

Olympia

2009 Legislative Session

Board of Commissioners Update
February 17, 2009

Discussion Today

- Status of legislative activity
- Climate change and I-937
- Federal stimulus package update
- Consultant update
- Questions

External Affairs Legislative Activity

- Beginning sixth week of legislative session
- Over 2380 bills and resolutions introduced already
- Monitoring over 340 bills

Bills of Interest – Energy and Climate

- Amendments to Initiative I-937 (RCW 19.285)
 - SB 5840 (Marr)
 - Possible vote Feb. 20
 - HB 1133 (McCoy)
 - Hearing Feb. 12
 - New draft released last week
 - Executive session Feb. 19

- Cap and Trade
 - Executive session today

Federal Stimulus Package

- House (246 – 183) and Senate (60 – 38) passed \$787 billion compromise stimulus bill on February 13
- President Obama scheduled to sign today in Denver
- Provisions of interest include:
 - \$1.6 billion for new Clean Renewable Energy Bond allocations
 - \$2.4 billion in Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds for state and local governments to invest in programs to reduce greenhouse gases
 - \$5 million for Weatherization Assistance
 - \$3.2 billion for Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grants
 - \$4.5 billion for Smart Grid Investment
 - \$6 billion Temporary Loan Guarantee Program for rapid deployment of renewable energy and electric power transmission projects
 - \$4.35 billion for Broadband Deployment in Unserved and Underserved Areas
 - \$2.5 billion for Rural Broadband Development
 - \$250 million for Energy Efficiency for Low-Income Housing
 - \$3.25 billion in new BPA borrowing authority
 - Municipal bond support/financing options

Staff Review

- External Affairs staff reviewing legislation
- Considering possible funding options for District programs.

Questions?
