

2025 UNIFIED LIST OF REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES AND POLICY STATEMENTS

Approved by the Spokane Regional Transportation Council Board of Directors on September 12, 2024





SRTC Board of Directors consists of representatives from:

City of Airway Heights

City of Cheney

City of Deer Park

City of Liberty Lake

City of Medical Lake

City of Millwood

City of Spokane

City of Spokane Valley

Freight/Rail Industry

Kalispel Tribe of Indians

Major Employers

Spokane County

Spokane Transit Authority

Spokane Tribe of Indians

Small Towns of Spokane County*

WSDOT—Eastern Region

Washington State Transportation Commission

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Spokane Regional Transportation Council www.srtc.org

Please email contact.srtc@srtc.org or call (509) 343-6370 to receive additional copies of this document.

The towns of Fairfield, Latah, Rockford, Spangle, and Waverly are represented by a single seat on the SRTC Board of Directors.

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About SRTC

Spokane Regional Transportation Council (SRTC) is both the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) for Spokane County. SRTC provides regional transportation leadership and coordination by conducting comprehensive, cooperative, and continuing transportation planning with representatives from local jurisdictions, tribes, transportation providers and local stakeholders. SRTC works to ensure that transportation projects and programs are based on mutually agreed upon goals and priorities developed in an impartial and non-partisan platform.

SRTC operates under the following principles:

- Finish what we have started by directing resources towards **completing existing projects**.
- ▶ Adequately **fund maintenance and preservation** of the existing transportation system.
- ldentify and advance a broad range of project types to meet the needs of a growing region.
- Invest in projects that **improve quality of life** in the region in the following ways:
 - → Draw on best practices to address transportation safety issues.
 - → Emphasize equity and consider the needs of all transportation users.
 - → Create safe and convenient forms of active transportation that support public health objectives.
 - → Contribute towards building a resilient transportation system to mitigate the impacts of climate change.



A SAFE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

STATEWIDE POLICY STATEMENT

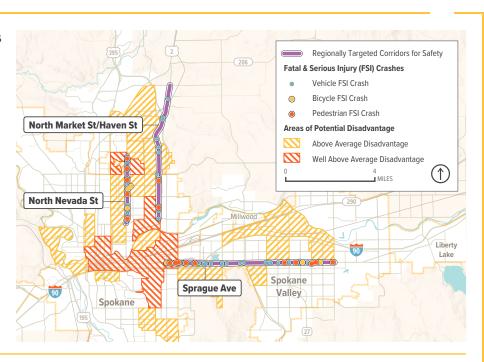
Expand resources to improve <u>transportation safety</u> in support of Target Zero

- ▶ Direct additional funding to state and local agencies for safety projects that help achieve zero fatal and serious injuries.
- ▶ Promote collaboration between the new WSDOT Transportation Safety Office and MPOs/RTPOs to identify and address regional safety priorities.
- ► Enhance the impact of Regional Safety Action Plans (RSAPs) through collaborative efforts with the Washington Traffic Safety Commission, ensuring early integration of regional input in the priority-setting process.

Traffic fatalities and serious injuries in Washington state have reached record highs, increasing 54% and 51% respectively since 2019. This marks the fastest five-year increase in traffic fatalities ever according to the Washington Traffic Safety Commission. In Spokane County fatal and serious injury (FSI) crashes increased by 66% from 2019 to 2022. To address this, SRTC developed a data-driven RSAP aiming for a 50% reduction in FSI crashes by 2030 (pending approval). The RSAP, based on extensive research and stakeholder engagement, identifies critical safety challenges and solutions. It emphasizes resource leveraging, collaboration, and ongoing evaluation to achieve Target Zero. Enhanced proactive collaboration with state partners is crucial for significant impact on this issue.

Regionally Targeted Corridors for Safety

The RSAP conducted a thorough analysis of FSI crashes within the SRTC planning area to establish a High Injury Network (HIN). This network includes corridors and intersections with the highest concentrations of FSI crashes. Additionally, the RSAP targeted three specific corridors where the HIN overlaps with disadvantaged areas and system improvements may have more significant outcomes. Conceptual plans for these corridors were developed to streamline future funding opportunities and offer quidance to local agencies interested in initiating safety strategies.



North Nevada St



North Market St/Haven St



Sprague Ave



LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY STATEMENTS





Pursue strategies to effectively address maintenance and preservation needs

Develop an approach for the programming of maintenance and preservation funds that balances funding needs with the ability to deliver projects over time.

