ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN
Executive Summary

VISION 2040 and Transportation 2040 call for the development of a transportation system that creates more travel choices while preserving environmental quality and open space. Bicycling and pedestrian transportation play a key role in achieving these goals. The Active Transportation Plan (ATP) emphasizes how planning for pedestrians and bicyclists is a cost effective and beneficial form of transportation that implements Transportation 2040 and VISION 2040 in a sustainable way.

Active Transportation refers to multimodal transportation solutions that connect people of all ages and abilities to where they need to go using active modes such as walking, bicycling and taking public transit.

The ATP recognizes and builds on existing policy from Transportation 2040 and VISION 2040. The purpose of the ATP is to advance many of these policies through implementation of active transportation in the Puget Sound region. This plan describes the need for active transportation, provides guidance and resources for local jurisdictions for developing their bicycle and pedestrian elements, and describes how the region is working together to support active transportation. The ATP also articulates the multiple benefits of active transportation.

As called for in the adopted Transportation 2040 Plan, an important focus of this Active Transportation Plan is access to and within centers and the importance of interconnectivity with transit for people of all ages and abilities. The plan also emphasizes the many benefits of Active Transportation such as increased health outcomes, transportation benefits such as reducing congestion, increased opportunity for environmental mitigation, and increased economic benefits.

Active Transportation for People of All Ages and Abilities
A key emphasis of this plan is to highlight the need for safe environments for walking and bicycling for people of all ages and abilities. Concerns about safety is often a barrier to more people choosing to walk or bike and with increased emphasis on the benefits of active transportation, proving safe environments is increasingly important. Overcoming these barriers can happen in a variety of ways, such as through education as well as safe infrastructure. In addition, strategies such as providing places of rest along a walking route - and ensuring the perception of safety - such as increased lighting, are strategies that encourage all people to begin to include active transportation as a key option.

Regional Bicycle Network and Local Connectivity
The Active Transportation Plan emphasizes the importance of completing connections that facilitate access and shortens distances. Network connectivity for pedestrian and bicycle transportation is important for safe connections to local and regional destinations. Network assessment also assists planners and local jurisdictions to address barriers and to prioritize investments.

Transportation 2040 explicitly calls for the development of a Regional Bicycle Network which identifies key bicycle linkages that connect locations that are important to the region. The regional Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) recommended criteria based on VISION 2040 that guided the development of this network. The criteria include connecting urban centers, regional transit locations, and other important regional destinations. The bicycle network helps the region to plan for connections that cross-jurisdictional boundaries and helps to facilitate coordination between cities and counties to
strive for a seamless network of safe bicycle facilities. The network includes a list of gaps along with further information such as progress in local planning, elevation gain, etc.

**Funding and Leveraging Opportunities**
Due to the growing interest in active transportation as well as the need for safe accommodation, finding resources to support projects and planning is increasingly important. The Active Transportation Plan provides information for communities as they seek additional resources. This chapter and the associated attachment includes various funding sources that support bicycling and walking from federal, state and regional sources as well as some examples of local funds some communities have leveraged. In addition, this chapter provides examples for how communities can leverage opportunities. Due to the growing need, it is important for communities to work together to maximize resources and to leverage opportunities where they exist. The purpose of this section of the ATP is to provide information for communities across the region seeking move the region toward implementing Active Transportation.

**Data Collection Recommendations**
Active Transportation has many regional benefits such as increased health outcomes, improved air quality, congestion relief, and economic benefits. Quantifying these benefits is a challenging task. This plan has begun the process of data collection needed to identify these benefits. Where data is lacking, this plan provides guidance on best practices for collecting data. Increased emphasis on monitoring and setting multi-modal level of service targets are key factors in emphasizing the need for better data collection and includes data collection recommendations.

**Framework for the BPAC Work Program**
Many of the implementation actions outlined in this report are implemented at a local level. For this reason, this plan focuses on providing information to local governments as a resource as they plan for and implement active transportation solutions in the central Puget Sound. The region also plays an important role when collaborating regionally to identify recommended approaches and maximize efforts through partnerships. This plan will provide the framework to develop and strengthen the BPAC work program. This includes better integration with PSRC committees, working regionally to set targets for future monitoring efforts and to strengthen the committee by reaching out to our region for more diverse participation.