

**36.70.170 Director—Employees.** The director of planning shall be authorized to appoint such employees as are necessary to perform the duties assigned to him within the budget allowed. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.170. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 17.]

**36.70.180 Joint director.** The boards of two or more counties or the legislative bodies of other political subdivisions or special districts may jointly engage a single director of planning and may authorize him to employ such other personnel as may be necessary to carry out the joint planning program. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.180. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 18.]

**36.70.190 Special services.** Each planning agency, subject to the approval of the board, may employ or contract with the planning consultants or other specialists for such services as it requires. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.190. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 19.]

**36.70.200 Board of adjustment—Creation—Zoning adjustor.** Whenever a board shall have created a planning agency, it shall also by ordinance, coincident with the enactment of a zoning ordinance, create a board of adjustment, and may establish the office of zoning adjustor: PROVIDED, That any county that has prior to June 10, 1959, enacted a zoning ordinance, shall, within ninety days thereof, create a board of adjustment. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.200. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 20.]

**36.70.210 Board of adjustment—Membership—Quorum.** A board of adjustment shall consist of five or seven members as may be provided by ordinance, and a majority of the members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business. [1965 ex.s. c 24 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.70.210. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 21.]

**36.70.220 Board of adjustment—Appointment—Appointment of zoning adjustor.** The members of a board of adjustment and the zoning adjustor shall be appointed in the same manner as provided for the appointment of commissioners in RCW 36.70.080. One member of the board of adjustment may be an appointee member of the commission. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.220. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 22.]

**36.70.230 Board of adjustment—Terms.** If the board of adjustment is to consist of three members, when it is first appointed after June 10, 1959, the first terms shall be as follows: One shall be appointed for one year; one, for two years; and one, for three years. If it consists of five members, when it is first appointed after June 10, 1959, the first terms shall be as follows: One shall be appointed for one year; one, for two years; one, for three years; one, for four years; and one, for six years. Thereafter the terms shall be for six years and until their successors are appointed and qualified. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.230. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 23.]

**36.70.240 Board of adjustment—Vacancies.** Vacancies in the board of adjustment shall be filled by appointment in the same manner in which the commissioners are appointed in RCW 36.70.080. Appointment shall be for the unexpired portion of the term. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.240. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 24.]

**36.70.250 Board of adjustment—Removal.** Any member of the board of adjustment may be removed by the chairman of the board with the approval of the board for inefficiency, neglect of duty or malfeasance in office. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.250. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 25.]

**36.70.260 Board of adjustment—Organization.** The board of adjustment shall elect a chairman and vice chairman from among its members. The board of adjustment shall appoint a secretary who need not be a member of the board. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.260. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 26.]

**36.70.270 Board of adjustment—Meetings.** The board of adjustment shall hold not less than one regular meeting in each month of each year: PROVIDED, That if no issues over which the board has jurisdiction are pending upon its calendar, a meeting may be canceled. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.270. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 27.]

**36.70.280 Board of adjustment—Rules and records.** The board of adjustment shall adopt rules for the transaction of its business and shall keep a public record of its transactions, findings and determinations. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.280. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 28.]

**36.70.290 Appropriation for planning agency, board of adjustment.** The board shall provide the funds, equipment and accommodations necessary for the work of the planning agency. Such appropriations may include funds for joint ventures as set forth in RCW 36.70.180. The expenditures of the planning agency, exclusive of gifts, shall be within the amounts appropriated for the respective purposes. The provisions herein for financing the work of the planning agencies shall also apply to the board of adjustment and the zoning adjustor. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.290. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 29.]

**36.70.300 Accept gifts.** The planning agency of a county may accept gifts in behalf of the county to finance any planning work authorized by law. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.300. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 30.]

**36.70.310 Conference and travel expenses—Commission members and staff.** Members of planning agencies shall inform themselves on matter affecting the functions and duties of planning agencies. For that purpose, and when authorized, such members may attend planning conferences, meetings of planning executives or of technical bodies; hearings on planning legislation or matters relating to the work of the planning agency. The reasonable travel expenses, registration fees and other costs incident to such attendance at such meetings and conferences shall be charges upon the funds allocated to the planning agency. In addition, members of a commission may also receive reasonable travel expenses to and from their usual place of business to the place of a regular meeting of the commission. The planning agency may, when authorized, pay dues for membership in organizations specializing in the subject of planning. The planning agency may, when authorized, subscribe to technical publications pertaining to planning. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.310. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 31.]

**36.70.315 Public notice—Identification of affected property.** Any notice made under chapter 36.70 RCW that identifies affected property may identify this affected property without using a legal description of the property including, but not limited to, identification by an address, written description, vicinity sketch, or other reasonable means. [1988 c 168 § 11.]

**36.70.320 Comprehensive plan.** Each planning agency shall prepare a comprehensive plan for the orderly physical development of the county, or any portion thereof, and may include any land outside its boundaries which, in the judgment of the planning agency, relates to planning for the county. The plan shall be referred to as the comprehensive plan, and, after hearings by the commission and approval by motion of the board, shall be certified as the comprehensive plan. Amendments or additions to the comprehensive plan shall be similarly processed and certified.

Any comprehensive plan adopted for a portion of a county shall not be deemed invalid on the ground that the remainder of the county is not yet covered by a comprehensive plan. \*This 1973 amendatory act shall also apply to comprehensive plans adopted for portions of a county prior

to April 24, 1973. [1973 1st ex.s. c 172 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.70.320. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 32.]

\*Reviser's note: "This 1973 amendatory act" refers to 1973 1st ex.s. c 172 § 1.

### 36.70.330 Comprehensive plan—Required elements.

The comprehensive plan shall consist of a map or maps, and descriptive text covering objectives, principles and standards used to develop it, and shall include each of the following elements:

(1) A land use element which designates the proposed general distribution and general location and extent of the uses of land for agriculture, housing, commerce, industry, recreation, education, public buildings and lands, and other categories of public and private use of land, including a statement of the standards of population density and building intensity recommended for the various areas in the jurisdiction and estimates of future population growth in the area covered by the comprehensive plan, all correlated with the land use element of the comprehensive plan. The land use element shall also provide for protection of the quality and quantity of ground water used for public water supplies and shall review drainage, flooding, and storm water run-off in the area and nearby jurisdictions and provide guidance for corrective actions to mitigate or cleanse those discharges that pollute Puget Sound or waters entering Puget Sound;

(2) A circulation element consisting of the general location, alignment and extent of major thoroughfares, major transportation routes, trunk utility lines, and major terminal facilities, all of which shall be correlated with the land use element of the comprehensive plan;

(3) Any supporting maps, diagrams, charts, descriptive material and reports necessary to explain and supplement the above elements. [1985 c 126 § 3; 1984 c 253 § 3; 1963 c 4 § 36.70.330. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 33.]

**36.70.340 Comprehensive plan—Amplification of required elements.** When the comprehensive plan containing the mandatory subjects as set forth in RCW 36.70.330 shall have been approved by motion by the board and certified, it may thereafter be progressively amplified and augmented in scope by expanding and increasing the general provisions and proposals for all or any one of the required elements set forth in RCW 36.70.330 and by adding provisions and proposals for the optional elements set forth in RCW 36.70.350. The comprehensive plan may also be amplified and augmented in scope by progressively including more completely planned areas consisting of natural homogeneous communities, distinctive geographic areas, or other types of districts having unified interests within the total area of the county. In no case shall the comprehensive plan, whether in its entirety or area by area or subject by subject be considered to be other than in such form as to serve as a guide to the later development and adoption of official controls. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.340. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 34.]

### 36.70.350 Comprehensive plan—Optional elements.

A comprehensive plan may include—

(1) a conservation element for the conservation, development and utilization of natural resources, including water and its hydraulic force, forests, water sheds, soils, rivers and

other waters, harbors, fisheries, wild life, minerals and other natural resources,

(2) a solar energy element for encouragement and protection of access to direct sunlight for solar energy systems,

(3) a recreation element showing a comprehensive system of areas and public sites for recreation, natural reservations, parks, parkways, beaches, playgrounds and other recreational areas, including their locations and proposed development,

(4) a transportation element showing a comprehensive system of transportation, including general locations of rights of way, terminals, viaducts and grade separations. This element of the plan may also include port, harbor, aviation and related facilities,

(5) a transit element as a special phase of transportation, showing proposed systems of rail transit lines, including rapid transit in any form, and related facilities,

(6) a public services and facilities element showing general plans for sewerage, refuse disposal, drainage and local utilities, and rights of way, easements and facilities for such services,

(7) a public buildings element, showing general locations, design and arrangements of civic and community centers, and showing locations of public schools, libraries, police and fire stations and all other public buildings,

(8) a housing element, consisting of surveys and reports upon housing conditions and needs as a means of establishing housing standards to be used as a guide in dealings with official controls related to land subdivision, zoning, traffic, and other related matters,

(9) a renewal and/or redevelopment element comprising surveys, locations, and reports for the elimination of slums and other blighted areas and for community renewal and/or redevelopment, including housing sites, business and industrial sites, public building sites and for other purposes authorized by law,

(10) a plan for financing a capital improvement program,

(11) as a part of a comprehensive plan the commission may prepare, receive and approve additional elements and studies dealing with other subjects which, in its judgment, relate to the physical development of the county. [1979 ex.s. c 170 § 10; 1963 c 4 § 36.70.350. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 35.]

Severability—1979 ex.s. c 170: See note following RCW 64.04.140. "Solar energy system" defined: RCW 36.70.025.

**36.70.360 Comprehensive plan—Cooperation with affected agencies.** During the formulation of the comprehensive plan, and especially in developing a specialized element of such comprehensive plan, the planning agency may cooperate to the extent it deems necessary with such authorities, departments or agencies as may have jurisdiction over the territory or facilities for which plans are being made, to the end that maximum correlation and coordination of plans may be secured and properly located sites for all public purposes may be indicated on the comprehensive plan. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.360. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 36.]

**36.70.370 Comprehensive plan—Filing of copies.** Whenever a planning agency has developed a comprehensive

plan, or any addition or amendment thereto, covering any land outside of the boundaries of the county as provided in RCW 36.70.320, copies of any features of the comprehensive plan extending into an adjoining jurisdiction shall for purposes of information be filed with such adjoining jurisdiction. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.370. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 37.]

**36.70.380 Comprehensive plan—Public hearing required.** Before approving all or any part of the comprehensive plan or any amendment, extension or addition thereto, the commission shall hold at least one public hearing and may hold additional hearings at the discretion of the commission. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.380. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 38.]

**36.70.390 Comprehensive plan—Notice of hearing.** Notice of the time, place and purpose of any public hearing shall be given by one publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the county and in the official gazette, if any, of the county, at least ten days before the hearing. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.390. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 39.]

**36.70.400 Comprehensive plan—Approval—Required vote—Record.** The approval of the comprehensive plan, or of any amendment, extension or addition thereto, shall be by the affirmative vote of not less than a majority of the total members of the commission. Such approval shall be by a recorded motion which shall incorporate the findings of fact of the commission and the reasons for its action and the motion shall refer expressly to the maps, descriptive, and other matters intended by the commission to constitute the plan or amendment, addition or extension thereto. The indication of approval by the commission shall be recorded on the map and descriptive matter by the signatures of the chairman and the secretary of the commission and of such others as the commission in its rules may designate. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.400. Prior: 1961 c 232 § 2; 1959 c 201 § 40.]

**36.70.410 Comprehensive plan—Amendment.** When changed conditions or further studies by the planning agency indicate a need, the commission may amend, extend or add to all or part of the comprehensive plan in the manner provided herein for approval in the first instance. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.410. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 41.]

**36.70.420 Comprehensive plan—Referral to board.** A copy of a comprehensive plan or any part, amendment, extension of or addition thereto, together with the motion of the planning agency approving the same, shall be transmitted to the board for the purpose of being approved by motion and certified as provided in this chapter. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.420. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 42.]

**36.70.430 Comprehensive plan—Board may initiate or change—Notice.** When it deems it to be for the public interest, or when it considers a change in the recommendations of the planning agency to be necessary, the board may initiate consideration of a comprehensive plan, or any element or part thereof, or any change in or addition to such

plan or recommendation. The board shall first refer the proposed plan, change or addition to the planning agency for a report and recommendation. Before making a report and recommendation, the commission shall hold at least one public hearing on the proposed plan, change or addition. Notice of the time and place and purpose of the hearing shall be given by one publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the county and in the official gazette, if any, of the county, at least ten days before the hearing. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.430. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 43.]

**36.70.440 Comprehensive plan—Board may approve or change—Notice.** After the receipt of the report and recommendations of the planning agency on the matters referred to in RCW 36.70.430, or after the lapse of the prescribed time for the rendering of such report and recommendation by the commission, the board may approve by motion and certify such plan, change or addition without further reference to the commission: PROVIDED, That the plan, change or addition conforms either to the proposal as initiated by the county or the recommendation thereon by the commission: PROVIDED FURTHER, That if the planning agency has failed to report within a ninety day period, the board shall hold at least one public hearing on the proposed plan, change or addition. Notice of the time, place and purpose of the hearing shall be given by one publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the county and in the official gazette, if any, of the county, at least ten days before the hearing. Thereafter, the board may proceed to approve by motion and certify the proposed comprehensive plan or any part, amendment or addition thereto. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.440. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 44.]

**36.70.450 Planning agency—Relating projects to comprehensive plan.** After a board has approved by motion and certified all or parts of a comprehensive plan for a county or for any part of a county, the planning agency shall use such plan as the basic source of reference and as a guide in reporting upon or recommending any proposed project, public or private, as to its purpose, location, form, alignment and timing. The report of the planning agency on any project shall indicate wherein the proposed project does or does not conform to the purpose of the comprehensive plan and may include proposals which, if effected, would make the project conform. If the planning agency finds that a proposed project reveals the justification or necessity for amending the comprehensive plan or any part of it, it may institute proceedings to accomplish such amendment, and in its report to the board on the project shall note that appropriate amendments to the comprehensive plan, or part thereof, are being initiated. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.450. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 45.]

**36.70.460 Planning agency—Annual report.** After all or part of the comprehensive plan of a county has been approved by motion and certified, the planning agency shall render an annual report to the board on the status of the plan and accomplishments thereunder. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.460. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 46.]

**36.70.470 Planning agency—Promotion of public interest in plan.** Each planning agency shall endeavor to promote public interest in, and understanding of, the comprehensive plan and its purpose, and of the official controls related to it. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.470. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 47.]

**36.70.480 Planning agency—Cooperation with agencies.** Each planning agency shall, to the extent it deems necessary, cooperate with officials and agencies, public utility companies, civic, educational, professional and other organizations and citizens generally with relation to carrying out the purpose of the comprehensive plan. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.480. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 48.]

**36.70.490 Information to be furnished agency.** Upon request, all public officials or agencies shall furnish to the planning agency within a reasonable time such available information as is required for the work of the planning agency. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.490. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 49.]

**36.70.500 Right of entry—Commission or planning staff.** In the performance of their functions and duties, duly authorized members of a commission or planning staff may enter upon any land and make examinations and surveys: PROVIDED, That such entries, examinations and surveys do not damage or interfere with the use of the land by those persons lawfully entitled to the possession thereof. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.500. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 50.]

**36.70.510 Special referred matters—Reports.** By general or special rule the board creating a planning agency may provide that other matters shall be referred to the planning agency before final action is taken thereupon by the board or officer having final authority on the matter, and final action thereon shall not be taken upon the matter so referred until the planning agency has submitted its report within such period of time as the board shall designate. In reporting upon the matters referred to in this section the planning agency may make such investigations, maps, reports and recommendations as it deems desirable. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.510. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 51.]

**36.70.520 Required submission of capital expenditure projects.** At least five months before the end of each fiscal year each county officer, department, board or commission and each governmental body whose jurisdiction lies entirely within the county, except incorporated cities and towns, whose functions include preparing and recommending plans for, or constructing major public works, shall submit to the respective planning agency a list of the proposed public works being recommended for initiation or construction during the ensuing fiscal year. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.520. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 52.]

**36.70.530 Relating capital expenditure projects to comprehensive plan.** The planning agency shall list all such matters referred to in RCW 36.70.520 and shall prepare for and submit a report to the board which report shall set forth how each proposed project relates to all other proposed

projects on the list and to all features in the comprehensive plan both as to location and timing. The planning agency shall report to the board through the planning director if there be such. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.530. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 53.]

**36.70.540 Referral procedure—Reports.** Whenever a county legislative authority has approved by motion and certified all or part of a comprehensive plan, no road, square, park or other public ground or open space shall be acquired by dedication or otherwise and no public building or structure shall be constructed or authorized to be constructed in the area to which the comprehensive plan applies until its location, purpose and extent has been submitted to and reported upon by the planning agency. The report by the planning agency shall set forth the manner and the degree to which the proposed project does or does not conform to the objectives of the comprehensive plan. If final authority is vested by law in some governmental officer or body other than the county legislative authority, such officer or governmental body shall report the project to the planning agency and the planning agency shall render its report to such officer or governmental body. In both cases the report of the planning agency shall be advisory only. Failure of the planning agency to report on such matter so referred to it within forty days or such longer time as the county legislative authority or other governmental officer or body may indicate, shall be deemed to be approval. [1991 c 363 § 80; 1963 c 4 § 36.70.540. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 54.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.70.545 Development regulations—Consistency with comprehensive plan.** Beginning July 1, 1992, the development regulations of each county that does not plan under RCW 36.70A.040 shall not be inconsistent with the county's comprehensive plan. For the purposes of this section, "development regulations" has the same meaning as set forth in RCW 36.70A.030. [1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 24.]

**Severability—Part, section headings not law—1990 1st ex.s. c 17:** See RCW 36.70A.900 and 36.70A.901.

**36.70.550 Official controls.** From time to time, the planning agency may, or if so requested by the board shall, cause to be prepared official controls which, when adopted by ordinance by the board, will further the objectives and goals of the comprehensive plan. The planning agency may also draft such regulations, programs and legislation as may, in its judgment, be required to preserve the integrity of the comprehensive plan and assure its systematic execution, and the planning agency may recommend such plans, regulations, programs and legislation to the board for adoption. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.550. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 55.]

**36.70.560 Official controls—Forms of controls.** Official controls may include:

- (1) Maps showing the exact boundaries of zones within each of which separate controls over the type and degree of permissible land uses are defined;
- (2) Maps for streets showing the exact alignment, gradients, dimensions and other pertinent features, and



including specific controls with reference to protecting such accurately defined future rights of way against encroachment by buildings, other physical structures or facilities;

(3) Maps for other public facilities, such as parks, playgrounds, civic centers, etc., showing exact location, size, boundaries and other related features, including appropriate regulations protecting such future sites against encroachment by buildings and other physical structures or facilities;

(4) Specific regulations and controls pertaining to other subjects incorporated in the comprehensive plan or establishing standards and procedures to be employed in land development including, but not limited to, subdividing of land and the approval of land plats and the preservation of streets and lands for other public purposes requiring future dedication or acquisition and general design of physical improvements, and the encouragement and protection of access to direct sunlight for solar energy systems. [1979 ex.s. c 170 § 11; 1963 c 4 § 36.70.560. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 56.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 170:** See note following RCW 64.04.140. "Solar energy system" defined: RCW 36.70.025.

**36.70.570 Official controls—Adoption.** Official controls shall be adopted by ordinance and shall further the purpose and objectives of a comprehensive plan and parts thereof. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.570. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 57.]

**36.70.580 Official controls—Public hearing by commission.** Before recommending an official control or amendment to the board for adoption, the commission shall hold at least one public hearing. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.580. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 58.]

**36.70.590 Official controls—Notice of hearing.** Notice of the time, place and purpose of the hearing shall be given by one publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the county and in the official gazette, if any, of the county at least ten days before the hearing. The board may prescribe additional methods for providing notice. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.590. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 59.]

**36.70.600 Official controls—Recommendation to board—Required vote.** The recommendation to the board of any official control or amendments thereto by the planning agency shall be by the affirmative vote of not less than a majority of the total members of the commission. Such approval shall be by a recorded motion which shall incorporate the findings of fact of the commission and the reasons for its action and the motion shall refer expressly to the maps, descriptive and other matters intended by the commission to constitute the plan, or amendment, addition or extension thereto. The indication of approval by the commission shall be recorded on the map and descriptive matter by the signatures of the chairman and the secretary of the commission and of such others as the commission in its rules may designate. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.600. Prior: 1961 c 232 § 3; 1959 c 201 § 60.]

**36.70.610 Official controls—Reference to board.** A copy of any official control or amendment recommended

pursuant to RCW 36.70.550, 36.70.560, 36.70.570 and 36.70.580 shall be submitted to the board not later than fourteen days following the action by the commission and shall be accompanied by the motion of the planning agency approving the same, together with a statement setting forth the factors considered at the hearing, and analysis of findings considered by the commission to be controlling. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.610. Prior: 1961 c 232 § 4; 1959 c 201 § 61.]

**36.70.620 Official controls—Action by board.** Upon receipt of any recommended official control or amendment thereto, the board shall at its next regular public meeting set the date for a public meeting where it may, by ordinance, adopt or reject the official control or amendment. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.620. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 62.]

**36.70.630 Official controls—Board to conduct hearing, adopt findings prior to incorporating changes in recommended control.** If after considering the matter at a public meeting as provided in RCW 36.70.620 the board deems a change in the recommendations of the planning agency to be necessary, the change shall not be incorporated in the recommended control until the board shall conduct its own public hearing, giving notice thereof as provided in RCW 36.70.590, and it shall adopt its own findings of fact and statement setting forth the factors considered at the hearing and its own analysis of findings considered by it to be controlling. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.630. Prior: 1961 c 232 § 5; 1959 c 201 § 63.]

**36.70.640 Official controls—Board may initiate.** When it deems it to be for the public interest, the board may initiate consideration of an ordinance establishing an official control, or amendments to an existing official control, including those specified in RCW 36.70.560. The board shall first refer the proposed official control or amendment to the planning agency for report which shall, thereafter, be considered and processed in the same manner as that set forth in RCW 36.70.630 regarding a change in the recommendation of the planning agency. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.640. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 64.]

**36.70.650 Board final authority.** The report and recommendation by the planning agency, whether on a proposed control initiated by it, whether on a matter referred back to it by the board for further report, or whether on a matter initiated by the board, shall be advisory only and the final determination shall rest with the board. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.650. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 65.]

**36.70.660 Procedures for adoption of controls limited to planning matters.** The provisions of this chapter with references to the procedures to be followed in the adoption of official controls shall apply only to establishing official controls pertaining to subjects set forth in RCW 36.70.560. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.660. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 66.]

**36.70.670 Enforcement—Official controls.** The board may determine and establish administrative rules and procedures for the application and enforcement of official

controls, and may assign or delegate such administrative functions, powers and duties to such department or official as may be appropriate. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.670. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 67.]

**36.70.675 Child care facilities—Review of need and demand—Adoption of ordinances.** Each county that does not provide for the siting of family day care homes in zones that are designated for single family or other residential uses, and for the siting of mini-day care centers and day care centers in zones that are designated for any residential or commercial uses, shall conduct a review of the need and demand for child care facilities, including the cost of any conditional or special use permit that may be required. The review shall be completed by August 30, 1990. A copy of the findings, conclusions, and recommendations resulting from the review shall be sent to the \*department of community development by September 30, 1990.

On or before June 30, 1991, each municipality that plans and zones under this chapter shall have adopted an ordinance or ordinances that are necessary to implement the findings of this review, if the findings indicate that such changes are necessary, or shall notify the \*department of community development as to why such implementing ordinances were not adopted. [1989 c 335 § 6.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Powers, duties, and functions of the department of community development and the department of trade and economic development were transferred to the department of community, trade, and economic development by 1993 c 280, effective July 1, 1994.

**Findings—Purpose—Severability—1989 c 335:** See notes following RCW 35.63.170.

**Definitions for RCW 36.70.675:** See RCW 35.63.170.

**36.70.677 Accessory apartments.** Any local government, as defined in RCW 43.63A.215, that is planning under this chapter shall comply with RCW 43.63A.215(3). [1993 c 478 § 10.]

**36.70.680 Subdividing and platting.** The planning agency shall review all proposed land plats and subdivisions and make recommendations to the board thereon with reference to approving, or recommending any modifications necessary to assure conformance to the general purposes of the comprehensive plan and to standards and specifications established by state law or local controls. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.680. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 68.]

**36.70.690 County improvements.** No county shall improve any street or lay or authorize the laying of sewers or connections or other improvements to be laid in any street within any territory for which the board has adopted an official control in the form of precise street map or maps, until the matter has been referred to the planning agency by the department or official having jurisdiction for a report thereon and a copy of the report has been filed with the department or official making the reference unless one of the following conditions apply:

(1) The street has been accepted, opened, or has otherwise received legal status of a public street;

(2) It corresponds with and conforms to streets shown on the official controls applicable to the subject;

(3) It corresponds with and conforms to streets shown on a subdivision (land plat) approved by the board. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.690. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 69.]

**36.70.700 Planning agency—Time limit for report.** Failure of the planning agency to report on the matters referred to in RCW 36.70.690 within forty days after the reference, or such longer period as may be designated by the board, department or official making the reference, shall be deemed to be approval of such matter. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.700. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 70.]

**36.70.710 Final authority.** Reports and recommendations by the planning agency on all matters shall be advisory only, and final determination shall rest with the administrative body, official, or the board whichever has authority to decide under applicable law. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.710. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 71.]

**36.70.720 Prerequisite for zoning.** Zoning maps as an official control may be adopted only for areas covered by a comprehensive plan containing not less than a land use element and a circulation element. Zoning ordinances and maps adopted prior to June 10, 1959, are hereby validated, provided only that at the time of their enactment the comprehensive plan for the county existed according to law applicable at that time. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.720. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 72.]

**36.70.730 Text without map.** The text of a zoning ordinance may be prepared and adopted in the absence of a comprehensive plan providing no zoning map or portion of a zoning map may be adopted thereunder until there has been compliance with the provisions of RCW 36.70.720. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.730. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 73.]

**36.70.740 Zoning map—Progressive adoption.** Because of practical considerations, the total area of a county to be brought under the control of zoning may be divided into areas possessing geographical, topographical or urban identity and such divisions may be progressively and separately officially mapped. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.740. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 74.]

**36.70.750 Zoning—Types of regulations.** Any board, by ordinance, may establish classifications, within each of which, specific controls are identified, and which will:

(1) Regulate the use of buildings, structures, and land as between agriculture, industry, business, residence, and other purposes;

(2) Regulate location, height, bulk, number of stories and size of buildings and structures; the size of yards, courts, and other open spaces; the density of population; the percentage of a lot which may be occupied by buildings and structures; and the area required to provide off-street facilities for the parking of motor vehicles. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.750. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 75.]

**36.70.755 Residential care facilities—Review of need and demand—Adoption of ordinances.** Each county

that does not provide for the siting of residential care facilities in zones that are designated for single family or other residential uses, shall conduct a review of the need and demand for the facilities, including the cost of any conditional or special use permit that may be required. The review shall be completed by August 30, 1990. A copy of the findings, conclusions, and recommendations resulting from the review shall be sent to the \*department of community development by September 30, 1990.

On or before June 30, 1991, each municipality that plans and zones under this chapter shall have adopted an ordinance or ordinances that are necessary to implement the findings of this review, if the findings indicate that such changes are necessary, or shall notify the \*department of community development as to why such implementing ordinances were not adopted. [1989 c 427 § 38.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Powers, duties, and functions of the department of community development and the department of trade and economic development were transferred to the department of community, trade, and economic development by 1993 c 280, effective July 1, 1994.

**Severability—1989 c 427:** See RCW 74.39.900.

*Report to legislature, model ordinance:* RCW 70.128.180.

**36.70.760 Establishing zones.** For the purpose set forth in RCW 36.70.750 the county may divide a county, or portions thereof, into zones which, by number, shape, area and classification are deemed to be best suited to carry out the purposes of this chapter. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.760. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 76.]

**36.70.770 All regulations shall be uniform in each zone.** All regulations shall be uniform in each zone, but the regulations in one zone may differ from those in other zones. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.770. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 77.]

**36.70.780 Classifying unmapped areas.** After the adoption of the first map provided for in RCW 36.70.740, and pending the time that all property within a county can be precisely zoned through the medium of a zoning map, all properties not so precisely zoned by map shall be given a classification affording said properties such broad protective controls as may be deemed appropriate and necessary to serve public and private interests. Such controls shall be clearly set forth in the zoning ordinance in the form of a zone classification, and such classification shall apply to such areas until they shall have been included in the detailed zoning map in the manner provided for the adoption of a zoning map. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.780. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 78.]

**36.70.790 Interim zoning.** If the planning agency in good faith, is conducting or intends to conduct studies within a reasonable time for the purpose of, or is holding a hearing for the purpose of, or has held a hearing and has recommended to the board the adoption of any zoning map or amendment or addition thereto, or in the event that new territory for which no zoning may have been adopted as set forth in RCW 36.70.800 may be annexed to a county, the board, in order to protect the public safety, health and general welfare may, after report from the commission, adopt as an emergency measure a temporary interim zoning

map the purpose of which shall be to so classify or regulate uses and related matters as constitute the emergency. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.790. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 79.]

**36.70.795 Moratoria, interim zoning controls—Public hearing—Limitation on length.** A board that adopts a moratorium, interim zoning map, interim zoning ordinance, or interim official control without holding a public hearing on the proposed moratorium, interim zoning map, interim zoning ordinance, or interim official control, shall hold a public hearing on the adopted moratorium, interim zoning map, interim zoning ordinance, or interim official control within at least sixty days of its adoption, whether or not the board received a recommendation on the matter from the commission or department. If the board does not adopt findings of fact justifying its action before this hearing, then the board shall do so immediately after this public hearing. A moratorium, interim zoning map, interim zoning ordinance, or interim official control adopted under this section may be effective for not longer than six months, but may be effective for up to one year if a work plan is developed for related studies providing for such a longer period. A moratorium, interim zoning map, interim zoning ordinance, or interim official control may be renewed for one or more six-month periods if a subsequent public hearing is held and findings of fact are made prior to each renewal. [1992 c 207 § 4.]

**36.70.800 Procedural amendments—Zoning ordinance.** An amendment to the text of a zoning ordinance which does not impose, remove or modify any regulation theretofore existing and affecting the zoning status of land shall be processed in the same manner prescribed by this chapter for the adoption of an official control except that no public hearing shall be required either by the commission or the board. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.800. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 80.]

**36.70.810 Board of adjustment—Authority.** The board of adjustment, subject to appropriate conditions and safeguards as provided by the zoning ordinance or the ordinance establishing the board of adjustment, if there be such, shall hear and decide:

(1) Applications for conditional uses or other permits when the zoning ordinance sets forth the specific uses to be made subject to conditional use permits and establishes criteria for determining the conditions to be imposed;

(2) Application for variances from the terms of the zoning ordinance: PROVIDED, That any variance granted shall be subject to such conditions as will assure that the adjustment thereby authorized shall not constitute a grant of special privilege inconsistent with the limitations upon other properties in the vicinity and zone in which subject property is situated, and that the following circumstances are found to apply;

(a) because of special circumstances applicable to subject property, including size, shape, topography, location or surroundings, the strict application of the zoning ordinance is found to deprive subject property of rights and privileges enjoyed by other properties in the vicinity and under identical zone classification;

(b) that the granting of the variance will not be material-ly detrimental to the public welfare or injurious to the property or improvements in the vicinity and zone in which subject property is situated.

(3) Appeals, where it is alleged by the applicant that there is error in any order, requirement, permit, decision, or determination made by an administrative official in the administration or enforcement of this chapter or any ordinance adopted pursuant to it. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.810. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 81.]

**36.70.820 Board of adjustment—Quasi judicial powers.** The board of adjustment may also exercise such other quasi judicial powers as may be granted by county ordinance. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.820. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 82.]

**36.70.830 Board of adjustment—Appeals—Time limit.** Appeals may be taken to the board of adjustment by any person aggrieved, or by any officer, department, board or bureau of the county affected by any decision of an administrative official. Such appeals shall be filed in writing in duplicate with the board of adjustment within twenty days of the date of the action being appealed. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.830. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 83.]

**36.70.840 Board of adjustment—Notice of time and place of hearing on conditional permit.** Upon the filing of an application for a conditional use permit or a variance as set forth in RCW 36.70.810, the board of adjustment shall set the time and place for a public hearing on such matter, and written notice thereof shall be addressed through the United States mail to all property owners of record within a radius of three hundred feet of the exterior boundaries of subject property. The written notice shall be mailed not less than twelve days prior to the hearing. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.840. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 84.]

**36.70.850 Board of adjustment—Appeal—Notice of time and place.** Upon the filing of an appeal from an administrative determination, or from the action of the zoning adjustor, the board of adjustment shall set the time and place at which the matter will be considered. At least a ten day notice of such time and place together with one copy of the written appeal, shall be given to the official whose decision is being appealed. At least ten days notice of the time and place shall also be given to the adverse parties of record in the case. The officer from whom the appeal is being taken shall forthwith transmit to the board of adjustment all of the records pertaining to the decision being appealed from, together with such additional written report as he deems pertinent. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.850. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 85.]

**36.70.860 Board of adjustment—Scope of authority on appeal.** In exercising the powers granted by RCW 36.70.810 and 36.70.820, the board of adjustment may, in conformity with this chapter, reverse or affirm, wholly or in part, or may modify the order, requirement, decision or determination appealed from, and may make such order, requirement, decision or determination as should be made and, to that end, shall have all the powers of the officer from

whom the appeal is taken, insofar as the decision on the particular issue is concerned. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.860. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 86.]

**36.70.870 Zoning adjustor—Powers and duties.** If the office of zoning adjustor is established as provided in this chapter, all of the provisions of this chapter defining the powers, duties, and procedures of the board of adjustment shall also apply to the zoning adjustor. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.870. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 87.]

**36.70.880 Zoning adjustor—Action final unless appealed.** The action by the zoning adjustor on all matters coming before him shall be final and conclusive unless within ten days after the zoning adjustor has made his order, requirement, decision or determination, an appeal in writing is filed with the board of adjustment. Such an appeal may be taken by the original applicant, or by opponents of record in the case. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.880. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 88.]

**36.70.890 Board of adjustment—Action final—Writs.** The action by the board of adjustment on an application for a conditional use permit or a variance, or on an appeal from the decision of the zoning adjustor or an administrative officer shall be final and conclusive unless within ten days from the date of said action the original applicant or an adverse party makes application to a court of competent jurisdiction for a writ of certiorari, a writ of prohibition or a writ of mandamus. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.890. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 89.]

**36.70.900 Inclusion of findings of fact.** Both the board of adjustment and the zoning adjustor shall, in making an order, requirement, decision or determination, include in a written record of the case the findings of fact upon which the action is based. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.900. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 90.]

**36.70.910 Short title.** This chapter shall be known as the "Planning Enabling Act of the State of Washington". [1963 c 4 § 36.70.910. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 91.]

**36.70.920 Duties and responsibilities imposed by other acts.** Any duties and responsibilities which by other acts are imposed upon a planning commission shall, after June 10, 1959, be performed by a planning agency however constituted. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.920. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 92.]

**36.70.930 Chapter alternative method.** This chapter shall not repeal, amend, or modify any other law providing for planning methods but shall be deemed an alternative method providing for such purpose. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.930. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 93.]

**36.70.940 Elective adoption.** Any county or counties presently operating under the provisions of chapter 35.63 RCW may elect to operate henceforth under the provisions of this chapter. Such election shall be effected by the

adoption of an ordinance under the procedure prescribed by RCW 36.32.120(7), and by compliance with the provisions of this chapter. [1963 c 4 § 36.70.940. Prior: 1959 c 201 § 94.]

**36.70.970 Hearing examiner system—Adoption authorized—Alternative—Functions—Procedures.** (1) As an alternative to those provisions of this chapter relating to powers or duties of the planning commission to hear and issue recommendations on applications for plat approval and applications for amendments to the zoning ordinance, the county legislative authority may adopt a hearing examiner system under which a hearing examiner or hearing examiners may hear and issue decisions on proposals for plat approval and for amendments to the zoning ordinance when the amendment which is applied for is not of general applicability. In addition, the legislative authority may vest in a hearing examiner the power to hear and decide conditional use applications, variance applications, applications for shoreline permits or any other class of applications for or pertaining to land uses. The legislative authority shall prescribe procedures to be followed by a hearing examiner.

Any county which vests in a hearing examiner the authority to hear and decide conditional uses and variances shall not be required to have a zoning adjuster or board of adjustment.

Each county legislative authority electing to use a hearing examiner pursuant to this section shall by ordinance specify the legal effect of the decisions made by the examiner. Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, such legal effect may vary for the different classes of applications decided by the examiner but shall include one of the following:

(a) The decision may be given the effect of a recommendation to the legislative authority;

(b) The decision may be given the effect of an administrative decision appealable within a specified time limit to the legislative authority.

(2) The legislative authority may specify the legal effect of a hearing examiner's procedural determination under the state environmental policy act, as defined in RCW 43.21C.075(3)(a). It may have the effect under subsection (1) (a) or (b) of this section, or may be given the effect of a final decision of the legislative authority.

(3) Each final decision of a hearing examiner shall be in writing and shall include findings and conclusions, based on the record, to support the decision. Such findings and conclusions shall also set forth the manner in which the decision would carry out and conform to the county's comprehensive plan and the county's development regulations. Each final decision of a hearing examiner, unless a longer period is mutually agreed to in writing by the applicant and the hearing examiner, shall be rendered within ten working days following conclusion of all testimony and hearings. [1994 c 257 § 9; 1977 ex.s. c 213 § 3.]

**Severability—1994 c 257:** See note following RCW 36.70A.270.

**Severability—1977 ex.s. c 213:** See note following RCW 35.63.130.

**36.70.980 Conformance with chapter 43.97 RCW required.** With respect to the National Scenic Area, as defined in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area

Act, P.L. 99-663, the exercise of any power or authority by a county or city pursuant to this chapter shall be subject to and in conformity with the requirements of chapter 43.97 RCW, including the Interstate Compact adopted by RCW 43.97.015, and with the management plan regulations and ordinances adopted by the Columbia River Gorge commission pursuant to the Compact. [1987 c 499 § 9.]

**36.70.990 Treatment of residential structures occupied by persons with handicaps.** No county may enact or maintain an ordinance, development regulation, zoning regulation or official control, policy, or administrative practice which treats a residential structure occupied by persons with handicaps differently than a similar residential structure occupied by a family or other unrelated individuals. As used in this section, "handicaps" are as defined in the federal fair housing amendments act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 3602). [1993 c 478 § 22.]

### Chapter 36.70A

#### GROWTH MANAGEMENT—PLANNING BY SELECTED COUNTIES AND CITIES

##### Sections

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**36.70A.010 Legislative findings.** The legislature finds that uncoordinated and unplanned growth, together with a lack of common goals expressing the public's interest in the conservation and the wise use of our lands, pose a threat to the environment, sustainable economic development, and the health, safety, and high quality of life enjoyed by residents of this state. It is in the public interest that citizens, communities, local governments, and the private sector cooperate and coordinate with one another in comprehensive land use planning. Further, the legislature finds that it is in the public interest that economic development programs be shared with communities experiencing insufficient economic growth. [1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 1.]

**36.70A.020 Planning goals.** The following goals are adopted to guide the development and adoption of comprehensive plans and development regulations of those counties and cities that are required or choose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040. The following goals are not listed in order of priority and shall be used exclusively for the purpose of guiding the development of comprehensive plans and development regulations:

- (1) Urban growth. Encourage development in urban areas where adequate public facilities and services exist or can be provided in an efficient manner.
- (2) Reduce sprawl. Reduce the inappropriate conversion of undeveloped land into sprawling, low-density development.
- (3) Transportation. Encourage efficient multimodal transportation systems that are based on regional priorities and coordinated with county and city comprehensive plans.
- (4) Housing. Encourage the availability of affordable housing to all economic segments of the population of this state, promote a variety of residential densities and housing types, and encourage preservation of existing housing stock.
- (5) Economic development. Encourage economic development throughout the state that is consistent with adopted comprehensive plans, promote economic opportunity for all citizens of this state, especially for unemployed and for disadvantaged persons, and encourage growth in areas experiencing insufficient economic growth, all within the capacities of the state's natural resources, public services, and public facilities.
- (6) Property rights. Private property shall not be taken for public use without just compensation having been made. The property rights of landowners shall be protected from arbitrary and discriminatory actions.

(7) Permits. Applications for both state and local government permits should be processed in a timely and fair manner to ensure predictability.

(8) Natural resource industries. Maintain and enhance natural resource-based industries, including productive timber, agricultural, and fisheries industries. Encourage the conservation of productive forest lands and productive agricultural lands, and discourage incompatible uses.

(9) Open space and recreation. Encourage the retention of open space and development of recreational opportunities, conserve fish and wildlife habitat, increase access to natural resource lands and water, and develop parks.

(10) Environment. Protect the environment and enhance the state's high quality of life, including air and water quality, and the availability of water.

(11) Citizen participation and coordination. Encourage the involvement of citizens in the planning process and ensure coordination between communities and jurisdictions to reconcile conflicts.

(12) Public facilities and services. Ensure that those public facilities and services necessary to support development shall be adequate to serve the development at the time the development is available for occupancy and use without decreasing current service levels below locally established minimum standards.

(13) Historic preservation. Identify and encourage the preservation of lands, sites, and structures, that have historical or archaeological significance. [1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 2.]

**36.70A.030 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Adopt a comprehensive land use plan" means to enact a new comprehensive land use plan or to update an existing comprehensive land use plan.

(2) "Agricultural land" means land primarily devoted to the commercial production of horticultural, viticultural, floricultural, dairy, apiary, vegetable, or animal products or of berries, grain, hay, straw, turf, seed, Christmas trees or subject to the excise tax imposed by RCW 84.33.100 through 84.33.140, finfish in upland hatcheries, or livestock, and that has long-term commercial significance for agricultural production.

(3) "City" means any city or town, including a code city.

(4) "Comprehensive land use plan," "comprehensive plan," or "plan" means a generalized coordinated land use policy statement of the governing body of a county or city that is adopted pursuant to this chapter.

(5) "Critical areas" include the following areas and ecosystems: (a) Wetlands; (b) areas with a critical recharging effect on aquifers used for potable water; (c) fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas; (d) frequently flooded areas; and (e) geologically hazardous areas.

(6) "Department" means the department of community, trade, and economic development.

(7) For purposes of RCW 36.70A.065 and 36.70A.440, "development permit application" means any application for a development proposal for a use that could be permitted under a plan adopted pursuant to this chapter and is consistent with the underlying land use and zoning, including but

not limited to building permits, subdivisions, binding site plans, planned unit developments, conditional uses or other applications pertaining to land uses, but shall not include rezones, proposed amendments to comprehensive plans or the adoption or amendment of development regulations.

(8) "Development regulations" means any controls placed on development or land use activities by a county or city, including, but not limited to, zoning ordinances, official controls, planned unit development ordinances, subdivision ordinances, and binding site plan ordinances.

(9) "Forest land" means land primarily devoted to growing trees for long-term commercial timber production on land that can be economically and practically managed for such production, including Christmas trees subject to the excise tax imposed under RCW 84.33.100 through 84.33.140, and that has long-term commercial significance. In determining whether forest land is primarily devoted to growing trees for long-term commercial timber production on land that can be economically and practically managed for such production, the following factors shall be considered: (a) The proximity of the land to urban, suburban, and rural settlements; (b) surrounding parcel size and the compatibility and intensity of adjacent and nearby land uses; (c) long-term local economic conditions that affect the ability to manage for timber production; and (d) the availability of public facilities and services conducive to conversion of forest land to other uses.

(10) "Geologically hazardous areas" means areas that because of their susceptibility to erosion, sliding, earthquake, or other geological events, are not suited to the siting of commercial, residential, or industrial development consistent with public health or safety concerns.

(11) "Long-term commercial significance" includes the growing capacity, productivity, and soil composition of the land for long-term commercial production, in consideration with the land's proximity to population areas, and the possibility of more intense uses of the land.

(12) "Minerals" include gravel, sand, and valuable metallic substances.

(13) "Public facilities" include streets, roads, highways, sidewalks, street and road lighting systems, traffic signals, domestic water systems, storm and sanitary sewer systems, parks and recreational facilities, and schools.

(14) "Public services" include fire protection and suppression, law enforcement, public health, education, recreation, environmental protection, and other governmental services.

(15) "Urban growth" refers to growth that makes intensive use of land for the location of buildings, structures, and impermeable surfaces to such a degree as to be incompatible with the primary use of such land for the production of food, other agricultural products, or fiber, or the extraction of mineral resources. When allowed to spread over wide areas, urban growth typically requires urban governmental services. "Characterized by urban growth" refers to land having urban growth located on it, or to land located in relationship to an area with urban growth on it as to be appropriate for urban growth.

(16) "Urban growth areas" means those areas designated by a county pursuant to RCW 36.70A.110.

(17) "Urban governmental services" include those governmental services historically and typically delivered by

cities, and include storm and sanitary sewer systems, domestic water systems, street cleaning services, fire and police protection services, public transit services, and other public utilities associated with urban areas and normally not associated with nonurban areas.

(18) "Wetland" or "wetlands" means areas that are inundated or saturated by surface water or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas. Wetlands do not include those artificial wetlands intentionally created from nonwetland sites, including, but not limited to, irrigation and drainage ditches, grass-lined swales, canals, detention facilities, wastewater treatment facilities, farm ponds, and landscape amenities. However, wetlands may include those artificial wetlands intentionally created from nonwetland areas created to mitigate conversion of wetlands, if permitted by the county or city. [1994 c 307 § 2; 1994 c 257 § 5; 1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 3.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 1994 c 257 § 5 and by 1994 c 307 § 2, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section pursuant to RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Finding—Intent—1994 c 307:** "The legislature finds that it is in the public interest to identify and provide long-term conservation of those productive natural resource lands that are critical to and can be managed economically and practically for long-term commercial production of food, fiber, and minerals. Successful achievement of the natural resource industries' goal set forth in RCW 36.70A.020 requires the conservation of a land base sufficient in size and quality to maintain and enhance those industries and the development and use of land use techniques that discourage uses incompatible to the management of designated lands. The 1994 amendment to RCW 36.70A.030(8) (section 2(8), chapter 307, Laws of 1994) is intended to clarify legislative intent regarding the designation of forest lands and is not intended to require every county that has already complied with the interim forest land designation requirement of RCW 36.70A.170 to review its actions until the adoption of its comprehensive plans and development regulations as provided in RCW 36.70A.060(3)." [1994 c 307 § 1.]

**Effective date—1994 c 257 § 5:** "Section 5 of this act shall take effect July 1, 1994." [1994 c 257 § 25.]

**Severability—1994 c 257:** See note following RCW 36.70A.270.

**36.70A.040 Who must plan.** (1) Each county that has both a population of fifty thousand or more and has had its population increase by more than ten percent in the previous ten years, and the cities located within such county, and any other county regardless of its population that has had its population increase by more than twenty percent in the previous ten years, and the cities located within such county, shall conform with all of the requirements of this chapter. However, the county legislative authority of such a county with a population of less than fifty thousand population may adopt a resolution removing the county, and the cities located within the county, from the requirements of adopting comprehensive land use plans and development regulations under this chapter if this resolution is adopted and filed with the department by December 31, 1990, for counties initially meeting this set of criteria, or within sixty days of the date the office of financial management certifies that a county meets this set of criteria under subsection (5) of this section.



Once a county meets either of these sets of criteria, the requirement to conform with all of the requirements of this chapter remains in effect, even if the county no longer meets one of these sets of criteria.

(2) The county legislative authority of any county that does not meet either of the sets of criteria established under subsection (1) of this section may adopt a resolution indicating its intention to have subsection (1) of this section apply to the county. Each city, located in a county that chooses to plan under this subsection, shall conform with all of the requirements of this chapter. Once such a resolution has been adopted, the county and the cities located within the county remain subject to all of the requirements of this chapter.

(3) Any county or city that is initially required to conform with all of the requirements of this chapter under subsection (1) of this section shall take actions under this chapter as follows: (a) The county legislative authority shall adopt a county-wide planning policy under RCW 36.70A.210; (b) the county and each city located within the county shall designate critical areas, agricultural lands, forest lands, and mineral resource lands, and adopt development regulations conserving these designated agricultural lands, forest lands, and mineral resource lands and protecting these designated critical areas, under RCW 36.70A.170 and 36.70A.060; (c) the county shall designate and take other actions related to urban growth areas under RCW 36.70A.110; (d) if the county has a population of fifty thousand or more, the county and each city located within the county shall adopt a comprehensive plan under this chapter and development regulations that are consistent with and implement the comprehensive plan on or before July 1, 1994, and if the county has a population of less than fifty thousand, the county and each city located within the county shall adopt a comprehensive plan under this chapter and development regulations that are consistent with and implement the comprehensive plan by January 1, 1995, but if the governor makes written findings that a county with a population of less than fifty thousand or a city located within such a county is not making reasonable progress toward adopting a comprehensive plan and development regulations the governor may reduce this deadline for such actions to be taken by no more than one hundred eighty days. Any county or city subject to this subsection may obtain an additional six months before it is required to have adopted its development regulations by submitting a letter notifying the \*department of community development of its need prior to the deadline for adopting both a comprehensive plan and development regulations.

(4) Any county or city that is required to conform with all the requirements of this chapter, as a result of the county legislative authority adopting its resolution of intention under subsection (2) of this section, shall take actions under this chapter as follows: (a) The county legislative authority shall adopt a county-wide planning policy under RCW 36.70A.210; (b) the county and each city that is located within the county shall adopt development regulations conserving agricultural lands, forest lands, and mineral resource lands it designated under RCW 36.70A.060 within one year of the date the county legislative authority adopts its resolution of intention; (c) the county shall designate and take other actions related to urban growth areas under RCW

36.70A.110; and (d) the county and each city that is located within the county shall adopt a comprehensive plan and development regulations that are consistent with and implement the comprehensive plan not later than four years from the date the county legislative authority adopts its resolution of intention, but a county or city may obtain an additional six months before it is required to have adopted its development regulations by submitting a letter notifying the \*department of community development of its need prior to the deadline for adopting both a comprehensive plan and development regulations.

(5) If the office of financial management certifies that the population of a county that previously had not been required to plan under subsection (1) or (2) of this section has changed sufficiently to meet either of the sets of criteria specified under subsection (1) of this section, and where applicable, the county legislative authority has not adopted a resolution removing the county from these requirements as provided in subsection (1) of this section, the county and each city within such county shall take actions under this chapter as follows: (a) The county legislative authority shall adopt a county-wide planning policy under RCW 36.70A.210; (b) the county and each city located within the county shall adopt development regulations under RCW 36.70A.060 conserving agricultural lands, forest lands, and mineral resource lands it designated within one year of the certification by the office of financial management; (c) the county shall designate and take other actions related to urban growth areas under RCW 36.70A.110; and (d) the county and each city located within the county shall adopt a comprehensive land use plan and development regulations that are consistent with and implement the comprehensive plan within four years of the certification by the office of financial management, but a county or city may obtain an additional six months before it is required to have adopted its development regulations by submitting a letter notifying the \*department of community development of its need prior to the deadline for adopting both a comprehensive plan and development regulations.

(6) A copy of each document that is required under this section shall be submitted to the department at the time of its adoption. [1993 sp.s. c 6 § 1; 1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 4.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Powers, duties, and functions of the department of community development and the department of trade and economic development were transferred to the department of community, trade, and economic development by 1993 c 280, effective July 1, 1994.

**Effective date—1993 sp.s. c 6:** "This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect June 1, 1993." [1993 sp.s. c 6 § 7.]

**36.70A.045 Phasing of comprehensive plan submittal.** The department may adopt a schedule to permit phasing of comprehensive plan submittal for counties and cities planning under RCW 36.70A.040. This schedule shall not permit a comprehensive plan to be submitted greater than one hundred eighty days past the date that the plan was required to be submitted and shall be used to facilitate expeditious review and interjurisdictional coordination of comprehensive plans and development regulations. [1991 sp.s. c 32 § 15.]

**36.70A.050 Guidelines to classify agriculture, forest, and mineral lands and critical areas.** (1) Subject to the definitions provided in RCW 36.70A.030, the department shall adopt guidelines, under chapter 34.05 RCW, no later than September 1, 1990, to guide the classification of: (a) Agricultural lands; (b) forest lands; (c) mineral resource lands; and (d) critical areas. The department shall consult with the department of agriculture regarding guidelines for agricultural lands, the department of natural resources regarding forest lands and mineral resource lands, and the department of ecology regarding critical areas.

(2) In carrying out its duties under this section, the department shall consult with interested parties, including but not limited to: (a) Representatives of cities; (b) representatives of counties; (c) representatives of developers; (d) representatives of builders; (e) representatives of owners of agricultural lands, forest lands, and mining lands; (f) representatives of local economic development officials; (g) representatives of environmental organizations; (h) representatives of special districts; (i) representatives of the governor's office and federal and state agencies; and (j) representatives of Indian tribes. In addition to the consultation required under this subsection, the department shall conduct public hearings in the various regions of the state. The department shall consider the public input obtained at such public hearings when adopting the guidelines.

(3) The guidelines under subsection (1) of this section shall be minimum guidelines that apply to all jurisdictions, but also shall allow for regional differences that exist in Washington state. The intent of these guidelines is to assist counties and cities in designating the classification of agricultural lands, forest lands, mineral resource lands, and critical areas under RCW 36.70A.170.

(4) The guidelines established by the department under this section regarding classification of forest lands shall not be inconsistent with guidelines adopted by the department of natural resources. [1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 5.]

**36.70A.060 Natural resource lands and critical areas—Development regulations.** (1) Each county that is required or chooses to plan under RCW 36.70A.040, and each city within such county, shall adopt development regulations on or before September 1, 1991, to assure the conservation of agricultural, forest, and mineral resource lands designated under RCW 36.70A.170. Regulations adopted under this subsection may not prohibit uses legally existing on any parcel prior to their adoption and shall remain in effect until the county or city adopts development regulations pursuant to RCW 36.70A.120. Such regulations shall assure that the use of lands adjacent to agricultural, forest, or mineral resource lands shall not interfere with the continued use, in the accustomed manner and in accordance with best management practices, of these designated lands for the production of food, agricultural products, or timber, or for the extraction of minerals. Counties and cities shall require that all plats, short plats, development permits, and building permits issued for development activities on, or within three hundred feet of, lands designated as agricultural lands, forest lands, or mineral resource lands, contain a notice that the subject property is within or near designated agricultural lands, forest lands, or mineral resource lands on

which a variety of commercial activities may occur that are not compatible with residential development for certain periods of limited duration.

(2) Each county and city shall adopt development regulations that protect critical areas that are required to be designated under RCW 36.70A.170. For counties and cities that are required or choose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040, such development regulations shall be adopted on or before September 1, 1991. For the remainder of the counties and cities, such development regulations shall be adopted on or before March 1, 1992.

(3) Such counties and cities shall review these designations and development regulations when adopting their comprehensive plans under RCW 36.70A.040 and implementing development regulations under RCW 36.70A.120 and may alter such designations and development regulations to insure consistency.

(4) Forest land and agricultural land located within urban growth areas shall not be designated by a county or city as forest land or agricultural land of long-term commercial significance under RCW 36.70A.170 unless the city or county has enacted a program authorizing transfer or purchase of development rights. [1991 sp.s. c 32 § 21; 1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 6.]

**36.70A.065 Development regulations—Requirements.** Development regulations adopted pursuant to RCW 36.70A.040 shall establish time periods for local government actions on specific development permit applications and provide timely and predictable procedures to determine whether a completed development permit application meets the requirements of those development regulations. Such development regulations shall specify the contents of a completed development permit application necessary for the application of such time periods and procedures. [1994 c 257 § 3.]

**Severability—1994 c 257:** See note following RCW 36.70A.270.

**36.70A.070 Comprehensive plans—Mandatory elements.** The comprehensive plan of a county or city that is required or chooses to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 shall consist of a map or maps, and descriptive text covering objectives, principles, and standards used to develop the comprehensive plan. The plan shall be an internally consistent document and all elements shall be consistent with the future land use map. A comprehensive plan shall be adopted and amended with public participation as provided in RCW 36.70A.140.

Each comprehensive plan shall include a plan, scheme, or design for each of the following:

(1) A land use element designating the proposed general distribution and general location and extent of the uses of land, where appropriate, for agriculture, timber production, housing, commerce, industry, recreation, open spaces, public utilities, public facilities, and other land uses. The land use element shall include population densities, building intensities, and estimates of future population growth. The land use element shall provide for protection of the quality and quantity of ground water used for public water supplies. Where applicable, the land use element shall review drainage, flooding, and storm water run-off in the area and nearby

jurisdictions and provide guidance for corrective actions to mitigate or cleanse those discharges that pollute waters of the state, including Puget Sound or waters entering Puget Sound.

(2) A housing element recognizing the vitality and character of established residential neighborhoods that: (a) Includes an inventory and analysis of existing and projected housing needs; (b) includes a statement of goals, policies, and objectives for the preservation, improvement, and development of housing; (c) identifies sufficient land for housing, including, but not limited to, government-assisted housing, housing for low-income families, manufactured housing, multifamily housing, and group homes and foster care facilities; and (d) makes adequate provisions for existing and projected needs of all economic segments of the community.

(3) A capital facilities plan element consisting of: (a) An inventory of existing capital facilities owned by public entities, showing the locations and capacities of the capital facilities; (b) a forecast of the future needs for such capital facilities; (c) the proposed locations and capacities of expanded or new capital facilities; (d) at least a six-year plan that will finance such capital facilities within projected funding capacities and clearly identifies sources of public money for such purposes; and (e) a requirement to reassess the land use element if probable funding falls short of meeting existing needs and to ensure that the land use element, capital facilities plan element, and financing plan within the capital facilities plan element are coordinated and consistent.

(4) A utilities element consisting of the general location, proposed location, and capacity of all existing and proposed utilities, including, but not limited to, electrical lines, telecommunication lines, and natural gas lines.

(5) Counties shall include a rural element including lands that are not designated for urban growth, agriculture, forest, or mineral resources. The rural element shall permit land uses that are compatible with the rural character of such lands and provide for a variety of rural densities.

(6) A transportation element that implements, and is consistent with, the land use element. The transportation element shall include the following subelements:

- (a) Land use assumptions used in estimating travel;
- (b) Facilities and services needs, including:

(i) An inventory of air, water, and land transportation facilities and services, including transit alignments, to define existing capital facilities and travel levels as a basis for future planning;

(ii) Level of service standards for all arterials and transit routes to serve as a gauge to judge performance of the system. These standards should be regionally coordinated;

(iii) Specific actions and requirements for bringing into compliance any facilities or services that are below an established level of service standard;

(iv) Forecasts of traffic for at least ten years based on the adopted land use plan to provide information on the location, timing, and capacity needs of future growth;

(v) Identification of system expansion needs and transportation system management needs to meet current and future demands;

- (c) Finance, including:

(i) An analysis of funding capability to judge needs against probable funding resources;

(ii) A multiyear financing plan based on the needs identified in the comprehensive plan, the appropriate parts of which shall serve as the basis for the six-year street, road, or transit program required by RCW 35.77.010 for cities, RCW 36.81.121 for counties, and RCW 35.58.2795 for public transportation systems;

(iii) If probable funding falls short of meeting identified needs, a discussion of how additional funding will be raised, or how land use assumptions will be reassessed to ensure that level of service standards will be met;

(d) Intergovernmental coordination efforts, including an assessment of the impacts of the transportation plan and land use assumptions on the transportation systems of adjacent jurisdictions;

- (e) Demand-management strategies.

After adoption of the comprehensive plan by jurisdictions required to plan or who choose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040, local jurisdictions must adopt and enforce ordinances which prohibit development approval if the development causes the level of service on a transportation facility to decline below the standards adopted in the transportation element of the comprehensive plan, unless transportation improvements or strategies to accommodate the impacts of development are made concurrent with the development. These strategies may include increased public transportation service, ride sharing programs, demand management, and other transportation systems management strategies. For the purposes of this subsection (6) "concurrent with the development" shall mean that improvements or strategies are in place at the time of development, or that a financial commitment is in place to complete the improvements or strategies within six years.

The transportation element described in this subsection, and the six-year plans required by RCW 35.77.010 for cities, RCW 36.81.121 for counties, and RCW 35.58.2795 for public transportation systems, must be consistent. [1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 7.]

**36.70A.080 Comprehensive plans—Optional elements.** (1) A comprehensive plan may include additional elements, items, or studies dealing with other subjects relating to the physical development within its jurisdiction, including, but not limited to:

- (a) Conservation;
- (b) Solar energy; and
- (c) Recreation.

(2) A comprehensive plan may include, where appropriate, subarea plans, each of which is consistent with the comprehensive plan. [1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 8.]

**36.70A.090 Comprehensive plans—Innovative techniques.** A comprehensive plan should provide for innovative land use management techniques, including, but not limited to, density bonuses, cluster housing, planned unit developments, and the transfer of development rights. [1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 9.]

