

August 13, 2021

Attention: WSDOT Toll Division

**Reference: SR 520 Bringdown Letter**

We have been asked to prepare a 2021 traffic and revenue report for the SR 520 Bridge. This forecast was built from the underlying analysis documented in the report titled “SR 520 Bridge Traffic and Revenue Study 2019 Report” (2019 Report) dated April 13, 2020. Due to the uncertainties of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the modeling platform used for that study was not modified except as noted in this letter. This letter, along with the attached 2019 Report, constitutes the full SR 520 Bridge Traffic and Revenue Study 2021 Report (2021 Report).

Subsequent to this forecast being developed in 2019 (Forecast 1), several factors have caused the forecast to require adjustments, including the impact of COVID-19 and a revision to the toll schedule. These changes are presented in Figure 1.

**Figure 1: Forecast Development**



\*TRFC: Washington Transportation Revenue Forecast Council

- Forecast 1 was produced in April 2020 and is a pro forma forecast through the year 2056 that does not include the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. This forecast is documented in the 2020 T&R Report.
- At the time of the submittal of Forecast 1, it became clear that a lane-drop in the westbound direction starting in late 2019 around Montlake Boulevard and the reconfiguration of the eastbound travel lanes in the same area had a more significant effect on traffic than expected. As a result, Stantec planned to amend Forecast 1 and create a new forecast to include the construction changes as identified in the 2020 Report, however, the onset of the pandemic and subsequent reduction in traffic rendered the effects of the construction inconsequential.
- Forecast 2 was developed in June 2021 to incorporate the effects of COVID-19 assuming the existing toll schedule. This analysis included revised travel demand modeling with reductions in future work-based trips on the transportation network estimating a new normal post COVID environment.
- Forecast 3, created in June 2021, adjusted Forecast 2 to accommodate the proposed new toll schedule. Again, the travel demand model was used to understand diversion by time of day as a function of the revised toll schedule to be implemented in FY 2024.

The remainder of this documentation provides the steps for the development of the final forecast, building upon the analysis documented in the 2020 Report with necessary adjustments to account for the impact of COVID-19 and the revised toll schedule. Unless otherwise stated, the assumptions that are presented in the 2019 Report remain in effect for this 2021 Report.

Reference: Bringdown Letter for SR 520

## FORECAST 1, PROFORMA

### April 2020 Report's Forecast

Forecast 1 in Table 1, below, was produced by Stantec as part of an April 13, 2020 traffic and revenue study. The study included forecasts of traffic and gross toll revenue potential for fiscal years 2020 through 2056. This forecast does not include any of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and is therefore considered to be "pro-forma."

Reference: Bringdown Letter for SR 520

**Table 1 April 13, 2020 Forecast (Forecast 1)**

Fiscal Year	Annual Transactions	Annual Gross Potential Revenue	Avg. Revenue per Transaction
2012*	9,600,000	\$28,100,000	\$2.93
2013*	20,200,000	\$61,300,000	\$3.03
2014*	20,959,573	\$64,589,148	\$3.08
2015*	22,019,770	\$69,383,209	\$3.15
2016*	23,217,000	\$74,974,236	\$3.23
2017*	23,974,779	\$81,913,285	\$3.42
2018*(1)	25,785,356	\$90,349,101	\$3.50
2019	26,523,000	\$92,188,000	\$3.48
2020	27,495,000	\$95,742,000	\$3.48
2021	27,956,000	\$97,558,000	\$3.49
2022	28,111,000	\$98,576,000	\$3.51
2023	29,253,000	\$102,204,000	\$3.49
2024	30,629,000	\$106,246,000	\$3.47
2025	31,390,000	\$108,951,000	\$3.47
2026	32,330,000	\$111,890,000	\$3.46
2027	33,077,000	\$114,349,000	\$3.46
2028	33,876,000	\$117,062,000	\$3.46
2029	34,304,000	\$118,625,000	\$3.46
2030	35,403,000	\$121,804,000	\$3.44
2031	36,141,000	\$124,364,000	\$3.44
2032	36,955,000	\$127,113,000	\$3.44
2033	37,195,000	\$127,826,000	\$3.44
2034	37,548,000	\$128,954,000	\$3.43
2035	37,861,000	\$129,843,000	\$3.43
2036	38,330,000	\$131,399,000	\$3.43
2037	38,607,000	\$132,333,000	\$3.43
2038	38,960,000	\$133,457,000	\$3.43
2039	39,313,000	\$134,579,000	\$3.42
2040	39,746,000	\$135,897,000	\$3.42
2041	39,978,000	\$136,568,000	\$3.42
2042	40,373,000	\$137,938,000	\$3.42
2043	40,726,000	\$139,056,000	\$3.41
2044	41,205,000	\$140,633,000	\$3.41
2045	41,451,000	\$141,346,000	\$3.41
2046	41,684,000	\$142,031,000	\$3.41
2047	41,893,000	\$142,745,000	\$3.41
2048	42,223,000	\$144,020,000	\$3.41
2049	42,213,000	\$143,954,000	\$3.41
2050	42,332,000	\$144,361,000	\$3.41
2051	42,451,000	\$144,769,000	\$3.41
2052	42,612,000	\$145,123,000	\$3.41
2053	42,691,000	\$145,590,000	\$3.41
2054	42,811,000	\$146,002,000	\$3.41
2055	42,931,000	\$146,415,000	\$3.41
2056	43,184,000	\$147,313,000	\$3.41

\* Actual, Annual T&R Reports

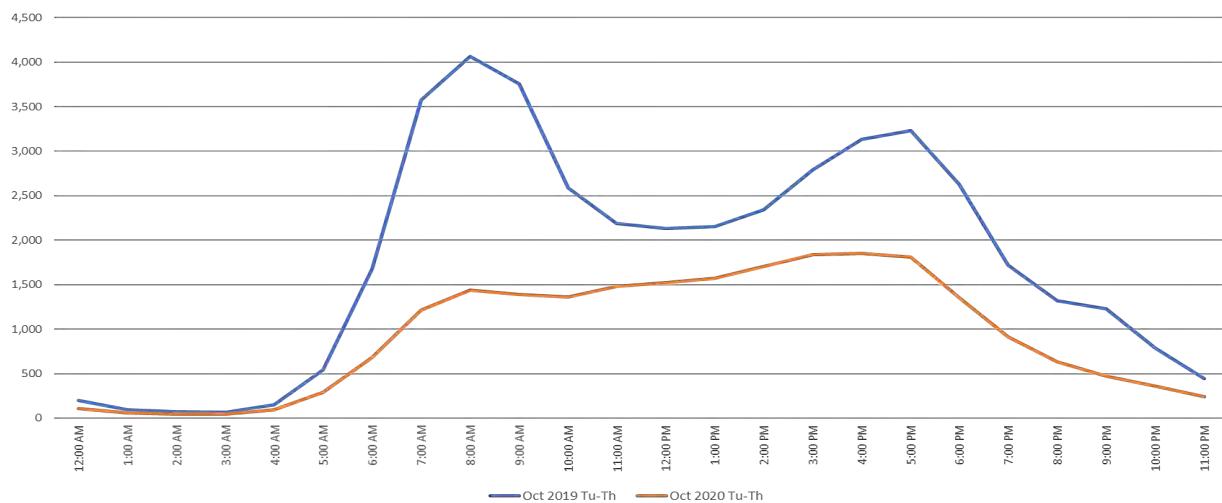
(1) Overnight tolling between the hours of 12am-5am began in July FY 2018

Reference: Bringdown Letter for SR 520

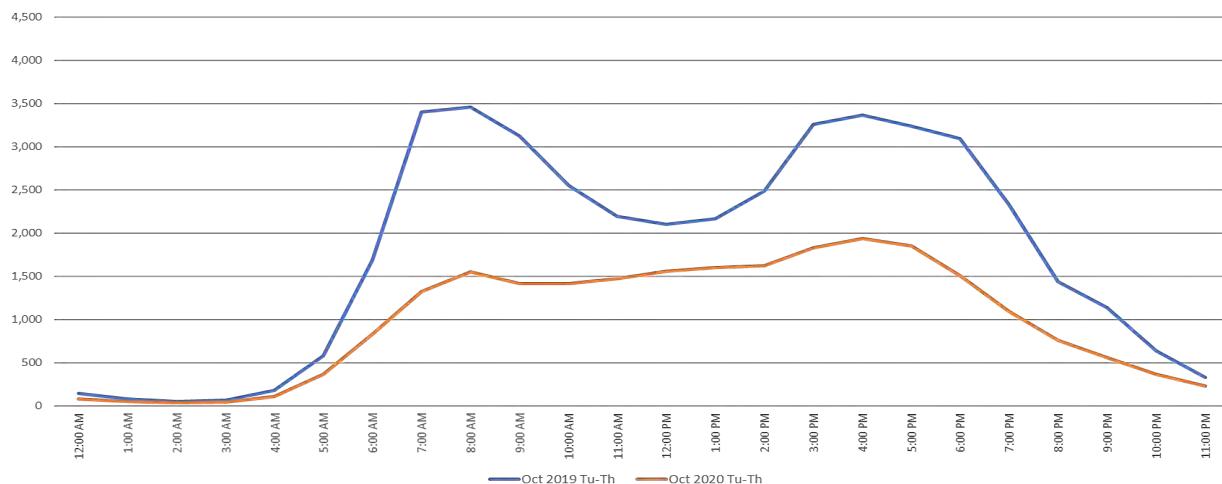
## FORECAST 2, COVID-19 IMPACTS

As mentioned in the previous section, the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020 caused a major reduction in traffic on SR 520. With many daily commuters now working from home, peak travel periods have mostly flattened, as seen in Figure 2. Average Tuesday through Thursday traffic is compared for October 2019 and October 2020 to see how travel patterns have changed seven months into the pandemic. While average hourly traffic in October 2019 is highest in the AM peak period for both the eastbound and westbound directions, traffic is highest in the evening in both directions during the pandemic in October 2020, albeit at much lower levels compared to 2019.

