



Washington State
Transportation Commission



WTP2035

WASHINGTON TRANSPORTATION PLAN

CONNECTING WASHINGTON COMMUNITIES
FOR A HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS FUTURE

Transportation Planning in Washington State

August 19, 2014

Transportation Planning is Multi-jurisdictional

Federal law requires: that
“each State shall develop
a statewide transportation
plan and a statewide
transportation
improvement program for
all areas of the State.”
(Title 23 U.S.C. Section
135 (a)(1))



Transportation Planning is Multi-jurisdictional

State law requires the Transportation Commission to prepare, and every four years review and revise, a comprehensive and balanced statewide transportation plan:

- Consistent with the state's growth management goals;
- Based on the transportation policy goals provided under RCW 47.04.280 and applicable state and federal laws; and
- Reflective of the priorities of government developed by the Office of Financial Management and addresses regional needs, including multimodal transportation planning





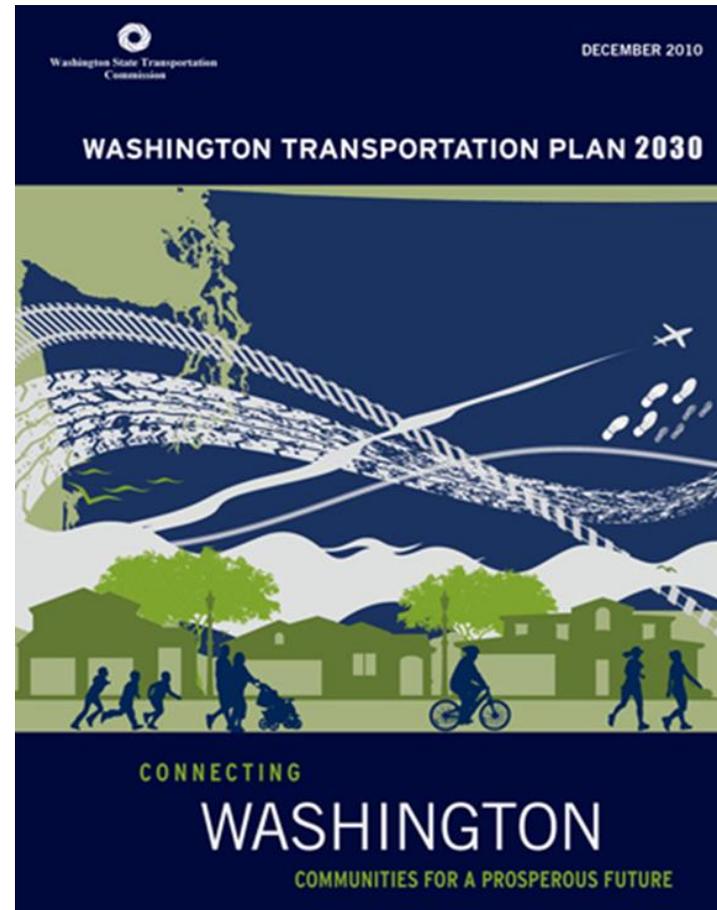
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The plan must, at a minimum:

- Establish a vision for the development of the statewide transportation system;
- Identify significant statewide transportation policy issues; and
- Recommend statewide transportation policies and strategies to the Legislature.(RCW 47.01.071(4))



