



March 19, 2010

Dear Member of the Puget Sound Regional Council and Interested Parties:

Enclosed is a copy of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the update of the central Puget Sound region's Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) called Transportation 2040. The MTP represents the efforts of government agencies serving the region composed of King, Pierce, Snohomish and Kitsap counties to coordinate planning of diverse transportation systems to support the region's anticipated growth and meet its economic and environmental goals through the year 2040. The update of the MTP is scheduled to be adopted by the General Assembly of the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) on March 20, 2010.

The FEIS contains information on a range of options including a future Baseline Alternative (no action), five future action alternatives and the Preferred Alternative endorsed by the Executive Board on December 9, 2009. It also includes approximately 2000 comments that were received on the DEIS and responses to each of these comments. The number of comments on the DEIS reinforces the importance of transportation and the need to continue to cooperate on this critical regional issue.

Preparation of the Preferred Alternative and this FEIS has included extensive agency coordination and public comment over almost 3 years of work and has been guided by the PSRC's Transportation Policy Board with the support of many committees, groups and individuals. Important information regarding the MTP update is contained in the FEIS. More information is available through the PSRC's Information Center (206) 464-7532, or on the web at psrc.org.

We would like to thank all of you who commented and participated in this important conversation about the future of transportation in our region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Drewel". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Bob Drewel
Executive Director,
Puget Sound Regional Council

Fact Sheet: Final Environmental Impact Statement for Transportation 2040

1 Proposed Action

The Puget Sound Regional Council is updating the current regional transportation plan, Destination 2030. The new plan, Transportation 2040, is evaluating the best ways for people to travel while making our communities, environment, and economy stronger as the region grows.

A Baseline Alternative reflecting existing funded plans and projects, five action alternatives and a Preferred Alternative were developed to frame important issues for discussion among regional leaders, community members, businesses, and environmental groups.

Transportation 2040 is taking a fresh approach to meeting the mobility needs of a growing region while sustaining the environment and supporting the regional economy. The region has made solid progress towards improving transportation in the last ten years. The new plan will move forward to employ 21st century technology to deliver a strategy to take us into the future.

Each alternative under consideration includes a strategy to identify sufficient funding sources to help keep pace with the region's needs, but each takes a different approach to making transportation investments. The approaches range from making modest improvements with limited funds to shifting regional priorities in a way that would result in a new type of transportation system. In every case, tolling plays a part, both to pay for improvements and to manage congestion.

2 Proponent and SEPA Lead Agency

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The Transportation 2040 Final Environmental Impact Statement was prepared in accordance with the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 43.21C, and the Puget Sound Regional Council's adopted rules (prepared under Washington Administrative Code 197-11-400 to 460). The rules publication, entitled *Procedures and Policies Implementing the State Environmental Policy Act (April 1997)*, is available by contacting the Information Center at 206-464-7532 or by visiting the web site at psrc.org. The publication includes procedures for appeals and requests for reconsideration of environmental documents.

4 Licenses and Approvals

The Transportation 2040 plan will be adopted by the General Assembly of the Puget Sound Regional Council.

5 Principal Contributors

Please see List of Preparers, page L-1.

6 Date of Issue of Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)

March 19, 2010.

7 Next Steps

The General Assembly of the Puget Sound Regional Council will make a final decision on the plan to be adopted. Adoption of the plan is expected in spring 2010.

8 Documents Incorporated by Reference

The following documents are hereby incorporated by reference into this Transportation 2040 FEIS. Copies of these documents are available for review at PSRC offices--1011 Western Avenue, Suite 500, Seattle, WA 98104-1035.

- VISION 2040 Final Environmental Impact Statement, PSRC, April 2008. Available online: www.psrc.org.
- Transportation 2040 Draft Plan, PSRC, January 2010. Available online: www.psrc.org

9 Document Availability

Copies of the FEIS on CD may be obtained by calling the PSRC Information Center at 206-464-7532, and are available for download at the Transportation 2040 website at www.psrc.org.