**Figure 2 SR 520 EB Average Tuesday - Thursday Hourly Traffic, October 2019 vs. October 2020**



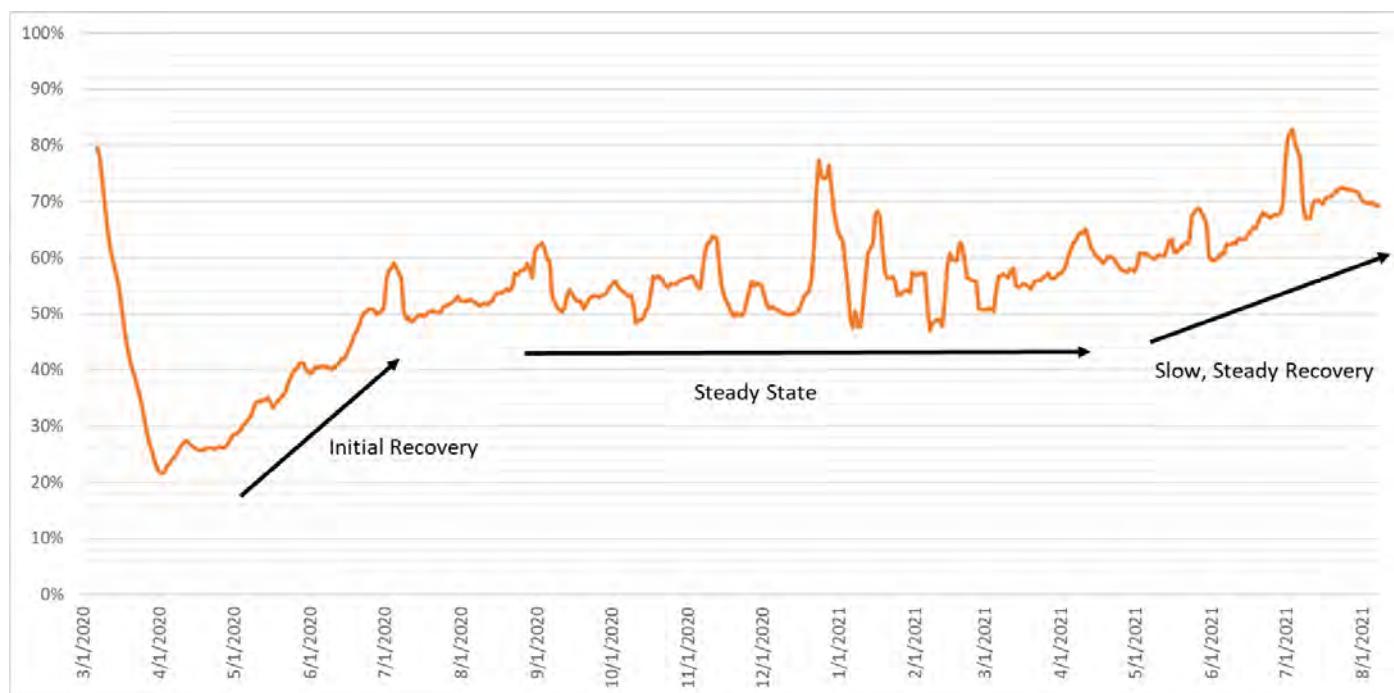
**Figure 3 SR 520 WB Average Tuesday - Thursday Hourly Traffic, October 2019 vs. October 2020**



Reference: Bringdown Letter for SR 520

The previous charts provided a snapshot of hourly traffic levels to understand changing travel patterns. In Figure 4, traffic levels on SR 520 since the onset of the pandemic are compared to 2019 baseline traffic levels to understand the current trajectory of recovery. As shown in the graph, April 2020 traffic levels were only approximately 25 percent of 2019 levels (75 percent below 2019 experience). This was followed by an initial recovery, when restrictions were loosened in the region, to a steady state of approximately 50 to 60 percent of 2019 levels from July 2020 to May 2021. With wider spread availability of the vaccine and continued loosening of restrictions since the Spring of 2021, a slow, steady recovery has emerged in the last few months.

**Figure 4 SR 520 Traffic Levels, 7-day Moving Average**  
**Percent of 2019 Baseline Levels**



#### Working Remotely, Estimated Recovery Profile, and the New Normal

Remote work, or working from home (WFH), has historically been a small part of the work force. However, COVID-19 has greatly changed the WFH share. For several months at the onset of the pandemic, state and local restrictions required many businesses and offices to remain closed, and employees resorted to home offices and working remotely. While offices have opened at lower capacity throughout the past year, as major companies prepare to officially welcome back the workforce, it is becoming apparent that the WFH share will not return to the low levels from before the pandemic.

To accommodate this new normal of increased working from home, the travel demand model was employed with adjustments in trip tables by specific trip purpose. Based on experience during the current recovery phase, it is estimated that with increased WFH, there will be marginally increased trips related to home based other trip purposes (non-work trip purposes) as well as increased trucks due to increased deliveries. Coupled with the estimated 20 percent decrease in home-based work trip purpose demand, this has the total impact of a 5.8 percent reduction in the regional trip table by year.

**Table 2: Travel Demand Model's Trip Table Reductions based on New Normal**

Trip Purpose	Percent Reduction
Home Based Work	-20.0%
Home Based Other	1.6%
Non-Home Based	-11.8%
Total Auto	-6.0%
Total Truck	2.2%
Grand Total	-5.8%

With this estimated reduction in trip table by year, shown in Table 2, the travel demand model was run to estimate the impact on SR 520. It was estimated that with this trip table reduction traffic on SR 520 would drop approximately 9 percent as compared to the pre-COVID forecast as defined by Forecast 1.

#### Revised COVID-19 forecast

Based on the preceding, in June 2021, Stantec developed an updated forecast (Forecast 2), that includes the effects of the pandemic assuming the existing toll schedule. The traffic and revenue estimates for Forecast 2 are shown in Table 3.

Reference: Bringdown Letter for SR 520

**Table 3 Revised COVID-19 Forecast, June 2021 (Forecast 2)**

Fiscal Year	Transactions	Revenue	Average Toll
2020	20,886,032	\$72,122,698	\$3.45
2021	14,741,000	\$51,308,000	\$3.48
2022	20,259,000	\$69,802,000	\$3.45
2023	24,916,000	\$86,183,000	\$3.46
2024	28,118,000	\$96,670,000	\$3.44
2025	28,566,000	\$97,659,000	\$3.42
2026	29,188,000	\$98,937,000	\$3.39
2027	30,051,000	\$102,208,000	\$3.40
2028	30,826,000	\$104,928,000	\$3.40
2029	31,479,000	\$107,875,000	\$3.43
2030	32,146,000	\$110,905,000	\$3.45
2031	32,827,000	\$114,020,000	\$3.47
2032	33,440,000	\$115,883,000	\$3.47
2033	33,992,000	\$117,520,000	\$3.46
2034	34,487,000	\$118,955,000	\$3.45
2035	34,935,000	\$120,217,000	\$3.44
2036	35,343,000	\$121,334,000	\$3.43
2037	35,721,000	\$122,338,000	\$3.42
2038	36,078,000	\$123,264,000	\$3.42
2039	36,423,000	\$124,145,000	\$3.41
2040	36,758,000	\$124,982,000	\$3.40
2041	37,081,000	\$125,772,000	\$3.39
2042	37,392,000	\$126,514,000	\$3.38
2043	37,698,000	\$127,234,000	\$3.38
2044	38,003,000	\$127,943,000	\$3.37
2045	38,306,000	\$128,639,000	\$3.36
2046	38,574,000	\$129,541,000	\$3.36
2047	38,824,000	\$130,384,000	\$3.36
2048	39,057,000	\$131,167,000	\$3.36
2049	39,253,000	\$131,824,000	\$3.36
2050	39,449,000	\$132,484,000	\$3.36
2051	39,646,000	\$133,147,000	\$3.36
2052	39,844,000	\$133,814,000	\$3.36
2053	40,044,000	\$134,484,000	\$3.36
2054	40,244,000	\$135,157,000	\$3.36
2055	40,445,000	\$135,834,000	\$3.36
2056	40,647,000	\$136,514,000	\$3.36

Reference: Bringdown Letter for SR 520

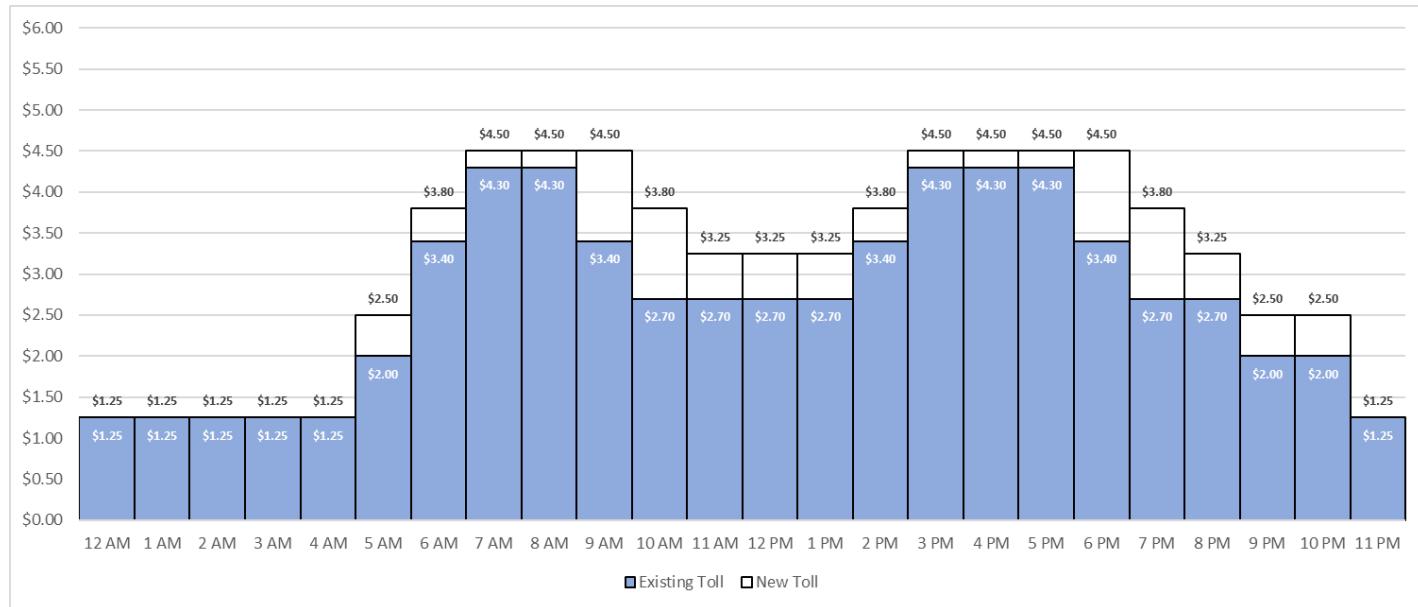
## APPROVED TOLL SCHEDULE

Beginning July 1, 2023 (FY 2024), a tailored toll rate increase of 15 percent is set to occur. The new schedule is tailored as it does not affect every time period equally, as it includes expanding morning and afternoon peak periods by one hour, no increase to the overnight toll, and higher midday and evening tolls. Additionally, the following rules that apply to the current toll rates will continue with the 2024 toll increase.

- Pay by mail surcharge is \$2 for 2-axles, \$3 for 3-axles, \$4 for 4-axles, \$5 for 5-axles, and \$6 for 6+-axles
- "The Pay by Plate toll rate is the Good To Go! Pass toll rate plus a \$0.25 photo enforced fee
- Weekend rates are assessed for the following holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

The weekday toll rate schedule is presented below in Figure 5, Table 3, and Table 4. This figure and tables show the difference between the new toll rate and the existing toll rate by time period. There is no toll increase scheduled for the overnight hours, 11 PM through 5 AM. The new toll schedule includes an expansion of both the AM and PM peak hours. The AM peak currently goes from 7 AM through 9 AM and will expand to 7 AM through 10 AM. The PM peak currently goes from 3 PM through 6 PM and will expand to 3 PM through 7 PM. Table 5 compares the hourly toll rate breakdown for the existing toll rate and new toll rate.

