

Local Governments Determination On Permits

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Secretary of Transportation

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Washington State
Department of Transportation

RE: RCW 47.01.485 (2) – Report on local governments taking longer than 90 days to make a final determination on permits

The 2015 Legislature directed the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to track and report any permit application for a project, with an estimated cost of less than five hundred million dollars on a state highway, that took more than 90 days for local governments (cities, towns, code cities, and counties) to process following the submission of a complete application. The proviso states:

“The department must report annually to the governor and the transportation committees of the house of representatives and the senate in compliance with RCW 43.01.036 regarding any permit application that takes longer than the number of days identified in subsection (1) of this section to process.”

Proviso Response:

The timeframe for this report is for permit application packages submitted between October 3, 2015 through October 2, 2016. Based on information from WSDOT’s regional offices, for the timeframe stated above, four WSDOT permit submittals took more than 90 days for local jurisdictions to issue.

Project name	Project cost (millions)	Local jurisdiction	Permit type	Days to process permit	Why did it take over 90 days?
Eagle Harbor Ferry Maintenance Facility	\$0.45	City of Bainbridge Island	Shoreline Exemption	181	City Planning Dept. staff turnover.
SR 142/Klickitat River Bridge Replacement	\$3.30	Klickitat Co.	Shoreline Conditional Use	125	Planning Commission meetings are inconsistently scheduled.
Seattle Multimodal Ferry Terminal at Colman Dock	\$347	City of Seattle	Master Use Permit / Shoreline Substantial Development	>264 (Issued after 2016)	The City of Seattle and WSDOT are working through complex project coordination issues.
SR 92/Pilchuck River Chronic Environmental Deficiency (CED)	\$3.19	Snohomish Co	Shoreline Substantial Development and Conditional Use	103	County thought the clock stopped until their questions were fully answered.

Should you have any questions, or need further information, please contact Megan White, Environmental Director, at 360-705-7480, or WHITEM@wsdot.wa.gov.