



CONNECTING WASHINGTON TASK FORCE

Transportation Policy Goals and Plans

Transportation Policy Goals in State Law ¶ [RCW 47.04.280](#)

ECONOMIC VITALITY	To promote and develop transportation systems that stimulate, support, and enhance the movement of people and goods to ensure a prosperous economy.
PRESERVATION	To maintain, preserve, and extend the life and utility of prior investments in transportation systems and services.
SAFETY	To provide for and improve the safety and security of transportation customers and the transportation system.
MOBILITY	To improve the predictable movement of goods and people throughout Washington State.
ENVIRONMENT	To enhance Washington's quality of life through transportation investments that promote energy conservation, enhance healthy communities, and protect the environment.
STEWARDSHIP	To continuously improve the quality, effectiveness, and efficiency of the transportation system.

The Washington Transportation Plan 2030 ¶ <http://wstc.wa.gov/WTP/default.htm>

There are multiple plans covering the various transportation modes and jurisdictions in Washington, some required by federal or state law. State law requires the Washington State Transportation Commission (Commission) to develop a statewide transportation plan. In December 2010, the Commission completed the *Washington Transportation Plan 2030*, which is an overarching state policy framework covering all transportation modes and regions in the state.

The Commission developed the plan with input from an advisory group and other partners around the state, including the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and other state agencies, regional transportation planning organizations (RTPOs), metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs), counties, cities, tribal governments, transit agencies, ports, businesses, economic development agencies, and the general public. The Commission held five regional listening sessions and made presentations to groups around the state.

Foundational themes - The Washington Transportation Plan is grounded in three foundational themes:

1. Washington faces a structural transportation funding problem and additional revenue is essential.



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2. The state's transportation system needs to work as an integrated network, effectively connecting across modes and jurisdictions.
3. Preservation and maintenance of the existing transportation system is the most critical need.

Strategic Drivers – The plan is informed by five strategic drivers:

1. Transportation policy should support and reinforce other state policy objectives.
2. The relationship between land use and transportation is key.
3. There are significant differences across regions and one size does not fit all.
4. It is critical to educate, inform, and reach out to the public.
5. Continue the evolution to performance-based programs.

Strategies - The plan outlines a series of recommendations to implement the following strategies:

- Economic Vitality**
 - Improve Washington's economic competitiveness
 - Strengthen connectivity of people and communities
 - Support the coordinated, connected, and efficient movement of freight and goods
 - Invest in the state's aviation system
 - Ensure the ability to build and expand essential public facilities
- Preservation**
 - Focus on preserving the existing state and local transportation network
 - Explore new funding strategies for public transportation
 - Invest in preservation of ferry vessels and terminal infrastructure
- Safety**
 - Foster implementation of comprehensive safety strategies across all jurisdictions and transportation modes
 - Continue to plan and engineer projects for safety
 - Encourage inter-agency collaboration and cooperation on emergency preparedness and response
- Mobility**
 - Support mobility options to help communities meet the public's travel needs
 - Improve connectivity to facilitate travel across modes and communities
 - Strategically prepare to meet the needs of an aging population
 - Support transportation for special needs populations
- Environment**
 - Transportation investments should support healthy communities
 - Manage the transportation system to foster environmental sustainability
 - Accelerate clean transportation options
- Stewardship**
 - Continue to implement performance measures to ensure accountability
 - Leverage available technologies to maximize efficiency in the transportation system
 - Support tolling as a user-based funding mechanism
 - Review regulations that require the same standard and performance level for all transportation improvements
 - Strengthen the integration between land use and transportation decision-making
 - Address tribal transportation needs