# Welcome to a WTP Outreach Event – Olympia

## Today's Agenda

**3:00 PM – 3:30 PM**
**Display Orientation**

**3:30 PM – 3:50 PM**
**Presentation**

**3:50 PM – 5:00 PM**
**Listening Session**

**5:00 PM – 5:30 PM**
**Display Orientation**

**5:30 PM – 5:50 PM**
**Presentation Repeated**

**5:50 PM – 7:00 PM**
**Listening Session**

# WTP Public Involvement Outreach Event

Olympia

July 31, 2006

Washington State Transportation Commission

Washington State Department of Transportation

# Why We're Here

*The Purpose of the WTP Outreach Events*

## To Share the Draft Washington Transportation Plan:

- *Update Approach*
- *Key Findings*
- *High Priorities*
- *Investment Guidelines*
- *Policy Recommendations*
- *Milestones*

## To Listen to Community Feedback

## To Enhance Communications

## To Create New Opportunities for Working Together

# How Did We Get Here?

*WTP Chronology 2004-2006*

Transportation Demand and Growth Create Increasing Challenges for Today and Tomorrow

Nine Key Issues and the Data are the Basis for the WTP

Federal and State Law Require a Statewide Long-Range Plan Addressing Policy for All Modes

Planning for the Future is the Right Thing to Do for Many Reasons

# How Was the Plan Created?

**The Governor's Priorities of Government**

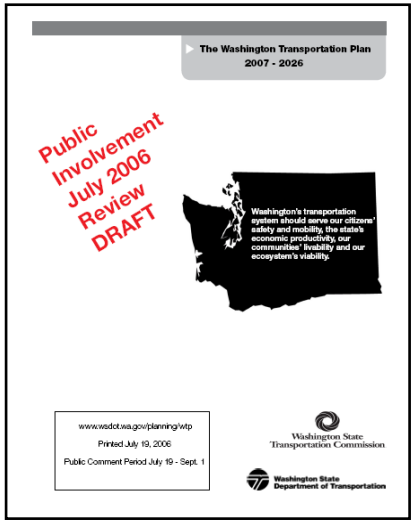
**Transportation Commission Policy**

**Statutory Guidance**

**Transportation Agencies Input: Programming and Construction Funding Needs**

**WTP Data Analysis and Input**

**Public Input**




**Prioritized Funding Needs**

**Policy for the Statewide Transportation System**

**Accountability and Measuring Progress of the Plan**

# The Challenge

The transportation needs in Washington significantly exceed available and forecasted future fiscal resources.

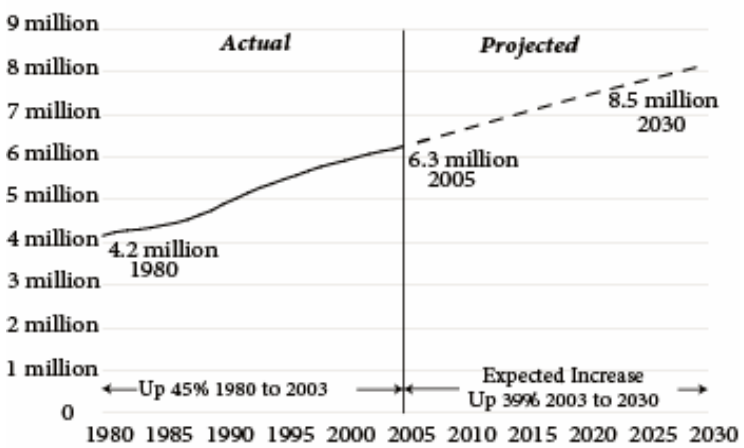
By 2025, without substantial new capacity or significant changes that affect how and when we travel, users of Washington's transportation system will experience:

- Increased delay and longer travel times
- Reduced system efficiency
- Reduced economic productivity
- Higher consumer costs
- Time lost

The challenge is to achieve the WTP vision in spite of the continued and increasing demand for transportation of all kinds, alongside funding constraints, funding instability, and reduced buying power of available funds and other constraints.

