

**WEEK 6 REPORT ON 2021 SESSION OF THE LEGISLATURE & WEEK 7 HEARINGS/'EXEC'S'  
For WRPA President, Executive Board, Executive Director, Legislative Committee**

*Doug Levy – 2/22/2021*

In Week 6, we saw a state-level COVID-19 relief bill signed into law, another federal relief measure wound its way through Congress, an additional transportation revenue proposal emerged, and a stack of bills bumped up against the first real cutoff deadlines of the 2021 Session.

The COVID-19 measure signed into law last Friday by Governor Inslee is one I've written about previously: **ESHB 1368**. It will use previously enacted federal funds as follows: \$714 million for K-12 schools; \$618 million for public health (*including \$438 million for testing and contract tracing*); \$68 million for vaccines; \$365 million for housing-related items, including rental assistance; \$240 million for business assistance grants; \$50 million for childcare-related items; and \$26 million for food banks and other food programs.

In that "other Washington," the U.S. House continues to work on a \$2 trillion COVID-relief measure proposed by President Biden – including \$350 billion in assistance to state and local governments. Of that funding, 60 percent (\$210 billion) would go to state and 40 percent (\$140 billion) to localities. [City- and county-run parks and recreation agencies receiving this report should stay closely tuned in on this one.](#)

Also, on Friday, Sen. Curtis King (R-Yakima/14<sup>th</sup> Dist.), the Ranking Minority Member of the Senate Transportation Committee, released a "balance sheet" for a \$10.16 billion, 8-year transportation revenue proposal unveiled by. Here's Saturday *Seattle Times* coverage of that proposal:

[New Washington transportation plan includes taxes on gas and bikes, fees on transit | The Seattle Times](#)

Meanwhile, the universe of individual bills is being trimmed back as state lawmakers hit their cutoff deadlines. Last Monday was the deadline for policy bills to clear policy committees or risk being considered "dead" for the Session. This Monday (Feb. 22) is when fiscal bills must clear their cutoff.

Week 6 included both a high note and a tough blow for WRPA. The high note involves our "Parks Rx" bill which moved to the Senate Floor Calendar last Wednesday and is now poised to clear the Senate. At the same time, our local funding options bills (**HB 1025/SB 5006**) hit a wall and will not clear fiscal committees. [I have included with this report the memo I provided to our Executive Board and Legislative Committee last week. While I would ask that you not forward it externally, it should provide a helpful summary to you.](#)

Below is an overview of where we stand on WRPA's 2021 Legislative Agenda priorities. I also have provided the usual rundown of other bills impacting local parks and recreation and/or outdoor recreation. A Week 7 hearings list is attached separately, with recommendations on where to testify, sign in, or simply monitor. Because most of the action involves today's committee votes, I have listed numerous "Executive Session" items as well.

### **Top Priorities**

**\*Provide Local Parks and Recreation Agencies with new Funding Options to Address Vital M&O and Preservation Needs which only became more challenging under COVID-19 – SB 5006/HB 1025**

*(Policy/Fiscal Bill)* As I signaled above, these bills are not going to emerge from fiscal committees by today's end-of-the-day cutoff deadline. They are caught up in a much larger philosophical discussion among House Democrats in particular on how to promote more "progressive" revenues vs. advancing a bill (ours) with a sales tax funding tool that is considered "regressive." The 1/10<sup>th</sup> of 1 cent sales tax tool (*subject to voter approval*) in our bills is considered a regressive funding source because those at lower income levels pay a

much higher percentage of their income on it than do those at higher income levels. We have noted that the services parks agencies provide are decidedly *progressive* and that this legislation is an important COVID recovery tool for our folks.

**\*Actively participate in efforts to replace and recover lost revenue for parks and recreation agencies – while protecting existing resources**

*(Operating Budget)* We are not seeing any general revenue relief measures for local agencies this Session – at a state level. At the federal level, the U.S. House is moving forward a \$2 trillion initiative from the Biden Administration that includes a \$350 billion allocation for state and local governments across the U.S. City- and county-run parks agencies will be in line to receive funds, which *can* be used to address COVID-19 related revenue losses. I am not aware of any such funding for Metropolitan Park Districts and Park Districts.

