

COMMISSION DISCUSSION DRAFT: OCTOBER 19, 2010 KEY MESSAGES

- **Preservation and maintenance of the existing transportation system should be our top priority**

The State, counties and cities need additional revenue to preserve and modernize our existing transportation infrastructure and keep the current transportation system in good operating condition. Preservation of the existing system should be prioritized over new projects.

- **Washington faces a structural transportation funding problem and additional revenue is needed**

The statewide transportation system needs to continue to grow, while revenues are declining. Reliance on the gas tax to fund transportation is not sustainable. Our ability to effectively maintain and operate the statewide transportation system is at risk.

- **Freight mobility is critical to Washington's competitiveness**

Ensuring the efficient and reliable movement of freight and goods is foundational to the economic health and competitiveness of our state. We must address the unique needs across the state that affect access and mobility.

- **Support for transit and ferries is needed**

As we advance climate change policies, encourage transit oriented development in urban areas, plan for an aging population, and recognize rural service deficiencies, it is clear that transit plays a vital role in both sustaining and advancing our transportation system. Funding transit must be addressed on a comprehensive level.

Ferries are vital to our transportation system and the long-term capital needs of Washington State and must be addressed.

- **Transportation choices strengthen the system**

The ability to have choices and alternative modes of transportation, such as biking and walking, is key to the enhancement of our system. Being able to do so in a safe manner is critical, particularly outside urban areas where vehicles and bikes must share the roadway and dedicated facilities often don't exist. Funding aimed at assisting the development of these facilities is needed across the state.

- **Coalition building must continue**

One of the key efforts of the Commission in developing WTP 2030 has been the building of a broad coalition of support representing a diverse set of interests. Work must continue to keep jurisdictions and organizations across the state working effectively together towards the same goals.