



**Washington State  
Department of Transportation**

# **REGIONAL MOBILITY GRANT PROGRAM: 2009-2011 RECOMMENDED PROJECTS**

## **Public Transportation Division**

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**Washington State  
Department of Transportation**

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## **Regional Mobility Grant Program: 2009-2011 Recommended Projects**

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The Washington State Department of Transportation's (WSDOT) transit mobility programs, including the Regional Mobility Grant program, were established by the Washington State Legislature in 2005. The Regional Mobility Grant program provides money to local governments to deliver transit mobility projects that are cost-effective, reduce travel delay for people and goods, improve connectivity between counties and regional population centers, and are consistent with local and regional transportation and land use plans. Capital construction, equipment acquisition and operating projects are eligible. Projects are competitively evaluated and a ranked list is submitted to the Legislature for appropriation. The program is funded through the Multimodal Transportation Fund.

This report provides the Legislature with a recommendation for funding in the 2009-2011 biennium that includes existing projects seeking reappropriation and a prioritized list of new Regional Mobility Program projects.

### **Reappropriation needed to continue existing projects**

In 2006, the Legislature adopted a list of 14 Regional Mobility Grant projects totaling \$19,874,722. Three of the projects were completed before the end of the biennium. In 2007, the Legislature reappropriated \$17,168,087 of this money to continue the remaining 11 projects. The Legislature also funded a list of 16 new projects for 2007-2009 and provided \$40,000,000 for these projects. Nine of the 30 Regional Mobility Grant projects are now operationally complete and providing public benefit. An additional five projects will be complete by June 30, 2009.

Benefits from the 30 projects include:

- 13 park and ride lot construction or expansions
- approximately 4,500 new park and ride parking stalls
- six new or expanded transit stations
- six projects to improve speed and reliability through high occupancy vehicle lanes, business access and transit lanes, or priority signalization for buses
- approximately two miles of new high occupancy vehicle and business access and transit lanes in Federal Way and Kenmore
- five projects to acquire buses and/or operate new or expanded transit service

Of the remaining 16 projects, one project has been cancelled and the others will not be completed before the biennium ends on June 30, 2009. Most of these ongoing projects have been making progress and have reached significant milestones. In order to complete these projects a reappropriation of approximately \$28,000,000 is needed.

During the development of the 2009-2011 call for projects WSDOT worked intensively with local agency partners to find ways to reduce the risk of reappropriation due to project delay. We modified grant selection criteria to allow some proposals that require a four-year delivery schedule without committing state funds beyond the end of the 2009-2011 biennium, and screened proposed schedules and budgets more rigorously during the selection process. WSDOT continues to work with these partners to strengthen administrative oversight and create a more consistent change management process. Additional information about the reappropriation request and program enhancements is available in WSDOT's *Transit Mobility Programs 2008 Annual Report to the Legislature*.

## 2009-2011 Regional Mobility Grant project proposals

In early November 2008, WSDOT issued a call for Regional Mobility Grant proposals. WSDOT received 42 project proposals requesting more than \$120 million. Twenty of the proposals requested funding for capital construction, four for equipment acquisition and ten for new transit service. The remaining eight projects were for a mix of construction, equipment acquisition and/or operations. Proposals were received from 25 transit agencies, 13 cities, three counties and one port.

WSDOT staff screened all applications to assure that they met eligibility requirements and determined that one proposal was ineligible. The remaining 41 proposals were then sent to a six person independent review team. After reviewing the proposals, they ranked 33 and did not recommend or rank eight proposals, largely because these proposals:

- did not include key information, for example, information needed to assess the feasibility of the project schedule and readiness to proceed, required concurrence from transit agencies who would be directly affected by the project or consistency verification by the metropolitan planning organization or regional transportation planning organization
- provided only tenuous connections to transit mobility, connecting urban centers, congested corridors, vehicle trip reduction and/or vehicle miles traveled reduction

On January 22, 2009, WSDOT's Public Transportation Advisory Committee members met to discuss the independent review team recommendations and advise WSDOT.

