



Georgetown, Seattle

Glossary of Terms

The following terms are defined according to their intended use in this document.

Accessibility

A measure of the ability or ease to travel among various origins and destinations.

Action

A provision or task to implement adopted policies.

Active Living

Promotion of physical activity, including walking and bicycling, to address health and personal well-being, focusing on how the built environment — including neighborhoods, transportation systems, buildings, parks and open space — can contribute to more daily movement and activity.

Adaptive Management

A planning framework for decision-making based on information that exists today, which can be modified and refined later as new information becomes available.

Affiliated Area

An area within the designated urban growth area that has been identified by an adjacent city as an area for future annexation and/or joint planning and the provision of municipal services. (See Potential Annexation Area.)

Affordability (also, Housing Affordability)

The cost of housing as a percentage of household income. Housing is considered unaffordable when housing costs exceed a threshold percentage — nationally that standard ranges from 25 to 33 percent.

Airport Ground Access

Facilities and services for passengers and freight handlers to reach airport terminals, e.g., highways, public transit, taxi, and other means of ground transportation.

Air Toxics

Airborne chemicals found to be harmful to human health, as well as to plants and animals. Examples include toluene, xylene, benzene, and formaldehyde.

Alternative Work Schedules

Programs such as compressed work weeks that eliminate employee work trips.

Annexation

The assimilation of some territory into another political entity — usually the attachment of lands that were previously under county jurisdiction to a municipality.

Advanced Traveler Information Systems (ATIS)

The application of advanced technology to provide real time travel information to travelers.

Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS)

The application of advanced telecommunications technology to the surveillance and management of traffic flow, traffic data, and other traffic system information to improve efficiency.

Automatic Vehicle Control Systems (AVCS)

The application of advanced technology to traffic control, including management, data acquisition, message systems, radio communications, and other systems to improve efficiency.



Kitsap Transit Center, Bremerton

Benchmark Indicator

Key performance indicators for which quantifiable or directional targets may be set.

Benchmark Objectives

Key objectives the region hopes to achieve through implementation of VISION 2040.

Benchmark Target

A numerical goal or stated direction to be achieved that reflects the policy commitments of VISION 2040.

Best Available Science

The most up-to-date information available for planning and development decision-making. Required by the Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A.172).

Bikeway

Any road, street, path, or right-of-way that is specifically designated in some manner as being open to bicycle travel, either for the exclusive use of bicycles or shared use with other vehicles or pedestrians.

Brownfield

A previously developed property or site — often having been used for industrial activity — that now is underutilized or not in active use, on land that is either contaminated or perceived as contaminated.

Built Environment

Refers to the human-created surroundings that provide the setting for human activity, ranging from large-scale civic districts, commercial and industrial buildings, to neighborhoods and individual homes.

Busway

A special roadway designed for exclusive use by buses. It may be constructed at, above, or below grade and may be located in separate rights-of-way or within highway corridors.

Bypass Lane

A reserved traffic lane on a metered freeway entry ramp which permits buses or high-occupancy vehicles to have preferential treatment when entering the freeway.

Capital Costs

Costs of long-term physical assets, such as equipment, rights-of-way, stations, buildings, and vehicles, traditionally identified with public transportation investments.

Carbon Footprint

A measure of the amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emitted through the combustion of fossil fuels. In the case of an organization, business or enterprise, the measure is based on routine operations. For an individual or household, it is a measure related to typical day-to-day living. A carbon footprint is often expressed as tons of carbon dioxide or tons of carbon emitted, usually on a yearly basis.

Carbon Monoxide (CO)

Air pollutant that is a highly toxic, odorless, colorless gas; automobile emissions are the primary source of CO.

Carpool

An arrangement in which two to six people share the use and/or costs, of traveling in privately owned automobiles between fixed points on a regular basis. (See also vanpool.)

Carpool Lane

A highway or street lane intended for use by transit, carpools, vanpools, and other high-occupancy vehicles.

CBD

Central business district.

Centers

A defined focal area within a city or community that has a mix of housing, employment, retail and entertainment uses. It is pedestrian-oriented, which allows people to walk to different destinations or attractions. Regional centers are formally designated by PSRC.

Certification

Formal process by which PSRC recognizes the consistency of local transportation-related planning provisions with the Metropolitan Transportation Plan and conformity with state planning mandates.

City in the Rural Area

A free-standing municipality that is physically separated from other cities or towns by designated rural lands.

Clean Air Act (CAA)

The federal Clean Air Act identifies "mobile sources" (vehicles) as primary sources of pollution and calls for stringent new requirements in metropolitan areas and states where attainment of federal air quality standards is or could be a problem. A complementary law exists at the state level in Washington State, entitled the Clean Air Washington Act.

