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Preface

The Washington County 2020 Transportation Plan is one of several elements that comprise the Washington County Comprehensive Plan. The other elements are:

- County Resource Document
- Comprehensive Framework Plan for the Urban Area
- Rural/Natural Resource Plan, which includes the Exceptions Statement Document
- Community Plans and their Background Documents
- Community Development Code
- Unified Capital Improvements Program, including the Transportation Capital Improvement Program
- Urban Planning Area Agreements

The Transportation Plan supports the adopted development patterns in the community plans, the Rural/Natural Resource Plan, and city comprehensive plans. The Transportation Plan also implements the applicable policies and strategies of the community plans and the Rural/Natural Resource Plan. The Transportation Plan also addresses provisions of the Regional Transportation Plan and the state Transportation Planning Rule.

The Transportation Plan is a comprehensive analysis and identification of transportation needs associated with the development patterns described in the community plans and the Rural/Natural Resource Plan. Prepared from both the county-wide and community planning area perspectives, the Transportation Plan addresses the major roadway system (i.e., non-local roadways), transit, pedestrian and bicycle transportation issues and focuses on specific and system requirements. Existing and future roads and streets that are part of the major roadway system are provided a classification in the Transportation Plan indicative of their existing or planned function, right-of-way, alignment and structural dimensional standards. The local street system is designated on the community plans and the Rural/Natural Resource Plan, which are best suited for addressing the local street system.

Many provisions of the Transportation Plan are implemented by the community plans, the Rural/Natural Resource Plan and the Community Development Code. For example, localized street and pedestrian connectivity and major bus stops are addressed in the community plans. The Community Development Code contains specific standards and procedures necessary to implement the Transportation Plan, such as standards for access spacing, major bus stops, and neighborhood circulation. In the event there is a conflict between the requirements of the Transportation Plan and a community plan or the Rural/Natural Resource Plan, the requirements of the Transportation Plan shall control. If there are provisions in a community plan or the Rural/Natural Resource Plan that conflict with the requirements of the Transportation Plan, the applicable community plan or Rural/Natural Resource Plan shall be amended to be consistent with the Transportation Plan.

The Washington County 2020 Transportation Plan is a compilation of policies, strategies, maps, figures and other text adopted by Ordinance No. 588 and Resolution and Order No. 02-125. Resolution and Order No. 02-125 adopts the Plan's Technical Appendix.

Ordinance No. 588 contains the Plan's policies, strategies and maps, as well as informational and background statements. Chapters 1 and 2, including the 2040 Growth Concept Design Types map (an illustrative map showing county- and city-adopted 2040 designations), and the introductory and background statements for each policy are informational and background statements and are not regulatory Plan provisions. The Plan policies and their strategies and system maps are regulatory requirements. Specific strategies and system maps that are applicable to private and public development are identified in the Community Development Code. Amendments to text and maps adopted by Ordinance No. 588 shall be made through the legislative process, unless specified otherwise by the Transportation Plan.

The Transportation Plan's Technical Appendix, adopted by Resolution and Order No. 02-125, contains the information used to develop, support and provide direction for the application of Plan policies and strategies and are findings to demonstrate compliance with federal, state and regional planning requirements. The provisions of the Technical Appendix are not regulatory requirements. Amendments to the Technical Appendix shall be made by resolution and order.

The Background Report for the Transportation Plan, adopted by Resolution and Order No. 02-124 contains the information and analysis used in the development of the Plan. The information in the Background Report is non-regulatory.

Introduction

Washington County adopted its previous transportation plan in 1988. At the time, the County's transportation system served approximately 263,000 residents and 121,000 employees. The 1988 Plan identified transportation policies, capital improvement projects and transportation related programs necessary to support growth for 410,000 residents and 227,000 employees by 2005. Urban economic growth in the 1990's outpaced the Plan forecasts, and as of the year 2000, the county had about 445,000 residents and 258,000 employees. This rapid growth has focused attention on urban commuting transportation issues in recent years, but other equally important traffic, maintenance and safety issues have surfaced in the resource-rich rural areas in Washington County.

This Plan update has been undertaken to address these and other prominent transportation issues. The 1988 Transportation Plan was incrementally amended over the years to respond to changes in local growth patterns and policy changes in state and federal planning regulations, but a comprehensive update has not been completed until now.

Plan Process

The Washington County Transportation Plan Update process began in September 2000 and included the following major work elements:

- Policy and Strategy Review and Development
- Inventory/Data Collection
- Evaluation of Existing Travel Conditions and Future Needs
- Identification of Needs by Travel Mode and Consideration of Alternatives
- Identification of Improvements to Mitigate Deficiencies by Mode For 2020 Conditions
- Preparation of Planning Cost Estimates of Improvements
- Preparation of Draft Transportation Plan

The Plan update was coordinated with the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) appointed by the Board of County Commissioners, the Rural Road Operations and Maintenance Advisory Committee (RRROMAC) and a technical committee (Intergovernmental Coordinating Committee — ICC) comprised of staff from local cities, Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District (THPRD), TriMet, Metro, Port of Portland and the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). Regular meetings were held with both the CAC and ICC over the course of the study to review interim work products and to develop direction for the Plan. These committees addressed policies and strategies related to transportation in Washington County, transportation needs by mode (motor vehicles, bicycle, pedestrian, transit, and other modes), strategies for choosing transportation alternatives and reviewed and commented on a draft of the Plan. The ICC review also considered the proposed projects and the policy implications within affected jurisdictions.