As is indicated in the recommended project list, WSDOT accepted proposals that require a four-year delivery schedule without committing state funds beyond the end of the 2009-2011 biennium. WSDOT implemented this strategy after considering a variety of options to address project challenges that result from a two year project time limit that starts in July. All four-year projects must reach a major milestone before June 30, 2011 and, if grantees meet their two-year project delivery obligations, they will receive priority in the 2011 recommendation to the Legislature and will not need to reapply for grant funds in 2011. If adopted by the Legislature, the recommended project list will prioritize just over \$15 million in work in this manner. It has been clearly communicated to proposers that all grant funding beyond June 30, 2011 is subject to Legislative appropriation, which is not guaranteed.

At the request of the Legislature, in addition to the \$28 million reappropriation to complete existing projects, WSDOT recommends the following competitively selected projects, which are listed in priority order and fiscally constrained to \$40 million. Benefits of the 16 recommended projects include:

- three park and ride lot construction or expansions
- approximately 1,000 new park and ride parking stalls
- construction of four bus rapid transit stations
- six projects to improve speed and reliability through high occupancy vehicle lanes, business access and transit lanes or priority signalization for buses
- seven projects to acquire buses and/or operate new or expanded transit service, including the procurement of 34 high capacity buses
- the construction of 1.2 miles of rail line primarily dedicated to passenger service
- an estimated 88.9 million miles reduction in vehicle miles travelled
- an estimated 5.8 million reduction in vehicle trips

Contingency projects are also recommended for Legislative approval. Additional ranked projects and projects that are not recommended or were ineligible are listed on the subsequent page.

## 2009-2011 Regional Mobility Grant program: recommended projects

(fiscally constrained to \$40 million)

Project Name	Agency	Financial Partners	Total Project Cost	Total Regional Mobility Grant Request	2009-2011 Regional Mobility Grant Request	2011-2013 Regional Mobility Grant Request	% of Project funded by Grant	Project Type
Sound Transit Express Bus Expansion - Snohomish to King County	Sound Transit		\$10,186,000	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$0	49%	Equip/Ops
I-90 Two-Way Transit & HOV Operations (Stage 2)	Sound Transit	WSDOT	\$39,000,000	\$8,000,000	\$1,570,638	\$6,429,362	21%	Const
Swift Bus Rapid Transit Operations	Community Transit	Everett Transit	\$20,822,900	\$5,000,000	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000	24%	Ops
Double Decker Buses	Community Transit		\$19,204,000	\$2,880,000	\$2,880,000	\$0	15%	Equip
Lakewood-Tacoma Commuter Rail (D to M Street New Track and Signal)	Sound Transit	WSDOT, BNSF	\$151,000,000	\$8,000,000	\$8,000,000	\$0	5%	Const
Aurora Avenue N, N 185th ST to N 192nd ST Business Access and Transit Lanes	City of Shoreline	WSDOT, Transportation Improvement Board (TIB), King County Metro	\$9,221,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$0	11%	Const
Salmon Creek Interchange Park-and-Ride and Traffic Signal Coordination	Clark County	Federal SAFETEA-LU, WSDOT	\$8,700,000	\$3,400,000	\$2,900,000	\$500,000	39%	Const
Hawks Prairie P&R Lot	Intercity Transit		\$8,207,095	\$6,565,676	\$3,038,784	\$3,526,892	80%	Const
South Mount Vernon Park and Ride	Skagit Transit Systems	State of Washington	\$5,253,000	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$0	14%	Const
SR-7 Pacific Avenue Express Service	Pierce Transit	Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ)	\$1,741,433	\$1,390,816	\$1,390,816	\$0	80%	Ops
Pacific Avenue Corridor Transit Signal Priority (TSP) Improvements	Pierce Transit	FTA CMAQ	\$4,359,650	\$1,803,650	\$1,803,650	\$0	41%	Const/Equip
I-5 Express Commuter Service Augmentation (continuation)	C-Tran		\$784,996	\$578,496	\$578,496	\$0	74%	Ops
Evergreen Swift Stations and TSP	Everett Transit	City of Everett, Community Transit	\$4,537,000	\$3,630,000	\$3,630,000	\$0	80%	Const/Equip
Pacific Highway South HOV Lanes Phase IV (South 312th Street to Dash Point Road)	City of Federal Way	TIB, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Surface Transportation Program (STP)	\$21,280,000	\$1,300,000	\$1,300,000	\$0	6%	Const
The Everett Connector	Island Transit	Skagit Transit	\$2,030,000	\$1,624,000	\$1,624,000	\$0	80%	Ops
Central Eastside Transit Service Improvement	King County Metro		\$5,216,484	\$4,173,187	\$2,033,616	\$2,139,571	80%	Ops
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$55,095,825</b>	<b>\$40,000,000</b>	<b>\$15,095,825</b>		

### Recommended Contingency List

Southeast King County Connectors	King County Metro		\$8,879,608	\$7,103,686	\$3,678,232	\$3,425,454	80%	Const/Ops
Rainier/Jackson Transit Priority Corridor Improvements	City of Seattle		\$12,300,000	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$0	33%	Const/ Equip/Ops
Route 120 Transit Enhancement for Delridge Way/Ambaum Boulevard Corridor	King County Metro		\$6,780,000	\$5,925,000	\$3,490,800	\$2,434,200	87%	Const/ Equip/Ops
SR 522 West City Limits to NE 180th Stage 2A (91st Ave NE to West of 96th Ave NE)	City of Bothell	TIB, FHWA STP	\$6,000,000	\$2,100,000	\$2,100,000	\$0	35%	Const

## 2009-2011 Regional Mobility Grant program: other proposed projects

Agency	Project	Grant Request		
		2009-2011	2011-2013	Total
<b>Remaining Ranked Projects</b>				
City of Renton	Rainier Avenue South	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 3,000,000
King County	Elliot Bay Water Taxi Feeder Service	\$ 540,160	\$ 774,059	\$ 1,314,219
Port of Kingston	Port of Kingston Water Transit Service	\$ 250,000	\$ -	\$ 250,000
Yakima Transit	Naches/Highway 12 Commuter Bus	\$ 363,600	\$ -	\$ 363,600
City of Bellevue	Bel-Red Rapid Ride Communications Upgrade	\$ 280,000	\$ -	\$ 280,000
C-Tran	Fisher's Landing Transit Center Expansion	\$ 1,600,000	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 4,600,000
Snohomish County	Congestion Relief - 20th Street SE	\$ 300,000	\$ -	\$ 300,000
C-Tran	I-5 Shoulder Lane	\$ 1,760,000	\$ -	\$ 1,760,000
Grant Transit	Columbia Basin - Wenatchee Valley Connector	\$ 327,120	\$ -	\$ 327,120
Link Transit	Rock Island - Wenatchee Corridor Park & Ride Lot	\$ 397,970	\$ -	\$ 397,970
Link Transit	Wenatchee to Leavenworth Corridor Park & Ride Expansion	\$ 791,000	\$ -	\$ 791,000
Link Transit	Bike Locker Program	\$ 25,000	\$ -	\$ 25,000
Skamania County	Underwood Park and Ride	\$ 20,000	\$ 135,000	\$ 155,000

### Projects Not Recommended (in Alphabetical Order)

City of Bellevue	Downtown Bellevue Circulator	\$ 360,000	\$ 1,440,000	\$ 1,800,000
City of Bothell	Bothell Crossroads Projects	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 3,000,000
City of Everett	36th Street BNSF Rail Line Crossing Improvements	\$ 1,886,232	\$ -	\$ 1,886,232
City of Kent	S. 272nd Street HOV Improvements Pacific Highway S. (SR-99) to Interstate-5	\$ 6,000,000	\$ -	\$ 6,000,000
Kitsap Transit	Port Orchard to Bremerton Dock Equipment and Vessel Purchase	\$ 1,600,000	\$ -	\$ 1,600,000
City of Lake Forest Park	Lake Forest Park Park and Ride	\$ 1,800,000	\$ 11,200,000	\$ 13,000,000
City of Mabton	City of Mabton Park and Ride Facility	\$ 51,237	\$ -	\$ 51,237
Whatcom Transportation Authority	Advanced Public Transit System Review and Selected Fixed-Route IT Applications	\$ 1,011,200	\$ -	\$ 1,011,200

### Ineligible Projects

City of Edmonds	228th Street SW Corridor Improvements	\$ 2,040,737	\$ 1,861,045	\$ 3,901,782
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## 2009-2011 Regional Mobility Grant program: performance benefits