A full printed copy of the FEIS is also available for review at the offices of PSRC, 1011 Western Ave., Suite 500, Seattle, WA 98104-1035. Copies of the FEIS are also available at libraries in King, Kitsap, Pierce, and Snohomish counties.

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

$\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ micrograms per cubic meter

A

ADA American with Disabilities Act

B

BMP best management practice

BNSF Burlington Northern Santa Fe

Boeing Field King County International Airport

BRT bus rapid transit

Btu British thermal unit

C

CFR Code of Federal Regulations

CMP Congestion Management Process

CO carbon monoxide

CO₂ carbon dioxide

CTED Washington State Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development

CTR Commute Trip Reduction

CWA Federal Clean Water Act

CZM Coastal Zone Management Act

D

DAHP Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

dB decibels

dBA A-weighted decibels

DEIS Draft Environmental Impact Statement

DNR Washington State Department of Natural Resources

DNS Determination of Non-Significance

DS Determination of Significance

E

Ecology Washington State Department of Ecology

EIA Energy Information Administration

EIS environmental impact statement

EPA U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

ESA Endangered Species Act

F

FAA Federal Aviation Administration

FAST Freight Action Strategy

FEIS Final Environmental Impact Statement

FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency

G

GIS Geographic Information System

GMA Growth Management Act

GTEC Growth and Transportation Efficiency Center

H

HOT high-occupancy toll

HOV high-occupancy vehicle

Hz Hertz

I

I-405 Interstate 405

I-5 Interstate 5

I-90 Interstate 90

IPCC Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

ISTEA Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act

ITS Intelligent Transportation System

J

JARC Job Access and Reverse Commute

L

LATS Long Term Air Transportation Study

L_{dn} the day/night noise level

LEP limited-English proficient

M

mg/m^3 milligrams per cubic meter

MIC manufacturing and industrial center

mmBtu 1 million British thermal units

MOVES Motor Vehicle Emission Simulator

mph miles per hour

MPO metropolitan planning organization

MTCA Model Toxics Control Act

MTP Metropolitan Transportation Plan

MTS Metropolitan Transportation System

mWh megawatt hours

N

NAAQS National Ambient Air Quality Standards

NEPA National Environmental Policy Act

NMFS National Marine Fisheries Service

NO_x nitrogen oxides

NPDES National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

NRHP National Register of Historic Places

O

O_3 ozone

OFM Washington State Office of Financial Management

P

PAHs	polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons
PBDE	polybrominated diphenyl ether
PCBs	polychlorinated biphenyls
PPA	Preliminary Preferred Alternative
ppm	parts per million
PSCAA	Puget Sound Clean Air Agency
PSEF	Puget Sound Economic Forecaster
PSRC	Puget Sound Regional Council

R

RCW	Revised Code of Washington
RGC	Regional Growth Center
RTP	Regional Transportation Plan
RTPO	Regional Transportation Planning Organization

S

SAFETEA-LU	Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users
Sea-Tac	Seattle-Tacoma International
SEDS	State Energy Data System
SEPA	State Environmental Policy Act
SIP	State Implementation Plan
SMA	Shoreline Management Act
SNTC	Special Needs Transportation Committee
SOV	single-occupant vehicle
SR	State Route
ST2	Sound Transit's Phase 2
SWMP	Solid Waste Management Plan

T

TDM	transportation demand management
TMA	Transportation Management Association
TPA	Transportation Partnership Account
TSM	transportation system management

U

UGA	urban growth area
USC	United States Code
USDOT	U.S. Department of Transportation

V

VHT	vehicle hours traveled
VMT	vehicle miles traveled
VOC	volatile organic compound

xx Puget Sound Regional Council

W

WAC	Washington Administrative Code
WNHP	Washington Natural Heritage Program
WRIA	Water Resource Inventory Area
WSDOT	Washington State Department of Transportation
WSF	Washington State Ferries