**Figure 5: Weekday Toll Rate Changes**



Reference: Bringdown Letter for SR 520

**Table 4 Weekday Existing Toll Rate vs New Toll Rate, GTG Toll Rates**

Hour	Existing Toll Schedule					Hour	New Toll Schedule				
	2 axle	3 axle	4 axle	5 axle	6+ axle		2 axle	3 axle	4 axle	5 axle	6+ axle
12-1 am	\$1.25	\$1.90	\$2.50	\$3.15	\$3.75	12-1 am	\$1.25	\$1.90	\$2.50	\$3.15	\$3.75
1-2 am	\$1.25	\$1.90	\$2.50	\$3.15	\$3.75	1-2 am	\$1.25	\$1.90	\$2.50	\$3.15	\$3.75
2-3 am	\$1.25	\$1.90	\$2.50	\$3.15	\$3.75	2-3 am	\$1.25	\$1.90	\$2.50	\$3.15	\$3.75
3-4 am	\$1.25	\$1.90	\$2.50	\$3.15	\$3.75	3-4 am	\$1.25	\$1.90	\$2.50	\$3.15	\$3.75
4-5 am	\$1.25	\$1.90	\$2.50	\$3.15	\$3.75	4-5 am	\$1.25	\$1.90	\$2.50	\$3.15	\$3.75
5-6 am	\$2.00	\$3.00	\$4.00	\$5.00	\$6.00	5-6 am	\$2.50	\$3.75	\$5.00	\$6.25	\$7.50
6-7 am	\$3.40	\$5.10	\$6.80	\$8.50	\$10.20	6-7 am	\$3.80	\$5.70	\$7.60	\$9.50	\$11.40
7-8 am	\$4.30	\$6.45	\$8.60	\$10.75	\$12.90	7-8 am	\$4.50	\$6.75	\$9.00	\$11.25	\$13.50
8-9 am	\$4.30	\$6.45	\$8.60	\$10.75	\$12.90	8-9 am	\$4.50	\$6.75	\$9.00	\$11.25	\$13.50
9-10 am	\$3.40	\$5.10	\$6.80	\$8.50	\$10.20	9-10 am	\$4.50	\$6.75	\$9.00	\$11.25	\$13.50
10-11 am	\$2.70	\$4.05	\$5.40	\$6.75	\$8.10	10-11 am	\$3.80	\$5.70	\$7.60	\$9.50	\$11.40
11 am-12 pm	\$2.70	\$4.05	\$5.40	\$6.75	\$8.10	11 am-12 pm	\$3.25	\$4.90	\$6.50	\$8.15	\$9.75
12-1 pm	\$2.70	\$4.05	\$5.40	\$6.75	\$8.10	12-1 pm	\$3.25	\$4.90	\$6.50	\$8.15	\$9.75
1-2 pm	\$2.70	\$4.05	\$5.40	\$6.75	\$8.10	1-2 pm	\$3.25	\$4.90	\$6.50	\$8.15	\$9.75
2-3 pm	\$3.40	\$5.10	\$6.80	\$8.50	\$10.20	2-3 pm	\$3.80	\$5.70	\$7.60	\$9.50	\$11.40
3-4 pm	\$4.30	\$6.45	\$8.60	\$10.75	\$12.90	3-4 pm	\$4.50	\$6.75	\$9.00	\$11.25	\$13.50
4-5 pm	\$4.30	\$6.45	\$8.60	\$10.75	\$12.90	4-5 pm	\$4.50	\$6.75	\$9.00	\$11.25	\$13.50
5-6 pm	\$4.30	\$6.45	\$8.60	\$10.75	\$12.90	5-6 pm	\$4.50	\$6.75	\$9.00	\$11.25	\$13.50
6-7 pm	\$3.40	\$5.10	\$6.80	\$8.50	\$10.20	6-7 pm	\$4.50	\$6.75	\$9.00	\$11.25	\$13.50
7-8 pm	\$2.70	\$4.05	\$5.40	\$6.75	\$8.10	7-8 pm	\$3.80	\$5.70	\$7.60	\$9.50	\$11.40
8-9 pm	\$2.70	\$4.05	\$5.40	\$6.75	\$8.10	8-9 pm	\$3.25	\$4.90	\$6.50	\$8.15	\$9.75
9-10 pm	\$2.00	\$3.00	\$4.00	\$5.00	\$6.00	9-10 pm	\$2.50	\$3.75	\$5.00	\$6.25	\$7.50
10-11 pm	\$2.00	\$3.00	\$4.00	\$5.00	\$6.00	10-11 pm	\$2.50	\$3.75	\$5.00	\$6.25	\$7.50
11 pm-12 am	\$1.25	\$1.90	\$2.50	\$3.15	\$3.75	11 pm-12 am	\$1.25	\$1.90	\$2.50	\$3.15	\$3.75

Reference: Bringdown Letter for SR 520

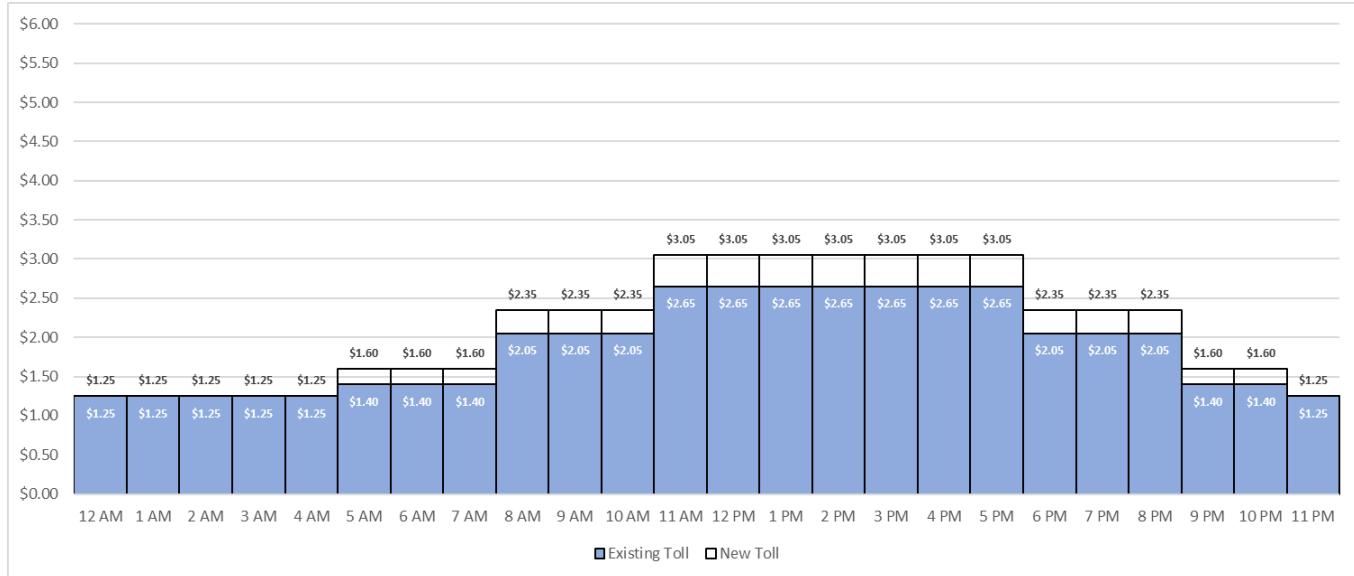
**Table 5 Weekday Toll Rate Difference, Existing Toll Schedule vs. New Toll Schedule**

Hour	2 axle	3 axle	4 axle	5 axle	6+ axle
12-1 am	-	-	-	-	-
1-2 am	-	-	-	-	-
2-3 am	-	-	-	-	-
3-4 am	-	-	-	-	-
4-5 am	-	-	-	-	-
5-6 am	\$0.50	\$0.75	\$1.00	\$1.25	\$1.50
6-7 am	\$0.40	\$0.60	\$0.80	\$1.00	\$1.20
7-8 am	\$0.20	\$0.30	\$0.40	\$0.50	\$0.60
8-9 am	\$0.20	\$0.30	\$0.40	\$0.50	\$0.60
9-10 am	\$1.10	\$1.65	\$2.20	\$2.75	\$3.30
10-11 am	\$1.10	\$1.65	\$2.20	\$2.75	\$3.30
11 am-12 pm	\$0.55	\$0.85	\$1.10	\$1.40	\$1.65
12-1 pm	\$0.55	\$0.85	\$1.10	\$1.40	\$1.65
1-2 pm	\$0.55	\$0.85	\$1.10	\$1.40	\$1.65
2-3 pm	\$0.40	\$0.60	\$0.80	\$1.00	\$1.20
3-4 pm	\$0.20	\$0.30	\$0.40	\$0.50	\$0.60
4-5 pm	\$0.20	\$0.30	\$0.40	\$0.50	\$0.60
5-6 pm	\$0.20	\$0.30	\$0.40	\$0.50	\$0.60
6-7 pm	\$1.10	\$1.65	\$2.20	\$2.75	\$3.30
7-8 pm	\$1.10	\$1.65	\$2.20	\$2.75	\$3.30
8-9 pm	\$0.55	\$0.85	\$1.10	\$1.40	\$1.65
9-10 pm	\$0.50	\$0.75	\$1.00	\$1.25	\$1.50
10-11 pm	\$0.50	\$0.75	\$1.00	\$1.25	\$1.50
11 pm-12 am	-	-	-	-	-

The weekend toll rate schedule is presented below in Figure 6, Table 6, and Table 7. This figure and tables show the difference between the new toll rate and the existing toll rate by time period. There is no toll increase scheduled for the night hour, 11 PM through 5 AM. The weekend toll increase does not include shift the hourly breakdown.