Climate Change

Refers to the variation in the earth's global climate (or in regional climates) over time. It describes changes in the variability or average state of the atmosphere.

Cluster (also, Industry Cluster)

Locating and organizing residential housing closer together at greater densities, to indefinitely protect and conserve open space, resource lands and environmentally critical areas. Also, a geographical concentration of industries that gain economic advantages by their location.

Commercial Aviation

Aircraft activity licensed by state or federal authority to transport passengers and/or cargo.

Commute

Regular travel between home and a fixed location (e.g., work, school).

Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) Act

A state law mandating that affected jurisdictions enact ordinances requiring major employers to implement programs reducing commuting vehicle miles traveled and rates of their employees driving alone (RCW 70.94.521-551).

Commuter Rail Service

Short-haul rail passenger service operated within metropolitan and suburban areas.

Compact Urban Communities

Urban locations which offer transportation, housing and shopping choices that reduce the need for automobile travel and support an efficient development pattern.

Complete Street

Designed and operated to ensure safe travel for all users — pedestrians, cyclists, transit-riders, and motorists. Typically, complete streets include sidewalks, crosswalks, bike lanes and other features and amenities.

Comprehensive Plan

A document that identifies that guides growth and development for a local jurisdiction.

Compressed Work Week

An alternative work schedule, in accordance with employer policy, that regularly allows a full-time employee to eliminate at least one work day every two weeks by working longer hours during the remaining days, resulting in fewer commute trips by the employee.

Concurrency

A state planning requirement to ensure that needed services and facilities are in place by the time development is completed and to be occupied, or that funding has been committed to provide such services within six years.

Congestion

A condition characterized by unstable traffic flows that creates stop-and-go movement on a transportation facility. Nonrecurring congestion is caused by actions such as special events, weather, and/or traffic accidents. Recurring congestion is caused by problematic facility design at a key location or constant excess volume compared with capacity.

Congestion Management System (CMS)

A federally mandated program directed at specific urbanized areas to provide for programs to address traffic congestion.

Conservation

The management of resources — such as water and energy — so as to eliminate waste or maximize efficiency of use.

Consistency

The degree of compatibility or agreement among planning provisions. The Growth Management Act addresses consistency in three ways: (1) internal consistency of comprehensive plans, (2) consistency of zoning and regulations with the comprehensive plan, and (3) consistency with other jurisdictions. Guidance concerning the term consistency is provided by WAC Chapter 365-195.

Context-Sensitive Design

A concept in transportation planning — that addresses the physical setting of the project and preserves scenic, aesthetic, historic, and environmental resources.

Corridor

In planning, a broad geographical band that follows a general directional flow or connects major sources of trips. It may contain a number of streets and highways and transit lines and routes.

Countywide Growth Management Planning Group

Bodies of elected officials set up in each county to coordinate growth management planning efforts among the county and its cities.

King County: Growth Management Planning Council

Kitsap County: Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council

Pierce County: Pierce County Regional Council

Snohomish County: Snohomish County Tomorrow

Countywide Planning Policy

An adopted provision developed collaboratively between the county unit of government and local cities and towns within the county. Countywide planning policies provide a common framework for individual comprehensive plans prepared by each local jurisdiction.

Core City

A regional geography within VISION 2040 that includes those cities outside of the five metropolitan cities that contain regionally designated centers.

Critical Area

Lands that perform key functions that enhance the natural environment and built environment, as well as protection from hazards. According to the Growth Management Act, such areas include wetlands, floodplains, aquifer recharge areas, wildlife conservation areas, and certain geologic areas.

Current-Law Revenues

Income from existing, legally mandated sources. By definition, forecasts of current-law tax revenues assume changes only in the tax base, not tax rates.

Disabled Person

A person with a disability is an individual with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and working. The definition also includes individuals with a record of such impairment or an individual who is regarded as having such impairment. 49 CFR Part 37 Transportation for Individuals with Disabilities (ADA).

Discretionary Funds

Any funds whose distribution is not automatic. Decisions on the distribution of discretionary funds are usually made by an agency or person in accordance with legal/regulatory criteria.

DNS

Declaration of Non Significance, a finding of no significant environmental impact.

Employment Centers

Locations having a concentration of jobs or employment. Centers, which vary in size and density, serve subregional or local markets.

Environmental Justice

The fair distribution of costs and benefits, based on a concern for social equity. Presidential Executive Order 12898 (1994) directs federal agencies to make environmental justice part of their missions by identifying and addressing the effects of all programs, policies, and activities on minority and low-income populations.

Equity

In transportation, a normative measure of fairness among transportation users.

Estuary

A water passage where the saltwater tide meets a freshwater river current with a free connection to the open sea.

