



Member Organizations of the Transportation Subcommittee

The Governor's 2010 Task Force created four subcommittees focused on four areas: security, transportation, tourism, and business development. The Transportation Subcommittee, which WSDOT leads and Paula Hammond, Secretary of Transportation, Chairs, studies and recommends ways of keeping the state's transportation systems operating in optimum condition during the 2010 Winter Olympic Games.

Members

Washington State Department of Transportation (Lead and Chair)

American Automobile Association

British Columbia Ministry of Transport

Canadian Consulate General

City of Bellingham Public Works Department

Discovery Institute

Federal Highway Administration

Governor's Transportation Policy Office

North Central (Washington) Resource Conservation District

Port of Seattle/SeaTac International Airport

Puget Sound Regional Council

Skagit Council of Governments

Sound Transit

TransLink

Washington Military Department

Washington State Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development

Washington State House of Representatives

Washington State Office of Financial Management

Washington State Patrol

Washington State Senate

Whatcom Council of Governments

Whatcom Economic Development Council

Whatcom Transit

For More Information

2010 Olympics Transportation Subcommittee

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The Washington State Department of Transportation Gets Ready for the 2010 Winter Olympics

Transportation Planning Office
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WSDOT supports our British Columbia neighbors

To support our British Columbia neighbors in the coordination of their 2010 Winter Olympic Games, which are expected to attract attendance and participation estimates ranging from 350,000 to 450,000, with 40-50% of these coming from outside of British Columbia, WSDOT is committed to:

- Traveler safety and security
- Capital investments needed to prepare the state's transportation system for the Games
- Traffic management including incident response and freeway and highway operations
- Traveler and tourism information

WSDOT meets its commitments

To meet these commitments WSDOT is in the midst of 2010 Winter Olympics preparation and is working hard to ensure travelers on Washington's transportation systems have a pleasant, safe, and convenient trip to the 2010 Winter Olympic Games. This commitment to travelers is why WSDOT has already identified and seen completion of many transportation system improvements. WSDOT is making sure all travelers enjoy opportunities to visit across the border for short and long-term excursions.



Preparation of Washington's transportation systems for the 2010 Winter Olympic Games

Capital Investments Needed to Prepare the State's Transportation System for the Games—Unclogging Bottlenecks, Easing Congestion, and Improving Safety on Washington's Transportation Systems

Following are WSDOT projects that are providing smooth tourist and commercial travel across the border and making Washington State's transportation systems safe and reliable for all travelers.

SR 543 – Interstate 5 to Canadian Border – Additional lanes for freight \$49m

www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/SR543/I5_Canadian
This project widened the highway from two to five lanes and built dedicated truck lanes to separate cars and trucks at the U.S./Canada border. Dedicated truck lanes allow the implementation of FAST in the northbound direction at this crossing. It also builds a new interchange, eliminating a high accident location. This project will be complete February 2008.

SR 539 – Horton Road to Ten Mile Road widening \$66m

www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/SR539/HortonTenMile

SR 539 – Ten Mile Road to Lynden widening \$101.6m

www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/SR539/TenmileBorder
These two projects widen the highway, providing an additional lane for traffic in each direction and helps ease congestion and improve safety between Bellingham and the Canadian border. Construction will be complete in fall of 2009.



New I-5 HOV.

Interstate 5 – Everett, SR 526 to US 2 HOV lanes \$262.6m

www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/I5/HOVSR526toUS2

This six-mile long project will increase traffic flow and improve safety by widening both directions of I-5 lanes to include a merging lane between 41st and US 2. A new interchange at 41st and ramp modifications to the Broadway Avenue ramp will also be constructed. Construction will be complete in 2008.

Interstate 5 – Blaine Exit interchange improvements \$24.6m

www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/I5/BlaineInterchange

The United States General Services Administration (GSA) is currently designing an expansion of the Peace Arch Port of Entry border crossing, which will affect Interstate 5 and the interchange at exit 276. GSA's schedule is to begin work winter 2007 and complete construction, including modifications to I-5 between exit 276 and the border, by January 2010. WSDOT is working closely with GSA to coordinate modifications to I-5 and the interchange at exit 276.

SR 9 – Nooksack Road vicinity to Cherry Street \$18m

www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/SR9/NooksakToCherry

WSDOT dramatically changed and improved State Route 9 in Whatcom County between Lindsey Road near Nooksack and Cherry Street near the Sumas border crossing. WSDOT straightened, widened, and smoothed the highway to make it safer and more accessible year round. WSDOT removed three 90-degree turns from the highway and improved drainage beneath the road surface. Semi trucks can now move faster and safer along SR 9 on their way to and from the border. This project was completed one year ahead of schedule on November 22, 2006.

Rail improvements

Since 1994, WSDOT has made track and signal improvements to the rail line so both freight trains and Amtrak Cascades passenger trains can operate efficiently within the shared rail corridor that stretches from the Columbia River to the Canadian border. Due to these rail improvements, Amtrak and WSDOT re-introduced passenger rail service between Seattle, Edmonds, Everett, Mount Vernon, Bellingham, and Vancouver, B.C. in 1995, and launched a second daily Amtrak Cascades round trip between Seattle and Bellingham in 1999. In 2008, WSDOT will be extending this train to Vancouver, B.C., giving Pacific Northwest travelers more transportation options along the I-5 corridor.

Traffic management including incident response and freeway and highway operations—responding quickly to traffic accidents or highway conditions ensures traveler throughput on the highway system

Operations command post will coordinate traffic

An operations command post will coordinate traffic management activities of WSDOT staff. WSDOT staff will optimize signal timing, control message signs, and provide incident response services on the I-5 Corridor and in Whatcom and Skagit counties as well as the border crossing at Whatcom County.



Incident response.



Amtrak Cascades.

Winter operations including response to winter storms—ensures traveler mobility

Additional personnel and equipment for increased services

Highway maintenance will be ready with over 70 additional personnel stationed along the I-5 Corridor and border crossing routes. There will also be over 25 additional pieces of equipment at the ready. WSDOT may also have to provide increased snow and ice materials for the safety and convenience of Olympic travelers.



Snow plows and sand trucks.

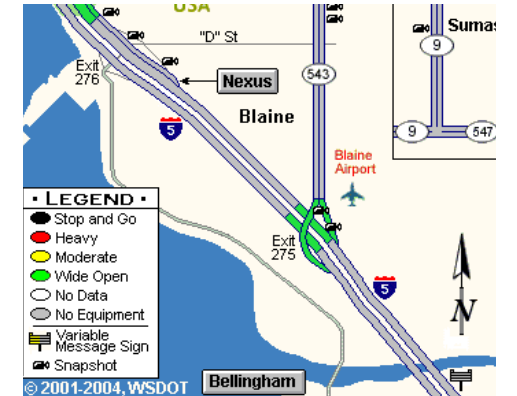


Washington State Ferries.

Traveler and tourism information—providing accurate real-time information about road and traffic conditions at border crossings and on I-5 will help to manage the 4,000-8,000 additional daily trips

Real Time Traveler Information

Real time information allows travelers to make immediate informed decisions for both departure times and route choices. This information will be available via 511, the website (wsdot.wa.gov/traffic), variable message signs, and also to the media who in turn report it back to the travelers and tourists in that area. WSDOT's website is linked to the BCMOT website.



Real Time traffic reports on the web.

Washington State Ferries

Washington State Ferries is working with Tourism Victoria to put together travel packages that will take visitors attending the 2010 Olympics from British Columbia to ferry destinations in Washington State. Extending the Anacortes to Sidney run during the 2010 Olympics for traveler convenience is also under consideration.