



Date: January 24, 2007

From: Washington Chapter, American Planning Association (APA)

To: The Honorable Geoff Simpson, Chair
Committee on Local Government
Washington State House of Representatives

Re: **HB 1361 - Growth Management Infrastructure Account**

Position: APA SUPPORTS HB 1361.

The Chapter strongly supports providing for a means to address issues such as unfunded mandates in local capital facilities plans, affordable housing, transportation needs, and water quality and wildlife protection. State funding is needed to assist county, city and state agencies meet infrastructure needs that are unmet by current programs. The Chapter likewise supports dedicating existing revenue to infrastructure funding to accommodate growth. However, the Chapter believes that because this legislation only dedicates existing revenues without addressing the need to restructure the state's tax system, it is important to note that this legislation is only one step in the right direction to fund capital facilities needed to accommodate growth and to protect environmental quality

The intent of this legislation is consistent with the legislative agenda of the Washington Chapter of APA. Advocating for local jurisdiction infrastructure and revenue is included in the Chapter's 2007 Session Priorities. Its position with respect to infrastructure includes the following:

- Provide revenue to maintain current infrastructure and meet future needs.
- Direct resources to infrastructure consistent with local plans and GMA.
- Account for needed infrastructure when forecasting population.
- Support infrastructure investment to facilitate transition of UGAs into urban areas.

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