Transportation Planning is Cross-jurisdictional

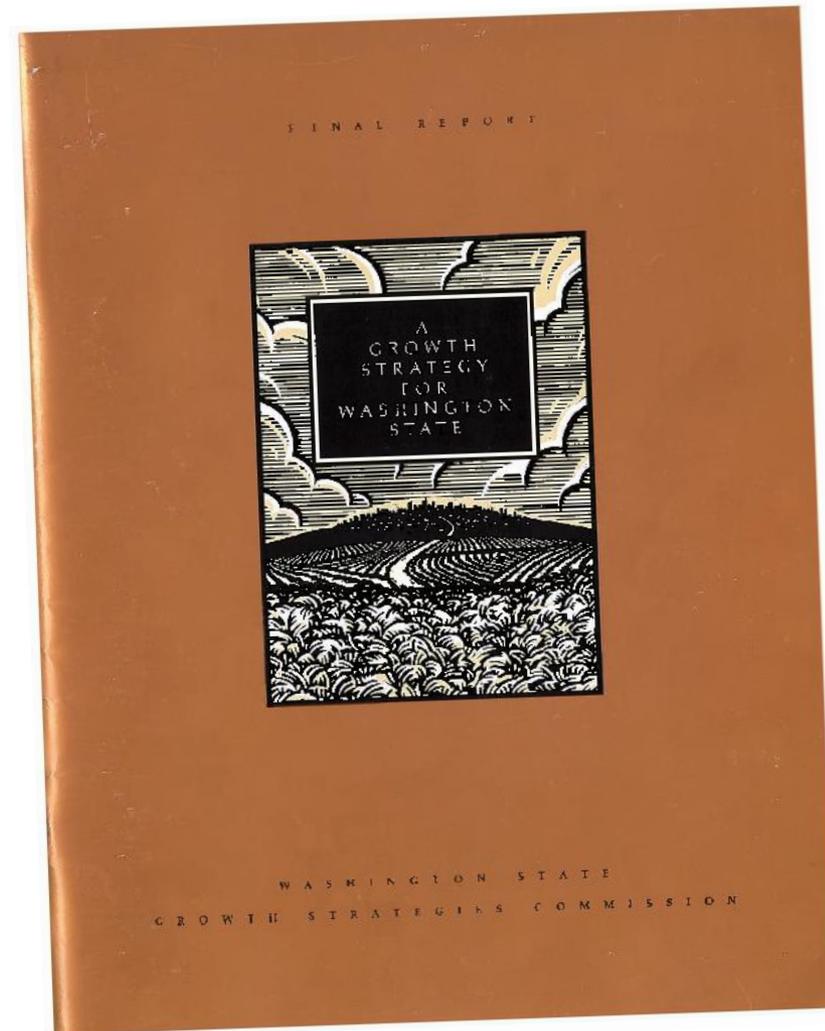


RCW 47.06.040 requires WSDOT to develop:
“...a statewide multimodal transportation plan under RCW 47.01.071(4) and in conformance with federal requirements, to ensure the continued mobility of people and goods within regions and across the state in a safe, cost-effective manner.”

Growth Management Act

Legislative Findings:

- “uncoordinated and unplanned growth ... pose a threat to the environment, sustainable economic development, and the health, safety, and high quality of life....”
- Share economic development with communities experiencing “insufficient economic growth”



Why do we plan?

Four key GMA Planning Goals

1. Encourage development in urban areas.
2. Reduce sprawl.
3. Encourage efficient multi-modal transportation systems based on regional priorities and coordinated with local comprehensive plans.
4. Encourage economic growth throughout the state.



GMA Transportation Element

A transportation element that implements, and is consistent with, the land use element. RCW 36.70A.070(6)

The transportation element must include:

- Land use assumptions
- Estimated Traffic impacts
- Facilities and services needs
- Finance
- Intergovernmental coordination efforts
- Demand-management strategies
- A pedestrian and bicycle component

GMA Requires “Concurrency” and “Consistency”

Concurrent

Cities and counties must adopt and enforce ordinances which prohibit development approval if:

The development causes level of service to decline below adopted standards; or

Transportation improvements or strategies to accommodate the impacts of development are not made concurrent with the development

36.70A.070(6)(b)

Consistent

The transportation element, the six-year transportation plans required for cities, for counties, and for public transportation systems, and the ten-year investment program required for the state, must all be consistent.

36.70A.070(6)(c)

Concurrency – Options to Keep up with Growth

Added in 2005:

The GMA transportation element ... may include, in addition to improvements or strategies to accommodate the impacts of development authorized under RCW 36.70A.070(6)(b), **multimodal transportation improvements or strategies** that are made concurrent with the development.