**36.70A.100 Comprehensive plans—Must be coordinated.** The comprehensive plan of each county or city that

is adopted pursuant to RCW 36.70A.040 shall be coordinated with, and consistent with, the comprehensive plans adopted pursuant to RCW 36.70A.040 of other counties or cities with which the county or city has, in part, common borders or related regional issues. [1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 10.]

**36.70A.103 State agencies required to comply with comprehensive plans.** State agencies shall comply with the local comprehensive plans and development regulations and amendments thereto adopted pursuant to this chapter. [1991 sp.s. c 32 § 4.]

**36.70A.106 Comprehensive plans—Development regulations—Transmittal to state.** (1) Each county and city proposing adoption of a comprehensive plan or development regulations under this chapter shall notify the department of its intent to adopt such plan or regulations at least sixty days prior to final adoption. State agencies including the department may provide comments to the county or city on the proposed comprehensive plan, or proposed development regulations, during the public review process prior to adoption.

(2) Each county and city planning under this chapter shall transmit a complete and accurate copy of its comprehensive plan or development regulations to the department within ten days after final adoption.

(3) Any amendments for permanent changes to a comprehensive plan or development regulation that are proposed by a county or city to its adopted plan or regulations shall be submitted to the department in the same manner as initial plans and development regulations under this section. Any amendments to a comprehensive plan or development regulations that are adopted by a county or city shall be transmitted to the department in the same manner as the initial plans and regulations under this section. [1991 sp.s. c 32 § 8.]

**36.70A.110 Comprehensive plans—Urban growth areas.** (1) Each county that is required or chooses to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 shall designate an urban growth area or areas within which urban growth shall be encouraged and outside of which growth can occur only if it is not urban in nature. Each city that is located in such a county shall be included within an urban growth area. An urban growth area may include more than a single city. An urban growth area may include territory that is located outside of a city only if such territory already is characterized by urban growth or is adjacent to territory already characterized by urban growth.

(2) Based upon the population growth management planning population projection made for the county by the office of financial management, the urban growth areas in the county shall include areas and densities sufficient to permit the urban growth that is projected to occur in the county for the succeeding twenty-year period. Each urban growth area shall permit urban densities and shall include greenbelt and open space areas. Within one year of July 1, 1990, each county that as of June 1, 1991, was required or chose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040, shall begin consulting with each city located within its boundaries and each city shall propose the location of an urban growth area. Within sixty days of the date the county legislative authority of a

county adopts its resolution of intention or of certification by the office of financial management, all other counties that are required or choose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 shall begin this consultation with each city located within its boundaries. The county shall attempt to reach agreement with each city on the location of an urban growth area within which the city is located. If such an agreement is not reached with each city located within the urban growth area, the county shall justify in writing why it so designated the area an urban growth area. A city may object formally with the department over the designation of the urban growth area within which it is located. Where appropriate, the department shall attempt to resolve the conflicts, including the use of mediation services.

(3) Urban growth should be located first in areas already characterized by urban growth that have existing public facility and service capacities to serve such development, and second in areas already characterized by urban growth that will be served by a combination of both existing public facilities and services and any additional needed public facilities and services that are provided by either public or private sources. Further, it is appropriate that urban government services be provided by cities, and urban government services should not be provided in rural areas.

(4) On or before October 1, 1993, each county that was initially required to plan under RCW 36.70A.040(1) shall adopt development regulations designating interim urban growth areas under this chapter. Within three years and three months of the date the county legislative authority of a county adopts its resolution of intention or of certification by the office of financial management, all other counties that are required or choose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 shall adopt development regulations designating interim urban growth areas under this chapter. Adoption of the interim urban growth areas may only occur after public notice; public hearing; and compliance with the state environmental policy act, chapter 43.21C RCW, and RCW 36.70A.110. Such action may be appealed to the appropriate growth management hearings board under RCW 36.70A.280. Final urban growth areas shall be adopted at the time of comprehensive plan adoption under this chapter.

(5) Each county shall include designations of urban growth areas in its comprehensive plan. [1994 c 249 § 27; 1993 sp.s. c 6 § 2; 1991 sp.s. c 32 § 29; 1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 11.]

**Severability—Application—1994 c 249:** See notes following RCW 34.05.310.

**Effective date—1993 sp.s. c 6:** See note following RCW 36.70A.040.

**36.70A.120 Planning activities and capital budget decisions—Implementation in conformity with comprehensive plan.** Each county and city that is required or chooses to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 shall perform its activities and make capital budget decisions in conformity with its comprehensive plan. [1993 sp.s. c 6 § 3; 1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 12.]

**Effective date—1993 sp.s. c 6:** See note following RCW 36.70A.040.

**36.70A.130 Comprehensive plans—Amendments.** (1) Each comprehensive land use plan and development

regulations shall be subject to continuing evaluation and review by the county or city that adopted them.

Any amendment or revision to a comprehensive land use plan shall conform to this chapter, and any change to development regulations shall be consistent with and implement the comprehensive plan.

(2) Each county and city shall establish procedures whereby proposed amendments or revisions of the comprehensive plan are considered by the governing body of the county or city no more frequently than once every year. All proposals shall be considered by the governing body concurrently so the cumulative effect of the various proposals can be ascertained. However, a county or city may adopt amendments or revisions to its comprehensive plan that conform with this chapter whenever an emergency exists.

(3) Each county that designates urban growth areas under RCW 36.70A.110 shall review, at least every ten years, its designated urban growth area or areas, and the densities permitted within both the incorporated and unincorporated portions of each urban growth area. In conjunction with this review by the county, each city located within an urban growth area shall review the densities permitted within its boundaries, and the extent to which the urban growth occurring within the county has located within each city and the unincorporated portions of the urban growth areas. The county comprehensive plan designating urban growth areas, and the densities permitted in the urban growth areas by the comprehensive plans of the county and each city located within the urban growth areas, shall be revised to accommodate the urban growth projected to occur in the county for the succeeding twenty-year period. [1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 13.]

**36.70A.140 Comprehensive plans—Ensure public participation.** Each county and city that is required or chooses to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 shall establish procedures providing for early and continuous public participation in the development and amendment of comprehensive land use plans and development regulations implementing such plans. The procedures shall provide for broad dissemination of proposals and alternatives, opportunity for written comments, public meetings after effective notice, provision for open discussion, communication programs, information services, and consideration of and response to public comments. Errors in exact compliance with the established procedures shall not render the comprehensive land use plan or development regulations invalid if the spirit of the procedures is observed. [1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 14.]

**36.70A.150 Identification of lands useful for public purposes.** Each county and city that is required or chooses to prepare a comprehensive land use plan under RCW 36.70A.040 shall identify lands useful for public purposes such as utility corridors, transportation corridors, landfills, sewage treatment facilities, storm water management facilities, recreation, schools, and other public uses. The county shall work with the state and the cities within its borders to identify areas of shared need for public facilities. The jurisdictions within the county shall prepare a prioritized list of lands necessary for the identified public uses including an estimated date by which the acquisition will be needed.

The respective capital acquisition budgets for each jurisdiction shall reflect the jointly agreed upon priorities and time schedule. [1991 c 322 § 23; 1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 15.]

**Findings—Intent—1991 c 322:** See notes following RCW 86.12.200.

**36.70A.160 Identification of open space corridors—Purchase authorized.** Each county and city that is required or chooses to prepare a comprehensive land use plan under RCW 36.70A.040 shall identify open space corridors within and between urban growth areas. They shall include lands useful for recreation, wildlife habitat, trails, and connection of critical areas as defined in RCW 36.70A.030. Identification of a corridor under this section by a county or city shall not restrict the use or management of lands within the corridor for agricultural or forest purposes. Restrictions on the use or management of such lands for agricultural or forest purposes imposed after identification solely to maintain or enhance the value of such lands as a corridor may occur only if the county or city acquires sufficient interest to prevent development of the lands or to control the resource development of the lands. The requirement for acquisition of sufficient interest does not include those corridors regulated by the interstate commerce commission, under provisions of 16 U.S.C. Sec. 1247(d), 16 U.S.C. Sec. 1248, or 43 U.S.C. Sec. 912. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to alter the authority of the state, or a county or city, to regulate land use activities.

The city or county may acquire by donation or purchase the fee simple or lesser interests in these open space corridors using funds authorized by RCW 84.34.230 or other sources. [1992 c 227 § 1; 1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 16.]

**36.70A.170 Natural resource lands and critical areas—Designations.** (1) On or before September 1, 1991, each county, and each city, shall designate where appropriate:

- (a) Agricultural lands that are not already characterized by urban growth and that have long-term significance for the commercial production of food or other agricultural products;
- (b) Forest lands that are not already characterized by urban growth and that have long-term significance for the commercial production of timber;
- (c) Mineral resource lands that are not already characterized by urban growth and that have long-term significance for the extraction of minerals; and
- (d) Critical areas.

(2) In making the designations required by this section, counties and cities shall consider the guidelines established pursuant to RCW 36.70A.050. [1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 17.]

**36.70A.180 Report on planning progress.** (1) It is the intent of the legislature that counties and cities required to adopt a comprehensive plan under RCW 36.70A.040(1) begin implementing this chapter on or before July 1, 1990, including but not limited to: (a) Inventorying, designating, and conserving agricultural, forest, and mineral resource lands, and critical areas; and (b) considering the modification or adoption of comprehensive land use plans and development regulations implementing the comprehensive land use plans. It is also the intent of the legislature that funds be

made available to counties and cities beginning July 1, 1990, to assist them in meeting the requirements of this chapter.

(2) Each county and city that adopts a plan under RCW 36.70A.040 (1) or (2) shall report to the department annually for a period of five years, beginning on January 1, 1991, and each five years thereafter, on the progress made by that county or city in implementing this chapter. [1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 19.]

**36.70A.190 Technical assistance, grants, and mediation services.** (1) The department shall establish a program of technical and financial assistance and incentives to counties and cities to encourage and facilitate the adoption and implementation of comprehensive plans and development regulations throughout the state.

(2) The department shall develop a priority list and establish funding levels for planning and technical assistance grants both for counties and cities that plan under RCW 36.70A.040. Priority for assistance shall be based on a county's or city's population growth rates, commercial and industrial development rates, the existence and quality of a comprehensive plan and development regulations, and other relevant factors.

(3) The department shall develop and administer a grant program to provide direct financial assistance to counties and cities for the preparation of comprehensive plans under this chapter. The department may establish provisions for county and city matching funds to conduct activities under this subsection. Grants may be expended for any purpose directly related to the preparation of a county or city comprehensive plan as the county or city and the department may agree, including, without limitation, the conducting of surveys, inventories and other data gathering and management activities, the retention of planning consultants, contracts with regional councils for planning and related services, and other related purposes.

(4) The department shall establish a program of technical assistance:

(a) Utilizing department staff, the staff of other state agencies, and the technical resources of counties and cities to help in the development of comprehensive plans required under this chapter. The technical assistance may include, but not be limited to, model land use ordinances, regional education and training programs, and information for local and regional inventories; and

(b) Adopting by rule procedural criteria to assist counties and cities in adopting comprehensive plans and development regulations that meet the goals and requirements of this chapter. These criteria shall reflect regional and local variations and the diversity that exists among different counties and cities that plan under this chapter.

(5) The department shall provide mediation services to resolve disputes between counties and cities regarding, among other things, coordination of regional issues and designation of urban growth areas.

(6) The department shall provide planning grants to enhance citizen participation under RCW 36.70A.140. [1991 sp.s. c 32 § 3; 1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 20.]

**36.70A.200 Siting of essential public facilities.** (1) The comprehensive plan of each county and city that is

planning under this chapter shall include a process for identifying and siting essential public facilities. Essential public facilities include those facilities that are typically difficult to site, such as airports, state education facilities and state or regional transportation facilities, state and local correctional facilities, solid waste handling facilities, and in-patient facilities including substance abuse facilities, mental health facilities, and group homes.

(2) The office of financial management shall maintain a list of those essential state public facilities that are required or likely to be built within the next six years. The office of financial management may at any time add facilities to the list. No local comprehensive plan or development regulation may preclude the siting of essential public facilities. [1991 sp.s. c 32 § 1.]

**36.70A.210 County-wide planning policies.** (1) The legislature recognizes that counties are regional governments within their boundaries, and cities are primary providers of urban governmental services within urban growth areas. For the purposes of this section, a "county-wide planning policy" is a written policy statement or statements used solely for establishing a county-wide framework from which county and city comprehensive plans are developed and adopted pursuant to this chapter. This framework shall ensure that city and county comprehensive plans are consistent as required in RCW 36.70A.100. Nothing in this section shall be construed to alter the land-use powers of cities.

(2) The legislative authority of a county that plans under RCW 36.70A.040 shall adopt a county-wide planning policy in cooperation with the cities located in whole or in part within the county as follows:

(a) No later than sixty calendar days from July 16, 1991, the legislative authority of each county that as of June 1, 1991, was required or chose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 shall convene a meeting with representatives of each city located within the county for the purpose of establishing a collaborative process that will provide a framework for the adoption of a county-wide planning policy. In other counties that are required or choose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040, this meeting shall be convened no later than sixty days after the date the county adopts its resolution of intention or was certified by the office of financial management.

(b) The process and framework for adoption of a county-wide planning policy specified in (a) of this subsection shall determine the manner in which the county and the cities agree to all procedures and provisions including but not limited to desired planning policies, deadlines, ratification of final agreements and demonstration thereof, and financing, if any, of all activities associated therewith.

(c) If a county fails for any reason to convene a meeting with representatives of cities as required in (a) of this subsection, the governor may immediately impose any appropriate sanction or sanctions on the county from those specified under RCW 36.70A.340.

(d) If there is no agreement by October 1, 1991, in a county that was required or chose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 as of June 1, 1991, or if there is no agreement within one hundred twenty days of the date the county adopted its resolution of intention or was certified by the

office of financial management in any other county that is required or chooses to plan under RCW 36.70A.040, the governor shall first inquire of the jurisdictions as to the reason or reasons for failure to reach an agreement. If the governor deems it appropriate, the governor may immediately request the assistance of the department of community, trade, and economic development to mediate any disputes that preclude agreement. If mediation is unsuccessful in resolving all disputes that will lead to agreement, the governor may impose appropriate sanctions from those specified under RCW 36.70A.340 on the county, city, or cities for failure to reach an agreement as provided in this section. The governor shall specify the reason or reasons for the imposition of any sanction.

(e) No later than July 1, 1992, the legislative authority of each county that was required or chose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 as of June 1, 1991, or no later than fourteen months after the date the county adopted its resolution of intention or was certified by the office of financial management the county legislative authority of any other county that is required or chooses to plan under RCW 36.70A.040, shall adopt a county-wide planning policy according to the process provided under this section and that is consistent with the agreement pursuant to (b) of this subsection, and after holding a public hearing or hearings on the proposed county-wide planning policy.

(3) A county-wide planning policy shall at a minimum, address the following:

(a) Policies to implement RCW 36.70A.110;

(b) Policies for promotion of contiguous and orderly development and provision of urban services to such development;

(c) Policies for siting public capital facilities of a county-wide or state-wide nature;

(d) Policies for county-wide transportation facilities and strategies;

(e) Policies that consider the need for affordable housing, such as housing for all economic segments of the population and parameters for its distribution;

(f) Policies for joint county and city planning within urban growth areas;

(g) Policies for county-wide economic development and employment; and

(h) An analysis of the fiscal impact.

(4) Federal agencies and Indian tribes may participate in and cooperate with the county-wide planning policy adoption process. Adopted county-wide planning policies shall be adhered to by state agencies.

(5) Failure to adopt a county-wide planning policy that meets the requirements of this section may result in the imposition of a sanction or sanctions on a county or city within the county, as specified in RCW 36.70A.340. In imposing a sanction or sanctions, the governor shall specify the reasons for failure to adopt a county-wide planning policy in order that any imposed sanction or sanctions are fairly and equitably related to the failure to adopt a county-wide planning policy.

(6) Cities and the governor may appeal an adopted county-wide planning policy to the growth management hearings board within sixty days of the adoption of the county-wide planning policy.

(7) Multicounty planning policies shall be adopted by two or more counties, each with a population of four hundred fifty thousand or more, with contiguous urban areas and may be adopted by other counties, according to the process established under this section or other processes agreed to among the counties and cities within the affected counties throughout the multicounty region. [1994 c 249 § 28; 1993 sp.s. c 6 § 4; 1991 sp.s. c 32 § 2.]

**Severability—Application—1994 c 249:** See notes following RCW 34.05.310.

**Effective date—1993 sp.s. c 6:** See note following RCW 36.70A.040.

### **36.70A.250 Growth management hearings boards.**

(1) There are hereby created three growth management hearings boards for the state of Washington. The boards shall be established as follows:

(a) An Eastern Washington board with jurisdictional boundaries including all counties that are required to or choose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 and are located east of the crest of the Cascade mountains;

(b) A Central Puget Sound board with jurisdictional boundaries including King, Pierce, Snohomish, and Kitsap counties; and

(c) A Western Washington board with jurisdictional boundaries including all counties that are required or choose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 and are located west of the crest of the Cascade mountains and are not included in the Central Puget Sound board jurisdictional boundaries. Skamania county, should it be required or choose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040, may elect to be included within the jurisdictional boundaries of either the Western or Eastern board.

(2) Each board shall only hear matters pertaining to the cities and counties located within its jurisdictional boundaries. [1994 c 249 § 29; 1991 sp.s. c 32 § 5.]

**Severability—Application—1994 c 249:** See notes following RCW 34.05.310.

### **36.70A.260 Growth management hearings boards—**

**Qualifications.** (1) Each growth management hearings board shall consist of three members qualified by experience or training in matters pertaining to land use planning and residing within the jurisdictional boundaries of the applicable board. At least one member of each board must be admitted to practice law in this state and at least one member must have been a city or county elected official. Each board shall be appointed by the governor and not more than two members at the time of appointment or during their term shall be members of the same political party. No more than two members at the time of appointment or during their term shall reside in the same county.

(2) Each member of a board shall be appointed for a term of six years. A vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the governor for the unexpired portion of the term in which the vacancy occurs. The terms of the first three members of a board shall be staggered so that one member is appointed to serve until July 1, 1994, one member until July 1, 1996, and one member until July 1, 1998. [1994 c 249 § 30; 1991 sp.s. c 32 § 6.]

**Severability—Application—1994 c 249:** See notes following RCW 34.05.310.



**36.70A.270 \*Growth planning hearings boards—Conduct, procedure, and compensation.** Each \*growth planning hearings board shall be governed by the following rules on conduct and procedure:

(1) Any board member may be removed for inefficiency, malfeasance, and misfeasance in office, under specific written charges filed by the governor. The governor shall transmit such written charges to the member accused and the chief justice of the supreme court. The chief justice shall thereupon designate a tribunal composed of three judges of the superior court to hear and adjudicate the charges. Removal of any member of a board by the tribunal shall disqualify such member for reappointment.

(2) Each board member shall receive reimbursement for travel expenses incurred in the discharge of his or her duties in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060. If it is determined that the review boards shall operate on a full-time basis, each member shall receive an annual salary to be determined by the governor pursuant to RCW 43.03.040. If it is determined that a review board shall operate on a part-time basis, each member shall receive compensation pursuant to RCW 43.03.250, provided such amount shall not exceed the amount that would be set if they were a full-time board member. The principal office of each board shall be located by the governor within the jurisdictional boundaries of each board. The boards shall operate on either a part-time or full-time basis, as determined by the governor.

(3) Each board member shall not: (a) Be a candidate for or hold any other public office or trust; (b) engage in any occupation or business interfering with or inconsistent with his or her duty as a board member; and (c) for a period of one year after the termination of his or her board membership, act in a representative capacity before the board on any matter.

(4) A majority of each board shall constitute a quorum for making orders or decisions, adopting rules necessary for the conduct of its powers and duties, or transacting other official business, and may act even though one position of the board is vacant. One or more members may hold hearings and take testimony to be reported for action by the board when authorized by rule or order of the board. The board shall perform all the powers and duties specified in this chapter or as otherwise provided by law.

(5) The board may appoint one or more hearing examiners to assist the board in its hearing function, to make conclusions of law and findings of fact and, if requested by the board, to make recommendations to the board for decisions in cases before the board. Such hearing examiners must have demonstrated knowledge of land use planning and law. The boards shall specify in their joint rules of practice and procedure, as required by subsection (7) of this section, the procedure and criteria to be employed for designating hearing examiners as a presiding officer. Hearing examiners selected by a board shall meet the requirements of subsection (3) of this section. The findings and conclusions of the hearing examiner shall not become final until they have been formally approved by the board. This authorization to use hearing examiners does not waive the requirement of RCW 36.70A.300 that final orders be issued within one hundred eighty days of board receipt of a petition.

(6) Each board shall make findings of fact and prepare a written decision in each case decided by it, and such

findings and decision shall be effective upon being signed by two or more members of the board and upon being filed at the board's principal office, and shall be open for public inspection at all reasonable times.

(7) All proceedings before the board, any of its members, or a hearing examiner appointed by the board shall be conducted in accordance with such administrative rules of practice and procedure as the boards jointly prescribe. All three boards shall jointly meet to develop and adopt joint rules of practice and procedure, including rules regarding expeditious and summary disposition of appeals. The boards shall publish such rules and arrange for the reasonable distribution of the rules. The administrative procedure act, chapter 34.05 RCW, shall govern the administrative rules of practice and procedure adopted by the boards.

(8) A board member or hearing examiner is subject to disqualification for bias, prejudice, interest, or any other cause for which a judge is disqualified. The joint rules of practice of the boards shall establish procedures by which a party to a hearing conducted before the board may file with the board a motion to disqualify, with supporting affidavit, against a board member or hearing examiner assigned to preside at the hearing.

(9) The members of the boards shall meet jointly on at least an annual basis with the objective of sharing information that promotes the goals and purposes of this chapter. [1994 c 257 § 1; 1991 sp.s. c 32 § 7.]

**\*Reviser's note:** The "growth planning hearings boards" were redesignated the "growth management hearings boards" by 1994 c 249 § 29.

**Severability—1994 c 257:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1994 c 257 § 26.]

**36.70A.280 Matters subject to board review.** (1) A growth management hearings board shall hear and determine only those petitions alleging either:

(a) That a state agency, county, or city is not in compliance with the requirements of this chapter, or chapter 43.21C RCW as it relates to plans, regulations, or amendments, adopted under RCW 36.70A.040; or

(b) That the twenty-year growth management planning population projections adopted by the office of financial management pursuant to RCW 43.62.035 should be adjusted.

(2) A petition may be filed only by the state, a county or city that plans under this chapter, a person who has either appeared before the county or city regarding the matter on which a review is being requested or is certified by the governor within sixty days of filing the request with the board, or a person qualified pursuant to RCW 34.05.530.

(3) For purposes of this section "person" means any individual, partnership, corporation, association, governmental subdivision or unit thereof, or public or private organization or entity of any character.

(4) When considering a possible adjustment to a growth management planning population projection prepared by the office of financial management, a board shall consider the implications of any such adjustment to the population forecast for the entire state.

The rationale for any adjustment that is adopted by a board must be documented and filed with the office of

financial management within ten working days after adoption.

If adjusted by a board, a county growth management planning population projection shall only be used for the planning purposes set forth in this chapter and shall be known as a "board adjusted population projection". None of these changes shall affect the official state and county population forecasts prepared by the office of financial management, which shall continue to be used for state budget and planning purposes. [1994 c 249 § 31; 1991 sp.s. c 32 § 9.]

**Severability—Application—1994 c 249:** See notes following RCW 34.05.310.

**36.70A.290 Petitions to growth management hearings boards—Evidence.** (1) All requests for review to a growth management hearings board shall be initiated by filing a petition that includes a detailed statement of issues presented for resolution by the board.

(2) All petitions relating to whether or not an adopted comprehensive plan, development regulation, or permanent amendment thereto, is in compliance with the goals and requirements of this chapter or chapter 43.21C RCW must be filed within sixty days after publication by the legislative bodies of the county or city. The date of publication for a city shall be the date the city publishes the ordinance, or summary of the ordinance, adopting the comprehensive plan or development regulations, or amendment thereto, as is required to be published. Promptly after adoption, a county shall publish a notice that it has adopted the comprehensive plan or development regulations, or amendment thereto. The date of publication for a county shall be the date the county publishes the notice that it has adopted the comprehensive plan or development regulations, or amendment thereto.

(3) Unless the board dismisses the petition as frivolous or finds that the person filing the petition lacks standing, the board shall, within ten days of receipt of the petition, set a time for hearing the matter.

(4) The board shall base its decision on the record developed by the city, county, or the state and supplemented with additional evidence if the board determines that such additional evidence would be necessary or of substantial assistance to the board in reaching its decision.

(5) The board, shall consolidate, when appropriate, all petitions involving the review of the same comprehensive plan or the same development regulation or regulations. [1994 c 257 § 2; 1994 c 249 § 26; 1991 sp.s. c 32 § 10.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 1994 c 249 § 26 and by 1994 c 257 § 2, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section pursuant to RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Severability—1994 c 257:** See note following RCW 36.70A.270.

**Severability—Application—1994 c 249:** See notes following RCW 34.05.310.

**36.70A.300 Final orders.** (1) The board shall issue a final order within one hundred eighty days of receipt of the petition for review, or, when multiple petitions are filed, within one hundred eighty days of receipt of the last petition that is consolidated. Such a final order shall be based exclusively on whether or not a state agency, county, or city is in compliance with the requirements of this chapter, or

chapter 43.21C RCW as it relates to plans, regulations, and amendments thereto, adopted under RCW 36.70A.040. In the final order, the board shall either: (a) Find that the state agency, county, or city is in compliance with the requirements of this chapter; or (b) find that the state agency, county, or city is not in compliance with the requirements of this chapter, in which case the board shall remand the matter to the affected state agency, county, or city and specify a reasonable time not in excess of one hundred eighty days within which the state agency, county, or city shall comply with the requirements of this chapter.

(2) Any party aggrieved by a final decision of the hearings board may appeal the decision to Thurston county superior court within thirty days of the final order of the board. [1991 sp.s. c 32 § 11.]

**36.70A.310 Limitations on appeal by the state.** A request for review by the state to a growth management hearings board may be made only by the governor, or with the governor's consent the head of an agency, or by the commissioner of public lands as relating to state trust lands, for the review of whether: (1) A county or city that is required or chooses to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 has failed to adopt a comprehensive plan or development regulations, or county-wide planning policies within the time limits established by this chapter; or (2) a county or city that is required or chooses to plan under this chapter has adopted a comprehensive plan, development regulations, or county-wide planning policies, that are not in compliance with the requirements of this chapter. [1994 c 249 § 32; 1991 sp.s. c 32 § 12.]

**Severability—Application—1994 c 249:** See notes following RCW 34.05.310.

**36.70A.320 Presumption of validity—Burden of proof—Plans and regulations.** Comprehensive plans and development regulations, and amendments thereto, adopted under this chapter are presumed valid upon adoption. In any petition under this chapter, the board, after full consideration of the petition, shall determine whether there is compliance with the requirements of this chapter. In making its determination, the board shall consider the criteria adopted by the department under RCW 36.70A.190(4). The board shall find compliance unless it finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the state agency, county, or city erroneously interpreted or applied this chapter. [1991 sp.s. c 32 § 13.]

**36.70A.330 Noncompliance.** (1) After the time set for complying with the requirements of this chapter under RCW 36.70A.300(1)(b) has expired, the board, on its own motion or motion of the petitioner, shall set a hearing for the purpose of determining whether the state agency, county, or city is in compliance with the requirements of this chapter.

(2) The board shall conduct a hearing and issue a finding of compliance or noncompliance. A hearing under this subsection shall be given the highest priority of business to be conducted by the board, and a finding shall be issued within forty-five days of the filing of the motion under subsection (1) of this section with the board.

(3) If the board finds that the state agency, county, or city is not in compliance, the board shall transmit its finding

to the governor. The board may recommend to the governor that the sanctions authorized by this chapter be imposed. [1991 sp.s. c 32 § 14.]

**36.70A.340 Noncompliance and sanctions.** Upon receipt from the board of a finding that a state agency, county, or city is in noncompliance under RCW 36.70A.330, or as a result of failure to meet the requirements of RCW 36.70A.210, the governor may either:

(1) Notify and direct the director of the office of financial management to revise allotments in appropriation levels;

(2) Notify and direct the state treasurer to withhold the portion of revenues to which the county or city is entitled under one or more of the following: The motor vehicle fuel tax, as provided in chapter 82.36 RCW; the transportation improvement account, as provided in RCW 47.26.084; the urban arterial trust account, as provided in RCW 47.26.080; the rural arterial trust account, as provided in RCW 36.79.150; the sales and use tax, as provided in chapter 82.14 RCW; the liquor profit tax, as provided in RCW 66.08.190; and the liquor excise tax, as provided in RCW 82.08.170; or

(3) File a notice of noncompliance with the secretary of state and the county or city, which shall temporarily rescind the county or city's authority to collect the real estate excise tax under RCW 82.46.030 until the governor files a notice rescinding the notice of noncompliance. [1991 sp.s. c 32 § 26.]

**36.70A.345 Sanctions.** The governor may impose a sanction or sanctions specified under RCW 36.70A.340 on: (1) A county or city that fails to designate critical areas, agricultural lands, forest lands, or mineral resource lands under RCW 36.70A.170 by the date such action was required to have been taken; (2) a county or city that fails to adopt development regulations under RCW 36.70A.060 protecting critical areas or conserving agricultural lands, forest lands, or mineral resource lands by the date such action was required to have been taken; (3) a county that fails to designate urban growth areas under RCW 36.70A.110 by the date such action was required to have been taken; and (4) a county or city that fails to adopt its comprehensive plan or development regulations when such actions are required to be taken.

Imposition of a sanction or sanctions under this section shall be preceded by written findings by the governor, that either the county or city is not proceeding in good faith to meet the requirements of the act; or that the county or city has unreasonably delayed taking the required action. The governor shall consult with and communicate his or her findings to the appropriate growth management hearings board prior to imposing the sanction or sanctions. For those counties or cities that are not required to plan or have not opted in, the governor in imposing sanctions shall consider the size of the jurisdiction relative to the requirements of this chapter and the degree of technical and financial assistance provided. [1994 c 249 § 33; 1993 sp.s. c 6 § 5.]

**Severability—Application—1994 c 249:** See notes following RCW 34.05.310.

**Effective date—1993 sp.s. c 6:** See note following RCW 36.70A.040.

**36.70A.350 New fully contained communities.** A county required or choosing to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 may establish a process as part of its urban growth areas, that are designated under RCW 36.70A.110, for reviewing proposals to authorize new fully contained communities located outside of the initially designated urban growth areas.

(1) A new fully contained community may be approved in a county planning under this chapter if criteria including but not limited to the following are met:

(a) New infrastructure is provided for and impact fees are established consistent with the requirements of RCW 82.02.050;

(b) Transit-oriented site planning and traffic demand management programs are implemented;

(c) Buffers are provided between the new fully contained communities and adjacent urban development;

(d) A mix of uses is provided to offer jobs, housing, and services to the residents of the new community;

(e) Affordable housing is provided within the new community for a broad range of income levels;

(f) Environmental protection has been addressed and provided for;

(g) Development regulations are established to ensure urban growth will not occur in adjacent nonurban areas;

(h) Provision is made to mitigate impacts on designated agricultural lands, forest lands, and mineral resource lands;

(i) The plan for the new fully contained community is consistent with the development regulations established for the protection of critical areas by the county pursuant to RCW 36.70A.170.

(2) New fully contained communities may be approved outside established urban growth areas only if a county reserves a portion of the twenty-year population projection and offsets the urban growth area accordingly for allocation to new fully contained communities that meet the requirements of this chapter. Any county electing to establish a new community reserve shall do so no more often than once every five years as a part of the designation or review of urban growth areas required by this chapter. The new community reserve shall be allocated on a project-by-project basis, only after specific project approval procedures have been adopted pursuant to this chapter as a development regulation. When a new community reserve is established, urban growth areas designated pursuant to this chapter shall accommodate the unreserved portion of the twenty-year population projection.

Final approval of an application for a new fully contained community shall be considered an adopted amendment to the comprehensive plan prepared pursuant to RCW 36.70A.070 designating the new fully contained community as an urban growth area. [1991 sp.s. c 32 § 16.]

**36.70A.360 Master planned resorts.** Counties that are required or choose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 may permit master planned resorts which may constitute urban growth outside of urban growth areas as limited by this section. A master planned resort means a self-contained and fully integrated planned unit development, in a setting of significant natural amenities, with primary focus on destina-

tion resort facilities consisting of short-term visitor accommodations associated with a range of developed on-site indoor or outdoor recreational facilities. A master planned resort may include other residential uses within its boundaries, but only if the residential uses are integrated into and support the on-site recreational nature of the resort.

A master planned resort may be authorized by a county only if:

(1) The comprehensive plan specifically identifies policies to guide the development of master planned resorts;

(2) The comprehensive plan and development regulations include restrictions that preclude new urban or suburban land uses in the vicinity of the master planned resort, except in areas otherwise designated for urban growth under RCW 36.70A.110;

(3) The county includes a finding as a part of the approval process that the land is better suited, and has more long-term importance, for the master planned resort than for the commercial harvesting of timber or agricultural production, if located on land that otherwise would be designated as forest land or agricultural land under RCW 36.70A.170;

(4) The county ensures that the resort plan is consistent with the development regulations established for critical areas; and

(5) On-site and off-site infrastructure impacts are fully considered and mitigated. [1991 sp.s. c 32 § 17.]

**36.70A.370 Protection of private property.** (1) The state attorney general shall establish by October 1, 1991, an orderly, consistent process, including a checklist if appropriate, that better enables state agencies and local governments to evaluate proposed regulatory or administrative actions to assure that such actions do not result in an unconstitutional taking of private property. It is not the purpose of this section to expand or reduce the scope of private property protections provided in the state and federal Constitutions. The attorney general shall review and update the process at least on an annual basis to maintain consistency with changes in case law.

(2) Local governments that are required or choose to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 and state agencies shall utilize the process established by subsection (1) of this section to assure that proposed regulatory or administrative actions do not result in an unconstitutional taking of private property.

(3) The attorney general, in consultation with the Washington state bar association, shall develop a continuing education course to implement this section.

(4) The process used by government agencies shall be protected by attorney client privilege. Nothing in this section grants a private party the right to seek judicial relief requiring compliance with the provisions of this section. [1991 sp.s. c 32 § 18.]

**36.70A.380 Extension of designation date.** The department may extend the date by which a county or city is required to designate agricultural lands, forest lands, mineral resource lands, and critical areas under RCW 36.70A.170, or the date by which a county or city is required to protect such lands and critical areas under RCW 36.70A.060, if the county or city demonstrates that it is proceeding in an orderly fashion, and is making a good faith

effort, to meet these requirements. An extension may be for up to an additional one hundred eighty days. The length of an extension shall be based on the difficulty of the effort to conform with these requirements. [1991 sp.s. c 32 § 39.]

**36.70A.385 Environmental planning pilot projects.**

(1) The legislature intends to determine whether the environmental review process mandated under chapter 43.21C RCW may be enhanced and simplified, and coordination improved, when applied to comprehensive plans mandated by this chapter. The \*department of community development shall undertake pilot projects on environmental review to determine if the review process can be improved by fostering more coordination and eliminating duplicative environmental analysis which is made to assist decision makers approving comprehensive plans pursuant to this chapter. Such pilot projects should be designed and scoped to consider cumulative impacts resulting from plan decisions, plan impacts on environmental quality, impacts on adjacent jurisdictions, and similar factors in sufficient depth to simplify the analysis of subsequent specific projects being carried out pursuant to the approved plan.

(2) The legislature hereby authorizes the \*department of community development to establish, in cooperation with business, industry, cities, counties, and other interested parties, at least two but not more than four pilot projects, one of which shall be with a county, on enhanced draft and final nonproject environmental analysis of comprehensive plans prepared pursuant to this chapter, for the purposes outlined in subsection (1) of this section. The \*department of community development may select appropriate geographic subareas within a comprehensive plan if that will best serve the purposes of this section and meet the requirements of chapter 43.21C RCW.

(3) An enhanced draft and final nonproject environmental analysis prepared pursuant to this section shall follow the rules adopted pursuant to chapter 43.21C RCW.

(4) Not later than December 31, 1993, the \*department of community development shall evaluate the overall effectiveness of the pilot projects under this section regarding preparing enhanced nonproject environmental analysis for the approval process of comprehensive plans and shall:

(a) Provide an interim report of its findings to the legislature with such recommendations as may be appropriate, including the need, if any, for further legislation;

(b) Consider adoption of any further rules or guidelines as may be appropriate to assist counties and cities in meeting requirements of chapter 43.21C RCW when considering comprehensive plans; and

(c) Prepare and circulate to counties and cities such instructional manuals or other information derived from the pilot projects as will assist all counties and cities in meeting the requirements and objectives of chapter 43.21C RCW in the most expeditious and efficient manner in the process of considering comprehensive plans pursuant to this chapter.

(5) The \*department of community development shall submit a final report to the legislature no later than December 31, 1995. [1991 sp.s. c 32 § 20.]

\*Reviser's note: Powers, duties, and functions of the department of community development and the department of trade and economic development were transferred to the department of community, trade, and economic development by 1993 c 280, effective July 1, 1994.

**36.70A.390 Moratoria, interim zoning controls—Public hearing—Limitation on length—Exceptions.** A county or city governing body that adopts a moratorium, interim zoning map, interim zoning ordinance, or interim official control without holding a public hearing on the proposed moratorium, interim zoning map, interim zoning ordinance, or interim official control, shall hold a public hearing on the adopted moratorium, interim zoning map, interim zoning ordinance, or interim official control within at least sixty days of its adoption, whether or not the governing body received a recommendation on the matter from the planning commission or department. If the governing body does not adopt findings of fact justifying its action before this hearing, then the governing body shall do so immediately after this public hearing. A moratorium, interim zoning map, interim zoning ordinance, or interim official control adopted under this section may be effective for not longer than six months, but may be effective for up to one year if a work plan is developed for related studies providing for such a longer period. A moratorium, interim zoning map, interim zoning ordinance, or interim official control may be renewed for one or more six-month periods if a subsequent public hearing is held and findings of fact are made prior to each renewal.

This section does not apply to the designation of critical areas, agricultural lands, forest lands, and mineral resource lands, under RCW 36.70A.170, and the conservation of these lands and protection of these areas under RCW 36.70A.060, prior to such actions being taken in a comprehensive plan adopted under RCW 36.70A.070 and implementing development regulations adopted under RCW 36.70A.120, if a public hearing is held on such proposed actions. [1992 c 207 § 6.]

**36.70A.400 Accessory apartments.** Any local government, as defined in RCW 43.63A.215, that is planning under this chapter shall comply with RCW 43.63A.215(3). [1993 c 478 § 11.]

**36.70A.410 Treatment of residential structures occupied by persons with handicaps.** No county or city that plans or elects to plan under this chapter may enact or maintain an ordinance, development regulation, zoning regulation or official control, policy, or administrative practice which treats a residential structure occupied by persons with handicaps differently than a similar residential structure occupied by a family or other unrelated individuals. As used in this section, "handicaps" are as defined in the federal fair housing amendments act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 3602). [1993 c 478 § 23.]

**36.70A.420 Transportation projects—Findings—Intent.** The legislature recognizes that there are major transportation projects that affect multiple jurisdictions as to economic development, fiscal influence, environmental consequences, land use implications, and mobility of people and goods. The legislature further recognizes that affected jurisdictions have important interests that must be addressed, and that these jurisdictions' present environmental planning and permitting authority may result in multiple local permits and other requirements being specified for the projects.

The legislature finds that the present permitting system may result in segmented and sequential decisions by local governments that do not optimally serve all the parties with an interest in the decisions. The present system may also make more difficult achieving the consistency among plans and actions that is an important aspect of this chapter.

It is the intent of the legislature to provide for more efficiency and equity in the decisions of local governments regarding major transportation projects by encouraging coordination or consolidation of the processes for reviewing environmental planning and permitting requirements for those projects. The legislature intends that local governments coordinate their regulatory decisions by considering together the range of local, state, and federal requirements for major transportation projects. Nothing in RCW 36.70A.420 or 36.70A.430 alters the authority of cities or counties under any other planning or permitting statute. [1994 c 258 § 1.]

**Captions not law—1994 c 258:** "Section captions used in this act constitute no part of the law." [1994 c 258 § 6.]

**36.70A.430 Transportation projects—Collaborative review process.** For counties engaged in planning under this chapter, there shall be established by December 31, 1994, a collaborative process to review and coordinate state and local permits for all transportation projects that cross more than one city or county boundary. This process shall at a minimum, establish a mechanism among affected cities and counties to designate a permit coordinating agency to facilitate multijurisdictional review and approval of such transportation projects. [1994 c 258 § 2.]

**Captions not law—1994 c 258:** See note following RCW 36.70A.420.

**36.70A.440 Development permit applications—Notice to applicant.** Each city and county planning pursuant to RCW 36.70A.040 shall, within twenty working days of receiving a development permit application as defined in RCW 36.70A.030(7), mail or provide in person a written notice to the applicant, stating either: That the application is complete; or that the application is incomplete and what is necessary to make the application complete. To the extent known by the city or county, the notice shall identify other agencies of local, state, or federal governments that may have jurisdiction over some aspect of the application. [1994 c 257 § 4.]

**Severability—1994 c 257:** See note following RCW 36.70A.270.

**36.70A.450 Family day-care provider's home facility—City may not prohibit in residential or commercial area.** No city that plans or elects to plan under this chapter may enact, enforce, or maintain an ordinance, development regulation, zoning regulation, or official control, policy, or administrative practice which prohibits the use of a residential dwelling, located in an area zoned for residential or commercial use, as a family day-care provider's home facility.

A city may require that the facility: (1) Comply with all building, fire, safety, health code, and business licensing requirements; (2) conform to lot size, building size, setbacks, and lot coverage standards applicable to the zoning district

except if the structure is a legal nonconforming structure; (3) is certified by the state department of licensing as providing a safe passenger loading area; (4) include signage, if any, that conforms to applicable regulations; and (5) limit hours of operations to facilitate neighborhood compatibility, while also providing appropriate opportunity for persons who use family day-care and who work a nonstandard work shift:

A city may also require that the family day-care provider, before state licensing, require proof of written notification by the provider that the immediately adjoining property owners have been informed of the intent to locate and maintain such a facility. If a dispute arises between neighbors and the family day-care provider over licensing requirements, the licensor may provide a forum to resolve the dispute.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a city that plans or elects to plan under this chapter from imposing zoning conditions on the establishment and maintenance of a family day-care provider's home in an area zoned for residential or commercial use, so long as such conditions are no more restrictive than conditions imposed on other residential dwellings in the same zone and the establishment of such facilities is not precluded. As used in this section, "family day-care provider" is as defined in RCW 74.15.020. [1994 c 273 § 17.]

**36.70A.800 Role of growth strategies commission.** The growth strategies commission created by executive order shall:

(1) Analyze different methods for assuring that county and city comprehensive plans adopted under chapter 36.70A RCW are consistent with the planning goals under RCW 36.70A.020 and with other requirements of chapter 36.70A RCW;

(2) Recommend to the legislature and the governor by October 1, 1990, a specific structure or process that, among other things:

(a) Ensures county and city comprehensive plans adopted under chapter 36.70A RCW are coordinated and comply with planning goals and other requirements under chapter 36.70A RCW;

(b) Requires state agencies to comply with this chapter and to consider and be consistent with county and city comprehensive plans in actions by state agencies, including the location, financing, and expansion of transportation systems and other public facilities;

(c) Defines the state role in growth management;

(d) Addresses lands and resources of state-wide significance, including to:

(i) Protect these lands and resources of state-wide significance by developing standards for their preservation and protection and suggesting the appropriate structure to monitor and enforce the preservation of these lands and resources; and

(ii) Consider the environmental, economic, and social values of the lands and resources with state-wide significance;

(e) Identifies potential state funds that may be withheld and incentives that promote county and city compliance with chapter 36.70A RCW;

(f) Increases affordable housing state-wide and promotes linkages between land use and transportation;

(g) Addresses vesting of rights; and

(h) Addresses short subdivisions; and

(3) Develop recommendations to provide for the resolution of disputes over urban growth areas between counties and cities, including incorporations and annexations. [1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 86.]

**36.70A.900 Severability—1990 1st ex.s. c 17.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 88.]

**36.70A.901 Part, section headings not law—1990 1st ex.s. c 17.** Part and section headings as used in this act do not constitute any part of the law. [1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 89.]

**36.70A.902 Section headings not law—1991 sp.s. c 32.** Section headings as used in this act do not constitute any part of the law. [1991 sp.s. c 32 § 40.]

## Chapter 36.71

### PEDDLERS' AND HAWKERS' LICENSES

#### Sections

36.71.010	Peddler's license—"Peddler" defined.
36.71.020	Peddler's license—Application for and issuance of license.
36.71.030	Peddler's license—Record of applications.
36.71.040	Peddler's license—Cancellation of license.
36.71.050	Peddler's license—Liability of deposit—Lien on.
36.71.060	Peddler's license—Penalty for peddling without license.
36.71.070	Hawkers, auctioneers, and barterers must procure license— Exceptions.
36.71.080	Hawkers, auctioneers, and barterers must procure license— Issuance of license.
36.71.090	Farmers, gardeners, etc., peddling own produce exempt from license requirements—Exception.

**36.71.010 Peddler's license—"Peddler" defined.** The term "peddler" for the purpose of this chapter includes all persons, both principals and agents, who go from place to place and house to house, carrying for sale and offering for sale or exposal for sale, goods, wares, or merchandise except agricultural, horticultural, or farm products, which they may grow or raise, and except vendors of books, periodicals, or newspapers: PROVIDED, That nothing in this chapter shall apply to peddlers within the limits of any city or town which by ordinance regulates the sale of goods, wares, or merchandise by peddlers. [1963 c 4 § 36.71.010. Prior: 1929 c 110 § 1; 1909 c 214 § 1; RRS § 8353.]

**36.71.020 Peddler's license—Application for and issuance of license.** Every peddler, before commencing business in any county of the state, shall apply in writing and under oath to the appropriate county official of the county in which he proposes to operate for a county license. The application must state the names and residences of the owners or parties in whose interest the business is to be conducted. The applicant at the same time shall file a true

statement under oath of the quantity and value of the stock of goods, wares, and merchandise that is in the county for sale or to be kept or exposed for sale in the county, make a special deposit of five hundred dollars, and pay the county license fee as may be fixed under the authority of RCW 36.32.120(3).

The appropriate county official shall thereupon issue to the applicant a peddler's license, authorizing him to do business in the county for the term of one year from the date thereof. Every county license shall contain a copy of the application therefor, shall not be transferable, and shall not authorize more than one person to sell goods as a peddler, either by agent or clerk, or in any other way than his own proper person. [1985 c 91 § 3; 1963 c 4 § 36.71.020. Prior: 1927 c 89 § 1; 1909 c 214 § 3; RRS § 8355.]

#### **36.71.030 Peddler's license—Record of applications.**

The appropriate county official of each county shall keep on file all applications for peddlers' licenses that are issued. All files and records shall be in convenient form and open to public inspection. [1985 c 91 § 4; 1963 c 4 § 36.71.030. Prior: 1909 c 214 § 4; RRS § 8356.]

#### **36.71.040 Peddler's license—Cancellation of license.**

Upon the expiration and return of a county license, the appropriate county official shall cancel it, indorse thereon the cancellation, and place it on file. After holding the special deposit of the licensee for a period of ninety days from the date of cancellation, he shall return the deposit or such portion as may remain in his hands after satisfying the claims made against it. [1985 c 91 § 5; 1963 c 4 § 36.71.040. Prior: 1909 c 214 § 5; RRS § 8357.]

#### **36.71.050 Peddler's license—Liability of deposit—**

**Lien on.** Each deposit made with the county shall be subject to all taxes legally chargeable thereto, to attachment and execution on behalf of the creditors of the licensee whose claims arise in connection with the business done under his license, and the county may be held to answer as trustee in any civil action in contract or tort brought against any licensee, and shall pay over, under order of the court or upon execution, such amount of money as the licensee may be chargeable with upon the final determination of the case. Such deposit shall also be subject to the payment of any and all fines and penalties incurred by the licensee through violations of the provisions of RCW 36.71.010, 36.71.020, 36.71.030, 36.71.040 and 36.71.060, which shall be a lien upon the deposit and shall be collected in the manner provided by law. [1985 c 91 § 6; 1963 c 4 § 36.71.050. Prior: 1909 c 214 § 6; RRS § 8358.]

**36.71.060 Peddler's license—Penalty for peddling without license.** Every peddler who sells or offers for sale or exposes for sale, at public or private sale any goods, wares, or merchandise without a county license, shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than thirty days nor more than ninety days or by fine of not less than fifty dollars nor more than two hundred dollars or by both. [1963 c 4 § 36.71.060. Prior: 1909 c 214 § 2; RRS § 8354.]

**36.71.070 Hawkers, auctioneers, and barterers must procure license—Exceptions.** (1) If any person sells any goods, wares, or merchandise, at auction or public outcry, or barter goods, wares or merchandise from traveling boats, wagons, carts or vehicles of any kind, or from any pack, basket or other package carried on foot without first having obtained a license therefor from the board of county commissioners of the county in which such goods are sold or bartered, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined not less than five nor more than fifty dollars, and shall stand committed to the county jail of the county in which the conviction is had until such fine and cost of prosecution are paid, or discharged by due course of law: PROVIDED, That this section shall not be construed as to apply to any seagoing craft or to administrators or executors selling property of deceased persons, or to private individuals selling their household property, or furniture, or farming tools, implements, or livestock, or any produce grown or raised by them, either at public auction or private sale.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, counties shall not license auctioneers that are licensed by the state under chapter 18.11 RCW. [1984 c 189 § 6; 1963 c 4 § 36.71.070. Prior: 1879 p 130 § 1; 1873 p 437 § 1; RRS § 8341.]

**36.71.080 Hawkers, auctioneers, and barterers must procure license—Issuance of license.** The county legislative authority may, by its order, direct the appropriate county official to issue a license to any person to do any business designated in RCW 36.71.070 for such sum as may be fixed under the authority of RCW 36.32.120(3). [1985 c 91 § 7; 1963 c 4 § 36.71.080. Prior: 1873 p 438 § 3; RRS § 8342.]

**36.71.090 Farmers, gardeners, etc., peddling own produce exempt from license requirements—Exception.** It shall be lawful for any farmer, gardener, or other person, without license, to sell, deliver, or peddle any fruits, vegetables, berries, eggs, or any farm produce or edibles raised, gathered, produced, or manufactured by such person and no city or town shall pass or enforce any ordinance prohibiting the sale by or requiring license from the producers and manufacturers of farm produce and edibles as herein defined: PROVIDED, That nothing herein authorizes any person to sell, deliver, or peddle, without license, in any city or town, any dairy product, meat, poultry, eel, fish, mollusk, or shellfish where a license is required to engage legally in such activity in such city or town. [1984 c 25 § 4; 1963 c 4 § 36.71.090. Prior: 1917 c 45 § 1; 1897 c 62 § 1; RRS § 8343.]

## **Chapter 36.72**

### **PRINTING**

#### **Sections**

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 36.72.071 | All county officers to use official county newspaper.                     |
| 36.72.075 | Official county newspaper.  |
| 36.72.080 | Forms for public blanks, compilation of.                                  |
| 36.72.090 | Forms for public blanks, compilation of—Material to be provided by state. |



**36.72.071 All county officers to use official county newspaper.** All county officers shall cause all legal notices and delinquent tax lists to be advertised in the official county newspaper designated by the county legislative authority. [1977 c 34 § 1.]

**36.72.075 Official county newspaper.** At its first April meeting, the county legislative authority shall let a contract to a legal newspaper qualified under this section to serve as the official county newspaper for the term of one year beginning on the first day of July following. If there be at least one legal newspaper published in the county, the contract shall be let to a legal newspaper published in the county. If there be no legal newspaper published in the county, the county legislative authority shall let the contract to a legal newspaper published in an adjacent county and having general circulation in the county.

When two or more legal newspapers are qualified under the provisions of this section to be the official county newspaper, the county auditor shall advertise, at least five weeks before the meeting at which the county legislative authority shall let the contract for the official county newspaper, for bid proposals to be submitted by interested qualified legal newspapers. Advertisement of the opportunity to bid shall be mailed to all qualified legal newspapers and shall be published once in the official county newspaper. The advertisement may designate the form which notices shall take, and may require that the successful bidder provide a bond for the correct and faithful performance of the contract.

The county legislative authority shall let the contract to the best and lowest responsible bidder, giving consideration to the question of circulation in awarding the contract, with a view to giving publication of notices the widest publicity. [1977 c 34 § 2.]

**36.72.080 Forms for public blanks, compilation of.** The state auditor, with the aid and advice of the attorney general shall compile the forms for all public blanks used in the counties of this state in conformity with the general statutes thereof. The various blanks shall be uniform throughout the state. [1963 c 4 § 36.72.080. Prior: 1897 c 35 § 1; RRS § 4078.]

**36.72.090 Forms for public blanks, compilation of—Material to be provided by state.** The material used in such blank forms and the printing and binding thereof shall be provided for by the state in the same manner and under the same rules and regulations as other public printing is now provided for under the general statutes of this state. [1963 c 4 § 36.72.090. Prior: 1897 c 35 § 2; RRS § 4079.]

### Chapter 36.73

#### TRANSPORTATION BENEFIT DISTRICTS

##### Sections

36.73.010	Intent.
36.73.020	Establishment of district by county.
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*Roads and bridges, service districts: Chapter 36.83 RCW.*

**36.73.010 Intent.** The legislature finds that the citizens of the state can benefit by cooperation of the public and private sectors in addressing transportation needs. This cooperation can be fostered through enhanced capability for cities, towns, and counties to make and fund transportation improvements necessitated by economic development.

It is the intent of the legislature to encourage joint efforts by the state, local governments, and the private sector to respond to the need for those transportation improvements on state highways, county roads, and city streets. This goal can be better achieved by allowing cities, towns, and counties to establish transportation benefit districts in order to respond to the special transportation needs and economic opportunities resulting from private sector development for the public good. The legislature also seeks to facilitate the equitable participation of private developers whose developments may generate the need for those improvements in the improvement costs. [1987 c 327 § 1.]

**36.73.020 Establishment of district by county.** The legislative authority of a county may establish one or more transportation benefit districts within the county for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, improving, providing, and funding any city street, county road, or state highway improvement within the district that is (1) consistent with state, regional, and local transportation plans, (2) necessitated by existing or reasonably foreseeable congestion levels attributable to economic growth, and (3) partially funded by local government or private developer contributions, or a combination of such contributions. Such transportation improvements shall be owned by the county of jurisdiction if located in an unincorporated area, by the city of jurisdiction if located in an incorporated area, or by the state in cases where the transportation improvement is or becomes a state highway; and all such transportation improvements shall be administered and maintained as other public streets, roads, and highways. The district may not include any area within the corporate limits of a city unless the city legislative authority has agreed to the inclusion pursuant to chapter 39.34 RCW. The agreement shall specify the area and such powers as may be granted to the benefit district.

The members of the county legislative authority, acting ex officio and independently, shall compose the governing body of the district: PROVIDED, That where a transportation benefit district includes any portion of an incorporated city, town, or another county, the district may be governed as provided in an interlocal agreement adopted pursuant to chapter 39.34 RCW. The county treasurer shall act as the ex officio treasurer of the district. The electors of the district

shall all be registered voters residing within the district. For purposes of this section, the term "city" means both cities and towns. [1989 c 53 § 1; 1987 c 327 § 2.]

**Severability—1989 c 53:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1989 c 53 § 5.]

**36.73.030 Establishment of district by city.** See RCW 35.21.225.

**36.73.040 General powers of district.** A transportation benefit district is a quasi-municipal corporation, an independent taxing "authority" within the meaning of Article VII, section 1 of the state Constitution, and a "taxing district" within the meaning of Article VII, section 2 of the state Constitution.

A transportation benefit district constitutes a body corporate and possesses all the usual powers of a corporation for public purposes as well as all other powers that may now or hereafter be specifically conferred by statute, including, but not limited to, the authority to hire employees, staff, and services, to enter into contracts, to acquire, hold, and dispose of real and personal property, and to sue and be sued. Public works contract limits applicable to the jurisdiction that established the district shall apply to the district. [1989 c 53 § 3; 1987 c 327 § 4.]

**Severability—1989 c 53:** See note following RCW 36.73.020.

**36.73.050 Establishment of district—Public hearing.**

(1) A city or county legislative authority proposing to establish a transportation benefit district, or to modify the boundaries of an existing district, or to dissolve an existing district, shall conduct a hearing at the time and place specified in a notice published at least once, not less than ten days before the hearing, in a newspaper of general circulation within the proposed district. The legislative authority shall make provision for a district to be automatically dissolved when all indebtedness of the district has been retired and anticipated responsibilities have been satisfied. This notice shall be in addition to any other notice required by law to be published. The notice shall, where applicable, specify the functions or activities proposed to be provided or funded, or the additional functions or activities proposed to be provided or funded, by the district. Additional notice of the hearing may be given by mail, by posting within the proposed district, or in any manner the city or county legislative authority deems necessary to notify affected persons. All hearings shall be public and the city or county legislative authority shall hear objections from any person affected by the formation, modification of the boundaries, or dissolution of the district.

(2) Following the hearing held pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, the city or county legislative authority may establish a transportation benefit district, modify the boundaries or functions of an existing district, or dissolve an existing district, if the city or county legislative authority finds the action to be in the public interest and adopts an ordinance providing for the action. The ordinance establishing a district shall specify the functions or activities to be exercised or funded and establish the boundaries of the

district. A district shall include only those areas which can reasonably be expected to benefit from improvements to be funded by the district. Functions or activities proposed to be provided or funded by the district may not be expanded beyond those specified in the notice of hearing, unless additional notices are made, further hearings on the expansion are held, and further determinations are made that it is in the public interest to so expand the functions or activities proposed to be provided or funded.

(3) At any time before the city or county legislative authority establishes a transportation benefit district pursuant to this section, all further proceedings shall be terminated upon the filing of a verified declaration of termination signed by the owners of real property consisting of at least sixty percent of the assessed valuation in the proposed district. [1987 c 327 § 5.]

**36.73.060 Authority to levy property tax.** (1) A transportation benefit district may levy an ad valorem property tax in excess of the one percent limitation upon the property within the district for a one-year period whenever authorized by the voters of the district pursuant to RCW 84.52.052 and Article VII, section 2(a) of the state Constitution.

(2) A district may provide for the retirement of voter-approved general obligation bonds, issued for capital purposes only, by levying bond retirement ad valorem property tax levies in excess of the one percent limitation whenever authorized by the voters of the district pursuant to Article VII, section 2(b) of the state Constitution and RCW 84.52.056. [1987 c 327 § 6.]

**36.73.070 Authority to issue general obligation bonds.** (1) To carry out the purpose of this chapter, a transportation benefit district may issue general obligation bonds, not to exceed an amount, together with any other outstanding nonvoter-approved general obligation indebtedness, equal to three-eighths of one percent of the value of taxable property within the district, as the term "value of taxable property" is defined in RCW 39.36.015. A district may additionally issue general obligation bonds for capital purposes only, together with any outstanding general obligation indebtedness, not to exceed an amount equal to one and one-fourth percent of the value of the taxable property within the district, as the term "value of taxable property" is defined in RCW 39.36.015, when authorized by the voters of the district pursuant to Article VIII, section 6 of the state Constitution, and to provide for the retirement thereof by excess property tax levies as provided in RCW 36.73.060(2). The district may submit a single proposition to the voters that, if approved, authorizes both the issuance of the bonds and the bond retirement property tax levies.

(2) General obligation bonds with a maturity in excess of forty years shall not be issued. The governing body of the transportation benefit district shall by resolution determine for each general obligation bond issue the amount, date, terms, conditions, denominations, maximum fixed or variable interest rate or rates, maturity or maturities, redemption rights, registration privileges, manner of execution, manner of sale, callable provisions, if any, covenants, and form, including registration as to principal and interest,

registration as to principal only, or bearer. Registration may include, but not be limited to: (a) A book entry system of recording the ownership of a bond whether or not physical bonds are issued; or (b) recording the ownership of a bond together with the requirement that the transfer of ownership may only be effected by the surrender of the old bond and either the reissuance of the old bond or the issuance of a new bond to the new owner. Facsimile signatures may be used on the bonds and any coupons. Refunding general obligation bonds may be issued in the same manner as general obligation bonds are issued.

(3) Whenever general obligation bonds are issued to fund specific projects or enterprises that generate revenues, charges, user fees, or special assessments, the transportation benefit district which issues the bonds may specifically pledge all or a portion of the revenues, charges, user fees, or special assessments to refund the general obligation bonds. The district may also pledge any other revenues that may be available to the district. [1987 c 327 § 7.]

**36.73.080 Local improvement districts authorized—Special assessments—Bonds.** (1) A transportation benefit district may form a local improvement district to provide any transportation improvement it has the authority to provide, impose special assessments on all property specially benefited by the transportation improvements, and issue special assessment bonds or revenue bonds to fund the costs of the transportation improvement. Local improvement districts shall be created and assessments shall be made and collected pursuant to chapters 35.43, 35.44, 35.49, 35.50, 35.51, 35.53, and 35.54 RCW.

(2) The governing body of a transportation benefit district shall by resolution establish for each special assessment bond issue the amount, date, terms, conditions, denominations, maximum fixed or variable interest rate or rates, maturity or maturities, redemption rights, registration privileges, if any, covenants, and form, including registration as to principal and interest, registration as to principal only, or bearer. Registration may include, but not be limited to: (a) A book entry system of recording the ownership of a bond whether or not physical bonds are issued; or (b) recording the ownership of a bond together with the requirement that the transfer of ownership may only be effected by the surrender of the old bond and either the reissuance of the old bond or the issuance of a new bond to the new owner. Facsimile signatures may be used on the bonds and any coupons. The maximum term of any special assessment bonds shall not exceed thirty years beyond the date of issue. Special assessment bonds issued pursuant to this section shall not be an indebtedness of the transportation benefit district issuing the bonds, and the interest and principal on the bonds shall only be payable from special assessments made for the improvement for which the bonds were issued and any local improvement guaranty fund that the transportation benefit district has created. The owner or bearer of a special assessment bond or any interest coupon issued pursuant to this section shall not have any claim against the transportation benefit district arising from the bond or coupon except for the payment from special assessments made for the improvement for which the bonds were issued and any local improvement guaranty fund the transportation

benefit district has created. The district issuing the special assessment bonds is not liable to the owner or bearer of any special assessment bond or any interest coupon issued pursuant to this section for any loss occurring in the lawful operation of its local improvement guaranty fund. The substance of the limitations included in this subsection shall be plainly printed, written, or engraved on each special assessment bond issued pursuant to this section.

(3) Assessments shall reflect any credits given by a transportation benefit district for real property or property right donations made pursuant to RCW 47.14.030.

(4) The governing body may establish and pay moneys into a local improvement guaranty fund to guarantee special assessment bonds issued by the transportation benefit district. [1987 c 327 § 8.]

**36.73.090 Printing of bonds.** Where physical bonds are issued pursuant to RCW 36.73.070 or 36.73.080, the bonds shall be printed, engraved, or lithographed on good bond paper and the manual or facsimile signatures of both the treasurer and chairperson of the governing body shall be included on each bond. [1987 c 327 § 9.]

**36.73.100 Use of bond proceeds.** (1) The proceeds of any bond issued pursuant to RCW 36.73.070 or 36.73.080 may be used to pay costs incurred on such bond issue related to the sale and issuance of the bonds. Such costs include payments for fiscal and legal expenses, obtaining bond ratings, printing, engraving, advertising, and other similar activities.

(2) In addition, proceeds of bonds used to fund capital projects may be used to pay the necessary and related engineering, architectural, planning, and inspection costs. [1987 c 327 § 10.]

**36.73.110 Acceptance and use of gifts and grants.** A transportation benefit district may accept and expend or use gifts, grants, and donations. [1987 c 327 § 11.]

**36.73.120 Imposition of fees on building construction or land development—Limitations.** (1) A transportation benefit district may impose a fee or charge on the construction or reconstruction of residential buildings, commercial buildings, industrial buildings, or on any other building or building space or appurtenance thereto, or on the development, subdivision, classification, or reclassification of land only if done in accordance with chapter 39.92 RCW.

(2) Any fee or charge imposed under this section shall be used exclusively for transportation improvements constructed by a transportation benefit district. The fees or charges so imposed must be reasonably necessary as a result of the impact of development, construction, or classification or reclassification of land on identified transportation needs.

(3) When fees or charges are imposed by a district within which there is more than one city or both incorporated and unincorporated areas, the legislative authority for each city in the district and the county legislative authority for the unincorporated area must approve the imposition of such fees or charges before they take effect. [1988 c 179 § 7; 1987 c 327 § 12.]

**Severability—Prospective application—Section captions—1988 c 179:** See RCW 39.92.900 and 39.92.901.

**36.73.130 Power of eminent domain.** A transportation benefit district may exercise the power of eminent domain to obtain property for its authorized purposes in the manner as the city or county legislative authority that established the district. [1987 c 327 § 13.]

**36.73.140 Authority to contract for street and highway improvements.** A transportation benefit district has the same powers as a county or city to contract for street, road, or state highway improvement projects and to enter into reimbursement contracts provided for in chapter 35.72 RCW. [1987 c 327 § 14.]

**36.73.150 Department of transportation may fund improvement projects.** The department of transportation, counties, and cities may give funds to transportation benefit districts for the purposes of financing street, road, or highway improvement projects. [1987 c 327 § 15.]

**36.73.900 Liberal construction.** The rule of strict construction does not apply to this chapter, and this chapter shall be liberally construed to permit the accomplishment of its purposes. [1987 c 327 § 16.]

**Chapter 36.75**

**ROADS AND BRIDGES—GENERAL PROVISIONS**

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**36.75.010 Definitions.** As used in this title with relation to roads and bridges, the following terms mean:

(1) "Alley," a highway not designed for general travel and primarily used as a means of access to the rear of residences and business establishments;

(2) "Board," the board of county commissioners or the county legislative authority, however organized;

(3) "Center line," the line, marked or unmarked, parallel to and equidistant from the sides of a two-way traffic roadway of a highway except where otherwise indicated by painted lines or markers;

(4) "City street," every highway or part thereof, located within the limits of incorporated cities and towns, except alleys;

(5) "County engineer" includes the county director of public works;

(6) "County road," every highway or part thereof, outside the limits of incorporated cities and towns and which has not been designated as a state highway;

(7) "Department," the state department of transportation;

(8) "Director" or "secretary," the state secretary of transportation or his duly authorized assistant;

(9) "Pedestrian," any person afoot;

(10) "Private road or driveway," every way or place in private ownership and used for travel of vehicles by the owner or those having express or implied permission from the owner, but not by other persons;

(11) "Highway," every way, lane, road, street, boulevard, and every way or place in the state of Washington open as a matter of right to public vehicular travel both inside and outside the limits of incorporated cities and towns;

(12) "Railroad," a carrier of persons or property upon vehicles, other than streetcars, operated upon stationary rails, the route of which is principally outside incorporated cities and towns;

(13) "Roadway," the paved, improved, or proper driving portion of a highway designed or ordinarily used for vehicular travel;

(14) "Sidewalk," property between the curb lines or the lateral lines of a roadway, and the adjacent property, set aside and intended for the use of pedestrians or such portion of private property parallel and in proximity to a highway and dedicated to use by pedestrians;

(15) "State highway," includes every highway as herein defined, or part thereof, that has been designated as a state highway, or branch thereof, by legislative enactment. [1984 c 7 § 26; 1975 c 62 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 182 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.75.010. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 1; RRS § 6450-1.]

**Severability—1984 c 7:** See note following RCW 47.01.141.

**Severability—1975 c 62:** "If any provision of this amendatory act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1975 c 62 § 52.]

**36.75.020 County roads—County legislative authority as agent of state—Standards.** All of the county roads in each of the several counties shall be established, laid out, constructed, altered, repaired, improved, and maintained by the legislative authority of the respective counties as agents of the state, or by private individuals or corporations who are allowed to perform such work under an agreement with the county legislative authority. Such work shall be done in accordance with adopted county standards under the supervision and direction of the county engineer. [1982 c 145 § 6; 1963 c 4 § 36.75.020. Prior: 1943 c 82 § 1; 1937 c 187 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6450-2.]

**36.75.030 State and county cooperation.** The state department of transportation and the governing officials of any county may enter into reciprocal public highway improvement and maintenance agreements, providing for cooperation either in the county assisting the department in the improvement or maintenance of state highways, or the department assisting the county in the improvement or maintenance of county roads, under any circumstance where a necessity appears therefor or where economy in public highway improvement and maintenance will be best served. [1984 c 7 § 27; 1963 c 4 § 36.75.030. Prior: 1939 c 181 § 11; RRS § 6450-2a.]

**Severability—1984 c 7:** See note following RCW 47.01.141.

**36.75.035 County may fund improvements to state highways.** A county pursuant to chapter 36.88 RCW, or a service district as provided for in chapter 36.83 RCW, may, with the approval of the state department of transportation, improve or fund the improvement of any state highway within its boundaries. The county may fund improvements under this section by any means authorized by law, but may not make any expenditure for the purposes of this section from a county road fund under chapter 36.82 RCW. Nothing in this section shall limit the authority of a county to fund cooperative improvement and maintenance agreements with the department of transportation, authorized by RCW 36.75.030 or 47.28.140. [1985 c 400 § 1.]

*County road improvement districts and service districts may improve state highways: RCW 36.83.010 and 36.88.010.*

**36.75.040 Powers of county commissioners.** The board of county commissioners of each county, in relation to roads and bridges, shall have the power and it shall be its duty to:

(1) Acquire in the manner provided by law property real and personal and acquire or erect structures necessary for the administration of the county roads of such county;

(2) Maintain a county engineering office and keep record of all proceedings and orders pertaining to the county roads of such county;

(3) Acquire land for county road purposes by purchase, gift, or condemnation, and exercise the right of eminent domain as by law provided for the taking of land for public use by counties of this state;

(4) Perform all acts necessary and proper for the administration of the county roads of such county as by law provided;

(5) In its discretion rent or lease any lands, improvements or air space above or below any county road or unused county roads to any person or entity, public or private: PROVIDED, That the said renting or leasing will not interfere with vehicular traffic along said county road or adversely affect the safety of the traveling public: PROVIDED FURTHER, That any such sale, lease or rental shall be by public bid in the manner provided by law: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That nothing herein shall prohibit any county from granting easements of necessity. [1969 ex.s. c 182 § 15; 1963 c 4 § 36.75.040. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 3; RRS § 6450-3.]

**36.75.050 Powers—How exercised.** The powers and duties vested in or imposed upon the boards with respect to establishing, examining, surveying, constructing, altering, repairing, improving, and maintaining county roads, shall be exercised under the supervision and direction of the county road engineer.

The board shall by resolution, and not otherwise, order the survey, establishment, construction, alteration, or improvement of county roads; the county road engineer shall prepare all necessary maps, plans, and specifications therefor, showing the right of way widths, the alignments, gradients, and standards of construction. [1963 c 4 § 36.75.050. Prior: 1943 c 73 § 1, part; 1937 c 187 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6450-4.]

**36.75.060 County road districts.** For the purpose of efficient administration of the county roads of each county the board may, but not more than once in each year, form their respective counties, or any part thereof, into suitable and convenient road districts, not exceeding nine in number, and cause a description thereof to be entered upon their records.

Unless the board decides otherwise by majority vote, there shall be at least one road district in each county commissioner's district embracing territory outside of cities and towns and no road district shall extend into more than one county commissioner's district. [1969 ex.s. c 182 § 3; 1963 c 4 § 36.75.060. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 5; RRS § 6450-5.]

**36.75.070 Highways worked seven years are county roads.** All public highways in this state, outside incorporated cities and towns and not designated as state highways, which have been used as public highways for a period of not less than seven years, where they have been worked and kept up at the expense of the public, are county roads. [1963 c 4 § 36.75.070. Prior: 1955 c 361 § 2; prior: 1945

c 125 § 1, part; 1937 c 187 § 10, part; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6450-10, part.]

**36.75.080 Highways used ten years are county roads.** All public highways in this state, outside incorporated cities and towns and not designated as state highways which have been used as public highways for a period of not less than ten years are county roads: PROVIDED, That no duty to maintain such public highway nor any liability for any injury or damage for failure to maintain such public highway or any road signs thereon shall attach to the county until the same shall have been adopted as a part of the county road system by resolution of the county commissioners. [1963 c 4 § 36.75.080. Prior: 1955 c 361 § 3; prior: 1945 c 125 § 1, part; 1937 c 187 § 10, part; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6450-10, part.]

**36.75.090 Abandoned state highways.** All public highways in this state which have been a part of the route of a state highway and have been or may hereafter be no longer necessary as such, if situated outside of the limits of incorporated cities or towns, shall, upon certification thereof by the state department of transportation to the legislative authority of the county in which any portion of the highway is located, become a county road of the county, and if situated within the corporate limits of any city or town shall upon certification thereof by the state department of transportation to the mayor of the city or town in which any portion of the highway is located become a street of the city or town. Upon the certification the secretary of transportation shall execute a deed, which shall be duly acknowledged, conveying the abandoned highway or portion thereof to the county or city as the case may be. [1984 c 7 § 28; 1977 ex.s. c 78 § 4; 1963 c 4 § 36.75.090. Prior: 1955 c 361 § 4; prior: 1953 c 57 § 1; 1945 c 125 § 1, part; 1937 c 187 § 10, part; Rem. Supp. 1945 § 6450-10, part.]

Severability—1984 c 7: See note following RCW 47.01.141.

**36.75.100 Informalities not fatal.** No informalities in the records in laying out, establishing, or altering any public highways existing on file in the offices of the various county auditors of this state or in the records of the department or the transportation commission, may be construed to invalidate or vacate the public highways. [1984 c 7 § 29; 1963 c 4 § 36.75.100. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 11; RRS § 6450-11.]

Severability—1984 c 7: See note following RCW 47.01.141.

**36.75.110 True locations to be determined—Survey.** Whenever the board declares by resolution that the true location, course, or width of any county road is uncertain and that the same should be determined, it shall direct the county road engineer to make examination and survey thereof.

This shall embrace an examination and survey of the original petition, report, and field notes on the establishment of such road; a survey of the present traveled roadway; all topography within a reasonable distance and having a bearing on the true location of such road; the distance from the center line of the traveled roadway to the nearest section and quarter section corners; a map of sufficient scale

accurately showing the above with field notes thereon; a map on the same scale showing the original field notes, such field notes to be transposed and the same meridian used on both maps. [1963 c 4 § 36.75.110. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 12; RRS § 6450-12.]

**36.75.120 Action to determine true location.** When the true location, course, or width of a county road, which was prior thereto uncertain, has been reported by the examining engineer, the board shall file an action in the superior court of such county for the determination thereof. All persons affected by the determination of the true location, course, or width insofar as the same may vary from the originally established location, course, or width shall be made parties defendant in such action and service had and return made as in the case of civil actions. Upon the hearing the court shall consider the survey, maps, and all data with reference to the investigation of the examining engineer and may demand such further examination as it may deem necessary and any objection of any party defendant may be heard and considered. The court shall determine the true location, course, and width of the road and may in its discretion assess the cost of such action against the county to be paid from the county road fund. [1963 c 4 § 36.75.120. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 13; RRS § 6450-13.]

**36.75.130 Approaches to county roads.** No person shall be permitted to build or construct any approach to any county road without first obtaining permission therefor from the board. [1963 c 4 § 36.75.130. Prior: 1943 c 174 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6450-95.]

**36.75.140 Approaches to county roads—Rules regarding construction.** The boards of the several counties of the state may adopt reasonable rules for the construction of approaches which, when complied with, shall entitle a person to build or construct an approach from any abutting property to any county road. The rules may include provisions for the construction of culverts under the approaches, the depth of fills over the culverts and for such other drainage facilities as the board deems necessary. The construction of approaches, culverts, fills, or such other drainage facilities as may be required, shall be under the supervision of the county road engineer, and all such construction shall be at the expense of the person benefited by the construction. [1969 ex.s. c 182 § 4; 1963 c 4 § 36.75.140. Prior: 1943 c 174 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6450-96.]

**36.75.150 Approaches to county roads—Penalty.** Any person violating any of the provisions of RCW 36.75.130 and 36.75.140 shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [1963 c 4 § 36.75.150. Prior: 1943 c 174 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6450-97.]

**36.75.160 Power of county commissioners as to roads, bridges, and other structures crossing boundary lines.** The board of county commissioners of any county may erect and construct or acquire by purchase, gift, or condemnation, any bridge, trestle, or any other structure which crosses any stream, body of water, gulch, navigable

water, swamp or other topographical formation requiring such structure for the continuation or connection of any county road if such topographical formation constitutes the boundary of a city, town, another county or the state of Washington or another state or a county, city or town of such other state.

The board of such county may join with such city, town, other county, the state of Washington, or other state, or a county, city or town of such other state in paying for, erecting, constructing, acquiring by purchase, gift, or condemnation any such bridge, trestle, or other structure, and the purchase or condemnation of right of way therefor.

The board of any county may construct, maintain, and operate any county road which forms the boundary line between another county within the state or another county in any other state or which through its meandering crosses and recrosses such boundary; and acquire by purchase or condemnation any lands or rights within this state, either within or without its county, necessary for such boundary road; and enter into joint contracts with authorities of adjoining counties for the construction, operation, and maintenance of such boundary roads. The power of condemnation herein granted may be exercised jointly by two counties in the manner provided in RCW 36.75.170 for bridges, or it may be exercised by a single county in the manner authorized by law. [1963 c 4 § 36.75.160. Prior: 1943 c 82 § 3; 1937 c 187 § 26; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6450-26.]

**36.75.170 Power of county commissioners as to roads, bridges, and other structures crossing boundary lines—Resolution to acquire or construct.** The board may by original resolution entered upon its minutes declare its intention to pay for and erect or construct, or acquire by purchase, gift, or condemnation, any bridge, trestle, or other structure upon any county road which crosses any stream, body of water, gulch, navigable water, swamp or other topographical formation constituting a boundary, or to join therein with any other county, city or town, or with this state, or with any other state, or with any county, city or town of any other state, in the erection, or construction, or acquisition of any such structure, and declare that the same is a public necessity, and direct the county road engineer to report upon such project, dividing any just proportional cost thereof.

In the event two counties or any county and any city wish to join in paying for the erection or acquisition of any such structure, the resolution provided in this section shall be a joint resolution of the governing authorities of the counties and cities and they shall further, by such resolution, designate an engineer employed by one county to report upon the proposed erection or acquisition. [1963 c 4 § 36.75.170. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 27; RRS § 6450-27.]

**36.75.180 Power of county commissioners as to roads, bridges, and other structures crossing boundary lines—Freeholders' petition to acquire or construct.** Ten or more freeholders of any county may petition the board for the erection and construction or acquisition by purchase, gift, or condemnation of any bridge, trestle, or any other structure in the vicinity of their residence, and upon any county road



which crosses any stream, body of water, gulch, navigable waters, swamp or other topographical formation constituting a boundary by joining with any other county, city or town, or the state of Washington, or with any other state or with any county, city or town of any other state, setting forth and describing the location proposed for the erection of such bridge, trestle, or other structure, and stating that the same is a public necessity. The petition shall be accompanied by a bond with the same requirements, conditions, and amount and in the same manner as in case of a freeholders' petition for the establishing of a county road. Upon the filing of such petition and bond and being satisfied that the petition has been signed by freeholders residing in the vicinity of such proposed bridge, trestle, or other structure, the board shall direct the county road engineer to report upon the project, dividing any just proportional cost thereof.

In the event two counties or any county and any city or town are petitioned to join in paying for the erection or acquisition of such structure, the board of county commissioners of the counties or the board of county commissioners of the county and governing authorities of the city or town shall act jointly in the selection of the engineer who shall report upon such acquisition or erection. [1963 c 4 § 36.75.180. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 28; RRS § 6450-28.]

**36.75.190 Engineer's report—Hearing—Order.** Upon report by the examining engineer for the erection and construction upon any county road, or for acquisition by purchase, gift or condemnation of any bridge, trestle, or any other structure crossing any stream, body of water, gulch, navigable water, swamp or other topographical formation, which constitutes a boundary, publication shall be made and joint hearing had upon such report in the same manner and upon the same procedure as in the case of resolution or petition for the laying out and establishing of county roads. If upon the hearing the governing authorities jointly order the erection and construction or acquisition of such bridge, trestle, or other structure, they may jointly acquire land necessary therefor by purchase, gift, or condemnation in the manner as provided for acquiring land for county roads, and shall advertise calls for bids, require contractor's deposit and bond, award contracts, and supervise construction as by law provided and in the same manner as required in the case of the construction of county roads.

Any such bridges, trestles or other structures may be operated free, or may be operated as toll bridges, trestles, or other structures under the provisions of the laws of this state relating thereto. [1963 c 4 § 36.75.190. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 29; RRS § 6450-29.]

**36.75.200 Bridges on city or town streets.** The boards of the several counties may expend funds from the county road fund for the construction, improvement, repair, and maintenance of any bridge upon any city street within any city or town in such county where such city street and bridge are essential to the continuation of the county road system of the county. Such construction, improvement, repair, or maintenance shall be ordered by resolution and proceedings conducted in respect thereto in the same manner as provided for the laying out and establishing of county roads by counties, and for the preparation of maps, plans,

and specifications, advertising and award of contracts therefor. [1963 c 4 § 36.75.200. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 30; RRS § 6450-30.]

**36.75.203 Responsibility of city to maintain county road forming a municipal boundary.** If the centerline of a portion of a county road is part of a corporate boundary of a city or town as of May 21, 1985, and that portion of county road has no connection to the county road system, maintenance of all affected portions of the road shall be the responsibility of such city or town after a petition requesting the same has been made to the city or town by the county legislative authority. [1985 c 429 § 2.]

**36.75.205 Street as extension of road in town of less than one thousand.** Whenever any street in any town, having a population of less than one thousand persons, forms an extension of a county road of the county in which such town is located, and where the board of county commissioners of such county and the governing body of such town, prior to the commencement of any work, have mutually agreed and each adopted a resolution setting forth the nature and scope of the work to be performed and the share of the cost or labor which each shall bear, such county may expend county road funds for construction, improvement, repair, or maintenance of such street. [1963 c 4 § 36.75.205. Prior: 1959 c 83 § 1.]

**36.75.207 Agreements for planning, establishment, construction, and maintenance of city streets by counties—Use of county road fund—Payment by city—Contracts, bids.** See RCW 35.77.020 through 35.77.040.

**36.75.210 Roads crossing and recrossing boundaries.** Whenever a county road is established within any county, and such county road crosses the boundary of the county and again enters the county, the board of the county within which the major portion of the road is located may expend the county road fund of such county in laying out, establishing, constructing, altering, repairing, improving, and maintaining that portion of the road lying outside the county, in the manner provided by law for the expenditure of county funds for the construction, alteration, repair, improvement, and maintenance of county roads within the county.

The board of any county may construct, maintain, and operate any county road which forms the boundary line between another county within the state or another county in any other state or which through its meandering crosses and recrosses such boundary; and acquire by purchase or condemnation any lands or rights within this state, either within or without its county, necessary for such boundary road; and enter into joint contracts with authorities of adjoining counties for the construction, operation, and maintenance of such boundary roads. The power of condemnation herein granted may be exercised jointly by two counties in the manner provided for bridges, or it may be exercised by a single county in the manner authorized by law. [1963 c 4 § 36.75.210. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 23; RRS § 6450-23. FORMER PART OF SECTION: 1943 c 82 § 3, part; 1937 c 187 § 26, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6450-26, part, now codified in RCW 36.75.160.]

**36.75.220 Connecting road across segment of third county.** Whenever two counties are separated by an intervening portion of a third county not exceeding one mile in width, and each of such counties has constructed or shall construct a county road to the boundary thereof, and the boards of the two counties deem it beneficial to such counties to connect the county roads by the construction and maintenance of a county road across the intervening portion of the third county, it shall be lawful for the boards of the two counties to expend jointly the county road funds of their respective counties in acquiring right of way for the construction, improvement, repair, and maintenance of such connecting county road and any necessary bridges thereon, in the manner provided by law for the expenditure of county road funds for the construction, improvement, repair, and maintenance of county roads lying within a county. [1963 c 4 § 36.75.220. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 24; RRS § 6450-24.]

**36.75.230 Acquisition of land under RCW 36.75.210 and 36.75.220.** For the purpose of carrying into effect RCW 36.75.210 and 36.75.220 and under the circumstances therein set out the boards may acquire land necessary for the right of way for any portion of a county road lying outside such county or counties by gift or purchase or by condemnation in the manner provided for the taking of property for public use by counties. [1963 c 4 § 36.75.230. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 25, part; RRS § 6450-25, part.]

**36.75.240 Sidewalks and pedestrian paths or walks—Bicycle paths, lanes, routes, and roadways—Standards.** The boards may expend funds credited to the county road fund from any county or road district tax levied for the construction of county roads for the construction of sidewalks, bicycle paths, lanes, routes, and roadways, and pedestrian allocated paths or walks. Bicycle facilities constructed or modified after June 10, 1982, shall meet or exceed the standards of the state department of transportation. [1982 c 55 § 2; 1974 ex.s. c 141 § 7; 1963 c 4 § 36.75.240. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 25, part; RRS § 6450-25, part.]

*Pavement marking standards: RCW 47.36.280.*

**36.75.243 Curb ramps for physically handicapped.** See RCW 35.68.075, 35.68.076.

**36.75.250 State may intervene if maintenance neglected.** If by any agreement with the federal government or any agency thereof or with the state or any agency thereof, a county has agreed to maintain certain county roads or any portion thereof and the maintenance is not being performed to the satisfaction of the federal government or the department, reasonably consistent with original construction, notice thereof may be given by the department to the legislative authority of the county, and if the county legislative authority does not within ten days provide for the maintenance, the department may perform the maintenance, and the state treasurer shall pay the cost thereof on vouchers submitted by the department and deduct the cost thereof from any sums in the motor vehicle fund credited or to be credited to the county in which the county road is located.

[1984 c 7 § 30; 1963 c 4 § 36.75.250. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 46; RRS § 6450-46.]

*Severability—1984 c 7: See note following RCW 47.01.141.*

**36.75.255 Street improvements—Provision of supplies or materials.** Any county may assist a street abutter in improving the street serving the abutter's premises by providing asphalt, concrete, or other supplies or materials. The furnishing of supplies or materials or paying to the abutter the cost thereof and the providing of inspectors and other incidental personnel shall not render the street improvements a public work or improvement subject to competitive bidding. The legislative authority of such county shall approve any such assistance at a public meeting and shall maintain a public register of any such assistance setting forth the value, nature, purpose, date and location of the assistance and the name of the beneficiary. [1983 c 103 § 2.]

**36.75.260 Annual report to secretary of transportation.** Each county legislative authority shall on or before March 31st of each year submit such records and reports to the secretary of transportation, on forms furnished by the department, as are necessary to enable the secretary to compile an annual report on county highway operations. [1984 c 7 § 31; 1977 c 75 § 31; 1963 c 4 § 36.75.260. Prior: 1943 c 82 § 8; 1937 c 187 § 58; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6450-58.]

*Severability—1984 c 7: See note following RCW 47.01.141.*

**36.75.270 Limitation of type or weight of vehicles authorized—Penalty.** The board of county commissioners of each county may by resolution limit or prohibit classes or types of vehicles on any county road or bridge and may limit the weight of vehicles which may travel thereon. Any such resolution shall be effective for a definite period of time which shall be stated in the resolution. If such resolution is published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the county and if signs indicating such closure or limitation of traffic have been posted on such road or bridge, any person violating such resolution shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [1963 c 4 § 36.75.270. Prior: 1949 c 156 § 8; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6450-8g.]

*Local restrictions or limitations of weight: RCW 46.44.080.*

**36.75.280 Centralized repair and storage of machinery, equipment, supplies, etc.** All county road machinery, equipment, stores, and supplies, excepting stockpiles and other road building material, shall while not in use be stored and repaired at one centralized point in each county: PROVIDED, That if the geography, topography, distance, or other valid economic considerations require more than one place for storage or repairs, the county commissioners may, by unanimous vote, authorize the same. [1963 c 4 § 36.75.280. Prior: 1949 c 156 § 4; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6450-8d.]

**36.75.290 General penalty.** It shall be a misdemeanor for any person to violate any of the provisions of this title relating to county roads and bridges unless such violation is

by this title or other law of this state declared to be a felony or gross misdemeanor. [1963 c 4 § 36.75.290. Prior: 1943 c 82 § 13, part; 1937 c 187 § 66, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6450-66, part.]

**36.75.300 Primitive roads—Classification and designation.** The legislative authority of each county may by resolution classify and designate portions of the county roads as primitive roads where the designated road portion:

- (1) Is not classified as part of the county primary road system, as provided for in RCW 36.86.070;
- (2) Has a gravel or earth driving surface; and
- (3) Has an average annual daily traffic of one hundred or fewer vehicles.

Any road designated as a primitive road shall be marked with signs indicating that it is a primitive road, as provided in the manual of uniform traffic control devices, at all places where the primitive road portion begins or connects with a highway other than another primitive road. No design or signing or maintenance standards or requirements, other than the requirement that warning signs be placed as provided in this section, apply to primitive roads.

The design of a primitive road, and the location, placing, or failing to place road signs, other than the requirement that warning signs be placed as provided in this section, shall not be considered in any action for damages brought against a county, or against a county employee or county employees, or both, arising from vehicular traffic on the primitive road. [1985 c 369 § 2; 1980 c 45 § 1.]

## Chapter 36.76

### ROADS AND BRIDGES—BONDS

#### Sections

- 36.76.080 Bonds authorized—Election.
- 36.76.090 How to be held—Issuance of bonds.
- 36.76.100 Notice of election.
- 36.76.110 Disposition of proceeds—City assistance.
- 36.76.120 Payment of principal and interest.
- 36.76.130 Act cumulative.
- 36.76.140 Toll bridge bonds authorized—Adjoining counties.

**36.76.080 Bonds authorized—Election.** The legislative authority of any county may, whenever a majority thereof so decides, submit to the voters of their county the question whether the legislative authority shall be authorized to issue negotiable road bonds of the county in an amount subject to the limitations on indebtedness provided for in RCW 39.36.020(2), for the purpose of constructing a new road or roads, or improving established roads within the county, or for aiding in so doing, as herein prescribed.

The word "improvement" wherever used in this section and RCW 36.76.090, 36.76.100, 36.76.110, 36.76.120, and 36.76.130 shall embrace any undertaking for any or all of such purposes. The word "road" shall embrace all highways, roads, streets, avenues, bridges, and other public ways.

The provisions of this section and RCW 36.76.090, 36.76.100, 36.76.110, 36.76.120, and 36.76.130 shall apply not only to roads which are or shall be under the general control of the county, but also to all parts of state roads in such county and to all roads which are situated or are to be constructed wholly or partly within the limits of any incorpo-

rated city or town therein, provided the county legislative authority finds that they form or will become a part of the public highway system of the county, and will connect the existing roads therein. Such finding may be made by the county legislative authority at any stage of the proceedings before the actual delivery of the bonds.

The constructing or improving of any and all such roads, or the aiding therein, is declared to be a county purpose.

The question of the issuance of bonds for any undertaking which relates to a number of different roads or parts thereof, whether intended to supply the whole expenditure or to aid therein, may be submitted to the voters as a single proposition in all cases where such course is consistent with the provisions of the state Constitution. If the county legislative authority, in submitting a proposition relating to different roads or parts thereof, finds that such proposition has for its object the furtherance and accomplishment of the construction of a system of public and county highways in such county, and constitutes and has for its object a single purpose, such finding shall be presumed to be correct, and upon the issuance of the bonds the presumption shall become conclusive.

No proposition for bonds shall be submitted which proposes that more than forty percent of the proceeds thereof shall be expended within any city or town or within any number of cities and towns. [1983 c 167 § 90; 1971 c 76 § 2; 1970 ex.s. c 42 § 22; 1963 c 4 § 36.76.080. Prior: 1913 c 25 § 1; RRS § 5592.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**36.76.090 How to be held—Issuance of bonds.** The election shall be held as provided in RCW 39.36.050. If three-fifths of the legal ballots cast on the question of issuing bonds for the improvement contemplated in RCW 36.76.080 are in favor of the bond issue, the county legislative authority must issue the general obligation bonds. Such bonds shall be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1984 c 186 § 31; 1983 c 167 § 91; 1970 ex.s. c 56 § 53; 1969 ex.s. c 232 § 29; 1963 c 4 § 36.76.090. Prior: 1913 c 25 § 2; RRS § 5593.]

**Purpose—1984 c 186:** See note following RCW 39.46.110.

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**Purpose—1970 ex.s. c 56:** See note following RCW 39.52.020.

**Validation—Saving—Severability—1969 ex.s. c 232:** See notes following RCW 39.52.020.

**36.76.100 Notice of election.** The notice of this election shall state which road or roads are to be built or improved. The notice need not describe the road or roads with particularity, but it shall be sufficient either to describe them by termini and with a general statement as to their course, or to use any other appropriate language sufficient to show the purpose intended to be accomplished. The county legislative authority may, at its option, give such other or further notice as it may deem advisable. [1984 c 186 § 32; 1963 c 4 § 36.76.100. Prior: 1913 c 25 § 4; RRS § 5595.]

**Purpose—1984 c 186:** See note following RCW 39.46.110.

**36.76.110 Disposition of proceeds—City assistance.**

When the bonds are sold, the money arising therefrom shall be immediately paid into the treasury of the county, and shall be drawn only for the improvement for which they were issued, under the general direction of the board: PROVIDED, That if the improvement includes in whole or in part the constructing or improving of one or more roads, or any part or parts thereof, within the limits of an incorporated city or town, and if the county commissioners find that the amount of the proceeds of the bonds intended to be expended for the improvements within such corporate limits will probably not be sufficient to defray the entire expense of the improvement therein, and if they further find it to be equitable that the city or town should bear the remainder of the expense, they may postpone any expenditure therefor from the proceeds of the bonds until the city or town makes provision by ordinance for proceeding with the improvement within its corporate limits at its own expense insofar as concerns the cost thereof over and above the amount of bond proceeds available therefor.

In such case it shall be lawful for the county commissioners to consent, under such general directions as they shall impose, that the proper authorities of the city or town shall have actual charge of making the proposed improvement within the corporate limits. The city or town shall acquire any needed property or rights and do the work by contract or otherwise in accordance with its charter or ordinances, but the same shall be subject to the approval of the county commissioners insofar as concerns any payment therefor from the proceeds of the bonds.

In such case, as the work progresses and money is needed to pay therefor, the county commissioners shall, from time to time, by proper order, specifying the amount and purpose, direct the county treasurer to turn over to the city or town treasurer such part or parts of the proceeds of the bonds as may be justly applicable to such improvement or part thereof within such city or town, and any money so received by the city or town treasurer shall be inviolably applied to the purpose specified. When that portion of the entire improvement which lies within any such city or town can readily be separated into parts, the procedure authorized by this section may be pursued separately as to any one or more of such parts of the general improvement.

Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to render the county liable for any greater part of the expense of any improvement or part thereof within any city or town than the proper amount of the proceeds of such bonds, or to prevent the city or town from raising any part of the cost of any such improvement or part thereof, over and above the amount arising from the proceeds of the bonds, by assessment upon property benefited, or by contribution from any of its general or special funds in accordance with the provisions of the charter or laws governing such city or town. The provisions of this section, other than the direction for the payment into the county treasury of the money arising from the sale of the bonds, need not be complied with until after the issuance of the bonds and the validity of the bonds shall not be dependent upon such compliance. [1963 c 4 § 36.76.110. Prior: 1913 c 25 § 5; RRS § 5596.]

**36.76.120 Payment of principal and interest.** The county legislative authority must ascertain and levy annually a tax sufficient to pay the interest on all such bonds whenever it becomes due and to meet the annual maturities of principal. The county treasurer must pay out of any money accumulated from the taxes levied to pay the interest as aforesaid, the interest upon all such bonds when it becomes due as provided on the bond or, if coupons are attached to a bond, upon presentation at the place of payment of the proper coupon. Any interest payments or coupons so paid must be reported to the county legislative authority at its first meeting thereafter. Whenever interest is payable at any place other than the city in which the county treasurer keeps his office, the county treasurer shall seasonably remit to the state fiscal agent the amount of money required for the payment of any interest which is about to fall due. When any such bonds or any interest is paid, the county treasurer shall suitably and indelibly cancel them. [1984 c 186 § 33; 1983 c 167 § 92; 1963 c 4 § 36.76.120. Prior: 1913 c 25 § 3; RRS § 5594.]

**Purpose—1984 c 186:** See note following RCW 39.46.110.

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**36.76.130 Act cumulative.** \*This act shall not be construed as repealing or affecting any other act relating to the issuance of bonds for road or other purposes, but shall be construed as conferring additional power and authority. [1963 c 4 § 36.76.130. Prior: 1913 c 25 § 7; RRS § 5598.]

\*Reviser's note: "This act" [1913 c 25] consists of RCW 36.76.080, 36.76.090, 36.76.100, 36.76.110, 36.76.120, and 36.76.130.

**36.76.140 Toll bridge bonds authorized—Adjoining counties.** The county legislative authority may, by majority vote, and by submission to the voters under the same procedure required in RCW 36.76.090 and 36.76.100, issue general obligation bonds for the purpose of contributing money, or the bonds themselves, to the department to help finance the construction of toll bridges across topographical formations constituting boundaries between the county and an adjoining county, or a toll bridge across topographical formation located wholly within an adjoining county, which in the discretion of the county legislative authority, directly or indirectly benefits the county. The bonds may be transferred to the department to be sold by it for the purposes outlined herein. The bonds may bear interest at a rate or rates as authorized by the county legislative authority. Such indebtedness is subject to the limitations on indebtedness provided for in RCW 39.36.020(2). [1984 c 7 § 32; 1971 c 76 § 3; 1970 ex.s. c 56 § 54; 1969 ex.s. c 232 § 30; 1963 c 4 § 36.76.140. Prior: 1955 c 194 § 1.]

**Severability—1984 c 7:** See note following RCW 47.01.141.

**Purpose—1970 ex.s. c 56:** See note following RCW 39.52.020.

**Validation—Saving—Severability—1969 ex.s. c 232:** See notes following RCW 39.52.020.

## Chapter 36.77

## ROADS AND BRIDGES—CONSTRUCTION

## Sections

- 36.77.010 Maps, plans, and specifications.
- 36.77.020 Approval—Call for bids.
- 36.77.030 Opening of bids—Deposit.
- 36.77.040 Award of contract—Bond.
- 36.77.065 Day labor construction projects or programs—"County road construction budget" defined—Amounts—Violations.
- 36.77.070 Publication of information on day labor projects—Penalty—Prosecution.
- 36.77.075 County roads—Small works roster.

**36.77.010 Maps, plans, and specifications.** Whenever it is ordered by resolution of the board that any county road shall be laid out and established and altered, widened, or otherwise constructed or improved, the county road engineer employed by the county shall prepare such maps, plans, and specifications as shall be necessary and sufficient. A copy of such maps, plans, and specifications shall be approved by the board of county commissioners with its approval endorsed thereon, and such copy shall be filed with the clerk of the board. [1963 c 4 § 36.77.010. Prior: 1959 c 67 § 2; prior: 1937 c 187 § 32, part; RRS § 6450-32, part.]

**36.77.020 Approval—Call for bids.** Upon approval of such maps, plans, and specifications and the filing thereof the board shall, if it determines that the work shall be done by contract, advertise a call for bids upon such construction work by publication in the official county paper and also one trade paper of general circulation in the county, in one issue of each such paper at least once in each week for two consecutive weeks prior to the time set in the call for bids for the opening of bids. All bids shall be submitted under sealed cover before the time set for the opening of bids. [1963 c 4 § 36.77.020. Prior: 1959 c 67 § 3; prior: 1937 c 187 § 32, part; RRS § 6450-32, part.]

**36.77.030 Opening of bids—Deposit.** At the time and place fixed in the call for bids, such bids as have been submitted shall be publicly opened and read. No bid may be considered unless it is accompanied by a bid deposit in the form of a surety bond, cash, cashier's check, or certified check in an amount equal to five percent of the amount of the bid proposed. [1985 c 369 § 3; 1963 c 4 § 36.77.030. Prior: 1959 c 67 § 4; prior: 1937 c 187 § 32, part; RRS § 6450-32, part.]

**36.77.040 Award of contract—Bond.** The board shall proceed to award the contract to the lowest and best bidder but may reject any or all bids if in its opinion good cause exists therefor. The board shall require from the successful bidder a contractor's bond in the amount and with the conditions imposed by law. Should the bidder to whom the contract is awarded fail to enter into the contract and furnish the contractor's bond as required within ten days after notice of the award, exclusive of the day of notice, the amount of the bid deposit shall be forfeited to the county and placed in the county road fund and the contract awarded to the next lowest and best bidder. The bid deposit of all

unsuccessful bidders shall be returned after the contract is awarded and the required contractor's bond given by the successful bidder is accepted by the board. [1963 c 4 § 36.77.040. Prior: 1959 c 67 § 5; prior: 1937 c 187 § 32, part; RRS § 6450-32, part.]

**36.77.065 Day labor construction projects or programs—"County road construction budget" defined—Amounts—Violations.** The board may cause any county road to be constructed or improved by day labor as provided in this section.

(1) As used in this section, "county road construction budget" means the aggregate total of those costs as defined by the budgeting, accounting, and reporting system for counties and cities and other local governments authorized under RCW 43.09.200 and 43.09.230 as prescribed in the state auditor's budget, accounting, and reporting manual's (BARS) road and street construction accounts 541.00 through 541.90 in effect April 1, 1975: PROVIDED, That such costs shall not include those costs assigned to the preliminary engineering account 541.11, right of way accounts 541.20 through 541.25, ancillary operations account 541.80, and ferries account 541.81 in the budget, accounting, and reporting manual.

(2) The total amount of day labor construction programs one county may perform annually shall total no more than the amounts determined in the following manner:

(a) Any county with a total annual county road construction budget of four million dollars or more may accumulate a day labor road construction budget equal to no more than eight hundred thousand dollars or fifteen percent of the county's total annual county road construction budget, whichever is greater.

(b) Any county with a total annual county road construction budget over one million five hundred thousand dollars and less than four million dollars may accumulate a day labor road construction budget equal to not more than five hundred twenty-five thousand dollars or twenty percent of the county's total annual county road construction budget, whichever is greater.

(c) Any county with a total annual county road construction budget over five hundred thousand dollars and less than one million five hundred thousand dollars may accumulate a day labor road construction budget equal to two hundred fifty thousand dollars or thirty-five percent of the county's total annual county road construction budget, whichever is greater.

(d) Any county with a total annual county road construction budget less than five hundred thousand dollars may accumulate a day labor road construction budget equal to two hundred fifty thousand dollars: PROVIDED, That any county with a total annual road construction budget of less than five hundred thousand dollars may, by resolution of the board at the time the county road construction budget is adopted, elect to construct or improve county roads by day labor in an amount not to exceed thirty-five thousand dollars on any one project, including labor, equipment, and materials; such election to be in lieu of the two hundred fifty thousand dollar limit provided for in this section, except that any project means a complete project and the division of any

project into units of work or classes of work so as to permit construction by day labor is not authorized.

Any county that adopts a county road construction budget unreasonably exceeding that county's actual road construction expenditures for the same budget year which has the effect of permitting the county to exceed the day labor amounts established in this section is in violation of the county road administration board's standards of good practice under RCW 36.78.020 and is in violation of this section. Any county, whose expenditure for day labor for road construction projects unreasonably exceeds the limits specified in this section, is in violation of the county road administration board's standards of good practice under RCW 36.78.020 and is in violation of this section.

(3) Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, whenever the construction work or improvement is the installation of electrical traffic control devices, highway illumination equipment, electrical equipment, wires, or equipment to convey electrical current, in an amount exceeding ten thousand dollars for any one project including labor, equipment, and materials, such work shall be performed by contract as in this chapter provided. This section means a complete project and does not permit the construction of any project by day labor by division of the project into units of work or classes of work. [1980 c 40 § 1.]

**Effective date—1980 c 40:** "This act shall take effect on January 1, 1981." [1980 c 40 § 3.] For codification of 1980 c 40, see Codification Tables, Volume 0.

**36.77.070 Publication of information on day labor projects—Penalty—Prosecution.** If the board determines that any construction should be performed by day labor, and the estimated cost of the work exceeds twenty-five hundred dollars, it shall cause to be published in one issue of a newspaper of general circulation in the county, a brief description of the work to be done and the county road engineer's estimate of the cost thereof. At the completion of such construction, the board shall cause to be published in one issue of such a newspaper a similar brief description of the work together with an accurate statement of the true and complete cost of performing such construction by day labor.

Failure to make the required publication shall subject each county commissioner to a fine of one hundred dollars for which he shall be liable individually and upon his official bond and the prosecuting attorney shall prosecute for violation of the provisions of this section and RCW 36.77.065. [1983 c 3 § 81; 1963 c 4 § 36.77.070. Prior: 1949 c 156 § 9, part; 1943 c 82 § 4, part; 1937 c 187 § 34, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6450-34, part.]

**36.77.075 County roads—Small works roster.** In lieu of the procedure for awarding contracts that is provided in RCW 36.77.020 through 36.77.040, a county may award contracts for public works projects on county roads with an estimated value of one hundred thousand dollars or less using a small works roster process as provided in RCW 39.04.155. [1991 c 363 § 81.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

## Chapter 36.78

### ROADS AND BRIDGES—COUNTY ROAD ADMINISTRATION BOARD

#### Sections

- 36.78.010 Definitions—"Board."
- 36.78.020 Definitions—"Standards of good practice."
- 36.78.030 Board created—Number—Appointment—Terms—Vacancies.
- 36.78.040 Composition of board—Qualifications of members.
- 36.78.050 Meetings—Rules and regulations—Election of chair.
- 36.78.060 Executive director.
- 36.78.070 Duties of board.
- 36.78.080 Members to serve without compensation—Reimbursement for travel expenses.
- 36.78.090 Certificates of good practice—Withholding of motor vehicle tax distribution.
- 36.78.100 Conditional certificates.
- 36.78.110 Expenses to be paid from motor vehicle fund—Disbursement procedure.

#### Board duties

*generally:* RCW 46.68.120.

*motor vehicle fund, distribution of amount to counties—Factors of distribution formula for RCW 46.68.120(4) funds:* RCW 46.68.122.  
*population, road cost, money need, computed—Allocation percentage adjustment, when:* RCW 46.68.124.

**36.78.010 Definitions—"Board."** "Board" shall mean the county road administration board created by this chapter. [1965 ex.s. c 120 § 1.]

**36.78.020 Definitions—"Standards of good practice."** "Standards of good practice" shall mean general and uniform practices formulated and adopted by the board relating to the administration of county roads and the safe and efficient movement of people and goods over county roads, which shall apply to engineering, design procedures, maintenance, traffic control, safety, planning, programming, road classification, road inventories, budgeting and accounting procedures, management practices, equipment policies, personnel policies, and effective use of transportation-related information technology. [1993 c 65 § 1; 1991 c 363 § 82; 1965 ex.s. c 120 § 2.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.78.030 Board created—Number—Appointment—Terms—Vacancies.** There is created hereby a county road administration board consisting of nine members who shall be appointed by the executive committee of the Washington state association of counties. Prior to July 1, 1965 the executive committee of the Washington state association of counties shall appoint the first members of the county road administration board: Three members to serve one year; three members to serve two years; and three members to serve three years from July 1, 1965. Upon expiration of the original terms subsequent appointments shall be made by the same appointing authority for three year terms except in the case of a vacancy, in which event the appointment shall be only for the remainder of the unexpired term in which the vacancy has occurred. [1971 ex.s. c 85 § 5; 1965 ex.s. c 120 § 3.]

**36.78.040 Composition of board—Qualifications of members.** Six members of the county road administration board shall be county legislative authority members and three members shall be county engineers. If any member, during the term for which he or she is appointed ceases to be either a member of a county legislative authority or a county engineer, as the case may be, his or her membership on the county road administration board is likewise terminated. Three members of the board shall be from counties with a population of one hundred twenty-five thousand or more. Four members shall be from counties with a population of from twelve thousand to less than one hundred twenty-five thousand. Two members shall be from counties with a population of less than twelve thousand. Not more than one member of the board shall be from any one county. [1991 c 363 § 83; 1965 ex.s. c 120 § 4.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.78.050 Meetings—Rules and regulations—Election of chair.** The board shall meet at least once quarterly and shall from time to time adopt rules and regulations for its own government and as may be necessary for it to discharge its duties and exercise its powers under this chapter. The board shall elect a chair from its own membership who shall hold office for one year. Election as chair does not affect the member's right to vote on all matters before the board. [1993 c 65 § 2; 1965 ex.s. c 120 § 5.]

**36.78.060 Executive director.** The county road administration board shall appoint an executive director who shall be the chief administrative officer of the board and shall be responsible for carrying out the policies adopted by the board. The executive director is exempt from the provisions of state civil service law, chapter 41.06 RCW, and shall serve at the pleasure of the county road administration board. The executive director's salary shall be set by the board. [1990 c 266 § 1; 1965 ex.s. c 120 § 6.]

**36.78.070 Duties of board.** The county road administration board shall:

(1) Establish by rule, standards of good practice for the administration of county roads and the efficient movement of people and goods over county roads;

(2) Establish reporting requirements for counties with respect to the standards of good practice adopted by the board;

(3) Receive and review reports from counties and reports from its executive director to determine compliance with legislative directives and the standards of good practice adopted by the board;

(4) Advise counties on issues relating to county roads and the safe and efficient movement of people and goods over county roads and assist counties in developing uniform and efficient transportation-related information technology resources;

(5) Report annually before the fifteenth day of January, and throughout the year as appropriate, to the state department of transportation and to the chairs of the legislative transportation committee and the house and senate transpor-

tation committees, and to other entities as appropriate on the status of county road administration in each county, including one copy to the staff of each of the committees. The annual report shall contain recommendations for improving administration of the county road programs;

(6) Administer the rural arterial program established by chapter 36.79 RCW and the county arterial preservation program established by RCW 46.68.095, as well as any other programs provided for in law. [1993 c 65 § 3; 1990 c 266 § 2; 1987 c 505 § 19; 1983 1st ex.s. c 49 § 19; 1977 ex.s. c 235 § 4; 1965 ex.s. c 120 § 7.]

**Severability—Effective date—1983 1st ex.s. c 49:** See RCW 36.79.900 and 36.79.901.

**36.78.080 Members to serve without compensation—Reimbursement for travel expenses.** Members of the county road administration board shall receive no compensation for their service on the board, but shall be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred while attending meetings of the board or while engaged on other business of the board when authorized by the board in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060 as now existing or hereafter amended. [1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 34 § 80; 1975 1st ex.s. c 1 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 182 § 5; 1965 ex.s. c 120 § 8.]

**Effective date—Severability—1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 34:** See notes following RCW 2.08.115.

**36.78.090 Certificates of good practice—Withholding of motor vehicle tax distribution.** (1) Before May 1st of each year the board shall transmit to the state treasurer certificates of good practice on behalf of the counties which during the preceding calendar year:

(a) Have submitted to the state department of transportation or to the board all reports required by law or regulation of the board; and

(b) Have reasonably complied with provisions of law relating to county road administration and with the standards of good practice as formulated and adopted by the board.

(2) The board shall not transmit to the state treasurer a certificate of good practice on behalf of any county failing to meet the requirements of subsection (1) of this section, but the board shall in such case and before May 1st, notify the county and the state treasurer of its reasons for withholding the certificate.

(3) The state treasurer, upon receiving a notice that a certificate of good practice will not be issued on behalf of a county, or that a previously issued certificate of good practice has been revoked, shall, effective the first day of the month after that in which notice is received, withhold from such county its share of motor vehicle fuel taxes distributable pursuant to RCW 46.68.120 until the board thereafter issues on behalf of such county a certificate of good practice or a conditional certificate. After withholding or revoking a certificate of good practice with respect to any county, the board may thereafter at any time issue such a certificate or a conditional certificate when the board is satisfied that the county has complied or is diligently attempting to comply with the requirements of subsection (1) of this section.

(4) The board may, upon notice and a hearing, revoke a previously issued certificate of good practice or substitute a conditional certificate therefor when, after issuance of a



certificate of good practice, any county fails to meet the requirements of subsection (1) (a) and (b) of this section, but the board shall in such case notify the county and the state treasurer of its reasons for the revocation or substitution.

(5) Motor vehicle fuel taxes withheld from any county pursuant to this section shall not be distributed to any other county, but shall be retained in the motor vehicle fund to the credit of the county originally entitled thereto. Whenever the state treasurer receives from the board a certificate of good practice issued on behalf of such county he shall distribute to such county all of the funds theretofore retained in the motor vehicle fund to the credit of such county. [1984 c 7 § 33; 1977 ex.s. c 257 § 1; 1965 ex.s. c 120 § 9.]

**Severability—1984 c 7:** See note following RCW 47.01.141.

**36.78.100 Conditional certificates.** Whenever the board finds that a county has failed to submit the reports required by RCW 36.78.090, or has failed to comply with provisions of law relating to county road administration or has failed to meet the standards of good practice as formulated and adopted by the board, the board may in lieu of withholding or revoking a certificate of good practice issue and transmit to the state treasurer on behalf of such county a conditional certificate which will authorize the continued distribution to such county all or a designated portion of its share of motor vehicle fuel taxes. The issuance of such a conditional certificate shall be upon terms and conditions as shall be deemed by the board to be appropriate. In the event a county on whose behalf a conditional certificate is issued fails to comply with the terms and conditions of such certificate, the board may forthwith cancel or modify such certificate notifying the state treasurer thereof. In such case the state treasurer shall thereafter withhold from such county all or the designated portion of its share of the motor vehicle fuel taxes as provided in RCW 36.78.090. [1977 ex.s. c 257 § 2; 1965 ex.s. c 120 § 10.]

**36.78.110 Expenses to be paid from motor vehicle fund—Disbursement procedure.** All expenses incurred by the board including salaries of employees shall be paid upon voucher forms provided by the office of financial management or pursuant to a regular payroll signed by the chairman and the executive director of the board. All expenses of the board shall be paid out of that portion of the motor vehicle fund allocated to the counties and withheld for use by the department of transportation and the county road administration board under the provisions of RCW 46.68.120(1), as now or hereafter amended. [1990 c 266 § 3; 1979 c 151 § 42; 1965 ex.s. c 120 § 11.]

### Chapter 36.79

#### ROADS AND BRIDGES—RURAL ARTERIAL PROGRAM

##### Sections

- 36.79.010 Definitions.
- 36.79.020 Rural arterial trust account.
- 36.79.030 Apportionment of rural arterial trust account funds—Regions established.
- 36.79.040 Apportionment of rural arterial trust account funds—Apportionment formula.

- 36.79.050 Apportionment of rural arterial trust account funds—Establishment of apportionment percentages.
- 36.79.060 Powers and duties of board.
- 36.79.070 Board may contract with department of transportation for staff services and facilities.
- 36.79.080 Six-year program for rural arterial improvements—Selection of priority improvement projects.
- 36.79.090 Six-year program for rural arterial improvements—Review and revision by board.
- 36.79.100 Rural arterial improvements—Coordination with municipal and state projects.
- 36.79.110 Coordination of transportation improvement board and county road administration board.
- 36.79.120 Rural arterial trust account—Matching funds.
- 36.79.130 Recommended budget for expenditures from rural arterial trust account—Inclusion in transportation budget.
- 36.79.140 Expenditures from rural arterial trust account—Approval by board.
- 36.79.150 Allocation of funds to rural arterial projects—Subsequent application for increased allocation—Withholding of funds for noncompliance.
- 36.79.160 Payment of rural arterial trust account funds.
- 36.79.170 County may appeal decision of board—Hearing.
- 36.79.900 Severability—1983 1st ex.s. c 49.
- 36.79.901 Effective date—1983 1st ex.s. c 49.

**36.79.010 Definitions.** The definitions set forth in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Rural arterial program" means improvement projects on those two systems of county roads in rural areas classified as major collectors and minor collectors in accordance with the federal functional classification system and the construction of replacement bridges funded by the federal bridge replacement program on access roads in rural areas.

(2) "Rural area" means every area of the state outside of areas designated as urban areas by the state transportation commission with the approval of the secretary of the United States department of transportation in accordance with federal law.

(3) "Board" means the county road administration board created by RCW 36.78.030. [1988 c 26 § 1; 1983 1st ex.s. c 49 § 1.]

**36.79.020 Rural arterial trust account.** There is created in the motor vehicle fund the rural arterial trust account. All moneys deposited in the motor vehicle fund to be credited to the rural arterial trust account shall be expended for (1) the construction and improvement of county major and minor collectors in rural areas, (2) the construction of replacement bridges funded by the federal bridge replacement program on access roads in rural areas, and (3) for those expenses of the board associated with the administration of the rural arterial program. [1988 c 26 § 2; 1983 1st ex.s. c 49 § 2.]

*Certain motor vehicle fuel tax revenues to be deposited in rural arterial trust account: RCW 82.36.025.*

**36.79.030 Apportionment of rural arterial trust account funds—Regions established.** For the purpose of apportioning rural arterial trust account funds, the state is divided into five regions as follows:

(1) The Puget Sound region includes those areas within the counties of King, Pierce, and Snohomish.

(2) The northwest region includes those areas within the counties of Clallam, Jefferson, Island, Kitsap, San Juan, Skagit, and Whatcom.

(3) The northeast region includes those areas within the counties of Adams, Chelan, Douglas, Ferry, Grant, Lincoln, Okanogan, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens, and Whitman.

(4) The southeast region includes those areas within the counties of Asotin, Benton, Columbia, Franklin, Garfield, Kittitas, Klickitat, Walla Walla, and Yakima.

(5) The southwest region includes those areas within the counties of Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Skamania, Thurston, and Wahkiakum. [1983 1st ex.s. c 49 § 3.]

**36.79.040 Apportionment of rural arterial trust account funds—Apportionment formula.** Funds available for expenditure by the board pursuant to RCW 36.79.020 shall be apportioned to the five regions for expenditure upon county arterials in rural areas in the following manner:

(1) One-third in the ratio which the land area of the rural areas of each region bears to the total land area of all rural areas of the state;

(2) Two-thirds in the ratio which the mileage of county major and minor collectors in rural areas of each region bears to the total mileage of county major and minor collectors in all rural areas of the state.

The board shall adjust the schedule for apportionment of such funds to the five regions in the manner provided in this section before the commencement of each fiscal biennium. [1983 1st ex.s. c 49 § 4.]

**36.79.050 Apportionment of rural arterial trust account funds—Establishment of apportionment percentages.** At the beginning of each fiscal biennium, the board shall establish apportionment percentages for the five regions defined in RCW 36.79.030 in the manner prescribed in RCW 36.79.040 for that biennium. The apportionment percentages shall be used once each calendar quarter by the board to apportion funds credited to the rural arterial trust account that are available for expenditure for rural major and minor collector projects and for construction of replacement bridges funded by the federal bridge replacement program on access roads in rural areas. The funds so apportioned shall remain apportioned until expended on construction projects in accordance with rules of the board. Within each region, funds shall be allocated by the board to counties for the construction of specific rural arterial projects on major and minor collectors and construction of replacement bridges funded by the federal bridge replacement program on access roads in rural areas in accordance with the procedures set forth in this chapter. [1988 c 26 § 3; 1983 1st ex.s. c 49 § 5.]

**36.79.060 Powers and duties of board.** The board shall:

(1) Adopt rules necessary to implement the provisions of this chapter relating to the allocation of funds in the rural arterial trust account to counties;

(2) Adopt reasonably uniform design standards for county major and minor collectors that meet the requirements for trucks transporting commodities;

(3) Report biennially on the first day of November of the even-numbered years to the legislative transportation committee and the house and senate transportation committees regarding the progress of counties in developing plans for their rural major and minor collector construction programs and the construction of replacement bridges funded by the federal bridge replacement program on access roads in rural areas and the allocation of rural arterial trust funds to the counties. [1988 c 26 § 4; 1983 1st ex.s. c 49 § 6.]

**36.79.070 Board may contract with department of transportation for staff services and facilities.** The board may contract with the department of transportation to furnish any necessary staff services and facilities required in the administration of the rural arterial program. The cost of such services that are attributable to the rural arterial program, together with travel expenses in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060 of the members and all other lawful expenses of the board that are attributable to the rural arterial program, shall be paid from the rural arterial trust account in the motor vehicle fund. [1983 1st ex.s. c 49 § 7.]

**36.79.080 Six-year program for rural arterial improvements—Selection of priority improvement projects.** In preparing their respective six-year programs relating to rural arterial improvements, counties shall select specific priority improvement projects for each functional class of arterial based on the rating of each arterial section proposed to be improved in relation to other arterial sections within the same functional class, taking into account the following:

- (1) Its structural ability to carry loads imposed upon it;
- (2) Its capacity to move traffic at reasonable speeds;
- (3) Its adequacy of alignment and related geometrics;
- (4) Its accident experience; and
- (5) Its fatal accident experience.

The six-year construction programs shall remain flexible and subject to annual revision as provided in RCW 36.81.121. [1983 1st ex.s. c 49 § 8.]

**36.79.090 Six-year program for rural arterial improvements—Review and revision by board.** Upon receipt of a county's revised six-year program, the board as soon as practicable shall review and may revise the construction program as it relates to rural arterials and the construction of replacement bridges funded by the federal bridge replacement program on access roads in rural areas for which rural arterial trust account moneys are requested as necessary to conform to (1) the priority rating of the proposed project, based upon the factors in RCW 36.79.080, in relation to proposed projects in all other rural arterial construction programs submitted by the counties and within each region; and (2) the amount of rural arterial trust account funds that the board estimates will be apportioned to the region. [1988 c 26 § 5; 1983 1st ex.s. c 49 § 10.]

**36.79.100 Rural arterial improvements—Coordination with municipal and state projects.** Whenever a rural arterial enters a city or town, the proper city or town and county officials shall jointly plan the improvement of the arterial in their respective long-range plans. Whenever

er a rural arterial connects with and will be substantially affected by a programmed construction project on a state highway, the proper county officials shall jointly plan the development of such arterial with the department of transportation district administrator. The board shall adopt rules encouraging the system development of county-city arterials in rural areas and rural arterials with state highways. [1983 1st ex.s. c 49 § 9.]

**36.79.110 Coordination of transportation improvement board and county road administration board.** The county road administration board and the transportation improvement board shall jointly adopt rules to assure coordination of their respective programs especially with respect to projects proposed by the group of incorporated cities outside the boundaries of federally approved urban areas, and to encourage the system development of county-city arterials in rural areas. [1988 c 167 § 7; 1983 1st ex.s. c 49 § 11.]

**Savings—Severability—1988 c 167:** See notes following RCW 47.26.121.

**36.79.120 Rural arterial trust account—Matching funds.** Counties receiving funds from the rural arterial trust account for construction of arterials and the construction of replacement bridges funded by the federal bridge replacement program on access roads in rural areas shall provide such matching funds as established by rules recommended by the board, subject to review, revision, and final approval by the state transportation commission. Matching requirements shall be established after appropriate studies by the board, taking into account financial resources available to counties to meet arterial needs. [1988 c 26 § 6; 1983 1st ex.s. c 49 § 12.]

**36.79.130 Recommended budget for expenditures from rural arterial trust account—Inclusion in transportation budget.** Not later than November 1st of each even-numbered year the board shall prepare and present to the state transportation commission a recommended budget for expenditures from the rural arterial trust account during the ensuing biennium. The budget shall contain an estimate of the revenues to be credited to the rural arterial trust account.

The state transportation commission shall review the budget as recommended, revise the budget as it deems proper, and include the budget as revised as a separate section of the transportation budget which it shall submit to the governor pursuant to chapter 43.88 RCW. [1983 1st ex.s. c 49 § 13.]

**36.79.140 Expenditures from rural arterial trust account—Approval by board.** At the time the board reviews the six-year program of each county each even-numbered year, it shall consider and shall approve for inclusion in its recommended budget, as required by RCW 36.79.130, the portion of the rural arterial construction program scheduled to be performed during the biennial period beginning the following July 1st. Subject to the appropriations actually approved by the legislature, the board shall as soon as feasible approve rural arterial trust account funds to be spent during the ensuing biennium for prelimi-

nary proposals in priority sequence as established pursuant to RCW 36.79.090. Only those counties that during the preceding twelve months have spent all revenues collected for road purposes only for such purposes, including traffic law enforcement, as are allowed to the state by Article II, section 40 of the state Constitution are eligible to receive funds from the rural arterial trust account: **PROVIDED HOWEVER,** That counties with a population of from five thousand to less than eight thousand are exempt from this eligibility restriction: **AND PROVIDED FURTHER,** That counties expending revenues collected for road purposes only on other governmental services after authorization from the voters of that county under RCW 84.55.050 are also exempt from this eligibility restriction. The board shall authorize rural arterial trust account funds for the construction project portion of a project previously authorized for a preliminary proposal in the sequence in which the preliminary proposal has been completed and the construction project is to be placed under contract. At such time the board may reserve rural arterial trust account funds for expenditure in future years as may be necessary for completion of preliminary proposals and construction projects to be commenced in the ensuing biennium.

The board may, within the constraints of available rural arterial trust funds, consider additional projects for authorization upon a clear and conclusive showing by the submitting county that the proposed project is of an emergent nature and that its need was unable to be anticipated at the time the six-year program of the county was developed. The proposed projects shall be evaluated on the basis of the priority rating factors specified in RCW 36.79.080. [1991 c 363 § 84; 1990 c 42 § 104; 1984 c 113 § 1; 1983 1st ex.s. c 49 § 14.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**Purpose—Headings—Severability—Effective dates—Application—Implementation—1990 c 42:** See notes following RCW 82.36.025.

**36.79.150 Allocation of funds to rural arterial projects—Subsequent application for increased allocation—Withholding of funds for noncompliance.** (1) Whenever the board approves a rural arterial project it shall determine the amount of rural arterial trust account funds to be allocated for such project. The allocation shall be based upon information contained in the six-year plan submitted by the county seeking approval of the project and upon such further investigation as the board deems necessary. The board shall adopt reasonable rules pursuant to which rural arterial trust account funds allocated to a project may be increased upon a subsequent application of the county constructing the project. The rules adopted by the board shall take into account, but shall not be limited to, the following factors: (a) The financial effect of increasing the original allocation for the project upon other rural arterial projects either approved or requested; (b) whether the project for which an additional allocation is requested can be reduced in scope while retaining a usable segment; (c) whether the original cost of the project shown in the applicant's six-year program was based upon reasonable engineering estimates; and (d) whether the requested additional allocation is to pay for an expansion in the scope of work originally approved.

(2) The board shall not allocate funds, nor make payments under RCW 36.79.160, to any county or city identified by the governor under RCW 36.70A.340. [1991 sp.s. c 32 § 31; 1983 1st ex.s. c 49 § 15.]

Section headings not law—1991 sp.s. c 32: See RCW 36.70A.902.

**36.79.160 Payment of rural arterial trust account funds.** (1) Upon completion of a preliminary proposal, the county submitting the proposal shall submit to the board its voucher for payment of the trust account share of the cost. Upon the completion of an approved rural arterial construction project, the county constructing the project shall submit to the board its voucher for the payment of the trust account share of the cost. The chairman of the board or his designated agent shall approve such voucher when proper to do so, for payment from the rural arterial trust account to the county submitting the voucher.

(2) The board may adopt rules providing for the approval of payments of funds in the rural arterial trust account to a county for costs of preliminary proposal, and costs of construction of an approved project from time to time as work progresses. These payments shall at no time exceed the rural arterial trust account share of the costs of construction incurred to the date of the voucher covering the payment. [1983 1st ex.s. c 49 § 17.]

**36.79.170 County may appeal decision of board—Hearing.** The legislative body of any county feeling aggrieved by any action or decision of the board with respect to this chapter may appeal to the secretary of transportation by filing a notice of appeal within ninety days after the action or decision of the board. The notice shall specify the action or decision of which complaint is made. The secretary shall fix a time for a hearing on the appeal at the earliest convenient time and shall notify the county auditor and the chairman of the board by certified mail at least twenty days before the date of the hearing. At the hearing the secretary shall receive evidence from the county filing the appeal and from the board. After the hearing the secretary shall make such order as in the secretary's judgment is just and proper. [1983 1st ex.s. c 49 § 18.]

**36.79.900 Severability—1983 1st ex.s. c 49.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1983 1st ex.s. c 49 § 32.]

**36.79.901 Effective date—1983 1st ex.s. c 49.** This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect on July 1, 1983. [1983 1st ex.s. c 49 § 33.]

## Chapter 36.80

### ROADS AND BRIDGES—ENGINEER

#### Sections

- 36.80.010 Employment of road engineer.
- 36.80.015 Office at county seat.
- 36.80.020 Qualifications—Bond.
- 36.80.030 Duties of engineer.
- 36.80.040 Records to be kept.
- 36.80.050 Highway plat book.
- 36.80.060 Engineer to maintain records of expenditures for equipment, etc.—Inventory.
- 36.80.070 Plans and specifications to be prepared.
- 36.80.080 Cost-audit examination by division of municipal corporations—Expense.

*County engineer defined for diking, drainage, or sewerage improvement district purposes: RCW 85.08.010.*

*Diking or drainage improvement district, engineer as supervisor: RCW 85.20.050.*

#### *Duties relating to*

*agreements on planning, establishing, constructing, etc., of city streets: RCW 35.77.020, 35.77.030.*

*diking, drainage and sewerage improvement districts: Chapters 85.08, 85.16 RCW.*

*flood control zone districts: Chapter 86.15 RCW.*

*Township road alterations notices given by county engineer: RCW 45.24.010.*

**36.80.010 Employment of road engineer.** The county legislative authority of each county with a population of eight thousand or more shall employ a full-time county road engineer residing in the county. The county legislative authority of each other county shall employ a county engineer on either a full-time or part-time basis who need not be a resident of the county, or may contract with another county for the engineering services of a county road engineer from such other county. [1991 c 363 § 85; 1984 c 11 § 1; 1980 c 93 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 182 § 6; 1963 c 4 § 36.80.010. Prior: 1943 c 73 § 1, part; 1937 c 187 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6450-4, part.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.80.015 Office at county seat.** The county road engineer shall keep his office at the county seat in such room or rooms as are provided by the county, and he shall be furnished with all necessary cases and other suitable articles, and also with all blank books and blanks necessary to the proper discharge of his official duties. The records and books in the county road engineer's office shall be public records, and shall at all proper times be open to the inspection and examination of the public. [1963 c 4 § 36.80.015. Prior: 1955 c 9 § 1; prior: 1895 c 77 § 10; RRS § 4148.]

**36.80.020 Qualifications—Bond.** He shall be a registered and licensed professional civil engineer under the laws of this state, duly qualified and experienced in highway and road engineering and construction. He shall serve at the pleasure of the board.

Before entering upon his employment, every county road engineer shall give an official bond to the county in such amount as the board shall determine, conditioned upon the fact that he will faithfully perform all the duties of his

employment and account for all property of the county entrusted to his care. [1969 ex.s. c 182 § 7; 1963 c 4 § 36.80.020. Prior: 1943 c 73 § 1, part; 1937 c 187 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6450-4, part.]

**36.80.030 Duties of engineer.** The county road engineer shall examine and certify to the board all estimates and all bills for labor, materials, provisions, and supplies with respect to county roads, prepare standards of construction of roads and bridges, and perform such other duties as may be required by order of the board.

He shall have supervision, under the direction of the board, of establishing, laying out, constructing, altering, improving, repairing, [and] maintaining all county roads of the county. [1969 ex.s. c 182 § 8; 1963 c 4 § 36.80.030. Prior: 1943 c 73 § 1, part; 1937 c 187 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6450-4, part.]

**36.80.040 Records to be kept.** The office of county engineer shall be an office of record; the county road engineer shall record and file in his office, all matters concerning the public roads, highways, bridges, ditches, or other surveys of his county, with the original papers, documents, petitions, surveys, repairs, and other papers, in order to have the complete history of any such road, highway, bridge, ditch, or other survey; and shall number each construction or improvement project. [1969 ex.s. c 182 § 9; 1963 c 4 § 36.80.040. Prior: 1907 c 160 § 4; RRS § 4147.]

**36.80.050 Highway plat book.** He shall keep a highway plat book in his office in which he shall have accurately platted all public roads and highways established by the board. [1963 c 4 § 36.80.050. Prior: 1907 c 160 § 2; RRS § 4149.]

**36.80.060 Engineer to maintain records of expenditures for equipment, etc.—Inventory.** The county road engineer shall maintain in his office complete and accurate records of all expenditures for (1) administration, (2) bond and warrant retirement, (3) maintenance, (4) construction, (5) purchase and operation of road equipment, and (6) purchase or manufacture of materials and supplies, and shall maintain a true and complete inventory of all road equipment. The state auditor, with the advice and assistance of the county road administration board, shall prescribe forms and types of records to be maintained by the county road engineers. [1969 ex.s. c 182 § 10; 1963 c 4 § 36.80.060. Prior: 1949 c 156 § 2; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6450-8b.]

**36.80.070 Plans and specifications to be prepared.** All road construction work, except minor construction work, which by its nature does not require plans and specifications, whether performed pursuant to contract or by day labor, shall be in accordance with plans and specifications prepared therefor by or under direct supervision of the county road engineer. [1969 ex.s. c 182 § 11; 1963 c 4 § 36.80.070. Prior: 1949 c 156 § 3; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6450-8c.]

**36.80.080 Cost-audit examination by division of municipal corporations—Expense.** The division of

municipal corporations shall annually make a cost-audit examination of the books and records of the county road engineer and make a written report thereon to the county legislative authority. The expense of the examination shall be paid from the county road fund. [1985 c 120 § 3; 1984 c 7 § 34; 1963 c 4 § 36.80.080. Prior: 1957 c 146 § 1.]

**Effective date—1985 c 120 § 3:** "Section 3 of this act shall take effect July 1, 1987." [1985 c 120 § 4.]

**Severability—1984 c 7:** See note following RCW 47.01.141.

## Chapter 36.81

### ROADS AND BRIDGES—ESTABLISHMENT

#### Sections

- 36.81.010 Resolution of intention and necessity.
- 36.81.020 Freeholders' petition—Bond.
- 36.81.030 Deeds and waivers.
- 36.81.040 Action on petition.
- 36.81.050 Engineer's report.
- 36.81.060 Survey map, field notes and profiles.
- 36.81.070 Notice of hearing on report.
- 36.81.080 Hearing—Road established by resolution.
- 36.81.090 Expense of proceedings.
- 36.81.100 County road on or over dikes.
- 36.81.110 County road on or over dikes—Condemnation for dike roads.
- 36.81.121 Perpetual advanced six-year plans for coordinated transportation program, expenditures—Nonmotorized transportation—Railroad right-of-way.
- 36.81.122 Provisions for bicycle paths, lanes, routes, roadways and improvements to be included in annual revision or extension of comprehensive road programs—Exception.
- 36.81.130 Procedure specified for establishment, construction, and maintenance.
- 36.81.140 Columbia Basin project road systems—Establishment by plat.

*Alternate date for budget hearing: RCW 36.40.071.*

*Bicycles; pavement marking standards: RCW 47.36.280.*

*State highways in urban areas, allocation of funds, planning, bond issue, etc.: Chapter 47.26 RCW.*

*Urban arterials, planning, construction by cities and towns, transportation improvement board, funds, bond issue, etc.: Chapter 47.26 RCW.*

**36.81.010 Resolution of intention and necessity.** The board may by original resolution entered upon its minutes declare its intention to establish any county road in the county and declare that it is a public necessity and direct the county road engineer to report upon such project. [1963 c 4 § 36.81.010. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 19; RRS § 6450-19.]

**36.81.020 Freeholders' petition—Bond.** Ten or more freeholders of any county may petition the board for the establishment of a county road in the vicinity of their residence, setting forth and describing the general course and terminal points of the proposed improvement and stating that the same is a public necessity. The petition must be accompanied by a bond in the penal sum of three hundred dollars, payable to the county, executed by one or more persons as principal or principals, with two or more sufficient sureties, conditioned that the petitioners will pay into the county road fund of the county all costs and expenses incurred by the county in examining and surveying the proposed road and in the proceedings thereon in case the road is not established by reason of its being impracticable

or there not being funds therefor. [1963 c 4 § 36.81.020. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 20, part; RRS § 6450-20, part.]

**36.81.030 Deeds and waivers.** The board may require the petitioners to secure deeds and waivers of damages for the right of way from the landowners, and, in such case, before an examination or survey by the county road engineer is ordered, such deeds and waivers shall be filed with the board. [1963 c 4 § 36.81.030. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 20, part; RRS § 6450-20, part.]

**36.81.040 Action on petition.** Upon the filing of the petition and bond and being satisfied that the petition has been signed by freeholders residing in the vicinity of the proposed road, the board shall direct the county road engineer to report upon the project. [1963 c 4 § 36.81.040. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 20, part; RRS § 6450-20, part.]

**36.81.050 Engineer's report.** Whenever directed by the board to report upon the establishment of a county road the engineer shall make an examination of the road and if necessary a survey thereof. After examination, if the engineer deems the road to be impracticable, he shall so report to the board without making any survey, or he may examine or examine and survey any other practicable route which would serve such purpose. Whenever he considers any road as proposed or modified as practicable, he shall report thereon in writing to the board giving his opinion: (1) As to the necessity of the road; (2) as to the proper terminal points, general course and length thereof; (3) as to the proper width of right of way therefor; (4) as to the estimated cost of construction, including all necessary bridges, culverts, clearing, grubbing, drainage, and grading; (5) and such other facts as he may deem of importance to be considered by the board. [1963 c 4 § 36.81.050. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 21, part; RRS § 6450-21, part.]

**36.81.060 Survey map, field notes and profiles.** The county road engineer shall file with his report a correctly prepared map of the road as surveyed, which map must show the tracts of land over which the road passes, with the names, if known, of the several owners thereof, and he shall file therewith his field notes and profiles of such survey. [1963 c 4 § 36.81.060. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 21, part; RRS § 6450-21, part.]

**36.81.070 Notice of hearing on report.** The board shall fix a time and place for hearing the report of the engineer and cause notice thereof to be published once a week for two successive weeks in the county official newspaper and to be posted for at least twenty days at each termini of the proposed road.

The notice shall set forth the termini of the road as set out in the resolution of the board, or the freeholders' petition, as the case may be, and shall state that all persons interested may appear and be heard at such hearing upon the report and recommendation of the engineer either to proceed or not to proceed with establishing the road. [1963 c 4 § 36.81.070. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 22, part; RRS § 6450-22, part.]

**36.81.080 Hearing—Road established by resolution.** On the day fixed for the hearing or any day to which the hearing has been adjourned, upon proof to its satisfaction made by affidavit of due publication and posting of the notice of hearing, the board shall consider the report and any and all evidence relative thereto, and if the board finds that the proposed county road is a public necessity and practicable it may establish it by proper resolution. [1963 c 4 § 36.81.080. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 22, part; RRS § 6450-22, part.]

**36.81.090 Expense of proceedings.** The cost and expense of the road, together with cost of proceedings thereon and of right of way and any quarries or other land acquired therefor, and the maintenance of the road shall be paid out of the county road fund. When the costs are assessed against the principals on the bond given in connection with a petition for the improvement, the county auditor shall file a cost bill with the county treasurer who shall proceed to collect it. [1963 c 4 § 36.81.090. Prior: (i) 1937 c 187 § 22, part; RRS § 6450-22, part. (ii) 1937 c 187 § 20, part; RRS § 6450-20, part.]

**36.81.100 County road on or over dikes.** The board of any county may establish county roads over, across or along any dike maintained by any diking, or diking and drainage, district in the manner provided by law for establishing county roads over or across private property, and shall determine and offer the amount of damages, if any, to the district and to the owners of the land upon which the dike is constructed and maintained: PROVIDED, That every such county road must be so constructed, maintained, and used as not to impair the use of the dike. [1963 c 4 § 36.81.100. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 15; RRS § 6450-15.]

**36.81.110 County road on or over dikes—Condemnation for dike roads.** If any offer of damages to any diking, or diking and drainage, district is not accepted in the manner provided by law, it shall be deemed rejected, and the board by order, shall direct condemnation proceedings to procure the right of way to be instituted in the superior court of the county by the prosecuting attorney in the manner provided by law for the taking of private property for public use, and to that end the board may institute and maintain in the name of the county such proceedings against the diking, or diking and drainage, district and the owners of any land on which the dike is located and that have failed to accept the offer of damages made by the board: PROVIDED, That no taxes or assessments shall be charged or collected by any diking, or diking and drainage, district for any county road as provided in this section. [1963 c 4 § 36.81.110. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 16; RRS § 6450-16.]

**36.81.121 Perpetual advanced six-year plans for coordinated transportation program, expenditures—Nonmotorized transportation—Railroad right-of-way.** (1) Before July 1st of each year, the legislative authority of each county, after one or more public hearings thereon, shall prepare and adopt a comprehensive transportation program for the ensuing six calendar years. If the county has adopted a comprehensive plan pursuant to chapter 35.63 or 36.70

RCW, the inherent authority of a charter county derived from its charter, or chapter 36.70A RCW, the program shall be consistent with this comprehensive plan.

The program shall include proposed road and bridge construction work and other transportation facilities and programs deemed appropriate, and for those counties operating ferries shall also include a separate section showing proposed capital expenditures for ferries, docks, and related facilities. Copies of the program shall be filed with the county road administration board and with the state secretary of transportation not more than thirty days after its adoption by the legislative authority. The purpose of this section is to assure that each county shall perpetually have available advanced plans looking to the future for not less than six years as a guide in carrying out a coordinated transportation program. The program may at any time be revised by a majority of the legislative authority but only after a public hearing thereon.

(2) Each six-year transportation program forwarded to the secretary in compliance with subsection (1) of this section shall contain information as to how a county will expend its moneys, including funds made available pursuant to chapter 47.30 RCW, for nonmotorized transportation purposes.

(3) Each six-year transportation program forwarded to the secretary in compliance with subsection (1) of this section shall contain information as to how a county shall act to preserve railroad right-of-way in the event the railroad ceases to operate in the county's jurisdiction.

(4) The six-year plan for each county shall specifically set forth those projects and programs of regional significance for inclusion in the transportation improvement program within that region. [1994 c 179 § 2; 1994 c 158 § 8; 1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 58; 1988 c 167 § 8; 1983 1st ex.s. c 49 § 20. Prior: 1975 1st ex.s. c 215 § 2; 1975 1st ex.s. c 21 § 3; 1967 ex.s. c 83 § 26; 1963 c 4 § 36.81.121; prior: 1961 c 195 § 1.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 1994 c 158 § 8 and by 1994 c 179 § 2, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section pursuant to RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

**Captions not law—Severability—Effective date—1994 c 158:** See RCW 47.80.902 through 47.80.904.

**Severability—Part, section headings not law—1990 1st ex.s. c 17:** See RCW 36.70A.900 and 36.70A.901.

**Savings—Severability—1988 c 167:** See notes following RCW 47.26.121.

**Severability—Effective date—1983 1st ex.s. c 49:** See RCW 36.79.900 and 36.79.901.

**Severability—Effective dates—1967 ex.s. c 83:** See RCW 47.26.900 and 47.26.910.

*Highways, roads, streets in urban areas, urban arterials, development: Chapter 47.26 RCW.*

*Long range arterial construction planning, counties and cities to prepare data: RCW 47.26.170.*

**36.81.122 Provisions for bicycle paths, lanes, routes, roadways and improvements to be included in annual revision or extension of comprehensive road programs—Exception.** The annual revision and extension of comprehensive road programs pursuant to RCW 36.81.121 shall include consideration of and, wherever reasonably practicable, provisions for bicycle paths, lanes, routes, and roadways:

PROVIDED, That no provision need be made for such a path, lane, route, or roadway where the cost of establishing it would be excessively disproportionate to the need or probable use. [1974 ex.s. c 141 § 9.]

**36.81.130 Procedure specified for establishment, construction, and maintenance.** The laying out, construction, and maintenance of all county roads shall hereafter be in accordance with the following procedure:

On or before the first Monday in October of each year each county road engineer shall file with the county legislative authority a recommended plan for the laying out, construction, maintenance, and special maintenance of county roads for the ensuing fiscal year. Such recommended plan need not be limited to but shall include the following items: Recommended projects, including capital expenditures for ferries, docks, and related facilities, and their priority; the estimated cost of all work, including labor and materials for each project recommended; a statement as to whether such work is to be done by the county forces or by publicly advertised contract; a list of all recommended repairs to and purchases of road equipment, together with the estimated costs thereof. Amounts to be expended for maintenance and special maintenance shall be recommended, but details of these proposed expenditures shall not be made. The recommended plan shall conform as nearly as practicable to the county's long range road program.

After filing of the road engineer's recommended plan, the county legislative authority shall consider the same. Revisions and changes may be made until a plan which is agreeable to a majority of the members of the county legislative authority has been adopted: PROVIDED, That such revisions shall conform as nearly as practicable to the county's long range road program. Any appropriations contained in the county road budget shall be void unless the county's road plan was adopted prior to such appropriation.

The final road plan for the fiscal year shall not thereafter be changed except by unanimous vote of the county legislative authority. [1991 c 363 § 86; 1975 1st ex.s. c 21 § 4; 1963 c 4 § 36.81.130. Prior: 1949 c 156 § 7; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6450-8f.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.81.140 Columbia Basin project road systems—Establishment by plat.** When plats or blocks of farm units have been or are filed under the provisions of chapter 89.12 RCW which contain a system of county roads, or when a supplemental plat of a system of county roads to serve such a plat is filed in connection therewith, the filing period and formal approval by the board of county commissioners shall constitute establishment as county roads: PROVIDED, That the board of county commissioners have obtained the individual rights-of-way by deed or as otherwise provided by law. [1963 c 4 § 36.81.140. Prior: 1953 c 199 § 1.]



## Chapter 36.82

## ROADS AND BRIDGES—FUNDS—BUDGET

## Sections

- 36.82.010 "County road fund" created.
- 36.82.020 County road fund—Limitation upon expenditures.
- 36.82.040 General tax levy for road fund—Exception.
- 36.82.050 Receipts from motor vehicle fund to road fund.
- 36.82.060 Federal reimbursement to road fund.
- 36.82.070 Purpose for which road fund can be used.
- 36.82.075 Use of county road funds in cooperative agreement with conservation district.
- 36.82.080 Purpose for which road fund can be used—Payment of bond or warrant interest and principal.
- 36.82.090 Anticipation warrants against road fund.
- 36.82.100 Purchases of road material extraction equipment—Sale of surplus materials.
- 36.82.110 Voluntary contributions for improvements to county roads—Standards.
- 36.82.120 Purchases of road material extraction equipment—Proceeds to road fund.
- 36.82.140 Forest roads may be maintained from road fund.
- 36.82.145 Bicycle paths, lanes, routes, etc., may be constructed, maintained or improved from county road fund—Standards.
- 36.82.160 County road budget—Road budget to be prepared—Estimates of expenditures.
- 36.82.170 County road budget—Budget as adopted filed with department of transportation.
- 36.82.180 County road budget—Preliminary supplemental budget.
- 36.82.190 County road budget—Notice of hearing on supplemental budget.
- 36.82.200 County road budget—Hearing on, adoption of, supplemental budget.
- 36.82.210 Disposition of fines and forfeitures for violations.

*Bicycles; pavement marking standards: RCW 47.36.280.*

*Employee safety award program, funds affected: RCW 36.32.460.*

**36.82.010 "County road fund" created.** There is created in each county of the state a county fund to be known as the "county road fund." Any funds which accrue to any county for use upon county roads, shall be credited to and deposited in the county road fund. [1969 ex.s. c 182 § 12; 1963 c 4 § 36.82.010. Prior: 1943 c 82 § 2, part; 1937 c 187 § 6, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6450-6, part.]

**36.82.020 County road fund—Limitation upon expenditures.** Any funds accruing to and to be deposited in the county road fund arising from any levy in any road district shall be expended for proper county road purposes. [1991 c 363 § 87; 1963 c 4 § 36.82.020. Prior: 1943 c 82 § 2, part; 1937 c 187 § 6, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6450-6, part.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.82.040 General tax levy for road fund—Exception.** For the purpose of raising revenue for establishing, laying out, constructing, altering, repairing, improving, and maintaining county roads, bridges, and wharves necessary for vehicle ferriage and for other proper county purposes, the board shall annually at the time of making the levy for general purposes make a uniform tax levy throughout the county, or any road district thereof, of not to exceed two dollars and twenty-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value of the last assessed valuation of the taxable property in the county, or road district thereof, unless other

law of the state requires a lower maximum levy, in which event such lower maximum levy shall control. All funds accruing from such levy shall be credited to and deposited in the county road fund except that revenue diverted under RCW 36.33.220 shall be placed in a separate and identifiable account within the county current expense fund. [1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 41; 1971 ex.s. c 25 § 2; 1963 c 4 § 36.82.040. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 7; RRS § 6450-7.]

**Severability—Effective dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195:** See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

**Severability—1971 ex.s. c 25:** See note following RCW 36.33.220.

**36.82.050 Receipts from motor vehicle fund to road fund.** Any funds accruing to the credit of any county from the motor vehicle fund shall be paid monthly to the county treasurer and deposited in the county road fund. [1963 c 4 § 36.82.050. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 8, part; RRS § 6450-8, part.]

**36.82.060 Federal reimbursement to road fund.** Any funds accruing to any county by way of reimbursement by the federal government for expenditures made from the county road fund of such county for any proper county road purpose shall be credited to and deposited in the county road fund. [1963 c 4 § 36.82.060. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 8, part; RRS § 6450-8, part.]

**36.82.070 Purpose for which road fund can be used.** Any money paid to any county from the motor vehicle fund may be used for the construction, alteration, repair, improvement, or maintenance of county roads and bridges thereon and for wharves necessary for ferriage of motor vehicle traffic, and for ferries, and for the acquiring, operating, and maintaining of machinery, equipment, quarries, or pits for the extraction of materials, and for the cost of establishing county roads, acquiring rights of way therefor, and expenses for the operation of the county engineering office, and for any other proper county road purpose. Such expenditure may be made either independently or in conjunction with the state or any city, town, or tax district within the county. [1963 c 4 § 36.82.070. Prior: 1943 c 82 § 5, part; 1937 c 187 § 53, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6450-53, part.]

**36.82.075 Use of county road funds in cooperative agreement with conservation district.** Whenever a county legislative authority enters into a cooperative agreement with a conservation district as provided in chapter 89.08 RCW, the agreement may specify that the county will participate in the cost of any project which can be anticipated to result in a substantial reduction of the amount of soil deposited in a specifically described roadside ditch normally maintained by the county. The amount of participation by the county through the county road fund shall not exceed fifty percent of the project cost and shall be limited to those engineering and construction costs incurred during the initial construction or reconstruction of the project. [1985 c 369 § 9.]

**36.82.080 Purpose for which road fund can be used—Payment of bond or warrant interest and principal.** The payment of interest or principal on general obligation county road bonds, or retirement of registered

warrants both as to principal and interest when such warrants have been issued for a proper county road purpose, are declared to be a proper county road purpose. [1979 ex.s. c 30 § 4; 1963 c 4 § 36.82.080. Prior: 1943 c 82 § 5, part; 1937 c 187 § 53, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6450-53, part.]

**36.82.090 Anticipation warrants against road fund.** The board may expend funds from the county road fund or register warrants against the county road fund in anticipation of funds to be paid to the county from the motor vehicle fund. [1963 c 4 § 36.82.090. Prior: 1943 c 82 § 6; 1937 c 187 § 54; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6450-54.]

**36.82.100 Purchases of road material extraction equipment—Sale of surplus materials.** The boards of the several counties may purchase and operate, out of the county road fund, rock crushing, gravel, or other road building material extraction equipment.

Any crushed rock, gravel, or other road building material extracted and not directly used or needed by the county in the construction, alteration, repair, improvement, or maintenance of its roads may be sold at actual cost of production by the board to the state or any other county, city, town, or other political subdivision to be used in the construction, alteration, repair, improvement, or maintenance of any state, county, city, town or other proper highway, road or street purpose: PROVIDED, That in counties of less than twelve thousand five hundred population as determined by the 1950 federal census, the boards of commissioners, during such times as the crushing, loading or mixing equipment is actually in operation, or from stockpiles, may sell at actual cost of production such surplus crushed rock, gravel, or other road building material to any other person for private use where the place of contemplated use of such crushed rock, gravel or other road building material is more than fifteen miles distant from the nearest private source of such materials within the county, distance being computed by the closest traveled route: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That the purchaser presents, at or before the time of delivery to him, a treasurer's receipt for payment for such surplus crushed rock, gravel, or any other road building material. [1963 c 4 § 36.82.100. Prior: 1953 c 172 § 1; 1937 c 187 § 44, part; RRS § 6450-44, part.]

**36.82.110 Voluntary contributions for improvements to county roads—Standards.** Upon voluntary contribution and payment by any person for the actual cost thereof, such person or legislative authority upon the approval of maps, plans, specifications and guaranty bonds as may be required, may place crushed rock gravel or other road building material or make improvements upon any county road. Such work shall be done in accordance with adopted county standards under the supervision of and direction of the county engineer. [1982 c 145 § 7; 1963 c 4 § 36.82.110. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 44, part; RRS § 6450-44, part.]

**36.82.120 Purchases of road material extraction equipment—Proceeds to road fund.** All proceeds from the sale or placing of any crushed rock, gravel or other road building material shall be deposited in the county road fund

to be expended under the same provisions as are by law imposed upon the funds used to produce the crushed rock, gravel, or other road building material extracted and sold. [1963 c 4 § 36.82.120. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 44, part; RRS § 6450-44, part.]

**36.82.140 Forest roads may be maintained from road fund.** The board may maintain any forest roads within its county and expend for the maintenance thereof funds accruing to the county road fund. [1963 c 4 § 36.82.140. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 45; RRS § 6450-45.]

**36.82.145 Bicycle paths, lanes, routes, etc., may be constructed, maintained or improved from county road fund—Standards.** Any funds deposited in the county road fund may be used for the construction, maintenance, or improvement of bicycle paths, lanes, routes, and roadways, and for improvements to make existing streets and roads more suitable and safe for bicycle traffic. Bicycle facilities constructed or modified after June 10, 1982, shall meet or exceed the standards of the state department of transportation. [1982 c 55 § 3; 1974 ex.s. c 141 § 8.]

**36.82.160 County road budget—Road budget to be prepared—Estimates of expenditures.** Each county legislative authority, with the assistance of the county road engineer, shall prepare and file with the county auditor on or before the second Monday in August in each year, detailed and itemized estimates of all expenditures required in the county for the ensuing fiscal year. In the preparation and adoption of the county road budget the legislative authority shall determine and budget sums to become available for the following county road purposes: (1) Administration; (2) bond and warrant retirement; (3) maintenance; (4) construction; (5) operation of equipment rental and revolving fund; and (6) such other items relating to the county road budget as may be required by the county road administration board; and the respective amounts as adopted for these several items in the final budget for the ensuing calendar year shall not be altered or exceeded except as by law provided. [1991 c 363 § 88; 1969 ex.s. c 182 § 14; 1963 c 4 § 36.82.160. Prior: 1949 c 156 § 6, part; 1943 c 82 § 7, part; 1937 c 187 § 56, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6450-56, part.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.82.170 County road budget—Budget as adopted filed with department of transportation.** Upon the final adoption of the county road budgets of the several counties, the county legislative authorities shall file a copy thereof in the office of the department of transportation. [1984 c 7 § 36; 1963 c 4 § 36.82.170. Prior: 1949 c 156 § 6, part; 1943 c 82 § 7, part; 1937 c 187 § 56, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6450-56, part.]

**Severability—1984 c 7:** See note following RCW 47.01.141.

**36.82.180 County road budget—Preliminary supplemental budget.** If any funds are paid to any county from the motor vehicle fund in excess of the amount estimated by the department of transportation and the excess funds have not been included by the county legislative

authority in the then current county road budget or if funds become available from other sources upon a matching basis or otherwise and it is impracticable to adhere to the provisions of the county road budget, the legislative authority may by unanimous consent, consider and adopt a preliminary supplemental budget covering the excess funds for the remainder of the current fiscal year. [1984 c 7 § 37; 1963 c 4 § 36.82.180. Prior: 1949 c 156 § 6, part; 1943 c 82 § 7, part; 1937 c 187 § 56, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6450-56, part.]

**Severability—1984 c 7:** See note following RCW 47.01.141.

**36.82.190 County road budget—Notice of hearing on supplemental budget.** The county legislative authority shall then publish a notice setting day of hearing for the adoption of the final supplemental budget covering the excess funds, designating the time and place of hearing and that anyone may appear thereat and be heard for or against any part of the preliminary supplemental budget. The notice shall be published once a week for two consecutive weeks immediately following the adoption of the preliminary supplemental budget in the official newspaper of the county. The county legislative authority shall provide a sufficient number of copies of the preliminary supplemental budget to meet reasonable public demands and they shall be available not later than two weeks immediately preceding the hearing. [1985 c 469 § 50; 1963 c 4 § 36.82.190. Prior: 1949 c 156 § 6, part; 1943 c 82 § 7, part; 1937 c 187 § 56, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6450-56, part.]

**36.82.200 County road budget—Hearing on, adoption of, supplemental budget.** The board shall hold such hearing at the time and place designated in the notice, and it may be continued from day to day until concluded but not to exceed a total of five days. Upon the conclusion of the hearing the board shall fix and determine the supplemental budget and by resolution adopt it as finally determined and enter it in detail in the official minutes of the board, copies of which supplemental budget shall be forwarded, one to the director and one to the division of municipal corporations. [1963 c 4 § 36.82.200. Prior: 1949 c 156 § 6, part; 1943 c 82 § 7, part; 1937 c 187 § 56, part; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6450-56, part.]

**36.82.210 Disposition of fines and forfeitures for violations.** All fines and forfeitures collected for violation of any of the provisions of chapters 36.75, and 36.77 to 36.87 RCW, inclusive, when the violation thereof occurred outside of any incorporated city or town shall be distributed and paid into the proper funds for the following purposes: One-half shall be paid into the county road fund of the county in which the violation occurred; one-fourth into the state fund for the support of state parks and parkways; and one-fourth into the highway safety fund: PROVIDED, That all fees, fines, forfeitures and penalties collected or assessed by a district court because of the violation of a state law shall be remitted as provided in chapter 3.62 RCW as now exists or is later amended.

All fines and forfeitures collected for the violation of any of such provisions when the violation thereof occurred inside any incorporated city or town shall be distributed and

paid into the proper funds for the following purposes: One-half shall be paid into the city street fund of such incorporated city or town for the construction and maintenance of city streets; one-fourth into the state fund for the support of state parks and parkways; and one-fourth into the highway safety fund: PROVIDED, That all fees, fines, forfeitures and penalties collected or assessed by a district court because of the violation of a state law shall be remitted as provided in chapter 3.62 RCW as now exists or is later amended. [1987 c 202 § 211; 1969 ex.s. c 199 § 21; 1963 c 4 § 36.82.210. Prior: 1949 c 75 § 2; 1937 c 187 § 67; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6450-67.]

**Intent—1987 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.04.190.

## Chapter 36.83

### ROADS AND BRIDGES—SERVICE DISTRICTS

#### Sections

- 36.83.010 Service districts authorized—Bridge and road improvements—Powers—Governing body.
- 36.83.020 Establishment, dissolution, or modification of boundaries—Notice, hearing—Termination of proceedings.
- 36.83.030 Excess ad valorem property taxes authorized.
- 36.83.040 General obligation bonds, excess property tax levies authorized—Limitations.
- 36.83.050 Local improvement districts authorized—Assessments—Special assessment bonds and revenue bonds—Limitations.
- 36.83.060 Bonds—Form.
- 36.83.070 Bonds—Use of proceeds.
- 36.83.080 Gifts, grants, and donations.
- 36.83.090 Eminent domain.
- 36.83.900 Liberal construction.

*Transportation benefit districts: Chapter 36.73 RCW.*

**36.83.010 Service districts authorized—Bridge and road improvements—Powers—Governing body.** The legislative authority of a county may establish one or more service districts within the county for the purpose of providing and funding capital and maintenance costs for any bridge or road improvement or for providing and funding capital costs for any state highway improvement a county or a road district has the authority to provide. A service district may not include any area within the corporate limits of a city or town unless the city or town governing body adopts a resolution approving inclusion of the area within its limits. A service district is a quasi municipal corporation, an independent taxing "authority" within the meaning of Article VII, section 1 of the state Constitution, and a "taxing district" within the meaning of Article VII, section 2 of the state Constitution.

A service district shall constitute a body corporate and shall possess all the usual powers of a corporation for public purposes as well as all other powers that may now or hereafter be specifically conferred by statute, including, but not limited to, the authority to hire employees, staff, and services, to enter into contracts, and to sue and be sued. All projects constructed by a service district pursuant to the provisions of this chapter shall be competitively bid and contracted.

The county legislative authority shall be the governing body of a service district. The county treasurer shall act as the ex officio treasurer of the service district. The electors

of a service district are all registered voters residing within the district. [1985 c 400 § 2; 1983 c 130 § 1.]

*County may fund improvements to state highways: RCW 36.75.035.*

**36.83.020 Establishment, dissolution, or modification of boundaries—Notice, hearing—Termination of proceedings.** (1) A county legislative authority proposing to establish a service district, or to modify the boundaries of an existing service district, or to dissolve an existing service district, shall conduct a hearing at the time and place specified in a notice published at least once, not less than ten days prior to the hearing, in a newspaper of general circulation within the proposed service district. This notice shall be in addition to any other notice required by law to be published. The notice shall, where applicable, specify the functions or activities proposed to be provided or funded, or the additional functions or activities proposed to be provided or funded, by the service district. Additional notice of the hearing may be given by mail, posting within the proposed service district, or in any manner the county legislative authority deems necessary to notify affected persons. All hearings shall be public and the county legislative authority shall hear objections from any person affected by the formation, modification of the boundaries, or dissolution of the service district.

(2) Following the hearing held pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, the county legislative authority may establish a service district, modify the boundaries or functions of an existing service district, or dissolve an existing service district, if the county legislative authority finds the action to be in the public interest and adopts an ordinance providing for the action. The ordinance establishing a service district shall specify the functions or activities to be exercised or funded and establish the boundaries of the service district. Functions or activities proposed to be provided or funded by the service district may not be expanded beyond those specified in the notice of hearing, unless additional notices are made, further hearings on the expansion are held, and further determinations are made that it is in the public interest to so expand the functions or activities proposed to be provided or funded.

(3) At any time prior to the county legislative authority establishing a service district pursuant to this section, all further proceedings shall be terminated upon the filing of a verified declaration of termination signed by the owners of real property consisting of at least sixty percent of the assessed valuation in the proposed service district. [1983 c 130 § 2.]

**36.83.030 Excess ad valorem property taxes authorized.** (1) A service district may levy an ad valorem property tax, in excess of the one percent limitation, upon the property within the district for a one-year period whenever authorized by the voters of the district pursuant to RCW 84.52.052 and Article VII, section 2(a) of the state Constitution.

(2) A service district may provide for the retirement of voter approved general obligation bonds, issued for capital purposes only, by levying bond retirement ad valorem property tax levies, in excess of the one percent limitation, whenever authorized by the voters of the district pursuant to

Article VII, section 2(b) of the state Constitution and RCW 84.52.056. [1983 c 130 § 3.]

**36.83.040 General obligation bonds, excess property tax levies authorized—Limitations.** (1) To carry out the purpose of this chapter, a service district may issue general obligation bonds, not to exceed an amount, together with any other outstanding nonvoter approved general obligation indebtedness, equal to three-eighths of one percent of the value of taxable property within the district, as the term "value of taxable property" is defined in RCW 39.36.015. A service district may additionally issue general obligation bonds for capital purposes only, together with any outstanding general obligation indebtedness, not to exceed an amount equal to one and one-fourth percent of the value of the taxable property within the district, as the term "value of taxable property" is defined in RCW 39.36.015, when authorized by the voters of the service district pursuant to Article VIII, section 6 of the state Constitution, and to provide for the retirement thereof by excess property tax levies as provided in RCW 36.83.030(2). The service district may submit a single proposition to the voters which, if approved, authorizes both the issuance of the bonds and the bond retirement property tax levies.

(2) General obligation bonds with a maturity in excess of forty years shall not be issued. The governing body of the service district shall by resolution determine for each general obligation bond issue the amount, date, terms, conditions, denominations, maximum fixed or variable interest rate or rates, maturity or maturities, redemption rights, registration privileges, manner of execution, manner of sale, callable provisions, if any, covenants, and form, including registration as to principal and interest, registration as to principal only, or bearer. Registration may include, but not be limited to: (a) A book entry system of recording the ownership of a bond whether or not physical bonds are issued; or (b) recording the ownership of a bond together with the requirement that the transfer of ownership may only be effected by the surrender of the old bond and either the reissuance of the old bond or the issuance of a new bond to the new owner. Facsimile signatures may be used on the bonds and any coupons. Refunding general obligation bonds may be issued in the same manner as general obligation bonds are issued.

(3) Whenever general obligation bonds are issued to fund specific projects or enterprises that generate revenues, charges, user fees, or special assessments, the service district which issues the bonds may specifically pledge all or a portion of the revenues, charges, user fees, or special assessments to refund the general obligation bonds. [1983 c 130 § 4.]

**36.83.050 Local improvement districts authorized—Assessments—Special assessment bonds and revenue bonds—Limitations.** (1) A service district may form a local improvement district or utility local improvement district to provide any local improvement it has the authority to provide, impose special assessments on all property specially benefited by the local improvements, and issue special assessment bonds or revenue bonds to fund the costs of the local improvement. Improvement districts shall be

created and assessments shall be made and collected pursuant to chapters 35.43, 35.44, 35.49, 35.50, 35.53, and 35.54 RCW.

(2) The governing body of a service district shall by resolution establish for each special assessment bond issue the amount, date, terms, conditions, denominations, maximum fixed or variable interest rate or rates, maturity or maturities, redemption rights, registration privileges, if any, covenants, and form, including registration as to principal and interest, registration as to principal only, or bearer. Registration may include, but not be limited to: (a) A book entry system of recording the ownership of a bond whether or not physical bonds are issued; or (b) recording the ownership of a bond together with the requirement that the transfer of ownership may only be effected by the surrender of the old bond and either the reissuance of the old bond or the issuance of a new bond to the new owner. Facsimile signatures may be used on the bonds and any coupons. The maximum term of any special assessment bonds shall not exceed thirty years beyond the date of issue. Special assessment bonds issued pursuant to this section shall not be an indebtedness of the service district issuing the bonds, and the interest and principal on the bonds shall only be payable from special assessments made for the improvement for which the bonds were issued and any local improvement guaranty fund that the service district has created. The owner or bearer of a special assessment bond or any interest coupon issued pursuant to this section shall not have any claim against the service district arising from the bond or coupon except for the payment from special assessments made for the improvement for which the bonds were issued and any local improvement guaranty fund the service district has created. The service district issuing the special assessment bonds is not liable to the owner or bearer of any special assessment bond or any interest coupon issued pursuant to this section for any loss occurring in the lawful operation of its local improvement guaranty fund. The substance of the limitations included in this subsection shall be plainly printed, written, or engraved on each special assessment bond issued pursuant to this section.

(3) The governing body may establish and pay moneys into a local improvement guaranty fund to guarantee special assessment bonds issued by the service district.

(4) The governing body of a service district shall provide for the payment of both the special assessments which are imposed and a portion of the utility income from the utility improvement into a special fund established for the payment of the revenue bonds to defray the cost of the utility local improvement district whenever it desires to create a utility local improvement district and issue revenue bonds to fund the local improvement. [1983 c 130 § 5.]

**36.83.060 Bonds—Form.** Where physical bonds are issued pursuant to RCW 36.83.040 or 36.83.050, the bonds shall be printed, engraved, or lithographed on good bond paper and the manual or facsimile signatures of both the treasurer and chairperson of the governing body shall be included on each bond. [1983 c 130 § 6.]

**36.83.070 Bonds—Use of proceeds.** (1) The proceeds of any bond issued pursuant to RCW 36.83.040 or 36.83.050

may be used to pay costs incurred on such bond issue related to the sale and issuance of the bonds. Such costs include payments for fiscal and legal expenses, obtaining bond ratings, printing, engraving, advertising, and other similar activities.

(2) In addition, proceeds of bonds used to fund capital projects may be used to pay the necessary and related engineering, architectural, planning, and inspection costs. [1983 c 130 § 7.]

**36.83.080 Gifts, grants, and donations.** A service district may accept and expend or use gifts, grants, and donations. [1983 c 130 § 8.]

**36.83.090 Eminent domain.** A service district may exercise the power of eminent domain to obtain property for its authorized purposes in the manner counties exercise the powers of eminent domain. [1983 c 130 § 9.]

**36.83.900 Liberal construction.** The rule of strict construction does not apply to this chapter, and this chapter shall be liberally construed to permit the accomplishment of its purposes. [1983 c 130 § 10.]

## Chapter 36.85

### ROADS AND BRIDGES—RIGHTS-OF-WAY

#### Sections

36.85.010	Acquisition—Condemnation.
36.85.020	Aviation site not exempt from condemnation.
36.85.030	Acceptance of federal grants over public lands.
36.85.040	Acceptance of federal grants over public lands—Prior acceptances ratified.

**36.85.010 Acquisition—Condemnation.** Whenever it is necessary to secure any lands for a right-of-way for any county road or for the drainage thereof or to afford unobstructed view toward any intersection or point of possible danger to public travel upon any county road or for any borrow pit, gravel pit, quarry, or other land for the extraction of material for county road purposes, or right-of-way for access thereto, the board may acquire such lands on behalf of the county by gift, purchase, or condemnation. When the board so directs, the prosecuting attorney of the county shall institute proceedings in condemnation to acquire such land for a county road in the manner provided by law for the condemnation of land for public use by counties. All cost of acquiring land for right-of-way or for other purposes by purchase or condemnation shall be paid out of the county road fund of the county and chargeable against the project for which acquired. [1963 c 4 § 36.85.010. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 9; RRS § 6450-9.]

**36.85.020 Aviation site not exempt from condemnation.** Whenever any county has established a public highway, which, in whole or in part, abuts upon and adjoins any aviation site in such county, no property shall be exempt from condemnation for such highway by reason of the same having been or being dedicated, appropriated, or otherwise reduced or held to public use. [1963 c 4 § 36.85.020. Prior: 1925 ex.s. c 41 § 1; RRS § 905-2.]

**36.85.030 Acceptance of federal grants over public lands.** The boards in their respective counties may accept the grant of rights-of-way for the construction of public highways over public lands of the United States, not reserved for public uses, contained in section 2477 of the Revised Statutes of the United States. Such rights-of-way shall henceforward not be less than sixty feet in width unless a lesser width is specified by the United States. Acceptance shall be by resolution of the board spread upon the records of its proceedings: PROVIDED, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to invalidate the acceptance of such grant by general public use and enjoyment, heretofore or hereafter had. [1963 c 4 § 36.85.030. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 17; RRS § 6450-17.]

**36.85.040 Acceptance of federal grants over public lands—Prior acceptances ratified.** Prior action of boards purporting to accept the grant of rights-of-way under section 2477 of the Revised Statutes of the United States for the construction of public highways over public lands of the United States, as provided in RCW 36.85.030, is hereby approved, ratified and confirmed and all such public highways shall be deemed duly laid out county roads and boards of county commissioners may at any time by recorded resolution cause any of such county roads to be opened and improved for public travel. [1963 c 4 § 36.85.040. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 18; RRS § 6450-18.]

## Chapter 36.86

### ROADS AND BRIDGES—STANDARDS

#### Sections

36.86.010	Standard width of right-of-way prescribed.
36.86.020	Minimum standards of construction.
36.86.030	Amendment of standards—Filing.
36.86.040	Uniform standard for signs, signals, guideposts—Railroad grade crossings.
36.86.050	Monuments at government survey corners.
36.86.060	Restrictions on use of oil at intersections or entrances to county roads.
36.86.070	Classification of roads in accordance with designations under federal functional classification system.
36.86.080	Application of design standards to construction and reconstruction.
36.86.090	Logs dumped on right-of-way—Removal—Confiscation.
36.86.100	Railroad grade crossings—Obstructions.

**36.86.010 Standard width of right-of-way prescribed.** From and after April 1, 1937, the width of thirty feet on each side of the center line of county roads, exclusive of such additional width as may be required for cuts and fills, is the necessary and proper right-of-way width for county roads, unless the board of county commissioners, shall, in any instance, adopt and designate a different width. This shall not be construed to require the acquisition of increased right-of-way for any county road already established and the right-of-way for which has been secured. [1963 c 4 § 36.86.010. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 14; RRS § 6450-14.]

**36.86.020 Minimum standards of construction.** In the case of roads, the minimum width between shoulders shall be fourteen feet with eight feet of surfacing, and in the

case of bridges, which includes all decked structures, the minimum standard shall be for H-10 loading in accordance with the standards of the state department of transportation. When the standards have been prepared by the county road engineer, they shall be submitted to the county legislative authority for approval, and when approved shall be used for all road and bridge construction and improvement in the county. [1984 c 7 § 38; 1963 c 4 § 36.86.020. Prior: 1943 c 73 § 1, part; 1937 c 187 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6450-4, part.]

**Severability—1984 c 7:** See note following RCW 47.01.141.

**36.86.030 Amendment of standards—Filing.** Road and bridge standards may be amended from time to time by resolution of the county legislative authority, but no standard may be approved by the legislative authority with any minimum requirement less than that specified in this chapter. Two copies of the approved standards shall be filed with the department of transportation for its use in examinations of county road work. [1984 c 7 § 39; 1963 c 4 § 36.86.030. Prior: 1943 c 73 § 1, part; 1937 c 187 § 4, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 6450-4, part.]

**Severability—1984 c 7:** See note following RCW 47.01.141.

**36.86.040 Uniform standard for signs, signals, guideposts—Railroad grade crossings.** The county legislative authority shall erect and maintain upon the county roads such suitable and proper signs, signals, signboards, and guideposts and appropriate stop, caution, warning, restrictive, and directional signs and markings as it deems necessary or as may be required by law. All such markings shall be in accordance with the uniform state standard of color, design, erection, and location adopted and designed by the Washington state department of transportation. In respect to existing and future railroad grade crossings over county roads the legislative authority shall install and maintain standard, nonmechanical railroad approach warning signs on both sides of the railroad upon the approaches of the county road. All such signs shall be located a sufficient distance from the crossing to give adequate warning to persons traveling on county roads. [1984 c 7 § 40; 1963 c 4 § 36.86.040. Prior: 1955 c 310 § 1; 1937 c 187 § 37; RRS § 6450-37.]

**Severability—1984 c 7:** See note following RCW 47.01.141.

**36.86.050 Monuments at government survey corners.** The board and the road engineer, at the time of establishing, constructing, improving, or paving any county road, shall fix permanent monuments at the original positions of all United States government monuments at township corners, section corners, quarter section corners, meander corners, and witness markers, as originally established by the United States government survey, whenever any such original monuments or markers fall within the right-of-way of any county road, and shall aid in the reestablishment of any such corners, monuments, or markers destroyed or obliterated by the construction of any county road heretofore established, by permitting inspection of the records in the office of the board and the county engineering office. [1963 c 4 § 36.86.050. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 36; RRS § 6450-36.]

**36.86.060 Restrictions on use of oil at intersections or entrances to county roads.** No oil or other material shall be used in the treatment of any county road or private road or driveway, of such consistency, viscosity or nature or in such quantities and in such proximity to the entrance to or intersection with any state highway or county road, the roadway of which is surfaced with cement concrete or asphaltic concrete, that such oil or other material is or will be tracked by vehicles thereby causing a coating or discoloration of such cement concrete or asphaltic concrete roadway. Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [1963 c 4 § 36.86.060. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 43; RRS § 6450-43.]

**36.86.070 Classification of roads in accordance with designations under federal functional classification system.** From time to time the legislative authority of each county shall classify and designate as the county primary road system such county roads as are designated rural minor collector, rural major collector, rural minor arterial, rural principal arterial, urban collector, urban minor arterial, and urban principal arterial in the federal functional classification system. [1982 c 145 § 2; 1963 c 4 § 36.86.070. Prior: 1949 c 165 § 1; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6450-8h.]

**36.86.080 Application of design standards to construction and reconstruction.** Upon the adoption of uniform design standards the legislative authority of each county shall apply the same to all new construction within, and as far as practicable and feasible to reconstruction of old roads comprising, the county primary road system. No deviation from such design standards as to such primary system may be made without the approval of the state aid engineer for the department of transportation. [1982 c 145 § 3; 1963 c 4 § 36.86.080. Prior: 1949 c 165 § 4; Rem. Supp. 1949 § 6450-8k.]

**36.86.090 Logs dumped on right-of-way—Removal—Confiscation.** Logs dumped on any county road right-of-way or in any county road drainage ditch due to hauling equipment failure, or for any other reason, shall be removed within ten days. Logs remaining within any county road right-of-way for a period of thirty days shall be confiscated and removed or disposed of as directed by the boards of county commissioners in the respective counties. Confiscated logs may be sold by the county commissioners and the proceeds thereof shall be deposited in the county road fund. [1963 c 4 § 36.86.090. Prior: 1951 c 143 § 1.]

**36.86.100 Railroad grade crossings—Obstructions.** Each railroad company shall keep its right of way clear of all brush and timber in the vicinity of a railroad grade crossing with a county road for a distance of one hundred feet from the crossing in such a manner as to permit a person upon the road to obtain an unobstructed view in both directions of an approaching train. The county legislative authority shall cause brush and timber to be cleared from the right of way of county roads in the proximity of a railroad grade crossing for a distance of one hundred feet from the crossing in such a manner as to permit a person traveling upon the road to obtain an unobstructed view in both

directions of an approaching train. It is unlawful to erect or maintain a sign, signboard, or billboard within a distance of one hundred feet from the point of intersection of the road and railroad grade crossing located outside the corporate limits of any city or town unless, after thirty days notice to the Washington utilities and transportation commission and the railroad operating the crossing, the county legislative authority determines that it does not obscure the sight distance of a person operating a vehicle or train approaching the grade crossing.

When a person who has erected or who maintains such a sign, signboard, or billboard or when a railroad company permits such brush or timber in the vicinity of a railroad grade crossing with a county road or permits the surface of a grade crossing to become inconvenient or dangerous for passage and who has the duty to maintain it, fails, neglects, or refuses to remove or cause to be removed such brush, timber, sign, signboard, or billboard, or maintain the surface of the crossing, the utilities and transportation commission upon complaint of the county legislative authority or upon complaint of any party interested, or upon its own motion, shall enter upon a hearing in the manner now provided for hearings with respect to railroad-highway grade crossings, and make and enforce proper orders for the removal of the brush, timber, sign, signboard or billboard, or maintenance of the crossing. Nothing in this section prevents the posting or maintaining thereon of highway or road signs or traffic devices giving directions or distances for the information of the public when the signs conform to the "Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices" issued by the state department of transportation. The county legislative authority shall inspect highway grade crossings and make complaint of the violation of any provisions of this section. [1983 c 19 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.86.100. Prior: 1955 c 310 § 6.]

*Railroad crossings, obstructions: RCW 47.32.140.*

## Chapter 36.87

### ROADS AND BRIDGES—VACATION

Sections	
36.87.010	Resolution of intention to vacate.
36.87.020	County road frontage owners' petition—Bond, cash deposit, or fee.
36.87.030	Freeholders' petition—Action on petition.
36.87.040	Engineer's report.
36.87.050	Notice of hearing on report.
36.87.060	Hearing.
36.87.070	Expense of proceeding.
36.87.080	Majority vote required.
36.87.090	Vacation of road unopened for five years—Exceptions.
36.87.100	Classification of roads for which public expenditures made—Compensation of county.
36.87.110	Classification of roads for which no public expenditures made—Compensation of county.
36.87.120	Appraised value as basis for compensation—Appraisal costs.
36.87.130	Vacation of roads abutting bodies of water prohibited unless for public purposes or industrial use.
36.87.140	Retention of easement for public utilities and services.
36.87.900	Severability—1969 ex.s. c 185.

**36.87.010 Resolution of intention to vacate.** When a county road or any part thereof is considered useless, the board by resolution entered upon its minutes, may declare its intention to vacate and abandon the same or any portion



thereof and shall direct the county road engineer to report upon such vacation and abandonment. [1969 ex.s. c 185 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.87.010. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 48; RRS § 6450-48.]

**36.87.020 County road frontage owners' petition—Bond, cash deposit, or fee.** Owners of the majority of the frontage on any county road or portion thereof may petition the county legislative authority to vacate and abandon the same or any portion thereof. The petition must show the land owned by each petitioner and set forth that such county road is useless as part of the county road system and that the public will be benefited by its vacation and abandonment. The legislative authority may (1) require the petitioners to make an appropriate cash deposit or furnish an appropriate bond against which all costs and expenses incurred in the examination, report, and proceedings pertaining to the petition shall be charged; or (2) by ordinance or resolution require the petitioners to pay a fee adequate to cover such costs and expenses. [1991 c 363 § 89; 1985 c 369 § 4; 1963 c 4 § 36.87.020. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 49, part; RRS § 6450-49, part.]

~~Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:~~ See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.87.030 Freeholders' petition—Action on petition.** On the filing of the petition and bond and on being satisfied that the petition has been signed by petitioners residing in the vicinity of the county road or portion thereof, the board shall direct the county road engineer to report upon such vacation and abandonment. [1963 c 4 § 36.87.030. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 49, part; RRS § 6450-49, part.]

**36.87.040 Engineer's report.** When directed by the board the county road engineer shall examine any county road or portion thereof proposed to be vacated and abandoned and report his opinion as to whether the county road should be vacated and abandoned, whether the same is in use or has been in use, the condition of the road, whether it will be advisable to preserve it for the county road system in the future, whether the public will be benefited by the vacation and abandonment, and all other facts, matters, and things which will be of importance to the board, and also file his cost bill. [1963 c 4 § 36.87.040. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 50; RRS § 6450-50.]

**36.87.050 Notice of hearing on report.** Notice of hearing upon the report for vacation and abandonment of a county road shall be published at least once a week for two consecutive weeks preceding the date fixed for the hearing, in the county official newspaper and a copy of the notice shall be posted for at least twenty days preceding the date fixed for hearing at each termini of the county road or portion thereof proposed to be vacated or abandoned. [1963 c 4 § 36.87.050. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 51, part; RRS § 6450-51, part.]

**36.87.060 Hearing.** (1) On the day fixed for the hearing, the county legislative authority shall proceed to consider the report of the engineer, together with any evidence for or objection against such vacation and abandon-

ment. If the county road is found useful as a part of the county road system it shall not be vacated, but if it is not useful and the public will be benefited by the vacation, the county legislative authority may vacate the road or any portion thereof. Its decision shall be entered in the minutes of the hearing.

(2) As an alternative, the county legislative authority may appoint a hearing officer to conduct a public hearing to consider the report of the engineer and to take testimony and evidence relating to the proposed vacation. Following the hearing, the hearing officer shall prepare a record of the proceedings and a recommendation to the county legislative authority concerning the proposed vacation. Their decision shall be made at a regular or special public meeting of the county legislative authority. [1985 c 369 § 5; 1963 c 4 § 36.87.060. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 51, part; RRS § 6450-51, part.]

**36.87.070 Expense of proceeding.** If the county legislative authority has required the petitioners to make a cash deposit or furnish a bond, upon completion of the hearing, it shall certify all costs and expenses incurred in the proceedings to the county treasurer and, regardless of its final decision, the county legislative authority shall recover all such costs and expenses from the bond or cash deposit and release any balance to the petitioners. [1985 c 369 § 6; 1963 c 4 § 36.87.070. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 51, part; RRS § 6450-51, part.]

**36.87.080 Majority vote required.** No county road shall be vacated and abandoned except by majority vote of the board properly entered, or by operation of law, or judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction. [1969 ex.s. c 185 § 2; 1963 c 4 § 36.87.080. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 51, part; RRS § 6450-51, part.]

**36.87.090 Vacation of road unopened for five years—Exceptions.** Any county road, or part thereof, which remains unopen for public use for a period of five years after the order is made or authority granted for opening it, shall be thereby vacated, and the authority for building it barred by lapse of time: PROVIDED, That this section shall not apply to any highway, road, street, alley, or other public place dedicated as such in any plat, whether the land included in such plat is within or without the limits of an incorporated city or town, or to any land conveyed by deed to the state or to any county, city or town for highways, roads, streets, alleys, or other public places. [1963 c 4 § 36.87.090. Prior: 1937 c 187 § 52; RRS § 6450-52.]

**36.87.100 Classification of roads for which public expenditures made—Compensation of county.** Any board of county commissioners may, by ordinance, classify all county roads for which public expenditures were made in the acquisition, improvement or maintenance of the same, according to the type and amount of expenditures made and the nature of the county's property interest in the road; and may require persons benefiting from the vacation of county roads within some or all of the said classes to compensate the county as a condition precedent to the vacation thereof. [1969 ex.s. c 185 § 4.]

**36.87.110 Classification of roads for which no public expenditures made—Compensation of county.** Any board of county commissioners may, by ordinance, separately classify county roads for which no public expenditures have been made in the acquisition, improvement or maintenance of the same, according to the nature of the county's property interest in the road; and may require persons benefiting from the vacation of county roads within some or all of the said classes to compensate the county as a condition precedent to the vacation thereof. [1969 ex.s. c 185 § 5.]

**36.87.120 Appraised value as basis for compensation—Appraisal costs.** Any ordinance adopted pursuant to this chapter may require that compensation for the vacation of county roads within particular classes shall equal all or a percentage of the appraised value of the vacated road as of the effective date of the vacation. Costs of county appraisals of roads pursuant to such ordinances shall be deemed expenses incurred in vacation proceedings, and shall be paid in the manner provided by RCW 36.87.070. [1969 ex.s. c 185 § 6.]

**36.87.130 Vacation of roads abutting bodies of water prohibited unless for public purposes or industrial use.** No county shall vacate a county road or part thereof which abuts on a body of salt or fresh water unless the purpose of the vacation is to enable any public authority to acquire the vacated property for port purposes, boat moorage or launching sites, or for park, viewpoint, recreational, educational or other public purposes, or unless the property is zoned for industrial uses. [1969 ex.s. c 185 § 7.]

**36.87.140 Retention of easement for public utilities and services.** Whenever a county road or any portion thereof is vacated the legislative body may include in the resolution authorizing the vacation a provision that the county retain an easement in respect to the vacated land for the construction, repair, and maintenance of public utilities and services which at the time the resolution is adopted are authorized or are physically located on a portion of the land being vacated: PROVIDED, That the legislative body shall not convey such easement to any public utility or other entity or person but may convey a permit or franchise to a public utility to effectuate the intent of this section. The term "public utility" as used in this section shall include utilities owned, operated, or maintained by every gas company, electrical company, telephone company, telegraph company, and water company whether or not such company is privately owned or owned by a governmental entity. [1975 c 22 § 1.]

**36.87.900 Severability—1969 ex.s. c 185.** If any provision of \*this act, or its application to any person, property or road is held invalid, the validity of the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons, property or roads shall not be affected. [1969 ex.s. c 185 § 8.]

\*Reviser's note: "this act" [1969 ex.s. c 185] consists of RCW 36.87.100 through 36.87.130 and the 1969 amendments to RCW 36.87.010, 36.87.080, and 36.40.140.

## Chapter 36.88

## COUNTY ROAD IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS

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*Deferral of special assessments: Chapter 84.38 RCW.*

*Local improvements, supplemental authority: Chapter 35.51 RCW.*

**36.88.010 Districts authorized—Purposes.** All counties have the power to create county road improvement districts for the acquisition of rights of way and improvement of county roads, existing private roads that will become county roads as a result of this improvement district process and, with the approval of the state department of transportation, state highways; for the construction or improvement of necessary drainage facilities, bulkheads, retaining walls, and other appurtenances therefor, bridges, culverts, sidewalks, curbs and gutters, escalators, or moving sidewalks; and for the draining or filling of drainage potholes or swamps. Such counties have the power to levy and collect special assessments against the real property specially benefited thereby for the purpose of paying the whole or any part of the cost of such acquisition of rights of way, construction, or improvement. [1985 c 400 § 3; 1985 c 369 § 7; 1965 c 60 § 1; 1963 c 84 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.88.010. Prior: 1959 c 134 § 1; 1951 c 192 § 1.]

**Reviser's note:** This section was amended by 1985 c 369 § 7 and by 1985 c 400 § 3, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section pursuant to RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

*County may fund improvements to state highways: RCW 36.75.035.*

**36.88.015 Additional purposes.** All counties have the power to create county road improvement districts for the

construction, installation, improvement, operation, and maintenance of street and road lighting systems for any county roads, and subject to the approval of the state department of transportation, for state highways, and for safeguards to protect the public from hazards of open canals, flumes, or ditches, and the counties have the power to levy and collect special assessments against the real property specially benefited thereby for the purpose of paying the whole or any part of the cost of the construction, installation, or improvement together with the expense of furnishing electric energy, maintenance, and operation. [1984 c 7 § 41; 1965 c 60 § 2; 1963 c 84 § 2; 1963 c 4 § 36.88.015. Prior: 1959 c 75 § 4; 1953 c 152 § 1.]

**Severability—1984 c 7:** See note following RCW 47.01.141.

**36.88.020 Formation of district—How initiated.** County road improvement districts may be initiated either by resolution of the board of county commissioners or by petition signed by the owners according to the records of the office of the county auditor of property to an aggregate amount of the majority of the lineal frontage upon the contemplated improvement and of the area within the limits of the county road improvement district to be created therefor. [1963 c 4 § 36.88.020. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 2.]

**36.88.030 Formation of district—By resolution of intention—Procedure.** In case the board of county commissioners shall desire to initiate the formation of a county road improvement district by resolution, it shall first pass a resolution declaring its intention to order such improvement, setting forth the nature and territorial extent of such proposed improvement, designating the number of the proposed road improvement district and describing the boundaries thereof, stating the estimated cost and expense of the improvement and the proportionate amount thereof which will be borne by the property within the proposed district, notifying the owners of property therein to appear at a meeting of the board at the time specified in such resolution, and directing the county road engineer to submit to the board at or prior to the date fixed for such hearing a diagram or print showing thereon the lots, tracts and parcels of land and other property which will be specially benefited thereby and the estimated amount of the cost and expense of such improvement to be borne by each lot, tract or parcel of land or other property, and also designating thereon all property which is being purchased under contract from the county. The resolution of intention shall be published in at least two consecutive issues of a newspaper of general circulation in such county, the date of the first publication to be at least fifteen days prior to the date fixed by such resolution for hearing before the board of county commissioners.

Notice of the adoption of the resolution of intention shall be given each owner or reputed owner of any lot, tract or parcel of land or other property within the proposed improvement district by mailing said notice to the owner or reputed owner of the property as shown on the tax rolls of the county treasurer at the address shown thereon at least fifteen days before the date fixed for the public hearing. The notice shall refer to the resolution of intention and designate the proposed improvement district by number. Said notice shall also set forth the nature of the proposed

improvement, the total estimated cost, the proportion of total cost to be borne by assessments, the estimated amount of the cost and expense of such improvement to be borne by the particular lot, tract or parcel, the date and place of the hearing before the board of county commissioners, and shall contain the directions hereinafter provided for voting upon the formation of the proposed improvement district.

The clerk of the board shall prepare and mail, together with the notice above referred to, a ballot for each owner or reputed owner of any lot, tract or parcel of land within the proposed improvement district. This ballot shall contain the following proposition:

"Shall . . . . . county road improvement district No. . . . . be formed?  
Yes . . . . .   
No . . . . .

and, in addition, shall contain appropriate spaces for the signatures of the property owners, and a description of their property, and shall have printed thereon the direction that all ballots must be signed to be valid and must be returned to the clerk of the board of county commissioners not later than five o'clock p.m. of a day which shall be one week after the date of the public hearing.

The notice of adoption of the resolution of intention shall also contain the above directions, and, in addition thereto, shall state the rules by which the election shall be governed. [1970 ex.s. c 66 § 2; 1963 c 84 § 3; 1963 c 4 § 36.88.030. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 3.]

**36.88.035 Notice must contain statement that assessments may vary from estimates.** Any notice given to the public or to the owners of specific lots, tracts, or parcels of land relating to the formation of a county road improvement district shall contain a statement that actual assessments may vary from assessment estimates so long as they do not exceed a figure equal to the increased true and fair value the improvement adds to the property. [1989 c 243 § 5.]

**36.88.040 Formation of district—By resolution of intention—Election—Rules.** The election provided herein for cases where the improvement is initiated by resolution shall be governed by the following rules: (1) All ballots must be signed by the owner or reputed owner of property within the proposed district according to the records of the county auditor; (2) each ballot must be returned to the clerk of the board not later than one week after the public hearing; (3) each property owner shall have one vote for each full dollar of estimated assessment against his property as determined by the preliminary estimates and assessment roll; (4) the valid ballots shall be tabulated and a majority of the votes cast shall determine whether the formation of the district shall be approved or rejected. [1963 c 4 § 36.88.040. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 4.]

**36.88.050 Formation of district—By petition—Procedure.** In case any such road improvement shall be initiated by petition, such petition shall set forth the nature and territorial extent of such proposed improvement, and the fact that the signers thereof are the owners, according to the

records of the county auditor of property to an aggregate amount of a majority of the lineal frontage upon the improvement to be made and of the area within the limits of the assessment district to be created therefor.

Upon the filing of such petition the board shall determine whether the same shall be sufficient and whether the property within the proposed district shall be sufficiently developed and if the board shall find the district to be sufficiently developed and the petition to be sufficient, it shall proceed to adopt a resolution setting forth the nature and territorial extent of the improvement petitioned for, designating the number of the proposed improvement district and describing the boundaries thereof, stating the estimated cost and expense of the improvement and the proportionate amount thereof which will be borne by the property within the proposed district, notifying the owners of property therein to appear at a meeting of the board at the time specified in such resolution, and directing the county road engineer to submit to the board at or prior to the date fixed for such hearing a diagram or print showing thereon the lots, tracts and parcels of land and other property which will be specially benefited thereby and the estimated amount of the cost and expense of such improvement to be borne by each lot, tract or parcel of land or other property, and also designating thereon all property which is being purchased under contract from the county. The resolution of intention shall be published in at least two consecutive issues of a newspaper of general circulation in such county, the date of the first publication to be at least fifteen days prior to the date fixed by such resolution for hearing before the board of county commissioners.

Notice of the adoption of the resolution of intention shall be given each owner or reputed owner of any lot, tract or parcel of land or other property within the proposed improvement district by mailing said notice to the owner or reputed owner of the property as shown on the tax rolls of the county treasurer at the address shown thereon at least fifteen days before the date fixed for the public hearing. The notice shall refer to the resolution of intention and designate the proposed improvement district by number. Said notice shall also set forth the nature of the proposed improvement, the total estimated cost, the proportion of total cost to be borne by assessments, the estimated amount of the cost and expense of such improvement to be borne by the particular lot, tract or parcel, the date and place of the hearing before the board of county commissioners, and the fact that property owners may withdraw their names from the petition or add their names thereto at any time prior to five o'clock p.m. of the day before the hearing. [1963 c 4 § 36.88.050. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 5.]

**36.88.060 Formation of district—Hearing—Resolution creating district.** Whether the improvement is initiated by petition or resolution the board shall conduct a public hearing at the time and place designated in the notice to property owners. At this hearing, the board may make such changes in the boundaries of the district or such modifications in the plans for the proposed improvement as shall be deemed necessary: PROVIDED, That the board may neither so alter the improvement as to increase the estimated cost by an amount greater than ten percent above

that stated in the notice, nor increase the proportionate share of the cost to be borne by assessments from the proportion stated in the notice, nor change the boundaries of the district to include property not previously included therein without first passing a new resolution of intention and giving a new notice to property owners, in the manner and form and within the time herein provided for the original notice.

At said hearing, the board shall select the method of assessment, ascertain whether the plan of improvement or construction is feasible and whether the benefits to be derived therefrom by the property within the proposed district, together with the amount of any county road fund participation, exceed the costs and expense of the formation of the proposed district and the contemplated construction or improvement and shall make a written finding thereon. In case the proceedings have been initiated by petition, the board shall find whether the petition including all additions thereto or withdrawals therefrom made prior to five o'clock p.m. of the day before the hearing is sufficient within the boundaries of the district so established at said hearing by the board. If said petition shall be found insufficient the board shall by resolution declare the proceedings terminated. In case the proceedings have been initiated by resolution if the board shall find the improvement to be feasible, it shall continue the hearing until a day not more than fifteen days after the date for returning ballots for the purpose of determining the results of said balloting.

After the hearing the board may proceed to adopt a resolution creating the district and ordering the improvement. Such resolution shall establish such district as the ". . . . . county road improvement district No. . . . ." Such resolution shall describe the nature and territorial extent of the improvement to be made and the boundaries of the improvement district, shall describe the method of assessment to be used, shall declare the estimated cost and the proportion thereof to be borne by assessments, and shall contain a finding as to the result of the balloting by property owners in case the improvement shall have been initiated by resolution.

Upon the adoption of the resolution establishing the district, the board shall have jurisdiction to proceed with the improvement. The board's findings on the sufficiency of petitions or on the results of the balloting shall be conclusive upon all persons. [1963 c 84 § 4; 1963 c 4 § 36.88.060. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 6.]

**36.88.062 Formation of district—Committee or hearing officer may conduct hearings—Report to legislative authority.** In lieu of the county legislative authority holding the hearing under RCW 36.88.060 to create the road improvement district, the county legislative authority may adopt an ordinance providing for a committee of the county legislative authority or an officer to conduct the hearings. The committee or hearing officer shall report recommendations on the resolution to the full county legislative authority for final action, which need not hold a hearing on the proposed assessment role and shall either adopt or reject the recommendations. [1994 c 71 § 3.]

**36.88.065 Formation of district—Alternative method.** If the county legislative authority desires to initiate

the formation of a county road improvement district by resolution, it may elect to follow either the procedure set forth in chapter 35.43 RCW or the procedure set forth in RCW 36.88.030, and shall indicate the procedure selected in the resolution of intention. [1985 c 369 § 10.]

**36.88.070 Diagram only preliminary determination.** The diagram or print herein directed to be submitted to the board shall be in the nature of a preliminary determination upon the method, and estimated amounts, of assessments to be levied upon the property specially benefited by such improvement and shall in no case be construed as being binding or conclusive as to the amount of any assessments which may ultimately be levied. [1963 c 4 § 36.88.070. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 7.]

**36.88.072 Waivers of protest—Recording—Limits on enforceability.** If an owner of property enters into an agreement with a county waiving the property owner's right under RCW 36.88.030, 36.88.040, 36.88.050, 36.88.060, and 36.88.065 to protest formation of a road improvement district, the agreement must specify the improvements to be financed by the district and shall set forth the effective term of the agreement, which shall not exceed ten years. The agreement must be recorded with the auditor of the county in which the property is located. It is against public policy and void for an owner, by agreement, as a condition imposed in connection with proposed property development, or otherwise, to waive rights to object to the property owner's individual assessment (including the determination of special benefits allocable to the property), or to appeal to the superior court the decision of the county council affirming the final assessment roll. [1988 c 179 § 12.]

**Severability—Prospective application—Section captions—1988 c 179:** See RCW 39.92.900 and 39.92.901.

**36.88.074 Preformation expenditures.** The county engineer or other designated official may contract with owners of real property to provide for payment by the owners of the cost of the preparation of engineering plans, surveys, studies, appraisals, legal services, and other expenses associated with improvements to be financed in whole or in part by a local improvement district (not including the cost of actual construction of such improvements), that the owners elect to undertake. The contract may provide for reimbursement to the owner of such costs from the proceeds of bonds issued by the district after formation of a district under this chapter, from assessments paid to the district as appropriate, or by a credit in the amount of such costs against future assessments assessed against such property. Such reimbursement shall be made to the owner of the property at the time of reimbursement. The contract shall also provide that such costs shall not be reimbursed to the owner if a district to construct the specified improvements (as the project may be amended) is not formed within six years of the date of the contract. The contract shall provide that any preformation work shall be conducted only under the direction of the county engineer or other appropriate county authority. [1988 c 179 § 13.]

**Severability—Prospective application—Section captions—1988 c 179:** See RCW 39.92.900 and 39.92.901.

**36.88.076 Credits for other assessments.** A county ordering a road improvement upon which special assessments on property specifically benefited by the improvements are levied and collected, may provide as part of the ordinance creating the road improvement district that moneys paid or the cost of facilities constructed by a property owner in the district in satisfaction of obligations under chapter 39.92 RCW, shall be credited against assessments due from the owner of such property at the time the credit is made, if those moneys paid or facilities constructed directly defray the cost of the specified improvements under the district and if credit for such amounts is reflected in the final assessment roll confirmed for the district. [1988 c 179 § 14.]

**Severability—Prospective application—Section captions—1988 c 179:** See RCW 39.92.900 and 39.92.901.

**36.88.078 Assessment reimbursement accounts.** A county ordering a road improvement upon which special assessments on property specifically benefited by the improvement are levied and collected, may provide as part of the ordinance creating the road improvement district that the payment of an assessment levied for the district on underdeveloped properties may be made by owners of other properties within the district if they so elect, subject to terms of reimbursement set forth in the ordinance. The terms for reimbursement shall require the owners of underdeveloped properties on whose behalf payments of assessments have been made to reimburse all such assessment payments to the party who made them when those properties are developed or redeveloped, together with interest at a rate specified in the ordinance. The ordinance may provide that reimbursement shall be made on a one-time, lump sum basis, or may provide that reimbursement shall be made over a period not to exceed five years. The ordinance may provide that reimbursement shall be made no later than the time of dissolution of the district, or may provide that no reimbursement is due if the underdeveloped properties are not developed or redeveloped before the dissolution of the district. Reimbursement amounts due from underdeveloped properties under this section are liens upon the underdeveloped properties in the same manner and with like effect as assessments made under this chapter. For the purposes of this section, "underdeveloped properties" may include those properties that, in the discretion of the county legislative authority, (1) are undeveloped or are not developed to their highest and best use, and (2) are likely to be developed or redeveloped before the dissolution of the district. [1988 c 179 § 15.]

**Severability—Prospective application—Section captions—1988 c 179:** See RCW 39.92.900 and 39.92.901.

**36.88.080 Property included in district—Method of assessment—Assessment limited by benefit.** Every resolution ordering any improvement mentioned in this chapter, payment for which shall be in whole or in part by special assessments shall establish a road improvement district which shall embrace as near as may be all the property specially benefited by such improvement and the board shall apply thereto such method of assessment as shall be deemed most practical and equitable under the conditions prevailing: PROVIDED, That no assessment as determined by the board of commissioners shall be levied which shall be

greater than the special benefits derived from the improvements. [1963 c 84 § 5; 1963 c 4 § 36.88.080. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 8.]

**36.88.085 Exemption of farm and agricultural land from special benefit assessments.** See RCW 84.34.300 through 84.34.380 and 84.34.922.

**36.88.090 Assessment roll—Hearing—Notice—Objections—New hearing.** Whenever the assessment roll for any county road improvement district has been prepared, such roll shall be filed with the clerk of the county legislative authority. The county legislative authority shall thereupon by resolution set the date for hearing upon such roll before a board of equalization and direct the clerk to give notice of such hearing and the time and place thereof.

Such notice shall specify such time and place of hearing on such roll and shall notify all persons who may desire to object thereto to make such objection in writing and to file the same with the clerk of the county legislative authority at or prior to the date fixed for such hearing; and that at the time and place fixed and at such other times as the hearing may be continued to, the county legislative authority will sit as a board of equalization for the purpose of considering such roll and at such hearing will consider such objections made thereto, or any part thereof, and will correct, revise, raise, lower, change, or modify such roll or any part thereof, or set aside such roll in order that such assessment be made de novo as to such body shall appear just and equitable and then proceed to confirm the same by resolution.

Notice of the time and place of hearing under such assessment roll shall be given to the owner or reputed owner of the property whose name appears thereon, by mailing a notice thereof at least fifteen days before the date fixed for the hearing to such owner or reputed owner at the address of such owner as shown on the tax rolls of the county treasurer; and in addition thereto such notice shall be published at least two times in a newspaper of general circulation in the county. At least fifteen days must elapse between the date of the first publication of the notice and the date fixed for such hearing. However, mosquito control districts are only required to give notice by publication.

The board of equalization, at the time fixed for hearing objections to the confirmation of the roll, or at such time or times as the hearing may be adjourned to, has power to correct, revise, raise, lower, change, or modify the roll or any part thereof, and to set aside the roll in order that the assessment be made de novo as to the board appears equitable and just, and then shall confirm the same by resolution. All objections shall be in writing and filed with the board and shall state clearly the grounds objected to, and objections not made within the time and in the manner described in this section shall be conclusively presumed to have been waived.

Whenever any such roll is amended so as to raise any assessments appearing thereon, or to include property subject to assessment which has been omitted from the assessment roll for any reason, a new hearing, and a new notice of hearing upon such roll, as amended, shall be given as in the case of an original hearing. At the conclusion of such hearing the board may confirm the same or any portion

thereof by resolution and certify the same to the treasurer for collection. Whenever any property has been entered originally on such roll, and the assessment upon such property shall not be raised, no objections to it may be considered by the board or by any court on appeal, unless such objections are made in writing at or prior to the date fixed for the original hearing upon such roll. [1985 c 369 § 8; 1972 ex.s. c 62 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.88.090. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 9.]

**36.88.095 Assessment roll—Committee or officer may conduct hearing—Recommendations to legislative authority—Appeals.** In lieu of the county legislative authority holding the hearing on assessment roll under RCW 36.88.090 as the board of equalization, the county legislative authority may adopt an ordinance providing for a committee of the county legislative authority or an officer to conduct the hearing on the assessment roll as the board of equalization.

A committee or an officer that sits as a board of adjustment [equalization] shall conduct a hearing on the proposed assessment roll and shall make recommendations to the full county legislative authority, which need not hold a hearing on the proposed assessment roll and shall either adopt or reject the recommendations. The ordinance shall provide for an appeal procedure by which a property owner may protest his or her assessment that is proposed by the committee or officer to the full county legislative authority and the full county legislative authority may reject or accept any appealed protested assessment and if accepted shall modify the assessment roll accordingly. [1994 c 71 § 4.]

**36.88.100 Appeal—Reassessment.** The decision of the board upon any objections made within the time and in the manner herein prescribed may be reviewed by the superior court upon an appeal taken thereto in the manner provided for taking appeals from objections in local improvement districts of cities and towns.

The board shall have the same powers of reassessment and shall proceed to make such reassessments in the same manner and subject to the same limitations as are provided by law for the making of reassessments in local improvement districts of cities and towns. [1963 c 4 § 36.88.100. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 10.]

**36.88.110 Assessment roll—Conclusive.** Whenever any assessment roll for construction or improvements shall have been confirmed by the board, as provided in this chapter, the regularity, validity and correctness of the proceedings relating to such construction or improvement and to the assessment therefor, including the action of the board on such assessment roll and the confirmation thereof, shall be conclusive in all things upon all parties and cannot in any manner be contested or questioned in any proceeding whatsoever by any person not filing written objection to such roll in the manner and within the time provided in this chapter, and not appealing from the action of the board in confirming such assessment roll in the manner and within the time provided in this chapter. No proceedings of any kind shall be commenced or prosecuted for the purpose of defeating or contesting any such assessment or for the sale of any property to pay such assessment or any certificate of

delinquency issued therefor or the foreclosure of any lien issued therefor, but this section shall not be construed as prohibiting the bringing of injunction proceedings to prevent the sale of any real estate upon the grounds that the property about to be sold does not appear upon the assessment roll, or that the assessment has been paid. [1963 c 4 § 36.88.110. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 11.]

**36.88.120 Assessment is lien on property—Superiority.** The charge on the respective lots, tracts, parcels of land and other property for the purpose of special assessment to pay the cost and expense in whole or in part of any construction or improvement authorized in this chapter, when assessed, and the assessment roll confirmed by the board shall be a lien upon the property assessed from the time said assessment rolls shall be placed in the hands of the county treasurer for collection. Said liens shall be paramount and superior to any other lien or encumbrance whatsoever, theretofore or thereafter created, except a lien for general taxes. [1963 c 4 § 36.88.120. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 12.]

**36.88.130 County treasurer—Duties.** The county treasurer is hereby designated as the treasurer of all county road improvement districts created hereunder, and shall collect all road improvement district assessments, and the duties and responsibilities herein imposed upon him shall be among the duties and responsibilities of his office for which his bond is given as county treasurer. [1963 c 4 § 36.88.130. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 13.]

**36.88.140 Payment of assessment—Delinquent assessments—Penalties—Lien foreclosure.** The county legislative authority shall prescribe by resolution within what time such assessment or installments thereof shall be paid, and shall provide for the payment and collection of interest and the rate of interest to be charged on that portion of any assessment which remains unpaid over thirty days after such date. Assessments or installments thereof which are delinquent, shall bear, in addition to such interest, such penalty not less than five percent as shall be prescribed by resolution. Interest and penalty shall be included in and shall be a part of the assessment lien. All liens acquired by the county hereunder shall be foreclosed by the appropriate county officers in the same manner and subject to the same rights of redemption provided by law for the foreclosure of liens held by cities or towns against property in local improvement districts. [1981 c 156 § 11; 1970 ex.s. c 66 § 3; 1963 c 4 § 36.88.140. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 14.]

**36.88.145 Property donations—Credit against assessments.** The county legislative authority may give credit for all or any portion of any property donation against an assessment, charge, or other required financial contribution for transportation improvements within a county road improvement district. The credit granted is available against any assessment, charge, or other required financial contribution for any transportation purpose that uses the donated property. [1987 c 267 § 11.]

**Severability—1987 c 267:** See RCW 47.14.910.  
*Right of way donations:* Chapter 47.14 RCW.



**36.88.150 Payment of assessment—Record of.**

Whenever before the sale of any property the amount of any assessment thereon, with interest, penalty, costs and charges accrued thereon, shall be paid to the treasurer, he shall thereon mark the same paid with the date of payment thereof on the assessment roll. [1963 c 4 § 36.88.150. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 15.]

**36.88.160 District fund—Purposes—Bond redemptions.**

All moneys collected by the treasurer upon any assessments under this chapter shall be kept as a separate fund to known as ". . . . ., county road improvement district No. . . . . fund." Such funds shall be used for no other purpose than the payment of costs and expense of construction and improvement in such district and the payment of interest or principal of warrants and bonds drawn or issued upon or against said fund for said purposes. Whenever after payment of the costs and expenses of the improvement there shall be available in the local improvement district fund a sum, over and above the amount necessary to meet the interest payments next accruing on outstanding bonds, sufficient to retire one or more outstanding bonds the treasurer shall forthwith call such bond or bonds for redemption. [1963 c 4 § 36.88.160. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 16.]

**36.88.170 Foreclosed property—Held in trust for district.**

Whenever any property shall be bid in by any county or be stricken off to any county under and by virtue of any proceeding for enforcement of the assessment provided in this chapter said property shall be held in trust by said county for the fund of the improvement district for the creation of which fund said assessment was levied and for the collection of which assessment said property was sold: PROVIDED, Such county may at any time after the procuring of a deed pay in to such fund the amount of the delinquent assessment for which said property was sold and all accrued interest and interest to the time of the next call for bonds or warrants issued against such assessment fund at the rate provided thereon, and thereupon shall take and hold said property discharged of such trust: PROVIDED FURTHER, That property deeded to any county and which shall become a part of the trust being exercised by the said county for the benefit of any local improvement district fund of the said county, shall be exempt from taxation for general, state, county and municipal purposes during the period that it is so held. [1963 c 4 § 36.88.170. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 17.]

**36.88.180 Foreclosed property—Sale or lease—Disposition of proceeds.**

Any county may at any time after a deed is issued to it under and by virtue of any proceeding mentioned in this chapter, lease or sell or convey any such property at public or private sale for such price and on such terms as may be determined by resolution of the board, and all proceeds resulting from such sale shall ratably belong to and be paid into the fund of the county road improvement district or districts concerned after first reimbursing any fund or funds having advanced any money on account of said property. [1963 c 4 § 36.88.180. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 18.]

**36.88.190 Improvement bonds, warrants authorized.**

(1) The county legislative authority may provide for the

payment of the whole or any portion of the cost and expense of any duly authorized road improvement by bonds and/or warrants of the improvement district which bonds shall be issued and sold as herein provided, but no bonds shall be issued in excess of the cost and expense of the project nor shall they be issued prior to twenty days after the thirty days allowed for the payment of assessments without penalty or interest.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, such bonds and warrants may be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1983 c 167 § 93; 1963 c 4 § 36.88.190. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 19.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**36.88.200 Improvement bonds—Form, contents, execution.**

(1) Such bonds shall be numbered from one upwards consecutively, shall be in such denominations as may be provided by the county legislative authority in the resolution authorizing their issuance, shall mature on or before a date not to exceed twenty-two years from and after their date, shall bear interest at such rate or rates as authorized by the legislative authority payable annually or semiannually as may be provided by the legislative authority, shall be signed by the chairman of the legislative authority and attested by the county auditor, shall have the seal of the county affixed thereto, and shall be payable at the office of the county treasurer or elsewhere as may be designated by the legislative authority. Such bonds may be in any form, including bearer bonds or registered bonds as provided in RCW 39.46.030. In lieu of any signatures required in this section, the bonds and any coupons may bear the printed or engraved facsimile signatures of said officials.

Such bonds shall refer to the improvement for which they are issued and to the resolution creating the road improvement district therefor.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, such bonds may be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1983 c 167 § 94; 1980 c 100 § 5; 1970 ex.s. c 56 § 55; 1969 ex.s. c 232 § 73; 1963 c 4 § 36.88.200. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 20.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**Purpose—1970 ex.s. c 56:** See note following RCW 39.52.020.

**Validation—Saving—Severability—1969 ex.s. c 232:** See notes following RCW 39.52.020.

**36.88.210 Improvement bonds—Issuance—Sale—Deposit of proceeds.**

(1) The bonds issued under the provisions of this chapter may be issued to the contractor or sold by the county legislative authority as authorized by the resolution directing their issuance at not less than their par value and accrued interest to the date of delivery. No bonds shall be sold except at public sale upon competitive bids and a notice calling for bids shall be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in the official newspaper of the county. Such notice shall specify a place and designate a day and hour subsequent to the date of last publication thereof when sealed bids will be received and publicly opened for the purchase of said bonds. The proceeds of all sales of bonds shall be deposited in the county road im-

provement district fund and applied to the cost and expense of the district.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, such bonds may be sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1983 c 167 § 95; 1963 c 4 § 36.88.210. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 21.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

### **36.88.220 Improvement bonds—Guaranty fund.**

All counties may establish a fund for the purpose of guaranteeing to the extent of such fund and in the manner hereinafter provided, the payment of its road improvement district bonds and warrants issued to pay for any road improvement ordered under this chapter. If the board of county commissioners shall determine to establish such fund it shall be designated ". . . . county road improvement guaranty fund" and from moneys available for road purposes such county shall deposit annually in said guaranty fund such sums as may be necessary to establish and maintain a balance therein equal to at least five percent of the outstanding obligations guaranteed thereby and to make necessary provision in its annual budget therefor. The moneys held in the guaranty fund may be invested in obligations of the government of the United States or of this state. [1967 ex.s. c 145 § 63; 1963 c 4 § 36.88.220. Prior: 1959 c 134 § 2; 1951 c 192 § 22.]

**Severability—1967 ex.s. c 145:** See RCW 47.98.043.

**36.88.230 Improvement bonds—Guaranty fund in certain counties—Operation.** Whenever there shall be paid out of a guaranty fund any sum on account of principal or interest of a road improvement district bond or warrant, the county, as trustee for the fund, shall be subrogated to all the rights of the owner of the bond or any interest coupon or warrant so paid, and the proceeds thereof, or of the assessment underlying the same, shall become part of the guaranty fund. There shall also be paid into each guaranty fund the interest received from bank deposits or government securities of the fund, as well as any surplus remaining in any local improvement fund guaranteed hereunder after the payment of all outstanding bonds or warrants payable primarily out of such road improvement fund. Warrants drawing interest at a rate or rates not to exceed the rate determined by the county legislative authority shall be issued, as other warrants are issued by the county, against a guaranty fund to meet any liability accruing against it, and at the time of making its annual budget and tax levy the county shall provide from funds available for road purposes for the deposit in the guaranty fund of a sum sufficient with other resources of such fund to pay warrants so issued during the preceding fiscal year. As among the several issues of bonds or warrants guaranteed by the fund no preference shall exist, but defaulted bonds, interest payments, and warrants shall be purchased out of the fund in the order of their presentation.

Every county establishing a guaranty fund for road improvement district bonds or warrants shall prescribe by resolution appropriate rules and regulations for the maintenance and operation of the guaranty fund not inconsistent herewith. So much of the money of a guaranty fund as is necessary may be used to purchase underlying bonds or

warrants guaranteed by the fund, or to purchase certificates of delinquency for general taxes on property subject to local improvement assessments, or to purchase such property at tax foreclosures, for the purpose of protecting the guaranty fund. Said fund shall be subrogated to the rights of the county, and the county, acting on behalf of said fund, may foreclose the lien of general tax certificates of delinquency and purchase the property at the foreclosure sale for the account of said fund. Whenever the legislative authority of any county shall so cause a lien of general tax certificates of delinquency to be foreclosed and the property to be so purchased at a foreclosure sale, the court costs and costs of publication and expenses for clerical work and/or other expense incidental thereto, shall be chargeable to and payable from the guaranty fund. After so acquiring title to real property, a county may lease or sell and convey the same at public or private sale for such price and on such terms as may be determined by resolution of the county legislative body, and all proceeds resulting from such sales shall belong to and be paid into the guaranty fund. [1983 c 167 § 96; 1981 c 156 § 12; 1963 c 4 § 36.88.230. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 23.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

### **36.88.235 Improvement bonds—Guaranty fund assets may be transferred to county general fund—When.**

(1) Any county maintaining a local improvement guaranty fund under this chapter, upon certification by the county treasurer that the local improvement guaranty fund has sufficient funds currently on hand to meet all valid outstanding obligations of the fund and all other obligations of the fund reasonably expected to be incurred in the near future, may by ordinance transfer assets from such fund to its general fund. The net cash of the local improvement guaranty fund may be reduced by such transfer to an amount not less than five percent of the net outstanding obligations guaranteed by such fund.

(2) If, at any time within five years of any transfer of assets from the local improvement guaranty fund to the general fund of the county, the net cash of the local improvement guaranty fund is reduced below the minimum amount specified in subsection (1) of this section, the county shall, to the extent of the amount transferred, pay valid claims against the local improvement guaranty fund as a general obligation of the county. In addition, such county shall pay all reasonable costs of collection necessarily incurred by the holders of valid claims against the local improvement guaranty fund. [1991 c 245 § 12.]

**36.88.240 Improvement bonds—Repayment restricted to special funds—Remedies of bond owner—Notice of restrictions.** The owner of any bond or warrant issued under the provisions of this chapter shall not have any claim therefor against the county by which the same is issued, except for payment from the special assessments made for the improvement for which said bond or warrant was issued and except as against the improvement guaranty fund of such county, and the county shall not be liable to any owner of such bond or warrant for any loss to the guaranty fund occurring in the lawful operation thereof by the county. The

remedy of the owner of a bond, or warrant in case of nonpayment, shall be confined to the enforcement of any assessments made in such road improvement district and to the guaranty fund. In case the bonds are guaranteed in accordance herewith a copy of the foregoing part of this section shall be plainly written, printed or engraved on each bond issued and guaranteed hereunder. [1983 c 167 § 97; 1963 c 4 § 36.88.240. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 24.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**36.88.250 Improvement bonds—Remedies of bond owners—Enforcement.** If the board fails to cause any bonds to be paid when due or to promptly collect any assessments when due, the owner of any of the bonds may proceed in his own name to collect the assessments and foreclose the lien thereof in any court of competent jurisdiction and shall recover in addition to the amount of the bonds outstanding in his name, interest thereon at five percent per annum, together with the costs of suit, including a reasonable attorney's fee to be fixed by the court. Any number of owners of bonds for any single project may join as plaintiffs and any number of the owners of property upon which the assessments are liens may be joined as defendants in the same suit. [1963 c 4 § 36.88.250. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 25.]

**36.88.260 Assessment where bonds issued—Payment in installments.** In all cases where the board shall issue bonds to pay the cost and expense of any county road improvement district and shall provide that the whole or any part of the cost and expense shall be assessed against the lots, tracts, parcels of land, and other property therein, the resolution levying such assessment shall provide that the sum charged thereby against each lot, tract, or parcel of land or any portion of said sum may be paid during the thirty day period provided for in RCW 36.88.270 and that thereafter the sum remaining unpaid may be paid in equal annual installments, the number of which installments shall be less by two than the number of years which the bonds issued to pay for the improvement may run. Interest upon all unpaid installments shall be charged at a rate fixed by said resolution. Each year such installments together with interest due thereon shall be collected in the manner provided in the resolution for the collection of the assessments. [1963 c 4 § 36.88.260. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 26.]

**36.88.270 Assessment where bonds issued—Payment in cash—Notice of assessment.** The owner of any lot, tract, or parcel of land, or other property charged with any such assessments may redeem the same from all or any portion of the liability for the cost and expense of such improvement by paying the entire assessment or any portion thereof charged against such lot, tract, or parcel of land without interest within thirty days after notice to him of such assessment, which notice shall be given as follows: The county treasurer shall, as soon as the assessment roll has been placed in his hands for collection, publish a notice for two consecutive daily or weekly issues in the official newspaper of the county in which the district is located, which notice shall state that the assessment roll is in his hands for collection and that any assessment thereon or any

portion of such assessment may be paid at any time within thirty days from the date of the first publication of said notice without penalty interest or costs. [1963 c 4 § 36.88.270. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 27.]

**36.88.280 Assessment where bonds issued—Payment in cash during installment period—Duties of county treasurer—Use of funds.** The owners of any lot, tract, or parcel of land may save the same from all liability for the unpaid amount of the assessment, at any time after the thirty-day period herein provided for their payment without interest, by paying the entire amount or all installments on said assessment together with all interest due to the date of maturity of any installment next falling due. All such payments shall be made to the county treasurer whose duty it shall be to collect all assessments under this chapter and all sums so paid or collected shall be applied solely to the payment of the cost and expense of the district and payment of principal and/or interest of any bonds issued. [1963 c 4 § 36.88.280. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 28.]

**36.88.290 Limitation of actions.** An action to collect any special assessment or installment thereof for road improvements, or to enforce the lien of any such assessment or installment, whether such action be brought by the county or by the holder of any certificate of delinquency, or by any other person having the right to bring such action, shall be commenced within ten years after such assessment shall have become delinquent or within ten years after the last installment of any such assessment shall have become delinquent, when said special assessment is payable in installments.

Actions to set aside or cancel any deed issued after midnight, June 6, 1951, upon the sale of property for road improvement assessments, or for the recovery of property sold for delinquent road improvement assessments must be brought within three years from and after date of the issuance of such deed. [1963 c 4 § 36.88.290. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 29.]

**36.88.295 Refunding bonds—Limitations.** The legislative authority of any county may issue and sell bonds to refund outstanding road improvement district or consolidated road improvement district bonds issued after June 7, 1984, on the earliest date such outstanding bonds may be redeemed following the date of issuance of such refunding bonds. Such refunding shall be subject to the following:

(1) The refunding shall result in a net interest cost savings after paying the costs and expenses of the refunding, and the principal amount of the refunding bonds may not exceed the principal balance of the assessment roll or rolls pledged to pay the bonds being refunded at the time of the refunding.

(2) The refunding bonds shall be paid from the same local improvement fund or bond redemption fund as the bonds being refunded.

(3) The costs and expenses of the refunding shall be paid from the proceeds of the refunding bonds, or the same road improvement district fund or bond redemption fund for the bonds being refunded, except the county may advance such costs and expenses to such fund pending the receipt of assessment payments available to reimburse such advances.

(4) The last maturity of refunding bonds shall be no later than one year after the last maturity of bonds being refunded.

(5) The refunding bonds may be exchanged for the bonds being refunded or may be sold in the same manner permitted at the time of sale for road improvement district bonds.

(6) All other provisions of law applicable to the refunding bonds shall apply to the refunding bonds. [1984 c 186 § 67.]

**Purpose—1984 c 186:** See note following RCW 39.46.110.

**36.88.300 District costs and expenses—What to include.** Whenever any district is organized hereunder, there shall be included in the cost and expense thereof: (1) The cost of all of the construction or improvement authorized in the district, including that portion of the construction or improvement within the limits of any street or road intersection, space or spaces; (2) the estimated costs and expenses of all engineering and surveying necessary to be done by the county engineer or under his direction or by such other engineer as may be employed by the county commissioners; (3) the cost of all advertising, mailing, and publishing of all notices; (4) the cost of legal services and any other expenses incurred by the county for the district or in the formation thereof, or by the district in connection with such construction or improvement and in the financing thereof, including the issuance of any bonds. [1963 c 4 § 36.88.300. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 30.]

**36.88.305 District costs and expenses—Credit or reduction of assessments.** At its option, a county may include the value of right of way or property that is donated or given to the county for purposes of an improvement to be financed by a road improvement district, together with the costs of acquiring other rights of way or property for the improvement that was not donated or given to the county, in the costs of the improvement and credit or reduce the assessments imposed on benefited property for the value of the right of way or property that the owner of the benefited property donated or gave to the county for the improvement. [1991 c 363 § 90.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.88.310 Acquisition of property—Eminent domain.** All land, premises or property necessary for right-of-way or other purposes in the construction or improvement of any county road, including bridges, sidewalks, curbs and gutters and the drainage facilities therefor, under this chapter may be acquired by the county acting through its board of county commissioners, either by gift, purchase or by condemnation. In the event of any exercise of the power of eminent domain, the procedure shall be the same as is provided by law for the securing of right-of-way for county roads. The title to all property acquired for any construction or improvement under this chapter shall be taken in the name of the county. The county commissioners in any eminent domain action brought to secure any property for construction or improvement under this chapter may pay any final judgment entered in such action with county road funds

and take possession of the particular property condemned. In the event of any such payment the county commissioners may require that the county road fund be reimbursed out of the particular county road improvement fund of the district for which the property was acquired. [1963 c 4 § 36.88.310. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 31.]

**36.88.320 Construction or improvement—Supervision—Contracts—Standards.** All construction or improvement performed under this chapter shall be under the direction of the board of county commissioners, acting by and through the county road engineer, or such other engineer as the board of county commissioners shall designate. Contracts let and/or work performed upon all construction or improvement hereunder shall be in accordance with the laws pertaining to work upon county roads. The construction and improvement standards of the respective counties for engineering and performance of work, shall apply to all construction or improvement under this chapter. [1963 c 4 § 36.88.320. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 32.]

**36.88.330 Warrants—Issuance—Priority—Acceptance.** The board may provide by resolution for the issuance of warrants in payment of the costs and expenses of any project, payable out of the county road improvement fund. The warrants shall be redeemed either in cash or by bonds for the same project authorized by the resolution.

All warrants issued against any such improvement fund shall be claims and liens against said fund prior and superior to any right, lien or claim of any surety upon the bond given to the county by or for the contract to secure the performance of his contract or to secure the payment of persons who have performed work thereon, furnished materials therefor, or furnished provisions and supplies for the carrying on of the work.

The county treasurer may accept warrants against any county road improvement fund upon such conditions as the board may prescribe in payment of: (1) Assessments levied to supply that fund in due order of priority; (2) judgments rendered against property owners who have become delinquent in the payment of assessments to that fund; and (3) certificates of purchase in cases where property of delinquents has been sold under execution or at tax sale for failure to pay assessments levied to supply that fund. [1980 c 100 § 6; 1963 c 4 § 36.88.330. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 33.]

**36.88.340 Participation of county road fund—Arrangements with other public agencies, private utilities.** Except as they may establish continuing guaranty fund requirements, the board of county commissioners shall be the sole judges as to the extent of county road fund participation in any project under this chapter and the decisions of the board shall be final; the said board may receive grants from or contract with any other county, municipal corporation, public agency or the state or federal government in order to effect any construction or improvement hereunder, including the construction, installation, improvement, operation, maintenance of and furnishing electric energy for any street and road lighting system, and to effect the construction, installation, improvement, operation and maintenance of and furnishing electric energy for any such street and road

lighting system, may contract with any private utility corporation. [1963 c 4 § 36.88.340. Prior: 1953 c 152 § 2; 1951 c 192 § 34.]

**36.88.350 Maintenance—Expense.** After the completion of any construction or improvement under this chapter, all maintenance thereof shall be performed by the county at the expense of the county road fund, excepting furnishing electric energy for and operating and maintaining street and road lighting systems: PROVIDED, That maintenance of canal protection improvements may, at the option of the board of commissioners of the county, be required of the irrigation, drainage, flood control, or other district, agency, person, corporation, or association maintaining the canal or ditch. If such option is exercised reimbursement must be made by the county for all actual costs of such maintenance. [1963 c 4 § 36.88.350. Prior: 1959 c 75 § 8; 1953 c 152 § 3; 1951 c 192 § 35.]

**36.88.360 State, county, school, municipal corporation lands—Assessment—Recipients of notices, ballots.** Lands owned by the state, county, school district or any municipal corporation may be assessed and charged for road improvements authorized under this chapter in the same manner and subject to the same conditions as provided by law for assessments against such property for local improvements in cities and towns.

All notices and ballots provided for herein affecting state lands shall be sent to the department of natural resources whose designated agent is hereby authorized to sign petitions or ballots on behalf of the state. In the case of counties or municipal or quasi municipal bodies notices and ballots shall be sent to the legislative authority of said counties or municipality and petitions or ballots shall be signed by the officer duly empowered to act by said legislative authority. [1963 c 4 § 36.88.360. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 36.]

**36.88.370 Signatures on petitions, ballots, objections—Determining sufficiency.** Wherever herein petitions, ballots or objections are required to be signed by the owners of property, the following rules shall govern the sufficiency thereof: (1) The signature of the record owner as determined by the records of the county auditor shall be sufficient without the signature of his or her spouse; (2) in the case of mortgaged property, the signature of the mortgagor shall be sufficient; (3) in the case of property purchased on contract the signature of the contract purchaser shall be deemed sufficient; (4) any officer of a corporation owning land in the district duly authorized to execute deeds or encumbrances on behalf of the corporation may sign on behalf of such corporation: PROVIDED, That there shall be attached to the ballot or petition a certified excerpt from the bylaws showing such authority; (5) if any property in the district stands in the name of a deceased person or any person for whom a guardian has been appointed, the signature of the executor, administrator or guardian as the case may be shall be equivalent to the signature of the owner of the property. [1963 c 84 § 6; 1963 c 4 § 36.88.370. Prior: 1951 c 192 § 37.]

**36.88.375 Consolidated road improvement districts—Establishment—Bonds.** For the purpose of issuing bonds only, the governing body of any county may authorize the establishment of consolidated road improvement districts. The road improvements within such consolidated districts need not be adjoining, vicinal, or neighboring. If the governing body orders the creation of such consolidated road improvement districts, the money received from the installment payments of the principal of and interest on assessments levied within original road improvement districts shall be deposited in a consolidated road improvement district bond redemption fund to be used to redeem outstanding consolidated road improvement district bonds. The issuance of bonds of a consolidated road improvement district shall not change the number of assessment installments in the original road improvement districts, but such bonds shall run two years longer than the longest assessment installment of such original districts. [1981 c 313 § 19.]

**Reviser's note:** 1981 c 313 § 19 directed that this section be placed in chapter 36.89 RCW. Since this placement appears inappropriate, this section has been codified as part of chapter 36.88 RCW.

**Severability—1981 c 313:** See note following RCW 36.94.020.

**36.88.380 Safeguarding open canals or ditches—Assessments and benefits.** Whenever a county road improvement district is established for the safeguarding of open canals or ditches as authorized by RCW 36.88.015 the rate of assessment per square foot in the district may be determined by any one of the methods provided in chapter 35.44 RCW for similar improvements in cities or towns, and the land specially benefited by such improvements shall be the same as provided in chapter 35.43 RCW for similar improvements in cities or towns. [1963 c 4 § 36.88.380. Prior: 1959 c 75 § 5.]

**36.88.390 Safeguarding open canals or ditches—Authority.** Every county shall have the right of entry upon every irrigation, drainage, or flood control canal or ditch right of way within its boundaries for all purposes necessary to safeguard the public from the hazards of open canals or ditches, including the right to clean such canals or ditches to prevent their flooding adjacent lands, and the right to cause to be constructed and maintained on such rights of way or adjacent thereto safeguards as authorized by RCW 36.88.015: PROVIDED, That such safeguards must not unreasonably interfere with maintenance of the canal or ditch or with the operation thereof. [1963 c 4 § 36.88.390. Prior: 1959 c 75 § 6.]

**36.88.400 Safeguarding open canals or ditches—Installation and construction—Costs.** Any county, establishing a road improvement district for canal protection, notwithstanding any laws to the contrary, may require the district, agency, person, corporation, or association, public or private, which operates and maintains the canal or ditch to supervise the installation and construction of safeguards, and must make reimbursement to said operator for all actual costs incurred and expended. [1963 c 4 § 36.88.400. Prior: 1959 c 75 § 7.]

**36.88.410 Underground electric and communication facilities, installation or conversion to—Declaration of public interest and purpose.** It is hereby found and declared that the conversion of overhead electric and communication facilities to underground facilities and the initial underground installation of such facilities is substantially beneficial to the public safety and welfare, is in the public interest and is a public purpose, notwithstanding any resulting incidental private benefit to any electric or communication utility affected by such conversion or installation. [1971 ex.s. c 103 § 1; 1967 c 194 § 1.]

**Severability—1967 c 194:** "If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1967 c 194 § 9.] For codification of 1967 c 194, see Codification Tables, Volume 0.

*Cities and towns, conversion of overhead electric and communication facilities to underground facilities: Chapter 35.96 RCW.*

**36.88.420 Underground electric and communication facilities, installation or conversion to—Definitions.** As used in RCW 36.88.410 through 36.88.480, unless specifically defined otherwise, or unless the context indicates otherwise:

"Conversion area" means that area in which existing overhead electric and communication facilities are to be converted to underground facilities pursuant to the provisions of RCW 36.88.410 through 36.88.480.

"Electric utility" means any publicly or privately owned utility engaged in the business of furnishing electric energy to the public in all or part of the conversion area and includes electrical companies as defined by RCW 80.04.010 and public utility districts.

"Communication utility" means any utility engaged in the business of affording telephonic, telegraphic, cable television or other communication service to the public in all or part of the conversion area and includes telephone companies and telegraph companies as defined by RCW 80.04.010. [1967 c 194 § 2.]

**36.88.430 Underground electric and communication facilities, installation or conversion to—Powers of county relating to—Contracts—County road improvement districts—Special assessments.** Every county shall have the power to contract with electric and communication utilities, as hereinafter provided, for any or all of the following purposes:

(1) The conversion of existing overhead electric facilities to underground facilities.

(2) The conversion of existing overhead communication facilities to underground facilities.

(3) The conversion of existing street and road lighting facilities to ornamental street and road lighting facilities to be served from underground electrical facilities.

(4) The initial installation, in accordance with the limitations set forth in RCW 36.88.015, or [of] ornamental street and road lighting facilities to be served from underground electrical facilities.

(5) The initial installation of underground electric and communication facilities.

(6) Any combination of the improvements provided for in this section.

To provide funds to pay the whole or any part of the cost of any such conversion or initial installation, together with the expense of furnishing electric energy, maintenance and operation to any ornamental street lighting facilities served from underground electrical facilities, every county shall have the power to create county road improvement districts and to levy and collect special assessments against the real property specially benefited by such conversion or initial installation. For the purpose of ascertaining the amount to be assessed against each lot or parcel of land within any county road improvement district established pursuant to RCW 36.88.410 through 36.88.480, in addition to other methods provided by law for apportioning special benefits, the county commissioners may apportion all or part of the special benefits accruing on a square footage basis or on a per lot basis.

That portion of the assessments levied in any county road improvement district to pay part of the cost of the initial installation of underground electric and communication facilities shall not exceed the cost of such installation, less the estimated cost of constructing overhead facilities providing equivalent service. [1971 ex.s. c 103 § 2; 1967 c 194 § 3.]

**36.88.440 Underground electric and communication facilities, installation or conversion to—Contracts with electric and communication utilities—Authorized—Provisions.** Every county shall have the power to contract with electric and communication utilities for the conversion of existing overhead electric and communication facilities to underground facilities, for the conversion of existing street and road lighting facilities to ornamental street and road lighting facilities to be served from underground electrical facilities[,] for the initial installation of ornamental street and road lighting facilities to be served from underground electrical facilities and for the initial installation of underground electric and communication facilities. Such contracts may provide, among other provisions, any of the following:

(1) For the supplying and approval by the electric and communication utilities of plans and specifications for such conversion or installation;

(2) For the payment to the electric and communication utilities for any work performed or services rendered by it in connection with the conversion project or installation;

(3) For the payment to the electric and communication utilities for the value of the overhead facilities removed pursuant to the conversion;

(4) For ownership of the underground facilities and the ornamental street and road lighting facilities by the electric and communication utilities. [1971 ex.s. c 103 § 3; 1967 c 194 § 4.]

**36.88.450 Underground electric and communication facilities, installation or conversion to—Notice to owners to convert service lines to underground—Objections—Hearing—Time limitation for conversion.** When service from the underground electric and communication facilities is available in all or part of a conversion area, the county shall mail a notice to the owners of all structures or improvements served from the existing overhead facilities in the area, which notice shall state that:

(1) Service from the underground facilities is available;  
 (2) All electric and communication service lines from the existing overhead facilities within the area to any structure or improvement must be disconnected and removed within one hundred twenty days after the date of the mailing of the notice;

(3) Should such owner fail to convert such service lines from overhead to underground within one hundred twenty days after the date of the mailing of the notice, the county will order the electric and communication utilities to disconnect and remove the service lines;

(4) Should the owner object to the disconnection and removal of the service lines he may file his written objections thereto with the secretary of the board of county commissioners within one hundred twenty days after the date of the mailing of the notice and failure to so object within such time will constitute a waiver of his right thereafter to object to such disconnection and removal.

If the owner of any structure or improvement served from the existing overhead electric and communication facilities within a conversion area shall fail to convert to underground the service lines from such overhead facilities to such structure or improvement within one hundred twenty days after the mailing to him of the notice, the county shall order the electric and communication utilities to disconnect and remove all such service lines: PROVIDED, That if the owner has filed his written objections to such disconnection and removal with the secretary of the board of county commissioners within one hundred twenty days after the mailing of said notice then the county shall not order such disconnection and removal until after the hearing on such objections.

Upon the timely filing by the owner of objections to the disconnection and removal of the service lines, the board of county commissioners shall conduct a hearing to determine whether the removal of all or any part of the service lines is in the public benefit. The hearing shall be held at such time as the board of county commissioners may establish for hearings on such objections and shall be held in accordance with the regularly established procedure set by the board. The determination reached by the board of county commissioners shall be final in the absence of an abuse of discretion. [1967 c 194 § 5.]

**36.88.460 Underground electric and communication facilities, installation or conversion to—Utility conversion guaranty fund—Establishment authorized—Purpose—Deposits—Investments.** Every county may establish a fund for the purpose of guaranteeing to the extent of such fund and in the manner hereinafter provided, the payment of its county road improvement district bonds and warrants issued to pay for the underground conversion of electric and communication facilities and the underground conversion or installation of ornamental road and street lighting facilities ordered under this chapter. If the board of county commissioners shall determine to establish such fund it shall be designated ". . . . utility conversion guaranty fund" and from moneys available such county shall deposit annually in said guaranty fund such sums as may be necessary to establish and maintain a balance therein equal to at least five percent of the outstanding obligations guaranteed thereby and

to make necessary provision in its annual budget therefor. The moneys held in the guaranty fund may be invested in certificates, notes, or bonds of the United States of America, or in state, county, municipal or school district bonds, or in warrants of taxing districts of the state; provided, only, that such bonds and warrants shall be general obligations. [1967 c 194 § 6.]

**36.88.470 Underground electric and communication facilities, installation or conversion to—Utility conversion guaranty fund—Operation.** Whenever there shall be paid out of the guaranty fund any sum on account of principal or interest of a county road improvement district bond or warrant, the county, as trustee for the fund, shall be subrogated to all the rights of the owner of the bond or any interest coupon or warrant so paid, and the proceeds thereof, or of the assessment underlying the same, shall become part of the guaranty fund. There shall also be paid into each guaranty fund the interest received from investments of the fund, as well as any surplus remaining in any county road improvement fund guaranteed hereunder after the payment of all outstanding bonds or warrants payable primarily out of such utility conversion county road improvement district fund. Warrants drawing interest at a rate or rates not to exceed the rate determined by the county legislative authority shall be issued, as other warrants are issued by the county, against the guaranty fund to meet any liability accruing against it, and at the time of making its annual budget and tax levy the county shall provide from funds available for the deposit in the guaranty fund of a sum sufficient with other resources of such fund to pay warrants so issued during the preceding fiscal year. As among the several issues of bonds or warrants guaranteed by the fund no preference shall exist, but defaulted bonds, interest payments, and warrants shall be purchased out of the fund in the order of their presentation.

Every county establishing a guaranty fund for utility conversion road improvement district bonds or warrants shall prescribe by resolution appropriate rules and regulations for the maintenance and operation of such guaranty fund not inconsistent herewith. So much of the money of a guaranty fund as is necessary may be used to purchase underlying bonds or warrants guaranteed by the fund, or to purchase certificates of delinquency for general taxes on property subject to local improvement assessments, or to purchase such property at tax foreclosures, for the purpose of protecting the guaranty fund. The fund shall be subrogated to the rights of the county and the county, acting on behalf of the fund, may foreclose the lien of general tax certificates of delinquency and purchase the property at the foreclosure sale for the account of said fund. Whenever the legislative authority of any county shall so cause a lien of general tax certificates of delinquency to be foreclosed and the property to be so purchased at a foreclosure sale, the court costs and costs of publication and expenses for clerical work and/or other expense incidental thereto, shall be chargeable to and payable from the guaranty fund. After so acquiring title to real property, a county may lease or sell and convey the same at public or private sale for such price and on such terms as may be determined by resolution of the county legislative authority, and all proceeds resulting from such



sales shall belong to and be paid into the guaranty fund. [1983 c 167 § 98; 1981 c 156 § 13; 1967 c 194 § 7.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**36.88.480 Underground electric and communication facilities, installation or conversion to—Applicability of general provisions relating to county road improvement districts.** Unless otherwise provided in RCW 36.88.410 through 36.88.480, the general provisions relating to county road improvement districts shall apply to local improvements authorized by RCW 36.88.410 through 36.88.480. [1967 c 194 § 8.]

