

## Senate makes final push for revenue

The Senate appears to be making one last push to get a transportation revenue package passed this session. With only two weeks to go, Senator Hobbs (D-Lake Steven) will hold a third hearing this session on his [Forward Washington proposal](#), Monday, April 12. The \$18 billion, 16-year plan invests heavily in state preservation and maintenance (~\$5.8 billion), and “green” transportation initiatives. These include investments in rural mobility (\$231 million), fish passage barrier removal (\$1.85 billion), safe routes to schools (\$148 million), bike/ped projects and programs (\$383 million), and ferries (\$1.2 billion).

The Senate invests \$80 million in CRAB programs, and \$354 million in city and county direct distributions (down from \$375 million in previous iterations).

Senator Hobbs raises the revenue for his package through a gas tax increase, cap and invest, a shift in the sales and use tax on electric and hybrid vehicles, a statewide transportation benefit assessment, and various taxes and fees on everything from auto parts to drones.

With only two weeks to go, the prospects of a large-scale revenue package this year are waning. While not impossible, the [House](#) and [Senate](#) packages are quite different, and fourteen days is not a lot of time to hammer out compromise.