Executive Board

The managerial and administrative body of the Puget Sound Regional Council. Members of the Executive Board are appointed by their General Assembly constituents to represent the member governments.

Express Bus Service

Bus service with a limited number of stops, either from a collector area directly to a specific destination or in a corridor with stops only at major transfer points/activity centers.

Facility

A physical structure allowing a transportation mode to operate (including travel, as well as the discharge and loading of passengers). Examples include highways, guideways, terminals and administrative support locations.

Feeder Service

Local transportation service that connects passengers to a major transportation service.

FHWA

Federal Highway Administration.

Fixed Cost

A cost that remains relatively constant irrespective of the level of operational activity.

Fixed-Route Transit

Regularly scheduled service operating repeatedly over the same street or highway pattern on a determined schedule.

Flex-Time

An employer policy allowing individual employees some flexibility in choosing the time, but not the number, of their working hours.

Forecast

Projection of population or employment for a given future year.

Fragmentation of Habitat

The division of an ecological system or habitat that once was contiguous.

FTA

Federal Transit Administration (formerly Urban Mass Transportation Administration).

Functional Plan

A specialized plan focusing on a single topic area. It may contain more detailed information on actions, projects and programs — based on the policies and provisions a more generalized overall plan. The Metropolitan Transportation Plan (Transportation 2040) and the Regional Economic Strategy are both functional plans of VISION 2040.

General Assembly

The governing body of the Puget Sound Regional Council, composed of all members including elected officials from the executive and legislative branches of member cities, towns and counties and representatives of statutory members.

General Aviation

All aircraft which are not commercial or military aircraft.

Global Warming

The increase in the average temperature of the earth's near-surface air and oceans in recent decades and its projected continuation.

Goal

Within the planning process, a goal identifies a desired end state.

Grade Crossing

A crossing of highways, railroad tracks, other guideways, and/or pedestrian walkways at the same level or grade.

Grade Separated

The use of tunnels, bridges and other structures to separate levels on which roadway, railroad tracks, guideways and walkways intersect.

Green Building (also, Green Design)

Building design that yields environmental benefits, such as savings in energy, building materials, and water consumption, or reduced waste generation. Green development minimizes energy consumption and minimizes pollution and the generation of wastes, while maximizing the re-use of materials and creating healthful indoor environments.

Green Street

A street designed and constructed to integrate a system of stormwater management within its right of way in order to reduce the amount of water that is piped directly to streams and rivers. Green streets typically incorporate green infrastructure, such as street trees and landscaped amenity zones, both for aesthetics and to enhance the environment.

Greenhouse Gas

Components of the atmosphere that contribute to global warming, including water vapor, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and ozone. Human activities have added to the levels of most of these naturally occurring gases.

Greyfield

An older, economically obsolescent retail or commercial area. Greyfield malls may have outdated buildings and large areas devoted to parking lots. Many fail to generate the revenue that would justify continued use in their current form.

Growth Management Act

State legislation passed in 1990 and subsequently amended which requires long-range comprehensive plans prepared by cities and counties to be balanced with supporting transportation infrastructure (RCW 36.70A).

Guideway

In transit systems, a track or other riding surface (including supporting structure) that supports and physically guides transit vehicles specifically designed to travel exclusively on it.

Habitat

The natural home of a plant or animal.

Heavy Rail

An electric powered rail transit system that operates on a completely grade-separated right-of-way. Generally characterized by wide station spacing (1 to 2 miles apart), high average operating speeds, and greater capacity than light rail.

High-Capacity Transit

Transit systems operating, in whole or part, on a fixed guideway, dedicated right-of-way or freeway/express facility, designed to carry a large number of riders at higher speeds than conventional transit. Examples include express bus on HOV lanes, passenger ferry service, and light and heavy rail systems.

High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV)

A motor vehicle with two or more people traveling in it. Includes carpools, vanpools, and transit.

High-Occupancy Vehicle Lane

Highway and arterial lanes restricted for use to vehicles carrying more than two occupants or passengers (with the exception of motorcycles).

High-Speed Rail

Intercity passenger rail service with high operating speeds (up to 300 m.p.h.) and limited stops (e.g., Japanese Bullet Trains, French TGV and experimental maglev systems). Used to link cities more than 100 miles apart.

Highway of Statewide Significance

A roadway, route or interstate highway designated by the State Transportation Commission, the Washington State Department of Transportation, or the Legislature.

Hours of Delay

The aggregate time lost by all travelers in the region on all facilities due to congestion, as measured by the time to reach destinations at posted speed limits versus traveling at a slower congested speed.

Hub-and-Spoke (Radial)

In transit operations, routes that radiate from and return to a designated area/transit facility.