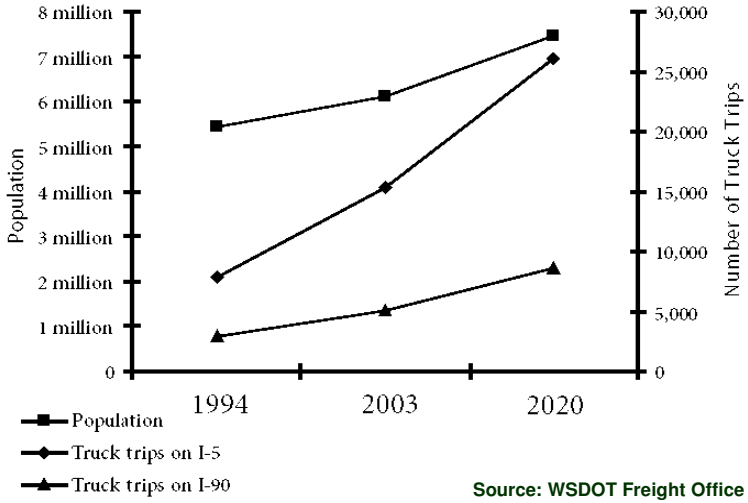
# Demand for Transportation is Growing

## Population



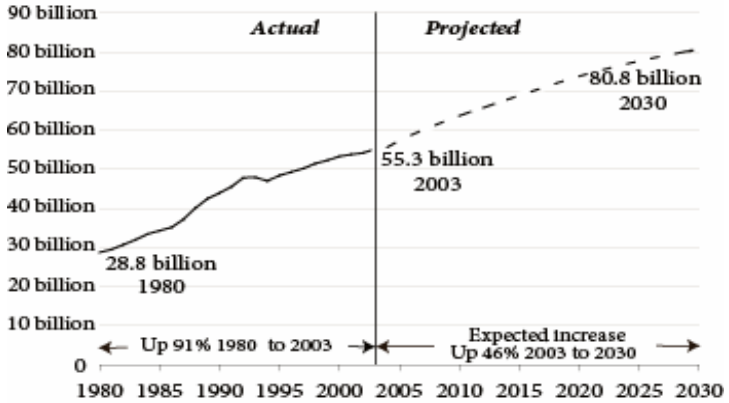

Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management; U.S. Census

## Truck Trips



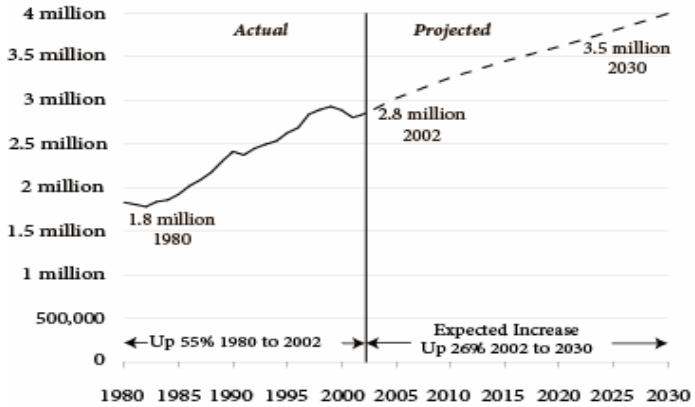

Source: WSDOT Freight Office

## Vehicle Miles Traveled




Source: WSDOT Transportation Data Office

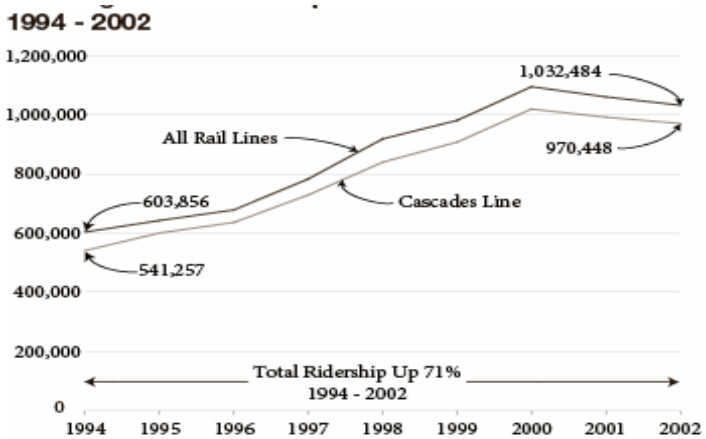
## Employment




Source: Table 3-1, 2003 Long Term Economic and Labor Force Forecast for Washington, Office of Financial Management & Employment Security Department

