

**For Immediate Release  
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## **Mark Rohwer Named As SRTC Interim Transportation Manager**

The Spokane Regional Transportation Council (SRTC) Board has hired Mark Rohwer as interim Transportation Manager while conducting a search for a permanent Executive Director to run the agency.

Rohwer has a long history at the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) - Eastern Region and is a long-time resident of the area.

SRTC Board members approved the appointment in a meeting last Thursday. In the past year, the Board had discussed taking SRTC, the federally-designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Spokane County, in a new direction, which eventually led to new leadership.

"There is a lot happening in transportation right now," says SRTC Board Chair Gary Schimmels. "That means a lot for this agency to keep up with and a lot of opportunity for it to grow. The Board is grateful to Mr. Rohwer for returning to his transportation planning roots to help guide that growth while getting the agency through this transition phase."

Rohwer stepped in as interim Transportation Manager on Monday, May 2. He has 32 years of public service with WSDOT, ending in retirement in 2009. He collaborated with MPOs in his role at WSDOT, providing him knowledge of how MPOs function and how to move forward as an agency.

"I plan to work with SRTC staff and committees to coordinate transportation projects and activities with local agencies and elected officials," Rohwer says. "I will continue to support and advocate for area jurisdictions and their needs during my time at SRTC, while helping the agency make a smooth transition to a permanent director."

It is expected to take approximately three months to appoint a permanent Executive Director at SRTC.

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SRTC is the government agency responsible for transportation planning for the area covered by Spokane County. Any metropolitan area that has a population of more than 50,000 is required to have a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). SRTC partners with other government agencies such as the City of Spokane, Spokane County, Washington State Department of Transportation, Spokane Valley, and small cities and towns to encourage coordination and collaboration between planning and transportation departments at those jurisdictions.

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