



## Washington Transportation Plan 2030 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### What is WTP 2030?

The Washington Transportation Plan 2030 (WTP 2030) provides a vision and strategies for meeting statewide transportation needs in the year 2030. Its statewide policy framework provides recommendations across all transportation modes and areas of the state. WTP 2030 is organized around six statutory transportation policy goals, each with accompanying background and policy context, a set of priority strategies, and an action plan that identifies the necessary steps and actions to initiate key strategies. The six transportation policy goals are: economic vitality, preservation, safety, mobility, environment and stewardship.

### Where can I read the DRAFT plan?

The WTP 2030 draft is available on the Washington State Transportation Commission's website:  
[http://wstc.wa.gov/WTP\\_New/default.htm](http://wstc.wa.gov/WTP_New/default.htm).

### Who developed the plan?

The Washington State Transportation Commission developed the draft WTP 2030 in collaboration with an Advisory Group that includes WSDOT and other state agencies, the state's regional and metropolitan transportation organizations, counties, cities, ports, public transportation agencies, tribal governments and representatives from business and environmental organizations. The Commission has released the draft plan to the public and will actively seek input for several months before adopting the final plan in December 2010.

### Why is there a state plan?

A long-range plan provides a pathway to the future. This plan evaluates existing needs and trends, identifies significant statewide transportation policy issues, and recommends to the Legislature policies and strategies for a comprehensive and balanced statewide transportation system. The Legislature has directed long-range transportation planning to be done every four years (RCW 47.01.071); WTP 2030 is the Commission's update of the 2007-2026 Washington Transportation Plan. Although WTP 2030 addresses the entire statewide transportation system, it acknowledges that transportation needs and challenges vary across the state.

### How will the plan be used?

WTP 2030 will provide strategic transportation policy guidance and recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor related to the entire transportation system, whether city streets, county roads, public transportation systems, state highways or public ports. Given the Legislature's and the Governor's interest in potential investment needs and transportation funding options, the plan is organized to help inform future policy discussions and investment decisions by state leaders.

### What does the plan say?

WTP 2030 is grounded in seven key themes and recommends near-term and longer-term actions to reach identified goals:

- The State's transportation system needs to work as an integrated network, so that people and goods can move in the most efficient and cost-effective manner. As a heavily trade-oriented state, with a growing population and a diverse economy, we must invest in transportation and invest wisely.
- The most critical priority for our state is the preservation and maintenance of the existing transportation system. Bicycles, cars, pedestrians and transit all rely on the existing sidewalk, street and road network to get them from one place to another.
- Washington needs to raise additional revenue to address transportation needs. Transportation needs are increasing while major revenue sources such as the motor vehicle fuel tax are decreasing.

- State transportation policy should support and reinforce other state policy objectives, including economic development, clean air and water, and efficient use of tax dollars. The availability of transportation is integral to business and trade; and how people choose to travel impacts the environment. A well-designed transportation network will recognize and build on these relationships.
- The Commission needs to establish expectations when investments are made in new projects on our transportation system. Follow-up after projects are completed will then determine if they are accomplishing what was expected. This kind of decision-making cycle of establishing expectations, investing, following-up and measuring will help guide a consistent and effective use of tax dollars in the long-term.

Some key recommendations include:

- Continue to add capacity strategically for all modes, including public transportation, by completing system improvements underway today, managing system demand, and operating the system efficiently.
- Tie new state revenues for state or local governments to performance expectations and desired outcomes as part of a new transportation investment plan.
- Continue to focus transportation safety investments on projects and programs that implement proven strategies and address high priority needs, as the Target Zero program has done with roadway safety, focusing on impaired driving and speeding.
- Create policies to encourage travel using alternative sources of fuel that reduce reliance on oil.
- Establish an all-weather road system, prioritizing investments that minimize closures affecting agriculture, freight -dependent industries, and tourism.
- Maintain tolling on roadways and bridges after project completion to fund preservation, maintenance and traffic management.

### **Why isn't there a project list?**

WTP 2030 integrates multiple statewide and regional plans and provides guidance to state leaders who will be making transportation policy and investment decisions. It provides a framework for decision-making that will assist state leaders to arrive at future project lists.

### **How can you provide input on the plan?**

The public can view WTP 2030 on the Commission's website: [http://wstc.wa.gov/WTP\\_New/default.htm](http://wstc.wa.gov/WTP_New/default.htm). The website features an online public input tool that gives the public the opportunity to comment on transportation issues and priorities as well as comment on specific portions of the plan. People may also comment by e-mail ([wtp2030@wstc.wa.gov](mailto:wtp2030@wstc.wa.gov)) or by mail (P.O. Box 47308, Olympia, WA 98504-7308).

In September, the Commission will hold listening sessions to share information about WTP 2030 and to solicit input on the strategies and action items. These sessions are open to the public. Additional information about the sessions is available on the Commission's website: [http://wstc.wa.gov/WTP\\_New/default.htm](http://wstc.wa.gov/WTP_New/default.htm).

Comments will be accepted through October 15, 2010. Additional information about WTP 2030 will also be provided on the WTP 2030 Blog (<http://wtp2030.wordpress.com>).

### **What is the WTP 2030 timeline?**

Comments on WTP 2030 will be accepted through October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010. The plan will take public comment into account, and a final Washington Transportation 2030 plan will be adopted in December 2010.