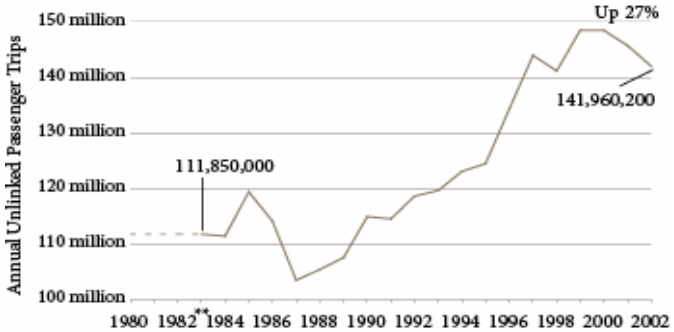
# Ridership Forecast: Growth in all Modes

## Rail Ridership




Source: WSDOT Rail Website
www.wsdot.wa.gov/rail/cascades/ridership.cfm#onoff

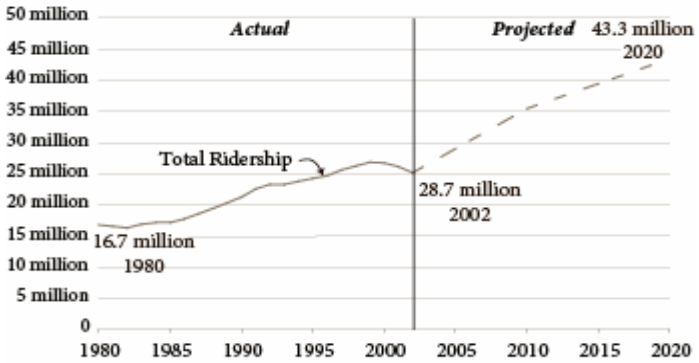
## Transit Ridership




**In the 1980 US Census, some suburban population areas were reclassified as urban areas. As a result, the transit systems serving these areas were then required to begin submitting yearly operating data to the National Transit Database - many of these beginning reporting in 1983. Data before 1983 is not compatible.

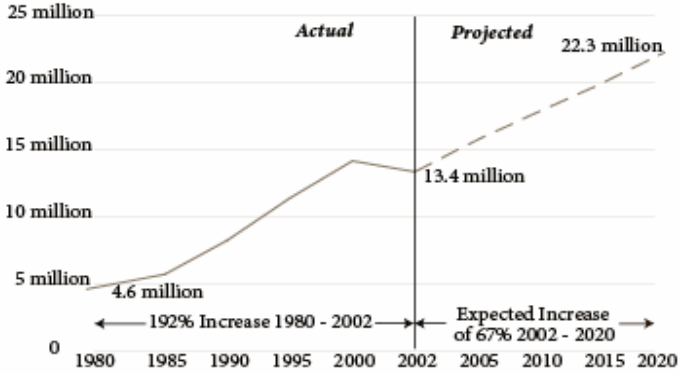
Source Data: All data is from the National Transit Database (NTD); Data available on Internet and through WSDOT Library http://www.fta.dot.gov/ntl/database.html

## Ferry Ridership




Source: Washington State Ferries; WSDOT

## Air Travel




Source: Port of Seattle; WSDOT Aviation Division, aviation system plan

# What Leaders Were Saying

**"When I think of transportation, I think of safety, economic development, and a legacy for our children."**

**Christine Gregoire**

*Governor*

**"If we make the right investments in transportation, we will create millions of jobs here at home, we'll make our businesses and workers more productive and we'll lay the foundation for our future economic growth."**

**Honorable Patty Murray**

*United States Senator*

**"Although we have the Nickel and the TPA funding, the Blue Ribbon Commission identified a 50 billion dollar backlog of transportation needs, so tolling must play an important roll in Washington State's transportation future."**

**Senator Mary Margaret Haugen**

*Washington State Legislator*

**"The State Route 167 HOT Lane Project gives us an opportunity to begin to change the culture here in the western part of the US. We cannot destroy the quality of life in the [Puget Sound] Region by expanding every highway to carry more capacity."**

**Representative Ed Murray**

*Washington State Legislator*

**"The WTP establishes the strategic direction for future transportation investments, shaped by the input from people across the state that use or share the responsibility for delivering the statewide system."**

*Washington Transportation Commission*

**"The Washington State Transportation Plan is not about the politically correct recitation of modal completeness. It's about the crosscutting themes that animate our transportation policy goals and choices."**

**Doug MacDonald**

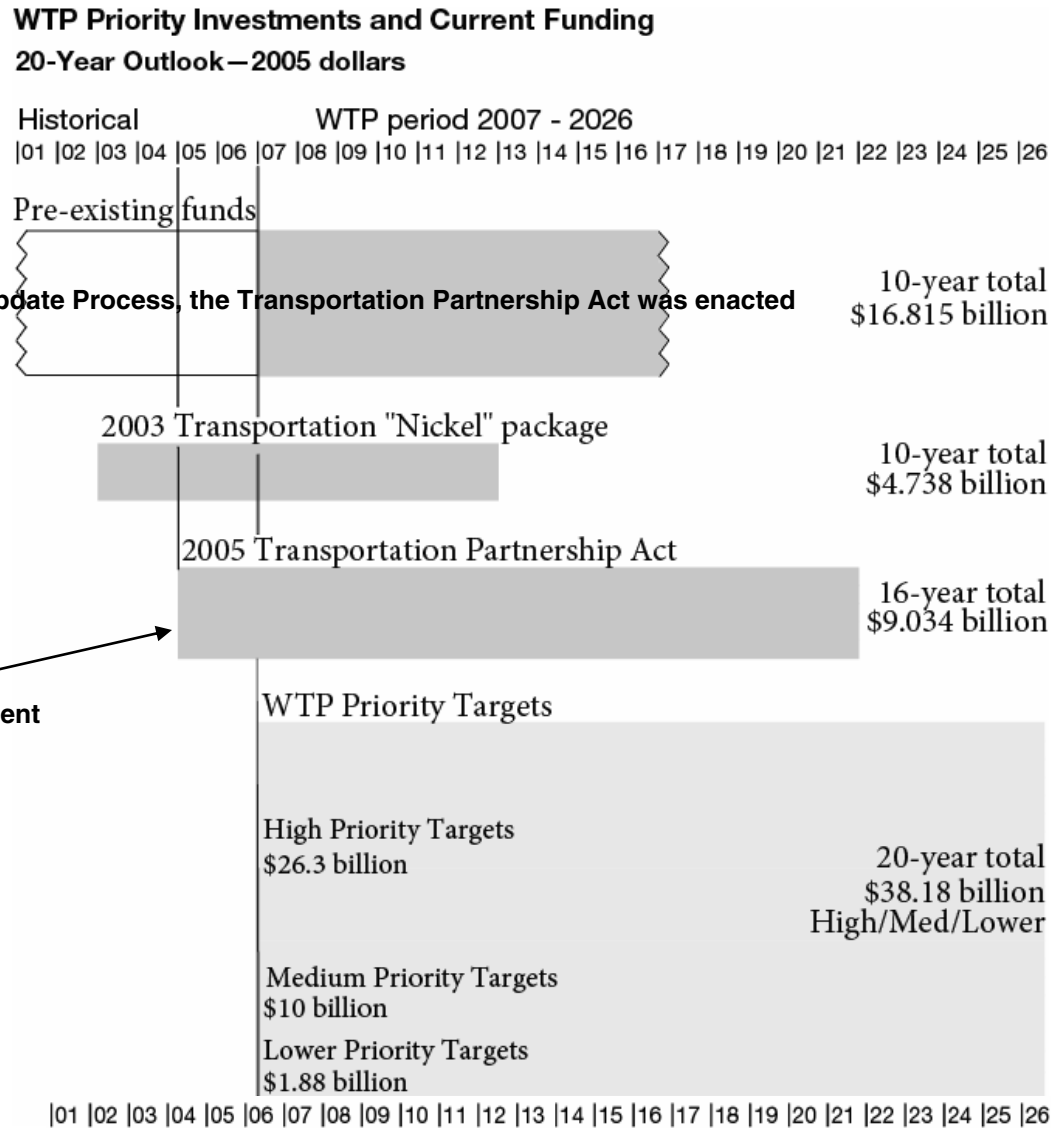
*Secretary of Transportation*

# What is the WTP Vision for the next 20 years?

Washington's transportation system should serve our citizens' safety and mobility, the state's economic productivity, our communities' livability and our ecosystem's viability.

# What is the Financial Situation Today

*Comparing Constrained Funding to WTP Needs*




**Midway through the Update Process, the Transportation Partnership Act was enacted**

**WTP Phase 1 Spurs Investment**

**Early WTP Success in 2005**

# Transportation Investments Underway

**Preservation Investments Underway—**
**$13.4 billion is dedicated to preserving, maintaining, and rehabilitating:**

- Highway pavements and unstable slopes
- Seismically vulnerable, narrow, aging bridges
- Safety rest areas and weigh stations
- Transit system capital
- County roads and ferries
- City streets and bridges
- State ferry vessels and terminals
- Public use general aviation airport pavements

**Safety Investments Underway**
**$3.36 billion is dedicated to improving safety on:**

- State highways and safety rest areas
- Bicycle and pedestrian facilities statewide
- County two-lane roadways
- City streets
- General aviation airports
- The state ferry system

**Economic Vitality Investments Underway**
**$768 million is dedicated to:**

- Preparing for events of statewide significance—2010 Olympics in Vancouver, BC
- Reducing severe weather closures on I-90
- Addressing freight constraints on I-5

**Mobility Investments Underway—**
**$11.112 billion is dedicated to maintaining, operating, and providing:**

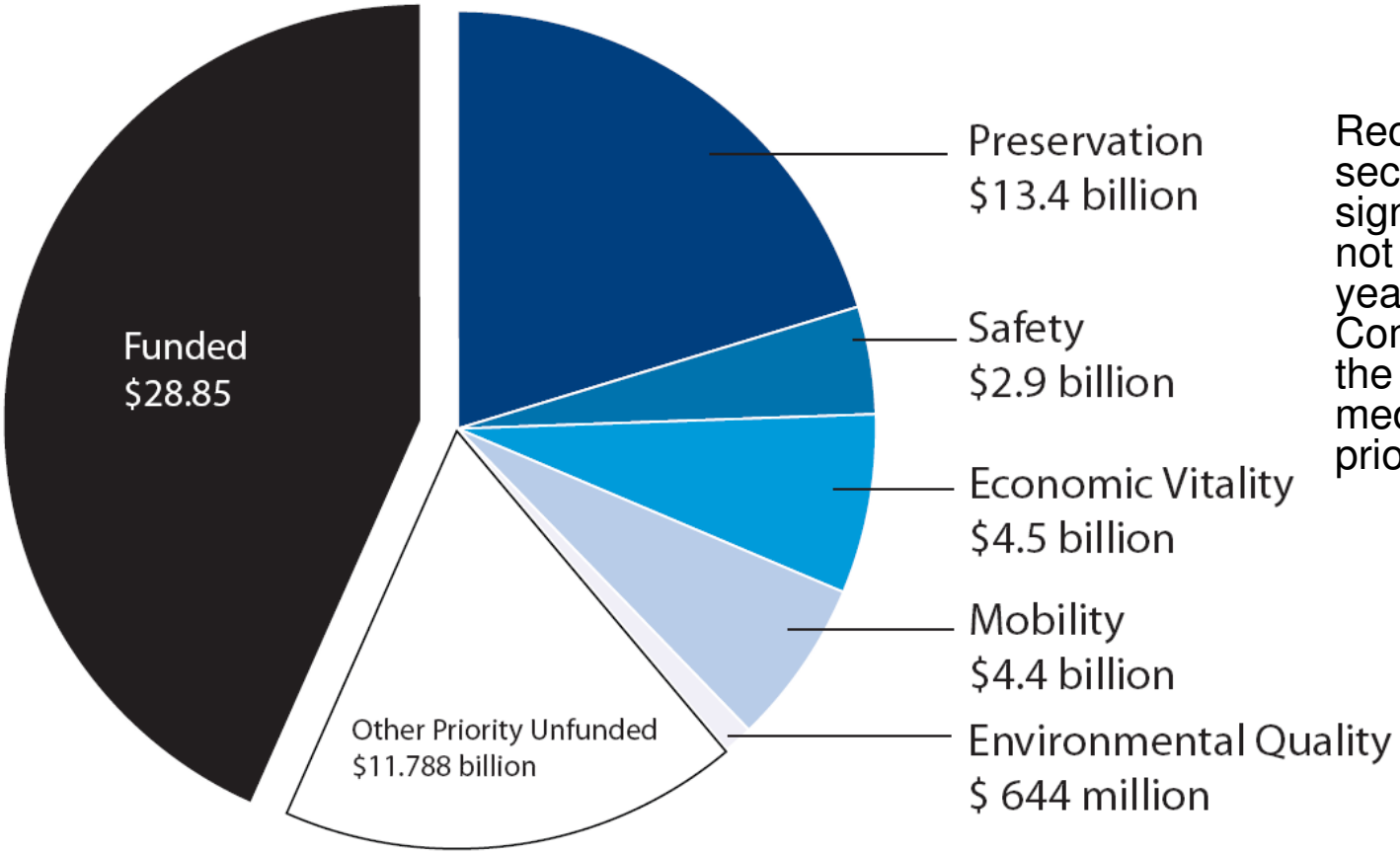
- Incident Response
- Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)
- High occupancy vehicle lanes
- Safety rest areas and weigh stations
- Ferry vessels and terminals
- Passenger rail
- Commute trip reduction
- Park and ride policy development, and grants
- Transit service expansion
- Assistance to transit agencies in providing intercity connecting service
- Support for the Agency Council on Coordinated Transportation
- Relief from bottlenecks and chokepoints on highways