RCW 36.70A.108



Poulsbo Place



Redmond's Village at Overlake Station

GMA and Transportation Nexus

In 1991 the Legislature added:

- Transportation Impact Fee authority (city and county)
- Regional Transportation Planning (RTPOs)

In 2007, the Legislature amended the Transportation Planning statutes to require the statewide transportation plan to be consistent with GMA goals

... and, the six Transportation Policy Goals of RCW 47.04.280

- (a) Economic vitality: To promote and develop transportation systems that stimulate, support, and enhance the movement of people and goods to ensure a prosperous economy;
- (b) Preservation: To maintain, preserve, and extend the life and utility of prior investments in transportation systems and services;
- (c) Safety: To provide for and improve the safety and security of transportation customers and the transportation system;

Transportation Policy Goals of RCW 47.04.280 (continued)

(d) Mobility: To improve the predictable movement of goods and people throughout Washington state;

(e) Environment: To enhance Washington's quality of life through transportation investments that promote energy conservation, enhance healthy communities, and protect the environment;
and

(f) Stewardship: To continuously improve the quality, effectiveness, and efficiency of the transportation system.



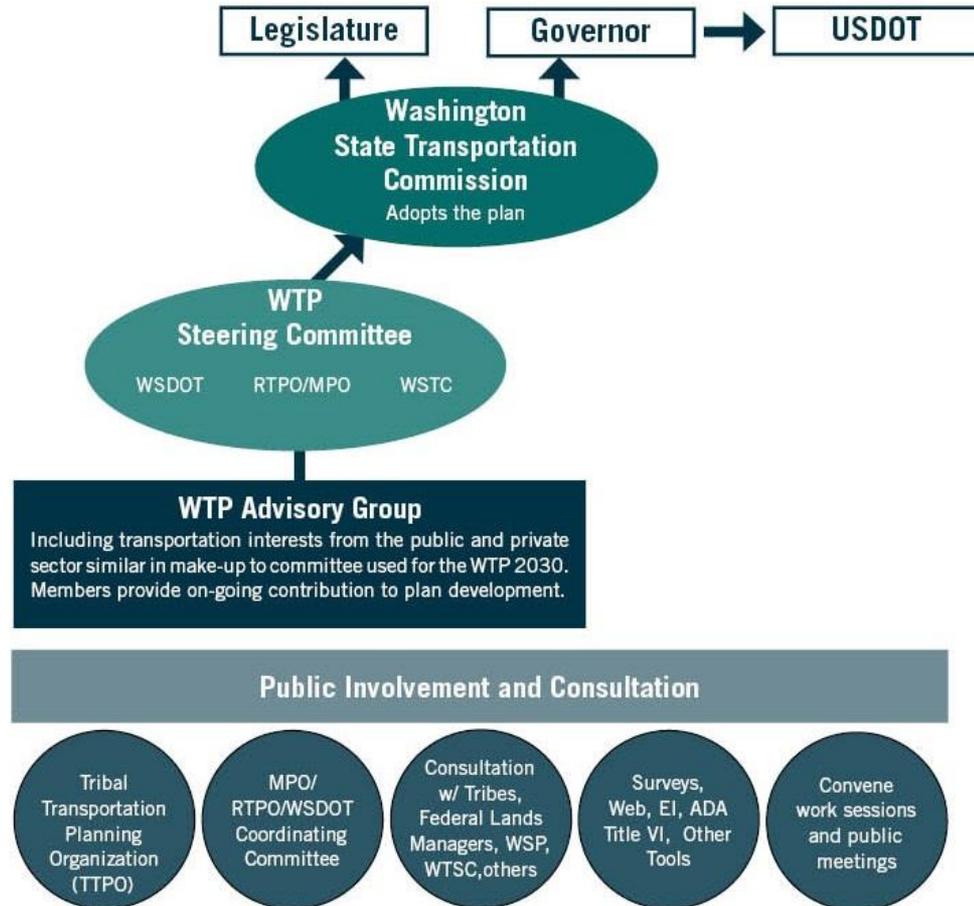
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A Work in Progress:

Three member Steering Committee recommends the Plan to the Transportation Commission for adoption, the Secretary of Transportation for endorsement, and the MPOs/RTPOs for support.