Reference: Bringdown Letter for SR 520

**Figure 6 Weekend Toll Rate Changes**



**Table 6 Weekend Existing Toll Rate vs New Toll Rate, GTG Toll Rates**

Hour	Existing Toll Schedule					Hour	New Toll Schedule				
	2 axle	3 axle	4 axle	5 axle	6+ axle		2 axle	3 axle	4 axle	5 axle	6+ axle
12-1 am	\$1.25	\$1.90	\$2.50	\$3.15	\$3.75	12-1 am	\$1.25	\$1.90	\$2.50	\$3.15	\$3.75
1-2 am	\$1.25	\$1.90	\$2.50	\$3.15	\$3.75	1-2 am	\$1.25	\$1.90	\$2.50	\$3.15	\$3.75
2-3 am	\$1.25	\$1.90	\$2.50	\$3.15	\$3.75	2-3 am	\$1.25	\$1.90	\$2.50	\$3.15	\$3.75
3-4 am	\$1.25	\$1.90	\$2.50	\$3.15	\$3.75	3-4 am	\$1.25	\$1.90	\$2.50	\$3.15	\$3.75
4-5 am	\$1.25	\$1.90	\$2.50	\$3.15	\$3.75	4-5 am	\$1.25	\$1.90	\$2.50	\$3.15	\$3.75
5-6 am	\$1.40	\$2.10	\$2.80	\$3.50	\$4.20	5-6 am	\$1.60	\$2.40	\$3.20	\$4.00	\$4.80
6-7 am	\$1.40	\$2.10	\$2.80	\$3.50	\$4.20	6-7 am	\$1.60	\$2.40	\$3.20	\$4.00	\$4.80
7-8 am	\$1.40	\$2.10	\$2.80	\$3.50	\$4.20	7-8 am	\$1.60	\$2.40	\$3.20	\$4.00	\$4.80
8-9 am	\$2.05	\$3.10	\$4.10	\$5.15	\$6.15	8-9 am	\$2.35	\$3.55	\$4.70	\$5.90	\$7.05
9-10 am	\$2.05	\$3.10	\$4.10	\$5.15	\$6.15	9-10 am	\$2.35	\$3.55	\$4.70	\$5.90	\$7.05
10-11 am	\$2.05	\$3.10	\$4.10	\$5.15	\$6.15	10-11 am	\$2.35	\$3.55	\$4.70	\$5.90	\$7.05
11 am-12 pm	\$2.65	\$4.00	\$5.30	\$6.65	\$7.95	11 am-12 pm	\$3.05	\$4.60	\$6.10	\$7.65	\$9.15
12-1 pm	\$2.65	\$4.00	\$5.30	\$6.65	\$7.95	12-1 pm	\$3.05	\$4.60	\$6.10	\$7.65	\$9.15
1-2 pm	\$2.65	\$4.00	\$5.30	\$6.65	\$7.95	1-2 pm	\$3.05	\$4.60	\$6.10	\$7.65	\$9.15
2-3 pm	\$2.65	\$4.00	\$5.30	\$6.65	\$7.95	2-3 pm	\$3.05	\$4.60	\$6.10	\$7.65	\$9.15
3-4 pm	\$2.65	\$4.00	\$5.30	\$6.65	\$7.95	3-4 pm	\$3.05	\$4.60	\$6.10	\$7.65	\$9.15
4-5 pm	\$2.65	\$4.00	\$5.30	\$6.65	\$7.95	4-5 pm	\$3.05	\$4.60	\$6.10	\$7.65	\$9.15
5-6 pm	\$2.65	\$4.00	\$5.30	\$6.65	\$7.95	5-6 pm	\$3.05	\$4.60	\$6.10	\$7.65	\$9.15
6-7 pm	\$2.05	\$3.10	\$4.10	\$5.15	\$6.15	6-7 pm	\$2.35	\$3.55	\$4.70	\$5.90	\$7.05
7-8 pm	\$2.05	\$3.10	\$4.10	\$5.15	\$6.15	7-8 pm	\$2.35	\$3.55	\$4.70	\$5.90	\$7.05
8-9 pm	\$2.05	\$3.10	\$4.10	\$5.15	\$6.15	8-9 pm	\$2.35	\$3.55	\$4.70	\$5.90	\$7.05
9-10 pm	\$1.40	\$2.10	\$2.80	\$3.50	\$4.20	9-10 pm	\$1.60	\$2.40	\$3.20	\$4.00	\$4.80
10-11 pm	\$1.40	\$2.10	\$2.80	\$3.50	\$4.20	10-11 pm	\$1.60	\$2.40	\$3.20	\$4.00	\$4.80
11 pm-12 am	\$1.25	\$1.90	\$2.50	\$3.15	\$3.75	11 pm-12 am	\$1.25	\$1.90	\$2.50	\$3.15	\$3.75

Reference: Bringdown Letter for SR 520

**Table 7 Weekend Toll Rate Difference**

Hour	2 axle	3 axle	4 axle	5 axle	6+ axle
12-1 am	-	-	-	-	-
1-2 am	-	-	-	-	-
2-3 am	-	-	-	-	-
3-4 am	-	-	-	-	-
4-5 am	-	-	-	-	-
5-6 am	\$0.20	\$0.30	\$0.40	\$0.50	\$0.60
6-7 am	\$0.20	\$0.30	\$0.40	\$0.50	\$0.60
7-8 am	\$0.20	\$0.30	\$0.40	\$0.50	\$0.60
8-9 am	\$0.30	\$0.45	\$0.60	\$0.75	\$0.90
9-10 am	\$0.30	\$0.45	\$0.60	\$0.75	\$0.90
10-11 am	\$0.30	\$0.45	\$0.60	\$0.75	\$0.90
11 am-12 pm	\$0.40	\$0.60	\$0.80	\$1.00	\$1.20
12-1 pm	\$0.40	\$0.60	\$0.80	\$1.00	\$1.20
1-2 pm	\$0.40	\$0.60	\$0.80	\$1.00	\$1.20
2-3 pm	\$0.40	\$0.60	\$0.80	\$1.00	\$1.20
3-4 pm	\$0.40	\$0.60	\$0.80	\$1.00	\$1.20
4-5 pm	\$0.40	\$0.60	\$0.80	\$1.00	\$1.20
5-6 pm	\$0.40	\$0.60	\$0.80	\$1.00	\$1.20
6-7 pm	\$0.30	\$0.45	\$0.60	\$0.75	\$0.90
7-8 pm	\$0.30	\$0.45	\$0.60	\$0.75	\$0.90
8-9 pm	\$0.30	\$0.45	\$0.60	\$0.75	\$0.90
9-10 pm	\$0.20	\$0.30	\$0.40	\$0.50	\$0.60
10-11 pm	\$0.20	\$0.30	\$0.40	\$0.50	\$0.60
11 pm-12 am	-	-	-	-	-

Reference: Bringdown Letter for SR 520

## FORECAST 3, TOLL SCHEDULE ADJUSTMENT

Based on the revised travel demand model developed for Forecast 2 that incorporated the new normal as a function of the COVID-19 pandemic, Forecast 3 was developed to accommodate the revised toll schedule. The travel demand model was run to understand the impact by time period. The increase in tolls caused a slight decrease in traffic but with an overall impact of increasing revenue.

The revised forecast, Forecast 3, is Stantec's most current forecast of traffic and revenue using information available and assumptions noted below. This forecast also considers impacts to traffic and revenue related to the current COVID-19 Pandemic.

1. Tolling experience from January 1, 2012 to April 30, 2021 and preliminary experience from May 2021 was reviewed by the Traffic Consultant. The data available included actual operating experience related to total volumes, actual gross toll revenue potential, vehicle class, proportion of account-based payments, proportion of hourly traffic per day, weekend traffic, and non-revenue vehicles.

The revised forecast incorporates data from the traffic and toll revenue performance review, which was used primarily to inform the short-term traffic and revenue forecast. Average daily transactions for FY 2020-2021 were benchmarked using observed data; short term weekday and weekend transaction growth rates were reevaluated and updated; and weekday hourly profiles of transactions by direction were refined to better align with recent observations and future capacity enhancements along the corridor.

2. The bridge configuration assumptions used in the June 2021 forecasts are based on preliminary roadway configurations identified by WSDOT are as follows:

Between Montlake Boulevard and the west end of the main bridge span, the assumed configuration starting in FY 2023 includes a new West Approach Bridge North connector and new West Approach Bridge South connector resulting in three lanes in each direction (two general-purpose and one inside transit/HOV3+ lane).

Additionally, starting in FY2023, a one lane transit/HOV3+ reversible direct connector between SR 520 and the I-5 reversible express lanes operating in the direction of the I-5 reversible lanes will be operational.

Between I-5 and Montlake Boulevard, the assumed configuration starting in FY 2028 includes a new Portage Bay Bridge resulting in three lanes in each direction (two general-purpose and one inside transit/HOV 3+ lane in each direction).

3. The assumptions on the number of SR 520 closures for the June 2021 forecast varied from previous forecasts. The closure assumptions are summarized in Table 8.

**Table 8 Assumed SR 520 Program Construction Closures**

FY	SR 520 Main Span		Portage Bay Bridge		Total	
	Weekday Night	Weekend	Weekday Night	Weekend	Weekday Night	Weekend
2019		1.4				1.4
2020		2.0				2.0
2021	1.5	9.3			1.5	9.3
2022	9.5	16.0			9.5	16.0
2023	18.0	25.2			18.0	25.2
2024			6.0	3.5	6.0	3.5
2025			13.1	7.5	13.1	7.5
2026			13.1	7.5	13.1	7.5
2027			11.3	3.8	11.3	3.8
2028			10.0	3.0	10.0	3.0
2029			10.0	3.0	10.0	3.0
2030			12.0	7.0	12.0	7.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>29.0</b>	<b>53.9</b>	<b>75.5</b>	<b>35.3</b>	<b>104.5</b>	<b>89.1</b>

Closure assumptions are separated for weekend days and weekday nights. Also, the closure assumptions distinguish between closures of the SR 520 main toll span, and closures related to construction of the new Portage Bay Bridge and I-5 transit/HOV3+ connector improvements. In the case of the Portage Bay Bridge closures, traffic is assumed to be allowed to use the tolled floating bridge between the Montlake interchange and I-405; only the section of SR 520 west of the Montlake interchange is assumed to be closed.

4. While there was no new socio-economic forecast to incorporate into the future travel demand models for this analysis, there have been modifications made in Spring 2021 to the travel demand model by trip purpose as proxy to calibrate models to actual 2020 traffic and update future year models to better reflect a ‘new normal’ of travel patterns by trip purpose.
5. Using the detailed information for tolling experience to April 2021, revised bridge configuration assumptions, closure schedules, assumed toll rate schedule, and modifications in Spring 2021 to the travel demand model, the Traffic Consultant has revised the Traffic and Revenue Forecast. The annual traffic and gross revenue streams are presented in Table 9.
6. The revised forecast is our latest estimate of traffic and revenue using information available and assumptions noted above and incorporates changes in traffic and revenue related to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The forecast details are included in the *Transportation Revenue Forecast Council June 2021 Transportation Economic and Revenue Forecasts* summary document dated June 23, 2021. The forecast contains reasonable estimates of traffic and revenue which, of course, may be different from actual experience due to events and circumstances beyond the control of the forecasters. As such, Stantec does not specifically guarantee or warrant any estimate or projection contained within this document.

The projected toll revenue contained in this document for the current fiscal year and for each subsequent year is based upon reasonable assumptions.

Reference: Bringdown Letter for SR 520

**Table 9 Revised Forecast with Toll Increase in FY 2024 (Forecast 3)**

Fiscal Year	Annual Toll Transactions	Annual Gross Potential Revenue	Avg. Revenue Per Transaction	Good to Go! Percentage Share of Traffic
2012*( <sup>1</sup> )	9,600,000	\$28,100,000	\$2.93	
2013*	20,200,000	\$61,300,000	\$3.03	83.6%
2014*	20,959,573	\$64,589,148	\$3.08	84.4%
2015*	22,019,770	\$69,383,209	\$3.15	84.3%
2016*	23,217,000	\$74,974,236	\$3.23	84.5%
2017*	23,974,779	\$81,913,285	\$3.42	84.7%
2018*	25,785,356	\$90,349,101	\$3.50	85.3%
2019* <sup>(2)</sup>	26,523,000	\$92,188,000	\$3.48	86.7%
2020*	20,886,032	\$72,122,698	\$3.45	86.9%
2021	14,741,000	\$51,308,000	\$3.48	85.5%
2022	20,259,000	\$69,802,000	\$3.45	87.2%
2023	24,916,000	\$86,183,000	\$3.46	87.3%
2024* <sup>(3)</sup>	27,330,000	\$106,810,000	\$3.91	87.5%
2025	27,770,000	\$107,910,000	\$3.89	87.6%
2026	28,370,000	\$109,330,000	\$3.85	87.8%
2027	29,210,000	\$112,950,000	\$3.87	87.9%
2028	29,970,000	\$115,980,000	\$3.87	88.1%
2029	30,600,000	\$119,240,000	\$3.90	88.2%
2030	31,260,000	\$122,580,000	\$3.92	88.2%
2031	31,920,000	\$126,050,000	\$3.95	88.5%
2032	32,512,000	\$128,126,000	\$3.94	88.6%
2033	33,097,000	\$130,141,000	\$3.93	88.8%
2034	33,659,000	\$132,056,000	\$3.92	88.9%
2035	34,198,000	\$133,865,000	\$3.91	89.0%
2036	34,711,000	\$135,564,000	\$3.91	89.2%
2037	35,197,000	\$137,147,000	\$3.90	89.3%
2038	35,654,000	\$138,609,000	\$3.89	89.5%
2039	36,082,000	\$139,947,000	\$3.88	89.6%
2040	36,476,000	\$141,141,000	\$3.87	89.8%
2041	36,833,000	\$142,189,000	\$3.86	89.9%
2042	37,154,000	\$143,086,000	\$3.85	90.0%
2043	37,436,000	\$143,830,000	\$3.84	90.2%
2044	37,679,000	\$144,417,000	\$3.83	90.3%
2045	37,917,000	\$144,975,000	\$3.82	90.5%
2046	38,169,000	\$145,938,000	\$3.82	90.5%
2047	38,439,000	\$146,971,000	\$3.82	90.5%
2048	38,692,000	\$147,937,000	\$3.82	90.5%
2049	38,908,000	\$148,762,000	\$3.82	90.5%
2050	39,126,000	\$149,591,000	\$3.82	90.5%
2051	39,344,000	\$150,425,000	\$3.82	90.5%
2052	39,564,000	\$151,263,000	\$3.82	90.5%
2053	39,785,000	\$152,106,000	\$3.82	90.5%
2054	40,007,000	\$152,953,000	\$3.82	90.5%
2055	40,230,000	\$153,805,000	\$3.82	90.5%
2056	40,455,000	\$154,664,000	\$3.82	90.5%
2057	40,681,000	\$155,529,000	\$3.82	90.5%
2058	40,908,000	\$156,398,000	\$3.82	90.5%
2059	41,136,000	\$157,271,000	\$3.82	90.5%

\* Annual toll transactions and estimated actual potential gross toll revenue

<sup>(1)</sup> Tolling started on December 29, 2011, half-way through FY 2012

<sup>(2)</sup> Overnight tolling between the hours of 12am and 5am began in July 2018

<sup>(3)</sup> Toll increase starting July 1, 2023



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## LIMITS AND DISCLAIMERS

It is Stantec's opinion that the traffic and toll revenue estimates provided herein represent reasonable and achievable levels of traffic and toll revenues that can be expected to accrue on SR 520 over the forecast period and that they have been prepared in accordance with accepted industry-wide practice. However, as should be expected with any forecast, and given the uncertainties within the current economic climate, it is important to note the following assumptions which, in our opinion, are reasonable:

- This limited synopsis presents the highlighted results of Stantec's consideration of the information available as of the date hereof and the application of our experience and professional judgment to that information. It is not a guarantee of any future events or trends.
- The traffic and toll revenue estimates will be subject to future economic and social conditions, demographic developments and regional transportation construction activities that cannot be predicted with certainty.
- The estimates contained in this document, while presented with numeric specificity, are based on a number of estimates and assumptions which, though considered reasonable to us, are inherently subject to economic and competitive uncertainties and contingencies, most of which are beyond the control of WSDOT and cannot be predicted with certainty. In many instances, a broad range of alternative assumptions could be considered reasonable with the availability of alternative toll schedules, and any changes in the assumptions used could result in material differences in estimated outcomes.
- The standards of operation and maintenance on SR 520 will be maintained as planned within the business rules and practices.
- The general configuration and location of SR 520 and its interchanges will remain as discussed herein.
- Access to and from SR 520 will remain as discussed herein.
- No other new competing highway projects are assumed to be constructed or significantly improved in the project corridor during the project period, except those identified herein.
- Major highway improvements that are currently underway or fully funded will be completed as planned.
- SR 520 will be well maintained, efficiently operated, and effectively signed to encourage usage.
- No reduced growth initiatives or related controls that would significantly inhibit normal development patterns will be introduced during the forecast period.
- There will be no future serious protracted recession during the forecast period.
- There will be no protracted fuel shortage during the forecast period.
- No local, regional, or national emergency will arise that will abnormally restrict the use of motor vehicles.

Many statements contained in this document that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements, which are based on Stantec's opinions, as well as assumptions made by, and information currently available to, the management and staff of Stantec. Because the statements are based on expectations about future events and economic performance and are not statements of fact, actual results may differ materially from those projected. The words "anticipate", "assume", "estimate", "expect", "objective", "projection", "plan", "forecast", "goal", "budget", or

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Reference: Bringdown Letter for SR 520

similar words are intended to identify forward-looking statements. The words or phrases "to date", "now", "currently", and the like are intended to mean as of the date of this document.

Stantec is not, and has not been, a municipal advisor as defined in Federal law (the Dodd Frank Bill) to WSDOT and does not owe a fiduciary duty pursuant to Section 15B of the Exchange Act to WSDOT with respect to the information and material contained in this document. Stantec is not recommending and has not recommended any action to WSDOT. WSDOT should discuss the information and material contained in this document with any and all internal and external advisors that it deems appropriate before acting on this information.

In Stantec's opinion, the assumptions underlying the study provide a reasonable basis for the analysis. However, any financial projection is subject to uncertainties. Inevitably, some assumptions used to develop the projections will not be realized, and unanticipated events and circumstances may occur.

Regards,

**Stantec Consulting Services Inc.**



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**SR 520 Bridge Traffic and Revenue Study  
2019 Report**

**April 13, 2020**

Prepared for:

WSDOT Toll Division

Prepared by:

Stantec Consulting Services Inc.

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Introduction

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

Stantec Consulting Services Inc. ("Stantec") has been retained by the Washington State Department of Transportation ("WSDOT") to conduct a Traffic and Revenue ("T&R") study for the existing SR 520 bridge across Lake Washington near Seattle in the Central Puget Sound Region. The study includes forecasts of traffic and gross toll revenue potential for fiscal years 2020 through 2056.

### **1.1 STUDY PURPOSE**

The purpose of this 2019 study is to update the future toll traffic and gross toll revenue potential forecasts based on the most recent data available to support ongoing SR 520 traffic and revenue needs after the final SR 520 bond sale. This effort has been conducted on an annual basis since 2012, first by CDM Smith while they served as Traffic Consultant to WSDOT for this facility, and by Stantec beginning in fall of 2017.

Stantec's 2017 forecast was based on detailed transaction information for the first half of Fiscal Year ("FY") 2017, supplemented by preliminary detailed data for the second half of the fiscal year. Fiscal Years run from July 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>. Additionally, the 2017 forecast considered a revised bridge configuration with the funding of the SR 520 West Side improvements, revised closure schedule, revised economic forecast, revised toll rate schedule, and exemption policy formally adopted by the Washington State Transportation Commission ("WSTC") in May 2016.

Stantec's efforts for the 2018 study included building upon the 2017 effort by collecting recent data from available sources, evaluating the current traffic conditions and revenue collected on the bridge, refining and calibrating a travel demand forecasting model for the project, reviewing future year model networks, and preparing a gross potential T&R stream. As part of Stantec's on-call T&R contract with WSDOT, BERK Consulting ("BERK") was retained in 2018 to provide an independent review of the regional economic forecasts in the Central Puget Sound region. Their most recent update to this review, completed in September 2018, was used in the 2018 study, and, by its nature, this 2019 study as well. The 2018 study incorporated actual traffic and revenue data through September 2018.

Similarly, this 2019 study builds upon the model refinement and calibration efforts conducted as part of the 2018 study and incorporates the most recent data from available sources. The 2019 study incorporated actual traffic and revenue through fiscal year 2019 and includes an evaluation of traffic conditions and revenue collected on the bridge since the 2018 study, and an updated gross potential T&R stream based on these data.

At the time of the publishing of this report, it appears that the lane drop in the westbound direction starting late 2019 around Montlake Blvd, and the reconfiguration of the eastbound travel lanes in the same area, has had a negative impact on traffic, especially during peak periods. The analysis presented herein assumed this lane drop and reconfiguration, but to date the effect on traffic is more than what was forecasted. We will use these emerging data for a revised forecast that will be developed and delivered Summer of 2020.

The estimates contained in the report were prepared prior to the onset of the currently on-going COVID-19 Pandemic. Notably, since March 2020, the traffic at the facilities has been increasingly affected negatively by the onset and acceleration of the Pandemic. A modern pandemic of this magnitude has never occurred and there are no similar occurrences that can be used to reliably estimate how low volumes might drop, how long the direct impacts will last, if

## **SR 520 BRIDGE TRAFFIC AND REVENUE STUDY 2019 REPORT**

### Introduction

a recovery will occur rapidly or slowly or the residual effects in 2021 and beyond. The forecasts presented in the Report should therefore be considered as proforma traffic and revenue calculations representing a scenario where the Pandemic did not occur (as a reference point). Stantec does not opine on the actual outcome may be.

## **1.2 SUMMARY OF STUDY METHODOLOGY**

A two-tiered travel demand modelling process was used to perform the traffic and revenue forecast. First, Stantec utilized the Puget Sound Regional Council (“PSRC”) regional model encompassing Seattle and much of the surrounding area. Stantec then used a customized Toll Diversion Model (“TDM”) to analyze usage of the SR 520 bridge by time period, reflecting the variation in toll cost and traffic demand throughout the day. The TDM results from the 2018 study, as well as the full 2019 fiscal year actual T&R from the Bridge, serve as the basis of the 2019 traffic and revenue forecast; the TDM work was completed for the 2018 study and was used as is for this 2019 study. However, there have been changes to the phasing of SR 520 improvements, assumptions as to payment type split, commercial vehicle share, conversion of weekday trips to annual trips, and planned construction closures that have been updated for this study based on recent information and FY 2019 traffic and revenue data.

