



**Washington State
Department of Transportation**
Paula J. Hammond, P.E.
Secretary of Transportation

December 29, 2010

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The Honorable Christine O. Gregoire
P.O. Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear Governor Gregoire:

It is my pleasure to submit the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) 2010 Sustainable Transportation Report. This report highlights the work of WSDOT's Sustainable Transportation program, and includes our response to section 2(a) of your Executive Order 09-05, *Washington's Leadership on Climate Change*.

Our effort to provide a sustainable transportation system is based on our definition of a system that preserves the environment is durable and takes into account how we build and the materials we use. A sustainable transportation system is managed and operated using policies and strategies that meet society's present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

This program is also in alignment with WSDOT's *Moving Washington* strategies, which focus on three key approaches to reduce congestion:

- Providing travel choices that help manage transportation demand;
- Operating the transportation system efficiently; and
- Strategically adding system capacity.

WSDOT's sustainable transportation program focuses on a multi-pronged approach of greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategies:

1. Operating our transportation system to maximize efficiency and improve traffic flow;
2. Lowering the carbon content of transportation fuels;
3. Supporting improved vehicle technology;
4. Supporting efficient transportation options; and
5. Supporting the integration of land use and transportation.

The attached report discusses our work as directed by you and the Legislature (Executive Order 09-05 2 (a) and Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 47.01.440 (4)).

Executive Order 09-05 directed WSDOT to provide, by December 2010, to:

- Estimate current and future statewide levels of Vehicle Miles of Travel (VMT)
- Evaluate potential changes to the VMT benchmarks established in RCW 47.01.440 as appropriate to address low or no emission vehicles, and
- Develop additional strategies to reduce green house Gas (GHG) emissions from the transportation sector.

WSDOT's Sustainable Transportation Report additionally addresses:

- Vehicle miles traveled analysis; including:
 - How we measure vehicle miles traveled;

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- Evaluation of the vehicle miles traveled benchmarks; and
- Impacts of a vehicle miles traveled reduction strategy on selected groups and areas;
- Analysis of a potential low-carbon fuel standard;
- The development of the West Coast Green Highway Initiative; the program promoting alternative fuels; and development of a sustainable infrastructure;
- Progress on WSDOT capital facilities sustainability requirements;
- Progress on WSDOT's fleet use of alternative fuels and electric vehicles;
- WSDOT's leadership and participation in the development of an integrated climate change response strategy toward preparing and adapting our infrastructure to the impacts of climate change; and
- WSDOT's greenhouse gas inventory.

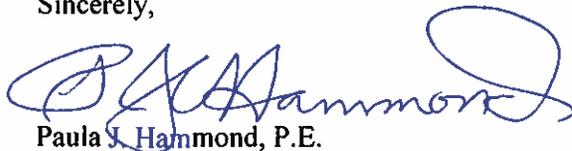
This report also provides an update on the broad array of current WSDOT sustainable transportation efforts.

Next year, in December, based on the requirements of Executive Order 09-05 2(b), WSDOT will report on:

- Regional transportation planning organization development of greenhouse gas reduction strategies;
- Which of these strategies appear to have the greatest potential to achieve the benchmarks; and
- What policy or funding issues need to be resolved to ensure implementation of the identified strategies.

Should you have any questions about the information contained in this report, please contact our WSDOT Sustainable Transportation Lead, Seth Stark 360-705-7913.

Sincerely,



Paula J. Hammond, P.E.
Secretary of Transportation

PJH:ss/lsh

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