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Board of County Councilors  
Planning Commission Members  
% Mr. Oliver Orjiako, Director  
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Via pdf and e-mail to [Oliver.Orjiako@clark.wa.gov](mailto:Oliver.Orjiako@clark.wa.gov)

Mr. Orjiako:

Please accept these comments on the DSEIS and Comprehensive Plan update for the record on behalf of FOCC. We continue to review the record and believe that the following are important points for the consideration of the decision makers and also for the record

The DSEIS consistently emphasizes that Alternative #4, much more than any other alternative, will have the most significant adverse impacts. Unfortunately, the DSEIS fails to identify those significant impacts in more than general terms and, thus, makes it inadequate for the general public to evaluate. The DSEIS does contain emphasize several points that FOCC believes are important to reiterate.

First, Cumulative impacts would include an increased number of water wells, which in turn increase the potential for groundwater contamination and reduction of water supply, increases in impervious surface that contribute to stormwater runoff, and vegetation clearing that considerably degrade the quality of streams and other surface waters."

Second, it is clear that many regulations may have good intent behind them but they cannot prevent the cumulative loss of habitat and habitat functions. Specifically, the DSEIS states: "However, even when projects comply with regulations and provide mitigation, there may be a cumulative loss of habitat functions at a larger scale; for example, through fragmentation of habitat by development of new structures and roads."

Third, FOCC is concerned regarding the affordability of the current Alternatives. The DSEIS suggests, but does not quantify, that any of the Alternatives are economically sustainable. There is even greater concern that the current Capital Facilities plan is not meeting concurrency requirements after listening to Board time on

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the TIP/TIL program with Ms. Wilson provided information to the Board.

FOCC is not aware of any evidence in the record that the goals and projects of the Capital Facilities Plan from the 2004 and 2007 Comprehensive Plans have been adequately funded, much less have been completed. If those projects have not been adequately funded then Alternative #1 may stretch the county's financial ability to obtain concurrency with Capital Facilities needs. In addition, the County is no longer collecting TIF funds due to the resolution based 2 years ago but yet there is no evidence in the record of additional funds and, FOCC questions whether the TIF funds were a foundation for the CFP in 2004 and 2007 and, if so, what funds have replaced those funds to financially support the Capital Facilities Plan. The question for the Planning Commission and the BOCC is "have the projects required under the concurrency of the GMA requirements for the 2004 and 2007 Comprehensive Plan been funded or abandoned? The Plan appears to require the following:

The concurrency requirement of the GMA mandates that local jurisdictions adopt and enforce ordinances *that prohibit development approval if the development causes the LOS on certain transportation facilities to decline below the standards adopted under the comprehensive plan, unless transportation improvements or strategies to accommodate impacts of the development are made concurrent with the development. Concurrent with development means that improvements or strategies are in place at the time of development, or that a financial commitment is in place to complete the improvements or strategies within six years.* Clark County will meet these requirements through the adopted concurrency ordinance. The county has adopted a higher three-year funding standard for concurrency. See Clark County Comprehensive Plan 2004-2024 Page 5 -32 Chapter 5 Transportation Element (emphasis supplied).

However it does not appear that this part of the Current Comprehensive Plan/Capital Facilities Plan has been funded much less implemented. FOCC requests that the Planning Commission and the BOCC be provided with information that shows that the County is currently in compliance with the concurrency requirements along with how staff believes that the concurrency requirements will be able to be met under the proposed 4 alternatives. The reason is simple, if we cannot comply with what we have had on the

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books then there has to be a legitimate question for the public as to why the County believes it can fund the 2004, 2007 projects plus all potential new projects that will be required.

FOCC has reviewed the CFP components of the 2004 and 2007 plans and the 2004 Plan addresses some deficiencies:

Using capacity analysis and the adopted LOS standards, planning staff from RTC, WSDOT, and Clark County, identified future deficiencies in the regional transportation system based on the Preferred Alternative urban growth boundary map. The assumed transportation network included the existing network plus improvements identified in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan. The MTP includes the transportation improvement programs of the various jurisdictions and projects for which there is an identified regional need, strong regional commitment, and probable funding available. The 6-year Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) is updated and adopted on an annual basis (Appendix A)(emphasis supplied).