## **1.3 ORGANIZATION OF THE REPORT**

The remainder of this report is organized in the following chapters:

- Chapter 2.0 – Project Description and Historical Performance: This chapter describes the study corridor, its current configuration, and its role in the highway network. It also discusses the project history in terms of its configuration changes, toll policy, and actual traffic and revenue.
- Chapter 3.0 – Historical SR 520 Traffic: This chapter gives an overview of the existing traffic conditions on SR 520 and current payment shares.
- Chapter 4.0 – Socioeconomic Variables and Land Use: This chapter describes the socioeconomic projections used to develop the traffic forecasts, and an assessment of the region’s economy and future development in the study area.
- Chapter 5.0 – Model Development and Calibration: This chapter explains the modeling methodology used to produce the traffic and gross toll revenue potential forecasts and summarizes the travel conditions in the corridor in terms of traffic volumes, classification data, and travel speeds. It includes a discussion of the regional travel demand model and the toll diversion model.
- Chapter 6.0 – Traffic and Gross Toll Revenue Potential Forecast: This chapter presents the long-range traffic and gross toll revenue potential forecasts for the SR 520 bridge, as well as the assumptions and methodology used to prepare the forecasts.

## SR 520 BRIDGE TRAFFIC AND REVENUE STUDY 2019 REPORT

### Project Description and Historical Performance

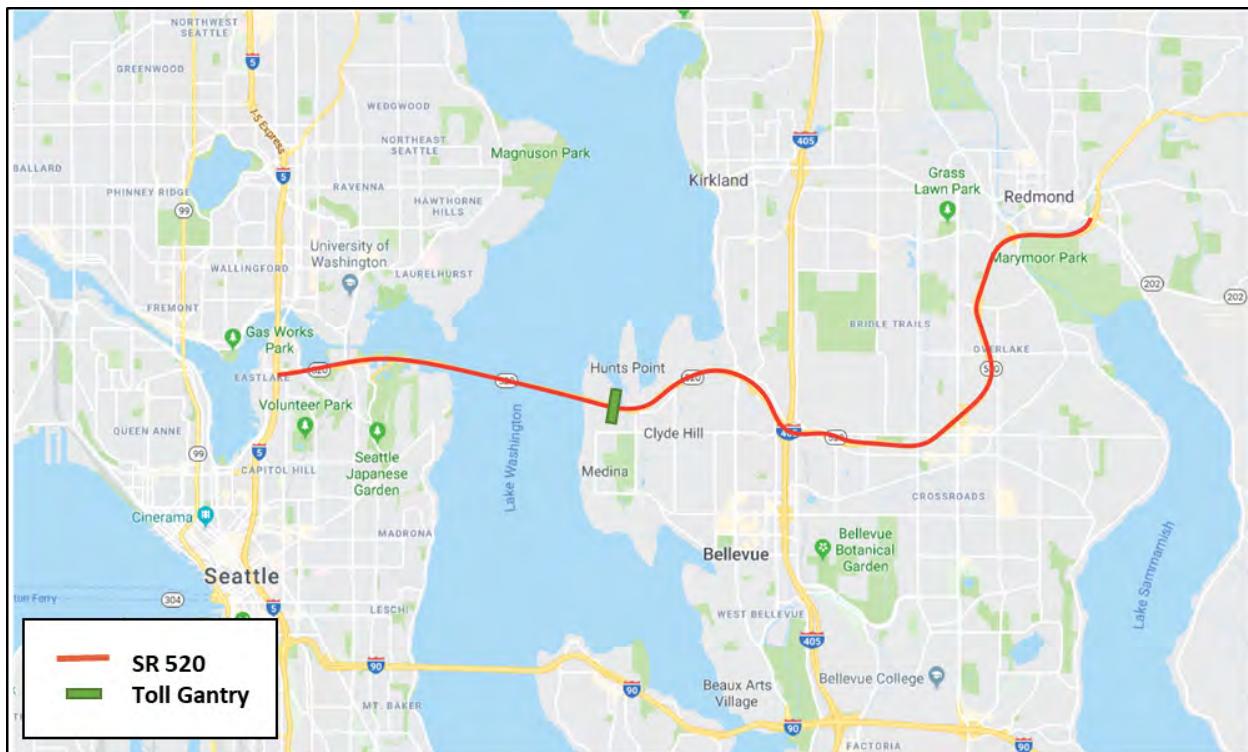
## 2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE

This chapter provides an overview of the SR 520 project, as well as the description of the WSDOT's SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program, and details of the existing and future configuration of the facility. The historical toll rates and traffic and gross toll revenue potential are also discussed.

### 2.1 PROJECT CORRIDOR

SR 520 extends about 13 miles between I-5 in the west, over Lake Washington, and SR 202 in the east. It has a major interchange with I-405 on the east side of the Lake. The facility provides a vital highway link between Seattle on the west side of Lake Washington and the eastside communities including Bellevue, Kirkland, and Redmond. Figure 2-1 shows the location of SR 520 in the Seattle area. Tolls in both directions for crossing the floating bridge portion of the facility crossing Lake Washington are collected on the east side of the bridge via electronic tolling.

**Figure 2-1: SR 520 Location Map**



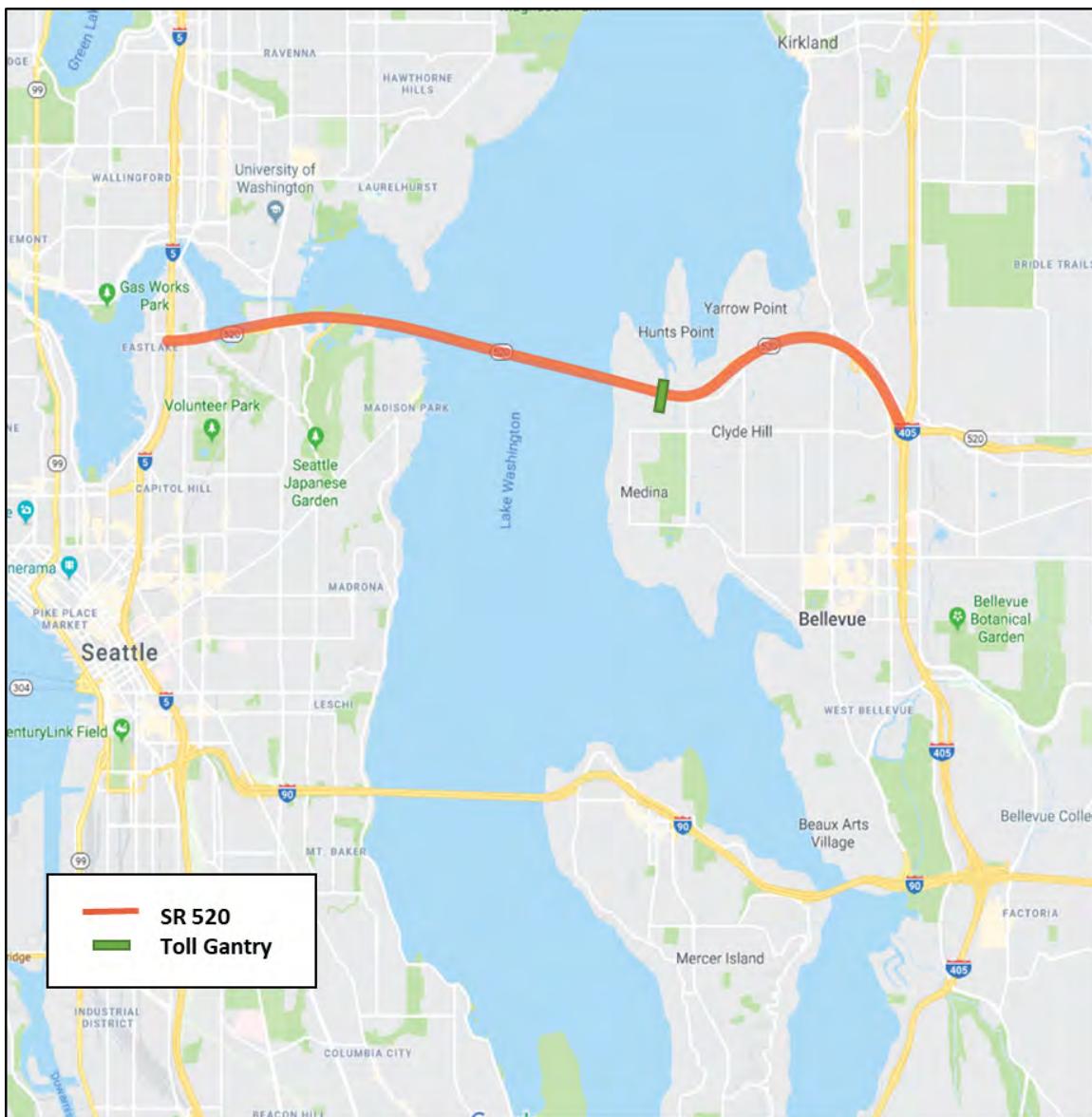
## SR 520 BRIDGE TRAFFIC AND REVENUE STUDY 2019 REPORT

### Project Description and Historical Performance

## 2.2 SR 520 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT AND HOV PROGRAM

WSDOT is making major enhancements to the SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program between I-5 and I-405. The program is improving traffic safety by replacing SR 520's aging and vulnerable bridges, while making other key highway improvements to enhance public mobility and transportation options throughout the corridor. The portion of SR 520 that is part of the SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program is highlighted in Figure 2-2.

