



# City Council Agenda Bill

# 20055

Bill Number

**Subject:** 2013 State Legislative Review

**Summary Statement:** For 2013, the City of Bellingham, in partnership with Whatcom County and the Port of Bellingham, contracted with McBride Public Affairs to represent the joint legislative interests of the three governments. Tom McBride and Ben Buchholz will provide a State Legislative Review of the 2013 Legislative Session.

**Previous Council Action:** 1/7/13 Adoption of Legislative Agenda; Approval of 2013 Budget

**Fiscal Impact:** \$30,000 per year

**Funding Source:** General Fund

**Attachments:** Joint Legislative Agenda

Meeting Activity	Meeting Date	Staff Recommendation	Presented By	Time
Committee Briefing Information Only	15-Jul-2013	Information Only	Mayor Kelli Linville	5

**Council Committee:**

*caw*

**Agenda Bill Contact:**

Brian Heinrich, exec

**Reviewed By**

**Initials**

**Date**

**Committee Actions:**

Legal

*DMR*

*2-9-13*

Mayor

*KL*

*7-9-13*

**Council Action:**

## 2013 LEGISLATIVE OBJECTIVES

City of Bellingham

Whatcom County

Port of Bellingham

- **Budget.** Maintain adequate funding for local governments, avoid new unfunded mandates and provide relief in the form of common sense policies, such as efficient, consistent and predictable permitting requirements.
- **Public Works Trust Fund.** Preserve full funding of the Public Works Trust Fund. Retain full funding for projects that are underway/scheduled and provide family wage jobs in Whatcom County.
- **LIFT.** Expand Local Infrastructure Financing Tools for projects that create jobs in Whatcom County.
- **MTCA.** Fully fund the Model Toxics Control Act. This dedicated funding source for toxic cleanup and prevention, including stormwater projects, is at risk. Protect the MTCA account and maintain focus on the core uses of these funds.
- **Transportation.** Support new statewide transportation funding that will sustain our ferries, highways and freight mobility capacity, including much needed investments in local roads and transit.
- **Aquatic Invasive Species.** Assist in development of a federal led statewide Aquatic Invasive Species eradication program.
- **Marine Tourism.** Support legislation that will aid efforts by cities, counties and ports to attract out-of-state boaters to our waterfront communities. Expanding the permitted length of stay for "entity-owned" vessels from 60 to 180 days creates greater sales tax revenues to waterfront economies.
- **Judiciary.** Fund a fourth Superior Court Judge for Whatcom County.

