

*Land Use & Climate Change Advisory Committee*

## Background Paper: Recommendation Statement with Preliminary Cost Information Infrastructure Funding ~ Prioritization of New Funding Investment

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### **Recommendation 6b**

**Support the prioritization of new infrastructure funds to areas promoting development and transportation choices that support the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and dependence on foreign oil.** The LUCC recommends authorization of new infrastructure funds for urban centers or urban growth areas to create or support mixed-use, transit-oriented, affordable infill projects that result in compact and sustainable development. If properly structured, these new funds should be in the form of loans which will be paid back into the Fund over time as the intended compact development becomes a reality.

### **General assessment of state and local resources needed, financial and otherwise, needed to fully implement the idea.**

Costs for initial capitalization of these loan funds would be dependent on state budget actions. To be effective, it would need to range from approximately \$100 million to \$120 million, plus include an increase to the Public Works Trust Fund of approximately 25% (this rough estimate is based on LUCC member responses to the third homework assignment).

New funding could be used in existing programs or used to establish new programs specifically to target infrastructure money to areas creating areas of compact and sustainable development. Based on recommendations made during the third homework assignment of the LUCC, these funds could be used in existing programs such as the Transportation Improvement Board, the Public Works Trust Fund, the Brownfields Revolving Loan Program, or the Washington Wildlife Recreation Program. Or, the programs could be established to address infrastructure and Stormwater needs. For additional explanation of possible funding options, please see funding statements 8, 9, and 12 of the LUCC Funding Recommendations for consideration at the October meeting.

Regardless of how any new funds are prioritized or made available for compact development centers, there is likely to be high demand, especially from cities, as infrastructure demand has outpaced funding for decades.