

WSDOT Specialty Groups (30)

1. **Access and Hearings**

Access and Hearings is part of the WSDOT Development Division, and administers the limited access and managed access programs for all Washington state highways.

2. **Active Transportation Coordinators**

The HQ Active Transportation Division provides support for giving people safe options for getting from one place to another using “active” modes such as walking and bicycling. Regional active transportation coordinators provide support for pedestrians, bicycling, trails and transit through their various regional roles, and are liaisons between regions and the Active Transportation and Public Transportation divisions.

3. **Communications**

Communicators creates communication strategies, assists with public inquiries, responds to media requests, helps create digital and print communications and is a liaison between WSDOT and the public. Communicators support community engagement techniques and strategies.

4. **Bridge & Structures**

Bridge & Structures provides technical information on how to design, inspect and preserve WSDOT bridges and structures. Work flow for project management: [Bridge & Structures Design Office Work Flow](#)

5. **Construction Contract Ad & Award**

This group performs contract administration, including scheduling and advertising bids develops standard specifications and general special provisions, and awards design-bid-build as well as design-build and alternative contracts.

6. **Consultant Liaison**

WSDOT contracts with architectural and engineering (A&E) firms to assist the agency in various aspects of preparing for and designing highway construction projects. Contracting with A&E firms is done through the Consultant Services Office (CSO) under state and federal regulations that require selection of the best qualified firm for each type of work or each specific project. A&E consultant procurements can take several weeks up to several months for larger efforts. A request should be submitted to CSO as soon as the need for consultant services is known. CSO should be contacted through your regional or specialty group consultant liaison.

7. **Design & Plans Review**

Region Plans offices review design documents and agreements as well as Plans, Specifications and Estimates packages for completeness, accuracy, consistency and bid-ability.

8. **Development Services**

The Development Services group manages region reviews of existing and proposed land use developments for compliance with state transportation policies and guidelines, ranging from single-family homes to multi-faceted large development projects. They manage the design review of developer, local agency and tribal projects that will result in highway improvements on the state highway system. The DS group manages developer and construction agreements, access connection permits, limited access breaks, and general, transit and survey permits.

9. Environmental

The Environmental Office provides assistance to region project offices to ensure environmental compliance within WSDOT right of way, including the determination of biological impacts, developing appropriate mitigation measures for impacts, completing environmental document and obtaining permitting, drainage design support and review, review of temporary erosion and sediment control plans, and roadside restoration plan development and review.

10. GeoMetrix Office

The GeoMetrix Office provides expertise in the fields of Computer Aided Engineering, Survey and Mapping, Right of Way Plans & Survey Support and Visual Engineering Resources. They support capital programs to provide base information, tools and training for project planning, budget development, design, construction, maintenance, and more. Their products are available in printed format, and video or digital formats.

11. Geotechnical Services

The Geotechnical Office is responsible for providing design and construction support. They are based in the Materials Lab, and their main purpose is to make sure that soil and rock can support the loads placed on it by structures. They also estimate those loads to make sure that cuts and fill slopes are stable.

12. Hydraulics

Hydraulics provides technical support in the fields of hydraulics, fish passage, hydrology and stormwater to ensure that WSDOT roadways provide a safe, effective and efficient movement of people and goods while maintaining the natural movement and treatment of water throughout the watersheds and water bodies on the state highway system.

13. Local Programs

Local Programs provide educational, technical and financial support to cities, counties and other transportation partners such as tribal governments, ports and transit agencies. Region Local Programs coordinates communication and funding resources between local agencies and state and federal programs.

14. Maintenance

Maintenance oversees the day-to-day needs of maintaining the state highway system, including lanes, ramps, bridges, traffic signal systems and rest areas. Maintenance processes permits such as Adopt-a-Highway and permits, as well as maintenance tasks like snow plowing, bridge openings, vegetation removal, etc.

15. Materials

The Materials Office provides support for materials quality and testing, fabrication inspection, bituminous and chemical materials, electrical and structural materials, geotechnical and pavement.

16. Planning

Region planning offices coordinate functions within regional areas, including tribes, metropolitan planning organizations, regional transportation planning organization and their local jurisdictions. They work with the State Highway System Plan and review local comprehensive plans, and work with region staff to develop technical analyses needed to support planning recommendations.

17. Program Management

The Program Management program is responsible for managing and reporting on all projects in the highway construction program. Program Management works with region and HQ Capital Program Development and Management Office (CPDM) staff to develop the Capital Improvement and Preservation Program (CIPP) and report on project delivery.

18. Public Transportation Division

The HQ Public Transportation Division...

WSDOT's Public Transportation Division strives to make a measurable and meaningful difference for individuals, communities, the economy and environment. From administering transit grants and supporting a nationally-known commute trip reduction program to helping mitigate construction impacts and promoting a more sustainable transportation system, WSDOT's Public Transportation Division forms partnerships to support a full spectrum of programs and projects that help keep people and goods moving.