FOCC asserts that before any decision can be made on any alternative, the County should affirmatively state that they are in compliance with the 2004 and 2007 Comprehensive and Capital Facilities Plan. Specific projects are listed at 5-11 and 5-12 but there is no indication in this record that those have been funded or completed. If the County is not in compliance with the current plan (which is Alternative #1) then the SEPA and Comprehensive Plan should acknowledge the concurrency as required by the GMA is not being met. If not being met as to Alternative #1 then the County needs to state how they are going to finance, through concurrency, the dramatic increases that will come with Alternatives #2 and #4. Although some might claim that this can be deferred to the Capital Facilities Plan, what good is it to send a CP to staff and the public if the County will be incapable of preparing a CFP that is compliant with the CP and GMA? Imagine all of the work of staff, the community and cities only to come to the conclusion that there is not enough money now to complete what was promised under the 2004 and 2007 plans?

In listening to the August work session 2015 Board time, staff continues to state that projects are not being funded. Susan Wilson talked about the state of the county transportation, specifically the TIP and ACP programing. She discussed lost

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revenue for projects and back fill with the Road Fund (\$7 million dollar lost) and realigning other projects. Basically, the County appears to be raiding the road fund and general fund because there is no TIP/TIF funds. The result may be that has delayed projects beyond the 20 year plan such as the Barberton project, reduce design budgets etc. I found it ironic that Councilor Madore blamed the state legislature and the local representatives in particular (those include Liz Pike, Lynda Wilson, Paul Harris, Brandon Vick, Ann Rivers and Don Benton). Specifically he said "our state is not doing us well" and "Hey, state legislature, our own representatives what in the world have you done to Clark County?). It seems that he thinks that the County is not responsible for its own loss of funds due to the failure of his "Jobs" resolution. So he is blaming his own friends and fellow Republicans for the lost of revenue to the County. However, whatever the issues, the County cannot meet the requirements of the 2007 CFP projects so how can the County meet the requirements of any plan that increases pressure on all CF when they cannot meet what is in the current plan?

Also, Councilors Madore & Meilke have stated that they want to give relief to landowners who own property under the Urban Reserve/Urban Holding designations. However, under GMA, those designations are only to be lifted if, and only if, urban services are available to handle the densities provide for once the overlays are lifted. Since the overlays have not yet been lifted, it is logical for the public to assume that the County does not have the funds to provide the infrastructure for those densities at this time. If that is the case, and the Council decides to lift those overlays, how will that be compliant with GMA and the new Comprehensive Plan. Also, it would be important to note how many of the citizens within those overlays were in favor of being in those zones when they were originally proposed.

As FOCC has previously pointed out, the history of the Urban Reserve and Urban Holdings designations were part of the original Comprehensive Plan as mitigation for the larger populations allowed in the rural zones as they remained rural (and if memory serves resource as well) until such time as urban services became available. Yet, in the cumulative impact section of the current DSEIS, there is no discussion regarding what the cumulative impacts would be of the additional lots in the rural area combined with the lifting of the Urban Reserve and Urban Holding zones. There is also no discussion as to whether the County can afford the proposals currently in place plus the costs that would be associated with lifting the urban reserve/urban holding overlays plus adding the dramatic increase in the population in the Rural Area under Alternatives #2 and #4.

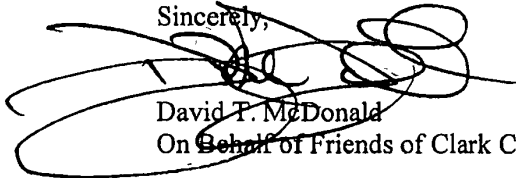
Certainly, it is possible that all of these funds are available but, at this juncture, they are not part of the record

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One final request and one additional point for the record. First, there has been quite a bit of comment regarding the fact that the Poyfair remand was not complied with and the current SEPA process is inadequate and therefore we request the original FEIS (and SFEIS) for the 1994 Comprehensive Plan be made a part of this record so that when people review the massive changes in zoning from the original proposals to today, specifically with regards to rural landowners and stakeholders, they can see how big an impact rural landowners voices made on zoning in the rural area. Second, one additional point is that the Senate passed a bill in 2005 (ESSB 5186 and related bill SB 1565) amended the GMA to require that communities create plans that promote healthy lifestyles. There is nothing that can be seen in the DSEIS that addresses the requirements set forth by these two laws (see WSDOT policy paper that is attached and incorporated by this reference.

We appreciate continuing to have the opportunity to place information in the record and hope that the decision makers find it helpful in their deliberation processes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David T. McDonald", is written over the typed name and title. The signature is somewhat stylized and overlaps the text below it.