SRTC recognizes that current funding levels are not sufficient to maintain the existing transportation system in a state of good repair. SRTC also recognizes that Move Ahead Washington provided an increase in transportation preservation and maintenance funding by \$3 billion, however the time frame to deliver projects is difficult to achieve. Workforce challenges and supply chain disruptions have hindered project delivery and will continue to be a factor in the upcoming years. As additional funding for preservation and maintenance is considered, SRTC encourages a balanced approach that programs funding over time so state and local agencies can successfully deliver projects.

Support increased funding for Regional Transportation Planning Organizations

Increase the Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) program budget by \$6.8 million a biennium to provide a base funding level of \$200,000 per year for each RTPO, to fully achieve the transportation planning outcomes and requirements of RCW 47.80.

An assessment of the required functions of an RTPO was conducted, and a base level of funding necessary to address program shortfalls was identified. RTPOs have an important role in providing transportation planning support in rural and tribal areas across the state. However, funding allocations have not increased over time to keep pace with the rising cost of operations and expanded responsibilities of RTPOs, which now include tracking and monitoring vehicle miles traveled (VMT).





Revise the <u>tax increment financing</u> (TIF) public financing method

Expand the TIF framework to include provisions for allocating a portion of state property and/or sales tax collected within a TIF boundary for state facilities.

TIF is a valuable public financing method to encourage cost-effective development, improve infrastructure, and revitalize areas in need of investments without placing an immediate burden on taxpayers. The method uses future increases in property and sales tax revenues generated within a designated area to fund identified infrastructure and development projects within that area. Greater flexibility in TIF would enable it to be tailored to a community's specific needs, allowing for diverse projects improvements that address local priorities and challenges.

ADDITIONAL POLICY STATEMENTS





Ensure access to transportation in support of affordable housing strategies

- Ensure access to affordable, reliable, and equitable transportation options which are an integral component of affordable housing strategies.
- ▶ Provide additional resources to local jurisdictions to plan for and accommodate affordable housing.



Fund regionally critical projects on the SRTC Unified List

Invest in projects collaboratively identified by the SRTC Board of Directors in the Unified List.



Encourage diversity in the development of clean fuel technologies

- Assess the need for and continue to develop electric charging infrastructure capacity.
- ▶ Support the emergence of alternative fuels in support of low or no emission transportation across the spectrum of vehicle types through pilot projects or other means.



Address funding gaps that are anticipated due to the loss of gas tax revenue

- Create a strategy to address the loss of gas tax revenue that includes increasing the public's awareness and understating of the issue.
- Support pilot projects that will assist in identifying transportation revenue strategies.



Enhance transportation investments that support <u>Fairchild Air Force Base</u> (FAFB) as the significant military installation in Spokane County

▶ Support transportation safety and mobility strategies that ensure air force personnel's ability to access FAFB and ensure adequate military response times.



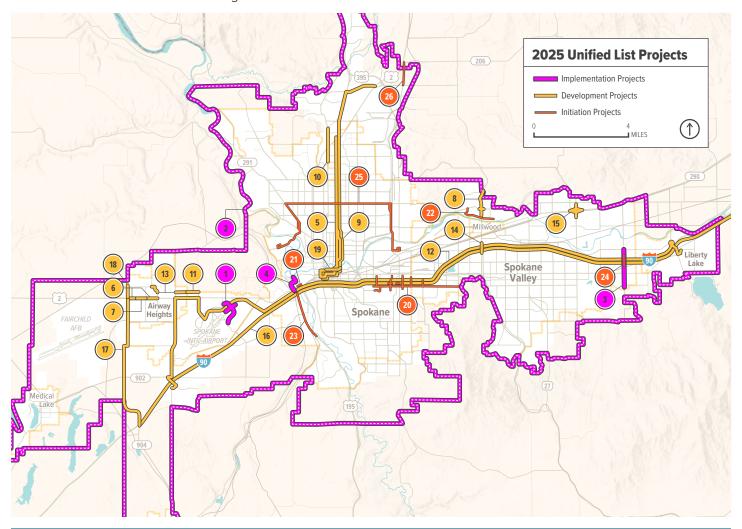
Maintain currently committed legislative investments

Ensure legislative investments are upheld and continue as scheduled to avoid delays which increase overall project costs and have detrimental impacts on other coordinated projects and community initiatives.

UNIFIED LIST OF REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES



The SRTC Unified List of Regional Transportation Priorities outlines critical investments to improve the performance of the regional transportation system. The Unified List includes a variety of project types supported collectively by members of SRTC with consideration for equity, economic vitality, and safety among other screening criteria that indicate beneficial outcomes to both the state and the region.



