

## Weekly Legislative Update: **Transportation**

Issue Team Chair: Cynthia Stewart

Contact: [cstewart@lwwwa.org](mailto:cstewart@lwwwa.org)

**February 6, 2022**

**Thank you** to everyone who signed in Pro for the bills listed for committee hearings in the last week. Most have not yet been scheduled for executive session in the Transportation Committees, because they have a few more days to work before their cutoff.

**The coming week**, after Monday, is dedicated almost entirely to House and Senate floor action for policy bills in their chambers of origin. Policy bills had a deadline of passing out of their committees in the house of origin by February 3 and those in Transportation Committees have a deadline of February 7.

**The legislative Transportation 16-year funding packages** are close to being finished and are expected to be announced on Tuesday with hearings on Thursday this week. Rumors are that the House and senate budget proposals are very close, and both will increase funding for transit. Neither are said to contain any gas tax increase. It has also been said that there may be a proposal for developing a statewide standard for baseline accessible frequent fixed route transit, which will be very important for non-drivers.

### **Other:**

Transportation Equity Day, honoring Rosa Parks and the value of public transportation, was February 4. Voice for Public Transit, a national transit advocacy organization, has an interesting blog about the value of investing in transit. Read it [here](#).

LWWWA signed on to a letter supporting a statewide plan for passenger rail. Read it [here](#).

The Puget Sound Regional Council is holding a public comment period for the draft PSRC Regional Transportation Plan. There is a virtual open house through the end of February [here](#), along with a link to make comments.

## **Bills Seeing Action This Week**

None for which we can anticipate the opportunity to comment.

## **How You Can Be Involved**

- During the legislative session we will send Action Alerts in the [Legislative Newsletter](#). Please respond to these, which will direct you to an application to facilitate

communicating with your legislators on an important vote in committees or on the chamber floor.

- Local Leagues in Washington have action chairs who coordinate action teams. Some local Leagues have education teams to take action locally. Contact your local League action chair to find out and join.
- You may also express your opinion on legislation with the LWVWA issue chairs. We will take your perspectives under considerations as we determine our support for legislation and prepare testimony. Cynthia Stewart, Growth Management Issue Chair, [cstewart@lwvwa.org](mailto:cstewart@lwvwa.org)