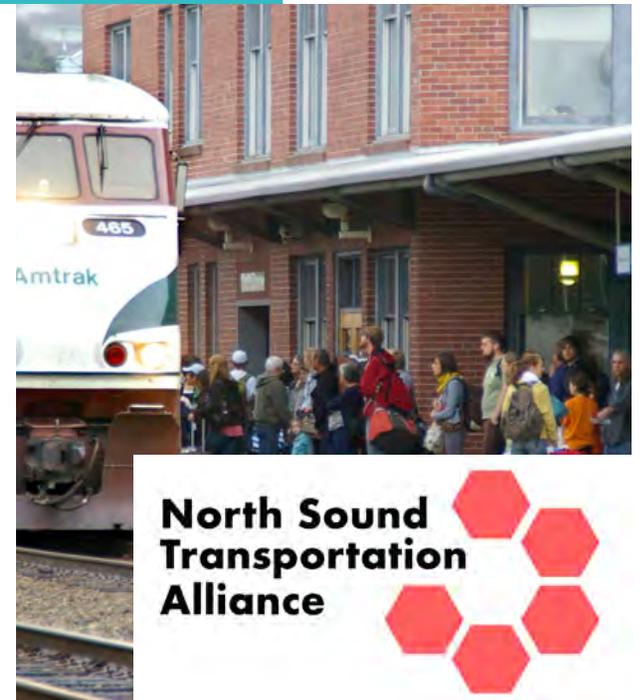
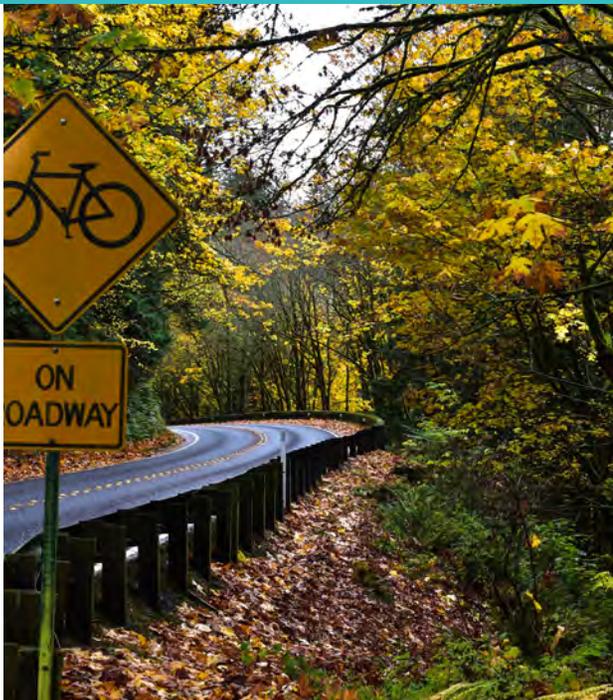


NORTH SOUND TRANSPORTATION ALLIANCE



ACCOMPLISHMENTS & CHALLENGES FOR 2020



**North Sound
Transportation
Alliance**



INTRODUCTION TO NSTA

175
GROUPS

NSTA STRIVES TO IMPROVE WAYS FOR PEOPLE TO TRAVEL IN THE REGION



Coalition of citizens, elected officials, and agency staff from **Whatcom**, **Skagit**, San Juan, **Island**, and Snohomish counties.

PARTICIPANTS

- **Jurisdictions** (cities, counties, tribes, ports, utility districts)
- **Transportation agencies** (state, RTPOs, transit agencies, ferry committees)
- **Healthcare organizations** (ACHs, fire and emergency services, health departments, senior and special needs providers)
- **Private sector** (Chambers of commerce, private transportation services, economic development councils, railways, marine and boat builders, tourism associations)
- **NGOs and non-profit organizations** (Bicycle and trail organizations, veteran's affairs, universities, rail advocacy groups)

HEALTH & TRANSPORTATION



TOP FIVE STRATEGIES

1. **2-1-1 call center** expansion to include links to transit agencies/ other transportation providers
2. **Universal broadband** for entire five county region
3. Study of **on-demand transit** feasibility for the five counties
4. Study of feasibility and effectiveness of **flyer stops on I-5**
5. Implement and/or expand **mobile medical health clinics**



TIMELINE:

○ SEPT. 8, 2017
Preliminary Workshop

○ SEPT. 14, 2018
Secondary Workshop

○ MAR. 8, 2019
Review of 2 Projects

FERRIES



OBJECTIVES

1. Analyze existing and needed ferry connections in the region.
2. Increase passenger ferry ridership.
3. Support alternative services such as TNCs to improve last-mile access for those without vehicles.
4. Improve connections between ferries, transit, and rail.
5. Serve forecasted ridership growth in a sustainable manner.

