

# System Improvement Team

# Better Process Better Projects

### Washington Infrastructure

#### Who we are

HB 1677 tasked the Public Works Board to create a system improvement team in collaboration with the departments of Commerce, Ecology and Health.

This core team is known as *Sync* and coordinates with other agencies, clients, stakeholders, legislators, and industry experts to develop a more efficient and effective process for infrastructure financing.

#### Our purpose

We identified seven objectives that once implemented, seek to reduce barriers to funding, create a more streamlined process for clients, and maximize the value of state dollars invested into infrastructure.

This is a three-year project that will live beyond that mark. The intent is to become a source for efficiency and collaboration of state agencies that continue to support best-practices for funding infrastructure in partnership with local governments.

# The Framework

## **Identify**

Identify our inventory of the resources in the state that support communities. Identify opportunities for efficiencies.

### **Outreach**

Host listening sessions and attend meetings with associations to get feedback on our process.

# **Implement**

Using our strategic plan, we implement strategies that seek to benefit our clients and create efficiencies for both local governments and the state.

### Report

Formally report our findings, recommendations and strategies to the legislature.

Be a part of the conversation!

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### The designated outcomes of HB 1677

In 2017, the Legislature passed HB 1677, which authorized Sync to undertake system improvement activities. The following eight outcomes characterize the intended results of those activities

- 1. Projects will create financial efficiencies through local collaboration and consideration of life cycle costs.
- The state will promote projects designed to meet the unique needs of a community by refining and aligning processes to limit barriers to entry.
- Projects will maximize long-term value through an inclusive selection process, a focus on sustainable management, and a thorough evaluation of alternative solutions.
- 4. Support innovation and provide local agencies the tools to design high value projects that reduce costs, with priority at the design stage,

- and the finance and construction stages, where possible.
- 5. The state will promote state-local collaboration and coordinate additional state or local partners, where complimentary projects allow.
- 6. The state will provide technical assistance and build local capacity in financial planning and utility management.
- 7. Using existing assets to attract or secure additional sources of funds to finance high impact projects.
- 8. The state will organize and support ongoing review of system-wide outcomes that benefit local communities' infrastructure.

### Measuring progress for Sync, the System Improvement Team

Sync generated seven objectives to meet the outcomes of HB 1677.

- Eliminate barriers to access funding
- 2. Invest in high impact projects
- Give maximum value by building capacity for project development, financial planning, and management
- 4. Ensure that infrastructure financed by the State receives long-term care and maintenance
- Encourage coordination between and within local jurisdictions, state agencies, and the private sector
- 6. Leveraging federal dollars
- Explore and document alternative financing options

#### Check us out on the web: