Transportation Commission Meeting Walla Walla, Washington June 20, 2018



The Walla Walla Story (Part 1)

Decades of deferred maintenance and declining funding have left much of the streets and related infrastructure in very poor overall condition.



The Struggle for General Fund Resources

<u>Transportation Needs</u>

- Bridges
- Pavements
- Sidewalks
- ADA
- Signals
- Striping
- Planning
- Engineering
- Structures
- Trails
- Snow/Ice
- Etc.





Local Walla Walla Needs

State/Regional

- ➤ US 12 Clinton Street/Lower Waitsburg Rd.
- ➤ US 12 Phases 7 & 8

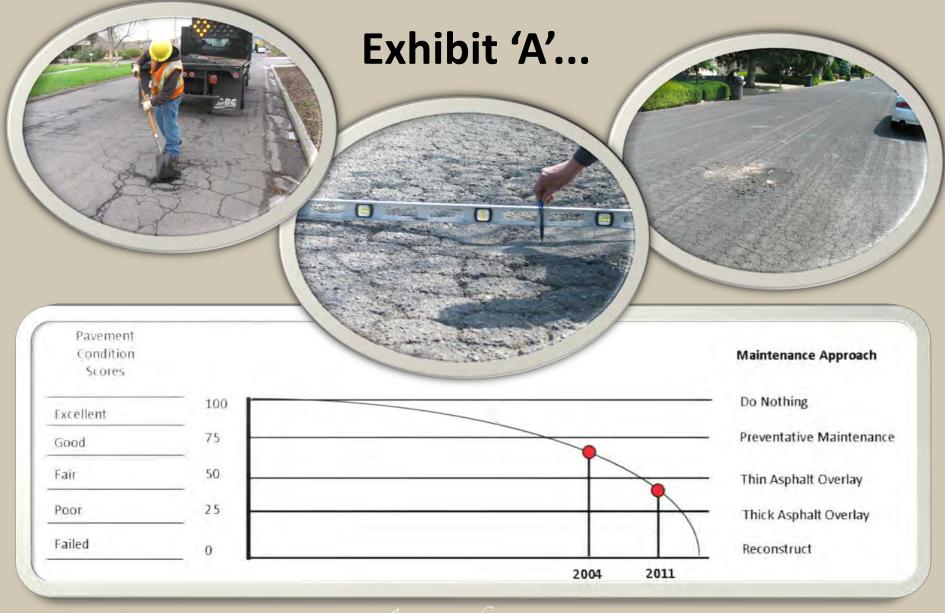


- > 150 year old city
- Decades of deferred road maintenance
- ➤ 2011 Citizen Survey identified the top 25 roads for repair in Walla Walla = citizen driven prioritization for repairs

Critically Underfunded

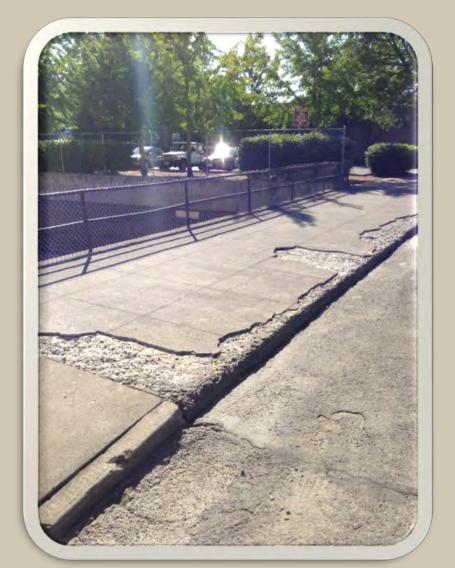
- ➤ Bridge Program maintenance, repair and replacement (27 bridges)
- ➤ Off-Street Structures maintenance, repair and replacement
- ➤ ADA and Defective Sidewalk Improvements
- > Pavement Preservation
- Traffic Signals replacement, coordination, upgrades (50+ signals)







...Exhibit 'B'







The Walla Walla Story (Since 2010)

State/Regional

- ➤ US 12 Continuing progress (WSDOT)
- SR125-Plaza Way In progress (Connecting WA)

Some Major Local Projects Completed

- ➤ Completed Rose Street
- > Alder St. Downtown improvements
- > Isaacs Avenue
- ➤ Wilbur St. improvements
- Completed 13th Ave.
- Completed Myra Rd. to SR125
- > Several preservation projects
- ➤ Bridge Program finished assessment, prioritized needs. 2 Replacement grants awarded
- Off-Street Structures assessed condition and prioritized
- > ADA/Defective Sidewalk Improvements Sidewalk program, TIB Complete Streets Award
- ➤ Pavement Preservation 2nd Ave., Wilbur St., Tietan, others
- Numerous multi-modal improvements
- ➤ Traffic Signals 6+ traffic signal replaced or upgraded

Some Real Success...!!!





Resources

Grants

- Transportation Improvement Board (State)
- Washington Traffic Safety Commission (State)
- Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board (State)
- Washington State Department of Transportation Pedestrian and Bicycle Program (State)
- Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (Federal)
- Transportation Alternatives Program (Federal)
- Bridge Program Funding (Federal)

Loans

Public Works Trust Fund (State)

Local Funding

- Transportation Benefit District (TBD)
- Infrastructure Repair and Replacement Program (IRRP)
- Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax (MVFT)

<u>Possible</u>

Street Utility





Remaining Challenges

- Inadequate overall funding
- Increasing/volatile construction prices
- What happens at the end of the second TBD term?
- Preservation vs. addressing "worst first"
- How to fund local street improvements (not grant eligible)?
- Many portions of town qualify as low-moderate income
- Increasingly onerous requirements attached to federal funding



What Can the WSTC do?

- 1) Support changing the statutory limits for Transportation Benefit Districts.
- 2) Continue helping promote balance between funding new (expanded) infrastructure vs. taking care of existing infrastructure.
- 3) Help support a change in TIB's preservation program assessed value limits (currently \$2.0 bill.)
- 4) Commission a study to recommend program options for local agencies to exchange Federal Funds for State funds.





