

January 2008

LegislativeActivity

As of 1/28/08 the Design Office has been analyzing and tracking the following bills:

HB 2468 AN ACT Relating to improving community and urban forest conditions in HB 6249 Washington state; and 6249 amending RCW 76.15.005, 76.15.010, and 76.15.020.

HB 2587 AN ACT Relating to the practice of landscape architecture; amending RCW 18.96.010, 18.96.020, 18.96.030, 18.96.040, 18.96.060, 18.96.070, 18.96.080, 18.96.090, 18.96.100, 18.96.110, 18.96.120, 18.96.140, 18.96.150, 18.96.180, and 18.96.190;

SB 6245 AN ACT Relating to providing a sales and use tax exemption for horticultural plants native to Washington State; adding a new section to chapter 82.08 RCW; adding a new section.

HB 2457 AN ACT Relating to forestry operations adjacent to residences; amending RCW 76.09.020, 76.09.050, and 76.09.070; adding new sections to chapter 76.09 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 84.33 RCW; and creating new sections. REVIEWER PREPARER STATUS ASSIGNED DATE DUE.

HB 2525 AN ACT Relating to mitigating flood damage; amending RCW 77.55.021 and 77.55.211; and adding a new section to chapter 77.55 RCW.

HB 2530 AN ACT Relating to studying the effectiveness of the existing hydraulic project approval process under chapter 77.55 RCW in protecting fish life; creating a new section; and providing an expiration.

HB 2532 AN ACT Relating to providing environmental analysis of impacts to endangered marine species; amending RCW 43.21C.075 and 43.21C.110; adding a new section to chapter 43.21C RCW; adding a new section to chapter 77.12 RCW; adding a new section.

HB 2623 AN ACT Relating to charges for storm water control; amending RCW 36.89.080, 36.94.140, and 86.15.160; and creating a new section.

HB 2649 AN ACT Relating to authorizing state general obligation bonds for the state's share of the Centralia Chehalis flood control project; adding a new chapter to Title 43 RCW; and declaring an emergency.

HB 2677 AN ACT Relating to the removal of gravel from waterways to reduce the impact of flooding; amending RCW 36.32.290, 79.140.110, 77.55.271, and 77.55.021; adding a new section to chapter 86.09 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 85.05 RCW; 82.12 RCW; and creating a new section.

HB 2877 AN ACT Relating to urban creeks; and adding a new chapter to Title 35 RCW. ASSIGNED 01/21/2008

SECTION UPDATES

Printing Services

December 2007 Production

306 orders were submitted in December, with approximately 30 additional “walk-through” or “open” orders (completed on a while-you-wait basis and not logged through normal channels). Approximately 3.1 million printed pages of black & white project documents and other daily work, and approximately 61,000 pages of color documents were produced during the month of December.

278 jobs (91 percent) delivered on or before the due date

119 jobs (39 percent) delivered the same day

50 jobs (16 percent) delivered the next day

14 jobs (4 percent) delivered past the requested date

Average delivery time – 2.2 days

17 construction projects were processed in December. The projects contained a total of 2986 plan sheets, totaling 861,676 printed 11 x 17 sheets. The following is a breakdown of construction projects produced for each location:

Northwest Region 4 projects

North Central Region 2 projects

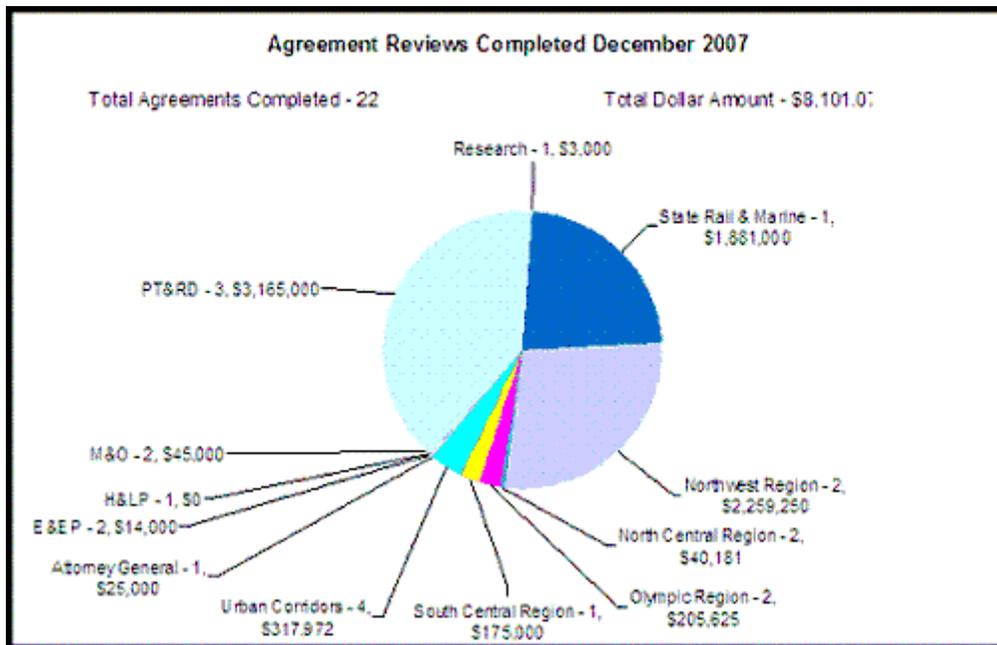
Olympic Region 5 projects

Southwest Region 1 project

South Central Region 4 projects

Facilities 1 project

Utilities, R/R and Agreements



Ahmer Nizam attended the January 2008 meeting of the National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (NCUTCD) in Washington, D.C. Ahmer represents the Department as a Technical Committee Member covering Chapters 8 and 10 of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). The NCUTCD assists in the development of standards, guides and warrants for traffic control devices and practices on streets and highways, and provides USDOT with recommendations on revisions and

interpretations to the MUTCD and other accepted national standards. The focus of the sessions included new sections related to traffic signal preemption, rail-pathway grade crossings, queue-cutter signals, railroad quiet zones, and light rail transit crossings.

Policy Standards and Research

Currently the Design Policy Team is surveying designers to obtain feedback on proposed changes to the Design Manual. We're doing this is by use of a commercial surveying tool (surveymonkey.com) on the web. We started with a small trial audience in January and, based on the responses, plan to revise the survey and extend it in February to all Design Manual holders, including external users.

While our manuals all have "comment forms" included, this proactive effort to "pull information" from designers will have a much greater payoff for us; like getting ten years' worth of comments all at once!

We have high hopes that this survey effort will:

Help us make good decisions about reordering the layout of the entire manual, very possibly into two volumes.

Show that some material in the Design Manual could be better located in another manual or location.

Indicate which chapters are used most often and which are used rarely, helping us prioritize our updates.

The survey tool is simple to use and very cost-effective, especially when our office can share it under one account across teams. The analysis features seem pretty good as well, showing responses in easy-to-understand visual displays.

If you're a Design Manual subscriber, you will see the e-mail coming out in February linking you to that particular survey.

Standard Plans

On January 7, 2008 The Standards Unit has recently completed an update which includes approximately 102 updated or new standard plans.