Impact Fees

Costs imposed on new development to fund public facility improvements required by new development and ease fiscal burdens of providing services on localities.

Impervious Surface

Surfaces — such as rooftops, sidewalks, roads, and parking lots — covered by impenetrable materials, including asphalt, concrete, brick, and stone. These materials seal surfaces, repel water and prevent precipitation and runoff from infiltrating into soils.

Implementation Monitoring

Tracking actions considered key to the implementation of VISION 2040; e.g., refinement of the regional transportation plan, adoption or amendment of comprehensive plans, and investment in transportation programs.

Incompatible Land Uses

Facilities or activities on a site that have negative effects on adjacent properties.

Infill Development

Projects that use vacant or underutilized land in areas that were previously developed.

Intermodal

Accommodation or interconnection of various transportation modes for the movement of people and goods. Also known as “multimodal.”

Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA)

Signed into federal law in 1991, ISTEA provided authorizations for highways, highway safety and mass transit through 1997 and served as the basis of federal surface transportation programs. See entries for TEA-21 and SAFETEA-LU for updated federal transportation authorization.

Invasive Species

An introduced species or non-indigenous species that expands outside of its native range.

Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)

The application of advanced technology to current transportation problems, including incident detection, signal coordination, real-time information, and other technology.

Jobs-Housing Balance

A planning concept that advocates that housing and employment be in relative proximity so as to reduce the length of commute travel or eliminate vehicle trips altogether.

Joint Planning

Cooperative planning between two or more jurisdictions or agencies.

Jurisdiction

Includes counties and cities. As appropriate, the term “jurisdiction” also includes federal and state agencies and federally recognized tribes.

Larger City

A regional geography in VISION 2040 that refers to those cities without a regionally designated center that have a combined total population and employment of 22,500 or greater.

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)

A rating system for green buildings, developed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), that provides standards for sustainable construction that include a number of energy and environmental measures.

Level-of-Service Standard

A mechanism used to determine if a given facility or service is operating efficiently. Innovations in level-of-service for transportation now take into account overall people-moving performance, rather than focusing traditional assessments of vehicular volume and capacity.

Light Rail

An electric powered rail transit system that can operate on a variety of rights-of-way, ranging from mixed traffic on-street to fully grade separated. Generally characterized by narrow station spacing (every ½ to 1 mile), slower average operating speeds, and shorter train units (with less capacity) than heavy rail.

Line-Haul Transit

Long-distance express transit operations along a designated corridor.

Local Transit Service

Service oriented toward access, egress and distribution within a specific regional activity center or localized area.

Low-Impact Development

An approach to environmentally-friendly land use planning. Includes a number of landscaping and design techniques to maintain the natural, pre-developed ability of a site to manage stormwater. More broadly, it refers to a range of development techniques that have minimal environmental or energy-related impacts.

Manufacturing/Industrial Center

An area of intensive manufacturing and/or industrial activity.

Market Incentives

In transportation demand management, measures designed to encourage shift from SOV to HOV modes by offering inducements such as preferential parking and financial incentive.

Measurable Objectives

Objectives intended to demonstrate what the region hopes to achieve in implementing VISION 2040, and from which quantifiable performance indicators can be derived.

Measure

An indicator used in determining how adopted provisions are performing. (See also monitoring.)

Metropolitan City

A regional geography in VISION 2040 that refers to the five central cities: Bellevue, Bremerton, Everett, Seattle, and Tacoma.

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

The federally mandated forum for cooperative transportation decision-making in a metropolitan area.

Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)

Metropolitan Transportation Plan, a detailed long-range transportation plan that guides future regional investments and responds to legal mandates contained in SAFETEA-LU, the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments and the state of Washington's Growth Management Act.

Metropolitan Transportation System (MTS)

The system of regionally significant transportation facilities in a metropolitan planning area used to identify regional transportation problems, develop solutions, and monitor system performance.

Mixed-Flow

Traffic movement where autos, trucks, buses and motorcycles share traffic lanes.

Mixed-Use Development

Projects or districts that include residential, commercial, and business accommodations. Vertical mixed-use development refers to buildings that have multiple uses in a single structure, such as ground floor retail, offices, and residences. Horizontal mixed-use development refers to districts where zoning allows for different uses to be in adjacent buildings and complexes.

Mobility

The ability to move about the region from one location to another.

Mode

A particular form of travel (e.g., walking, bicycling, driving alone, carpooling or vanpooling, bus, train, ferry, or airplane).

Mode Split

A term that describes the relative number of people using various forms — or modes — of transportation. Frequently used to describe the percentage of people using private automobiles as opposed to the percentage using transit.

Monitoring

An organized process for gathering and assessing information related to achieving established goals and policies. The process uses performance indicators to show progress toward, movement away from, or static state in policy implementation or policy achievement.

Multimodal

Those issues or activities which involve or affect more than one form — or mode — of transportation, including transportation connections, choices, cooperation and coordination of various modes.

Multimodal Concurrency

Addressing transportation system performance by taking into account land development and transportation solutions that provide alternatives to driving alone. Moves beyond the assessment of vehicle travel to focus more on the people-moving capacity of the system.

Multicounty Planning Policy

An official statement, adopted by two or more counties, used to provide guidance for regional decision-making, as well as a common framework for countywide planning policies and local comprehensive plans.

Multiplier

Multipliers account for the direct and indirect economic effects of employee earnings, purchases of goods and services, tax payments, and payments of principal and interest for a particular business sector of the economy. The impact of these effects on overall employment in the regional economy are referred to as the "multiplier" of a particular employment sector.

Network

(1) In planning, a computerized system of links and nodes that describes a transportation system. (2) In highway engineering, the configuration of highways that constitutes the total system. (3) In transit operations, a system of transit lines or routes, usually designed for coordinated operation.

Nonmotorized

Generally referring to bicycle, pedestrian and other modes of transportation not involving a motor vehicle.

Office of Financial Management (OFM)

The state agency responsible for preparing population forecasts used by counties and their cities in development of local comprehensive plans.

Operating Costs

The sum of all recurring costs (e.g., labor, fuel) that can be associated with the operation and maintenance of a transportation system during a given period.

Operator

An agency responsible for providing a service or operating a facility (e.g., Community Transit is a transit operator, WSDOT is the operator of the State Highway System).

Orderly Development

Well-planned development that is typically contiguous and can be served as efficiently as possible. The Growth Management Act requires multicounty planning policies to address orderly development.

Origin-Destination Study

A study of where person or vehicle trips begin and end. It may also include trip purposes and frequencies.

Ozone

An air pollutant that is a toxic, colorless gas which is the product of the reaction of hydrocarbons (HC) and oxides of nitrogen (NOx) in the presence of sunlight in the atmosphere. Automobile emissions are the primary source of ozone.

Paratransit

Transit service that is scheduled or dispatched upon demand, providing “point-to-point” travel. Normally used in specialized applications with user eligibility limitations (e.g., elderly and/or handicapped) or where demand is not sufficient to support fixed route service.

Park-and-Ride

An access mode to transit and other HOV-modes in which patrons drive private automobiles or ride bicycles to a transit station, stop, or carpool/vanpool waiting area and park the vehicle in the area provided for that purpose (park-and-ride lots, commuter parking lots, bicycle rack or locker).

Particulate Matter

An air pollutant that is classified as total suspended particulates (TSP) and the inhalable subgroup of TSP which is comprised of particulates 10 microns or less in diameter. Automobile emissions are a major source of particulate matter (PM10).

Peak Period

The period of the day during which the maximum amount of travel occurs. It may be specified as the morning (A.M.) or afternoon or evening (P.M.) peak. Generally from 6–9 a.m., 4–7 p.m.

Pedestrian-Oriented Development

The development and siting of housing, commercial space, services, and job opportunities in a manner that accommodates walking. Such development is intended to create more vibrant urban areas and to reduce dependency on automobile travel.

Performance Indicator

The set of evidence that shows progress toward, movement away from, or static state in policy implementation or policy achievement. A quantitative measure of how well an activity, task or function is being performed. In transportation systems, it is usually computed by relating a measure of service output/use to a measure of service input/cost.

Performance Monitoring

A process of comparing actual performance against policies set by the planning process. It includes conducting the data collection and calculation procedures, and reporting the results on a specified regular and ongoing basis.

Person-Trip

Trip made by a person from one location to another whether as a driver, passenger or pedestrian.

Physical Design Guidelines

Destination 2030 formally established and Transportation 2040 readopted provisions to advance fundamental design principles and site development characteristics for regionally designated centers to achieve successful integration of land use and transportation. The guidelines are identified as meeting Growth Management Act and Regional Transportation Planning Organization requirements that direct PSRC to establish regional guidelines and principles, pursuant to RCW 47.80. (Note: Additional regional guidelines and principles are also established in VISION 2040.) These regionally established provisions are to be used in the certification of transportation-related provisions in local comprehensive plans.

Potential Annexation Area

An urban area adjacent to an existing city that the municipality has identified for future inclusion as part of the city.

Pricing

A strategy for charging users of transportation systems. It may be used to manage demand for the facility, cover costs, and/or achieve other policy objectives.

Private-For-Hire

Privately operated common carrier or contract service (e.g., taxicabs, jitneys, private shuttles, subscription bus or van services).

