Aberdeen to Consider Transportation Benefit District, Forever Alone

Local News

Posted by: David Haviland

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ABERDEEN, Wash. - City staff will again research a Transportation Benefit District for Aberdeen, this time on their own. Public Works Committee Chair Tim Alstrom said last night that a county-wide option is not going to happen.We as a city would have like to have seen that approach, we as a committee just don't see the county acting on that. So we'd like to move forward, back forward, with the idea of creating our own Transportation Benefit District. - Aberdeen Councilman Tim AlstromThe Transportation Benefit District was requested by Public Works Director Larry Bledsoe earlier this year, and would ask Aberdeen ratepayers to approve a .13 percent increase in sales tax to fund road repairs. Mayor Bill Simpson said Thursday that staff would like to meet with area mayors about the idea of a county-wide effort to fund the costly repairs throughout Grays Harbor.Seventeen other cities in Washington state have established the districts, only one charges less than the $20 maximum fee.
How a transportation benefit district works Once a local transportation benefit district is set up, the district’s board of directors may vote to charge a local vehicle licensing fee due when a vehicle owner buys new tabs.The transportation benefit district board has the authority to impose a fee of up to $20 per vehicle without voter approval.A transportation benefit district may impose a vehicle renewal fee of up to $100 per vehicle or seek other sources of funding if approved by voters.
Related lawsRCW: 36.73: Transportation benefit districtsRCW 82.80.140: Vehicle fee — Transportation benefit district — Exemptions

Local transportation benefit district feesA law passed in 2007 allows city or county governments to create local transportation benefit districts and impose a local vehicle registration fee to fund local transportation projects.Transportation benefit districts and feesIf you live in any of the following locations, you must pay an additional local transportation benefit district fee when you renew your vehicle tabs:
DistrictFeeEffective date
(Tabs expiring on or after…)Location codeContact phone
Bremerton$20July 1, 201218-01360-473-5920
Burien No. 1$10February 1, 201117-34206-241-4647
Des Moines$20September 1, 200917-09206-870-7586
City of Eatonville$20March 1, 201327-05360-832-3361
Edmonds$20September 1, 200931-04425-771-0260
Grandview$20February 1, 201239-01509-882-9200
City of Kittitas$20December 1, 201219-03509-968-0220
Lake Forest Park$20September 1, 200917-17206-368-5440
Lynnwood$20July 1, 201131-10425-670-5020
Mabton$20December 1, 201139-04509-894-4096
Mountlake Terrace$20August 1, 201231-13425-744-6272
Olympia$20October 1, 200934-03360-570-3727
City of Orting$20February 1, 2013–

January 31, 2015
(Fee applies to all renewals with these registration dates, including renewals paid after Feb. 31, 2015.)27-10360-892-2219, ext. 133
Prosser$20November 1, 200903-03509-786-2332
Royal City$20November 1, 201213-11509-346-2263
Seattle$20May 1, 201117-26206-233-5005
Shoreline$20February 1, 201017-37206-801-2302
Snoqualmie$20March 1, 201117-28425-888-1555, Ext. 1135
City of Spokane$20September 1, 201132-10509-625-6252
Toppenish$20December 1, 201239-10509-865-4500
Wapato$20April 1, 201339-12509-877-2334
Wenatchee$20August 1, 201204-05509-888-3600
Zillah$20July 1, 201239-14509-829-5151Vehicles subject to feesPassenger vehiclesTrucks that weigh 6,000 pounds or lessMotorcyclesCommercial passenger vehicles and trucks that weigh 6,000 pounds or lessCombination trucks that weigh 6,000 pounds or lessTow trucksHouse moving dollies Trucks used exclusively for hauling logs that weigh 6,000 pounds or lessTaxicabsFor-hire or stage vehicles with 6 seats or lessFor-hire or stage vehicles with 7 or more seats that weigh 6,000 pounds or lessPrivate use trailers over 2,000 poundsMotorcycle trailersTravel trailersFixed load vehicles that weigh 6,000 pounds or lessMobile homes licensed as vehiclesExempt vehiclesAll farm vehicles CampersOff-road vehiclesSnowmobilesMopedsPersonal use trailers with a single axle and less than 2,000 pounds scale weightCommercial trailersCombination trailersTrailers used exclusively for hauling logsHorseless carriage, collector, or restored-plate vehiclesConverter gearGovernment vehiclesPrivate school vehiclesVehicles properly registered to disabled American veteransHow a transportation benefit district worksOnce a local transportation benefit district is set up, the district’s board of directors may vote to charge a local vehicle licensing fee due when a vehicle owner buys new tabs.The transportation benefit district board has the authority to impose a fee of up to $20 per vehicle without voter approval.A transportation benefit district may impose a vehicle renewal fee of up to $100 per vehicle or seek other sources of funding if approved by voters.
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