**Environmental Quality Investments Underway—**
**$198.6 million is dedicated to addressing:**

- Fish passage barriers on state highways
- Urgent locations stream bank failures
- Noise barriers
- Stormwater treatment retrofits
- Wildlife hazards on or adjacent to airports

# Unfunded High Priorities

*More than $37 billion is needed over 20 years to address statewide transportation needs.*




Recognizing that securing revenue for this significant amount was not probable over 20 years, the Transportation Commission prioritized the needs into high, medium, and low priorities.

Unfunded high priorities total nearly $26 billion.

# WTP Investment Guidelines

With the overall goal of maintaining and enhancing the quality of life in Washington, the Transportation Commission used investment guidelines to provide direction for future investments.

**In addition, it should also be noted that all projects consider environmental issues and nearly all projects improve environmental conditions, through context sensitive design and or mitigation.**

**Environmental issues are considered to be a core part of the planning, design, and engineering processes, even when the primary project scope may be to improve safety or create system efficiencies.**

**WTP Investment Guidelines**

- **Preservation:** Invest to take care of the transportation systems we have today to preserve and extend prior investments in these facilities and the services they provide to people and commerce
- **Safety**: Invest in key safety targets to save lives, reduce injuries, and protect property
- **Economic Vitality:** Invest in ways to improve freight movement and support economic sectors that rely on the transportation system
- **Mobility:** Invest in better movement of people and goods to contribute to a strong economy and better quality of life for citizens
- **Environmental Quality:** Invest in transportation improvements to bring benefits to the environment and our citizens' health

# Policy Recommendations & Studies Underway

- All-Weather County Road System
- Corridor Efficiency
- Truck Parking
- Fuel Distribution and Pipeline capacity Alternatives to Meet Long-term Demand.
- New Technology Alternative Fuels

- Tolling Study
- Rail Study

# Listening Session

- Does the Vision Statement Set the Right Course?
- Do You Agree with the High Priorities?
- Is There Something Missing?

> Washington's transportation system should serve our citizens' safety and mobility, the state's economic productivity, our communities' livability, and our ecosystem's viability.
>
> **20 Year Transportation Vision**