**\*Actively promote a 2021-2023 Capital Budget with robust funding levels for key grant programs that significantly benefit parks and recreation and the Great Outdoors**

*(Capital Budget)* While we feel very good about the willingness of Senate and House Capital Budget leads to make a robust investment in key outdoor recreation grant programs used by local parks agencies, we are in a bit of a ‘wait’ mode. Only after a mid-March state revenue forecast update will we begin to see the Legislature release proposed 2021-23 Operating and Capital budgets. We appreciate the \$100 million, \$11.2+ million, and \$9.1 million allocations in the Governor’s Budget, which funds virtually all of the YAF and ALEA lists. We join the WWRC in asking for consideration of a \$140 million investment in WWRP. On a YAF front, we have encouraged budget writers to think about a full \$11.3 million allocation (*the \$11.2 million+ in the Governor’s budget would leave two funding alternates at the bottom of the list*).

**\*Protecting Property Tax-Based Parks Districts and MPDs from “Pro-Rationing” – HB 1034**

*(Policy Bill)* This bill remains in the House Rules Committee. Prime sponsor Joe Fitzgibbon (D-Burien/34<sup>th</sup> Dist.) had asked that I help him with outreach to Rules Members to encourage their help in “pulling” this bill to the House Floor Calendar. **HB 1034** is designed to prevent the ‘pro-rationing’ of the Vashon Parks District – and other Park Districts -- by removing their property tax allocation from the \$5.90 limit and shifting it to a 50-cent ‘gap’ portion of property tax. As previously indicated, Metro Parks districts are not included in the bill because they are already in the 50-cent gap, just ahead of where Parks and Recreation Districts are placed in the proration order under **HB 1034**.

**\*Protect Funding for Dedicated Accounts within the Capital Budget**

*(Capital Budget)* As previously noted, the Governor’s proposed 2021-23 Capital Budget does a good job of maintaining and funding dedicated outdoor recreation accounts. I also shared that the Governor’s office, the Office of Financial Management (OFM), and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) came to agreement with NOVA funding advocates regarding a Section 961 provision of the 2021-23 *Operating Budget* that impacts NOVA monies. The budget language codifies a funding allocation that dates to the 2009-11 biennium. The agreed-upon language added to the budget would commit DNR to working with stakeholders before submitting recommendations on direct appropriations from the NOVA account in the future.

**\*Advocate for Key “Healthy & Active Communities” Funding within the State Budget Process**

*(Capital, Transportation, Operating Budgets)* Under WRPA’s “healthy and active communities” initiative, we work to support the following types of funding (see list below). Please note that a) in the Governor’s proposed Operating Budget (**SB 5092/HB 1094**), an additional \$500,000 is allocated to the No Child Left Inside program run by State Parks; b) efforts to add funds for “Foundational Public Health” are in both **SB 5149** and **SB 5371**; and c) additional multi-modal and “Complete Streets” funding is proposed under

Transportation new-revenue packages proposed in both the Senate and House (see entry below). Here is our tracking list from the budgets:

- *Public Health District funding -- Operating Budget;*
- *Bicycle and Pedestrian Grant, Safe Routes to Schools, "Complete Streets" and fuel-tax-distribution funding in the Transportation Budget;*
- *"No Child Left Inside" within the Operating Budget;*
- *'Target Zero' programs run by the Washington Traffic Safety Commission;*
- *Dedicated accounts and grant programs in the Capital Budget such as WWRP, YAF, ALEA, NOVA, BFP.*

#### **\*Support Legislation Promoting Parks and Wellness Connections with Public Health – SSB 5292**

*(Policy Bill)* Last Wednesday, the Senate Rules Committee added **Substitute Senate Bill 5292** to the Senate Floor Calendar, where it is now eligible for a vote. The "Parks Rx" bill is prime-sponsored by first-term Sen. T'wina Nobles (D-University Place/28<sup>th</sup> Dist.). **5292** seeks to parallel the wellness program and health insurance incentives used by the private sector – in this case through the prescribed use of public parks, spaces, trails, and facilities. The legislation does not mandate what a Parks Rx program should look like, rather setting up a collaboration between representatives of local parks, public and community health, health care providers, and health insurers to design three pilot projects around the state.