David T. McDonald  
On Behalf of Friends of Clark County



## Planning for Bicycling and Walking: 2005 Amendments to the Growth Management Act

August 2005

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### Overview

This guidance is intended to help those Washington counties, cities, and towns fully planning under the Growth Management Act (GMA) to understand and comply with 2005 amendments to the GMA requiring communities to plan for bicycle and pedestrian transportation and physical activity. Many local governments have already met these requirements; however, this guidance may provide some new ideas. In addition, it is in the best interest of communities to have fully-developed and adopted plans for bicycle and pedestrian transportation networks to be ready as grant opportunities arise.

The Washington state departments of Transportation (WSDOT), Community, Trade, and Economic Development (CTED), and Health (DOH) used WSDOT's *2005 Bicycle Transportation and Walkways Plan*,<sup>1</sup> DOH's *Washington State Nutrition and Physical Activity Plan*,<sup>2</sup> and information regarding active living and active community environments as the basis for this guidance.<sup>3</sup>

### Background

Obesity in the United States has become an epidemic over the past two decades.<sup>4</sup> The latest data from the National Center for Health Statistics shows that 30 percent of U.S. adults 20 years of age and older – more than 60 million people – are obese. Among children and teens aged 6-19 years, 16 percent (over 9 million young people) are considered overweight. Being overweight or obese increases the risk of many diseases and health conditions. One of the contributing factors to obesity in our nation and our state is lack of physical activity. Despite all the benefits of being physically active, most Americans are sedentary. The belief that physical activity is limited to exercise or sports may keep people from being active. Another myth is that physical activity must be vigorous to achieve health benefits. Physical activity is any bodily movement that results in an expenditure of energy.

Communities, homes, and workplaces can all influence people's health decisions. Because of this influence, it is important to create environments in these locations that make it easier to engage in physical activity and to eat a healthy diet. Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill (ESSB) 5186, passed by the Washington State Legislature in 2005, made two amendments to the GMA to require Washington communities to address this problem. This bill:

1. Requires communities to consider urban planning approaches that promote physical activity, and
2. Requires a bicycle and pedestrian component be included in the Transportation Element of a comprehensive plan.

Another bill, 2SHB 1565 also passed in 2005, specifies that multiple modes of transportation may be included in concurrency programs when reviewing the transportation impacts of new development

<sup>1</sup> Washington State Department of Transportation, *Washington State's 2005 Bicycle Transportation and Pedestrian Walkways Plan*, 2005. [www.wsdot.wa.gov/bike/PDF/2005\\_bicycle\\_transportation\\_pedestrian\\_walkways\\_plan.pdf](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/bike/PDF/2005_bicycle_transportation_pedestrian_walkways_plan.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> *Washington State Nutrition and Physical Activity Plan: Policy and Environmental Approaches*  
[www.doh.wa.gov/cfhi/NutritionPA/default.htm](http://www.doh.wa.gov/cfhi/NutritionPA/default.htm).

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Nutrition and Physical Activity, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Active Community Environments Initiative, Atlanta, Georgia. [www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpalaces.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpalaces.htm).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.



## 1. Urban Planning Approaches that Promote Physical Activity

ESSB 5186 added a requirement to the Land Use Element of the comprehensive plan for jurisdictions fully planning under the GMA: "Wherever possible, the Land Use Element should consider utilizing urban planning approaches that promote physical activity" [RCW 36.70A.070(1)]. Several studies have demonstrated that a person's immediate environment is the most important determination of physical activity.<sup>5</sup> In many communities, practices such as Euclidean zoning (separated land uses), disconnected development patterns, and auto-oriented street standards have created an environment that makes walking and bicycling challenging and unappealing. With increased suburbanization, more and more Washington residents live in automobile-oriented communities rather than an environment where active modes of transport (walking, cycling, and other non-motorized methods) are encouraged.

In a movement to counter this trend, the CDC is promoting an Active Community Environments (ACEs) Initiative. ACEs are places where people of all ages and abilities can easily enjoy walking and bicycling as part of everyday life. These areas support and promote physical activity with sidewalks, safe crossings, bicycle facilities, paths and trails, parks and open spaces, and recreation facilities. They are also places where mixed-use development is promoted and people live within a connected grid of streets that allow easy walking between homes, work, schools, and stores. To fulfill the requirements of ESSB 5186, the following examples could be considered urban planning approaches that promote physical activity.<sup>6</sup>

