Investment Guidelines

1. Preservation—Preserve and extend prior investments in existing transportation facilities and the services they provide to people and commerce.
2. Safety—Target construction projects, enforcement, and education to save lives, reduce injuries, and protect property.
3. Economic Vitality—Improve freight movement and support economic sectors that rely on the transportation system, such as agriculture, tourism, and manufacturing.
4. Mobility—Facilitate movement of people and goods to contribute to a strong economy and a better quality of life for citizens.
5. Environmental Quality and Health—Bring benefits to the environment and our citizens’ health by improving the existing transportation infrastructure.

Key Policy Recommendations

Funding
Identify strategies and methods to provide sustainable revenue sources for transportation needs, including tolling and innovative approaches. Identify innovative financing approaches aimed at meeting the long-term capital investment needs of the ferry system. Develop a policy that defines the state’s role and level of investment in public transportation.

Land Use and Transportation
Improve concurrency between transportation and land use decisions to ensure complementary development of land with transportation infrastructure. Clarify the state and local responsibility and options for addressing highway congestion that are driven by local permitting decisions.

Safety
Identify cost effective ways in which the state and local agencies responsible for safety on highways, streets, and roads can coordinate their efforts to achieve statewide safety goals in a comprehensive manner.

Reduce Reliance on Fossil Fuels
Support development and implementation of a state policy on alternative fuel development and use which could include the identification of possible regulatory and tax structures. Identify opportunities and strategies for addressing the growing demand for alternative fuels and their benefits to the environment.

Emergency Preparedness
Clarify the role of state and local governments in providing personal mobility and freight service in the event of a major disruption to the transportation system or in case of catastrophic events.

Transportation and the Economy
Measure the economic impacts and benefits of making transportation investments in the different regions and economies of the state. Define the state’s role in making these investments, considering cost and benefit trade-offs. Identify the transportation system elements that are critical to maintaining and improving Washington State’s global competitiveness.

Rural Economic Vitality
Improve farm-to-market access by determining strategic investments in rail. Define the state’s role in establishing and funding a year-round, statewide, core all-weather road system in rural areas.