TIMELINE:

○ APR. 13, 2018
Preliminary Workshop

○ OCT. 18, 2019
Ferries & Transit Conference

TRANSIT



WE NEED TO SUPPORT INTERCOUNTY TRANSIT CONNECTIVITY NOW MORE THAN EVER

TOP 10 FEATURES OF AN IDEAL REGIONAL SERVICE

1. Highly integrated/holistic (universal branding)
2. Dedicated, sustainable funding source
3. On-time performance
4. Reliable frequency/multiple options
5. Inclusive - equitable, accessible, affordable
6. Comfortable and inviting
7. Connectivity with other modes (door to door)
8. Reduces single-occupancy vehicle trips
9. Not fossil-fuel based
10. Speedy

GOALS

1. Flyer stops on I-5
2. Increase intercounty connector frequency
3. On-demand transit
4. Coordinated fares
5. Bus meets ferry on ferry time
6. Legislation to fix cross-jurisdictional barriers

TIMELINE:

 OCT. 5, 2018
Preliminary Workshop

 OCT. 18, 2019
Ferries & Transit Conference

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION



TOP FOUR GOALS

1. **Transportation** - safe and connected pathways
2. **Public health** - equitable access to nature and cultural sites
3. **Community vitality**
4. **Environment** - including positive climate change impacts



TIMELINE:

 APR. 26, 2019
Preliminary Workshop

PASSENGER RAIL



REGIONAL RAIL PRIORITIES

1. Third round-trip Amtrak Cascades train between Seattle and Bellingham
2. Station in Blaine, WA
3. Improved intermodal connectivity between rail and other modes



22%

**Of Amtrak
Cascades ticket
revenue comes from
city pairs including
Vancouver B.C.**

*(WSDOT Amtrak Cascades Annual
Performance Report 2018)*

TIMELINE:

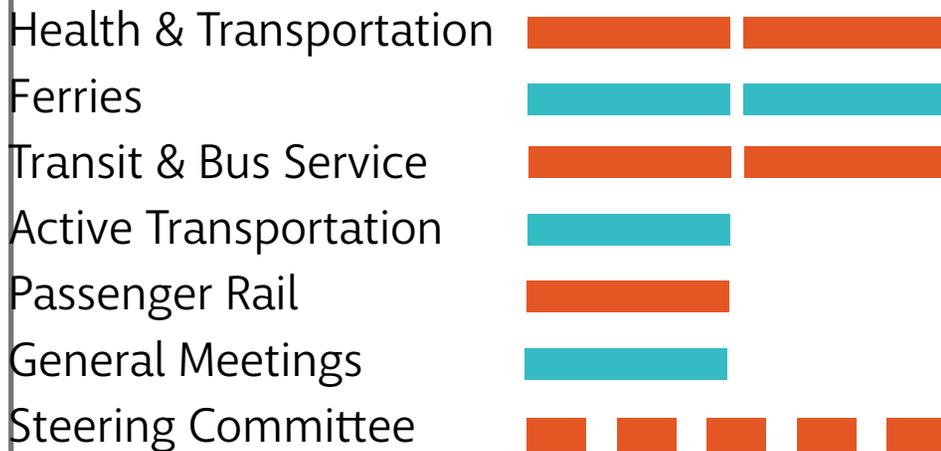


SEP. 13, 2019
Rail Conference

VALUE OF THE EFFORT



MEETINGS BY TYPE



EXPENSES

(Paid for by Whatcom Council of Governments)

2018 = \$32,550

2019 = \$33,550

DELIVERABLES

2018 = 5 reports/6 meetings

2019 = 6 reports/8 meetings

THE FUTURE OF NSTA

2020
AND
BEYOND

HOW DO WE CONTINUE NSTA EFFORTS WITH A STRONG VISION AND MINIMAL FUNDING?

1 FUNDING

If there is interest in following through on the ideas, research initiatives, potential for subgroup planning teams, and other actions in recent workshops, more funding must be identified.

2 STAFF TIME

If there is interest in specific projects or objectives, staff or a consulting team would be a better option for follow-on activities given the limitations of staff time amongst NSTA stakeholder agencies.

3 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

In 2020/2021, it is hoped a project list can be created as a minimum deliverable.

4 LEGISLATIVE SUPPORT

We need more legislative support in the future - participation at meetings - and a deliverable list of priority projects for them to act upon.