### Land Use-Based Approaches to Promoting Physical Activity

- Designate mixed-use community centers that locate destinations within close proximity to residences to increase opportunities for walking and bicycling.<sup>7,8</sup> Neighborhood, town, and urban centers can be matched to the scale of the community
  - Neighborhood centers are located predominantly within residential areas, and in addition to residential uses, might include pedestrian-oriented commercial uses, churches, daycares, civic buildings, schools, and small parks. Low residential densities of 4 to 8 dwelling units per acre (du/ac) provide minimum density to support transit service. Bellingham and Vancouver use neighborhood centers.<sup>9</sup>
  - Located as the focus of smaller communities, town centers may include a moderate intensity of employment, services, cultural and recreational facilities and moderate density residential (8-12 du/ac) and may be served by high capacity transit. An added bonus is that higher density land uses can provide options for smaller, more affordable housing. Many communities have long-established town centers, but the suburban communities of Mill Creek, Lake Forest Park, and Sammamish have recently designated town centers.
  - The Puget Sound Regional Council has set criteria for different types of urban centers specifying a range of 25-80 employees per acre, 10-20 households per acre, and the need for fast and frequent high capacity transit service. Outside the Puget Sound region, the cities of Bellingham and Spokane have designated their downtowns as urban centers.

<sup>5</sup> Several of these studies are referenced in *Washington State Nutrition and Physical Activity Plan: Policy and Environmental Approaches*. See [www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/NutritionPA/default.htm](http://www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/NutritionPA/default.htm).

<sup>6</sup> Many of these come from the *Washington State Nutrition and Physical Activity Plan: Policy and Environmental Approaches*. See [www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/NutritionPA/default.htm](http://www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/NutritionPA/default.htm). Other approaches can be found in documents on active community environments from the Centers for Disease Control and other sources on active living.

<sup>7</sup> Holtzclaw, J., Using Residential Patterns to Decrease Auto Dependence and Cost, Natural Resources Defense Council, 1994, pp. 16-23

<sup>8</sup> Ewing, R., and Cervero, R., 2001. "Travel and the Built Environment: A Synthesis," *Transportation Research Record*, No. 1780, pp. 87-114.

<sup>9</sup> Bellingham's land use plan including neighborhood plans can be seen at [www.ci.bellingham.wa.us/upload/contents/535/CompPlan\\_Chapter1.pdf](http://www.ci.bellingham.wa.us/upload/contents/535/CompPlan_Chapter1.pdf) and Vancouver's Land Use Element of the comprehensive plan can be seen at [www.ci.vancouver.wa.us/upload/contents/535/CompPlan\\_Chapter1.pdf](http://www.ci.vancouver.wa.us/upload/contents/535/CompPlan_Chapter1.pdf)

- Designate transit-oriented development (TOD) zones: Use high intensity TOD zones along a major transit route, or at nodes along a transit route. TOD zones are designed to provide for daily needs within walking distance of residences, and offer high quality transit for commuting and other transportation needs. The City of Vancouver uses a transit-overlay zone, which encourages infill and reinvestment in urban areas. Redmond, Tacoma, and Renton also use TOD zones.
- Encourage infill development: Allow infill techniques, such as subdivision of larger lots to provide new building lots, new home construction on existing smaller lots, division of existing homes into multiple dwelling units, and accessory dwellings (mother-in-law apartments). This type of development provides an alternative to development on the edge of an urban area, and provides higher population densities to support neighborhood services such as retail and transit. One way to encourage more infill development is to reduce impact fees in centers already served by water, sewer, and roads, and charge larger impact fees where these facilities need to be provided. The City of Vancouver has an infill ordinance.<sup>10</sup>
- Locate facilities within neighborhoods: Ensure destinations such as new parks, schools, and other activity centers are sited within walking distances of residences. This reduces the land needed for parking and provides opportunities for people to walk to these facilities. Older schools in neighborhoods can be renovated for continued or expanded use, and reduced parking requirements can encourage staff, families, and students to use active forms of transportation.
- Address standards and regulations: Review local regulations to ensure that bicyclists and pedestrians are adequately planned for in street and subdivision development standards, parking standards, and parking lot design. In addition:
  - Review minimum parking requirements for all types of land uses to ensure that excess parking does not detract from meeting bicycling, walking, and public transportation goals
  - Use site plan review to provide an opportunity to ensure connectivity for bicycle and pedestrian access.
  - Comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act not only to provide access for the disabled, but also for people with strollers and walkers.
  - Require employers to provide bicycle parking, lockers, and showers at major employment sites
  - Ensure that commercial parking requirements include bicycle parking and protected pedestrian access to storefronts.

