

## Long-Range Statewide Transportation Plan: Process and Plan Requirements

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- A. What is a federally-compliant plan?** *One that meets the federal requirements for conducting statewide planning processes, for developing the statewide long range transportation plan and for considering the statewide planning factors spelled out in federal regulations in the plan content.*
- B. How do we know if our statewide transportation planning process meets or substantially meets federal requirements?** *According to 23 CFR Part 450, when FHWA and FTA jointly approve the annual Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) the agencies must determine that the statewide transportation planning process “meets or substantially meets” the federal planning requirements. WSDOT regularly discusses federal planning requirements with FHWA and FTA and they are engaged throughout plan preparation so they can make an affirmative finding.*
- C. What is the relationship among WSDOT, FHWA, and FTA in regards to statewide planning?** *FHWA and FTA are the federal agencies responsible for ensuring that WSDOT follows federal requirements. WSDOT and the FHWA have entered into the Federal-Aid Highway Program Stewardship Agreement which is intended to formalize delegated responsibilities on how the Federal-Aid Highway Program will be administered in the State, result in the efficient and effective management of public funds, and ensure that the Federal-Aid Highway Program is delivered consistent with laws, regulations, and policies. WSDOT is the state agency FHWA and FTA hold responsible for developing and updating the statewide long-range transportation plan and conducting the statewide planning process.*
- D. What is the scope of the statewide planning process?**
- Includes all areas of the state to integrate management of intermodal transportation systems and facilities
  - Will be continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive to the degree appropriate
  - Will support the planning factors (see comparison table)
  - Will establish and use a performance-based approach to decision-making to support national goals
  - Includes developing performance targets based on the upcoming federal performance measures
- E. What planning activities must we coordinate our statewide planning activities with?**
- Coordinate with:
    - Metropolitan transportation planning
    - Statewide trade and economic development, and multistate planning
  - Consider:
    - Planning activities conducted outside metropolitan planning areas and between states
  - Consider the concerns of:
    - Federal land management agencies
    - Non-metropolitan local official transportation officials (RTPOs)
    - Indian tribal governments
  - Coordinate:
    - Data collection with public transportation operators
    - Development of the State Implementation Plan with air quality agencies
  - Be consistent, as much as possible, with:
    - Regional intelligent transportation systems
    - Strategic Highway Safety Plan (Target Zero)
    - Preparation of the coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan

**F. What are the requirements for developing the plan?**

- Consider all modes
- Consult with:
  - MPOs, nonmetropolitan local officials, Indian tribal governments, and the Sec. of Interior
  - Federal, state, tribal, and local agencies responsible for environmental regulations, land use management, natural resources, environmental protection, conservation, and historic preservation
- Identify potential environmental mitigation sites

**G. What processes need to be documented?**

- The Public involvement process that shows how we will provide opportunities for review and comment by:
  - Citizens
  - Affected public agencies
  - Representatives of public transportation employees
  - Freight shippers
  - Private providers of transportation
  - Representatives of users of public transportation
  - Representatives of users of pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities
  - Representatives of the disabled
  - Providers of freight transportation services
  - Other interested parties
- Non-metropolitan local official consultation process
- Process that outline the roles, responsibilities, and key decision points for how we will consult with Indian tribal governments with jurisdiction and with the Secretary of Interior
- Post-plan Adoption Reports to:
  - FHWA that show how we complied with FHWA guidance for Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Americans with Disabilities Act; and Presidential Executive Orders (Environmental Justice, and Limited English Proficiency)
  - FTA that show how we complied with FTA guidance for Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Americans with Disabilities Act; and Presidential Executive Orders (Environmental Justice, and Limited English Proficiency)

<b>H. What are the plan content requirements?</b>	<b>How was this topic addressed in the WTP 2030?</b>
Minimum 20-year forecast period at the time of adoption	Includes a 20-year investment and policy guide. Needs were summarized. Does not include 20-yr demand models or a 20-yr facilities and services needs analysis.
Consider and include elements and connections between public transportation, non-motorized modes, rail, commercial motor vehicle, waterway, and aviation facilities	Includes multimodal policy discussion. Does not include an analysis of the current condition and future needs of intermodal connections.
Capital, operations, and management strategies, investments, procedures, and other measures to ensure the preservation and most efficient use of the system	Includes policy recommendations and some strategies. Does not include comprehensive preservation strategies/proposals.
Applicable studies, plans, reports included by reference or attached	Discusses planning. Does not reference proposals or strategies from other plans/studies/reports.
Safety element consistent with Target Zero and a security element	Discusses Target Zero. Does not include a separate safety element that proposes projects or strategies consistent with Target Zero.
A discussion of potential environmental mitigation activities and potential mitigation areas – must be developed in consultation (as defined in federal regulations) with regulatory staff from state, federal, local, and tribal governments	Discusses concept of environmental mitigation. Does not include a discussion of mitigation activities or areas based on consultations with regulatory agencies and tribes.
Financial plan and list of illustrative projects ( <i>these are optional</i> )	Discusses the overall funding issues. Does not include a financial plan or financially constrained list of projects as defined in 23 CFR 450.214(l).
The state-established performance-based approach to transportation decision making that supports the national goals in Sec 150 of title 23, United States Code	Not addressed
A description of the performance measures, performance targets, system performance report, and subsequent updates (including progress made by MPOs)	Not addressed
Inclusion of or reference to the goals, objectives, performance measures, and targets in other state transportation plans and processes	Not addressed

I. **What is the timeframe?** *There is no requirement to develop or update the plan on a schedule.*

J. **Next Steps** *WSDOT will guide the process as described in the Stewardship Agreement.*

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**N. Background**

*In MAP-21, the metropolitan and statewide transportation planning processes are continued and enhanced to incorporate performance goals, measures, and targets into the process of identifying needed transportation improvements and project selection. Public involvement remains a hallmark of the planning process. The U.S. Secretary of Transportation is required to establish criteria for the evaluation of the new performance-based planning processes. The process will consider whether States developed appropriate performance targets and made progress toward achieving the targets. Five years after enactment of MAP-21, the Secretary is to provide to the Congress reports evaluating the overall effectiveness of performance-based planning and the effectiveness of the process in each State and for each MPO. Source: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/map21/summaryinfo.cfm>*