

Washington's Scenic and Recreational Highways Plan Update

**Steering Committee Meeting
September 24th, 2009**



**Washington State
Department of Transportation**

Key topics for today's meeting:

- Review Meeting Summary from July 15th
- Recap July 15th Meeting
- Discuss the purpose of the plan.
- Discuss contents of Background Paper #1, *Policies, Practices and Process*.
- Begin developing goals and performance measures.

State Scenic and Recreational Highways



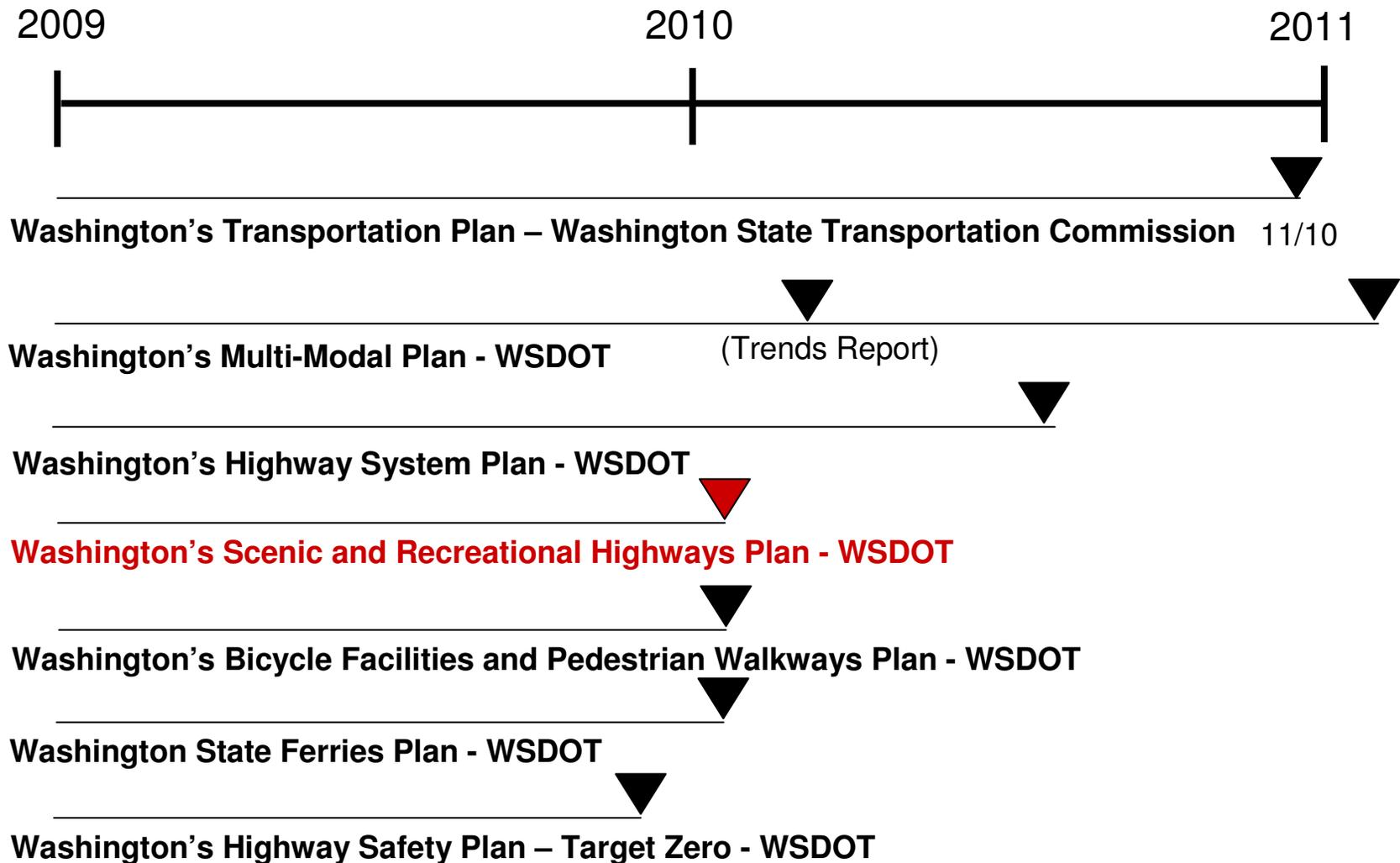
DRAFT

- Scenic Byways (Tourism Marketing Routes)
- Scenic and Recreational Highways (Per State Law)
- City Limits

Timeline for the Plan

	2009						2010	
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Public Involvement Process Begins	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	
Website and List-Serv Established	█							
Steering Committee Meetings	█		█		█			
Public Hearings							█	
Analysis of Available Data	█	█	█	█	█			
Background Paper 1: Practices, Policies and Procedures		█						
Background Paper 2: Develop Goals, Benchmarks, Performance Measures				█				
Develop Outline of the Plan					█			
Draft Plan Document						█		
60 Day Comment Period						█	█	
Final Plan Document							█	

How does this Plan relate to other Transportation Plans?



*Other Plans contributing to Washington's Transportation Plan include: Aviation, Freight, Transit and Passenger Rail

On July 15th, we asked...

- What should be achieved through this planning process?
- What is the goal of the State Scenic and Recreational Highway System?
- What should priorities be?
- How do we discuss needs on the system?
- How should performance be measured?

Some of what we heard July 15th...

- Concerns that popular scenic routes might be removed.
- Concerns that access to federal grant programs would be removed or changed.
- Support for continuing local tourism and marketing efforts.
- Concerns and the desire for an open public process for this plan update.
- Concerns that performance measurement may not be possible or appropriate for Scenic and Recreational Highways.
- Recommendations that the Plan address the different parts of the state and conduct public meetings around the state.

*Note: Full transcripts from the meeting available upon request.

What is the purpose of the plan?

- Provide guidance to WSDOT programs
- Inform other planning efforts like Washington's Transportation Plan
- Provide heightened awareness of the value of the Scenic and Recreational Highways
- Meet state and federal planning requirements
- Establish goals and performance measures

What is WSDOT's responsibility?

“The specific role of the department in transportation planning...

- (1) ongoing coordination and development of statewide transportation policies that guide all Washington transportation providers;
- (2) ongoing development of a statewide multimodal transportation plan that includes both state-owned and state-interest facilities and services;
- (3) coordinating the state high capacity transportation planning and regional transportation planning programs;
- (4) conducting special transportation planning studies that impact state transportation facilities or relate to transportation facilities and services of statewide significance, and
- (5) assisting the transportation commission in the development of the statewide transportation plan”

Washington's Transportation Policy Goals

These policy goals are intended to be the basis for establishing detailed and measurable objectives and related performance measures...

Preservation: To maintain, preserve, and extend the life and utility of prior investments in transportation systems and services;

Safety: To provide for and improve the safety and security of transportation customers and the transportation system;

Mobility: To improve the predictable movement of goods and people throughout Washington state;

Environment: To enhance Washington's quality of life through transportation investments that promote energy conservation, enhance healthy communities, and protect the environment; and

Stewardship: To continuously improve the quality, effectiveness, and efficiency of the transportation system.

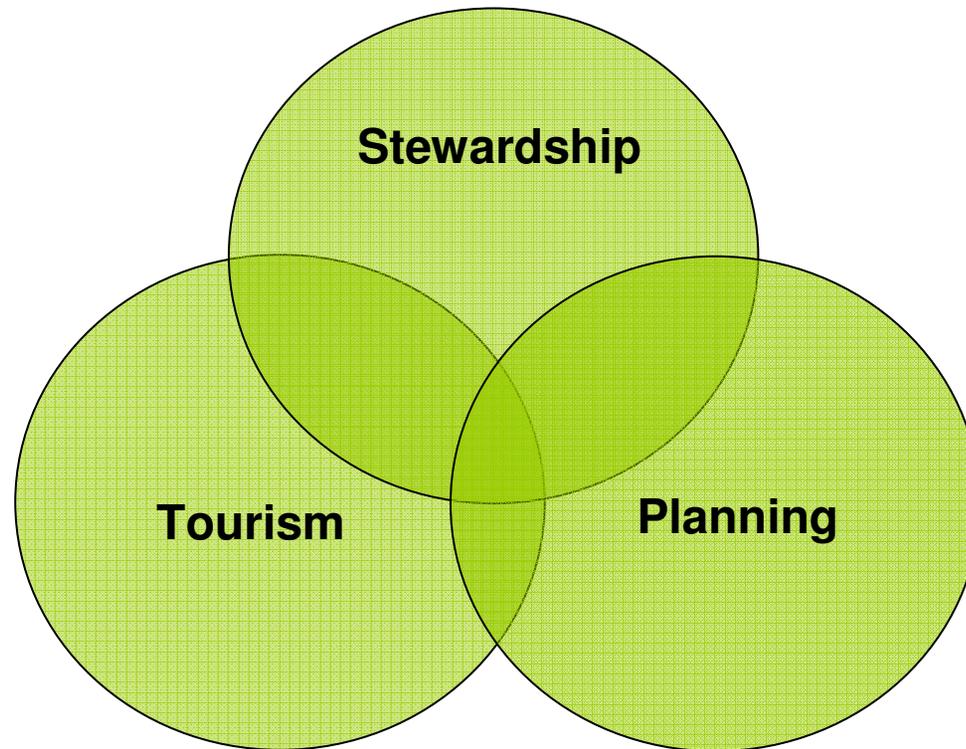
Scenic and Recreational Highways

“A scenic and recreational highways element, which shall identify and recommend designation of scenic and recreational highways, provide for enhanced access to scenic, recreational, and cultural resources associated with designated routes, and recommend a variety of management strategies to protect, preserve, and enhance these resources. The department, affected counties, cities, and towns, regional transportation planning organizations, and other state or federal agencies shall jointly develop this element”

Review of Background Paper #1

- Scenic and Recreational Highways and National Scenic Byway Program – separate, but mutually supportive
- *Stewardship, tourism* and *planning* are the primary elements of Scenic Highways
- The Plan presents an opportunity to highlight Scenic and Recreational Highways
- We may learn from other areas and other programs

Elements of the Scenic and Recreational Highway System



Defining Each Element

- **Tourism** – increasing and enhancing access
- **Stewardship** – protecting, preserving, enhancing resources
 - Which resources and where?
- **Planning** – developing and implementing management plans
 - What criteria is to be used for these plans?
 - How do we know they are being implemented?

How do the 3 elements relate to the Transportation Policy Goals?

Environmental Policy Goal:

- **Stewardship** – protecting, preserving, enhancing resources
- **Planning** – developing and implementing management plans

Mobility and Safety Policy Goal:

- **Tourism** – increasing and enhancing access