

Transportation System Plan FAQ

The City of Vancouver is in the process of updating the City Transportation System Plan (TSP), which will help define the future of the City's transportation system. The plan will guide how the City develops its streets, coordinates transportation infrastructure improvements with land uses, and responds to future growth and demands on the transportation network over the next 20 years.

What exactly is a Transportation System Plan?

The Transportation System Plan (TSP) is one of the main parts of the City of Vancouver's comprehensive plan, required under Washington State's Growth Management Act. The TSP is dedicated to planning for our community's long-range transportation needs.

Why are we updating the TSP?

Vancouver's first and current TSP was adopted in 2004. That means it has been almost 20 years since it was developed. A lot has changed since 2004. Economic recessions, a pandemic, transportation improvements and best practices, and transportation technology have changed the City in many different ways. The City's population, development, and employment also continue to grow and increase demands on the transportation system, and our transportation system greatly influences our community.

What does the TSP do?

The TSP provides policies and strategies to meet existing and future travel needs for all users and will:

- Outline policies and projects that enhance Vancouver's quality of life
- Analyze current and projected transportation conditions
- Create a plan for what the transportation system might look like in 2040
- Reflect community values around what makes Vancouver a desirable place to live
- Support the community's vision for land use
- Balance the needs of all users of the transportation system: people of all ages and abilities who drive, walk, bike, use mobility devices (such as wheelchairs), take transit, and deliver freight

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What modes of transportation will be included in the TSP?

The TSP will include specific plans for each mode of transportation, as well as multimodal plans for each area of the City. The purpose of creating, then integrating these individual plans into a single plan is to identify and resolve where priority areas for each mode overlap. The TSP will include modal plans for:

- Driving
- Walking
- Biking
- Transit
- Freight
- Emerging mobility such as electric bikes and electric scooters

Will I have an opportunity to participate in the process to update the TSP?

Outreach to and input from the community is a critical component of the TSP update. In response to the onset of the COVID-19 in early 2020, the City continues to adapt to the evolving public health crisis by adjusting the ways we reach out to businesses and residents about City projects. A primary goal of the TSP update is to focus engagement on involving historically excluded communities so that these community members' voices are part of the process that helps to inform the future of our transportation system.

What are some of the important final outcomes of the TSP?

The updated TSP will include a new vision for how the transportation system should be developed and supported, as well as new goals, objectives, and tools to help put that vision to work. Some of these elements will include:

- Collision/crash analysis dashboard
- Complete Streets roadmap
- Transportation system performance measures
- Interactive online TSP tool
- Phasing and packaging of transportation projects
- Updated City standards for building new streets and retrofitting existing streets

Once complete, how will the TSP be put into effect?

The updated TSP will help guide our City's transportation investments for the next 20 years. The City will help implement the community vision described in the TSP by developing transportation policies, prioritizing transportation projects, and creating a transportation finance plan. Projects and programs identified in the TSP will be implemented not only by the City, but also by other partners such as private developers; regional, state, and federal agencies; and community-based organizations.

Interested in learning more? Here are some resources:

WA State Department of Commerce: <u>https://www.commerce.wa.gov/serving-communities/growth-</u> <u>management/growth-management-topics/transportation-planning/</u>

Municipal Research and Services Center (MRSC): <u>http://mrsc.org/Home/Explore-Topics/Transportation/</u>