

Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Plan (MTP & RTP) Survey

*Purpose: The metropolitan and regional transportation plans are the building blocks of statewide transportation planning. WSDOT (HQ Transportation Planning Office) would like the help of the RTPOs and MPOs to ensure that we have a good understanding of the elements that matter most within each region as we enter into the next statewide multimodal planning process. The purpose of this survey is to engage staff from the regional planning organizations and WSDOT region planning offices to identify key elements of each plan. The goal is for WSDOT to understand the key issues within the metropolitan areas and the regional planning areas of the state for the next update of the statewide multimodal transportation plan. WSDOT intends to use information from this survey and the regional plans as we prepare a **Statewide Multimodal Condition and Needs Analysis: 2009 Trends Report**. We hope to publish the Trends Report in late 2009 or early 2010.*

Process:

8/5/2009

WSDOT Transportation Planning Office discussed and reviewed this survey with a small subgroup of MPO/ RTPO Directors and Region Planners.

8/25/2009

This survey will be shared at the MPO/RTPO/WSDOT Coordinating Committee Meeting and concurrence on the contents and process sought.

9/1/2009

WSDOT Transportation Planning Office sends survey to WSDOT Region Planners.

WSDOT Region planning managers and MPO/RTPO staff work together to complete the survey.

10/1/2009

WSDOT Regions email completed surveys to Judy Lorenzo LorenzJ@wsdot.wa.gov at the Transportation Planning Office.

11/1/2009

Transportation Planning Office will compile answers and share with RTPOs, MPOs, and WSDOT Region Planners for final clarification and corrections.

12/2009

Transportation Planning Office will incorporate answers into the Statewide Multimodal Condition and Needs Analysis: 2009 Trends Report.

NOTES:

- *If the MPO's Transportation Plan is different from the RTPO's, then complete a survey for each.*
- *Wherever possible we would like to obtain the relevant page numbers for the topic under discussion as we address each question. This will enable us to pull quotes from plans to add to statewide planning documents.*
- *The survey has two parts – Part 1 is what the plan contains. Part 2 is methodologies, approaches, and processes used to create it.*

Part 1 -- Plan Content

Background

Planning organization _____

Plan name _____

Years covered in plan _____

Next update scheduled _____

Period the next update will cover: _____

Plan contact(s) _____

Counties included in the plan _____

Survey completed by _____

1. When was the plan adopted or amended? _____

2. If the plan was adopted **after** 2008, describe how it addresses these five policy goals in state law.

- a. *Preservation (To maintain, preserve, and extend the life and utility of prior investments in transportation systems and services)* _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

b. Safety (*To provide for and improve the safety and security of transportation customers and the transportation system*) _____

c. Mobility (*To improve the predictable movement of goods and people throughout Washington State*) _____

d. Environment (*To enhance Washington's quality of life through transportation investments that promote energy conservation, enhance healthy communities, and protect the environment*) _____

e. Stewardship (*To continuously improve the quality, effectiveness, and efficiency of the transportation system*) _____

3. If the plan was adopted **before** 2008, describe how it addresses the high priorities for each of the five investment guidelines in the 2007-2027 Washington Transportation Plan.

a. Preservation _____

b. Safety_____

c. Economic Vitality_____

d. Mobility_____

e. Environmental Quality and Health_____

4. Is there a Vision Statement in the plan?

No

Yes. If Yes, copy the Vision Statement here: _____

5. *WSDOT recognizes that each plan is unique. Therefore, we anticipate that the degree of emphasis on policies, issues, program goals, investment priorities, and project inclusion will be different. Describe how these five items are included in the plan. For example, does the plan place greater emphasis on programs vs. projects, or policies vs. issues?*

Provide a few sentences about how this plan addresses policies, issues, programs, investment priorities, and projects. What is the level of detail regarding each topic? _____

6. What are the key transportation issues identified in the plan? *If they are ranked, please indicate ranking.* _____

7. Have other key transportation issues been identified since plan adoption?

- No
- Yes. If Yes, describe.

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

8. How are investment priorities identified in the plan? *Describe if they are at the program level; project level; or both program and project levels.* _____

9. What are the key land use issues in the region:

a. As stated in the plan? _____

b. Currently? _____

10. Does the plan contain any references to the benchmarks in RCW 47.01.440 that require a reduction in annual per capita vehicle miles traveled?

Yes. If Yes, provide some details of how this topic is being addressed. If a model was used, which one(s)? _____

No

11. Does the plan contain references to the greenhouse gas reduction goals in RCW 70.235.020?

Yes. If Yes, provide some details of how this topic is being addressed. If a model was used, which one(s) _____

No

The next questions are about modal issues. Use these definitions from FHWA's planning glossary.

- **Intermodal:** The ability to connect, and the connections between, modes of transportation.
- **Multimodal:** The availability of transportation options using different modes within a system or corridor.

12. What modes were identified in the plan?

- Highway
- Ferries
- Transit
- Bicycle and pedestrian walkways
- Airports
- Pipelines
- Railroads
- Marine and river ports
- Other (specify) _____

a. How does the plan inter-relate, integrate, or prioritize the different modes?

13. What are the economic assumptions used during plan development? *Such as, current and future top industry sectors, employment patterns, etc. If these assumptions have changed since the plan's adoption, describe the changes.*

14. Since RCW 47.80.030 (1) (d) requires a financial plan in Regional Transportation Plans and 23 CFR 450.322 (10) requires a financial plan in Metropolitan Transportation Plans. What does the plan identify as sources of funding/financing? _____

15. Does the plan contain an "illustrative" or "planned" project list that would be used to seek funding?

- Yes. If Yes, describe the level of detail (*charts, lists, etc*)
- No

Part 2 -- Methodologies, Approaches and Processes

Questions

16. In developing the plan, what alternatives were considered and how was the preferred alternative selected?

17. Did the plan use a travel demand forecasting method/model?

- Yes. If Yes, which one(s)? _____

- No

18. Describe the organization's modeling capacity. *This includes staffing, training, equipment, funding, data availability, and any related concerns.* _____

19. What was the public involvement process used to develop the plan and how was it documented?

20. List the primary outreach tools used during plan development:

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

21. Provide feedback on which outreach tool(s) was most or least effective. *This is to help others in future planning efforts.* _____

Do you have any further comments for consideration in the development of the next statewide multimodal transportation plan? _____