Project Status Categories

Implementation

- Design ≥ 60% complete, significant progress has been made towards right-of-way, and environmental approvals are underway.
- Project is identified in a local, regional, and/or state plan.

Development

- Design ≥ 30% complete, right-of-way needs identified, environmental initiated and/ or substantial percentage of funding has been secured.
- Project is identified in a local, regional, and/or state plan.

Initiation

- ▶ Design is < 30% complete.</p>
- Project is in the early stage of development and has, at a minimum, been identified in a planning study.



2025 UNIFIED LIST OF REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES

Summary By Project Status

PROJECT STATUS CATEGORY	#	~ COST	FUNDING REQUEST	% OF "COST REQUESTED
IMPLEMENTATION	4	\$133.5 Million	\$27.6 Million	21%
DEVELOPMENT	15	\$547.8 Million	\$201.6 Million	37%
INITIATION	7	\$178.6 Million	\$114.0 Million	64%
TOTAL	26	\$860.0 Million	\$343.2 Million	40%

Implementation Projects

MAP #	PROJECT TITLE	LEAD AGENCY	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	~COST	FUNDING REQUEST
1	From Interstates to Airways: Spotted Rd & Airport Dr Safety & Multimodal Improvements	SIA	Construct a grade-separated interchange at Spotted Rd over Airport Dr and relocating Spotted Rd outside of the Runway Protection Zone for the Airport's primary instrument runway.	\$37.2 Million	\$5 Million
2	STA Fleet Electrification	STA	Purchase of battery-electric buses (BEB) and required infrastructure to reach the 40 vehicle capacity at the Boone NW Garage and the required infrastructure. lic Transportation Benefit Area (PTBA) and is represented on the map by the PTBA	\$35.8 Million	\$5 Million
3	South Barker Rd Corridor	Spokane Valley	Widen & reconstruct Barker Rd to a 5-lane urban arterial (Mission to Appleway), a 3-lane urban arterial (Appleway to city limits) and add roundabouts at Sprague, 4th. and 8th aves.	\$41 Million	\$3 Million
4	Fish Lake Trail Connection Phases 1–3	Spokane	Construct a shared-use path connecting the existing Fish Lake Trail to Centennial Trail.	\$19.5 Million	\$14.6 Million

Development Projects

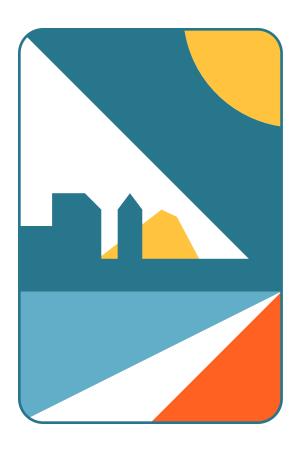
MAP #	PROJECT TITLE	LEAD AGENCY	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	~COST	FUNDING REQUEST
5	Division St Active Transportation Access Improvements	Spokane	Install parallel and connecting active transportation improvements along the Division Corridor to support safe first/last mile bike/ped connections to BRT stations.	\$25.8 Million	\$25.8 Million
6	US Hwy 2 Multimodal Improvements Phase I	Airway Heights	Add pathways and sidewalk, improved pedestrian crossings, traffic calming, transit access, and roundabout traffic control.	\$20.1 Million	\$18.2 Million
7	US Hwy 2 Multimodal Improvements Phase II	Airway Heights	Add pathways and sidewalk, improved pedestrian crossings, traffic calming, transit access, and roundabout traffic control.	\$26.1 Million	\$22.2 Million
8	Argonne Rd Safety Improvements	Spokane County	Reconstruct Argonne Rd/Upriver Dr Intersection, upgrade bike/ped and ADA connections, and add safety improvements at Wellesley Ave intersection.	\$28.7 Million	\$28.4 Million
9	Division Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)	STA	Enhances transit along corridor w/more frequent service, transit signal priority, all-door boarding, and dedicated business access and transit lanes (BAT) for more than half the corridor.	\$202 Million	No State Request
10	Wall St Safety & Capital Improvements	Spokane County	Project includes pavement restoration, stormwater infrastructure, new sewer force main, and pedestrian crossing and intersection improvements at Country Homes Blvd.	\$11 Million	\$10.4 Million
11	12th Ave — Spokane Phase	Spokane	Extend existing roadway as a two-lane boulevard or three-lane urban collector for a total of 3.65 miles, adding bicycle lanes, separated sidewalks, multi-use paths, and transit stops.	\$4.9 Million	\$4.9 Million