### **Transportation-Based Approaches to Promoting Physical Activity**

Another important component of promoting physical activity is to ensure that high quality bicycle and pedestrian facilities are available in the community, and that users feel safe using them. Studies have found that walking trips increased in areas with gridded street patterns. People who report having access to sidewalks are 28 percent more likely to be physically active. In traditional neighborhoods with sidewalks and connected streets, walking and bike trips tend to substitute for auto trips, particularly in urban neighborhoods.<sup>11</sup> The following transportation features may help improve transportation efficiency and increase physical activity.

- Increase connections: Where possible, develop a complete street network that accommodates multiple modes of transportation and simulates a grid pattern. In addition:
  - Strive for block sizes in the range of 200-800 feet and maximum distance between intersections of 1,000-feet on arterial streets and 500 feet on local streets.

<sup>10</sup> Chapter 20.95 Vancouver Municipal Code.

<sup>11</sup> Brownson, R., *Environmental Determinants of Physical Activity in the U.S.*, American Journal of Public Health, 2001, Volume 91.



- Link dead-end streets as adjacent parcels are developed, or at a minimum, ensure bicycle- and pedestrian-only connections are developed to protect the fine-grained pedestrian and bicycle travel grid network.
  - Build connectivity between trails, pathways, neighborhoods, schools, and sidewalks to enhance the ability to be physically active.
  - Ensure trails and linear parks are planned to link activity centers, and are planned and developed as both recreation facilities and transportation routes.
- Increase transportation safety: Improve known accident locations as well as high-risk locations for pedestrians, bicycles, and motorists, paying particular attention to at risk groups including the young and the aging. Improvements may include providing connections, lighting, and signage, increasing safe crossing opportunities, reducing vehicle speeds, and installing separated paths and trails.
  - Be concerned about personal safety: Ensure that strategies such as crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) are considered as bicycle and pedestrian facilities are developed. Fear and the perception of danger is a significant deterrent to walking, bicycling, and using public transit. A clear division between public and private space, and passive surveillance of public areas can improve safety. The cities of SeaTac and Everett have adopted CPTED principles.<sup>12</sup>

## 2. Bicycle and Pedestrian Component in the Comprehensive Plan

ESSB 5186 requires the Transportation Element of a comprehensive plan to “include a pedestrian and bicycle component to include collaborative efforts to identify and designate planned improvements for pedestrian and bicycle facilities and corridors that address and encourage enhanced community access and promote healthy lifestyles” [RCW 36.70A.070(6)(a)(7)]. Simply stated, a bicycle and pedestrian component is now specifically required in a community’s comprehensive plan. This supports goal 3 of the GMA, to encourage efficient multimodal transportation systems.

### Background

A transportation system that supports more walking and bicycling has benefits for the state, its communities, and its people. For individuals, in addition to enjoyable recreation, immediate- and long-term health benefits of physical activity include reducing the risk of heart disease, diabetes, and obesity. Fewer motor vehicles on the road will result in less pollution and a healthier environment. Walking and bicycling also have an economic impact. The value people place on bicycle and pedestrian facilities can be reflected in increased real property values and increased marketability for property located near trails and open space.<sup>13</sup> Communities with pedestrian friendly downtowns may enhance economic vitality by encouraging visitors to stop and shop at businesses. In addition, bicycle and pedestrian facilities are much less expensive to build and maintain than auto-related infrastructure.

The Federal Highway Administration’s (FHWA) 1994 goal for WSDOT and other state departments of transportation over the next 20 years is to 1) Increase biking and walking to at least 15 percent of all trips, and 2) Reduce the number of bicyclists and pedestrians killed or injured in traffic crashes by at least 10

<sup>12</sup> SeaTac Ordinance 03-1033 More information on CPTED is available on the MRSC Web site [www.mrsc.org/askmrsc/publicSafety.aspx - safety/](http://www.mrsc.org/askmrsc/publicSafety.aspx - safety/) under Crime Prevention and [www.mrsc.org/subjects/planning/cptedbib.aspx](http://www.mrsc.org/subjects/planning/cptedbib.aspx), and other sources on the Internet such as the National Crime Prevention Council [www.npc.org/npc/npc1/pg=5882-2006-2486](http://www.npc.org/npc/npc1/pg=5882-2006-2486).

<sup>13</sup> *Economic Impacts of Protecting Rivers, Trails and Greenway Corridors*, Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program, 1995, [www.nps.gov/pwro/rtcalpiopval.htm](http://www.nps.gov/pwro/rtcalpiopval.htm).

percent.<sup>14</sup> Washington has adopted this goal in the 2005 bicycle and pedestrian component of Washington's Transportation Plan<sup>15</sup>

### **Including a Bicycle and Pedestrian Component in the Comprehensive Plan**

Many jurisdictions already address non-motorized transportation with a simple map of existing and planned bicycle routes, and require that sidewalks and other facilities for bicycles and pedestrians are constructed as part of new street development. Other communities, such as Bellevue and Redmond, have comprehensive bicycle and pedestrian plans, and active bicycle and pedestrian advisory committees

A typical process for developing a bicycle and pedestrian plan might include the following steps:

- **Inventory local conditions:** Conduct an analysis of local conditions, including existing sidewalks, crossings, paths, trails, parking, transit routes, transit stations, and other features important to people walking and bicycling. A community can then distinguish potential bicycle and pedestrian trip-making patterns by identifying corridors and routes that connect potential origins and destinations and present trail opportunities.
- **Consider citizens' travel behavior:** Identify and review travel pattern profiles for typical urban travel to identify the potential market for pedestrian and bicycle travel. This data can be obtained from regional transportation planning organizations (RTPOs) and metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs). These organizations have access to such data from national personal travel and census statistics used in their regional planning models. Of particular relevance for cities and compact communities is understanding the proportional amount of daily travel in typical urban/metropolitan areas for short types of all personal travel trips (less than 1 mile and 2 to 5 miles) and longer trips (greater than 5 or 6 miles). The percentage of total daily trips in the shorter lengths of trips is a surprisingly high percentage that reflects the potential respective markets for community pedestrian and bicycle travel. A review of pedestrian and bicycle accident patterns should also be conducted to identify locations needing safety improvements. Bicyclists and pedestrians needing special consideration may include children, the handicapped, and the elderly.
- **Set goals and identify policies:**<sup>16</sup> Identify how bicyclists and pedestrians are to be accommodated as new development occurs, and how improvements are to be prioritized. Develop a funding strategy or formula for facility development and consider benchmarks set to measure success.
- **Adopt facility design guidelines:** Consider adopting design standards and other technical assistance from WSDOT at [www.wsdot.wa.gov/Walk](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Walk) and [www.wsdot.wa.gov/bike/](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/bike/)
- **Identify improvements:** Identify bicycle and pedestrian facility deficiencies or opportunities for improving safety and connections. Next, a prioritized list of recommended improvements to include in capital facility plans can be formulated.
- **Provide opportunities for public participation:** Before adopting the plan, be sure to work with and share draft plans with stakeholders including school districts; bicycle clubs; all city or county departments including public works, engineering, parks and recreation, health, police, and fire departments; adjacent jurisdictions; state agencies including CTED; and WSDOT's local programs engineers and planning managers at regional WSDOT offices.

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<sup>14</sup> This policy, which was adopted in 1994 as part of the National Bicycling and Walking Study, remains a high priority for the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT). [www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bikeped/bp-guid.htm](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bikeped/bp-guid.htm)

<sup>15</sup> Washington State Department of Transportation, *Washington State's 2005 Bicycle Transportation and Pedestrian Walkways Plan*, 2005. [www.wsdot.wa.gov/bike/PDF/2005\\_bicycle\\_transportation\\_pedestrian\\_walkways\\_plan.pdf](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/bike/PDF/2005_bicycle_transportation_pedestrian_walkways_plan.pdf)

<sup>16</sup> Example plans, goals, and objectives are available on the Internet at [www.bikewalk.org/vision/vision\\_intro.htm](http://www.bikewalk.org/vision/vision_intro.htm) and [www.bicyclinginfo.org/pp/exemplary.htm](http://www.bicyclinginfo.org/pp/exemplary.htm)

- **Develop implementation strategies:** Identify funding for the plan, and consider a specific percentage of transportation funds each year. A community should also review development regulations to ensure they address bicycle and pedestrian needs. Other strategies could include integrating bicycle and pedestrian planning with other planning and development initiatives, considering education programs regarding bicycle and pedestrian safety, and conducting campaigns to encourage bicycle and pedestrian activity.
- **Assess and monitor results:** Conduct a periodic review of how well the plan is being implemented.

Some examples of bicycle and pedestrian planning strategies are as follows.

- **Retrofit existing streets with pedestrian and bicycle facilities.** For example, Olympia voters approved a 2004 ballot measure to fund parks and recreation facilities by a 3 percent increase to the private utility tax. This funding measure is anticipated to generate about \$2.5 million per year to construct 70,000 feet of sidewalk and acquire 500 acres of parkland in the next 20 years.
- **Designate and improve safe routes to school.** All Washington school districts are required to have suggested route plans for every elementary school (WAC 392-151-025). Information about safe routes to school is available on WSDOT's Web site at [www.wsdot.wa.gov/bike/Safe\\_Routes.htm](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/bike/Safe_Routes.htm). School districts in many Washington communities, including Anacortes, Napavine, Richland, and Taholah recently received WSDOT grant funds to improve safe routes to school.
- **Improve walking and bicycling conditions by improving connections from residential areas to health care facilities, community centers, shopping, transit, and other services.** This is especially important for seniors and children. Communities might also consider providing amenities for bicyclists and pedestrians such as shade trees and landscaping, restrooms, benches, and water fountains. It is also important to eliminate hazards to bicycle travel such as parallel bar drainage grates, traffic-actuated signals unresponsive to bicycles, and roadside debris along non-motorized routes of travel.
- **Use traffic calming measures such as narrower road widths, traffic circles, speed humps, and other devices to slow traffic for safer pedestrian and bicycle use, and create safer, and more attractive streets.**<sup>17</sup> The City of Yakima adopted a policy in 1995 for reviewing and prioritizing neighborhood requests for traffic calming.<sup>18</sup>
- **Enforce traffic laws and provide traffic safety education programs for drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists.** The Washington Traffic Safety Commission provides grant funding and education materials on their Web site at [www.wtsc.wa.gov/hfp.html](http://www.wtsc.wa.gov/hfp.html).
- **Use innovative, low-cost transportation demand management (TDM) strategies (e.g., employer provided bus passes, facilities, and incentives) to help make bicycling, walking, transit, carpooling, and vanpooling more attractive commuting options.** Washington's Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) Act requires certain jurisdictions to develop, adopt by ordinance, and implement a commute trip reduction plan for all major employers.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>17</sup> Many sources of information about traffic calming are available including the Federal Highways Administration ([www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/traffic/](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/traffic/)), the Institute of Transportation Engineers ([www.itie.org/traffic/](http://www.itie.org/traffic/)), and MRSC ([www.mrsc.org/Subjects/Transport/traffic/calming.aspx](http://www.mrsc.org/Subjects/Transport/traffic/calming.aspx))

<sup>18</sup> Neighborhood Traffic Management Program at [www.ci.yakima.wa.us/services/streets/ntmp.asp](http://www.ci.yakima.wa.us/services/streets/ntmp.asp)

<sup>19</sup> RCW 70.94 521 through 551.

## **2SHB 1565 Multimodal Concurrency**

2SHB 1565 specified that concurrency improvements may include multimodal transportation. Under the GMA, concurrency means that public facilities, such as roads, water, and sewer, are to be provided concurrent with development. Traffic models are used as a basis to determine concurrency. Trip generation rates are applied to a potential development, and these trips are added to the traffic model to determine what kinds of improvements are needed to handle automobile trips generated from the new development. This type of model has historically focused on automobile trips and ignored walking, bicycling, and transit trips. This law states that jurisdictions may include bicycling and walking trips as they review the impact of new development. 2SHB 1565 requires WSDOT to administer a multimodal concurrency study, including proposals to amend the statute to enable effective multimodal transportation concurrency strategies. This study is due in December 2006.

## **State Agency Contacts**

**Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)** maintains *The Bicycle and Pedestrian Walkways Plan*, part of the *Washington Transportation Plan*,<sup>20</sup> and provides bicycle and pedestrian planning information, design standards and other resources at [www.wsdot.wa.gov/Walk](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Walk) and [www.wsdot.wa.gov/bike/](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/bike/), and sources of funding at [www.wsdot.wa.gov/bike/Funding.htm](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/bike/Funding.htm). WSDOT's Highways and Local Programs office also has resources that may be useful at [www.wsdot.wa.gov/TA/Operations/LocalPlanning/Compplans.html](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/TA/Operations/LocalPlanning/Compplans.html). Contact Charlotte Claybrooke, Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator, (360) 705-7302, [claybrc@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:claybrc@wsdot.wa.gov) or Paula Reeves, Local Planning Liaison, Highways and Local Programs, [reevesp@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:reevesp@wsdot.wa.gov).

**Washington State Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development (CTED)** Growth Management Services can provide technical assistance including examples of policies and bicycle and pedestrian plans from Washington communities, and assistance in implementing plans with development regulations. Contact Anne Fritzell, Associate Planner, (360) 725-3064, [annef@cted.wa.gov](mailto:annef@cted.wa.gov)

**Washington State Department of Health (DOH)**  
DOH's Nutrition and Physical Activity Program maintains the *Washington State Nutrition and Physical Activity Plan* on the Internet at [www.doh.wa.gov/cfhi/NutritionPA/default.htm](http://www.doh.wa.gov/cfhi/NutritionPA/default.htm). Contact James Kisse, Physical Activity Specialist, (360) 236-3623, [james.kissee@doh.wa.gov](mailto:james.kissee@doh.wa.gov).

## **National Planning Resources**

Pedestrian and bicycle information from the Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center [www.pedbikemfio.org/](http://www.pedbikemfio.org/) and the National Center for Bicycling and Walking [www.bikewalk.org/](http://www.bikewalk.org/)

The Smart Growth Network helps create national, regional, and local coalitions to support intelligent and sustainable growth at [www.smartgrowth.org](http://www.smartgrowth.org)

California's Local Government Commission has excellent resources on transportation and community design at [www.lgc.org/index.html](http://www.lgc.org/index.html).

Several model land use codes are available for smaller communities. *Model Land Use Code for Colorado's Small Communities* at [www.dola.state.co.us/smartgrowth/resources.htm](http://www.dola.state.co.us/smartgrowth/resources.htm) and *Oregon's Model Development Code for Small Cities* at [www.oregon.gov/LCD/TGM/publications.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/LCD/TGM/publications.shtml).

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<sup>20</sup> On the Internet at [www.wsdot.wa.gov/bike/PDF/2005\\_bicycle\\_transportation\\_pedestrian\\_walkways\\_plan.pdf](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/bike/PDF/2005_bicycle_transportation_pedestrian_walkways_plan.pdf).

National Park Service, Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program provides technical assistance grants. [www.nps.gov/nrcr/programs/rtca/](http://www.nps.gov/nrcr/programs/rtca/)

National Parks and Recreation Association's "Step Up to Health It Starts in Parks" Initiative provides training and resources to parks professionals at [www.nrpa.org/health](http://www.nrpa.org/health).

### **Active Living Resources**

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Active Community Environments Initiative, [www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpalaces.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpalaces.htm)

The Washington Coalition for Promoting Physical Activity, [www.beactive.org/palinks.html](http://www.beactive.org/palinks.html).

The Active Living Network, [www.activeliving.org/](http://www.activeliving.org/).

The International City Management Association (ICMA), [icma.org/activeliving](http://icma.org/activeliving)

Active Living by Design, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, [www.activelivingbydesign.org/](http://www.activelivingbydesign.org/).

### **State and Federal Funding Resources**

No funding was provided to implement ESSB 5186. However, there are some sources available as follows:

- WSDOT's Web site lists several sources of funds that can be used to fund these types of facilities at [www.wsdot.wa.gov/bike/Funding.htm](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/bike/Funding.htm).
- The Infrastructure Assistance Coordinating Council (IACC) database of infrastructure funding opportunities at [www.infafinding.wa.gov/](http://www.infafinding.wa.gov/) including funding from the Transportation Improvement Board at [www.tib.wa.gov/default.asp](http://www.tib.wa.gov/default.asp).
- **NEW!** The Legislature provided \$74 million dollars over the next 16 years as a WSDOT grant program to be spent on bicycle and pedestrian safety, safe routes to school, and safe routes to transit, paths, and trails. \$5 million is available in the 2005-07 biennium for:
  1. Bicycle and pedestrian safety ([www.wsdot.wa.gov/TA/ProgMgt/Grants/Pedestrian\\_Bicycle.htm](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/TA/ProgMgt/Grants/Pedestrian_Bicycle.htm)) and
  2. Safe routes to school grants ([www.wsdot.wa.gov/TA/ProgMgt/Grants/Safe\\_Routes.htm](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/TA/ProgMgt/Grants/Safe_Routes.htm)).
- CTED planning grants for specific planning activities on a two-year cycle, and Emerging Issues grants of \$10,000 on specific emerging planning issues outside the normal grant cycle. Contact Anne Fritzel, Associate Planner, (360) 725-3064, [annef@cted.wa.gov](mailto:annef@cted.wa.gov)
- Washington Traffic Safety Commission grant funding 2005 emphasis is traffic safety and school zone and law enforcement initiatives, [www.wtsc.wa.gov/rfp.html](http://www.wtsc.wa.gov/rfp.html). Contact Lynn Drake, Program Manager, (360) 586-3484, [ldrake@wtsc.wa.gov](mailto:ldrake@wtsc.wa.gov).