



Spokane Regional Transportation Council

"SRTC provides for the safe and efficient movement of people and goods into, within, and through the Spokane Region with an integration of balanced multi-modal transportation choices."

Stimulus Package Projects Funded

The first round of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA or stimulus) funding has been allocated by SRTC.

The \$10.4 million SRTC was responsible for distributing went to eight projects county-wide. The next step is for the agencies that received those funds to get their projects out to bid (some already have), as construction is required to start on stimulus projects by July.

Now, SRTC's Transportation Technical Committee will put out another call for projects in case a second round of ARRA funding becomes available. In the meantime, WSDOT has a website that shows **all state** stimulus-funded projects on a map. You can click each project for details about it. **Go to <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Funding/stimulus/ProjectList.htm>** to check it out.

SRTC's Mission Statement

SRTC provides for the safe and efficient movement of people and goods into, within, and through the Spokane Region with an integration of balanced multi-modal transportation choices.

FREE Regional Construction Maps Available

Construction projects are starting up for the year, and there's a way to find where work will happen so you don't get stuck in traffic.

The 2009 Spokane Regional Road Construction Map is now available. It is an annual collaboration between area government agencies (SRTC, Spokane County, Spokane Valley, the City of Spokane, and the Washington State Department of Transportation) to keep the public informed.

The map shows major projects that will affect traffic county-wide during this construction season. Information includes the type of project, location, and when it will begin and end.

To see what projects are planned, pick up your copy of the 2009 Spokane Regional Road Construction Map at Spokane County's Public Works Building (1026 W. Broadway, 2nd floor), Spokane City Hall (808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd., 1st floor) and Spokane Valley City Hall (11707 E. Sprague Avenue, Ste. 106). An electronic version is also available at www.srtc.org.

Regional Bike Map Available In May

An update to the Spokane Regional Bicycle map is under review and will be available in mid-May.

The map shows area bike routes, and amenities such as trailheads, restrooms, and bike shops, and lists local bicycling resources.

When complete, the new map will be available at area bike shops and posted at www.srtc.org, on the 'Bicycle and Pedestrian Resources' page.

Work Continues on Pedestrian Plan

Work on the Spokane Regional Pedestrian Plan is moving ahead. Spokane Regional Health District, SRTC, the City of Spokane, and the Regional Pedestrian Plan Committee are developing the Plan to address the needs and issues of area pedestrians.

SRTC's Active Transportation Technical Committee and the Pedestrian Steering committee are currently reviewing a working draft of the Plan. After edits are incorporated, a draft will be released for a 30 day public review before the Plan goes to the SRTC Board for approval.

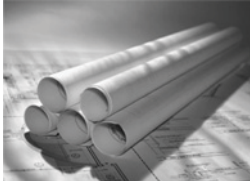
Check out www.srtc.org for all SRTC's latest projects

West Plains-SIA Study

The stakeholder group for the West Plains-Spokane International Airport (WP-SIA) study is in the process of collecting information on potential current and future developments. That information will be used to update the land use in the study area as needed.

The WP-SIA study is in response to continued development of the airport business park, land use changes at the airport, and the effect those changes will have on the Geiger interchange and the surrounding roadway network.

The stakeholder group meets again in late April. For more information on this study, go to www.srtc.org. There's a link to the project page on the home page.



April is Travel Green Month

If you drive Interstate 90, you may already know from the electronic signs along the freeway that April is Travel Green month. Spokane County's Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) program is partnering with the Washington State Department of Transportation to use the signs to spread the word about finding alternate methods of commuting.

If you don't already commute using a method other than driving alone, CTR asks you to give carpooling, riding the bus, walking, bicycling, working from home, or vanpooling a try in April.

Not only will you save money, you'll reduce stress, reduce traffic congestion, and help the environment.

You will also have the chance to win money and prizes through CTR, including a \$1,000 Visa Cash Card! Go to www.MyCommute.org for information on how to get started.

SmartRoutes Projects Funded By Stimulus \$

ARRA funding will pay to construct two SmartRoutes projects this year.



SmartRoutes is a plan to increase walking and bicycling

in Spokane County. It was developed in conjunction with the Rails to Trails Conservancy's (RTC) plan to double the national non-motorized transportation budget to \$9 billion in the next transportation budget.

Two City of Spokane projects will be paid for with Stimulus funds; Phase 2 of the Fish Lake Trail and the reconstruction of 5 Mile Rd. between Ash St. and Lincoln Rd. That project includes the installation of a bicycle climbing lane up the 5 Mile hill.

In early April, SmartRoutes committee members joined RTC in Washington, D.C. to meet with elected officials to advocate for SmartRoutes. Our case statement was very well received, according to Spokane City Council Member Richard Rush.

Now the SmartRoutes group is putting together additional advocacy pieces to make a policy request at the federal level.

For more information on SmartRoutes, go to www.SmartRoutes.org.

Model Users Group Meeting Scheduled

A meeting of SRTC's Model Users Group is scheduled for Thursday, April 23 at 1:30 pm in the SRTC conference room at 221 W. First Ave., Suite 310.

The new 2006 calibrated base model will be released at this meeting. All model users from local jurisdictions are invited to attend and review it. HDR Inc. will make a calibration presentation and SRTC staff will explain the validation steps that were used on the model calibration.

A projects list for future build years will also be distributed and discussed, in order to gather input on it.

Again, all area modelers are encouraged to attend this meeting. If you plan to attend, please RSVP by Tuesday, April 21. You can do so by emailing contact.srtc@srtc.org or calling Deb LaCombe at (509) 343-6370.