**36.88.485 Underground electric and communication facilities, installation or conversion to—Recording of underground utility installations.** All installations of underground utilities made on and after August 9, 1971 shall be recorded on an "as constructed" map and filed with the county engineer of the county in which the underground utilities are installed. [1971 ex.s. c 103 § 4.]

### Chapter 36.89

#### HIGHWAYS—OPEN SPACES—PARKS—RECREATION, COMMUNITY, HEALTH AND SAFETY FACILITIES—STORM WATER CONTROL

##### Sections

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**36.89.010 Definitions.** The words "governmental agency" as used in this chapter mean the United States of America, the state or any agency, subdivision, taxing district or municipal or quasi municipal corporation thereof.

The word "highways" as used in this chapter means all public roads, streets, expressways, parkways, scenic drives, bridges and other public ways, including without limitation,

traffic control facilities, special lanes, turnouts or structures in, upon, over or under such public ways for exclusive or nonexclusive use by public transit vehicles, and landscaping, visual and sound buffers between such public ways and adjacent properties.

The words "open space, park, recreation and community facilities" as used in this chapter mean any public facility, improvement, development, property or right or interest therein for public park, recreational, green belt, arboretum, multi-purpose community center (as defined in RCW 35.59.010), museum, zoo, aquarium, auditorium, exhibition, athletic, historic, scenic, viewpoint, aesthetic, ornamental or natural resource preservation purposes.

The words "public health and safety facilities" as used in this chapter mean any public facility, improvement, development, property or right or interest therein, made, constructed or acquired for the purpose of protecting life from disease or injury, enforcing the criminal and civil laws or protecting property from damage caused by breach of law, including but not limited to public hospitals, health laboratories, public health clinics or service centers, custodial, correction or rehabilitation facilities, courtrooms, crime laboratories, law enforcement equipment and facilities, training facilities for specialized personnel, facilities for the collection, storage, retrieval or communication of information, and mobile, support or administrative facilities, all as necessary for the foregoing purpose, or any combination of the facilities herein described.

The words "storm water control facilities" as used in this chapter mean any facility, improvement, development, property or interest therein, made, constructed or acquired for the purpose of controlling, or protecting life or property from, any storm, waste, flood or surplus waters wherever located within the county, and shall include but not be limited to the improvements and authority described in RCW 86.12.020 and chapters 86.13 and 86.15 RCW.

The word "county" as used in this chapter shall mean any county of the state of Washington. [1970 ex.s. c 30 § 1; 1967 c 109 § 1.]

**36.89.020 Purpose.** The legislature finds that the open spaces, park, recreation and community facilities, public health and safety facilities, storm water control facilities and highways within any county of this state, whether located partly or wholly within or without the cities and towns of such county are of general benefit to all of the residents of such county. The open spaces, park, recreation and community facilities within such county provide public recreation, aesthetic, conservation and educational opportunities and other services and benefits accessible to all of the residents of such county. The public health and safety facilities within such county provide protection to life and property throughout the county, are functionally inter-related and affect the health, safety and welfare of all the residents of such county. The storm water control facilities within such county provide protection from storm water damage for life and property throughout the county, generally require planning and development over the entire drainage basins, and affect the prosperity, interests and welfare of all the residents of such county. The highways within such county, whether under the general control of the county or the state

or within the limits of any incorporated city or town, provide an inter-connected system for the convenient and efficient movement of people and goods within such county. The use of general county funds for the purpose of acquisition, development, construction, or improvement of open space, park, recreation and community facilities, public health and safety facilities, storm water control facilities, or highways or to participate with any governmental agency to perform such purposes within such county pursuant to this chapter is hereby declared to be a strictly county purpose. [1970 ex.s. c 30 § 2; 1967 c 109 § 2.]

**36.89.030 Authority to establish, acquire, develop, construct, and improve highways, open spaces, parks, etc.** Counties are authorized to establish, acquire, develop, construct, and improve open space, park, recreation, and community facilities, public health and safety facilities, storm water control facilities, and highways or any of them pursuant to the provisions of this chapter within and without the cities and towns of the county and for such purposes have the power to acquire lands, buildings and other facilities by gift, grant, purchase, condemnation, lease, devise, and bequest, to construct, improve, or maintain buildings, structures, and facilities necessary for such purposes, and to use and develop for such purposes the air rights over and the subsurface rights under any highway. The approval of the state department of transportation shall be first secured for such use and development of any state highway. For visual or sound buffer purposes the county shall not acquire by condemnation less than an owner's entire interest or right in the particular real property to be so acquired if the owner objects to the taking of a lesser interest or right. [1984 c 7 § 42; 1970 ex.s. c 30 § 3; 1967 c 109 § 3.]

**Severability—1984 c 7:** See note following RCW 47.01.141.

*Acquisition of interests in land for conservation, protection, preservation, or open space purposes by counties:* RCW 64.04.130.

*Flood control, county powers:* RCW 86.12.020.

**36.89.040 Issuance of general obligation bonds—Proposition submitted to voters.** To carry out the purposes of this chapter counties shall have the power to issue general obligation bonds within the limitations now or hereafter prescribed by the Constitution and laws of this state. Such general obligation bonds shall be issued and sold as provided in chapter 39.46 RCW.

The question of issuance of bonds for any undertaking which relates to a number of different highways or parts thereof, whether situated wholly or partly within the limits of any city or town within the county, and whether such bonds are intended to supply the whole expenditure or to participate therein, may be submitted to the voters of the county as a single proposition. If the county legislative authority in submitting a proposition relating to different highways or parts thereof declare that such proposition has for its object the furtherance and accomplishment of the construction of a system of connected public highways within such county and constitutes a single purpose, such declaration shall be presumed to be correct and upon the issuance of the bonds the presumption shall become conclusive.

The question of the issuance of bonds for any undertaking which relates to a number of different open spaces, park, recreation and community facilities, whether situated wholly or partly within the limits of any city or town within the county, and whether such bonds are intended to supply the whole expenditure or to participate therein may be submitted to the voters as a single proposition. If the county legislative authority in submitting a proposition relating to different open spaces, park, recreation and community facilities declare that such proposition has for its object the furtherance, accomplishment or preservation of an open space, park, recreation and community facilities system available to, and for the benefit of, all the residents of such county and constitutes a single purpose, such declaration shall be presumed to be correct and upon the issuance of the bonds the presumption shall become conclusive.

The question of the issuance of bonds for any undertaking which relates to a number of different public health and safety facilities, whether situated wholly or partly within the limits of any city or town within the county, and whether such bonds are intended to supply the whole expenditure or to participate therein may be submitted to the voters as a single proposition. If the county legislative authority in submitting a proposition relating to different public health and safety facilities declare that such proposition has for its object the furtherance or accomplishment of a system of public health and safety facilities for the benefit of all the residents of such county and constitutes a single purpose, such declaration shall be presumed to be correct and upon the issuance of the bonds the presumption shall become conclusive.

The question of the issuance of bonds for any undertaking which relates to a number of different storm water control facilities, whether situated wholly or partly within the limits of any city or town within the county, and whether such bonds are intended to supply the whole expenditure or to participate therein may be submitted to the voters as a single proposition. If the county legislative authority in submitting a proposition relating to different storm water control facilities declares that such proposition has for its object the furtherance, accomplishment or preservation of a storm water control facilities system for the benefit of all the residents of such county and constitutes a single purpose, such declaration shall be presumed to be correct and upon the issuance of the bonds the presumption shall become conclusive.

Elections shall be held as provided in RCW 39.36.050. [1984 c 186 § 34; 1983 c 167 § 99; 1970 ex.s. c 30 § 4; 1967 c 109 § 4.]

**Purpose—1984 c 186:** See note following RCW 39.46.110.

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**36.89.042 Issuance of general obligation bonds—Payment from revenue—Additional method.** In issuing general obligation bonds at any time after February 20, 1970 for the purpose of providing all or part of the cost and expense of planning and design, establishing, acquiring, developing, constructing or improving the county capital purposes authorized by this chapter and RCW 86.12.020, the board of county commissioners may provide that such bonds

also be made payable from any otherwise unpledged revenue which may be derived from the ownership or operation of any such properties or facilities. [1970 ex.s. c 30 § 6.]

**36.89.050 Participation by other governmental agencies.** A county may finance, acquire, construct, develop, improve, maintain and operate any open space, park, recreation and community facilities, public health and safety facilities, storm water control facilities and highways authorized by this chapter either solely or in conjunction with one or more governmental agencies. Any governmental agency is authorized to participate in such financing, acquisition, construction, development, improvement, use, maintenance and operation and to convey, dedicate or lease any lands, properties or facilities to any county for the purposes provided in this chapter and RCW 86.12.020, on such terms as may be fixed by agreement between the respective governing commissions or legislative bodies without submitting the matter to a vote of the electors unless the provisions of general law applicable to the incurring of public indebtedness shall require such submission.

No county shall proceed under the authority of this chapter to construct or improve any storm water control facility or highway or part thereof lying within the limits of a city or town except with the prior consent of such city or town. By agreement between their respective legislative bodies, cities, towns and counties may provide that upon completion of any storm water control facility or highway or portion thereof constructed pursuant to this chapter within any city or town, the city or town shall accept the same for maintenance and operation and that such storm water control facility or highway or portion thereof shall thereupon become a part of the respective storm water control facility or highway system of the city or town.

A county may transfer to any other governmental agency the ownership, operation and maintenance of any open space, park, recreation and community facility acquired by the county pursuant to this chapter, which lies wholly or partly within such governmental agency, pursuant to an agreement entered into between the legislative bodies of the county and such governmental agency: PROVIDED, That such transfer shall be subject to the condition that either such facility shall continue to be used for the same purposes or that other equivalent facilities within the county shall be conveyed to the county in exchange therefor. [1970 ex.s. c 30 § 5; 1967 c 109 § 5.]

**36.89.060 Powers and authority are supplemental.** The powers and authority conferred upon governmental agencies under the provisions of this chapter, shall be construed as in addition and supplemental to powers or authority conferred by any other law, and nothing contained herein shall be construed as limiting any other powers or authority of such governmental agencies. [1967 c 109 § 6.]

**36.89.062 Power and authority of counties are supplemental.** The power and authority conferred upon counties by this chapter and RCW 86.12.020 shall be in addition and supplemental to those already granted and shall not limit any other powers or authority of such counties. [1970 ex.s. c 30 § 13.]

**36.89.080 Storm water control facilities—Rates and charges—Use.** Any board of county commissioners may provide by resolution for revenues by fixing rates and charges for the furnishing of service to those served or receiving benefits or to be served or to receive benefits from any storm water control facility or contributing to an increase of surface water runoff. In fixing rates and charges, the board may in its discretion consider services furnished or to be furnished, benefits received or to be received, the character and use of land, or its water runoff characteristics or any other matters which present a reasonable difference as a ground for distinction. Such service charges collected shall be deposited in a special fund or funds in the county treasury to be used only for the purpose of paying all or any part of the cost and expense of maintaining and operating storm water control facilities, all or any part of the cost and expense of planning, designing, establishing, acquiring, developing, constructing and improving any of such facilities, or to pay or secure the payment of all or any portion of any issue of general obligation or revenue bonds issued for such purpose. [1970 ex.s. c 30 § 7.]

*Sewerage, water, and drainage systems: Chapter 36.94 RCW.*

**36.89.085 Storm water control facilities—Public property subject to rates and charges.** Except as otherwise provided in RCW 90.03.525, any public entity and public property, including the state of Washington and state property, shall be subject to rates and charges for storm water control facilities to the same extent private persons and private property are subject to such rates and charges that are imposed by counties pursuant to RCW 36.89.080. In setting these rates and charges, consideration may be made of in-kind services, such as stream improvements or donation of property. [1986 c 278 § 57; 1983 c 315 § 3.]

**Severability—1986 c 278:** See note following RCW 36.01.010.

**Severability—1983 c 315:** See note following RCW 90.03.500.

*Flood control zone districts—Storm water control improvements: Chapter 86.15 RCW.*

*Rates and charges for storm water control facilities—Limitations—Definitions: RCW 90.03.500 through 90.03.525. See also RCW 35.67.025, 35.92.021, 36.94.145, and 56.08.012.*

**36.89.090 Storm water control facilities—Lien for delinquent charges.** The county shall have a lien for delinquent service charges, including interest thereon, against any property against which they were levied for storm water control facilities, which lien shall be superior to all other liens and encumbrances except general taxes and local and special assessments. Such lien shall be effective and shall be enforced and foreclosed in the same manner as provided for sewerage liens of cities and towns by RCW 35.67.200 through 35.67.290: PROVIDED, That a county may, by resolution or ordinance, adopt all or any part of the alternative interest rate, lien, and foreclosure procedures as set forth in RCW 36.89.092 through 36.89.094 or by RCW 36.94.150. [1991 c 36 § 1; 1987 c 241 § 1; 1970 ex.s. c 30 § 8.]

**36.89.092 Storm water control facilities—Alternative interest rate on delinquent charges.** Any county may provide, by resolution or ordinance, that delinquent storm water service charges bear interest at a rate of

twelve percent per annum, computed on a monthly basis, in lieu of the interest rate provided for in RCW 35.67.200. [1987 c 241 § 2.]

**36.89.093 Storm water control facilities—Alternative procedures for lien on delinquent charges.** Any county may, by resolution or ordinance, provide that the storm water service charge lien shall be effective for a total not to exceed one year's delinquent service charges without the necessity of any writing or recording of the lien with the county auditor, in lieu of the provisions provided for in RCW 35.67.210. [1987 c 241 § 3.]

**36.89.094 Storm water control facilities—Alternative foreclosure procedures on lien on delinquent charges.** Any county may, by resolution or ordinance, provide that an action to foreclose a storm water service charge lien may be commenced after three years from the date storm water service charges become delinquent, in lieu of the provisions provided for in RCW 35.67.230. [1987 c 241 § 4.]

**36.89.100 Storm water control facilities—Revenue bonds.** (1) Any county legislative authority may authorize the issuance of revenue bonds to finance any storm water control facility. Such bonds may be issued by the county legislative authority in the same manner as prescribed in RCW 36.67.510 through 36.67.570. Such bonds may be in any form, including bearer bonds or registered bonds as provided in RCW 39.46.030.

Each revenue bond shall state on its face that it is payable from a special fund, naming such fund and the resolution creating the fund.

Revenue bond principal, interest, and all other related necessary expenses shall be payable only out of the appropriate special fund or funds. Revenue bonds shall be payable from the revenues of the storm water control facility being financed by the bonds, a system of these facilities and, if so provided, from special assessments, installments thereof, and interest and penalties thereon, levied in one or more utility local improvement districts authorized by \*this 1981 act.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, such bonds may be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW. [1983 c 167 § 100; 1981 c 313 § 20; 1970 ex.s. c 30 § 9.]

**\*Reviser's note:** "this 1981 act" [1981 c 313] consists of the enactment of RCW 36.88.375, 36.89.110, 36.94.380, 36.94.390, 36.94.400, and the amendment of RCW 35.43.110, 35.91.020, 36.67.520, 36.67.530, 36.89.100, 36.94.010, 36.94.020, 36.94.030, 36.94.050, 36.94.200, 36.94.220, 36.94.230, 36.94.240, 36.94.250, 36.94.260, and 36.94.270.

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**Severability—1981 c 313:** See note following RCW 36.94.020.

**36.89.110 Storm water control facilities—Utility local improvement districts—Assessments.** A county may create utility local improvement districts for the purpose of levying and collecting special assessments on property specially benefited by one or more storm water control facilities. The provisions of RCW 36.94.220 through 36.94.300 concerning the formation of utility local improvement districts and the fixing, levying, collecting and enforcing

of special assessments apply to utility local improvement districts authorized by this section. [1981 c 313 § 21.]

**Severability—1981 c 313:** See note following RCW 36.94.020.

**36.89.120 Storm water control facilities—Annexation, incorporation of area by city or town—Imposition of rates and charges by county.** Whenever a city or town annexes an area, or a city or town incorporates an area, and the county has issued revenue bonds or general obligation bonds to finance storm water control facilities that are payable in whole or in part from rates or charges imposed in the area, the county shall continue imposing all portions of the rates or charges that are allocated to payment of the debt service on bonds in that area after the effective date of the annexation or official date of the incorporation until: (1) The debt is retired; (2) any debt that is issued to refinance the underlying debt is retired; or (3) the city or town reimburses the county amount that is sufficient to retire that portion of the debt borne by the annexed or incorporated area. The county shall construct all facilities included in the storm water plan intended to be financed by the proceeds of such bonds. If the county provides storm water management services to the city or town by contract, the contract shall consider the value of payments made by property owners to the county for the payment of debt service.

The provisions of this section apply whether or not the bonds finance facilities that are geographically located within the area that is annexed or incorporated. [1993 c 361 § 1.]

**36.89.900 Effective date—1967 c 109.** This chapter shall take effect on June 9, 1967. [1967 c 109 § 9.]

**36.89.910 Severability—1967 c 109.** If any provision of this chapter, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the chapter, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1967 c 109 § 7.]

**36.89.911 Severability—1970 ex.s. c 30.** If any provision of \*this 1970 amendatory act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of \*this 1970 amendatory act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected. [1970 ex.s. c 30 § 12.]

**\*Reviser's note:** "this 1970 amendatory act" is codified in this chapter and RCW 86.12.020.

## Chapter 36.90

### SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON FAIR

#### Sections

- 36.90.010 Control of property.
- 36.90.020 Fair commission abolished—Rights, duties, and obligations devolved upon Lewis county commissioners—Property vested in Lewis county.
- 36.90.030 Administrators—Organization of commission—Funds.
- 36.90.040 Fair deemed county and district fair and agricultural fair.
- 36.90.050 Acquisition, improvement, control of property.
- 36.90.070 Conveyance of property to Lewis county for fair purposes.

**36.90.010 Control of property.** The property of the Southwest Washington Fair Association including the buildings and structures thereon, as constructed or as may be built or constructed from time to time, or any alterations or additions thereto, shall be under the jurisdiction and control of the board of county commissioners of Lewis county at all times. [1973 1st ex.s. c 97 § 1; 1963 c 4 § 36.90.010. Prior: 1913 c 47 § 2; RRS § 2746.]

**Severability—1973 1st ex.s. c 97:** "If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1973 1st ex.s. c 97 § 8.]

**36.90.020 Fair commission abolished—Rights, duties, and obligations devolved upon Lewis county commissioners—Property vested in Lewis county.** The southwest Washington fair commission heretofore established and authorized under the provisions of this chapter is abolished and all rights, duties and obligations of such commission is devolved upon the board of county commissioners of Lewis county and title to or all interest in real estate, choses in action and all other assets, including but not limited to assignable contracts, cash, deposits in county funds (including any interest or premiums thereon), equipment, buildings, facilities, and appurtenances thereto held as of the date of passage of this 1973 amendatory act by or for the commission shall, on \*the effective date of this 1973 amendatory act vest in Lewis county. [1973 1st ex.s. c 97 § 2; 1963 c 4 § 36.90.020. Prior: 1959 c 34 § 1; 1913 c 47 § 3; RRS § 2747; prior: 1909 c 237 § 4.]

**\*Reviser's note:** "the effective date of this 1973 amendatory act" [1973 1st ex.s. c 97] was July 16, 1973.

**Severability—1973 1st ex.s. c 97:** See note following RCW 36.90.010.

**36.90.030 Administrators—Organization of commission—Funds.** The board of county commissioners in the county of Lewis as administrators of all property relating to the southwest Washington fair may elect to appoint a commission of citizens to advise and assist in carrying out such fair. The chairman of the board of county commissioners of Lewis county shall be chairman of any such commission. Such commission may elect a president and secretary and define their duties and fix their compensation, and provide for the keeping of its records. The commission may also designate the treasurer of Lewis county as fair treasurer. The funds relating to fair activities shall be kept separate and apart from the funds of Lewis county, but shall be deposited in the regular depositories of Lewis county and all interest earned thereby shall be added to and become a part of the funds. Fair funds shall be audited as are other county funds. [1973 1st ex.s. c 97 § 3; 1963 c 4 § 36.90.030. Prior: 1913 c 47 § 4; RRS § 2748.]

**Severability—1973 1st ex.s. c 97:** See note following RCW 36.90.010.

**36.90.040 Fair deemed county and district fair and agricultural fair.** The southwest Washington fair shall be deemed a county and district fair for the purposes of chapter 15.76 RCW as well as an agricultural fair for the purpose of receiving allocations of funds under RCW 15.76.140 through

15.76.165. [1973 1st ex.s. c 97 § 4; 1963 c 4 § 36.90.040. Prior: 1913 c 47 § 5; RRS § 2749.]

**Severability—1973 1st ex.s. c 97:** See note following RCW 36.90.010.

**36.90.050 Acquisition, improvement, control of property.** The Lewis county board of county commissioners may acquire by gift, exchange, devise, lease, or purchase, real property for southwest Washington fair purposes and may construct and maintain temporary or permanent improvements suitable and necessary for the purpose of holding and maintaining the southwest Washington fair. Any such property deemed surplus by the board may be (1) sold at private sale after notice in a local publication of general circulation, or (2) exchanged for other property after notice in a local publication of general circulation. [1973 1st ex.s. c 97 § 5; 1963 c 4 § 36.90.050. Prior: 1959 c 34 § 2.]

**Severability—1973 1st ex.s. c 97:** See note following RCW 36.90.010.

**36.90.070 Conveyance of property to Lewis county for fair purposes.** Upon payment to the state of Washington by Lewis county of the sum of one dollar, which sum shall be deposited in the general fund when received by the treasurer of the state of Washington, such treasurer is authorized and directed to certify to the governor and secretary of state that such payment has been made on the following described property presently utilized for southwest Washington fair purposes situated in Lewis county, Washington: "Beginning at the intersection of the south line of section Seventeen (17) Township Fourteen (14) North of Range Two (2) West of W.M. with the West right-of-way line of the Somerville consent Road, and running thence North 15 degrees 20 feet East along the West line of said Road, Eleven Hundred Forty-four (1144) feet, thence North 2 degrees 33 feet West along the said west line Seventy-four and four-tenths (74.4) feet, thence west on a line parallel with the said south line of said Section Seventeen (17) Eleven Hundred Sixty-seven and two tenths (1167.2) feet to within one hundred fifty (150) feet to the Center line of the Northern Pacific Railroad, thence south 16 degrees 20 feet West on a line parallel with and one hundred fifty (150) feet distant Easterly from the Center line of the Northern Pacific Railroad Eleven Hundred and Thirty-five and seven-tenths (1135.7) feet, thence East on a line parallel with and Eighty-seven and three-tenths (87.3) feet north of the south line of said section seventeen (17) eight hundred fifty-seven (857) feet, thence south 74 degrees 40 feet East three hundred thirty (330) feet to the point of beginning, containing thirty (30) acres in Section Seventeen (17) Township Fourteen (14) North of Range Two (2) West of W.M." and the governor is thereby authorized and directed forthwith to execute and the secretary of state is authorized and directed to attest to a deed conveying said lands to Lewis county, Washington. The office of the attorney general and the commissioner of public lands shall offer any necessary assistance in carrying out such conveyance. [1973 1st ex.s. c 97 § 6.]

**Severability—1973 1st ex.s. c 97:** See note following RCW 36.90.010.

## Chapter 36.92

## COUNTY CENTRAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

## Sections

36.92.010	Purpose.
36.92.020	Definitions.
36.92.030	County central services department—Created—Supervisor.
36.92.040	Central services fund.
36.92.050	Comprehensive data processing use plan—Utilization of equipment.
36.92.060	Appointment of assistants.
36.92.070	Charges for services—Duties of county treasurer.
36.92.080	Services limited to department.
36.92.900	Severability—1967 ex.s. c 103.

**36.92.010 Purpose.** The purpose of this chapter is to provide county officials of each county with a modern approach to the common problems encountered by said officers in accounting, record keeping, and problem solving, thereby effectuating economies in county government.

It is further the intent of this chapter that the constitutional autonomy of the various county officers be preserved while providing such officials with a centralized department to perform ministerial functions for them on the most modern and efficient machines available. [1967 ex.s. c 103 § 2.]

**36.92.020 Definitions.** As used in this chapter, the following words shall have the meanings ascribed herein:

(1) "Services department" shall mean the county central services department, established in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

(2) "Board" shall mean the board of county commissioners.

(3) "Automatic data processing" or "ADP" shall mean that method of processing information using mechanical or electronic machines, guided by predetermined instructions to produce information in usable form, and shall include but not be limited to electronic accounting machines, electronic data processing machines, and computers.

(4) "Electronic accounting machines" or "EAM" shall mean that method of ADP utilizing punch cards or unit record equipment.

(5) "Electronic data processing" or "EDP" shall include that system which comprises a combination of equipment or unites to provide input of source data, storage and processing of data and output in predetermined form, including a central processing unit (CPU) or main frame.

(6) "Computer" shall mean any device that is capable of solving problems and supplying results by accepting data and performing prescribed operations. It shall include analog or digital, general purpose or special purpose computers.

(7) "Copy" or "micro-copy" shall mean photographic, photostatic, photomechanical or other copy process.

It is the intent of this chapter that the definitions contained in subsections (3) through (7) of this section shall be construed in the broadest possible interpretation in order that new and modern equipment and methods as they become available shall be included therein. [1967 ex.s. c 103 § 3.]

**36.92.030 County central services department—Created—Supervisor.** By resolution, the board of county

commissioners may create a county central services department which shall be organized and function as any other department of the county. When a board creates a central services department, it shall also provide for the appointment of a supervisor to be the administrative head of such department, subject to the supervision and control of the board, and to serve at the pleasure of the board. The supervisor shall receive such salary as may be prescribed by the board. In addition, the supervisor shall be reimbursed for traveling and other actual and necessary expenses incurred by him in the performance of his official duties. [1967 ex.s. c 103 § 4.]

**36.92.040 Central services fund.** When a central services department is created, the board shall establish a central services fund for the payment of all costs of conducting those services for which such department was organized and annually budget therefor. It may make transfers into the central services fund from the current expense fund and receive funds for such purposes from other departments and recipients of such services. [1967 ex.s. c 103 § 5.]

**36.92.050 Comprehensive data processing use plan—Utilization of equipment.** Services departments created pursuant to this chapter shall initially draw a comprehensive data processing use plan. It shall establish levels of service to be performed by the department and shall establish levels of service required by using agencies. Before proceeding with purchase, lease or acquisition of the data processing equipment, the comprehensive data processing use plan shall be adopted by the board.

When established by the board, the services department may perform the service functions relating to accounting, record keeping, and micro-copy by the utilization of automatic data processing and micro-copy equipment.

In relation to said equipment the services department shall perform any ministerial services authorized by the board and requested by the various officers and departments of the county. In this connection, it is the intent of this chapter that the services department be authorized to utilize such equipment to the highest degree consistent with the purposes of this chapter and not inconsistent with constitutional powers and duties of such officers.

The services department is also authorized to utilize such equipment for the purpose of problem solving when such problem solving is of a ministerial rather than a discretionary nature. [1967 ex.s. c 103 § 6.]

**36.92.060 Appointment of assistants.** The supervisor shall have the authority to appoint, subject to the approval of the board, such clerical and other assistants as may be required and authorized for the proper discharge of the functions of the services department. [1967 ex.s. c 103 § 7.]

**36.92.070 Charges for services—Duties of county treasurer.** The board of county commissioners shall fix the terms and charges for services rendered by the central services department pursuant to this chapter, which amounts shall be credited as income to the appropriate account within the central services fund and charged on a monthly basis against the account of the recipient for whom such services

were performed. Moneys derived from the activities of the central services department shall be disbursed from the central services fund by the county treasurer by warrants on vouchers duly authorized by the board. [1967 ex.s. c 103 § 8.]

**36.92.080 Services limited to department.** When a board of county commissioners creates a central services department pursuant to RCW 36.92.030, the ministerial services to be performed by such department in connection with automatic data processing shall not thereafter be performed by any other officer or employee of said county. [1967 ex.s. c 103 § 9.]

**36.92.900 Severability—1967 ex.s. c 103.** If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1967 ex.s. c 103 § 10.]

### Chapter 36.93

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION— BOUNDARIES—REVIEW BOARDS

##### Sections

- 36.93.010 Purpose.
- 36.93.020 Definitions.
- 36.93.030 Creation of boundary review boards in counties with populations of two hundred ten thousand or more—Creation in other counties.
- 36.93.040 Dates upon which boards in counties with populations of less than two hundred ten thousand deemed established.
- 36.93.051 Appointment of board—Members—Terms—Qualifications.
- 36.93.061 Boards in counties with populations of less than one million—Members—Terms—Qualifications.
- 36.93.063 Selection of board members—Procedure—Commencement of term—Vacancies.
- 36.93.065 Boards in existence as of July 23, 1989—Staggering of terms—Limitation of term of office.
- 36.93.067 Effect of failure to make appointment.
- 36.93.070 Chairman, vice chairman, chief clerk—Powers and duties of board and chief clerk—Meetings—Hearings—Counsel—Compensation.
- 36.93.080 Expenditures—Remittance of costs to counties.
- 36.93.090 Filing notice of proposed actions with board.
- 36.93.093 Copy of notice of intention by sewer or water district to be sent officials.
- 36.93.100 Review of proposed actions by board—Procedure.
- 36.93.105 Actions not subject to review by board.
- 36.93.110 When review not necessary.
- 36.93.116 Simultaneous consideration of incorporation and annexation of territory.
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- 36.93.150 Review of proposed actions—Actions and determinations of board—Disapproval, effect.
- 36.93.153 Review of proposed incorporation in county with boundary review board.
- 36.93.155 Annexation approval—Other action not authorized.
- 36.93.157 Decisions to be consistent with growth management act.
- 36.93.160 Hearings—Notice—Record—Subpoenas—Decision of board—Appellate review.
- 36.93.170 Factors to be considered by board—Incorporation proceedings exempt from state environmental policy act.
- 36.93.180 Objectives of boundary review board.
- 36.93.185 Objectives of boundary review board—Water, sewer district annexations, mergers—Territory not adjacent to district.

- 36.93.190 Decision of board not to affect existing franchises, permits, codes, ordinances, etc., for ten years.
- 36.93.200 Rules and regulations—Adoption procedure.
- 36.93.210 Rules and regulations—Filing—Permanent register.
- 36.93.220 Provisions of prior laws superseded by chapter.
- 36.93.230 Power to disband boundary review board.
- 36.93.800 Application of chapter to merged irrigation districts.
- 36.93.900 Effective date—1967 c 189.
- 36.93.910 Severability—1967 c 189.

*Merger of sewer districts into water districts—Board review: RCW 57.40.120.*

*Merger of water districts into sewer districts—Board review of proposed merger: RCW 56.36.030.*

**36.93.010 Purpose.** The legislature finds that in metropolitan areas of this state, experiencing heavy population growth, increased problems arise from rapid proliferation of municipalities and haphazard extension of and competition to extend municipal boundaries. These problems affect adversely the quality and quantity and cost of municipal services furnished, the financial integrity of certain municipalities, the consistency of local regulations, and many other incidents of local government. Further, the competition among municipalities for unincorporated territory and the disorganizing effect thereof on land use, the preservation of property values and the desired objective of a consistent comprehensive land use plan for populated areas, makes it appropriate that the legislature provide a method of guiding and controlling the creation and growth of municipalities in metropolitan areas so that such problems may be avoided and that residents and businesses in those areas may rely on the logical growth of local government affecting them. [1967 c 189 § 1.]

##### **36.93.020 Definitions.** As used herein:

(1) "Governmental unit" means any incorporated city or town, metropolitan municipal corporation, or any special purpose district as defined in this section.

(2) "Special purpose district" means any sewer district, water district, fire protection district, drainage improvement district, drainage and diking improvement district, flood control zone district, irrigation district, metropolitan park district, drainage district, or public utility district engaged in water distribution.

(3) "Board" means a boundary review board created by or pursuant to this chapter. [1979 ex.s. c 30 § 5; 1967 c 189 § 2.]

**36.93.030 Creation of boundary review boards in counties with populations of two hundred ten thousand or more—Creation in other counties.** (1) There is hereby created and established in each county with a population of two hundred ten thousand or more a board to be known and designated as a "boundary review board".

(2) A boundary review board may be created and established in any other county in the following manner:

(a) The county legislative authority may, by majority vote, adopt a resolution establishing a boundary review board; or

(b) A petition seeking establishment of a boundary review board signed by qualified electors residing in the county equal in number to at least five percent of the votes



cast in the county at the last county general election may be filed with the county auditor.

Upon the filing of such a petition, the county auditor shall examine the same and certify to the sufficiency of the signatures thereon. No person may withdraw his or her name from a petition after it has been filed with the auditor. Within thirty days after the filing of such petition, the county auditor shall transmit the same to the county legislative authority, together with his or her certificate of sufficiency.

After receipt of a valid petition for the establishment of a boundary review board, the county legislative authority shall submit the question of whether a boundary review board should be established to the electorate at the next county primary or county general election which occurs more than forty-five days from the date of receipt of the petition. Notice of the election shall be given as provided in RCW 29.27.080 and shall include a clear statement of the proposal to be submitted.

If a majority of the persons voting on the proposition shall vote in favor of the establishment of the boundary review board, such board shall thereupon be deemed established. [1991 c 363 § 91; 1969 ex.s. c 111 § 1; 1967 c 189 § 3.]

~~Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:~~ See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.93.040 Dates upon which boards in counties with populations of less than two hundred ten thousand deemed established.** For the purposes of this chapter, each county with a population of less than two hundred ten thousand shall be deemed to have established a boundary review board on and after the date a proposition for establishing the same has been approved at an election as provided for in RCW 36.93.030, or on and after the date of adoption of a resolution of the county legislative authority establishing the same as provided for in RCW 36.93.030. [1991 c 363 § 92; 1967 c 189 § 4.]

~~Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:~~ See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.93.051 Appointment of board—Members—Terms—Qualifications.** The boundary review board in each county with a population of one million or more shall consist of eleven members chosen as follows:

- (1) Three persons shall be appointed by the governor;
- (2) Three persons shall be appointed by the county appointing authority;
- (3) Three persons shall be appointed by the mayors of the cities and towns located within the county; and
- (4) Two persons shall be appointed by the board from nominees of special districts in the county.

The governor shall designate one initial appointee to serve a term of two years, and two initial appointees to serve terms of four years, if the appointments are made in an odd-numbered year, or one initial appointee to serve a term of one year, and two initial appointees to serve terms of three years, if the appointments are made in an even-numbered year, with the length of the term being calculated from the first day of February in the year the appointment was made.

The county appointing authority shall designate one of its initial appointees to serve a term of two years, and two

of its initial appointees to serve terms of four years, if the appointments are made in an odd-numbered year, or one of its initial appointees to serve a term of one year, and two of its initial appointees to serve terms of three years, if the appointments are made in an even-numbered year, with the length of the term being calculated from the first day of February in the year the appointment was made.

The mayors making the initial city and town appointments shall designate two of their initial appointees to serve terms of two years, and one of their initial appointees to serve a term of four years, if the appointments are made in an odd-numbered year, or two of their initial appointees to serve terms of one year, and one of their initial appointees to serve a term of three years, if the appointments are made in an even-numbered year, with the length of the term being calculated from the first day of February in the year the appointment was made.

The board shall make two initial appointments from the nominees of special districts, with one appointee serving a term of four years and one initial appointee serving a term of two years, if the appointments are made in an odd-numbered year, or one initial appointee serving a term of three years and one initial appointee serving a term of one year if the appointments are made in an even-numbered year, with the length of the term being calculated from the first day of March in the year in which the appointment is made.

After the initial appointments, all appointees shall serve four-year terms.

No appointee may be an official or employee of the county or a governmental unit in the county, or a consultant or advisor on a contractual or regular retained basis of the county, any governmental unit in the county, or any agency or association thereof. [1991 c 363 § 93; 1989 c 84 § 17.]

~~Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:~~ See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.93.061 Boards in counties with populations of less than one million—Members—Terms—Qualifications.** The boundary review board in each county with a population of less than one million shall consist of five members chosen as follows:

- (1) Two persons shall be appointed by the governor;
- (2) One person shall be appointed by the county appointing authority;
- (3) One person shall be appointed by the mayors of the cities and towns located within the county; and
- (4) One person shall be appointed by the board from nominees of special districts in the county.

The governor shall designate one initial appointee to serve a term of two years, and one initial appointee to serve a term of four years, if the appointments are made in an odd-numbered year, or one initial appointee to serve a term of one year, and one initial appointee to serve a term of three years, if the appointments are made in an even-numbered year, with the length of a term being calculated from the first day of February in the year that the appointment was made.

The initial appointee of the county appointing authority shall serve a term of two years, if the appointment is made in an odd-numbered year, or a term of one year, if the appointment is made in an even-numbered year. The initial appointee by the mayors shall serve a term of four years, if

the appointment is made in an odd-numbered year, or a term of three years, if the appointment is made in an even-numbered year. The length of the term shall be calculated from the first day in February in the year the appointment was made.

The board shall make one initial appointment from the nominees of special districts to serve a term of two years if the appointment is made in an odd-numbered year, or a term of one year if the appointment is made in an even-numbered year, with the length of the term being calculated from the first day of March in the year in which the appointment is made.

After the initial appointments, all appointees shall serve four-year terms.

No appointee may be an official or employee of the county or a governmental unit in the county, or a consultant or advisor on a contractual or regular retained basis of the county, any governmental unit in the county, or any agency or association thereof. [1991 c 363 § 94; 1989 c 84 § 18.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.93.063 Selection of board members—Procedure—Commencement of term—Vacancies.** The executive of the county shall make the appointments under RCW 36.93.051 and 36.93.061 for the county, if one exists, or otherwise the county legislative authority shall make the appointments for the county.

The mayors of all cities and towns in the county shall meet on or before the last day of January in each odd-numbered year to make such appointments for terms to commence on the first day of February in that year. The date of the meeting shall be called by the mayor of the largest city or town in the county, and the mayor of the largest city or town in the county who attends the meeting shall preside over the meeting. Selection of each appointee shall be by simple majority vote of those mayors who attend the meeting.

Any special district in the county may nominate a person to be appointed to the board on or before the last day of January in each odd-numbered year that the term for this position expires. The board shall make its appointment of a nominee or nominees from the special districts during the month of February following the date by which such nominations are required to be made.

The county appointing authority and the mayors of cities and towns within the county shall make their initial appointments for newly created boards within sixty days of the creation of the board or shall make sufficient additional appointments to increase a five-member board to an eleven-member board within sixty days of the date the county obtains a population of one million or more. The board shall make its initial appointment or appointments of board members from the nominees of special districts located within the county within ninety days of the creation of the board or shall make an additional appointment of a board member from the nominees of special districts located within the county within ninety days of the date the county obtains a population of one million or more.

The term of office for all appointees other than the appointee from the special districts shall commence on the first day of February in the year in which the term is to

commence. The term of office for the appointee from nominees of special districts shall commence on the first day of March in the year in which the term is to commence.

Vacancies on the board shall be filled by appointment of a person to serve the remainder of the term in the same manner that the person whose position is vacant was filled. [1991 c 363 § 95; 1989 c 84 § 19.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.93.065 Boards in existence as of July 23, 1989—Staggering of terms—Limitation of term of office.** Each boundary review board that is in existence as of July 23, 1989, shall designate the terms of office of its members to conform with the staggering of terms as established under RCW 36.93.051 and 36.93.061 by September 1, 1989. The members who were appointed independently by the governor shall remain as gubernatorial appointees. The member or members who were appointed by the governor from nominees of the county legislative authority shall be considered to be appointees of the county. The member or members who were appointed by the governor from nominees of the mayors shall be considered to be appointees of the mayors. The member or members who were appointed by the governor from nominees of the special districts shall be considered to be appointees by the board from nominees of the special districts.

No board member may serve on a board more than eight consecutive years. However, any board member serving on July 23, 1989, who has served or will serve in excess of this limitation as his or her term of office is adjusted under this section may remain in office for the remainder of his or her term. [1989 c 84 § 20.]

**36.93.067 Effect of failure to make appointment.** Whenever appointments under RCW 36.93.051 through 36.93.065 have not been made by the appointing authority, the size of the board shall be considered to be reduced by one member for each position that remains vacant or unappointed. [1989 c 84 § 21.]

**36.93.070 Chairman, vice chairman, chief clerk—Powers and duties of board and chief clerk—Meetings—Hearings—Counsel—Compensation.** The members of each boundary review board shall elect from its members a chairman, vice chairman, and shall employ a nonmember as chief clerk, who shall be the secretary of the board. The board shall determine its own rules and order of business and shall provide by resolution for the time and manner of holding all regular or special meetings: PROVIDED, That all meetings shall be subject to chapter 42.30 RCW. The board shall keep a journal of its proceedings which shall be a public record. A majority of all the members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

The chief clerk of the board shall have the power to administer oaths and affirmations, certify to all official acts, issue subpoenas to any public officer or employee ordering him to testify before the board and produce public records, papers, books or documents. The chief clerk may invoke the aid of any court of competent jurisdiction to carry out such powers.

The board by rule may provide for hearings by panels of members consisting of not less than five board members, the number of hearing panels and members thereof, and for the impartial selection of panel members. A majority of a panel shall constitute a quorum thereof.

At the request of the board, the state attorney general, or at the board's option, the county prosecuting attorney, shall provide counsel for the board.

The planning departments of the county, other counties, and any city, and any state or regional planning agency shall furnish such information to the board at its request as may be reasonably necessary for the performance of its duties.

Each member of the board shall be compensated from the county current expense fund at the rate of twenty-five dollars per day, or a major portion thereof, for time actually devoted to the work of the boundary review board. Each board of county commissioners shall provide such funds as shall be necessary to pay the salaries of the members and staff, and such other expenses as shall be reasonably necessary. [1987 c 477 § 1; 1967 c 189 § 7.]

**36.93.080 Expenditures—Remittance of costs to counties.** Expenditures by the board shall be subject to the provisions of chapter 36.40 RCW and other statutes relating to expenditures by counties. The \*department of community development shall on a quarterly basis remit to each county one-half of the actual costs incurred by the county for the operation of the boundary review board within individual counties as provided for in this chapter. However, in the event no funds are appropriated to the said agency for this purpose, this shall not in any way affect the operation of the boundary review board. [1985 c 6 § 7; 1969 ex.s. c 111 § 4; 1967 c 189 § 8.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Powers, duties, and functions of the department of community development and the department of trade and economic development were transferred to the department of community, trade, and economic development by 1993 c 280, effective July 1, 1994.

**36.93.090 Filing notice of proposed actions with board.** Whenever any of the following described actions are proposed in a county in which a board has been established, the initiators of the action shall file within one hundred eighty days a notice of intention with the board: PROVIDED, That when the initiator is the legislative body of a governmental unit, the notice of intention may be filed immediately following the body's first acceptance or approval of the action. The board may review any such proposed actions pertaining to:

(1) The: (a) Creation, incorporation, or change in the boundary, other than a consolidation, of any city, town, or special purpose district; (b) consolidation of special purpose districts, but not including consolidation of cities and towns; or (c) dissolution or disincorporation of any city, town, or special purpose district, except that a board may not review the dissolution or disincorporation of a special purpose district which was dissolved or disincorporated pursuant to the provisions of chapter 36.96 RCW: PROVIDED, That the change in the boundary of a city or town arising from the annexation of contiguous city or town owned property held for a public purpose shall be exempted from the requirements of this section; or

(2) The assumption by any city or town of all or part of the assets, facilities, or indebtedness of a special purpose district which lies partially within such city or town; or

(3) The establishment of or change in the boundaries of a mutual water and sewer system or separate sewer system by a water district pursuant to RCW 57.08.065 or chapter 57.40 RCW, as now or hereafter amended; or

(4) The establishment of or change in the boundaries of a mutual sewer and water system or separate water system by a sewer district pursuant to RCW 56.20.015 or chapter 56.36 RCW, as now or hereafter amended; or

(5) The extension of permanent water or sewer service outside of its existing corporate boundaries by a city, town, or special purpose district. [1987 c 477 § 2; 1985 c 281 § 28; 1982 c 10 § 7. Prior: 1981 c 332 § 9; 1981 c 45 § 2; 1979 ex.s. c 5 § 12; 1971 ex.s. c 127 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 111 § 5; 1967 c 189 § 9.]

**Severability—1985 c 281:** See RCW 35.10.905.

**Severability—1982 c 10:** See note following RCW 6.13.080.

**Severability—1981 c 332:** See note following RCW 35.13.165.

**Legislative declaration—"District" defined—Severability—1981 c 45:** See notes following RCW 56.36.060.

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 5:** See RCW 36.96.920.

*Consolidation of cities and towns—Role of boundary review board: RCW 35.10.450.*

**36.93.093 Copy of notice of intention by sewer or water district to be sent officials.** Whenever a sewer or water district files with the board a notice of intention as required by RCW 36.93.090, the board shall send a copy of such notice of intention to the legislative authority of the county wherein such action is proposed to be taken and one copy to the state department of ecology. [1971 ex.s. c 127 § 2.]

**36.93.100 Review of proposed actions by board—Procedure.** The board shall review and approve, disapprove, or modify any of the actions set forth in RCW 36.93.090 when any of the following shall occur within forty-five days of the filing of a notice of intention:

(1) Three members of a five-member boundary review board or five members of a boundary review board in a county with a population of one million or more files a request for review: PROVIDED, That the members of the boundary review board shall not be authorized to file a request for review of the following actions:

(a) The incorporation of any special district or change in the boundary of any city, town, or special purpose district;

(b) The extension of permanent water service outside of its existing corporate boundaries by a city, town, or special purpose district if (i) the extension is through the installation of water mains of six inches or less in diameter or (ii) the county legislative authority for the county in which the proposed extension is to be built is required or chooses to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 and has by a majority vote waived the authority of the board to initiate review of all other extensions; or

(c) The extension of permanent sewer service outside of its existing corporate boundaries by a city, town, or special purpose district if (i) the extension is through the installation of sewer mains of eight inches or less in diameter or (ii) the

county legislative authority for the county in which the proposed extension is to be built is required or chooses to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 and has by a majority vote waived the authority of the board to initiate review of all other extensions;

(2) Any governmental unit affected, including the governmental unit for which the boundary change or extension of permanent water or sewer service is proposed, or the county within which the area of the proposed action is located, files a request for review of the specific action;

(3) A petition requesting review is filed and is signed by:

(a) Five percent of the registered voters residing within the area which is being considered for the proposed action (as determined by the boundary review board in its discretion subject to immediate review by writ of certiorari to the superior court); or

(b) An owner or owners of property consisting of five percent of the assessed valuation within such area;

(4) The majority of the members of boundary review boards concur with a request for review when a petition requesting the review is filed by five percent of the registered voters who deem themselves affected by the action and reside within one-quarter mile of the proposed action but not within the jurisdiction proposing the action.

If a period of forty-five days shall elapse without the board's jurisdiction having been invoked as set forth in this section, the proposed action shall be deemed approved.

If a review of a proposal is requested, the board shall make a finding as prescribed in RCW 36.93.150 within one hundred twenty days after the filing of such a request for review. If this period of one hundred twenty days shall elapse without the board making a finding as prescribed in RCW 36.93.150, the proposal shall be deemed approved unless the board and the person who submitted the proposal agree to an extension of the one hundred twenty day period. [1994 c 216 § 13; 1992 c 162 § 1; 1991 c 363 § 96; 1989 c 84 § 3; 1987 c 477 § 3; 1983 c 76 § 1; 1982 c 220 § 1; 1967 c 189 § 10.]

**Effective date—1994 c 216:** See note following RCW 35.02.015.

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**Severability—1982 c 220:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1982 c 220 § 9.]

### 36.93.105 Actions not subject to review by board.

The following actions shall not be subject to potential review by a boundary review board:

(1) Annexations of territory to a water or sewer district pursuant to RCW 36.94.410 through 36.94.440;

(2) Revisions of city or town boundaries pursuant to RCW 35.21.790 or 35A.21.210;

(3) Adjustments to city or town boundaries pursuant to RCW 35.13.340; and

(4) Adjustments to city and town boundaries pursuant to RCW 35.13.300 through 35.13.330. [1989 c 84 § 4; 1984 c 147 § 5.]

**36.93.110 When review not necessary.** Where an area proposed for annexation is less than ten acres and less

than two million dollars in assessed valuation, the chairman of the review board may by written statement declare that review by the board is not necessary for the protection of the interest of the various parties, in which case the board shall not review such annexation. [1987 c 477 § 4; 1973 1st ex.s. c 195 § 42; 1967 c 189 § 11.]

**Severability—Effective dates—Construction—1973 1st ex.s. c 195:** See notes following RCW 84.52.043.

**36.93.116 Simultaneous consideration of incorporation and annexation of territory.** A boundary review board may simultaneously consider the proposed incorporation of a city or town, and the proposed annexation of a portion of the territory included in the proposed incorporation, if the resolution or petition initiating the annexation is adopted or filed ninety or fewer days after the petition proposing the incorporation was filed. [1994 c 216 § 9.]

**Effective date—1994 c 216:** See note following RCW 35.02.015.

**36.93.120 Fees.** A fee of fifty dollars shall be paid by all initiators and in addition if the jurisdiction of the review board is invoked pursuant to RCW 36.93.100, the person or entity seeking review, except for the boundary review board itself, shall pay to the county treasurer and place in the county current expense fund the fee of two hundred dollars. [1987 c 477 § 5; 1969 ex.s. c 111 § 6; 1967 c 189 § 12.]

**36.93.130 Notice of intention—Contents.** The notice of intention shall contain the following information:

(1) The nature of the action sought;

(2) A brief statement of the reasons for the proposed action;

(3) The legal description of the boundaries proposed to be created, abolished or changed by such action: PROVIDED, That the legal description may be altered, with concurrence of the initiators of the proposed action, if a person designated by the county legislative authority as one who has expertise in legal descriptions makes a determination that the legal description is erroneous; and

(4) A county assessor's map on which the boundaries proposed to be created, abolished or changed by such action are designated: PROVIDED, That at the discretion of the boundary review board a map other than the county assessor's map may be accepted. [1987 c 477 § 6; 1969 ex.s. c 111 § 7; 1967 c 189 § 13.]

**36.93.140 Pending actions not affected.** Actions described in RCW 36.93.090 which are pending July 1, 1967, or actions in counties with populations of less than two hundred ten thousand which are pending on the date of the creation of a boundary review board therein, shall not be affected by the provisions of this chapter. Actions shall be deemed pending on and after the filing of sufficient petitions initiating the same with the appropriate public officer, or the performance of an official act initiating the same. [1991 c 363 § 97; 1967 c 189 § 14.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.93.150 Review of proposed actions—Actions and determinations of board—Disapproval, effect.** The board,

upon review of any proposed action, shall take such of the following actions as it deems necessary to best carry out the intent of this chapter:

(1) Approve the proposal as submitted.

(2) Subject to RCW 35.02.170, modify the proposal by adjusting boundaries to add or delete territory. However, any proposal for annexation of territory to a town shall be subject to RCW 35.21.010 and the board shall not add additional territory, the amount of which is greater than that included in the original proposal. Any modifications shall not interfere with the authority of a city, town, or special purpose district to require or not require preannexation agreements, covenants, or petitions. A board shall not modify the proposed incorporation of a city with an estimated population of seven thousand five hundred or more by removing territory from the proposal, or adding territory to the proposal, that constitutes ten percent or more of the total area included within the proposal before the board. However, a board shall remove territory in the proposed incorporation that is located outside of an urban growth area or is annexed by a city or town, and may remove territory in the proposed incorporation if a petition or resolution proposing the annexation is filed or adopted that has priority over the proposed incorporation, before the area is established that is subject to this ten percent restriction on removing or adding territory. A board shall not modify the proposed incorporation of a city with a population of seven thousand five hundred or more to reduce the territory in such a manner as to reduce the population below seven thousand five hundred.

(3) Determine a division of assets and liabilities between two or more governmental units where relevant.

(4) Determine whether, or the extent to which, functions of a special purpose district are to be assumed by an incorporated city or town, metropolitan municipal corporation, or another existing special purpose district.

(5) Disapprove the proposal except that the board shall not have jurisdiction: (a) To disapprove the dissolution or disincorporation of a special purpose district which is not providing services but shall have jurisdiction over the determination of a division of the assets and liabilities of a dissolved or disincorporated special purpose district; (b) over the division of assets and liabilities of a special purpose district that is dissolved or disincorporated pursuant to chapter 36.96 RCW; nor (c) to disapprove the incorporation of a city with an estimated population of seven thousand five hundred or more, but the board may recommend against the proposed incorporation of a city with such an estimated population.

Unless the board disapproves a proposal, it shall be presented under the appropriate statute for approval of a public body and, if required, a vote of the people. A proposal that has been modified shall be presented under the appropriate statute for approval of a public body and if required, a vote of the people. If a proposal, other than that for a city, town, or special purpose district annexation, after modification does not contain enough signatures of persons within the modified area, as are required by law, then the initiating party, parties or governmental unit has thirty days after the modification decision to secure enough signatures to satisfy the legal requirement. If the signatures cannot be secured then the proposal may be submitted to a vote of the people, as required by law.

The addition or deletion of property by the board shall not invalidate a petition which had previously satisfied the sufficiency of signature provisions of RCW 35.13.130 or 35A.14.120. When the board, after due proceedings held, disapproves a proposed action, such proposed action shall be unavailable, the proposing agency shall be without power to initiate the same or substantially the same as determined by the board, and any succeeding acts intended to or tending to effectuate that action shall be void, but such action may be reinitiated after a period of twelve months from date of disapproval and shall again be subject to the same consideration.

The board shall not modify or deny a proposed action unless there is evidence on the record to support a conclusion that the action is inconsistent with one or more of the objectives under RCW 36.93.180. Every such determination to modify or deny a proposed action shall be made in writing pursuant to a motion, and shall be supported by appropriate written findings and conclusions, based on the record. [1994 c 216 § 15; 1990 c 273 § 1; 1987 c 477 § 7; 1979 ex.s. c 5 § 13; 1975 1st ex.s. c 220 § 10; 1969 ex.s. c 111 § 8; 1967 c 189 § 15.]

**Effective date—1994 c 216:** See note following RCW 35.02.015.

**Severability—1990 c 273:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1990 c 273 § 3.]

**Severability—1979 ex.s. c 5:** See RCW 36.96.920.

**Legislative finding, intent—1975 1st ex.s. c 220:** See note following RCW 35.02.170.

**36.93.153 Review of proposed incorporation in county with boundary review board.** The proposed incorporation of any city or town that includes territory located in a county in which a boundary review board exists shall be reviewed by the boundary review board and action taken as described under RCW 36.93.150. [1994 c 216 § 10.]

**Effective date—1994 c 216:** See note following RCW 35.02.015.

**36.93.155 Annexation approval—Other action not authorized.** Boundary review board approval, or modification and approval, of a proposed annexation by a city, town, or special purpose district shall authorize annexation as approved and shall not authorize any other annexation action. [1989 c 84 § 16.]

**36.93.157 Decisions to be consistent with growth management act.** The decisions of a boundary review board located in a county that is required or chooses to plan under RCW 36.70A.040 must be consistent with RCW 36.70A.020, 36.70A.110, and 36.70A.210. [1992 c 162 § 2.]

**36.93.160 Hearings—Notice—Record—Subpoenas—Decision of board—Appellate review.** (1) When the jurisdiction of the boundary review board has been invoked, the board shall set the date, time and place for a public hearing on the proposal. The board shall give at least thirty days' advance written notice of the date, time and place of the hearing to the governing body of each governmental unit having jurisdiction within the boundaries of the territory

proposed to be annexed, formed, incorporated, disincorporated, dissolved or consolidated, or within the boundaries of a special district whose assets and facilities are proposed to be assumed by a city or town, and to the governing body of each city within three miles of the exterior boundaries of the area and to the proponent of the change. Notice shall also be given by publication in any newspaper of general circulation in the area of the proposed boundary change at least three times, the last publication of which shall be not less than five days prior to the date set for the public hearing. Notice shall also be posted in ten public places in the area affected for five days when the area is ten acres or more. When the area affected is less than ten acres, five notices shall be posted in five public places for five days. Notice as provided in this subsection shall include any territory which the board has determined to consider adding in accordance with RCW 36.93.150(2).

(2) A verbatim record shall be made of all testimony presented at the hearing and upon request and payment of the reasonable costs thereof, a copy of the transcript of the testimony shall be provided to any person or governmental unit.

(3) The chairman upon majority vote of the board or a panel may direct the chief clerk of the boundary review board to issue subpoenas to any public officer to testify, and to compel the production by him of any records, books, documents, public records or public papers.

(4) Within forty days after the conclusion of the final hearing on the proposal, the board shall file its written decision, setting forth the reasons therefor, with the board of county commissioners and the clerk of each governmental unit directly affected. The written decision shall indicate whether the proposed change is approved, rejected or modified and, if modified, the terms of the modification. The written decision need not include specific data on every factor required to be considered by the board, but shall indicate that all standards were given consideration. Dissenting members of the board shall have the right to have their written dissents included as part of the decision.

(5) Unanimous decisions of the hearing panel or a decision of a majority of the members of the board shall constitute the decision of the board and shall not be appealable to the whole board. Any other decision shall be appealable to the entire board within ten days. Appeals shall be on the record, which shall be furnished by the appellant, but the board may, in its sole discretion, permit the introduction of additional evidence and argument. Decisions shall be final and conclusive unless within thirty days from the date of the action a governmental unit affected by the decision or any person owning real property or residing in the area affected by the decision files in the superior court a notice of appeal.

The filing of the notice of appeal within the time limit shall stay the effective date of the decision of the board until such time as the appeal shall have been adjudicated or withdrawn. On appeal the superior court shall not take any evidence other than that contained in the record of the hearing before the board.

(6) The superior court may affirm the decision of the board or remand the case for further proceedings; or it may reverse the decision if any substantial rights may have been

prejudiced because the administrative findings, inferences, conclusions, or decisions are:

- (a) In violation of constitutional provisions, or
- (b) In excess of the statutory authority or jurisdiction of the board, or
- (c) Made upon unlawful procedure, or
- (d) Affected by other error of law, or
- (e) Unsupported by material and substantial evidence in view of the entire record as submitted, or
- (f) Clearly erroneous.

An aggrieved party may seek appellate review of any final judgment of the superior court in the manner provided by law as in other civil cases. [1994 c 216 § 16; 1988 c 202 § 40; 1987 c 477 § 8; 1971 c 81 § 97; 1969 ex.s. c 111 § 9; 1967 c 189 § 16.]

**Effective date—1994 c 216:** See note following RCW 35.02.015.

**Severability—1988 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.24.050.

*General corporate powers—Towns, restrictions as to area:* RCW 35.21.010.

**36.93.170 Factors to be considered by board—Incorporation proceedings exempt from state environmental policy act.** In reaching a decision on a proposal or an alternative, the board shall consider the factors affecting such proposal, which shall include, but not be limited to the following:

(1) Population and territory; population density; land area and land uses; comprehensive plans and zoning, as adopted under chapter 35.63, 35A.63, or 36.70 RCW; per capita assessed valuation; topography, natural boundaries and drainage basins, proximity to other populated areas; the existence and preservation of prime agricultural soils and productive agricultural uses; the likelihood of significant growth in the area and in adjacent incorporated and unincorporated areas during the next ten years; location and most desirable future location of community facilities;

(2) Municipal services; need for municipal services; effect of ordinances, governmental codes, regulations and resolutions on existing uses; present cost and adequacy of governmental services and controls in area; prospects of governmental services from other sources; probable future needs for such services and controls; probable effect of proposal or alternative on cost and adequacy of services and controls in area and adjacent area; the effect on the finances, debt structure, and contractual obligations and rights of all affected governmental units; and

(3) The effect of the proposal or alternative on adjacent areas, on mutual economic and social interests, and on the local governmental structure of the county.

The provisions of chapter 43.21C RCW, State Environmental Policy, shall not apply to incorporation proceedings covered by chapter 35.02 RCW. [1989 c 84 § 5; 1986 c 234 § 33; 1982 c 220 § 2; 1979 ex.s. c 142 § 1; 1967 c 189 § 17.]

**Severability—1982 c 220:** See note following RCW 36.93.100.

*Incorporation proceedings exempt from state environmental policy act:* RCW 43.21C.220.

**36.93.180 Objectives of boundary review board.** The decisions of the boundary review board shall attempt to achieve the following objectives:

(1) Preservation of natural neighborhoods and communities;

(2) Use of physical boundaries, including but not limited to bodies of water, highways, and land contours;

(3) Creation and preservation of logical service areas;

(4) Prevention of abnormally irregular boundaries;

(5) Discouragement of multiple incorporations of small cities and encouragement of incorporation of cities in excess of ten thousand population in heavily populated urban areas;

(6) Dissolution of inactive special purpose districts;

(7) Adjustment of impractical boundaries;

(8) Incorporation as cities or towns or annexation to cities or towns of unincorporated areas which are urban in character; and

(9) Protection of agricultural and rural lands which are designated for long term productive agricultural and resource use by a comprehensive plan adopted by the county legislative authority. [1989 c 84 § 6; 1981 c 332 § 10; 1979 ex.s. c 142 § 2; 1967 c 189 § 18.]

**Severability—1981 c 332:** See note following RCW 35.13.165.

**36.93.185 Objectives of boundary review board—Water, sewer district annexations, mergers—Territory not adjacent to district.** The proposal by a water district or sewer district to annex territory that is not adjacent to the district shall not be deemed to be violative of the objectives of a boundary review board solely due to the fact that the territory is not adjacent to the water district or sewer district. The proposed consolidation or merger of two or more water districts or two or more sewer districts that are not adjacent to each other shall not be deemed to be violative of the objectives of a boundary review board solely due to the fact that the districts are not adjacent. [1989 c 308 § 13.]

**36.93.190 Decision of board not to affect existing franchises, permits, codes, ordinances, etc., for ten years.** For a period of ten years from the date of the final decision, no proceeding, approval, action, or decision on a proposal or an alternative shall be deemed to cancel any franchise or permit theretofore granted by the authorities governing the territory to be annexed, nor shall it be deemed to supersede the application as to any territory to be annexed, of such construction codes and ordinances (including but not limited to fire, electrical, and plumbing codes and ordinances) as shall have been adopted by the authorities governing the territory to be annexed and in force at the time of the decision. [1967 c 189 § 19.]

**36.93.200 Rules and regulations—Adoption procedure.** Each review board shall adopt rules governing the formal and informal procedures prescribed or authorized by this chapter. Such rules may state the qualifications of persons for practice before the board. Such rules shall also include rules of practice before the board, together with forms and instructions.

To assist interested persons dealing with it, each board shall so far as deemed practicable supplement its rules with descriptive statements of its procedures.

Prior to the adoption of any rule authorized by law, or the amendment or repeal thereof, the board shall file notice thereof with the clerk of the court of the county in which the

board is located. So far as practicable, the board shall also publish or otherwise circulate notice of its intended action and afford interested persons opportunity to submit data or views either orally or in writing. Such notice shall include (1) a statement of the time, place, and nature of public rule-making proceedings, (2) reference to the authority under which the rule is proposed, and (3) either the terms or substance of the proposed rule or a description of the subjects and issues involved.

This paragraph shall not apply to interpretative rules, general statements of policy, or rules of internal board organization, procedure or practice. [1967 c 189 § 20.]

**36.93.210 Rules and regulations—Filing—Permanent register.** Each board shall file forthwith with the clerk of the court a certified copy of all rules and regulations adopted. The clerk shall keep a permanent register of such rules open to public inspection. [1967 c 189 § 21.]

**36.93.220 Provisions of prior laws superseded by chapter.** Whenever a review board has been created pursuant to the terms of this chapter, the provisions of law relating to city annexation review boards set forth in chapter 35.13 RCW and the powers granted to the boards of county commissioners to alter boundaries of proposed annexations or incorporations shall not be applicable. [1967 c 189 § 22.]

**36.93.230 Power to disband boundary review board.** When a county and the cities and towns within the county have adopted a comprehensive plan and consistent development regulations pursuant to the provisions of chapter 36.70A RCW, the county may, at the discretion of the county legislative authority, disband the boundary review board in that county. [1991 sp.s. c 32 § 22.]

**Section headings not law—1991 sp.s. c 32:** See RCW 36.70A.902.

**36.93.800 Application of chapter to merged irrigation districts.** This chapter does not apply to the merger of irrigation districts authorized under RCW 87.03.530(2) and 87.03.845 through 87.03.855. [1993 c 235 § 10.]

**36.93.900 Effective date—1967 c 189.** The effective date of this chapter is July 1, 1967. [1967 c 189 § 24.]

**36.93.910 Severability—1967 c 189.** If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1967 c 189 § 23.]

## Chapter 36.94

### SEWERAGE, WATER, AND DRAINAGE SYSTEMS

#### Sections

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- 36.94.010 Definitions.** As used in this chapter:
- (1) A "system of sewerage" means and includes:
- (a) Sanitary sewage disposal sewers and facilities, including without limitation on-site or off-site sanitary sewerage facilities consisting of an approved septic tank or septic tank systems, or any other means of sewage treatment and disposal approved by the county;
- (b) Combined sanitary sewage disposal and storm or surface water drains and facilities;
- (c) Storm or surface water drains, channels, and facilities;
- (d) Outfalls for storm drainage or sanitary sewage and works, plants, and facilities for storm drainage or sanitary sewage treatment and disposal, and rights and interests in property relating to the system;
- (e) Combined water and sewerage systems;
- (f) Any combination of or part of any or all of such facilities.
- (2) A "system of water" means and includes:
- (a) A water distribution system, including dams, reservoirs, aqueducts, plants, pumping stations, transmission and lateral distribution lines and other facilities for distribution of water;
- (b) A combined water and sewerage system;
- (c) Any combination of or any part of any or all of such facilities.
- (3) A "sewerage and/or water general plan" means a general plan for a system of sewerage and/or water for the county which shall be an element of the comprehensive plan established by the county pursuant to RCW 36.70.350(6)

and/or chapter 35.63 RCW, if there is such a comprehensive plan.

(a) A sewerage general plan shall include the general location and description of treatment and disposal facilities, trunk and interceptor sewers, pumping stations, monitoring and control facilities, channels, local service areas and a general description of the collection system to serve those areas, and other facilities as may be required to provide a functional and implementable plan, including preliminary engineering to assure feasibility. The plan may also include a description of the regulations deemed appropriate to carrying out surface drainage plans.

(b) A water general plan shall include the general location and description of water resources to be utilized, wells, treatment facilities, transmission lines, storage reservoirs, pumping stations, and monitoring and control facilities as may be required to provide a functional and implementable plan.

(c) Water and/or sewerage general plans shall include preliminary engineering in adequate detail to assure technical feasibility and, to the extent then known, shall further discuss the methods of distributing the cost and expense of the system and shall indicate the economic feasibility of plan implementation. The plans may also specify local or lateral facilities. The sewerage and/or water general plan does not mean the final engineering construction or financing plans for the system.

(4) "Municipal corporation" means and includes any city, town, metropolitan municipal corporation, any public utility district which operates and maintains a sewer or water system, any sewer, water, diking, or drainage district, any diking, drainage, and sewerage improvement district, and any irrigation district.

(5) A "private utility" means and includes all utilities, both public and private, which provide sewerage and/or water service and which are not municipal corporations within the definition of this chapter. The ownership of a private utility may be in a corporation, nonprofit or for profit, in a cooperative association, in a mutual organization, or in individuals.

(6) "Board" means one or more boards of county commissioners and/or the legislative authority of a home rule charter county. [1981 c 313 § 14; 1979 ex.s. c 30 § 6; 1971 ex.s. c 96 § 1; 1967 c 72 § 1.]

**Severability—1981 c 313:** See note following RCW 36.94.020.

**Construction—1971 ex.s. c 96:** "This 1971 amendatory act shall apply to any existing and future sewerage and/or water plans or amendments thereto and implementations thereof and shall not be deemed to be prospective only." [1971 ex.s. c 96 § 12.]

**Severability—1971 ex.s. c 96:** "If any provision of this 1971 amendatory act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1971 ex.s. c 96 § 13.]

The above two annotations apply to 1971 ex.s. c 96. For codification of that act, see Codification Tables, Volume 0.

**36.94.020 Purpose—Powers.** The construction, operation, and maintenance of a system of sewerage and/or water is a county purpose. Subject to the provisions of this chapter, every county has the power, individually or in conjunction with another county or counties to adopt, provide for, accept, establish, condemn, purchase, construct, add to, and maintain a system or systems of sanitary and

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storm sewers, including outfalls, interceptors, plans, and facilities necessary for sewerage treatment and disposal, and/or system or systems of water supply within all or a portion of the county: **PROVIDED**, That counties shall not have power to condemn sewerage and/or water systems of any municipal corporation or private utility.

Such county or counties shall have the authority to control, regulate, and manage such system or systems and to provide funds therefor by general obligation bonds, revenue bonds, local improvement district bonds, utility local improvement district or local improvement district assessments, and in any other lawful fiscal manner. [1981 c 313 § 1; 1967 c 72 § 2.]

**Severability—1981 c 313:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1981 c 313 § 23.]

**36.94.030 Adoption of sewerage and/or water general plan as element of comprehensive plan.** Whenever the county legislative authority deems it advisable and necessary for the public health and welfare of the inhabitants of the county to establish, purchase, acquire, and construct a system of sewerage and/or water, or make any additions and betterments thereto, or extensions thereof, the board shall adopt a sewerage and/or water general plan for a system of sewerage and/or water for all or a portion of the county as deemed necessary by the board. If the county has adopted a comprehensive plan for a physical development of the county pursuant to chapter 36.70 RCW and/or chapter 35.63 RCW, then the sewerage and/or water general plan shall be adopted as an element of that comprehensive plan pursuant to the applicable statute. [1981 c 313 § 15; 1967 c 72 § 3.]

**Severability—1981 c 313:** See note following RCW 36.94.020.

**36.94.040 Incorporation of provisions of comprehensive plan in general plan.** The sewerage and/or water general plan must incorporate the provisions of existing comprehensive plans relating to sewerage and water systems of cities, towns, municipalities, and private utilities, to the extent they have been implemented. [1990 1st ex.s. c 17 § 33; 1967 c 72 § 4.]

**Severability—Part, section headings not law—1990 1st ex.s. c 17:** See RCW 36.70A.900 and 36.70A.901.

**36.94.050 Review committee—Composition—Submission of plan or amendment to.** Prior to the adoption of or amendment of the sewerage and/or water general plan, the county legislative authority (or authorities) shall submit the plan or amendment to a review committee. The review committee shall consist of:

(1) A representative of each city with a population of ten thousand or more within or adjoining the area selected by the mayor thereof (if there are no such cities within the plan area, then one representative chosen by the mayor of the city with the largest population within the plan area);

(2) One representative chosen at large by a majority vote of the executive officers of the other cities or towns within or adjoining the area;

(3) A representative chosen by the executive officer or the chair of the board, as the case may be, of each of the

other municipal corporations and private utilities serving one thousand or more sewer and/or water customers located within the area;

(4) One representative chosen at large by a majority vote of the executive officers and chairs of the boards, as the case may be, of the other remaining municipal corporations within the area;

(5) A representative of each county legislative authority within the planned area, selected by the chair of each board or county executive, as the case may be; and

(6) In counties where there is a metropolitan municipal corporation operating a sewerage and/or water system in the area, the chair of its council or such person as the chair designates.

If the legislative authority rejects the plan pursuant to RCW 36.94.090, the review committee shall be deemed to be dissolved; otherwise the review committee shall continue in existence to review amendments to the plan. Vacancies on the committee shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment to that position.

Instead of a review committee for each plan area, the county legislative authority or authorities may create a review committee for the entire county or counties, and the review committee shall continue in existence until dissolved by the county legislative authority or authorities. [1994 c 81 § 74; 1981 c 313 § 16; 1971 ex.s. c 96 § 2; 1967 c 72 § 5.]

**Severability—1981 c 313:** See note following RCW 36.94.020.

**Construction—Severability—1971 ex.s. c 96:** See notes following RCW 36.94.010.

**36.94.060 Review committee—Chairman, secretary—Rules—Quorum—Compensation of members.** The members of each review committee shall elect from its members a chairman and a secretary. The committee shall determine its own rules and order of business and shall provide by resolution for the time and manner of its proceedings which shall be a public record. A majority of all the members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Each member of the committee shall be compensated from the county current expense fund at the rate of twenty-five dollars per day, or a major portion thereof, for time actually devoted to the work of the committee in reviewing any proposed sewerage and/or water general plan or amendments to a plan. Each board of county commissioners shall provide such funds as shall be necessary to pay the compensation of the members and such other expenses as shall be reasonably necessary. Such payments shall be reimbursed to the counties advancing the funds from moneys acquired from the construction or operation of a sewerage and/or water system. [1971 ex.s. c 96 § 3; 1967 c 72 § 6.]

**Construction—Severability—1971 ex.s. c 96:** See notes following RCW 36.94.010.

**36.94.070 Review committee—Review of plan or amendments thereto—Report.** The committee shall review the sewerage and/or water general plan or amendments thereto and shall report to the board or boards of county commissioners within ninety days their approval or any suggested amendments, deletions, or additions. If the committee shall fail to report within the time, the plan or

amendments thereto shall be deemed approved. If the committee submits a report, the board shall consider and review the committee's report and may adopt any recommendations suggested therein. [1971 ex.s. c 96 § 4; 1967 c 72 § 7.]

**Construction—Severability—1971 ex.s. c 96:** See notes following RCW 36.94.010.

**36.94.080 Hearing by board—Notice—Filing general plan.** Before final action thereon the board shall conduct a public hearing on the plan after ten days published notice of hearing is given pursuant to RCW 36.32.120(7). The notice must set out the full official title of the proposed resolution adopting the plan and a statement describing the general intent and purpose of the plan. The notice shall also include the day, hour and place of hearing and must be given by publication in the newspaper in which legal notices of the county are printed. Ten days prior to the hearing, three copies of the sewerage and/or water general plan shall be filed with the clerk of the board. The copies shall be open to public inspection. [1967 c 72 § 8.]

**36.94.090 Adoption, amendment or rejection of plan.** At the hearing, the board may adopt the plan, or amend and adopt the plan, or reject any part or all of the plan. [1967 c 72 § 9.]

**36.94.100 Submission of plan or amendments thereto to certain state departments—Approval.** Prior to the commencement of actual work on any plan or amendment thereto approved by the board, it must be submitted for written approval to the Washington department of social and health services and to the Washington department of ecology. [1971 ex.s. c 96 § 5; 1967 c 72 § 10.]

**Construction—Severability—1971 ex.s. c 96:** See notes following RCW 36.94.010.

**36.94.110 Adherence to plan—Procedure for amendment.** After adoption of the sewerage and/or water general plan, all municipal corporations and private utilities within the plan area shall abide by and adhere to the plan for the future development of their systems. Whenever the governing authority of any county or counties or any municipal corporation deems it to be for the public interest to amend the sewerage and/or water general plan for such county or counties, notice shall be filed with the board or boards of county commissioners. Upon such notice, the board or boards shall initiate consideration of any amendment requested relating to the plan and proceed as provided in this chapter for the adoption of an original plan. [1967 c 72 § 11.]

**36.94.120 Establishment of department for administration of system—Personnel merit system.** The board shall establish a department in county government for the purpose of establishing, operating and maintaining the system or systems of sewerage and/or water. In the department, the board shall establish and provide for the operation and maintenance of a personnel merit system for the employment, classification, promotion, demotion, suspension, transfer, layoff and discharge of its appointive officers and

employees, solely on the basis of merit and fitness, without regard to political influence or affiliation. Such merit system shall not apply to the chief administrative officer of the department and, if the sewer and/or water utility is a division of a department having other functions, the chief administrative officer of such utility. [1971 ex.s. c 96 § 6; 1967 c 72 § 12.]

**Construction—Severability—1971 ex.s. c 96:** See notes following RCW 36.94.010.

**36.94.130 Adoption of rules and regulations.** The board of county commissioners may adopt by resolution reasonable rules and regulations governing the construction, maintenance, operation, use, connection and service of the system of sewerage and/or water. [1967 c 72 § 13.]

**36.94.140 Authority of county to operate system—Rates and charges, fixing of—Factors to be considered.** Every county, in the operation of a system of sewerage and/or water, shall have full jurisdiction and authority to manage, regulate and control it and to fix, alter, regulate and control the rates and charges for the service to those to whom such county service is available, and to levy charges for connection to such system. The rates for availability of service and connection charges so charged must be uniform for the same class of customers or service.

In classifying customers served, service furnished or made available by such system of sewerage and/or water, or the connection charges, the board may consider any or all of the following factors:

- (1) The difference in cost of service to the various customers within or without the area;
- (2) The difference in cost of maintenance, operation, repair and replacement of the various parts of the systems;
- (3) The different character of the service furnished various customers;
- (4) The quantity and quality of the sewage and/or water delivered and the time of its delivery;
- (5) Capital contributions made to the system or systems, including, but not limited to, assessments;
- (6) The cost of acquiring the system or portions of the system in making system improvements necessary for the public health and safety; and
- (7) Any other matters which present a reasonable difference as a ground for distinction.

Such rates shall produce revenues sufficient to take care of the costs of maintenance and operation, revenue bond and warrant interest and principal amortization requirements, and all other charges necessary for the efficient and proper operation of the system. [1990 c 133 § 2; 1975 1st ex.s. c 188 § 2; 1967 c 72 § 14.]

**Findings—1990 c 133:** "The legislature finds the best interests of the citizens of the state are served if:

- (1) Customers served by public water systems are assured of an adequate quantity and quality of water supply at reasonable rates;
- (2) There is improved coordination between state agencies engaged in water system planning and public health regulation and local governments responsible for land use regulation and public health and safety;
- (3) Public water systems in violation of health and safety standards adopted under RCW 43.20.050 remain in operation and continue providing water service providing that public health is not compromised, assuming a suitable replacement purveyor is found and deficiencies are corrected in an expeditious manner consistent with public health and safety; and

(4) The state address[es], in a systematic and comprehensive fashion, new operating requirements which will be imposed on public water systems under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act." [1990 c 133 § 1.]

**Severability—1990 c 133:** "If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected." [1990 c 133 § 12.]

**Severability—1975 1st ex.s. c 188:** See RCW 36.94.921.

**36.94.145 Public property subject to rates and charges for storm water control facilities.** Except as otherwise provided in RCW 90.03.525, any public entity and public property, including the state of Washington and state property, shall be subject to rates and charges for storm water control facilities to the same extent private persons and private property are subject to such rates and charges that are imposed by counties pursuant to RCW 36.94.140. In setting these rates and charges, consideration may be made of in-kind services, such as stream improvements or donation of property. [1986 c 278 § 58; 1983 c 315 § 4.]

**Severability—1986 c 278:** See note following RCW 36.01.010.

**Severability—1983 c 315:** See note following RCW 90.03.500.

*Flood control zone districts—Storm water control improvements: Chapter 86.15 RCW.*

*Rates and charges for storm water control facilities—Limitations—Definitions: RCW 90.03.500 through 90.03.525. See also RCW 35.67.025, 35.92.021, 36.89.085, and 56.08.012.*

**36.94.150 Lien for delinquent charges.** All counties operating a system of sewerage and/or water shall have a lien for delinquent connection charges and charges for the availability of sewerage and/or water service, together with interest fixed by resolution at eight percent per annum from the date due until paid. Penalties of not more than ten percent of the amount due may be imposed in case of failure to pay the charges at times fixed by resolution. The lien shall be for all charges, interest, and penalties and shall attach to the premises to which the services were available. The lien shall be superior to all other liens and encumbrances, except general taxes and local and special assessments of the county.

The county department established in RCW 36.94.120 shall certify periodically the delinquencies to the treasurer of the county at which time the lien shall attach.

Upon the expiration of sixty days after the attachment of the lien, the county may bring suit in foreclosure by civil action in the superior court of the county where the property is located. In addition to the costs and disbursements provided by statute, the court may allow the county a reasonable attorney's fee. The lien shall be foreclosed in the same manner as the foreclosure of real property tax liens. [1975 1st ex.s. c 188 § 3; 1967 c 72 § 15.]

**Severability—1975 1st ex.s. c 188:** See RCW 36.94.921.

**36.94.160 Tax on gross revenues authorized.** The county shall have the power to levy a tax on the system of sewerage and/or water operated by the county or counties as authorized by this chapter, not to exceed eight percent per annum, on the gross revenues, to be paid to the county's general fund for payment of all costs of planning, financing, construction and operation of the system. [1967 c 72 § 16.]

**36.94.170 Authority of municipal corporations—Relinquishment of.** The primary authority to construct, operate and maintain a system of sewerage and/or water within the boundaries of a municipal corporation which lies within the area of the county's sewerage and/or water general plan shall remain with such municipal corporation. A county, after it has adopted and received the necessary approvals of its sewer and/or water general plan under the provisions of chapter 36.94 RCW may construct, own, operate and maintain a system of sewerage and/or water within the boundaries of a city or town with the written consent of such city or town and within any other municipal corporation provided such municipal corporation (1) has the legislative authority to operate such a utility; and (2)(a) has given its written consent to the county to operate therein; or (b) after adoption of a comprehensive plan or an amendment thereto for the area involved, the municipal corporation has not within twelve months after receiving notice by the county of its intention to serve that area held a formation hearing for a utility local improvement district.

Prior to exercising any authority granted in this section, the county shall compensate such municipal corporation for its reasonable costs, expenses and obligations actually incurred or contracted which are directly related to and which benefit the area which the county proposes to serve. The county may contract with a municipal corporation to furnish such utility service within any municipal corporation.

Except in the case of annexations provided for in RCW 36.94.180, once a county qualifies under this section to serve within a municipal corporation, no municipal corporation may construct or operate a competing utility in the same territory to be served by the county if the county proceeds within a reasonable period of time with the construction of its proposed facilities including the sale of any bonds to finance the same.

As may be permitted by other statutes, a city or town may provide water or sewer service outside of its corporate limits, but such service may not conflict with the county plan or any county, sewer or water facilities installed or being installed.

A county proposing to exercise any authority granted in this section shall give written notice of such intention to the municipal corporation involved and to the boundary review board, if any, of such county. Within sixty days of the filing of such notice of intention, review by the boundary review board of the proposed action may be requested as provided by the provisions of RCW 36.93.100 through 36.93.180. In the event of such review, the board shall consider the factors set forth in this section in addition to the factors and objectives set forth in RCW 36.93.170 and 36.93.180. [1971 ex.s. c 96 § 7; 1967 c 72 § 17.]

**Construction—Severability—1971 ex.s. c 96:** See notes following RCW 36.94.010.

**36.94.180 Transfer of system upon annexation or incorporation of area.** In the event of the annexation to a city or town of an area, or incorporation of an area, in which a county is operating a sewerage and/or water system, the property, facilities, and equipment of such sewerage and/or water system lying within the annexed or incorporated area may be transferred to the city or town if such transfer will not materially affect the operation of any of the remaining

county system, subject to the assumption by the city or town of the county's obligations relating to such property, facilities, and equipment, under the procedures specified in, and pursuant to the authority contained in, chapter 35.13A RCW. [1986 c 234 § 34; 1983 c 3 § 82; 1971 ex.s. c 96 § 8; 1967 c 72 § 18.]

**Construction—Severability—1971 ex.s. c 96:** See notes following RCW 36.94.010.

**36.94.190 Contracts with other entities.** Every county in furtherance of the powers granted by this chapter shall be authorized to contract with the federal government, the state of Washington, or any city or town, within or without the county, and with any other county, and with any municipal corporation as defined herein or with any other municipal corporation created under the laws of the state of Washington and not limited as defined in RCW 36.94.010, or political subdivision, and with any person, firm or corporation in and for the establishment, maintenance and operation of all or a portion of a system or systems of sewerage and/or water supply.

The state and such city, town, person, firm, corporation, municipal corporation and any other municipal corporation created under the laws of the state of Washington and not limited as defined in RCW 36.94.010, and political subdivision, is authorized to contract with a county or counties for such purposes. [1967 c 72 § 19.]

**36.94.200 Indebtedness—Bonds.** The legislative authority of any county is hereby authorized for the purpose of carrying out the lawful powers granted by this chapter to contract indebtedness and to issue and sell general obligation bonds pursuant to and in the manner provided for general county bonds in chapters 36.67 and 39.46 RCW and other applicable statutes; and to issue revenue bonds pursuant to and in the manner provided for revenue bonds in chapter 36.67 RCW and other applicable statutes. The county legislative authority may also issue local improvement district bonds in the manner provided for cities and towns. [1984 c 186 § 35; 1983 c 167 § 101; 1981 c 313 § 2; 1967 c 72 § 20.]

**Purpose—1984 c 186:** See note following RCW 39.46.110.

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**Severability—1981 c 313:** See note following RCW 36.94.020.

**36.94.210 Pledge for payment of principal and interest on revenue or general obligation bonds.** The board of county commissioners of any county in adopting and establishing a system of sewerage and/or water may set aside into a special fund and pledge to the payment of the principal and interest due on any county revenue bonds or general obligation bonds any sums or amounts which may accrue from the collection of rates and charges for the private and public use of the system or systems. [1975 1st ex.s. c 188 § 4; 1967 c 72 § 21.]

**Severability—1975 1st ex.s. c 188:** See RCW 36.94.921.

**36.94.220 Local improvement districts and utility local improvement districts—Establishment—Special assessments.** (1) A county shall have the power to establish

utility local improvement districts and local improvement districts within the area of a sewerage and/or water general plan and to levy special assessments under a mode of annual installments extending over a period not exceeding twenty years on all property specially benefited by any local improvement on the basis of the special benefits to pay in whole or in part the damages or costs of any improvements ordered in such county.

(2) Utility local improvement districts and local improvement districts may include territory within a city or town only with the written consent of the city or town, but if the local district is formed before such area is included within the city or town, no such consent shall be necessary. Utility local improvement districts and local improvement districts used to provide sewerage disposal systems may include territory within a sewer district or within a water district providing sewerage disposal systems only with the written consent of the sewer district or such a water district, but if the local district is formed before such area is included within the sewer district or such a water district, no consent is necessary. Utility local improvement districts and local improvement districts used to provide water systems may include territory within a water district or within a sewer district providing water systems only with the written consent of the water district or such a sewer district, but if the local district is formed before such area is included within the water district or such a sewer district, no consent is necessary.

(3) The levying, collection, and enforcement of all public assessments hereby authorized shall be in the manner now and hereafter provided by law for the levying, collection, and enforcement of local improvement assessments by cities and towns, insofar as the same shall not be inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter. In addition, the county shall file the preliminary assessment roll at the time and in the manner prescribed in RCW 35.50.005. The duties devolving upon the city treasurer under such laws are imposed upon the county treasurer for the purposes of this chapter. The mode of assessment shall be in the manner to be determined by the county legislative authority by ordinance or resolution. As an alternative to equal annual assessment installments of principal provided for cities and towns, a county legislative authority may provide for the payment of such assessments in equal annual installments of principal and interest. Assessments in any local district may be made on the basis of special benefits up to but not in excess of the total cost of any sewerage and/or water improvement made with respect to that local district and the share of any general sewerage and/or water facilities allocable to that district. In utility local improvement districts, assessments shall be deposited into the revenue bond fund or general obligation bond fund established for the payment of bonds issued to pay such costs which bond payments are secured in part by the pledge of assessments, except pending the issuance and sale of such bonds, assessments may be deposited in a fund for the payment of such costs. In local improvement districts, assessments shall be deposited into a fund for the payment of such costs and local improvement bonds issued to finance the same or into the local improvement guaranty fund as provided by applicable statute. [1981 c 313 § 3; 1975 1st ex.s. c 188 § 5; 1971 ex.s. c 96 § 9; 1967 c 72 § 22.]

**Severability—1981 c 313:** See note following RCW 36.94.020.

**Severability—1975 1st ex.s. c 188:** See RCW 36.94.921.

**Construction—Severability—1971 ex.s. c 96:** See notes following RCW 36.94.010.

*Local improvements, supplemental authority: Chapter 35.51 RCW.*

**36.94.225 Exemption of farm and agricultural land from special benefit assessments.** See RCW 84.34.300 through 84.34.380 and 84.34.922.

**36.94.230 Local improvement districts and utility local improvement districts—Initiation of district by resolution or petition—Publication—Notice to property owners—Contents.** Utility local improvement districts and local improvement districts to carry out all or any portion of the general plan, or additions and betterments thereof, may be initiated either by resolution of the county legislative authority or by petition signed by the owners according to the records of the office of the county auditor of at least fifty-one percent of the area of land within the limits of the local district to be created.

In case the county legislative authority desires to initiate the formation of a local district by resolution, it shall first pass a resolution declaring its intention to order such improvement, setting forth the nature and territorial extent of such proposed improvement, designating the number of the proposed local district, describing the boundaries thereof, stating the estimated cost and expense of the improvement and the proportionate amount thereof which will be borne by the property within the proposed district, and fixing a date, time, and place for a public hearing on the formation of the proposed local district.

In case any such local district is initiated by petition, such petition shall set forth the nature and territorial extent of such proposed improvement and the fact that the signers thereof are the owners according to the records of the county auditor of at least fifty-one percent of the area of land within the limits of the local district to be created. Upon the filing of such petition with the clerk of the county legislative authority, the authority shall determine whether the same is sufficient, and the authority's determination thereof shall be conclusive upon all persons. No person may withdraw his name from said petition after the filing thereof with the clerk of the county legislative authority. If the county legislative authority finds the petition to be sufficient, it shall proceed to adopt a resolution declaring its intention to order the improvement petitioned for, setting forth the nature and territorial extent of said improvement, designating the number of the proposed local district, describing the boundaries thereof, stating the estimated cost and expense of the improvement and the proportionate amount thereof which will be borne by the property within the proposed local district, and fixing a date, time, and place for a public hearing on the formation of the proposed local district.

Notice of the adoption of the resolution of intention, whether adopted on the initiative of the board or pursuant to a petition of the property owners, shall be published in at least two consecutive issues of a newspaper of general circulation in the proposed local district, the date of the first publication to be at least fifteen days prior to the date fixed by such resolution for hearing before the county legislative

authority. Notice of the adoption of the resolution of intention shall also be given each owner or reputed owner of any lot, tract, parcel of land, or other property within the proposed local district by mailing said notice at least fifteen days before the date fixed for the public hearing to the owner or reputed owner of the property as shown on the tax rolls of the county treasurer at the address shown thereon. The notice shall refer to the resolution of intention and designate the proposed local district by number. Said notice shall also set forth the nature of the proposed improvement, the total estimated cost, the proportion of total cost to be borne by assessments, the estimated amount of the cost and expense of such improvement to be borne by the particular lot, tract, or parcel, the date, time, and place of the hearing before the county legislative authority; and in the case of improvements initiated by resolution, said notice shall also state that all persons desiring to object to the formation of the proposed district must file their written protests with the clerk of the county legislative authority before the time fixed for said public hearing. [1981 c 313 § 4; 1971 ex.s. c 96 § 10; 1967 c 72 § 23.]

**Severability—1981 c 313:** See note following RCW 36.94.020.

**Construction—Severability—1971 ex.s. c 96:** See notes following RCW 36.94.010.

**36.94.232 Local improvement districts and utility local improvement districts—Notice must contain statement that assessments may vary from estimates.** Any notice given to the public or to the owners of specific lots, tracts, or parcels of land relating to the formation of a local improvement district or utility local improvement district shall contain a statement that actual assessments may vary from assessment estimates so long as they do not exceed a figure equal to the increased true and fair value the improvement adds to the property. [1989 c 243 § 6.]

**36.94.235 Local improvement districts and utility local improvement districts—Sanitary sewer or potable water facilities—Notice to certain property owners.** Whenever it is proposed that a local improvement district or utility local improvement district finance sanitary sewers or potable water facilities, additional notice of the public hearing on the proposed improvement district shall be mailed to the owners of any property located outside of the proposed improvement district that would be required as a condition of federal housing administration loan qualification, at the time of notice, to be connected to the specific sewer or water facilities installed by the local improvement district. The notice shall include information about this restriction. [1987 c 315 § 3.]

**36.94.240 Local improvement districts and utility local improvement districts—Hearing—Improvement ordered—Divestment of power to order, time limitation—Assessment roll.** Whether the improvement is initiated by petition or resolution, the county legislative authority shall conduct a public hearing at the time and place designated in the notice to the property owners. At this hearing the authority shall hear objections from any person affected by the formation of the local district and may make such changes in the boundaries of the district or such modifica-

tions in plans for the proposed improvement as are deemed necessary: PROVIDED, That the authority may not change the boundaries of the district to include property not previously included therein without first passing a new resolution of intention and giving a new notice to property owners in the manner and form and within the time herein provided for the original notice.

After said hearing the county legislative authority has jurisdiction to overrule protests and proceed with any such improvement initiated by petition or resolution: PROVIDED, That the jurisdiction of the authority to proceed with any improvement initiated by resolution shall be divested by protests filed with the clerk of the authority prior to said public hearing signed by the owners, according to the records of the county auditor, of at least forty percent of the area of land within the proposed local district. No action whatsoever may be maintained challenging the jurisdiction or authority of the county to proceed with the improvement and creating the local district or in any way challenging the validity thereof or any proceedings relating thereto unless that action is served and filed no later than thirty days after the date of passage of the resolution ordering the improvement and creating the local district.

If the county legislative authority finds that the district should be formed, it shall by resolution order the improvement, adopt detailed plans of the local district and declare the estimated cost thereof, acquire all necessary land therefor, pay all damages caused thereby, and commence in the name of the county such eminent domain proceedings and supplemental assessment or reassessment proceedings to pay all eminent domain awards as may be necessary to entitle the county to proceed with the work. The county legislative authority shall proceed with the work and file with the county treasurer its roll levying special assessments in the amount to be paid by special assessment against the property situated within the local district in proportion to the special benefits to be derived by the property therein from the improvement. [1981 c 313 § 5; 1971 ex.s. c 96 § 11; 1967 c 72 § 24.]

**Severability—1981 c 313:** See note following RCW 36.94.020.

**Construction—Severability—1971 ex.s. c 96:** See notes following RCW 36.94.010.

**36.94.250 Local improvement districts and utility local improvement districts—Notice of filing roll—Hearing on protests.** Before the approval of the roll a notice shall be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the local district, stating that the roll is on file and open to inspection in the office of the county legislative authority, and fixing the time, not less than fifteen or more than forty-five days from the date of the first publication of the notice, within which protests must be filed with the clerk against any assessments shown thereon, and fixing a time when a hearing will be held on the protests. The hearing shall be held before the county legislative authority, or the county legislative authority may direct that the hearing shall be held before either a committee of the legislative authority or a designated officer. The notice shall also be given by mailing at least fifteen days before the hearing, a similar notice to the owners or reputed owners of the land in the local district



as they appear on the books of the treasurer of the county. [1981 c 313 § 17; 1967 c 72 § 25.]

**Severability—1981 c 313:** See note following RCW 36.94.020.

**36.94.260 Local improvement districts and utility local improvement districts—Hearing on protests—Order—Appeal.** (1) At such hearing on a protest to an assessment, or any adjournment thereof, the county legislative authority or committee or officer shall sit as a board of equalization. If the protest is heard by the county legislative authority, it shall have power to correct, revise, raise, lower, change, or modify such roll, or any part thereof, and to set aside such roll, and order that such assessment be made de novo, as shall appear equitable and just. If the protest is heard by a committee or officer, the committee or officer shall make recommendations to the county legislative authority which shall either adopt or reject the recommendations of the committee or officer. If a hearing is held before such a committee or officer, it shall not be necessary to hold a hearing on the assessment roll before such legislative authority: **PROVIDED**, That any county providing for an officer to hear such protests shall adopt an ordinance providing for an appeal from a decision made by the officer that any person protesting his or her assessment may make to the legislative authority. The county legislative authority shall, in all instances, approve the assessment roll by ordinance or resolution.

(2) In the event of any assessment being raised a new notice similar to such first notice shall be given, after which final approval of such roll may be made by the county legislative authority or committee or officer. Whenever any property has been entered originally upon such roll and the assessment upon any such property shall not be raised, no objection thereto may be considered by the county legislative authority or committee or officer or by any court on appeal unless such objection be made in writing at, or prior, to the date fixed for the original hearing upon such roll. [1981 c 313 § 18; 1967 c 72 § 26.]

**Severability—1981 c 313:** See note following RCW 36.94.020.

**36.94.270 Local improvement districts and utility local improvement districts—Enlarged local district may be formed.** If any portion of the system after its installation in such local district is not adequate for the purpose for which it was intended, or that for any reason changes, alterations, or betterments are necessary in any portion of the system after its installation, then such district, with boundaries which may include one or more existing local districts, may be created in the same manner as is provided herein for the creation of local districts. Upon the organization of such local district as provided for in this section the plan of the improvement and the payment of the cost of the improvement shall be carried out in the same manner as is provided herein for the carrying out of and the paying for the improvement in the utility local improvement districts or local improvement districts previously provided for in this chapter. [1981 c 313 § 6; 1967 c 72 § 27.]

**Severability—1981 c 313:** See note following RCW 36.94.020.

**36.94.280 Local improvement districts and utility local improvement districts—Conclusiveness of roll when**

**approved—Adjustments to assessments if other funds become available.** Whenever any assessment roll for local improvements has been confirmed by the county legislative authority, the regularity, validity and correctness of the proceedings relating to the improvement and to the assessment therefor, including the action of the county legislative authority upon the assessment roll and the confirmation thereof, shall be conclusive in all things upon all parties, and cannot in any manner be contested or questioned in any proceeding by any person not filing written objections to the assessment roll in the manner and within the time provided in this chapter, and not appealing from the action of the county legislative authority in confirming the assessment roll in the manner and within the time in this chapter provided. No proceedings of any kind shall be commenced or prosecuted for the purpose of defeating or contesting any assessment, or the sale of any property to pay an assessment, or any certificate of delinquency issued therefor, or the foreclosure of any lien issued therefor: **PROVIDED**, That this section shall not be construed as prohibiting the bringing of injunction proceedings to prevent the sale of any real estate upon the grounds:

(1) That the property about to be sold does not appear upon the assessment roll, or

(2) That the assessment has been paid.

If federal, local, or state funds become available for a local improvement after the assessment roll has been confirmed by the county legislative authority, the funds may be used to lower the assessments on a uniform basis. Any adjustments to the assessments because of the availability of federal or state funds may be made on the next annual payment. [1985 c 397 § 10; 1967 c 72 § 28.]

**Severability—1985 c 397:** See RCW 35.51.901.

**36.94.290 Local improvement districts and utility local improvement districts—Appellate review.** The decision of the board of county commissioners upon any objections made within the time and in the manner herein prescribed, may be reviewed by the superior court upon an appeal thereto taken in the following manner. Such appeal shall be made by filing written notice of appeal with the clerk of the board of county commissioners and with the clerk of the superior court within ten days after the resolution confirming such assessment roll shall have become published, and such notice shall describe the property and set forth the objections of such appellant to such assessment. Within the ten days from the filing of such notice of appeal with the clerk of the superior court, the appellant shall file with the clerk of said court, a transcript consisting of the assessment roll and his objections thereto, together with the resolution confirming such assessment roll and the record of the board of county commissioners with reference to said assessment, which transcript, upon payment of the necessary fees therefor, shall be furnished by such clerk of the board of county commissioners and by him certified to contain full, true and correct copies of all matters and proceedings required to be included in such transcript. Such fees shall be the same as the fees payable to the county clerk for the preparation and certification of transcripts on appeal to the supreme court or the court of appeals in civil actions. At the time of the filing of the notice of appeal with the clerk of

the superior court a sufficient bond in the penal sum of two hundred dollars, with sureties thereon as provided by law for appeals in civil cases, shall be filed conditioned to prosecute such appeal without delay, and if unsuccessful, to pay all costs to which the county is put by reason of such appeal. The court may order the appellant upon application therefor, to execute and file such additional bond or bonds as the necessity of the case may require. Within three days after such transcript is filed in the superior court, as aforesaid, the appellant shall give written notice to the clerk of the board of county commissioners that such transcript is filed. Said notice shall state a time, not less than three days from the service thereof, when the appellant will call up the said cause for hearing. The superior court shall, at said time or at such further time as may be fixed by order of the court, hear and determine such appeal without a jury, and such cause shall have preference over all civil causes pending in said court, except proceedings under an act relating to eminent domain in such county and actions of forcible entry and detainer. The judgment of the court shall confirm, correct, modify or annul the assessment insofar as the same affects the property of the appellant. A certified copy of the decision of the court shall be filed with the officer who shall have the custody of the assessment roll, and he shall modify and correct such assessment roll in accordance with such decision. Appellate review of the judgment of the superior court may be sought as in other cases. However, review must be sought within fifteen days after the date of the entry of the judgment of such superior court. The supreme court or the court of appeals on such appeal may correct, change, modify, confirm or annul the assessment insofar as the same affects the property of the appellant. A certified copy of the order of the supreme court or the court of appeals upon such appeal shall be filed with the officer having custody of such assessment roll, who shall thereupon modify and correct such assessment roll in accordance with such decision. [1988 c 202 § 41; 1971 c 81 § 98; 1967 c 72 § 29.]

*Rules of court:* Cf. RAP 18.22.

**Severability—1988 c 202:** See note following RCW 2.24.050.

**36.94.300 Local improvement districts and utility local improvement districts—Segregation of special assessment—Fee—Costs.** Whenever any land against which there has been levied any special assessment by a county shall have been sold in part or subdivided, the board of county commissioners of such county shall have the power to order a segregation of the assessment.

Any person desiring to have such a special assessment against a tract of land segregated to apply to smaller parts thereof shall apply to the board of county commissioners which levied the assessment. If the board determines that a segregation should be made, they shall by resolution order the county treasurer to make segregation on the original assessment roll as directed in the resolution. The segregation shall be made as nearly as possible on the same basis as the original assessment was levied, and the total of the segregated parts of the assessment shall equal the assessment before segregation. The resolution shall describe the original tract, the amount and date of the original assessment, and shall define the boundaries of the divided parts and the amount of the assessment chargeable to each part. A

certified copy of the resolution shall be delivered to the county treasurer who shall proceed to make the segregation ordered upon being tendered a fee of three dollars for each tract of land for which a segregation is to be made. In addition to such charge the board of county commissioners may require as a condition to the order of segregation that the person seeking it pay the county the reasonable engineering and clerical costs incident to making the segregation. [1967 c 72 § 30.]

**36.94.305 Service fees for sewers not constructed within ten years after voter approval—Credit against future assessments, service charges.** See RCW 35.43.260.

**36.94.310 Transfer of system from municipal corporation to county—Authorized.** Subject to the provisions of RCW 36.94.310 through 36.94.350 a municipal corporation may transfer to the county within which all of its territory lies, all or part of the property constituting its system of sewerage, system of water or combined water and sewerage system, together with any of its other real or personal property used or useful in connection with the operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, extension, or financing of that system, and the county may acquire such property on such terms as may be mutually agreed upon by the governing body of the municipal corporation and the legislative authority of the county, and approved by the superior court for such county. [1975 1st ex.s. c 188 § 7.]

**Severability—1975 1st ex.s. c 188:** See RCW 36.94.921.

**36.94.320 Transfer of system from municipal corporation to county—Assumption of indebtedness.** In consideration of a transfer of property by a municipal corporation to a county in the manner provided in RCW 36.94.310 through 36.94.350, a county may assume and agree to pay or provide for the payment of all or part of the indebtedness of a municipal corporation including the payment and retirement of outstanding general obligation and revenue bonds issued by a municipal corporation. Until the indebtedness of a municipal corporation thus assumed by a county has been discharged, all property within the municipal corporation and the owners and occupants of that property, shall continue to be liable for taxes, special assessments, and other charges legally pledged to pay such indebtedness. The county may assume the obligation of causing the payment of such indebtedness, collecting such taxes, assessments, and charges and observing and performing the other contractual obligations of the municipal corporation. The legislative authority of the county may act in the same manner as the governing body of the municipal corporation for the purpose of certifying the amount of any property tax to be levied and collected therein, and may cause service and other charges and assessments to be collected from such property or owners or occupants thereof, enforce such collection and perform all other acts necessary to insure performance of the contractual obligations of the municipal corporation in the same manner and by the same means as if the property of the municipal corporation had not been acquired by the county.

When a county assumes the obligation of paying indebtedness of a municipal corporation and if property taxes

or assessments have been levied and service and other charges have accrued for such purpose but have not been collected by the municipal corporation prior to such assumption, the same when collected shall belong and be paid to the county and be used by such county so far as necessary for payment of the indebtedness of the municipal corporation existing and unpaid on the date such county assumed that indebtedness. Any funds received by the county which have been collected for the purpose of paying any bonded or other indebtedness of the municipal corporation shall be used for the purpose for which they were collected and for no other purpose until such indebtedness has been paid and retired or adequate provision has been made for such payment and retirement. No transfer of property as provided in \*this amendatory act shall derogate from the claims or rights of the creditors of the municipal corporation or impair the ability of the municipal corporation to respond to its debts and obligations. [1975 1st ex.s. c 188 § 8.]

\*Reviser's note: "this amendatory act" [1975 1st ex.s. c 188] consists of RCW 36.94.310 through 36.94.360, 36.94.921, 57.06.140 through 57.06.170, and amendments to RCW 36.67.060, 36.94.140, 36.94.150, 36.94.210, 36.94.220, 39.44.020, and 57.12.020.

Severability—1975 1st ex.s. c 188: See RCW 36.94.921.

**36.94.330 Transfer of system from municipal corporation to county—Transfer agreement.** The governing body of a municipal corporation proposing to transfer all or part of its property to a county in the manner provided by RCW 36.94.310 through 36.94.350 and the legislative authority of a county proposing to accept such property, and to assume if it so agrees any indebtedness of the municipal corporation in consideration of such transfer, shall adopt resolutions or ordinances authorizing respectively the execution of a written agreement setting forth the terms and conditions upon which they have agreed and finding the transfer and acquisition of property pursuant to such agreement to be in the public interest and conducive to the public health, safety, welfare, or convenience. Such written agreement may include provisions, by way of description and not by way of limitation, for the rights, powers, duties, and obligations of such municipal corporation and county with regard to the use and ownership of property, the providing of services, the maintenance and operation of facilities, the allocation of costs, the financing and construction of new facilities, the application and use of assets, the disposition of liabilities and indebtedness, the performance of contractual obligations, and any other matters relating to the proposed transfer of property, which may be preceded by an interim period of operation by the county of the property and facilities subsequently to be transferred to that county. The agreement may provide for a period of time during which the municipal corporation may continue to exercise certain rights, privileges, powers, and functions authorized to it by law including the ability to promulgate rules and regulations, to levy and collect special assessments, rates, charges, service charges and connection fees, and to adopt and carry out the provisions of a comprehensive plan, and amendments thereto, for a system of improvements and to issue general obligation bonds or revenue bonds in the manner provided by law, or the agreement may provide for the exercise for a period of time of all or some of such rights, privileges, powers, and functions by the county. The agreement may

provide that either party thereto may authorize, issue and sell, in the manner provided by law, revenue bonds to provide funds for new water or sewer improvements or to refund or advance refund any water revenue, sewer revenue or combined water and sewer revenue bonds outstanding of either or both such parties. The agreement may provide that either party thereto may authorize and issue, in the manner provided by law, general obligation or revenue bonds of like amounts, terms, conditions and covenants as the outstanding bonds of either or both such parties and such new bonds may be substituted or exchanged for such outstanding bonds to the extent permitted by law. [1975 1st ex.s. c 188 § 9.]

Severability—1975 1st ex.s. c 188: See RCW 36.94.921.

**36.94.340 Transfer of system from municipal corporation to county—Petition for court approval of transfer—Hearing—Decree.** When a municipal corporation and a county have entered into a written agreement providing for the transfer to such county of all or part of the property of such municipal corporation, proceedings may be initiated in the superior court for that county by the filing of a petition to which there shall be attached copies of the agreement of the parties and of the resolutions of the governing body of the municipal corporation and the legislative authority of the county authorizing its execution. Such petition shall ask that the court approve and direct the proposed transfer of property, and any assumption of indebtedness agreed to in consideration thereof by the county, after finding such transfer and acquisition of property to be in the public interest and conducive to the public health, safety, welfare, or convenience. Such petition shall be signed by the members of the legislative authority of the county or chief administrative officer of the municipal corporation and the chairman of the legislative authority of the county, respectively, upon authorization by the governing body of the municipal corporation and the legislative authority of the county.

Within thirty days after the filing of the petition of the parties with copies of their agreement and the resolutions authorizing its execution attached thereto, the court shall by order fix a date for a hearing on the petition not less than twenty nor more than ninety days after the entry of such order which also shall prescribe the form and manner of notice of such hearing to be given. After considering the petition and such evidence as may be presented at the hearing thereon, the court may determine by decree that the proposed transfer of property is in the public interest and conducive to the public health, safety, welfare, or convenience, approve the agreement of the parties and direct that such transfer be accomplished in accordance with that agreement at the time and in the manner prescribed by the court decree. [1975 1st ex.s. c 188 § 10.]

Severability—1975 1st ex.s. c 188: See RCW 36.94.921.

**36.94.350 Transfer of system from municipal corporation to county—Dissolution of municipal corporation.** In the event the agreement of the parties provides for the transfer to the county of all the property of the municipal corporation or all such property except bond redemption funds in the possession of the county treasurer from which outstanding bonds of the municipal corporation are payable,

and the agreement also provides for the assumption and payment by the county of all the indebtedness of the municipal corporation including the payment and retirement of all its outstanding bonds, and if the petition of the parties so requests, the court in the decree approving and directing the transfer of property, or in a subsequent decree, may dissolve the municipal corporation effective as of the time of transfer of property or at such time thereafter as the court may determine and establish. [1975 1st ex.s. c 188 § 11.]

Severability—1975 1st ex.s. c 188: See RCW 36.94.921.

**36.94.360 Transfer of system from municipal corporation to county—RCW 36.94.310 through 36.94.350 deemed alternative method.** The provisions of RCW 36.94.310 through 36.94.350 shall be deemed to provide an alternative method for the doing of the things therein authorized and shall not be construed as imposing any additional conditions upon the exercise of any other powers vested in municipal corporations or counties. [1975 1st ex.s. c 188 § 12.]

Severability—1975 1st ex.s. c 188: See RCW 36.94.921.

**36.94.370 Waiver or delay of collection of tap-in charges, connection or hookup fees for low income persons.** Whenever a county waives or delays collection of tap-in charges, connection fees or hookup fees for low income persons, or class of low income persons, to connect to a system of sewerage or a system of water, the waiver or delay shall be pursuant to a program established by ordinance. [1980 c 150 § 2.]

**36.94.380 Local improvement bonds—Local improvement guaranty fund—Payments—Assessments—Certificates of delinquency.** Every county adopting a water and/or sewerage general plan is hereby authorized to create a fund for the purpose of guaranteeing, to the extent of such fund, and in the manner hereinafter provided, the payment of all of its local improvement bonds issued, subsequent to May 19, 1981, to pay for any water or sewerage local improvement within its confines. Such fund shall be designated ". . . . County Local Improvement Guaranty Fund" and shall be established by resolution of the county legislative authority. For the purpose of maintaining such fund, every county, after the establishment thereof, shall at all times set aside and pay into such a fund such proportion of the monthly gross revenues of the water and/or sewerage system of such county as the legislative authority thereof may direct by resolution. This proportion may be varied from time to time as the county legislative authority deems expedient or necessary, except that under the existence of the conditions set forth in subsections (1) and (2) of this section, the proportion must be as therein specified.

(1) Whenever any bonds of any local improvement district have been guaranteed under RCW 36.94.380 through 36.94.400 and the guaranty fund does not have a cash balance equal to five percent of all bonds originally guaranteed under this chapter (excluding issues which have been retired in full), then five percent of the gross monthly revenues derived from all water and sewer users in the territory included in that local improvement district (but not necessarily from users in other parts of the county as a

whole) may be set aside and paid into the guaranty fund. Whenever, under the requirements of this subsection, the cash balance accumulates so that it is equal to five percent of all bonds guaranteed, or to the full amount of all bonds guaranteed, outstanding and unpaid (which amount might be less than five percent of the original total guaranteed), then no further moneys need be set aside and paid into the guaranty fund so long as that condition continues.

(2) Whenever any warrants issued against the guaranty fund, as provided in this section, remain outstanding and uncalled for lack of funds for six months from the date of issuance thereof; or whenever any coupons or bonds guaranteed under this chapter have been matured for six months and have not been redeemed either in cash or by issuance and delivery of warrants upon the guaranty fund, then five percent of the gross monthly revenues (or such portion thereof as the county legislative authority determines will be sufficient to retire those warrants or redeem those coupons or bonds in the ensuing six months) derived from all water and/or sewer users in the county shall be set aside and paid into the guaranty fund. Whenever under the requirements of this subsection all such warrants, coupons, or bonds have been redeemed, no further income need be set aside and paid into the guaranty fund under the requirements of this subsection until and unless other warrants remain outstanding and unpaid for six months or other coupons or bonds default.

(3) For the purpose of complying with the requirements of setting aside and paying into the local improvement guaranty fund a proportion of the monthly gross revenues of the water supply and/or sewerage system of any county, that county shall bind and obligate itself to maintain and operate such system and further bind and obligate itself to establish, maintain, and collect such rates for water as will provide gross revenues sufficient to maintain and operate such systems and to make necessary provision for the local improvement guaranty fund as specified by this section, and the county shall alter its rates for water or sewer service from time to time and shall vary the same in different portions of its territory to comply with those requirements.

(4) Whenever any coupon or bond guaranteed by RCW 36.94.380 through 36.94.400 matures and there is not sufficient funds in the appropriate local improvement district bond redemption fund to pay the coupon or bond, then the county treasurer shall pay the coupon or bond from the local improvement guaranty fund of the county; if there is not sufficient funds in the guaranty fund to pay the coupon or bond, then it may be paid by issuance and delivery of a warrant upon the local improvement guaranty fund.

(5) Whenever the cash balance in the local improvement guaranty fund is insufficient for the required purposes, warrants drawing interest of a rate fixed by the county legislative authority may be issued by the county auditor against the fund to meet any liability accrued against it and must be issued upon demand of the holders of any maturing coupons and/or bonds guaranteed by RCW 36.94.380 through 36.94.400, or to pay for any certificates of delinquency for delinquent installments of assessments as provided in subsection (6) of this section. Guaranty fund warrants shall be a first lien in their order of issuance upon the gross revenues set aside and paid into the guaranty fund.

(6) Within twenty days after the date of delinquency of any annual installment of assessments levied for the purpose

of paying the local improvement bonds of any county guaranteed under the provisions of this chapter, the county treasurer shall compile a statement of all installments delinquent, together with the amount of accrued interest and penalty appurtenant to each of those installments. Thereupon the county treasurer shall forthwith purchase certificates of delinquency for all such delinquent installments. Payment for all such certificates of delinquency shall be made from the local improvement guaranty fund, and if there is not sufficient moneys in the fund to pay for such certificates of delinquency, the county treasurer shall accept the local improvement guaranty fund warrants in payment therefor. All such certificates of delinquency shall be issued in the name of the local improvement guaranty fund, and all guaranty fund warrants issued in payment therefor shall be issued in the name of the appropriate local improvement district fund. Whenever any market is available and the county legislative authority so directs, the county treasurer shall sell any certificates of delinquency belonging to the local improvement guaranty fund, but any such sale may not be for less than face value thereof plus accrued interest from the date of issuance to date of sale.

Such certificates of delinquency, as above provided, shall be issued by the county treasurer, shall bear interest at the rate of eight percent per annum, shall be in each instance for the face value of the delinquent installment, plus accrued interest to date of issuance of certificate of delinquency, plus a penalty of five percent of such face value, and shall set forth the:

- (a) Description of the property assessed;
- (b) Date the installment of the assessment became delinquent; and
- (c) Name of the owner or reputed owner, if known.

Such certificates of delinquency may be redeemed by the owners of the property assessed at any time up to two years from the date of foreclosure of such certificate of delinquency.

If any certificate of delinquency is not redeemed by the second occurring first day of January subsequent to its issuance, the county treasurer shall then proceed to foreclose such certificate of delinquency in the manner specified for the foreclosure of the lien of local improvement assessments, pursuant to the laws applicable to cities or towns; and if no redemption is made within the succeeding two years the treasurer shall execute and deliver a deed conveying fee simple title to the property described in the foreclosed certificate of delinquency. [1981 c 313 § 7.]

**Severability—1981 c 313:** See note following RCW 36.94.020.

**36.94.390 Local improvement bonds—Local improvement guaranty fund—Subrogation—Interest—Purchase of real property at foreclosure sales.** Whenever there is paid out of a guaranty fund any sum on account of principal or interest upon the local improvement bond, or on account of purchase of certificates of delinquency, the county, as trustee for the fund, shall be subrogated to all rights of the holder of the bonds, or interest coupons, or delinquent assessment installments, so paid; and the proceeds thereof, or of the assessment or assessments underlying the same, shall become a part of the guaranty fund. There shall also be paid into each guaranty fund the interest received

from the bank deposits of the fund, as well as any surplus remaining in the local improvement funds guaranteed under this chapter, after the payment of all outstanding bonds payable primarily out of such local improvement funds. As among the several issues of bonds guaranteed by the fund, no preference exists, but defaulted interest coupons and/or bonds shall be purchased out of the fund in the order of their presentation.

The legislative authority of every county operating under the provisions of RCW 36.94.380 through 36.94.400 shall by resolution prescribe appropriate rules for the guaranty fund, not inconsistent with this chapter. So much of the money of a guaranty fund as is necessary and is not required for other purposes under the terms of RCW 36.94.380 through 36.94.400 may, at the discretion of the county legislative authority, be used to purchase property at county tax foreclosure sales or from the county after foreclosure in cases where such property is subject to unpaid local improvement assessments securing bonds guaranteed under this chapter and such purchase is deemed necessary for the purpose of protecting the guaranty fund. In such cases the fund shall be subrogated to all rights of the county. After so acquiring title to real property, the county may lease or resell and convey the property in the manner that county property is authorized to be leased or resold and for such prices and on such terms as may be determined by resolution of the county legislative authority. Any provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, all proceeds resulting from such resales belong to and shall be paid into the guaranty fund. [1981 c 313 § 8.]

**Severability—1981 c 313:** See note following RCW 36.94.020.

**36.94.400 Local improvement bonds—Local improvement guaranty fund—Claims by bondholders—Transfer of cash balance to water and/or sewer maintenance fund.** Neither the holder nor the owner of any local improvement bonds guaranteed under the provisions of RCW 36.94.380 through 36.94.400 has any claim therefor against the county by which the bonds are issued, except for payment from the special assessments made for the improvement for which the local improvement bonds were issued, and except as against the local improvement guaranty fund of the county; and the county is not liable to any holder or owner of such local improvement bond for any loss to the guaranty fund occurring in the lawful operation thereof by the county. The remedy of the holder or owner of a local improvement bond, in the case of nonpayment, is confined to the enforcement of the assessment and to the guaranty fund. A copy of the foregoing part of this section shall be plainly written, printed, or engraved on each local improvement bond guaranteed by RCW 36.94.380 through 36.94.400. The establishment of a local improvement guaranty fund by any county shall not be deemed at variance from any water and/or sewerage general plan or amendment thereto heretofore adopted by such county.

If any local improvement guaranty fund authorized under RCW 36.94.380 through 36.94.400 at any time has a cash balance, and the obligations guaranteed thereby have all been paid off, then such balance shall be transferred to the water and/or sewer maintenance fund of the county. [1981 c 313 § 9.]

Severability—1981 c 313: See note following RCW 36.94.020.

**36.94.410 Transfer of system from county to water or sewer district.** A system of sewerage, system of water or combined water and sewerage systems operated by a county under the authority of this chapter may be transferred from that county to a water or sewer district in the same manner as is provided for the transfer of those functions from a water or sewer district to a county in RCW 36.94.310 through 36.94.340. [1984 c 147 § 1.]

*Actions not subject to review by boundary review board: RCW 36.93.105.*

**36.94.420 Transfer of system from county to water or sewer district—Annexation—Hearing—Public notice—Powers of water and sewer districts.** If so provided in the transfer agreement, the area served by the system shall, upon completion of the transfer, be deemed annexed to and become a part of the water or sewer district acquiring the system. The county shall provide notice of the hearing by the county legislative authority on the ordinance executing the transfer agreement under RCW 36.94.330 as follows: (1) By mailed notice to all ratepayers served by the system at least fifteen days prior to the hearing; and (2) by notice in a newspaper of general circulation once at least fifteen days prior to the hearing.

In the event of an annexation under this section resulting from the transfer of a system of sewerage or combined water and sewer systems from a county to a water district governed by Title 57 RCW, the water district shall have all the powers of a water district provided by RCW 57.40.150, as if a sewer district had been merged into a water district. In the event of an annexation under this section as a result of the transfer of a system of water or combined water and sewer systems from a county to a sewer district governed by Title 56 RCW, the sewer district shall have all the powers of a sewer district provided by RCW 56.36.060 as if a water district had been merged into the sewer district. [1985 c 141 § 1; 1984 c 147 § 2.]

**36.94.430 Transfer of system from county to water or sewer district—Alternative method.** The provisions of RCW 36.94.410 and 36.94.420 provide an alternative method of accomplishing the transfer permitted by those sections and do not impose additional conditions upon the exercise of powers vested in water and sewer districts and counties. [1984 c 147 § 3.]

**36.94.440 Transfer of system from county to water or sewer district—Decree by superior court.** If the superior court finds that the transfer agreement authorized by RCW 36.94.410 is legally correct and that the interests of the owners of related indebtedness are protected, then the court by decree shall direct that the transfer be accomplished in accordance with the agreement. [1984 c 147 § 4.]

**36.94.450 Water conservation programs—Issuance of revenue bonds.** A county engaged in the sale or distribution of water may issue revenue bonds, or other evidence of indebtedness in the manner provided by this chapter for the purpose of defraying the cost of financing programs for the conservation or more efficient use of water. The bonds or

other evidence of indebtedness shall be deemed to be for capital purposes. [1992 c 25 § 2.]

**36.94.460 Water conservation programs—Counties authorized to provide assistance to water customers.** Any county engaged in the sale or distribution of water is hereby authorized, within limits established by the Constitution of the state of Washington, to assist the owners of structures that are provided water service by the county in financing the acquisition and installation of fixtures, systems, and equipment, for compensation or otherwise, for the conservation or more efficient use of water in the structures under a water conservation plan adopted by the county if the cost per unit of water saved or conserved by the use of the fixtures, systems, and equipment is less than the cost per unit of water supplied by the next least costly new water source available to the county to meet future demand. Except where otherwise authorized, assistance shall be limited to:

(1) Providing an inspection of the structure, either directly or through one or more inspectors under contract, to determine and inform the owner of the estimated cost of purchasing and installing conservation fixtures, systems, and equipment for which financial assistance will be approved and the estimated life cycle savings to the water system and the consumer that are likely to result from the installation of the fixtures, systems, or equipment;

(2) Providing a list of businesses that sell and install the fixtures, systems, and equipment within or in close proximity to the service area of the county, each of which businesses shall have requested to be included and shall have the ability to provide the products in a workmanlike manner and to utilize the fixtures, systems, and equipment in accordance with the prevailing national standards;

(3) Arranging to have approved conservation fixtures, systems, and equipment installed by a private contractor whose bid is acceptable to the owner of the structure and verifying the installation; and

(4) Arranging or providing financing for the purchase and installation of approved conservation fixtures, systems, and equipment. The fixtures, systems, and equipment shall be purchased or installed by a private business, the owner, or the utility.

Pay back shall be in the form of incremental additions to the utility bill, billed either together with [the] use charge or separately. Loans shall not exceed one hundred twenty months in length. [1992 c 25 § 3.]

**36.94.470 Storm or surface water drains or facilities—Annexation, incorporation of area by city or town—Imposition of rates and charges by county.** Whenever a city or town annexes an area, or a city or town incorporates an area, and the county has issued revenue bonds or general obligation bonds to finance storm or surface water drains or facilities that are payable in whole or in part from rates or charges imposed in the area, the county shall continue imposing all portions of the rates or charges that are allocated to payment of the debt service on bonds in that area after the effective date of the annexation or official date of the incorporation until: (1) The debt is retired; (2) any debt that is issued to refinance the underlying debt is retired; or (3) the city or town reimburses the county amount that is

sufficient to retire that portion of the debt borne by the annexed or incorporated area. The county shall construct all facilities included in the storm water plan intended to be financed by the proceeds of such bonds. If the county provides storm water management services to the city or town by contract, the contract shall consider the value of payments made by property owners to the county for the payment of debt service.

The provisions of this section apply whether or not the bonds finance facilities that are geographically located within the area that is annexed or incorporated. [1993 c 361 § 2.]

**36.94.480 Assumption of substandard water system—Limited immunity from liability.** A county assuming responsibility for a water system that is not in compliance with state or federal requirements for public drinking water systems, and its agents and employees, are immune from lawsuits or causes of action, based on noncompliance with state or federal requirements for public drinking water systems, which predate the date of assuming responsibility and continue after the date of assuming responsibility, provided that the county has submitted and is complying with a plan and schedule of improvements approved by the department of health. This immunity shall expire on the earlier of the date the plan of improvements is completed or four years from the date of assuming responsibility. This immunity does not apply to intentional injuries, fraud, or bad faith. [1994 c 292 § 7.]

**Findings—Intent—1994 c 292:** See note following RCW 57.04.050.

**36.94.900 Declaration of purpose.** This chapter is hereby declared to be necessary for the public peace, health, safety and welfare and declared to be a county purpose and that the bonds and special assessments authorized hereby are found to be for a public purpose. [1967 c 72 § 33.]

**36.94.910 Authority—Liberal construction of chapter—Modification of inconsistent acts.** This chapter shall be complete authority for the establishment, construction and operation and maintenance of a system or systems of sewerage and/or water hereby authorized, and shall be liberally construed to accomplish its purpose. Any act inconsistent herewith shall be deemed modified to conform with the provisions of this chapter for the purpose of this chapter only. [1967 c 72 § 31.]

**36.94.920 Severability—1967 c 72.** If any portion of this chapter as now or hereafter amended, or its application to any person or circumstances, is held invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the chapter as a whole, or any section, provision or part thereof not adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, and its application to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected. [1967 c 72 § 32.]

**36.94.921 Severability—1975 1st ex.s. c 188.** If any provision of this 1975 amendatory act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons

or circumstances shall not be affected. [1975 1st ex.s. c 188 § 13.]

## Chapter 36.95

### TELEVISION RECEPTION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS

#### Sections

- 36.95.010 Purpose.
- 36.95.020 Boundaries—Territory excluded.
- 36.95.030 Petition to form—Contents.
- 36.95.040 Notice of text of petition, meeting where will be considered.
- 36.95.050 Resolution creating district.
- 36.95.060 District board—Duties—How constituted—Quorum—Officers—Filling vacancies.
- 36.95.070 District board—Reimbursement of members for expenses.
- 36.95.080 List of television set owners.
- 36.95.090 County budget provisions applicable to district—Financing budget.
- 36.95.100 Tax levied—Maximum—Exemptions.
- 36.95.110 Liability for delinquent tax and costs.
- 36.95.120 Prorating tax.
- 36.95.130 District board—Powers generally.
- 36.95.140 Signals district may utilize.
- 36.95.150 Claims against district board—Procedure upon allowance.
- 36.95.160 District treasurer—Duties—District warrants.
- 36.95.180 Costs of county officers reimbursed.
- 36.95.190 Penalty for false statement as to tax exemption.
- 36.95.200 Dissolution of district by resolution—Disposition of property.
- 36.95.210 District may not be formed to operate certain translator stations.
- 36.95.900 Severability—1971 ex.s. c 155.

**36.95.010 Purpose.** The purposes of a television reception improvement district, hereinafter referred to in this chapter as "district", shall be to serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity in the construction, maintenance, and operation of television and FM radio translator stations, including appropriate electric or electronic devices for increasing television program distribution, but said purposes are not meant to include the construction or operation of television cable systems, commonly known and referred to as cable TV systems or CATV. [1985 c 76 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 155 § 1.]

**36.95.020 Boundaries—Territory excluded.** A district's boundary may include any part or all of any county and may include any part or all of any incorporated area located within the county. A district's boundary may not include any territory already being served by a cable TV system (CATV) unless on August 9, 1971, there is a translator station retransmitting television signals to such territory. [1991 c 363 § 98; 1971 ex.s. c 155 § 2.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.95.030 Petition to form—Contents.** A petition to form a district may be presented to the board of county commissioners and such petition shall include: (1) A description of the purposes of the petition; (2) a description of the purposes and powers of the proposed district; (3) a description of the boundaries of the proposed district; and (4) the signatures of more than fifty percent of the registered



voters residing within the boundaries of the proposed district. [1971 ex.s. c 155 § 3.]

**36.95.040 Notice of text of petition, meeting where will be considered.** If the board of county commissioners, with the assistance of other appropriate county officers, finds the petition filed under RCW 36.95.030 satisfies the requirements of that section, it shall cause the text of the petition to be published once a week for at least three consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation within the county where the petition is presented. With the publication of the petition there shall be published a notice of the time, date, and place of the public meeting of the county commissioners when the petition will be considered, stating that persons interested may appear and be heard. [1971 ex.s. c 155 § 4.]

**36.95.050 Resolution creating district.** If after the public meeting or meetings on the petition, the board of county commissioners finds that creation of the proposed district would serve the public interest, the board shall adopt a resolution granting the petition and creating the district. Prior to adoption however, the board may amend the petition in the interest of carrying out the purposes of this chapter. [1971 ex.s. c 155 § 5.]

**36.95.060 District board—Duties—How constituted—Quorum—Officers—Filling vacancies.** The business of the district shall be conducted by the board of the television reception improvement district, hereinafter referred to as the "board". The board shall be constituted as provided under either subsection (1) or (2) of this section.

(1) The board of a district having boundaries different from the county's shall have either three, five, seven, or nine members, as determined by the board of county commissioners at the time the district is created. Each member shall reside within the boundaries of the district and shall be appointed by the board of county commissioners for a term of three years, or until his or her successor has qualified, except that the board of county commissioners shall appoint one of the members of the first board to a one-year term and two to two-year terms. There is no limit upon the number of terms to which a member may be reappointed after his or her first appointment. A majority of the members of the board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but the majority vote of the board members shall be necessary for any action taken by the board. The board shall elect from among its members a chairman and such other officers as may be necessary. In the event a seat on the board is vacated prior to the expiration of the term of the member appointed to such seat, the board of county commissioners shall appoint a person to complete the unexpired term.

(2) Upon the creation of a district having boundaries identical to those of the county (a county-wide district), the county commissioners shall be the members of the board of the district and shall have all the powers and duties of the board as provided under the other sections of this chapter. The county commissioners shall be reimbursed pursuant to the provisions of RCW 36.95.070, and shall conduct the business of the district according to the regular rules and

procedures applicable to meetings of the board of county commissioners. [1992 c 150 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 155 § 6.]

**36.95.070 District board—Reimbursement of members for expenses.** Members of the board shall receive no compensation for their services, but shall be reimbursed from district funds for any actual and necessary expenses incurred by them in the performance of their official duties. [1971 ex.s. c 155 § 7.]

**36.95.080 List of television set owners.** The board shall, on or before the first day of July of any given year, ascertain and prepare a list of all persons believed to own television sets within the district and deliver a copy of such list to the county treasurer. [1988 c 222 § 1; 1981 c 52 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 155 § 8.]

**36.95.090 County budget provisions applicable to district—Financing budget.** The provisions of chapter 36.40 RCW, relating to budgets, shall apply to the district. The budget of the district shall be financed by an excise tax imposed by the board, and described in RCW 36.95.100. [1971 ex.s. c 155 § 9.]

**36.95.100 Tax levied—Maximum—Exemptions.** The tax provided for in RCW 36.95.090 and this section shall not exceed sixty dollars per year per television set, and no person shall be taxed for more than one television set, except that a motel or hotel or any person owning in excess of five television sets shall pay at a rate of one-fifth of the annual tax rate imposed for each of the first five television sets and one-tenth of such rate for each additional set thereafter. An owner of a television set within the district shall be exempt from paying any tax on such set under this chapter: (1) If either (a) his television set does not receive at least a class grade B contour signal retransmitted by the television translator station or other similar device operated by the district, as such class is defined under regulations of the Federal Communications Commission as of August 9, 1971, or (b) he is currently subscribing to and receiving the services of a community antenna system (CATV) to which his television set is connected; and (2) if he filed a statement with the board claiming his grounds for exemption. Space for such statement shall be provided for in the tax notice which the treasurer shall send to taxpayers in behalf of the district. [1981 c 52 § 2; 1975 c 11 § 1; 1971 ex.s. c 155 § 10.]

**36.95.110 Liability for delinquent tax and costs.** Any person owing the excise tax provided for under this chapter and who fails to pay the same within sixty days after the board or the county treasurer has sent the tax bill to him, shall be deemed to be delinquent. Such person shall be liable for all costs to the county or district attributable to collecting the tax but no such excise tax or costs, nor any judgment based thereon, shall be deemed to create a lien against real property. [1981 c 52 § 3; 1971 ex.s. c 155 § 11.]

**36.95.120 Prorating tax.** The board may adopt rules providing for prorating of tax bills for persons who have not owned a television set within the district for a full tax year. [1971 ex.s. c 155 § 12.]

**36.95.130 District board—Powers generally.** In addition to other powers provided for under this chapter, the board shall have the following powers:

(1) To perform all acts necessary to assure that the purposes of this chapter will be carried out fairly and efficiently;

(2) To acquire, build, construct, repair, own, maintain, and operate any necessary stations retransmitting visual and aural signals intended to be received by the general public, relay stations, pick-up stations, or any other electrical or electronic system necessary: PROVIDED, That the board shall have no power to originate programs;

(3) To make contracts to compensate any owner of land or other property for the use of such property for the purposes of this chapter;

(4) To make contracts with the United States, or any state, municipality, or any department or agency of those entities for carrying out the general purposes for which the district is formed;

(5) To acquire by gift, devise, bequest, lease, or purchase real and personal property, tangible or intangible, including lands, rights of way, and easements, necessary or convenient for its purposes;

(6) To make contracts of any lawful nature (including labor contracts or those for employees' benefits), employ engineers, laboratory personnel, attorneys, other technical or professional assistants, and any other assistants or employees necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter;

(7) To contract indebtedness or borrow money and to issue warrants or bonds to be paid from district revenues: PROVIDED, That the bonds, warrants, or other obligations may be in any form, including bearer or registered as provided in RCW 39.46.030: PROVIDED FURTHER, That such warrants and bonds may be issued and sold in accordance with chapter 39.46 RCW;

(8) To prescribe tax rates for the providing of services throughout the area in accordance with the provisions of this chapter; and

(9) To apply for, accept, and be the holder of any permit or license issued by or required under federal or state law. [1985 c 76 § 2; 1983 c 167 § 102; 1980 c 100 § 2; 1971 ex.s. c 155 § 13.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**36.95.140 Signals district may utilize.** A district may translate or retransmit only those signals which originate from commercial and educational FM radio stations and commercial and educational television stations which directly provide, within some portion of the state of Washington, a class A grade or class B grade contour, as such classes are defined under regulations of the Federal Communications Commission as of August 9, 1971. [1985 c 76 § 3; 1971 ex.s. c 155 § 14.]

**36.95.150 Claims against district board—Procedure upon allowance.** Any claim against the district shall be presented to the board. Upon allowance of the claim, the board shall submit a voucher, signed by the chairman and one other member of the board, to the county auditor for the issuance of a warrant in payment of said claim. This procedure for payment of claims shall apply to the reimbursement of board members for their actual and necessary expenses incurred by them in the performance of their official duties. [1971 ex.s. c 155 § 15.]

**36.95.160 District treasurer—Duties—District warrants.** The treasurer of the county in which a district is located shall be ex officio treasurer of the district. The treasurer shall collect the excise tax provided for under this chapter and shall send notice of payment due to persons owing the tax: PROVIDED, That districts with fewer than twelve hundred persons subject to the excise tax and levying an excise tax of forty dollars or more per television set per year shall have the option of having the district (1) send the tax notices bimonthly, and (2) collect the excise taxes which shall then be forwarded to the county treasurer for deposit in the district account. There shall be deposited with him all funds of the district. All district payments shall be made by him from such funds upon warrants issued by the county auditor, except the sums to be paid out of any bond fund for principal and interest payments on bonds. All warrants shall be paid in the order of issuance. The treasurer shall report monthly to the board, in writing, the amount in the district fund or funds. [1983 c 167 § 103; 1981 c 52 § 4; 1971 ex.s. c 155 § 16.]

**Liberal construction—Severability—1983 c 167:** See RCW 39.46.010 and note following.

**36.95.180 Costs of county officers reimbursed.** The board shall reimburse the county auditor, assessor, and treasurer for the actual costs of services performed by them in behalf of the district. [1971 ex.s. c 155 § 18.]

**36.95.190 Penalty for false statement as to tax exemption.** Any person who shall knowingly make a false statement for exemption from the tax provided under this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. [1971 ex.s. c 155 § 19.]

**36.95.200 Dissolution of district by resolution—Disposition of property.** If the board of county commissioners finds, following a public hearing or hearings, that the continued existence of a district would no longer serve the purposes of this chapter, it may by resolution order the district dissolved. If there is any property owned by the district at the time of dissolution, the board of county commissioners shall have such property sold pursuant to the provisions of chapter 36.34 RCW, as now law or hereafter amended. The proceeds from such sale shall be applied to the county current expense fund. [1971 ex.s. c 155 § 20.]

**36.95.210 District may not be formed to operate certain translator stations.** No television reception improvement district may be formed to operate and maintain any translator station presently or previously owned, operated

or maintained by a television broadcaster. [1971 ex.s. c 155 § 21.]

**36.95.900 Severability—1971 ex.s. c 155.** If any provision of this chapter or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the chapter or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1971 ex.s. c 155 § 22.]

### Chapter 36.96

#### DISSOLUTION OF INACTIVE SPECIAL PURPOSE DISTRICTS

##### Sections

36.96.010	Definitions.
36.96.020	County auditor to notify county legislative authority of inactive special purpose districts.
36.96.030	Determination of inactive special purpose districts—Public hearing—Notice.
36.96.040	Dissolution of inactive special purpose district by county legislative authority—Written findings.
36.96.050	Application for writ of prohibition or mandamus by interested party—Procedure.
36.96.060	Dissolution of inactive special purpose district by county legislative authority—Powers and duties.
36.96.070	Dissolved special purpose district—Disposition of property.
36.96.080	Dissolved special purpose district—Satisfaction of outstanding obligations.
36.96.090	Filing of annual statement by special purpose districts—Duties of county auditor.
36.96.800	Alternative dissolution procedure—Drainage and drainage improvement districts—Conditions.
36.96.900	Chapter not exclusive.
36.96.910	Savings—1979 ex.s. c 5.
36.96.920	Severability—1979 ex.s. c 5.

**36.96.010 Definitions.** As used in this chapter, unless the context requires otherwise:

(1) "Special purpose district" means every municipal and quasi-municipal corporation other than counties, cities, and towns. Such special purpose districts shall include, but are not limited to, water districts, fire protection districts, port districts, public utility districts, county park and recreation service areas, flood control zone districts, diking districts, drainage improvement districts, and solid waste collection districts, but shall not include industrial development districts created by port districts, and shall not include local improvement districts, utility local improvement districts, and road improvement districts;

(2) "Governing authority" means the commission, council, or other body which directs the affairs of a special purpose district;

(3) "Inactive" means that a special purpose district, other than a public utility district, is characterized by either of the following criteria:

(a) Has not carried out any of the special purposes or functions for which it was formed within the preceding consecutive five-year period; or

(b) No election has been held for the purpose of electing a member of the governing body within the preceding consecutive seven-year period or, in those instances where members of the governing body are appointed and not

elected, where no member of the governing body has been appointed within the preceding seven-year period.

A public utility district is inactive when it is characterized by both criteria (a) and (b) of this subsection. [1979 ex.s. c 5 § 1.]

**36.96.020 County auditor to notify county legislative authority of inactive special purpose districts.** On or before June 1st of 1980, and on or before June 1st of every year thereafter, each county auditor shall search available records and notify the county legislative authority if any special purpose districts located wholly or partially within the county appear to be inactive. Each county auditor shall also provide in the notifications made in 1982 and thereafter a list of all special purpose districts located wholly or partially within the county which, for three consecutive years before the notification, have failed to file statements with the county auditor as required in RCW 36.96.090. If the territory of any special purpose district is located within more than one county, the legislative authorities of all other counties within whose boundaries such a special purpose district lies shall also be notified by the county auditor. However, the authority to dissolve such a special purpose district as provided by this chapter shall rest solely with the legislative authority of the county which contains the greatest geographic portion of such special purpose district. [1979 ex.s. c 5 § 2.]

**36.96.030 Determination of inactive special purpose districts—Public hearing—Notice.** (1) Upon receipt of notice from the county auditor as provided in RCW 36.96.020, the county legislative authority within whose boundaries all or the greatest portion of such special purpose district lies shall hold one or more public hearings on or before September 1st of the same year to determine whether or not such special purpose district or districts meet either of the criteria for being "inactive" as provided in RCW 36.96.010: PROVIDED, That if such a special purpose district is a public utility district, the county legislative authority shall determine whether or not the public utility district meets both criteria of being "inactive" as provided in RCW 36.96.010. In addition, at any time a county legislative authority may hold hearings on the dissolution of any special purpose district that appears to meet the criteria of being "inactive" and dissolve such a district pursuant to the proceedings provided for in RCW 36.96.030 through 36.96.080.

(2) Notice of such public hearings shall be given by publication at least once each week for not less than three successive weeks in a newspaper that is in general circulation within the boundaries of the special purpose district or districts. Notice of such hearings shall also be mailed to each member of the governing authority of such special purpose districts, if such members are known, and to all persons known to have claims against any of the special purpose districts. Notice of such public hearings shall be posted in at least three conspicuous places within the boundaries of each special purpose district that is a subject of such hearings. Whenever a county legislative authority that is conducting such a public hearing on the dissolution of one or more of a particular kind of special purpose district

is aware of the existence of an association of such special purpose districts, it shall also mail notice of the hearing to the association. In addition, whenever a special purpose district that lies in more than one county is a subject of such a public hearing, notice shall also be mailed to the legislative authorities of all other counties within whose boundaries the special purpose district lies. All notices shall state the purpose, time, and place of such hearings, and that all interested persons may appear and be heard. [1979 ex.s. c 5 § 3.]

**36.96.040 Dissolution of inactive special purpose district by county legislative authority—Written findings.** After such hearings, the county legislative authority shall make written findings whether each of the special purpose districts that was a subject of the hearings meets each of the criteria of being "inactive." Whenever a special purpose district other than a public utility district has been found to meet a criterion of being inactive, or a public utility district has been found to meet both criteria of being inactive, the county legislative authority shall adopt an ordinance dissolving the special purpose district if it also makes additional written findings detailing why it is in the public interest that the special purpose district be dissolved. Except for the purpose of winding up its affairs as provided by this chapter, a special purpose district that is so dissolved shall cease to exist thirty-one days after adoption of the dissolution ordinance. [1979 ex.s. c 5 § 4.]

**36.96.050 Application for writ of prohibition or mandamus by interested party—Procedure.** The action of the county legislative authority dissolving a special purpose district pursuant to RCW 36.96.040 shall be final and conclusive unless within thirty days of the adoption of the ordinance an interested party makes application to a court of competent jurisdiction for a writ of prohibition or writ of mandamus. At the hearing upon such a writ, the applicant shall have the full burden of demonstrating that the particular special purpose district, other than a public utility district, does not meet either of the criteria of being inactive or that it is not in the public interest that the special purpose district be dissolved: PROVIDED, That where the particular special purpose district subject to the dissolution proceedings is a public utility district, the applicant shall have the full burden of demonstrating that the public utility district either does not meet both the criteria of being inactive or that it is not in the public interest to dissolve the public utility district. [1979 ex.s. c 5 § 5.]

**36.96.060 Dissolution of inactive special purpose district by county legislative authority—Powers and duties.** For the sole and exclusive purpose of winding up the affairs of a dissolved special purpose district, the county legislative authority, acting as a board of trustees, shall have the same powers and duties as the governing authority of the dissolved special purpose district including the following:

- (1) To exchange, sell, or otherwise dispose of all property, real and personal, of the dissolved special purpose district; and
- (2) To settle all obligations of such special purpose district. Such powers and duties shall commence upon the

effective date of dissolution and shall continue thereafter until such time as the affairs of the dissolved special purpose district have been completely wound up. [1979 ex.s. c 5 § 6.]

**36.96.070 Dissolved special purpose district—Disposition of property.** Any moneys or funds of the dissolved special purpose district and any moneys or funds received by the board of trustees from the sale or other disposition of any property of the dissolved special purpose district shall be used, to the extent necessary, for the payment or settlement of any outstanding obligations of the dissolved special purpose district. Any remaining moneys or funds shall be used to pay the county legislative authority for all costs and expenses incurred in the dissolution and liquidation of the dissolved special purpose district. Thereafter, any remaining moneys, funds, or property shall become that of the county in which the dissolved special purpose district was located: PROVIDED, That if the territory of the dissolved special purpose district was located within more than one county, the remaining moneys, funds, and personal property shall be apportioned and distributed to each county in the proportion that the geographical area of the dissolved special purpose district within the county bears to the total geographical area of the dissolved special purpose district, and any remaining real property or improvements to real property shall be transferred to the county within whose boundaries it lies. [1979 ex.s. c 5 § 7.]

**36.96.080 Dissolved special purpose district—Satisfaction of outstanding obligations.** If the proceeds from the sale of any property of the special district together with any moneys or funds of the special purpose district are insufficient to satisfy the outstanding obligations of the special purpose district, the county legislative authority, acting as a board of trustees, shall exercise any and all powers conferred upon it to satisfy such outstanding obligations: PROVIDED, That in no case shall the board of trustees be obligated to satisfy such outstanding obligations from county moneys, funds, or other sources of revenue unless it would have been so obligated before initiation of the dissolution proceedings under this chapter. [1979 ex.s. c 5 § 8.]

**36.96.090 Filing of annual statement by special purpose districts—Duties of county auditor.** (1) Every special purpose district shall file a statement with the auditor of each county in which it lies on or before December 31st of every year, beginning in the year 1979. The initial statement filed by each special purpose district shall contain the following information:

- (a) The name of the special purpose district and a general description of its location and geographical area within the county and within any other county;
- (b) The statutes under which the special purpose district operates;
- (c) The name, address, telephone number, and remaining term of office of each member of its governing authority; and

(d) The functions that the special purpose district is then presently performing and the purposes for which it was created.

Subsequent annual statements need only identify the special purpose district and any of the above detailed information that has changed in the last year.

(2) Each county auditor, on or before January 31, 1980, and on or before January 31st each year thereafter, shall forward to the state auditor a summation of the information contained in the statements required to be filed in subsection (1) of this section together with information of each special purpose district located wholly or partially within the county that has been dissolved during the preceding year. [1979 ex.s. c 5 § 9.]

**36.96.800 Alternative dissolution procedure—Drainage and drainage improvement districts—Conditions.** As an alternative to this chapter a drainage district or drainage improvement district located within the boundaries of a county storm drainage and surface water management utility, and which is not currently imposing assessments, may be dissolved by ordinance of the county legislative authority. If the alternative dissolution procedure in this section is used the following shall apply:

(1) The county storm drainage and surface water management utility shall assume responsibility for payment or settlement of outstanding debts of the dissolved drainage district or drainage improvement district.

(2) All assets, including money, funds, improvements, or property, real or personal, shall become assets of the county in which the dissolved drainage district or drainage improvement district was located.

(3) Notwithstanding RCW 85.38.220, the county storm drainage and surface water management utility may determine how to best manage, operate, maintain, improve, exchange, sell, or otherwise dispose of all property, real and personal, of the dissolved drainage district or drainage improvement district. [1991 c 28 § 1.]

**36.96.900 Chapter not exclusive.** The provisions of this chapter to dissolve inactive special purpose districts shall not be exclusive, and shall be in addition to any other method or methods provided by law to dissolve a special purpose district. [1979 ex.s. c 5 § 10.]

**36.96.910 Savings—1979 ex.s. c 5.** The enactment of \*this act shall not have the effect of terminating, or in any way modifying, any liability, civil or criminal, which shall already be in existence on September 1, 1979. [1979 ex.s. c 5 § 11.]

\*Reviser's note: "this act" [1979 ex.s. c 5] consists of RCW 36.96.010, 36.96.020, 36.96.030, 36.96.040, 36.96.050, 36.96.060, 36.96.070, 36.96.080, 36.96.090, 36.96.900, 36.96.910, 36.96.920, and the 1979 amendments to RCW 36.93.090 and 36.93.150.

**36.96.920 Severability—1979 ex.s. c 5.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1979 ex.s. c 5 § 15.]

## Chapter 36.100

### PUBLIC FACILITIES DISTRICTS

#### Sections

36.100.010	Public facilities districts—Creation.
36.100.020	Governance—Board of directors.
36.100.030	Facilities—Fees.
36.100.040	Excise tax imposed in public facilities districts—Hotel, motel, rooming house, trailer camp, etc. charges—Rate.
36.100.050	Ad valorem property tax.
36.100.060	General obligation bonds—Termination of excise tax.
36.100.070	Acquisition and transfer of real and personal property.
36.100.900	Severability—1988 ex.s. c 1.

*Sales and use tax for public facilities districts: RCW 82.14.048.*

#### **36.100.010 Public facilities districts—Creation. (1)**

A public facilities district may be created in any county with three hundred thousand or more population that is located more than one hundred miles from any county in which the state has constructed and owns a convention center. A public facilities district shall be coextensive with the boundaries of the county.

(2) A public facilities district shall be created upon adoption of a resolution providing for the creation of such a district by the county legislative authority in which the proposed district is located and the city council of the largest city within such county.

(3) A public facilities district is a municipal corporation, an independent taxing "authority" within the meaning of Article VII, section 1 of the state Constitution, and a "taxing district" within the meaning of Article VII, section 2 of the state Constitution.

(4) No taxes authorized under this chapter may be assessed or levied unless a majority of the voters of the public facilities district has validated the creation of the public facilities district at a general or special election.

(5) A public facilities district shall constitute a body corporate and shall possess all the usual powers of a corporation for public purposes as well as all other powers that may now or hereafter be specifically conferred by statute, including, but not limited to, the authority to hire employees, staff, and services, to enter into contracts, and to sue and be sued. [1989 1st ex.s. c 8 § 1; 1988 ex.s. c 1 § 11.]

**36.100.020 Governance—Board of directors.** A public facilities district shall be governed by a board of directors consisting of five members as follows: (1) Two members appointed by the county legislative authority to serve for four-year staggered terms; (2) two members appointed by the city council to serve for four-year staggered terms; and (3) one person to serve for a four-year term who is selected by the other directors. At least one member shall be representative of the lodging industry in the public facilities district.

One of the initial members appointed by the county legislative authority shall have a term of office of two years and the other initial member appointed by the county legislative authority shall have a term of four years. One of the initial members appointed by the city council shall have a term of two years and the other initial member appointed by the city council shall have a term of four years. [1989 1st ex.s. c 8 § 2; 1988 ex.s. c 1 § 12.]

**36.100.030 Facilities—Fees.** A public facilities district is authorized to acquire, construct, own, and operate sports and entertainment facilities with contiguous parking facilities. A public facilities district may impose charges and fees for the use of its facilities, and may accept and expend or use gifts, grants, and donations. The taxes that are provided for in this chapter may only be imposed for such purposes. [1989 1st ex.s. c 8 § 3; 1988 ex.s. c 1 § 13.]

**36.100.040 Excise tax imposed in public facilities districts—Hotel, motel, rooming house, trailer camp, etc. charges—Rate.** A public facilities district may impose an excise tax on the sale of or charge made for the furnishing of lodging by a hotel, rooming house, tourist court, motel, or trailer camp, and the granting of any similar license to use real property, as distinguished from the renting or leasing of real property, except that no such tax may be levied on any premises having fewer than forty lodging units. The rate of the tax shall not exceed two percent and the proceeds of the tax shall only be used for the acquisition, design, and construction of sports and entertainment facilities. This excise tax shall not be imposed until the district has approved the proposal to acquire, design, and construct the public facilities. [1989 1st ex.s. c 8 § 4; 1988 ex.s. c 1 § 14.]

**36.100.050 Ad valorem property tax.** (1) A public facilities district may levy an ad valorem property tax, in excess of the one percent limitation, upon the property within the district for a one-year period to be used for operating or capital purposes whenever authorized by the voters of the district pursuant to RCW 84.52.052 and Article VII, section 2(a) of the state Constitution.

(2) A public facilities district may provide for the retirement of voter-approved general obligation bonds, issued for capital purposes only, by levying bond retirement ad valorem property tax levies, in excess of the one percent limitation, whenever authorized by the voters of the district pursuant to Article VII, section 2(b) of the state Constitution and RCW 84.52.056. [1988 ex.s. c 1 § 15.]

**36.100.060 General obligation bonds—Termination of excise tax.** (1) To carry out the purpose of this chapter, a public facilities district may issue general obligation bonds, not to exceed an amount, together with any outstanding nonvoter approved general obligation indebtedness, equal to three-eighths of one percent of the value of taxable property within the district, as the term "value of taxable property" is defined in RCW 39.36.015. A facilities district additionally may issue general obligation bonds for capital purposes only, together with any outstanding general obligation indebtedness, not to exceed an amount equal to one and one-fourth percent of the value of the taxable property within the district, as the term "value of taxable property" is defined in RCW 39.36.015, when authorized by the voters of the public facilities district pursuant to Article VIII, section 6 of the state Constitution, and to provide for the retirement thereof by excess property tax levies as provided in this chapter.

(2) General obligation bonds may be issued with a maturity of up to thirty years, and shall be issued and sold in accordance with the provisions of chapter 39.46 RCW.

(3) The general obligation bonds may be payable from the operating revenues of the public facilities district in addition to the tax receipts of the district.

(4) The excise tax imposed pursuant to RCW 36.100.040 shall terminate upon final payment of all bonded indebtedness for the sports and entertainment facility. [1989 1st ex.s. c 8 § 5; 1988 ex.s. c 1 § 16.]

**36.100.070 Acquisition and transfer of real and personal property.** A public facilities district may acquire and transfer real and personal property by lease, sublease, purchase, or sale. [1988 ex.s. c 1 § 17.]

**36.100.900 Severability—1988 ex.s. c 1.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1988 ex.s. c 1 § 27.]

## Chapter 36.105

### COMMUNITY COUNCILS FOR UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF ISLAND COUNTIES

#### Sections

36.105.010	Purpose.
36.105.020	Definitions.
36.105.030	Minimum requirements.
36.105.040	Creation.
36.105.050	Election of initial community councilmembers.
36.105.060	Community councilmembers—Election—Terms.
36.105.070	Responsibility of county legislative authority.
36.105.080	Powers.
36.105.090	Annexation.
36.105.100	Dissolution.

**36.105.010 Purpose.** Voters of the unincorporated areas of the state are authorized to establish community councils as provided in this chapter.

It is the purpose of this chapter to provide voters of unincorporated areas in counties with a population of over thirty thousand that are made up entirely of islands with direct input on the planning and zoning of their community by establishing a governmental mechanism to adopt proposed community comprehensive plans and proposed community zoning ordinances that are consistent with an overall guide and framework adopted by the county legislative authority. In addition, it is the purpose of this chapter to have community councils serve as forums for the discussion of local issues. [1991 c 363 § 99.]

~~Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:~~ See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.105.020 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Community" means a portion of the unincorporated area for which a community council has been established and which is located in a county with a population of over thirty thousand that is made up entirely of islands.

(2) "Community comprehensive plan" means a comprehensive plan adopted by a community council.

(3) "Community council" means the governing body established under this chapter to adopt community comprehensive plans and community zoning ordinances for a community.

(4) "Community zoning ordinances" means the zoning ordinances adopted by a community council to implement a community comprehensive plan. [1991 c 363 § 100.]

~~Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:~~ See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.105.030 Minimum requirements.** A community for which a community council is created may include only unincorporated territory located in a single county with a population of over thirty thousand that is made up entirely of islands and not included within a city or town. A community council must have at least one thousand persons residing within the community when the community council is created or, where the community only includes an entire island, at least three hundred persons must reside on the island when the community council is created. Any portion of such a community that is annexed by a city or town, or is incorporated as a city or town, shall be removed from the community upon the effective date of the annexation or the official date of the incorporation. [1991 c 363 § 101.]

~~Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:~~ See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.105.040 Creation.** (1) The process to create a community council shall be initiated by the filing of petitions with the county auditor of the county in which the community is located which: (a) Call for the creation of a community council; (b) set forth the boundaries for the community; (c) indicate the number of community councilmembers, which shall be five, seven, nine, or eleven; and (d) contain signatures of voters residing within the community equal in number to at least ten percent of the voters residing in the community who voted at the last state general election. The county auditor shall determine if the petitions contain a sufficient number of valid signatures and certify the sufficiency of the petitions within fifteen days of when the petitions were filed. If the petitions are certified as having sufficient valid signatures, the county auditor shall transmit the petitions and certificate to the county legislative authority.

(2) The county legislative authority shall hold a public hearing within the community on the creation of the proposed community council no later than sixty days after the petitions and certificate of sufficiency were transmitted to the county legislative authority. Notice of the public hearing shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the community for at least once a week for two consecutive weeks, with the last date of publication no more than ten days prior to the date of the public hearing. At least ten days before the public hearing, additional notice shall be posted conspicuously in at least five places within the proposed community in a manner designed to attract public attention.

(3) After receiving testimony on the creation of the proposed community council, the county legislative authority may alter the boundaries of the community, but the boundaries may not be altered to reduce the number of persons

living within the community by more than ten percent or below the minimum number of residents who must reside within the community at the time of the creation of the community council. If territory is added to the community, another public hearing on the proposal shall be held.

(4) The county legislative authority shall call a special election within the community to determine whether the proposed community council shall be created, and to elect the initial community councilmembers, at the next state general election occurring seventy-five or more days after the initial public hearing on the creation of the proposed community council. The community council shall be created if the ballot proposition authorizing the creation of the community is approved by a simple majority vote of the voters voting on the proposition. [1991 c 363 § 102.]

~~Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:~~ See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.105.050 Election of initial community councilmembers.** The initial members of the community council shall be elected at the same election as the ballot proposition is submitted authorizing the creation of the community council. However, the election of the initial community councilmembers shall be null and void if the ballot proposition authorizing the creation of the community council is not approved.

No primary election shall be held to nominate candidates for initial council positions. The initial community council shall consist of the candidate for each council position who receives the greatest number of votes for that council position. Staggering of terms of office shall be accomplished by having the majority of the winning candidates who receive the greatest number of votes being elected to four-year terms of office, and the remaining winning candidates being elected to two-year terms of office, if the election was held in an even-numbered year, or the majority of the winning candidates who receive the greatest number of votes being elected to three-year terms of office, and the remaining winning candidates being elected to one-year terms of office, if the election was held in an odd-numbered year, with the term computed from the first day of January in the year following the election. Initial councilmembers shall take office immediately when qualified in accordance with RCW 29.01.135.

However, where the county operates under a charter providing for the election of members of the county legislative authority in odd-numbered years, the terms of office of the initial councilmembers shall be four years and two years, if the election of the initial councilmembers was held on an odd-numbered year, or three years and one year, if the election of the initial councilmembers was held on an even-numbered year. [1991 c 363 § 103.]

~~Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:~~ See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.105.060 Community councilmembers—Election—Terms.** Community councilmembers shall be elected to staggered four-year terms until their successors are elected and qualified. Each council position shall be numbered separately. Candidates shall run for specific council positions. The number of council positions shall be



five, seven, nine, or eleven, as specified in the petition calling for the creation of the community council.

Community councilmembers shall be nominated and elected at nonpartisan elections pursuant to general election laws, except the elections shall be held in even-numbered years, unless the county operates under a charter and members of the county legislative authority are elected in odd-numbered years, in which case, community councilmembers shall be elected in odd-numbered years.

The provisions of this section apply to the election and terms of office of the initial community councilmembers, except as provided in RCW 36.105.050.

A councilmember shall lose his or her council position if his or her primary residence no longer is located within the community. Vacancies on a community council shall be filled by action of the remaining councilmembers. [1991 c 363 § 104.]

~~Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363: See notes following RCW 2.32.180.~~

**36.105.070 Responsibility of county legislative authority.** (1) Within ninety days of the election at which a community council is created, the county legislative authority shall adopt an ordinance establishing policies and conditions and designating portions or components of the county comprehensive plan and zoning ordinances that serve as an overall guide and framework for the development of proposed community comprehensive plans and proposed community zoning ordinances. The conditions and policies shall conform with the requirements of chapter 36.70A RCW.

(2) Proposed community comprehensive plans and proposed community zoning ordinances that are adopted by a community council shall be submitted to the county legislative authority for its review of the consistency of the proposed plans and proposed ordinances with the ordinance adopted under subsection (1) of this section. The county legislative authority shall either approve the proposed plans and proposed ordinances as adopted, or refer the proposed plans and proposed ordinances back to the community council with written findings specifying the inconsistencies, within ninety days after they were submitted. The county comprehensive plan, or subarea plan and comprehensive plan, and zoning ordinances shall remain in effect in the community until the proposed community comprehensive plans and proposed community zoning ordinances have been approved as provided in this subsection.

(3) Each proposed amendment to approved community comprehensive plans or approved community zoning ordinances that is adopted by a community council shall be submitted to the county legislative authority for its review of the consistency of the amendment with the ordinance adopted under subsection (1) of this section. The county legislative authority shall either approve the proposed amendment as adopted or refer the proposed amendment back to the community council with written findings specifying the inconsistencies within ninety days after the proposed amendment was submitted. The unamended community comprehensive plans and unamended community zoning ordinances shall remain in effect in the community until the proposed amendment has been approved as provided in this subsection.

(1994 Ed.)

(4) If the county legislative authority amends the ordinance it adopted under subsection (1) of this section, a community council shall be given at least one hundred twenty days to amend its community comprehensive plans and community zoning ordinances to be consistent with this amended ordinance. However, the county legislative authority may amend the community comprehensive plans and community zoning ordinances to achieve consistency with this amended ordinance. Nothing in this subsection shall preclude a community council from subsequently obtaining approval of its proposed community comprehensive plans and proposed community zoning ordinances.

(5) Approved community comprehensive plans and approved community zoning ordinances shall be enforced by the county as if they had been adopted by the county legislative authority. All quasi-judicial actions and permits relating to these plans and ordinances shall be made and decided by the county legislative authority or otherwise as provided by the county legislative authority.

(6) The county shall provide administrative and staff support for each community council within its boundaries. [1991 c 363 § 105.]

~~Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363: See notes following RCW 2.32.180.~~

**36.105.080 Powers.** A community council shall adopt proposed community comprehensive plans and proposed community zoning ordinances as provided in RCW 36.105.070. Community councils shall not have the authority to take quasi-judicial actions nor to decide permit applications. In addition, a community council shall serve as a forum for the discussion of local issues.

Community councils are subject to chapter 42.30 RCW, the open public meetings act. [1991 c 363 § 106.]

~~Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363: See notes following RCW 2.32.180.~~

**36.105.090 Annexation.** A community council may provide for the annexation of adjacent unincorporated areas to the community that are not included within another community for which a community council has been established. Annexations shall be initiated by either resolution of the community council proposing the annexation or petition of voters residing in the adjacent area, which petition: (a) Requests the annexation; (b) sets forth the boundaries of the area proposed to be annexed; and (c) contains signatures of voters residing within the area that is proposed to be annexed equal in number to at least ten percent of the voters residing in that area who voted at the last state general election. Annexation petitions shall be filed with the county auditor who shall determine if the petitions contain a sufficient number of valid signatures, certify the sufficiency of the petitions, and notify the community council of the sufficiency of the petitions within fifteen days of when the petitions are submitted.

A ballot proposition authorizing the annexation shall be submitted to the voters of the area that is proposed to be annexed at a primary or general election in either an odd-numbered or even-numbered year, if the community council initiated the annexation by resolution or if the community council concurs in an annexation that was initiated by the

submission of annexation petitions containing sufficient valid signatures. The annexation shall occur if the ballot proposition authorizing the creation of the community is approved by a simple majority vote of the voters voting on the proposition. The county's comprehensive plan, and where applicable to the county's subarea plan, and zoning ordinances shall continue in effect in the annexed area until proposed amendments to the approved community comprehensive plans and approved community zoning ordinance have been approved that apply to the annexed area. [1991 c 363 § 107.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

**36.105.100 Dissolution.** A community council shall be dissolved if the population of the community is reduced to less than five hundred persons, or less than two hundred persons if the community only includes an entire island.

At the next general election at which community councilmembers would be elected, occurring at least four years after the creation or reestablishment of a community, a ballot proposition shall be submitted to the voters of the community on whether the community shall be reestablished. If reestablished, the newly elected members of the community council and the retained members of the community council shall constitute the members of the community council. [1991 c 363 § 108.]

**Purpose—Captions not law—1991 c 363:** See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

## Chapter 36.110

### JAIL INDUSTRIES PROGRAM

#### Sections

- 36.110.010 Finding—Purpose, intent.
- 36.110.020 Definitions.
- 36.110.030 Board of directors established—Membership.
- 36.110.040 Board of directors—Advice to cities and counties—Guidelines for coordination of programs.
- 36.110.050 Local advisory groups.
- 36.110.060 Board of directors—Duties.
- 36.110.070 Board of directors may receive funds, establish fee schedule.
- 36.110.080 Board of directors—Meetings—Terms—Compensation.
- 36.110.090 City or county special revenue funds.
- 36.110.100 Comprehensive work programs.
- 36.110.110 Deductions from offenders' earnings.
- 36.110.120 Free venture industries—Employment status of inmates.
- 36.110.130 Free venture industry agreements—Effect of failure or discontinuance.
- 36.110.140 Education and training.
- 36.110.150 Department of corrections to provide staff assistance.
- 36.110.900 Severability—1993 c 285.

**36.110.010 Finding—Purpose, intent.** Cities and counties have a significant interest in ensuring that inmates in their jails are productive citizens after their release in the community. The legislature finds that there is an expressed need for cities and counties to uniformly develop and coordinate jail industries technical information and program and public safety standards state-wide. It further finds that meaningful jail work industries programs that are linked to formal education and adult literacy training can significantly reduce recidivism, the rising costs of corrections, and criminal activities. It is the purpose and intent of the

legislature, through this chapter, to establish a state-wide jail industries program designed to promote inmate rehabilitation through meaningful work experience and reduce the costs of incarceration. The legislature recognizes that inmates should have the responsibility for contributing to the cost of their crime through the wages earned while working in jail industries programs and that such income shall be used to offset the costs of implementing and maintaining local jail industries programs and the costs of incarceration. [1993 c 285 § 1.]

**36.110.020 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Board" means the state-wide jail industries board of directors.

(2) "City" means any city, town, or code city.

(3) "Cost accounting center" means a specific industry program operated under the private sector prison industry enhancement certification program as specified in 18 U.S.C. Sec. 1761.

(4) "Court-ordered legal financial obligation" means a sum of money that is ordered by a superior, district, or municipal court of the state of Washington for payment of restitution to a victim, a statutorily imposed crime victims compensation fee, court costs, a county or interlocal drug fund, court appointed attorneys' fees and costs of defense, fines, and other legal financial obligations that are assessed as a result of a felony or misdemeanor conviction.

(5) "Free venture industries" means types of industries which produce products, goods, or services through two modalities: (a) Employer model: An agreement between city or county and a private sector business or industry or nonprofit organization to produce goods or services to both public and private sectors; (b) customer model: An industry operated and managed to provide Washington state manufacturers or businesses with products or services currently produced, provided, and assembled by out-of-state or foreign suppliers.

(6) "Jail inmate" means a preconviction or postconviction resident of a city or county jail who is determined to be eligible to participate in jail inmate work programs according to the eligibility criteria of the work program.

(7) "Private sector prison industry enhancement certification program" means that program authorized by the United States justice assistance act of 1984, 18 U.S.C. Sec. 1761. [1993 c 285 § 2.]

**36.110.030 Board of directors established—Membership.** A state-wide jail industries board of directors is established. The board shall consist of the following members:

(1) One sheriff and one police chief, to be selected by the Washington association of sheriffs and police chiefs;

(2) One county commissioner or one county councilmember to be selected by the Washington state association of counties;

(3) One city official to be selected by the association of Washington cities;

(4) Two jail administrators to be selected by the Washington state jail association, one of whom shall be from a county or a city with an established jail industries program;

(5) One prosecuting attorney to be selected by the Washington association of prosecuting attorneys;

(6) One administrator from a city or county corrections department to be selected by the Washington correctional association;

(7) One county clerk to be selected by the Washington association of county clerks;

(8) Three representatives from labor to be selected by the governor. The representatives may be chosen from a list of nominations provided by state-wide labor organizations representing a cross-section of trade organizations;

(9) Three representatives from business to be selected by the governor. The representatives may be chosen from a list of nominations provided by state-wide business organizations representing a cross-section of businesses, industries, and all sizes of employers;

(10) The governor's representative from the employment security department;

(11) One member representing crime victims, to be selected by the governor;

(12) One member representing on-line law enforcement officers, to be selected by the governor;

(13) One member from the \*department of trade and economic development to be selected by the governor;

(14) One member representing higher education, vocational education, or adult basic education to be selected by the governor; and

(15) The governor's representative from the correctional industries division of the state department of corrections shall be an ex officio member for the purpose of coordination and cooperation between prison and jail industries and to further a positive relationship between state and local government offender programs. [1993 c 285 § 3.]

**\*Reviser's note:** Powers, duties, and functions of the department of community development and the department of trade and economic development were transferred to the department of community, trade, and economic development by 1993 c 280, effective July 1, 1994.

**36.110.040 Board of directors—Advice to cities and counties—Guidelines for coordination of programs.** The board shall, at the request of a city or county, offer advice in developing, promoting, and implementing consistent, safe, and efficient offender work programs.

The board may also develop guidelines and provide technical assistance for the coordination of jail industries programs with basic educational programs. [1993 c 285 § 4.]

**36.110.050 Local advisory groups.** The board shall require a city or a county that establishes a jail industries program to develop a local advisory group, or to use an existing advisory group of the appropriate composition, to advise and guide jail industries program operations. Such an advisory group shall include an equal number of representatives from labor and business. Representation from a sheltered workshop, as defined in RCW 82.04.385, and a crime victim advocacy group, if existing in the local area, should also be included.

A local advisory group shall have among its tasks the responsibility of ensuring that a jail industry has minimal negative impact on existing private industries or the labor force in the locale where the industry operates and that a jail industry does not negatively affect employment opportunities for people with developmental disabilities contracted through the operation of sheltered workshops as defined in RCW 82.04.385. In the event a conflict arises between the local business community or labor organizations concerning new jail industries programs, products, services, or wages, the city or county must use the arbitration process established pursuant to RCW 36.110.060. [1993 c 285 § 5.]

**36.110.060 Board of directors—Duties.** The board, in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW, shall:

(1) Establish an arbitration process for resolving conflicts arising among the local business community and labor organizations concerning new industries programs, products, services, or wages;

(2) Encourage the development of the collection and analysis of jail industries program data, including long-term tracking information on offender recidivism;

(3) Determine, by applying established federal guidelines and criteria, whether a city or a county jail free venture industries program complies with the private sector prison industry enhancement certification program. In so doing, also determine if that industry should be designated as a cost accounting center for the purposes of the federal certification program; and

(4) Provide technical assistance with product marketing. [1993 c 285 § 6.]

**36.110.070 Board of directors may receive funds, establish fee schedule.** The board may receive funds from local, county, state, or federal sources and may receive grants to support its activities. The board may establish a reasonable schedule of suggested fees that will support state-wide efforts to promote and facilitate jail industries that would be presented to cities and counties that have established jail industries programs. [1993 c 285 § 7.]

**36.110.080 Board of directors—Meetings—Terms—Compensation.** The board shall initially convene at the call of the representative of the correctional industries division of the state department of corrections, together with the jail administrator selected from a city or a county with an established jail industries program, no later than six months after July 25, 1993. Subsequent meetings of the board shall be at the call of the board chairperson. The board shall meet at least twice a year.

The board shall elect a chairperson and other such officers as it deems appropriate. However, the chairperson may not be the representative of the correctional industries division of the state department of corrections nor any representative from a state executive branch agency.

Members of the board shall serve terms of three years each on a staggered schedule to be established by the first board. For purposes of initiating a staggered schedule of terms, some members of the first board may initially serve two years and some members may initially serve four years.

The members of the board shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for travel expenses from funds acquired under this chapter. [1993 c 285 § 8.]

**36.110.090 City or county special revenue funds.** A city or a county that implements a jail industries program may establish a separate fund for the operation of the program. This fund shall be a special revenue fund with continuing authority to receive income and pay expenses associated with the jail industries program. [1993 c 285 § 9.]

**36.110.100 Comprehensive work programs.** Cities and counties participating in jail industries are authorized to provide for comprehensive work programs using jail inmate workers at worksites within jail facilities or at such places within the city or county as may be directed by the legislative authority of the city or county, as similarly provided under RCW 36.28.100. [1993 c 285 § 10.]

**36.110.110 Deductions from offenders' earnings.** When an offender is employed in a jail industries program for which pay is allowed, deductions may be made from these earnings for court-ordered legal financial obligations as directed by the court in reasonable amounts that do not unduly discourage the incentive to work. These deductions shall be disbursed as directed in RCW 9.94A.145.

In addition, inmates working in jail industries programs shall contribute toward costs to develop, implement, and operate jail industries programs. This amount shall be a reasonable amount that does not unduly discourage the incentive to work. The amount so deducted shall be deposited in the jail industries special revenue fund.

Upon request of the offender, family support may also be deducted and disbursed to a designated family member. [1993 c 285 § 11.]

**36.110.120 Free venture industries—Employment status of inmates.** A jail inmate who works in a free venture industry shall be considered an employee of that industry only for the purpose of the Washington industrial safety and health act, chapter 49.17 RCW, as long as the public safety is not compromised, and for eligibility for industrial insurance benefits under Title 51 RCW. However, eligibility for benefits for either the inmate or the inmate's dependents or beneficiaries for temporary total disability or permanent total disability under RCW 51.32.090 or 51.32.060, respectively, shall not take effect until the inmate is discharged from custody by order of a court of appropriate jurisdiction. Nothing in this section shall be construed to confer eligibility for any industrial insurance benefits to any jail inmate who is employed in a nonfree venture industry. [1993 c 285 § 12.]

**36.110.130 Free venture industry agreements—Effect of failure or discontinuance.** In the event of failure or discontinuance of a free venture industry agreement, responsibility for obligations under Title 51 RCW shall be borne by the city or county responsible for establishment of such free venture industry, as if the city or county had been the employing agency. [1993 c 285 § 13.]

[Title 36 RCW—page 252]

**36.110.140 Education and training.** To the extent possible, jail industries programs shall be augmented by education and training to improve worker literacy and employability skills. Such education and training may include, but is not limited to, basic adult education, work towards a certificate of educational competence following successful completion of the general educational development test, vocational and preemployment work maturity skills training, and apprenticeship classes. [1993 c 285 § 14.]

**36.110.150 Department of corrections to provide staff assistance.** Until sufficient funding is secured by the board to adequately provide staffing, basic staff assistance shall be provided, to the extent possible, by the department of corrections. [1993 c 285 § 15.]

**36.110.900 Severability—1993 c 285.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1993 c 285 § 17.]

## Chapter 36.115

### SERVICE AGREEMENTS

#### Sections

36.115.010	Purpose.
36.115.020	Definitions.
36.115.030	Coordination—Consistency.
36.115.040	Geographic area covered—Contents—When effective.
36.115.050	Matters included.
36.115.060	Procedure for establishment—Counties affected.
36.115.070	Legislative intent.
36.115.080	Duties, requirements, authorities under growth management act not altered.

**36.115.010 Purpose.** The purpose of chapter 266, Laws of 1994 is to establish a flexible process by which local governments enter into service agreements that will establish which jurisdictions should provide various local government services and facilities within specified geographic areas and how those services and facilities will be financed. [1994 c 266 § 1.]

**36.115.020 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "City" means a city or town, including a city operating under Title 35A RCW.

(2) "Governmental service" includes a service provided by local government, and any facilities and equipment related to the provision of such services, including but not limited to utility services, health services, social services, law enforcement services, fire prevention and suppression services, community development activities, environmental protection activities, economic development activities, and transportation services and facilities, but shall not include the generation, conservation, or distribution of electrical energy nor maritime shipping activities.

(3) "Regional service" means a governmental service established by agreement among local governments that

delineates the government entity or entities responsible for the service provision and allows for that delivery to extend over jurisdictional boundaries.

(4) "Local government" means a county, city, or special district.

(5) "Service agreement" means an agreement among counties, cities, and special districts established pursuant to this chapter.

(6) "Special district" means a municipal or quasi-municipal corporation in the state, other than a county, city, or school district. [1994 c 266 § 2.]

**36.115.030 Coordination—Consistency.** A service agreement addressing children and family services shall enhance coordination and shall be consistent with the comprehensive plan developed under chapter 7, Laws of 1994 1st sp. sess. [1994 c 266 § 3.]

**36.115.040 Geographic area covered—Contents—When effective.** (1) Agreements among local governments concerning one or more governmental service should be established for a designated geographic area as provided in this section.

(2) A service agreement must describe: (a) The governmental service or services addressed by the agreement; (b) the geographic area covered by the agreement; (c) which local government or local governments are to provide each of the governmental services addressed by the agreement within the geographic area covered by the agreement; and (d) the term of the agreement, if any.

(3) A service agreement becomes effective when approved by: (a) The county legislative authority of each county that includes territory located within the geographic area covered by the agreement; (b) the governing body or bodies of at least a simple majority of the total number of cities that includes territory located within the geographic area covered by the agreement, which cities include at least seventy-five percent of the total population of all cities that includes territory located within the geographic area covered by the agreement; and (c) for each governmental service addressed by the agreement, the governing body or bodies of at least a simple majority of the special districts that include territory located within the geographic area covered by the agreement and which provide the governmental service within such territory. The participants may agree to use another formula. An agreement pursuant to this section shall be effective upon adoption by the county legislative authority following a public hearing.

(4) A service agreement may cover a geographic area that includes territory located in more than a single county. [1994 c 266 § 4.]

**36.115.050 Matters included.** A service agreement may include, but is not limited to, any or all of the following matters:

(1) A dispute resolution arrangement;

(2) How joint land-use planning and development regulations by the county and a city or cities, or by two or more cities, may be established, made binding, and enforced;

(3) How common development standards between the county and a city or cities, or between two or more cities, may be established, made binding, and enforced;

(4) How capital improvement plans of the county, cities, and special districts shall be coordinated;

(5) How plans and policies adopted under chapter 36.70A RCW will be implemented by the service agreement;

(6) A transfer of revenues between local governments in relationship to their obligations for providing governmental services;

(7) The designation of additional area-wide governmental services to be provided by the county. [1994 c 266 § 5.]

**36.115.060 Procedure for establishment—Counties affected.** (1) The county legislative authority of every county with a population of one hundred fifty thousand or more shall convene a meeting on or before March 1, 1995, to develop a process for the establishment of service agreements. Invitations to attend this meeting shall be sent to the governing body of each city located in the county, and to the governing body of each special district located in the county that provides one or more of the governmental services as defined in RCW 36.115.020(2).

The legislative authorities of counties of less than one hundred fifty thousand population may utilize this chapter by adopting a resolution stating their intent to do so. In that case or in the case of counties whose populations reach one hundred fifty thousand after March 1, 1995, this meeting shall be convened no later than sixty days after the date the county adopts its resolution of intention or was certified by the office of financial management as having a population of one hundred fifty thousand or more.

(2) On or before January 1, 1997, a service agreement must be adopted in each county under this chapter or a progress report must be submitted to the appropriate committees of the legislature.

(3) In other counties that choose to utilize this chapter or whose population reaches one hundred fifty thousand, the service agreement must be adopted two years after the initial meeting provided for in subsection (1) of this section is convened or a progress report must be submitted to the appropriate committees of the legislature. [1994 c 266 § 6.]

**36.115.070 Legislative intent.** It is the intent of the legislature to permit the creation of a flexible process to establish service agreements and to recognize that local governments possess broad authority to shape a variety of government service agreements to meet their local needs and circumstances. However, it is noted that in general, cities are the unit of local government most appropriate to provide urban governmental services and counties are the unit of local government most appropriate to provide regional governmental services.

The process to establish service agreements should assure that all directly affected local governments, and Indian tribes at their option, are allowed to be heard on issues relevant to them. [1994 c 266 § 7.]

**36.115.080 Duties, requirements, authorities under growth management act not altered.** Nothing contained in this chapter alters the duties, requirements, and authorities of

cities and counties contained in chapter 36.70A RCW.  
[1994 c 266 § 8.]

### Chapter 36.900 CONSTRUCTION

#### Sections

- 36.900.010 Continuation of existing law.
- 36.900.020 Title, chapter, section headings not part of law.
- 36.900.030 Invalidity of part of title not to affect remainder.
- 36.900.040 Repeals and saving.

**36.900.010 Continuation of existing law.** The provisions of this title insofar as they are substantially the same as statutory provisions repealed by this chapter, and relating to the same subject matter, shall be construed as restatements and continuations, and not as new enactments. [1963 c 4 § 36.98.010. Formerly RCW 36.98.010.]

**36.900.020 Title, chapter, section headings not part of law.** Title headings, chapter headings, and section or subsection headings, as used in this title do not constitute any part of the law. [1963 c 4 § 36.98.020. Formerly RCW 36.98.020.]

**36.900.030 Invalidity of part of title not to affect remainder.** If any provision of this title, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the title, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected. [1963 c 4 § 36.98.030. Formerly RCW 36.98.030.]

**Severability—1967 ex.s. c 144:** "If any provision of this 1967 amendatory act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected." [1967 ex.s. c 144 § 21.] For codification of 1967 ex.s. c 144, see Codification Tables, Volume 0.

**36.900.040 Repeals and saving.** See 1963 c 4 § 36.98.040.