**Figure 2-2: SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program**



## SR 520 BRIDGE TRAFFIC AND REVENUE STUDY 2019 REPORT

### Project Description and Historical Performance

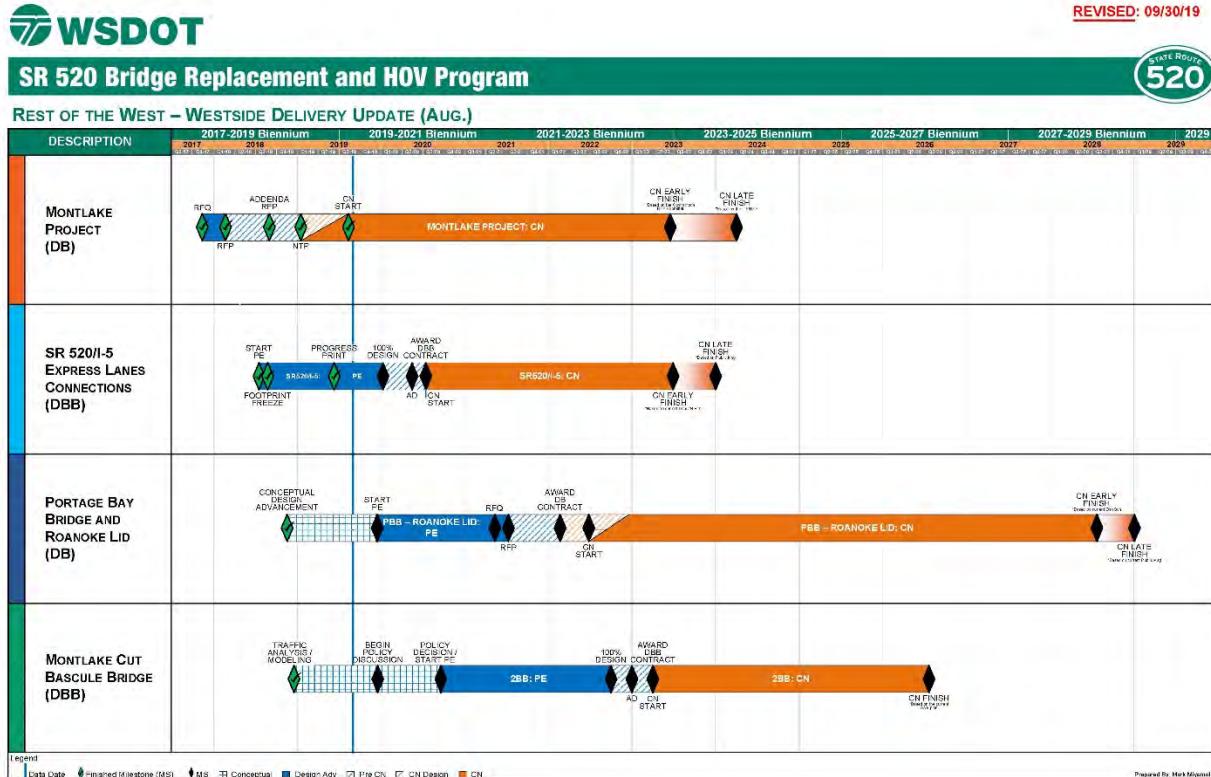
The SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program consists of five major components:

- The Pontoon Construction (complete),
- The Eastside Transit and HOV Project (complete),
- The Floating Bridge and Landings Project (complete),
- The West Approach Bridge North (complete), and
- The I-5 to Lake Washington (“Rest of the West”), including the West Approach Bridge South, the new Portage Bay Bridge and the second Montlake Boulevard bascule bridge across the Montlake Cut.

These improvements include: a new, safer, six-lane floating bridge, with a cross-lake bicycle and pedestrian path; 77 bridge pontoons built at facilities in Grays Harbor and Tacoma; the corridor's Eastside transit and HOV improvements between Lake Washington and I-405; the north (westbound) half of a new west approach bridge connecting Seattle to the new floating bridge (WABN); a replacement West Approach Bridge South for eastbound traffic connecting Seattle to the new floating bridge; a second Montlake Boulevard bascule bridge over the Montlake Cut; a new, six-lane Portage Bay Bridge; an extension of a regional bicycle and pedestrian path from Montlake to I-5; and mitigation of the program's environmental impacts.

Figure 2-3 shows the timeline of improvements used in this 2019 T&R study. Planned construction closures through FY 2029 taken into account for this 2019 T&R study are presented in Section 6.2.1 of this report. Figure 2-4 shows the SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program construction assumptions for our analyses.

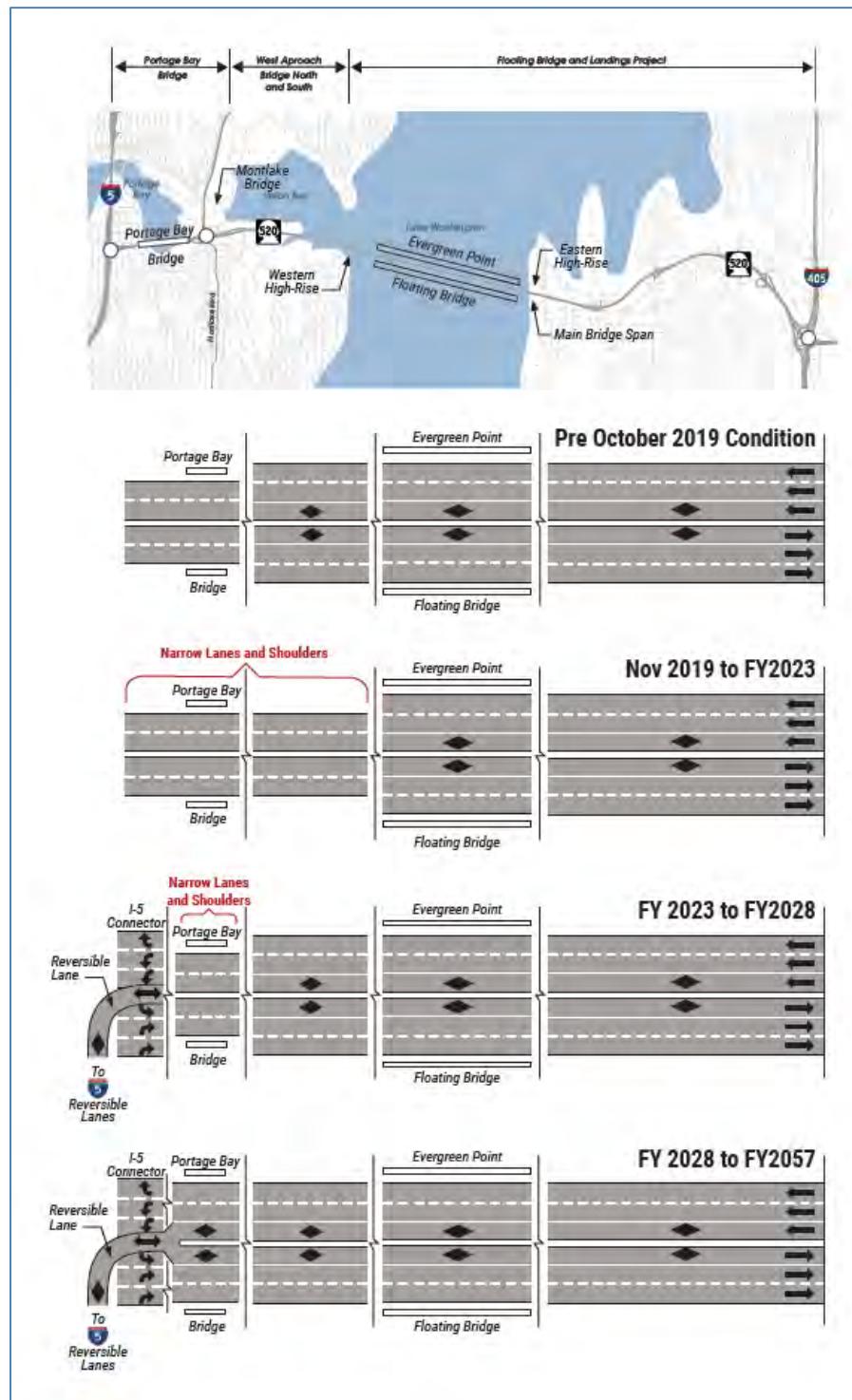
**Figure 2-3: SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program Construction Schedule**



## SR 520 BRIDGE TRAFFIC AND REVENUE STUDY 2019 REPORT

### Project Description and Historical Performance

**Figure 2-4: SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program Construction Assumptions**



## SR 520 BRIDGE TRAFFIC AND REVENUE STUDY 2019 REPORT

### Project Description and Historical Performance

## 2.3 SR 520 BRIDGE TOLLING HISTORY

### 2.3.1 Toll Rate History

Tolling on the original SR 520 bridge began in both directions on December 29, 2011 to supplement funding for the construction of the new floating bridge that opened in April 2016. Tolls vary by time of day and by weekday and weekend, but not by direction. Two primary toll payment methods are available: a *Good To Go!* prepaid account that detects the customer via a pass or license plate recognition; and Pay By Mail, in which the vehicle's registered owner's name and address are identified from the license plate and then mailed a toll bill. There is no cash toll collection. The Washington State Transportation Commission ("WSTC") has approved and implemented six separate toll increases since tolling began in 2011. These increases commenced on July 1 (which is the start of each FY) of every year between 2013 and 2018. No further toll increases are planned at this time; the current toll rates are assumed to be in effect throughout the forecast period. Table 2.1 and Table 2.2 show the directional weekday *Good to Go!* and Pay By Mail passenger car toll schedules in effect from FY 2012 onward. Table 2.3 and Table 2.4 show the directional weekend *Good to Go!* and Pay By Mail passenger car toll schedules in effect from FY 2012 onward. The weekday *Good to Go!* passenger car rates are also shown in Figure 2-5. Vehicles with more than two axles pay a higher pro-rated toll rate.

**Table 2.1: SR 520 Weekday 2-Axle Toll Schedule – *Good to Go!* Rates, Each Direction, FY 2012 to Future**

Time Period	Actual and Planned Rate Assumptions	5-6 AM	6-7 AM	7-9 AM	9-10 AM	10AM 2PM	2-3 PM	3-6 PM	6-7 PM	7-9 PM	9-11 PM	11PM 5AM
FY 2012	Opening Rates	\$1.60	\$2.80	\$3.50	\$2.80	\$2.25	\$2.80	\$3.50	\$2.80	\$2.25	\$1.60	\$0.00
FY 2013	+2.5% (No Rounding)	\$1.64 +2.5%	\$2.87 +2.5%	\$3.59 +2.6%	\$2.87 +2.5%	\$2.31 +2.7%	\$2.87 +2.5%	\$3.59 +2.6%	\$2.87 +2.5%	\$2.31 +2.7%	\$1.64 +2.5%	\$0.00
FY 2014	+2.5% Nickel Rounding	\$1.70 +3.7%	\$2.95 +2.8%	\$3.70 +3.1%	\$2.95 +2.8%	\$2.35 +1.7%	\$2.95 +2.8%	\$3.70 +3.1%	\$2.95 +2.8%	\$2.35 +1.7%	\$1.70 +3.7%	\$0.00
FY 2015	+2.5% Nickel Rounding	\$1.75 +2.9%	\$3.00 +1.7%	\$3.80 +2.7%	\$3.00 +1.7%	\$2.40 +2.1%	\$3.00 +1.7%	\$3.80 +2.7%	\$3.00 +1.7%	\$2.40 +1.7%	\$1.75 +2.9%	\$0.00
FY 2016	+2.5% Nickel Rounding	\$1.80 +2.9%	\$3.10 +3.3%	\$3.90 +2.6%	\$3.10 +3.3%	\$2.45 +2.1%	\$3.10 +3.3%	\$3.90 +2.6%	\$3.10 +3.3%	\$2.45 +2.1%	\$1.80 +2.9%	\$0.00
FY 2017	+5.0% Nickel Rounding	\$1.90 +5.6%	\$3.25 +4.8%	\$4.10 +5.1%	\$3.25 +4.8%	\$2.55 +4.1%	\$3.25 +4.8%	\$4.10 +5.1%	\$3.25 +4.8%	\$2.55 +4.1%	\$1.90 +5.6%	\$0.00
FY 2018 and After	+5.0% and Night Tolling with Nickel Rounding	\$2.00 +5.3%	\$3.40 +4.6%	\$4.30 +4.9%	\$3.40 +4.6%	\$2.70 +5.9%	\$3.40 +4.6%	\$4.30 +4.9%	\$3.40 +4.6%	\$2.70 +5.9%	\$2.00 +5.3%	\$1.25

Note: Fiscal Year (FY) is defined as the 12-month period ending June 30 of that year. For example, FY 2013 refers to the 12-month period beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013.

