

CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION

Update from Washington State Department of Licensing on REAL ID Law Implementation

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DIRECTION NEEDED FROM COUNCIL**INFORMATION
ONLY**

Tonight, Executive Director for the Washington State Department of Licensing (DOL), Teresa Berntsen, will be in attendance to share how the implementation of REAL ID will impact different communities in Bellevue and promote opportunities for residents to obtain more information.

RECOMMENDATION

N/A

BACKGROUND & ANALYSIS

The Real ID Act (the Act) was passed by Congress in 2005 in response to recommendations from the 9/11 Commission to establish standards for the issuance of identification, such as driver's licenses and identification cards. Implementation of the Act will prohibit Federal agencies from accepting for official purposes licenses and identification cards from states that do not meet the new standards.

While states have continued to issue what is being referred to as standard driver licenses, any such ID issued since July 2018 are marked with annotation that "Federal Limits Apply." The next significant milestone goes into effect on October 1, 2020 with the primary impact being the requirement for commercial airline travel passengers over the age of 18 to present Real ID compliant identification in order to pass Transportation Security Administration (TSA) airport screening.

While there is a significant focus on enhanced driver licenses being issued by the Washington State DOL as a means of meeting the new requirements, they are not the only form of identification available. Real ID compliant forms of identification require inclusion of the holder's full legal name, signature, date of birth, gender, a unique identification number, principle residence and a front-facing photograph. In addition to enhanced driver licenses, other forms of federally accepted identification can be used, including a United States or foreign issued passport, military ID, or permanent resident card (green card).

In anticipation of peak customer demand for those seeking to obtain an enhanced driver license before the pending deadline, the Washington State DOL has implemented an information campaign highlighting the requirements and options pertaining to state residents. Included in the campaign is a fact sheet highlighting the changes to Washington driver licenses and ID cards (Attachment A), a website (<https://id2020wa.com/>) including video, an implementation countdown, and a click-through quiz to help users confirm if they currently possess identification that meets the requirements of the Act. The [ID 2020 toolkit](#) includes information in seven languages: English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, Russian and Ukrainian.

Tonight, is an opportunity to hear more information from staff at the DOL about their outreach efforts, and to answer any questions the Council may have or have heard from the community about this change. The presentation provides background about the Act, information about what to do if a member of the public wishes to obtain an enhanced driver license or determine options if an alternative method of Real ID is required. In addition, the City will be coordinating with DOL staff to provide written materials at Bellevue facilities as the October 1, 2020 deadline approaches.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

Washington State is in full compliance with the Real ID Act, and no policy changes are required by local governments.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact anticipated in the City's support of the DOL outreach activities.

OPTIONS

N/A

ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS

A. Washington State Department of Licensing Fact Sheet

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

N/A