

CITY OF BELLEVUE
CITY COUNCIL

Summary Minutes of Special Meeting

March 3, 2008
5:40 – 6:00 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall
Conference Room 1E-122

PRESENT: Mayor Degginger, Deputy Mayor Balducci, and Councilmembers Chelminiak, Davidson, Lee and Noble

ABSENT: None.

1. Special Session

Mayor Degginger called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m. to hear a brief legislative update from staff.

Diane Carlson, Director of Intergovernmental Relations, provided an update on the following legislation:

HB 3096 - Authorizing the state Department of Transportation to seek authorization from the legislature to collect tolls on the existing SR 520 bridge or a replacement SR 520 bridge. Microsoft is lobbying for language ensuring that the bridge will be expanded.

HB 1773 – Related to tolling policy and legislative authority to impose tolls on eligible toll facilities. Passed the House.

SB 6800 – Prohibits removal of rail infrastructure without legislative approval. Ms. Carlson noted opposition by cities and port associations that own rail lines.

SB 6771 – Provides that for the purpose of temporarily eliminating the opportunity for a regional transportation investment district (RTID) to be formed, the participating county or counties shall not submit a ballot proposition to voters prior to November 1, 2009.

HB 2344 – Requires the state Department of Transportation to conduct public outreach when rail corridors are proposed for sale or abandonment. Also requires local governments to include inventory of active/inactive lines in comprehensive plans.

HB 1873 – Expands the scope of people who can recover under wrongful death, which will increase liability payments. Current bill allows parents of an adult child to seek damages if they are financially dependent on the adult child or have significant involvement in the adult child's life or if they are sole beneficiaries of life insurance and have significant involvement. The Association of Washington Cities is asking cities to oppose the bill or to suggest modifications that provide limitations and pay for the impacts to local governments. No age limit given for the adult child.

SB 6547 – Prohibits gender discrimination in the allocation of facilities and resources for athletic programs (public and non-profit). Adds reporting requirements and third party liability for public agencies, and non-profits self certify to local governments that they are in compliance. Senator Tom has expressed concerns; bill might not survive.

HB 3292 – Requires a governing body holding an executive session to make a verbatim audio recording of the complete executive session and to retain the recording for a period of two years. Such recordings are not subject to public inspection and copying except by court order as specified in this act. Twenty amendments have been proposed.

SB 5892 – Building inspector liability allows a cause of action for damages for grossly negligent failure to enforce building codes.

SB 6385 – New home warranties allows home purchasers to sue construction professionals for building defects. Ms. Carlson noted the concern that this could apply to building inspectors.

SB 6573 – Distributes state funds to new account to increase LEOFF 2 benefits. Half of funding is shared proportionately with local governments to be used directly for public safety purposes.

SB 6615 – Provides that a watershed management partnership may exercise the power of eminent domain as provided in chapter 8.12 RCW. HB 1561 passed in the House, now under consideration by the Senate.

Mayor Degginger recessed to the Study Session at 6:00 p.m.

Michelle Murphy, CMC
Deputy City Clerk

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