

**Transportation Revenue Forecast Council  
March 2023  
Transportation Economic and Revenue Forecast**

**Volume IV: Vehicle-Related Fees Pledged to Bonds**

**VEHICLE-RELATED FEES PLEDGED TO BONDS  
MARCH 2023 FORECAST  
FISCAL YEARS 2020 – 2031**

Prepared by  
**Washington State Department of Transportation**

for Presentation to the  
**Transportation Revenue  
Forecast Council**

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## Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax (MVFT) & Vehicle-Related Fees (VRF)

Through a number of bond authorizations, Washington issues MVFT & VRF General Obligation Bonds to finance a variety of transportation projects. MVFT & VRF General Obligation Bonds are first payable from MVFT and VRF revenues, and further secured by the full faith and credit of the state. More specifically,

- The bonds are general obligations of the State to which the State pledges its full faith and credit;
- The principal and interest on the Bonds are first payable from the proceeds of state excise taxes on fuel imposed by Chapter 82.38 RCW (MVFT), and vehicle-related fees (VRF) imposed under Title 46 RCW that constitute license fees for motor vehicles required to be used for highway purposes and to be deposited into the Motor Vehicle Fund;
- The proceeds of such excise taxes on fuel and vehicle-related fees are pledged to the payment of the principal and interest on all bonds to which such revenues are pledged;
- The Legislature has agreed to continue to impose such excise taxes on fuel and vehicle-related fees in amount sufficient to pay when due the principal and interest on all bonds to which such revenues are pledged.

In reviewing if a VRF is pledged, the following general definitions are applicable:

*“License fee”* means a fee collected for the right to use a vehicle on public highways, including vehicle registration fees such as license fees by vehicle type, license fees by weight, license plate fees for motor vehicles, electric vehicle registration and renewal fees, capacity fees, tonnage fees, trip and special permit fees and other fees imposed as a condition of registration and operation of a vehicle on public highways. License fees do not include administrative processing fees, inspection fees, vehicle operator’s license fees, excise taxes imposed in lieu of property taxes, or fees for certificates of ownership of motor vehicles.

*“Motor vehicles”* definition excludes trailers since they are not self-propelled.

*“Used for highway purposes”* means it is deposited in the Motor vehicle fund and used for highway purposes within the meaning of Article II, Section 40 of the State Constitution.

Attached Table 1 provides additional detail on the individual vehicle-related fees to be pledged to the Bonds.

Table 1 "Vehicle-Related Fees" Pledged to Bonds

Vehicle-Related Fees	Authorizing Statute <sup>1</sup>
Basic License Fee	46.17.350(1); 46.17.400(1)(d); 46.17.400(1)(a), 46.16A.305 <sup>2</sup> ;46.17.400(1)(b) <sup>2</sup>
Original License Plate Fee	46.17.200(1)(a)
Reflectivity License Plate Fee	46.17.200(1)(a)
Replacement License Fee	46.17.200(1)(a)
License Plate Transfer Fee	46.17.200(1)(c)
Electric Vehicle Registration Renewal Fee: Electric Vehicle/ Plug in Renewal Fee	46.17.323(1); 46.17.323(4) <sup>2</sup> ; 46.17.324
Combined License Fees (Trucks) and farm trip permits	46.17.355(1)(b); 46.17.325, 46.16A.420; 46.17.330; 46.17.355(7); 46.16A.330
Freight Project Fee: Vehicles with gross weight in excess of 10,000 pounds	46.17.355(6)
Capacity Fees	46.17.335(2); 46.17.340
Monthly Gross Weight Fee (Tonnage Fee)	46.17.360;
Trip Permit Fee	46.17.400(1)(c), 46.17.400(1)(h) <sup>2</sup> , 46.16A.320 <sup>2</sup> ; 46.17.400(1)(b), 46.17.400(1)(f), 82.38.100
Temporary Permit Fee	46.16A.300;
On-Road ATVs: Vehicle License Fee	46.17.350(1)(r)
Special Permit Fees	46.44.0941; 46.44.047; 46.44.095

1 Title 46 RCW also includes certain categories of fees that are not eligible to be pledged including: a) fees relating to trailers: basic License fee, license plate fee, and the combined license fees for commercial trailers; b) filing and service Fees; c) certificate of title fees; and d) some "other" fees imposed under Title 46 RCW, including but not limited to parking rental fee, off road vehicle dealer license fee, studded tire fee, driving record fee, and tow truck operator license.

2 A portion of these fees are "Vehicle-Related Fees" pledged to Bonds.

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 Table H.1. Fuel Tax and Pledged Vehicle & Plate Related License Fees ONLY

March 2023

	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032	FY 2033
<b>Fuel Tax Collections</b>													
Net Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax *	1,491,501,681	1,579,633,200	1,550,237,000	1,553,754,200	1,569,391,600	1,584,868,800	1,600,151,500	1,615,379,000	1,630,529,300	1,645,458,500	1,660,426,000	1,675,374,700	1,688,973,000
<b>Pledged Licenses Permits and Fees</b>													
Basic License Fees	174,716,337	166,709,585	165,491,058	166,911,965	170,090,974	173,292,540	176,662,603	179,111,280	181,540,194	183,937,120	186,298,199	188,616,690	190,895,332
Original License Plate Fees	12,280,924	10,608,471	56,429,873	62,753,510	64,149,570	64,895,648	64,721,749	64,202,092	64,037,704	64,055,532	63,877,631	63,620,150	63,474,504
Reflectivity License Plate Fees	6,067,139	5,394,648	5,183,666	5,525,661	5,639,753	5,728,398	5,755,958	5,710,155	5,704,955	5,715,851	5,702,979	5,683,398	5,672,610
Replacement License Plate Fees	17,606,526	15,339,422	41,548,712	42,404,304	43,234,584	44,089,896	44,610,996	44,252,016	44,276,856	44,427,408	44,345,988	44,214,480	44,143,896
License Plate Transfer Fees	145,770	133,990	140,000	141,620	142,700	143,790	144,850	145,900	146,840	147,830	148,710	149,590	150,490
Dealer Plate Fees	627,538	664,270	637,773	639,960	639,590	643,210	641,990	653,210	652,810	658,400	654,800	654,800	649,610
Electric Vehicle Registration Renewal Fees	8,500,006	7,831,799	10,469,370	14,247,190	18,453,590	51,241,570	58,625,740	65,908,160	73,058,730	80,151,490	87,337,520	95,139,070	103,627,440
Vehicles paying Weight Based Registrations ( all trucks)	300,267,868	248,723,533	266,704,657	277,653,455	281,835,853	285,374,344	288,469,980	291,321,396	293,966,363	296,606,629	299,303,028	302,014,767	304,751,866
Vehicles Paying Varying Fees	1,276,136	1,261,968	1,201,150	1,162,145	1,165,430	1,168,756	1,172,124	1,175,532	1,178,981	1,182,471	1,186,001	1,189,572	1,193,186
Vehicles paying Freight Project Fees (Trucks > 10,000)	22,953,857	22,495,847	22,101,738	22,108,233	22,439,856	22,720,354	22,965,694	23,191,634	23,401,178	23,610,312	23,823,856	24,038,575	24,255,262
Capacity Fees	34,625	34,700	33,942	33,581	33,413	33,246	33,080	32,915	32,750	32,586	32,423	32,261	32,125
Tonnage Fees	505,386	470,776	455,207	440,000	440,000	440,000	440,000	440,000	440,000	440,000	440,000	440,000	440,000
Trip Permit Fees	3,800,627	3,235,377	3,134,306	3,196,361	3,243,530	3,283,428	3,318,325	3,350,462	3,380,268	3,410,015	3,440,389	3,470,930	3,501,751
Dealer Temporary Permit Fees	8,292,080	10,279,170	13,935,205	27,863,900	27,898,700	28,285,700	28,170,700	27,825,500	27,713,900	27,724,400	27,605,900	27,435,000	27,337,400
On-Road ATVs: Vehicle License Fee	219,765	229,944	247,440	254,880	257,760	260,760	263,760	266,760	269,880	273,000	276,120	279,240	282,480
Special Permit Fees	9,409,253	9,391,612	9,416,082	9,544,150	9,687,312	9,808,404	9,914,317	10,011,856	10,102,316	10,192,600	10,284,787	10,377,481	10,471,025
<b>TOTAL PLEDGED REVENUES</b>	<b>2,058,205,518</b>	<b>2,082,438,311</b>	<b>2,147,367,179</b>	<b>2,188,635,115</b>	<b>2,218,744,216</b>	<b>2,276,278,844</b>	<b>2,306,063,365</b>	<b>2,332,977,868</b>	<b>2,360,433,023</b>	<b>2,388,024,143</b>	<b>2,415,184,331</b>	<b>2,442,730,704</b>	<b>2,469,851,978</b>