Prosperity Partnership

A coalition of more than 200 government, business, labor and community organizations that works to make the four-county region more competitive in national and global economy.

PSRC

Puget Sound Regional Council, the MPO and RTPO for the central Puget Sound region.

Public Services

Facilities and infrastructure, including sanitary and storm sewer systems, water supply, energy, telecommunications, public safety and emergency services, schools, libraries, and other facilities.

Public Transportation

Regular transportation service by bus, rail, paratransit, van, airplane or ship, offered by a public sector operator.

Puget Sound Clean Air Agency

A special-purpose agency serving King, Kitsap, Pierce, and Snohomish counties and their respective cities and towns to ensure the residents of the region have clean air to breathe. Chartered by state law in 1967 (RCW 70.94) the agency works in partnership with the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Washington State Department of Ecology, and the Puget Sound Regional Council.

Purchase of Development Rights

Programs through which local governments restrict development by purchasing rights to develop from private landholders.

Ramp Metering

Traffic signal control on an entry ramp to a freeway for regulating vehicle access.

RCW

Revised Code of Washington, the codified version of current state law.

Recycling

The process by which waste materials are collected and reused as "raw" materials for new products.

Redevelopment

The restoration and/or improvement of an existing structure or property.

Region

Refers to the central Puget Sound region, including King, Kitsap, Pierce and Snohomish counties and the cities within those counties. The PSRC region is comprised of King, Kitsap, Pierce and Snohomish counties.

Regional Economic Strategy

The functional economic strategy for VISION 2040, it also serves as the federally required comprehensive economic development strategy for the four-county central Puget Sound region.

Regional Geography

Groupings of cities, along with unincorporated urban growth areas, rural areas, and designated resource lands, that are used for planning and growth distribution purposes in VISION 2040's regional growth strategy.

Regional Growth Strategy

A common strategy for distributing population and employment growth with the four-county central Puget Sound region.

Regional Rapid Transit

Fast, reliable form of public transportation connecting regional, metropolitan and subregional centers, capable of carrying very high volumes of passengers along routes.

Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO)

Under state law, the body responsible for long-range, regionwide transportation planning. PSRC serves as the Regional Transportation Planning Organization for the four-county central Puget Sound region.

Rehabilitation

Similar to "Restoration" except the work may include reworking or strengthening the base or sub base, recycling or reworking existing materials to improve their structural integrity, adding underdrains, improving or widening shoulders. Rehabilitation may include acquisition of additional right of way.

Resource Lands

Lands that support resource-based industries, such as timber harvesting and farming. Under the Growth Management Act, the collective term for forest, agricultural, and mineral lands. Sometimes shorelines are included — especially where fish and other aquatic species are harvested.

Restoration

Work performed on pavement or bridge decks to render them suitable for resurfacing. This may include supplementing the existing roadway by increasing surfacing and paving courses to provide structural capability, and widening up to a total of 10 feet. Restoration will generally be performed within the existing right of way.

Resurfacing

The addition of a layer or layers of paving material to provide additional structural integrity, improved serviceability, and rideability.

Ridematching

A process by which people who are interested in carpooling or vanpooling are linked with others based on the origin and destination of their commutes.

Rural Area

Outside the urban growth area, rural lands contain a mix of low-density residential development, agriculture, forests, open space and natural areas, as well as recreation uses. Counties and adjacent small towns provide a limited number of public services to rural residents.

Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU)

The federal surface transportation program for highways, highway safety, and transit for the five-year period between 2005-2009. The core provisions of the program address safety, equity, innovative finance, congestion relief, mobility, efficiency, environmental stewardship, and environmental streamlining.

SEIS

Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement.

SEPA

State Environmental Policy Act.

Single-Occupant Vehicle (SOV)

A motor vehicle occupied by the driver only.

SIP

State Implementation Plan, which the federal Clean Air Act requires, provides a blueprint of how nonattainment areas will meet national ambient air quality standards. Under federal law, the MTP must conform to the SIP.

Small City

A regional geography in VISION 2040 that refers to those cities without a regionally designated center that have a combined total population and employment of less than 22,500.

Solid Waste

Refuse generated by individual households and businesses.

Special Needs Populations

People with special transportation needs are defined in RCW 47.06B as people, "including their personal attendants, who because of physical or mental disability, income status, or age are unable to transport themselves or purchase transportation."

Special Needs Transportation

Special needs transportation is any mode of transportation used by those defined as transportation disadvantaged or with a special transportation need. This includes buses that have regular stops (e.g., fixed route for transit and schools), specialized services such as vans, cabulances and taxis that pick up people at the curb or door (e.g., demand response or dial-a-ride), rideshare programs, volunteer driver services, ferries, trains, or any federal, state, and local publicly funded transportation.