Development Projects (Continued)

MAP #	PROJECT TITLE	LEAD AGENCY	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	~COST	FUNDING REQUEST
12	I-90/Valley High Performance Transit (HPT)	STA	Revise to a HPT corridor, from West Plains/SIA to Spokane Valley and Liberty Lake. Construct two new park & rides (Appleway Station and Argonne Station) and modify Mirabeau Point Park & Ride.	\$39.3 Million	No State Request
13	6th/10th/12th Ave Multimodal Improvements Phase III – Garfield Rd & 12th Ave	Airway Heights	Various multimodal improvements on 6th Ave, from Craig Rd to Russell St.	\$4.8 Million	\$4.3 Million
14	Argonne Bridge at I-90	Spokane Valley	Widen or replace existing Argonne Rd bridge over I-90, including the addition of a third travel lane and shared use path.	\$28.2 Million	\$3 Million
15	Sullivan/Trent Interchange	Spokane Valley	Reconstruct Sullivan Rd/SR 290 interchange, including on/off ramps, to restore long-term capacity and satisfy projected traffic growth from 2022 Bigelow Gulch-Forker Road connection.	\$46.8 Million	\$5 Million
16	I-90 TSMO Improvements	WSDOT	Various TSMO improvements from SR 904 to Idaho state line, such as variable message signs, ramp meters, variable speed limits, queue warning detection, and wrong way detection.	\$24 Million	\$2.6 Million
17	Craig Rd & I-90 Four Lakes Connection	Spokane County	Improve access from I-90 to Craig Rd by modifying existing interchange, to provide northerly access and complete a link to Craig Rd, and reconstructing the corridor.	\$66.9 Million	\$59.4 Million
18	Craig Rd Complete Streets Project	Airway Heights	Reconstruct and widen road; adding turn lanes at major intersections, transit improvements, sidewalks (east side of road), and a 10' multi use path (west side of road) buffered by landscaped swales.	\$11.2 Million	\$10 Million
19	Spokane Falls Blvd	Spokane	Construct full depth roadway, repair sidewalk, lighting, communication conduit and cable, signal and utility updates, and accessible Pedestrian Signals (APS) updates as appropriate.	\$8.1 Million	\$7.4 Million

Initiation Projects

MAP #	PROJECT TITLE	LEAD AGENCY	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	~cost	FUNDING REQUEST
20	LEIA - Liberty to Edgecliff Improvements for Accessibility	STA	Focused construction of sidewalks, bike facilities, crosswalks, lighting, traffic signals, and transit stops in the East Central community to offset myriad negative impacts created by the 1950s construction of I-90.	\$26.5 Million	No State Request
21	Latah Bridge Rehabilitation	Spokane	Replace and widen bridge deck, railing, sidewalks, and rehabilitate structural elements. Project improves pedestrian and transit facilities (shared-use path, bike lanes, space for future light rail transit line).	\$65.1 Million	\$65.1 Million
22	Centennial Trail / Argonne Gap Project	Spokane County	Improve connectivity at the Argonne Rd crossing adjacent to Centennial Trail, including improved crossings to reduce bike/ped vs vehicular incidents and reduce stress at Argonne Rd/Upriver Dr intersection.	\$8.5 Million	\$8.2 Million
23	US 195 Corridor Projects	Spokane	Connect Lindeke St to Thorpe Rd and create a two-way Inland Empire Way and Cheney-Spokane Rd connection. Streetscape improvements include sidewalks, lighting, landscape buffers, and bike lanes.	\$18.4 Million	\$18.4 Million
24	Barker Rd & I-90 Interchange	Spokane Valley	Replace single-lane roundabout and 2-lane bridge with new 2-lane roundabout and 4-lane bridge to accommodate existing traffic and growth.	\$40 Million	\$4 Million
25	Wellesley High Performance Transit (HPT)	STA	Revise Route 33 Wellesley to HPT Route 3. The project includes passenger and operational enhancements, along with improved connectivity and accessibility to facilitate ease of transfer to other routes.	\$9.3 Million	\$7.5 Million
26	Market St Reconstruction	Spokane County	Reconstruct roadway, adding a 10' shared use path and incorporating missing stormwater infrastructure.	\$10.9 Million	\$10.9 Million



PROJECT INFORMATION SHEETS

AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST