

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

Volume IV: Vehicle-Related Fees Pledged to Bonds

**VEHICLE-RELATED FEES PLEDGED TO BONDS**  
**September 2023 FORECAST**  
**FISCAL YEARS 2023-2025**

Prepared by  
**Washington State Department of Transportation**  
for Presentation to the  
**Transportation Revenue Forecast Council**

## **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.3052;46.17.400(1)(b)2
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)2; 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)2, 46.16A.3202; 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 feed, 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

September 2023

	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
<b>Fuel Tax Collections</b>											
Net Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax *	1,669,508,894	1,685,851,636	1,537,774,035	1,491,501,681	1,579,633,200	1,532,963,400	1,538,263,600	1,566,033,600	1,578,830,400	1,594,073,700	1,609,216,000
<b>Pledged Licenses Permits and Fees</b>											
Basic License Fees	170,573,051	166,084,004	162,349,187	174,716,337	166,709,585	162,237,571	163,925,031	166,080,758	169,160,685	172,168,436	174,558,992
Original License Plate Fees	13,943,100	13,488,376	11,432,284	12,280,924	10,608,471	51,624,400	58,424,606	61,078,423	62,119,482	61,996,286	61,284,533
Reflectivity License Plate Fees	5,914,820	5,786,390	5,327,195	6,067,139	5,394,648	5,138,835	5,151,307	5,369,753	5,566,350	5,605,084	5,521,784
Replacement License Plate Fees	15,238,500	14,868,744	14,974,265	17,606,526	15,339,422	40,242,788	39,341,772	41,072,712	43,359,972	44,014,296	43,213,644
License Plate Transfer Fees	153,760	141,789	134,394	145,770	133,990	137,399	139,270	140,360	141,450	142,520	143,390
Dealer Plate Fees	627,721	665,369	652,053	627,538	664,270	486,337	477,170	641,190	638,780	637,180	660,000
Electric Vehicle Registration Renewal Fees	2,442,384	3,574,778	2,562,456	8,500,006	7,831,799	10,309,822	14,707,120	19,262,450	54,844,860	68,015,780	83,223,360
Vehicles paying Weight Based Registrations ( all trucks)	233,468,745	237,935,393	198,131,843	300,267,868	248,723,533	267,407,987	272,106,575	276,205,552	279,673,472	282,472,526	285,244,449
Vehicles Paying Varying Fees	883,489	1,083,239	1,035,895	1,276,136	1,261,968	1,086,289	1,087,606	1,090,769	1,093,970	1,097,209	1,100,485
Vehicles paying Freight Project Fees (trucks > 10,000)	-	-	20,634,355	22,953,857	22,495,847	21,391,065	21,765,408	22,091,889	22,368,038	22,590,876	22,811,515
Capacity Fees	35,025	33,250	32,675	34,625	34,700	33,100	32,935	32,770	32,606	32,443	32,281
Tonnage Fees	424,811	430,278	405,738	505,386	470,776	440,000	440,000	440,000	440,000	440,000	440,000
Trip Permit Fees	4,072,250	4,799,385	3,905,865	3,800,627	3,178,785	3,014,809	3,067,512	3,113,499	3,152,396	3,183,784	3,214,863
Dealer Temporary Permit Fees	7,905,930	7,860,300	7,658,000	8,292,080	10,279,170	13,340,650	23,784,705	28,052,100	28,756,400	28,658,800	28,163,700
On-Road ATVs: Vehicle License Fee	113,314	143,429	218,000	219,765	229,944	257,726	273,960	284,640	295,800	307,320	319,320
Special Permit Fees	8,860,300	9,067,213	8,785,429	9,409,253	9,146,771	9,306,840	9,446,442	9,564,523	9,659,808	9,754,153	9,842,679
<b>TOTAL PLEDGED REVENUES</b>	<b>2,134,166,094</b>	<b>2,151,813,571</b>	<b>1,976,013,669</b>	<b>2,058,205,518</b>	<b>2,082,136,879</b>	<b>2,119,419,017</b>	<b>2,152,435,019</b>	<b>2,200,554,987</b>	<b>2,260,134,469</b>	<b>2,295,190,393</b>	<b>2,328,990,995</b>

\* Gross fuel tax less refunds

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

September 2023

	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032	FY 2033
<b>Fuel Tax Collections</b>					
Net Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax *	1,624,255,300	1,639,213,300	1,654,085,400	1,668,978,800	1,683,954,900
<b>Pledged Licenses Permits and Fees</b>					
Basic License Fees	176,930,219	179,270,203	181,575,146	183,838,421	186,062,866
Original License Plate Fees	60,907,504	60,702,670	60,537,252	60,293,025	60,182,445
Reflectivity License Plate Fees	5,476,320	5,450,506	5,429,159	5,399,512	5,384,831
Replacement License Plate Fees	42,768,264	42,508,104	42,290,256	41,998,056	41,845,212
License Plate Transfer Fees	144,430	145,390	146,270	147,180	148,030
Dealer Plate Fees	659,190	672,390	663,200	663,200	667,200
Electric Vehicle Registration Renewal Fees	100,207,440	118,984,030	139,522,920	161,082,070	183,032,420
Vehicles paying Weight Based Registrations ( all trucks)	287,845,919	290,432,311	293,073,431	295,729,515	298,411,083
Vehicles Paying Varying Fees	1,103,800	1,107,152	1,110,541	1,113,968	1,117,435
Vehicles paying Freight Project Fees (trucks > 10,000)	23,018,548	23,224,345	23,434,460	23,645,726	23,858,979
Capacity Fees	32,119	31,959	31,799	31,640	31,507
Tonnage Fees	440,000	440,000	440,000	440,000	440,000
Trip Permit Fees	3,244,025	3,273,013	3,302,609	3,332,367	3,362,405
Dealer Temporary Permit Fees	27,898,700	27,752,300	27,633,800	27,466,400	27,386,200
On-Road ATVs: Vehicle License Fee	331,800	342,960	342,960	342,960	342,960
Special Permit Fees	9,930,678	10,020,522	10,110,859	10,202,046	10,297,628
<b>TOTAL PLEDGED REVENUES</b>	<b>2,365,194,256</b>	<b>2,403,571,154</b>	<b>2,443,730,061</b>	<b>2,484,704,886</b>	<b>2,526,526,102</b>

\* Gross fuel tax less refunds