Special Service District

Limited purpose local governments separate from a city, town, or county government. Generally they perform a single function, though some do perform a limited number of functions. School districts and transit districts are types of special service districts.

Stewardship

Taking responsibility for actions affecting the natural or built environment. Positive stewardship demonstrates acceptance of this responsibility through the continuous improvement of environmental performance by individuals, communities, the private sector, and governmental agencies.

Stormwater Management System

An infrastructure system that collects runoff from storms and redirects it from streets and other surfaces into facilities that store and release it — usually back into natural waterways.

Sustainability

Sustainability is commonly defined as "meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." Encompasses environmental, economic, social and institutional factors.

Sustainable Development

Also referred to as "sustainable communities," implies that growth and development occur in a manner that does not degrade and is balanced with the preservation and management of the natural environment and resources, and is supported by physical infrastructure and financial resources. Sustainable communities function within physical and biological limits of the environment, and support long-term use and reuse of natural resources.

System Management

Increasing travel flow on existing facilities through improvements such as ramp metering, signal synchronization, and removal of on-street parking. Improvements typically have a low capital cost, require little major construction, and can be implemented in a relatively short time frame.

Target (also Growth Target)

The number of either residents, jobs, or both that a jurisdiction is expected to plan for in its comprehensive plan.

Transportation Control Measure (TCM)

Project, program, or action identified in a State Implementation Plan that will aid in the elimination or reduction of the severity in the number of violations of national ambient standards.

Telecommunications

The conveyance of information by electronic means. Examples include the telephone, interactive cable facilities, computer networks and video conference centers. Telecommunications technology may eliminate or shorten some vehicle trips but spur others.

Traffic Signal Synchronization

A process by which a number of traffic signals are synchronized to create efficient progression.

Transfer of Development Rights

A system that gives landowners the option of selling the rights to further develop the land. By selling development rights, a landowner gives up the right to develop his/her property, but the buyer could use the rights to develop another piece of land at a greater intensity than would otherwise be permitted.

Transit Dependent

Individual(s) dependent on public transit to meet personal mobility needs (e.g., unable to drive, not a car owner, not licensed to drive).

Transit-Oriented Development

The development of housing, commercial space, services, and job opportunities in close proximity to public transportation. Such development is intended to reduce dependency on automobiles, and to better link residences to jobs and services.

Transportation Demand

The quantity of transportation desired by users.

Transportation Demand Management

The concept of managing or reducing travel demand rather than increasing the supply of transportation facilities. It may include programs to shift demand from single-occupant vehicles to other modes such as transit and ridesharing, to shift demand to off-peak periods, or to eliminate demand for some trips.

Transportation Equity Act (TEA-21)

The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century was enacted June 9, 1998 as Public Law 105-178. TEA-21 authorizes the federal surface transportation programs for highways, highway safety, and transit for the six-year period 1998-2003. TEA-21 refined and reauthorized ISTEA. See entry for SAFETEA-LU for updated federal transportation authorization.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

The multi-year program of transportation projects for highways, transit and other modes. The Regional TIP consists of projects and programs drawn from the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, as well as from local plans and the transportation programs of other agencies in the region.

Transportation System Management (TSM)

Improvements to existing transportation facilities that increase the flow of travel, such as ramp metering and signal synchronization. Such improvements typically have a lower capital cost than major construction and can be implemented in a relatively short time frame.

Urban Growth Area (UGA)

The area formally designated by a county, in consultation with its cities, to accommodate future development and growth. Given that cities are urban, each city is within a county-designated urban growth area. Cities may not annex lands outside of urban growth areas, nor may they formally identify future urban growth areas independently of the county designation process. Development that is urban in character is to occur within the designated urban growth area, preferably in cities. Development outside the designated urban growth area is to be rural in character.

Urban Transportation Corridor

A special type of transportation arterial distinguished by its potential to support centers or compact communities through redevelopment that is transit and pedestrian-oriented. These corridors are located near significant concentrations of residences or employment and have the opportunity to support frequent transit service and increased pedestrian activity.

Urbanized Area

An area defined by the U.S. Census Bureau according to specific criteria designed to include the entire densely settled area around each large city. An urbanized area must have a minimum population of 50,000 persons at a density of 1,000 persons per square mile.

Unincorporated Area

Any portion of a county not within the limits of an incorporated city or town. Unincorporated Urban Growth Areas. Areas under county jurisdictions within the urban growth area. Such areas are expected to annex to a city or potentially form a new city at some point in the future.

Vanpool

An organized ridesharing arrangement in which 7 to 15 people travel together on a regular basis in a van. The van may be publicly owned, employer owned, individually owned, leased, or owned by a third party. Expenses are shared and there is usually a regular volunteer driver. (See also carpool.)

Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)

A measurement of the total miles traveled by all vehicles for a specified time period. For transit, the number of vehicle miles operated on a given route or line or network during a specified time period.

Vehicle Trip

Trips made by vehicles, including drivers and passengers. A bus with driver and passengers is one vehicle trip.

Volume-to-Capacity Ratio

A measure of potential roadway capacity. The ratio of the existing amount of vehicular travel for a roadway to the amount of designed capacity on the roadway.

Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA)

Major watershed basins in Washington state identified for water-related planning purposes.



Bellevue City Hall, Bike Parking

Reference Materials and Supporting Documents

These and other materials may be obtained by contacting the PSRC Information Center at 206-464-7532, info@psrc.org.

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VISION 2040 Final Environmental Impact Statement — *April 2008*

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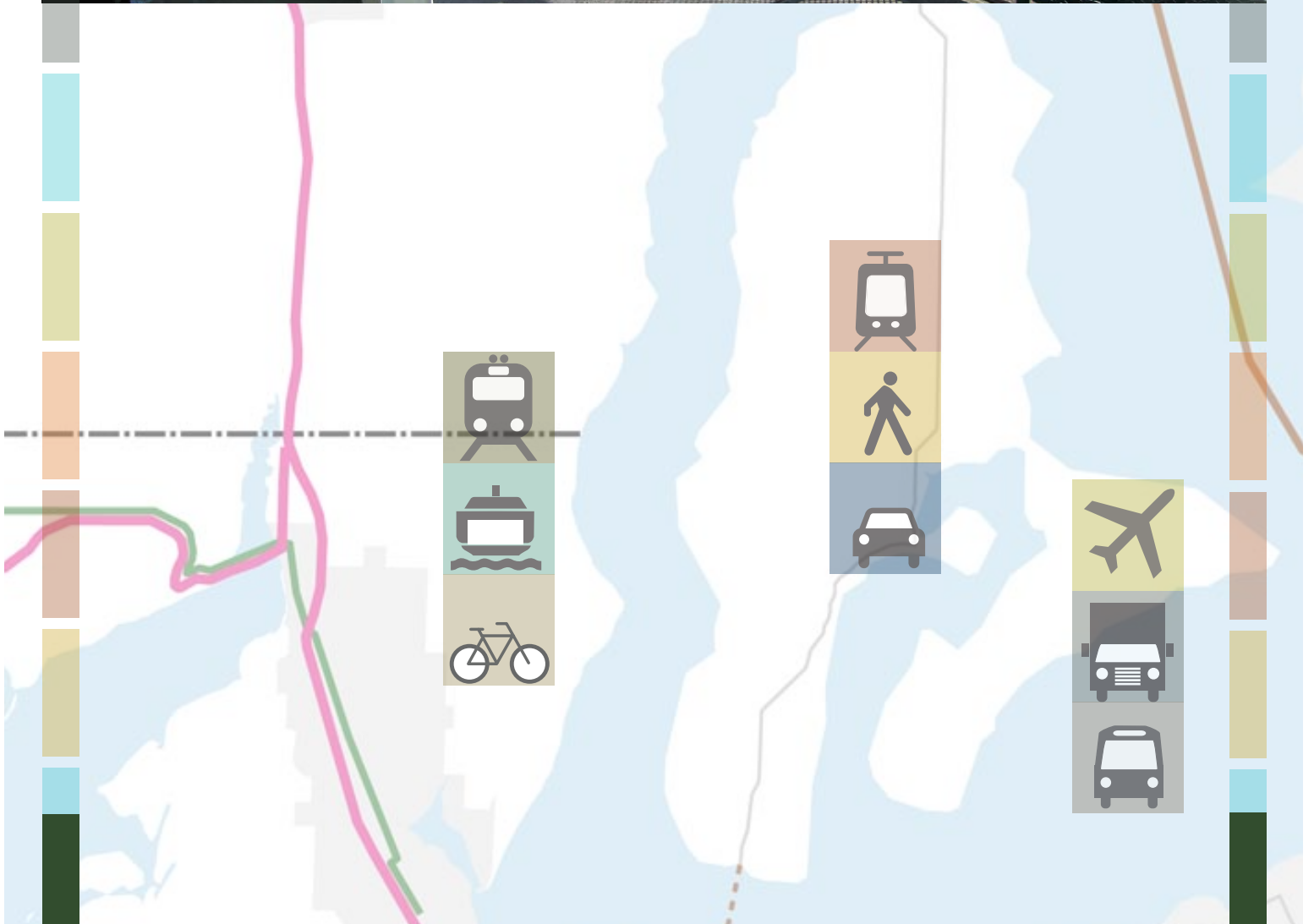
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