Project Name	Agency	% of Project funded by Grant	Annual Total Project Benefits				Annual Benefits from Regional Mobility Grant Funding			
			Year 1		Year 4		Year 1		Year 4	
			Vehicle Trips Reduced	Vehicle Miles Traveled Reduced	Vehicle Trips Reduced	Vehicle Miles Traveled Reduced	Vehicle Trips Reduced	Vehicle Miles Traveled Reduced	Vehicle Trips Reduced	Vehicle Miles Traveled Reduced
Sound Transit Express Bus Expansion - Snohomish to King County	Sound Transit	49%	622,136	10,666,771	751,660	12,698,876	305,388	5,235,996	368,967	6,233,495
I-90 Two-Way Transit & HOV Operations (Stage 2)	Sound Transit	21%	681,980	2,045,940	774,280	2,322,840	139,893	419,680	158,827	476,480
Swift Bus Rapid Transit Operations	Community Transit	24%	321,920	3,219,200	706,090	7,060,900	77,300	772,995	169,547	1,695,465
Double Decker Buses	Community Transit	15%	216,060	4,753,320	216,060	4,753,320	32,402	712,849	32,402	712,849
Lakewood-Tacoma Commuter Rail (D to M Street New Track and Signal)	Sound Transit	5%	364,000	12,376,000	598,000	20,332,000	19,285	655,682	31,682	1,077,192
Aurora Avenue N, N 185th ST to N 192nd ST Business Access and Transit Lanes	City of Shoreline	11%	138,320	1,521,520	184,080	2,024,880	15,001	165,006	19,963	219,594
Salmon Creek Interchange Park-and-Ride and Traffic Signal Coordination	Clark County	39%	184,470	2,936,762	233,662	3,719,899	72,092	1,147,700	91,316	1,453,754
Hawks Prairie P&R Lot	Intercity Transit	80%	155,400	5,205,900	163,200	5,467,200	124,320	4,164,720	130,560	4,373,760
South Mount Vernon Park and Ride	Skagit Transit Systems	14%	78,000	2,886,000	156,000	5,772,000	11,136	412,050	22,273	824,101
SR-7 Pacific Avenue Express Service	Pierce Transit	80%	225,238	2,096,520	457,496	4,258,370	179,889	1,674,410	365,385	3,400,997
Pacific Avenue Corridor Transit Signal Priority (TSP) Improvements	Pierce Transit	41%	69,680	648,579	116,220	1,081,779	28,828	268,326	48,082	447,548
I-5 Express Commuter Service Augmentation (continuation)	C-Tran	74%	91,780	1,325,469	143,780	2,079,969	67,636	976,793	105,957	1,532,815
Evergreen Swift Stations and TSP	Everett Transit	80%	53,652	536,520	117,680	1,176,800	42,926	429,263	94,154	941,544
Pacific Highway South HOV Lanes Phase IV (South 312th Street to Dash Point Road)	City of Federal Way	6%	365,430	3,654,300	879,060	8,790,600	22,324	223,242	53,702	537,020
The Everett Connector	Island Transit	80%	118,560	4,125,888	184,600	6,424,080	94,848	3,300,710	147,680	5,139,264
Central Eastside Transit Service Improvement	King County Metro	80%	57,200	466,180	117,000	953,500	45,760	372,944	93,600	762,800
<b>Total</b>			<b>3,743,826</b>	<b>58,464,869</b>	<b>5,798,868</b>	<b>88,917,013</b>	<b>1,279,028</b>	<b>20,932,368</b>	<b>1,934,097</b>	<b>29,828,678</b>

### Recommended Contingency List

Southeast King County Connectors	King County Metro	80%	101,009	777,904	202,018	1,555,808	80,807	622,323	161,614	1,244,646
Rainier/Jackson Transit Priority Corridor Improvements	City of Seattle	33%	381,252	1,284,818	396,733	1,336,990	123,984	417,827	129,019	434,793
Route 120 Transit Enhancement for Delridge Way/Ambaum Boulevard Corridor	King County Metro	87%	62,634	407,121	127,660	829,790	54,735	355,781	111,561	725,148
SR 522 West City Limits to NE 180th Stage 2A (91st Ave NE to West of 96th Ave NE)	City of Bothell	35%	22,834	406,412	32,195	573,016	7,992	142,244	11,268	200,556

## 2009-2011 Regional Mobility Grant program: comparative analysis

All Proposals	Recommended Projects																														
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