Consultant Team:

Cambridge Systematics
BERK Consulting
Alta Planning
Natalie Quick Consulting

WTP 2035 Advisory Group Engagement

- Broad and diverse stakeholder group
- Involvement of state agencies, business, local government, transit, regional planning agencies, ports, environmental interests
- Advisory Group members will participate actively in broader statewide outreach

Advisory Group Membership

- Association of Washington Business
- Association of Washington Cities
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Ecology
- Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board
- Governor's Office/OFM
- Healthy Communities
- Puget Sound Partnership
- Puget Sound Regional Council
- Skagit-Island Regional Transportation Planning Organization
- Spokane Regional Transportation Council
- Transportation Choices
- Tribal Representative
- Washington Public Ports Association
- Washington Roundtable
- Washington State Association of Counties
- Washington State Traffic Safety Commission
- Washington State Transit Association

Outreach: What Do You Think?

We consulted with our WTP 2035 Advisory Group, held Stakeholder Roundtables in Seattle, Spokane, Vancouver and Yakima, met with students at WSU and WWU, and with other groups and organizations.

- What are the top transportation issues today? Over the next 20 years?
- What are the current and foreseeable economic, demographic and cultural forces that will impact transportation infrastructure or services over the next five years? Over the next twenty years?
- What funding sources make sense for the future?
- What can we do without or with less than today in 2035?



Developing the WTP 2035 Strategies



WTP 2035 Key Messages

- WTP 2035 represents an *incremental shift* rather than a major change in direction and strategy.
- Washington's future economic vitality and quality of life depend on a multimodal transportation system that is safe and well-maintained, and operates efficiently to serve a growing economy and population. An integrated and coordinated planning process supported by best management practices is necessary to meet these demands, whether moving harvest from farm to market on roads, waterways, rails and air, or getting children safely between school and home using sidewalks, bicycles and buses.



WTP 2035 Key Messages

- Establishing a more defined role for the State in multimodal transportation, including air, public transportation, and special needs transportation is important for Washington communities across the state. Service providers must have the financial resources and authority to ensure they can deliver efficient services that meet the unique needs of their respective areas.



WTP 2035 Key Messages

- Statewide, there is an identifiable need for secure, sustainable, long-term sources of funding for transportation. Continuing the funding status quo will result in declining condition and performance of Washington's transportation system, due to inadequate maintenance and preservation, as well as failure to address growing demand.



Economic Vitality: Emerging Themes

- Support economic vitality through more efficient freight and passenger mobility and accessibility
- Work to maintain and expand flight offerings from smaller commercial airports



Preservation: Emerging Themes

- Establish a higher priority for maintenance and preservation of transportation system components
- Develop sustainable funding sources that allow a more cost-effective, proactive approach to system maintenance, preservation and eventual rehabilitation or replacement of critical infrastructure including transit vehicles and ferries



Safety: Emerging Themes

- Improve safety and security for all transportation modes and users on the complete system including state, local and tribal infrastructure
- Enhance transportation security through identifying and maintaining redundant critical routes



Mobility: Emerging Themes

- Reduce obstacles to multimodal travel and increase the number of realistic travel choices for any given trip
- Anticipate and work to address the implications for changing travel patterns and preferences to accommodate Washington's changing demographic picture



Mobility: Emerging Themes

Prepare for impacts and benefits of constantly evolving technology through more rapid adoption of innovative technologies, review and revision of system plans every few years, direct support for applied research, and development of cost-effective proposals to address future transportation needs



Environment: Emerging Themes

- Reduce the transportation system's impacts on the state's natural environment and decrease greenhouse gas emissions
- Improve the energy efficiency of the entire transportation sector



Stewardship: Emerging Themes

- Better integrate land use policy and transportation planning, including clear linkages between WTP 2035 and the goals of the Growth Management Act
- Extend mobility and accessibility to all user groups and distribute funding costs more equitably



Next Steps: www.wtp2035.com

August

Issued Public Review Draft WTP 2035

August – September

Public Comment Period

- 5 Public Forums in Bellevue, Bremerton, Kennewick, Spokane, Vancouver
- Webinars co-hosted by Wenatchee Valley Transportation Council and Whatcom Council of Governments

December

Commission adopts



Thank you!
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