Our programs are as varied and as numerous as the customers we serve - and we try to find innovative solutions to maximize the effectiveness and efficiency of our shared and integrated state transportation system. We are about giving people the choices and access to get where they need to go, stay independent and to be a part of the community and to make the best transportation choices for themselves, their families and the environment.

19. Rail, Freight, and Ports

Freight transportations, including roads, bridges, highways, railroads, pipelines, ports, factories, warehouses and terminals, are critical to support and growing economic viability. This HQ division manages the Freight System Plan as well as rail reports and plans.

20. Real Estate Services (RES)

RES performs and coordinates all real estate transactions for the department, including auctions, providing appraisals, and acquisitions. The group coordinates homeless abatements on WSDOT right of way.

21. Research Office

The Research and Library Services Office provides specialized research and information needs, and coordinates the management of research projects and documentation. The WSDOT Library answers reference questions and is a repository of agency publications and related transportation research.

22. Roadside Development and Landscape Architecture

Roadside Development coordinates roadside activities and roadside design, which is the area outside the traveled way that includes the impacts of traffic barrier, signs and lighting standards, vegetation, animal habitat and stormwater storage, unpaved median strips and auxiliary facilities, such as rest areas, pedestrian and bicycle trails, wetlands and park-and-ride lots. Landscape architects manage roadside resources which applies to all lands managed by WSDOT and may extend to elements outside the right of way boundaries.

23. Stream Restoration Program

Correcting high priority fish passage barriers and repetitive stream bank and shoreline erosion problems, also known as chronic environmental deficiency (CED) sites, reduces the state transportation system's impact on fish and fish habitat. The Stream Restoration Program oversees

and coordinates Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) work to correct CED sites, and to deliver the multi-billion dollar fish passage barrier correction program.

24. Survey Support and Right of Way Plans

HQ Survey Support provides guidance on survey equipment and software, field procedures, survey documentation and report writing to keep crews and office personnel proficient in current software and hardware technology. Region right of way and survey teams provide right of way plans, sundry site plans, monumentation maps and documentation, records of survey, and field surveys.

25. Traffic

Headquarters and region traffic offices provide support for traffic analysis, operations, electrical and signal design and intelligent traffic systems (ITS). They support the development of Intersection Control Type plans, interchange access revisions, illumination, field assessment, work zones as well as channelization and signing plans.

26. Traffic Management Centers (TMC)

TMCs monitor highway operations using traffic cameras, data from traffic detectors and real-time information and coordinate responses with the Washington State Patrol and incident response teams. They provide timely information to media and are part of a coordinated response to emergencies and disasters.

27. Transportation Data, GIS & Modeling Office

The TDGMO office provides accurate and reliable roadway, traffic and collision data. They collect, process, analyze and report data for the state transportation system, and deliver specialized GIS products and services.

28. Utilities

Utilities offices coordinate utility permits and franchises for constructing and maintaining lines for water, gas, electricity, telephone, telecommunications, etc.

29. Value Engineering/Risk Assessment

This team manages value engineering and risk assessment. WSDOT requires value engineering for structural projects over \$20 million and all projects over \$25 million. Projects with estimated total costs less than these amounts can apply value engineering to enhance the performance of a facility, reduce cost, or as a tool to build consensus by engaging stakeholders.

30. VERG

The Visual Engineering Resource Group provides visualization to communicate design features and possible project impacts or benefits. Their deliverables include 3D modeling, animation, video and other graphic software packages.

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Group	Contact – HQ Subject Matter Expert
1. Access and Hearings	Leroy Patterson
2. Active Transportation Coordinators	Charlotte Claybrooke
3. Communications	Kris Rietmann
4. Bridge & Structures	Rich Zeldenrust
5. Computer Aided Engineering (CAE)	Clint Hill
6. Construction Contract Ad & Award (procurement)	Jenna Fettig
7. Consultant Liaison	Maryna Ya / Keven Slorey
8. Design & Plans Review	Check your region
9. Development Services	Chris Schroedel
10. Environmental	Ashley Carle
11. GeoMetrix Office	Pete Townsend
12. Geotechnical Services	Gabe Taylor
13. Hydraulics	Julie Heilman
14. Local Programs	Kyle McKeon
15. Maintenance	Greg Selstead
16. Materials	Kurt Williams
17. Planning	Faris Al-Memar
18. Program Management	Rich Struna/Tim Rydholm
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20. Rail, Freight, and Ports	Connie Raezer
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22. Research Office	Anne Freeman
23. Roadside Development & Landscape Architecture	Juli Hartwig
24. Survey Support and Right of Way Plans	Jeff Graham
25. Traffic	Flint Jackson
26. Traffic Management Centers (TMC)	Brian Walsh
27. Transportation Data, GIS & Modeling Office	Mark Finch
28. Utilities	Ahmer Nizam
29. Value Engineering/Risk Assessment	Mark Gabel
30. Visual Engineering Resource Group (VERG)	Kurt Stiles