### **Support/Oppose Items**

#### **\*Efforts to Address Mental Health, Homelessness, Affordable Housing**

*(Policy Bills, Budgetary Items)* Our Legislative Agenda notes that WRPA will support efforts led by cities and counties, the Low-Income Housing Alliance, and others, to ensure the Legislature continues to provide funding and tools for local governments to address growing mental health, homelessness, and affordable housing crises in their communities. Here are several bills we are tracking in this space:

- **SHB 1070, providing updated and expanded authority for the 'HB 1590' 1/10<sup>th</sup> of 1 cent sales tax enacted in 2020:** This bill by Rep. Cindy Ryu (D-Shoreline/32<sup>nd</sup> Dist.) remains in the House Rules Committee. It allows 2020-enacted **HB 1590** funds (*ironically, a 1/10<sup>th</sup> of 1 cent sales tax for affordable housing*) to be used to acquire properties for emergency shelters and permanent supportive housing. **SHB 1070** also expands the use of funding toward those experiencing homeless to include homeless *individuals*.
- **SHB 1108, maintaining funding and assistance for homeowners navigating the foreclosure process:** This legislation, prime-sponsored by Rep. Tina Orwall (D-Des Moines/33<sup>rd</sup> Dist.), has passed the House and continues to await a hearing in the Senate Business, Financial Services & Trade Committee. It extends mediation and remittance requirements within the Foreclosure Assistance program, to Dec. 31, 2022.
- **HB 1128, establishment of Housing Benefit Districts:** For some of the same reasons impacting our local parks funding options bill, **1128** will not be emerging from the House Finance Committee. Advocates are now working to secure funds from the Operating Budget. The bill and budget initiative are promoted by Sound Communities, which is working with Renton, Tacoma, and Everett on pilot Transit Oriented Development (TOD) projects. **1128** would have enabled cities and counties to form "Housing Benefit Districts" to finance acquisition, improvements, land-banking, or leasing of lands for affordable housing in designated areas. The Districts would have been provided 2/10<sup>th</sup> of 1 cent sales tax authority subject to voter approval, and \$1 per \$1000 property tax that may be assessed up to six (6) years with voter approval.
- **HB 1220, supporting emergency shelters and housing through local planning and development regulations:** This bill passed out of the House Appropriations Committee last Thursday as somewhat of a "work in progress." City officials have concerns with two sections of **1220** which pre-empt local authority over the zoning of emergency housing, emergency shelters, and permanent supportive housing.

- **SHB 1277, providing an additional revenue source for eviction prevention and housing stability:** This legislation is still in the House Appropriations Committee, but the House Speaker told a group of us last week that it is being considered “Necessary to Implement the Budget” (NTIB) and will be voted on later in Session. **1277** adds a \$100 surcharge to document recording fees paid on various housing and real estate transactions. The fiscal impact note on **1277** shows it could raise \$292 million a biennium for rent relief and other assistance to lower-income individuals.
- **HB 1337, concerning Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs):** This bill almost surely has ‘died’ for the 2021 Session. Prime-sponsored by Rep. Mia Gregerson (D-SeaTac/33<sup>rd</sup> Dist.), **1337** would have provided sales and property tax incentives to a limited number of local communities that allow ADUs under a series of conditions prescribed in the bill. Cities raised some concerns about the long list of conditions they would have needed to meet to qualify for the incentives.
- **SHB 1477, implementing the national 988 system to enhance and expand behavioral health crisis response and suicide prevention services:** This legislation, which puts in place a tax on phone lines to pay for a crisis and mental health response “988” hotline, is to be voted upon Monday in the House Appropriations Committee. Funds from the bill would pay for a crisis and mental health response “988” hotline enacted at the federal level.
- **SB 5235, relating to “increasing housing unit inventory by removing arbitrary limits on housing options”:** This bill is now on the Senate Floor Calendar. Cities are trying to work with the bill sponsor on alternative language to the restrictions that are currently in **5235**. Language in the bill would prohibit cities from requiring any housing unit on the same lot as an ADU to be owner-occupied, unless that owner owns more than five ADUs within the same city.
- **SSB 5287, making changes to the Multi-Family Tax Exemption (MFTE) program for multi-family housing projects:** With a compromise agreed to by most stakeholders, this bill is poised to clear the Senate Ways & Means Committee on Monday. The compromise worked out among the Association of Washington Cities (AWC), the Washington Low-Income Housing Alliance, and others preserves the 8-year property tax exemption program that our city and many others have used to bring new market-rate multi-family housing into city centers. It also, at least temporarily, opens the MFTE program to all cities. The compromise also creates a new 20-year exemption program toward permanently affordable housing and authorizes cities to offer a second 12-year exemption program to projects that are in either the 8-year or 12-year program – if affordability requirements are met. There are also new reporting requirements in **SSB 5287**. One late-breaking addition may place a five-year limitation on all changes to the statute, while the overall MFTE program goes through a more comprehensive study.
- **SB 5312, incentivizing Transit-Oriented Development:** This bill by Sen. Mark Mullet (D-Issaquah/5<sup>th</sup> Dist.) passed off the Senate Floor last Tuesday by a 44-3 vote and now proceeds to the House. It would use appropriated Planning and Environmental Review Fund (PERF) dollars as an incentive for local communities to engage in TOD efforts.
- **SSB 5390/SHB 1157, Increasing housing supply through the growth management act and housing density tax incentives:** We support the incentives-driven approach of these bills, but both are in limbo. **5390** has not been scheduled for a Ways & Means Committee vote, and **1157** failed to clear the House Finance Committee on Friday. The bills seek to help local governments with things such as Real Estate Excise Tax revenues in exchange for taking on additional housing density and housing types.

#### **\*“Big Tent” Outdoor Recreation Coalition**

*(Budgetary, Policy Items)* WRPA supports the continued work of the “Big Tent” Outdoor Recreation Coalition, which is holding weekly policy calls during the 2021 Session. Additionally, we are part of the group that attends weekly meetings of the Outdoor Recreation Caucus (ORC).

#### **\*Statewide Trail Plan – Multi-Modal Trails Database**

*(Capital Budget)* Week 6 was quiet on this front – which is a good thing! We thank Sens. Judy Warnick (R-Moses Lake/13<sup>th</sup> Dist.) and Liz Lovelett (D-Anacortes/40<sup>th</sup> Dist.) and Reps. Sharon Shewmake (D-Bellingham/42<sup>nd</sup> Dist.), Alex Ramel (D-Bellingham/40<sup>th</sup> Dist.), and Marcus Riccelli (D-Spokane/3<sup>rd</sup> Dist.) for

submitting \$200,000 Capital Budget requests for establishing and maintaining a statewide multi-modal trails database. We also sent budget writers a 1-page sign-on letter demonstrating coalition support from Washington Bikes, Washington State Trails Coalition, Washington Trails Association, the Trust for Public Land, Leafline Coalition, Palouse to Cascades Trail Coalition, ForEvergreen Trails, and the Thurston Regional Planning Council.

Other Bills WRPA is Tracking (Bills/Items Newly Added This Week in **Yellow**)

*(NOTE: If you have bills you think we should add, or questions on particular bills impacting local parks and recreation, e-mail me: [Doug@outcomesbylevy.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:Doug@outcomesbylevy.onmicrosoft.com))*

**Transportation new-revenue packages now unveiled in both House and Senate – No bill numbers yet:** We will see more formal proposals in the next couple weeks. For now, with proposals rolled out by the Senate and House Transportation Chairs and the Senate Transportation Ranking Member, here's a brief snapshot of what's on the table:

- ✓ **Size of package:** The House package is \$26 billion+ over 16 years – the clear high-water mark for negotiations. The Senate's 16-year proposal totals \$18.26 to \$19.16 billion in overall revenue – with investment levels ranging from \$15.7 billion to \$15.85 billion after bonding; the Senate GOP package is for \$10.163 billion over eight (8) years.
  - ✓ **Bonding?** The Senate Chair's package relies on a range of \$2.4 billion to \$3.5 billion depending on which of two options he uses. The Senate GOP proposal from Senator King does not reflect bonding. The House package at this point does not include any bonding;
  - ✓ **Fuel tax:** The Senate Chair proposes a 6-cent gas tax increase, the Ranking Member 3 cents. The House package is for an 18-cent gas tax increase and indexing of gas taxes beginning the third year;
  - ✓ **Carbon tax or fee?** Both majority packages include significant funding from a carbon fee on transportation-related fuels – the Senate also contemplates the option of a "cap and invest" revenue method. The Senate GOP proposal does not include any carbon tax or "cap and invest";
  - ✓ **Projects?** The Senate Chair lists 38 highway projects while the Ranking Member lists five – U.S. 2 Trestle, I-5/Columbia River Bridge, Snoqualmie Pass, Hood River Bridge, and West Seattle Bridge. The House package calls out one project (I-5 Columbia River Bridge replacement), with the rest TBD.
  - ✓ **Direct Distribution?** Sen. Hobbs' package would allocate \$375 million over 16 years to cities and counties for direct distribution payments of gas tax proceeds. Sen. King's package does not include any direct distribution but does allocate \$125 million for city and county culvert projects. The House package does not include direct distribution but would devote significant investments to local maintenance and preservation to be granted through the Transportation Investment Board (TIB) and County Road Administration Board (CRAB).
  - ✓ **Local transportation funding options for cities/counties?** It appears this will be included in both the Senate and the House majority packages when bills are formally introduced. It does not appear Sen. King's proposal factors in local funding options.
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- **SB 5016, all-terrain vehicles:** This bill by Sen. Judy Warnick (R-Moses Lake/13<sup>th</sup> Dist.) allows a wheeled all-terrain vehicle (WATV) to also be registered and used as a snowmobile like vehicle defined as a tracked all-terrain vehicle. **5016** is still in the Senate Rules Committee.
  - **SSB 5052, creation of "health equity zones":** The WRPA is in *support* this legislation sponsored by Sen. Karen Keiser (D-Des Moines/33<sup>rd</sup> Dist.). **5052** passed Wednesday out of the Senate Ways & Means Committee on a mostly party-line vote. Revisions to the bill allow communities to self-identify health equity zones, require funding to be in place before the zones are developed, and add tribal communities as partners for those establishing the zones.
  - **SB 5056, wilderness therapy programs:** Sen. Jesse Salomon (D-Shoreline/32<sup>nd</sup> Dist.) prime-sponsored this legislation, which did not pass out of the Senate Health & Long-Term Care Committee. The bill is likely "dead" for the 2021 Session. It required the Department of Health to create a

business license for “wilderness therapy” programs, established parameters for what constitutes such a program, and directed a rulemaking to be completed by Dec. 31, 2022.

- **SB 5107, addressing homelessness:** This bill by Senate Housing & Local Government Committee Ranking Member Phil Fortunato (R-Auburn/31<sup>st</sup> Dist.) ‘died’ in Committee without a vote. **5107** required every city with a population of 50,000 or more to have at least one emergency shelter and added penalties for unauthorized camping on public property.
  - **SB 5110, HB 1440, streamlining permitting for wireless telecommunications facilities:** Local government representatives strongly opposed both these bills. **5110** never moved after a Jan. 21 hearing and **1440** never received a public hearing.
  - **SB 5149/HB 1201, Funding Foundational Public Health Services:** The Senate bill remains in the Ways & Means Committee, while the House bill never received a Finance Committee hearing. The Senate bill likely remains alive as it is tied to the budget and is prime-sponsored by Sen. June Robinson (D-Everett/38<sup>th</sup> Dist.), Ways & Means Vice-Chair and part of the Senate’s Operating Budget negotiating team. This bill would impose a \$3.25/month assessment on health insurance carriers for all “covered lives.” It directs that \$143 million from the assessment be used for foundational public health in 2024 and \$200 million in 2025. While we support **5149**, it faces strong opposition.
  - **SB 5159, Payments in Lieu of Property Taxes (PILT) by the Department of Fish and Wildlife:** Sen. Warnick is the sponsor of this year’s version of the PILT bill, which is due for a Committee vote today in Senate Ways & Means. Under the bill, the state treasurer, on behalf of WDFW, must distribute PILT to counties by April 30 of each year on game lands.
  - **PSSB 5176, HB 1018 – Boating safety:** Neither of these bills passed out of their policy committees last week, meaning both are likely “dead” for the 2021 Session. These bills would have required human-powered vessel operators to obtain a boater education card (**1018**) or for those in saltwater to obtain a certificate (**PSSB 5176**). Both bills were strongly opposed by the paddle craft community, whose members are more inclined to support mandatory Personal Flotation Device (PFD) wear.
  - **SB 5332, clarifying equipment requirements for wheeled all-terrain vehicles (WATVs):** This bill prime-sponsored by Sen. Mike Padden (R-Spokane Valley/4<sup>th</sup> Dist.) passed unanimously last Monday out of the Senate Transportation Committee. The bill clarifies the equipment requirements for WATVs both for public road usage and off-road usage.
  - **SB 5371, funding public health services through a statewide sweetened beverage tax:** This measure by Sen. June Robinson (D-Everett/38<sup>th</sup> Dist.) is receiving what likely amounts to a “courtesy hearing” today in Senate Health & Long-Term Care – unless Senate leaders designate it NTIB (*Necessary to Implement the Budget*). Most likely, **SSB 5149** will be the ‘vehicle’ for foundational public health funding. **5371** would have imposed a tax of \$0.0175 per fluid ounce. Beginning July 1, 2022, and every July after, it would have increased the tax by the CPI inflation rate.
  - **HB 1039, reporting on, updating, and expanding deployment of existing government programs that provide education on bicycle and pedestrian travel:** Sec. 5(2) of this bill had been of particular concern to local governments and Washington Bikes, in that it allowed the Safe Routes to Schools program to award funding to more school districts. We offered amendment language to limit the scope of this bill to two school pilot projects, but the House Transportation Committee chose not to move **1039** at all.
  - **HB 1057, clean air enjoyment:** Rep. Gerry Pollet (D-Seattle/46<sup>th</sup> Dist.) is the prime sponsor of this bill, which remains in the House Rules Committee. The legislation modifies Clean Air Act definitions of “air pollutant” and adds the term “enjoyment of life and property” to allow individuals going to a public park, public recreational facility, or trail to register complaints with regional clean air agencies regarding properties that emit significant odors. WRPA is neutral on **1057**.
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- **SHB 1059, fireworks prohibitions:** This legislation sponsored by Rep. Joe Fitzgibbon (D-Burien/34<sup>th</sup> Dist.) is still in House Rules. The amended **1059** allows fireworks bans to take effect immediately when doing so is necessitated by environmental conditions and other burning prohibitions are in place.
  - **SHB 1099, adding a 14<sup>th</sup> climate change goal to the Growth Management Act statutory list of goals:** This bill is up for a vote today in the House Appropriations Committee. Several sections of the prior bill are being stripped to pare down the potential cost of the bill, which cities and counties are still forecasting could be as much as \$30-to-\$50 million per biennium. Sponsors of **1099** have

pledged that if the bill goes forward, there will be a funding source to pay for this work. One casualty of the pared-down 1099 is amendment language we had worked out with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), cities, and counties to ensure the bill called out not just “active transportation” within the transportation elements of GMA plans, but “trails” as well. We will have to check whether there is a place for this in the remaining bill.

- **SHB 1117, integrating salmon recovery and ecological “net gain” requirements into GMA comprehensive planning:** This bill is also scheduled for a vote today in House Appropriations and has been further amended. Cities and counties believe the bill – which includes a “null and void” clause to ensure it is funded – is once again workable.
  - **2SHB 1213, expanding childcare and early learning opportunities for kids:** This bill by Rep. Tana Senn (D-Mercer Island/41<sup>st</sup> Dist.) passed out of the House Appropriations Committee last Thursday with strong bi-partisan support. *We support 1213.*
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- **HB 1251, wheeled ATVs on state highways:** Rep. Ed Orcutt (R-Kalama/20<sup>th</sup> Dist.) is sponsoring this bill, which was added to the House Floor Calendar last Thursday. **1251** expands the locations where a person may potentially operate a wheeled all-terrain vehicle on state highways to unincorporated areas with a posted speed limit of 35 miles per hour or less. It also makes the operation of a wheeled all-terrain vehicle on unincorporated stretches of state highways contingent upon the passage of an ordinance approving their operation.
  - **HB 1322, off-road vehicle enforcement:** Rep. Sharon Wylie (D-Vancouver/49<sup>th</sup> Dist.), a vice-chair of the House Transportation Committee, is prime-sponsoring this legislation to better enforce state licensing requirements on off-road vehicles brought in from Oregon. **1322** passed out of House Transportation on Friday.
  - **HB 1330, electric bicycles/sales tax:** Rep. Sharon Shewmake (D-Bellingham/42<sup>nd</sup> Dist.), is the sponsor of **1330**, which passed out of the House Finance Committee on Friday. It would provide a sales tax exemption on purchases of new electric bikes and up to \$200 in related cycling equipment.
  - **SHB 1331, concerning early learning facility impact fees:** This bill advanced to the House Floor Calendar last Wednesday. The bill authorizes cities to reduce or waive impact fees for early learning centers. We also worked with prime sponsor Kirsten Harris-Talley (D-Seattle/37<sup>th</sup> Dist.) on amendment language to help ensure early learning centers would not be assessed disproportionately higher impact fees than commercial or retail facilities.
  - **SHB 1431, encouraging youth participation in fishing and shellfishing:** This bill by newly elected Rep. Alicia Rule (D-Bellingham/42<sup>nd</sup> Dist.) remains in House Appropriations. Provisions of this bill would likely need to be folded into the House Operating Budget if **1431** is going to stand a chance.
  - **HB 1435, authorizing local authorities to implement bicycle tour permits:** This bill sponsored by Rep. Joel Kretz (R-Wauconda/7<sup>th</sup> Dist.) never received a vote in the House Local Government Committee. The bill enabled a rural county to adopt an ordinance requiring a bicycle tour permit for use of public roads, trails, and paths within the county by groups of six or more bicyclists that are not family members and who do not reside in the same household.
  - **HB 1466, promoting access to outdoor education:** This bill by Rep. Alicia Rule (D-Bellingham/42<sup>nd</sup> Dist.) would direct the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to establish a pilot project for outdoor, nature-based education programs in public schools. The pilot project would have to begin in the 2021-22 school year. **1466** remains in House Appropriations and its only hope would appear to be included in the Operating Budget.
  - **HB 1523, concerning renewal of the sales and use tax for Transportation Benefit Districts (TBDs):** This bill is scheduled for a vote this afternoon in the House Transportation Committee. It would allow TBDs to renew 10-year sales tax authorizations for an additional 10 years by a vote of the people.
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