

Regional Transportation Plan Implementation

In the Palouse region each jurisdiction is responsible for identifying, planning, programming and constructing any transportation projects within the scope of their responsibility. The RTPO has no specific authority to fund or direct transportation improvements. The involvement of each jurisdiction in the RTPO (with the exception of WSDOT) is voluntary and consequently the results of the regional planning process necessarily takes the form of recommendations for consideration in each jurisdiction's overall program responsibilities.

Consequently, this plan is a tool to be used by those participating jurisdictions to assist them in programming efforts. For cities and counties these recommendations should be viewed as positive options that recognize both their own needs as well as their neighbors and the region as a whole. The same perspective is true for WSDOT with the additional consideration that state legislation requires the incorporation of these recommendations in WSDOT plans for transportation improvements on state routes within the region.

The regional plan shall only be implemented through mutual agreement among all members of the RTPO. Implementation of the Regional Plan following its adoption will consist of the following elements:

Consideration of regionally significant projects in city, county and WSDOT TIPs. This action should include scheduling and programming as appropriate within each jurisdiction.

Action by the RTPO, its lead agency and member jurisdictions to seek and obtain alternative funding for regionally significant projects not fundable under normal programs and not programmed in the TIPs.

Review of the inventory and formula data to verify accuracy and improve forecasted needs. Verification shall be an ongoing cooperative process involving appropriate members of the RTPO to insure consistency with State and local guidelines.

Continuation of a Public Involvement process that includes open opportunity for review and comment on the scope and actions of the plan and allows for timely revision of relevant aspects of the document in conformance with State guidelines and the desires of member jurisdictions.

Amendments to the Regional Transportation Plan may be requested, at any time, by the public, RTPO Technical Advisory Committee or the Regional Transportation Governing/Policy Board. The RTPO will consider amendments to the plan concurrently with its biennial review of the plan for concurrency and annual review of the TIPs of the participating jurisdictions.

The amendment process for the plan shall include timely (30 day) public notification to the regions newspapers in coordination with the Washington State Environmental Policy Act requirements for non-project actions.

Performance Monitoring

Performance monitoring should focus on the accuracy of the regional data and priorities compared to the jurisdictional application and the ability of the participants to access alternative funding sources to complete priority projects. It is projected that those actions incorporated into the ongoing regional planning process will accurately monitor the implementation of the Regional Transportation Plan and lead to the overall meeting of the significant transportation needs of the region.

Potential Inclusions for Future Plan Updates

In the course of the preparation for this Plan, several items were identified as being potential items for more detailed evaluation or reporting and are open for discussion at the time of the next update as shown below in no particular priority order.

- South Pullman by-pass
- Accident analysis
- Railroad crossing inventory
- Pavement condition
- Detailed Level of Service Analysis
- Trucking routes and tonnage
- Greater correlation between population growth and Anticipated Growth Areas
- Map of growth areas
- Map of roads that are seasonally restricted
- Detailed description of projects
- 20 years needs analysis
- Financial capabilities analysis of State funding sources
- New Technologies