**Table 2.2: SR 520 Weekday 2-Axle Toll Schedule – Pay By Mail Rates, Each Direction, FY 2012 to Future**

Time Period	Actual and Planned Rate Assumptions	5-6 AM	6-7 AM	7-9 AM	9-10 AM	10AM 2PM	2-3 PM	3-6 PM	6-7 PM	7-9 PM	9-11 PM	11PM 5AM
FY 2012	Opening Rates	\$3.10	\$4.30	\$5.00	\$4.30	\$3.75	\$4.30	\$5.00	\$4.30	\$3.75	\$3.10	\$0.00
FY 2013	+2.5% (No Rounding)	\$3.18 +2.6%	\$4.41 +2.6%	\$5.13 +2.6%	\$4.41 +2.6%	\$3.84 +2.4%	\$4.41 +2.6%	\$5.13 +2.6%	\$4.41 +2.6%	\$3.84 +2.4%	\$3.18 +2.6%	\$0.00
FY 2014	+2.5% Nickel Rounding	\$3.25 +2.2%	\$4.50 +2.0%	\$5.25 +2.3%	\$4.50 +2.0%	\$3.95 +2.9%	\$4.50 +2.0%	\$5.25 +2.3%	\$4.50 +2.0%	\$3.95 +2.9%	\$3.25 +2.2%	\$0.00
FY 2015	+2.5% Nickel Rounding	\$3.35 +3.1%	\$4.60 +2.2%	\$5.40 +2.9%	\$4.60 +2.2%	\$4.05 +2.5%	\$4.60 +2.2%	\$5.40 +2.9%	\$4.60 +2.2%	\$4.05 +2.5%	\$3.35 +3.1%	\$0.00
FY 2016	+2.5% Nickel Rounding	\$3.45 +3.0%	\$4.70 +2.2%	\$5.55 +2.8%	\$4.70 +2.2%	\$4.15 +2.5%	\$4.70 +2.2%	\$5.55 +2.8%	\$4.70 +2.2%	\$4.15 +2.5%	\$3.45 +3.0%	\$0.00
FY 2017	Good To Go! Toll Rates + \$2.00 PBM increment	\$3.90 +13.0%	\$5.25 +11.7%	\$6.10 +9.9%	\$5.25 +11.7%	\$4.55 +9.6%	\$5.25 +11.7%	\$6.10 +9.9%	\$5.25 +11.7%	\$4.55 +9.6%	\$3.90 +13.0%	\$0.00
FY 2018 and After	Good To Go! Toll Rates + \$2.00 PBM increment	\$4.00 +2.6%	\$5.40 +2.9%	\$6.30 +3.3%	\$5.40 +2.9%	\$4.70 +3.3%	\$5.40 +2.9%	\$6.30 +3.3%	\$5.40 +2.9%	\$4.70 +3.3%	\$4.00 +2.6%	\$3.25

Note: Fiscal Year (FY) is defined as the 12-month period ending June 30 of that year. For example, FY 2013 refers to the 12-month period beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013.

## SR 520 BRIDGE TRAFFIC AND REVENUE STUDY 2019 REPORT

### Project Description and Historical Performance

**Table 2.3: SR 520 Weekend 2-Axle Toll Schedule – Good to Go! Rates, Each Direction, FY 2012 to Future**

Time Period	Actual and Planned Rate Assumptions	5-8 AM	8-11 AM	11AM 6PM	6-9 PM	9-11 PM	11PM 5AM
FY 2012	Opening Rates	\$1.10	\$1.65	\$2.20	\$1.65	\$1.10	\$0.00
FY 2013	+2.5% (No Rounding)	\$1.13 +2.7%	\$1.69 +2.4%	\$2.26 +2.7%	\$1.69 +2.4%	\$1.13 +2.7%	\$0.00
FY 2014	+2.5% Nickel Rounding	\$1.15 +1.8%	\$1.75 +3.6%	\$2.30 +1.8%	\$1.75 +3.6%	\$1.15 +1.8%	\$0.00
FY 2015	+2.5% Nickel Rounding	\$1.20 +4.3%	\$1.80 +2.9%	\$2.35 +2.2%	\$1.80 +2.9%	\$1.20 +4.3%	\$0.00
FY 2016	+2.5% Nickel Rounding	\$1.25 +4.2%	\$1.85 +2.8%	\$2.40 +2.1%	\$1.85 +2.8%	\$1.25 +4.2%	\$0.00
FY 2017	+5.0% Nickel Rounding	\$1.30 +4.0%	\$1.95 +5.4%	\$2.50 +4.2%	\$1.95 +5.4%	\$1.30 +4.0%	\$0.00
FY 2018 and After	+5.0% and Night Tolling with Nickel Rounding	\$1.40 +7.7%	\$2.05 +5.1%	\$2.65 +6.0%	\$2.05 +5.1%	\$1.40 +7.7%	\$1.25

**Table 2.4: SR 520 Weekend 2-Axle Toll Schedule – Pay By Mail Rates, Each Direction, FY 2012 to Future**

Time Period	Actual and Planned Rate Assumptions	5-8 AM	8-11 AM	11AM 6PM	6-9 PM	9-11 PM	11PM 5AM
FY 2012	Opening Rates	\$2.60	\$3.15	\$3.70	\$3.15	\$2.60	\$0.00
FY 2013	+2.5% (No Rounding)	\$2.67 +2.7%	\$3.23 +2.5%	\$3.79 +2.4%	\$3.23 +2.5%	\$2.67 +2.7%	\$0.00
FY 2014	+2.5% Nickel Rounding	\$2.75 +3.0%	\$3.30 +2.2%	\$3.90 +2.9%	\$3.30 +2.2%	\$2.75 +3.0%	\$0.00
FY 2015	+2.5% Nickel Rounding	\$2.80 +1.8%	\$3.40 +3.0%	\$4.00 +2.6%	\$3.40 +3.0%	\$2.80 +1.8%	\$0.00
FY 2016	+2.5% Nickel Rounding	\$2.85 +1.8%	\$3.50 +2.9%	\$4.10 +2.5%	\$3.50 +2.9%	\$2.85 +1.8%	\$0.00
FY 2017	Good To Go! Toll Rates + \$2.00 PBM increment	\$3.30 +15.8%	\$3.95 +12.9%	\$4.50 +9.8%	\$3.95 +12.9%	\$3.30 +15.8%	\$0.00
FY 2018 and After	Good To Go! Toll Rates + \$2.00 PBM increment	\$3.40 +3.0%	\$4.05 +2.5%	\$4.65 +3.3%	\$4.05 +2.5%	\$3.40 +3.0%	\$3.25

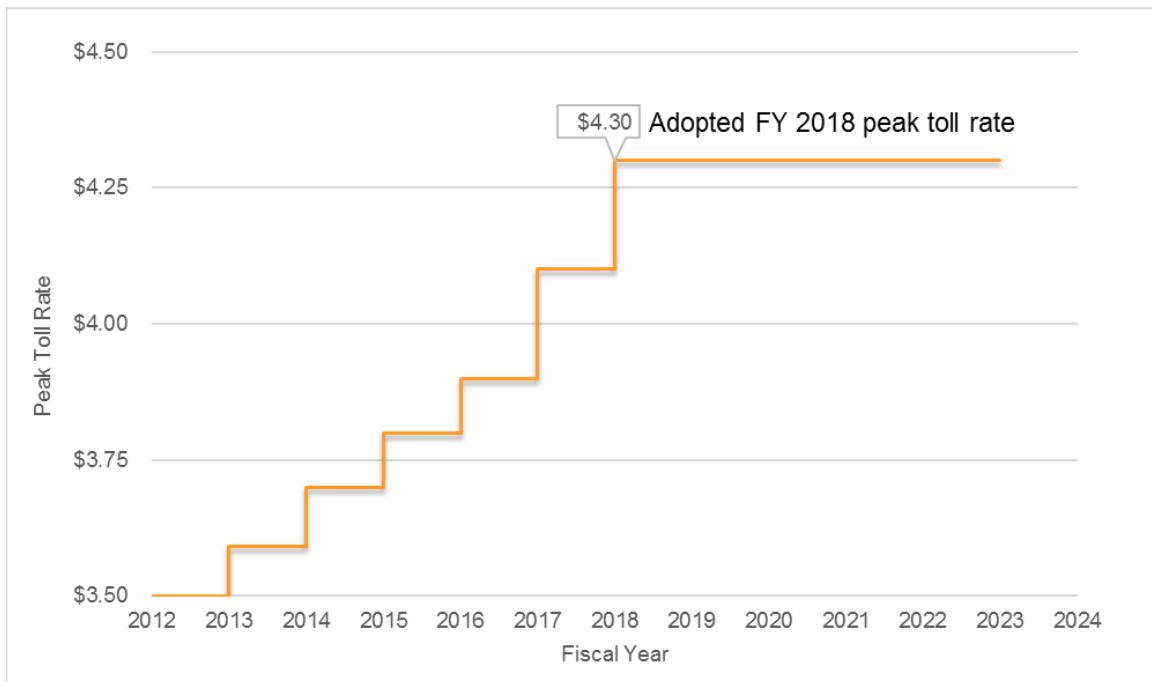
From FY 2013 through FY 2016, toll rates were increased by 2.5 percent per year; however, because rounding to the nearest \$0.05 (nickel rounding) was instituted in FY 2014, the FY 2014 through FY 2016 growth in toll rates vary slightly; some toll rates show increases slightly lower than 2.5 percent while others show increases slightly higher than 2.5 percent. In FY 2017 and 2018, *Good to Go!* rates were increased by 5 percent. Again, the actual increases were slightly different than the 5 percent because tolls were rounded to the nearest nickel. Also beginning in FY 2017, the Pay By Mail rate is equal to the *Good to Go!* rate plus a \$2.00 increment. The multi-axle vehicle toll rate is equal to the per-axle rate for 2-axle vehicles multiplied by the number of axles and then rounded to the nearest \$0.05. The toll rate for a vehicle with more than six axles is the 6-axle vehicle rate. As shown, overnight tolling - between 11 PM and 5 AM - began in FY 2018 on both weekdays and weekends.

The maximum *Good to Go!* 2-axle toll in the current toll schedule is \$4.30, which is in effect on weekdays from 7 to 9 AM and from 3 to 6 PM, the peak commuting hours. The maximum weekend 2-axle *Good to Go!* toll is \$2.65. Overnight tolls on both weekdays and weekends are the lowest available toll rate by payment type: the *Good to Go!* 2-axle rate is \$1.25.

## SR 520 BRIDGE TRAFFIC AND REVENUE STUDY 2019 REPORT

### Project Description and Historical Performance

**Figure 2-5: SR 520 2-Axle Good to Go! Weekday Maximum Toll Rate History, Each Direction**



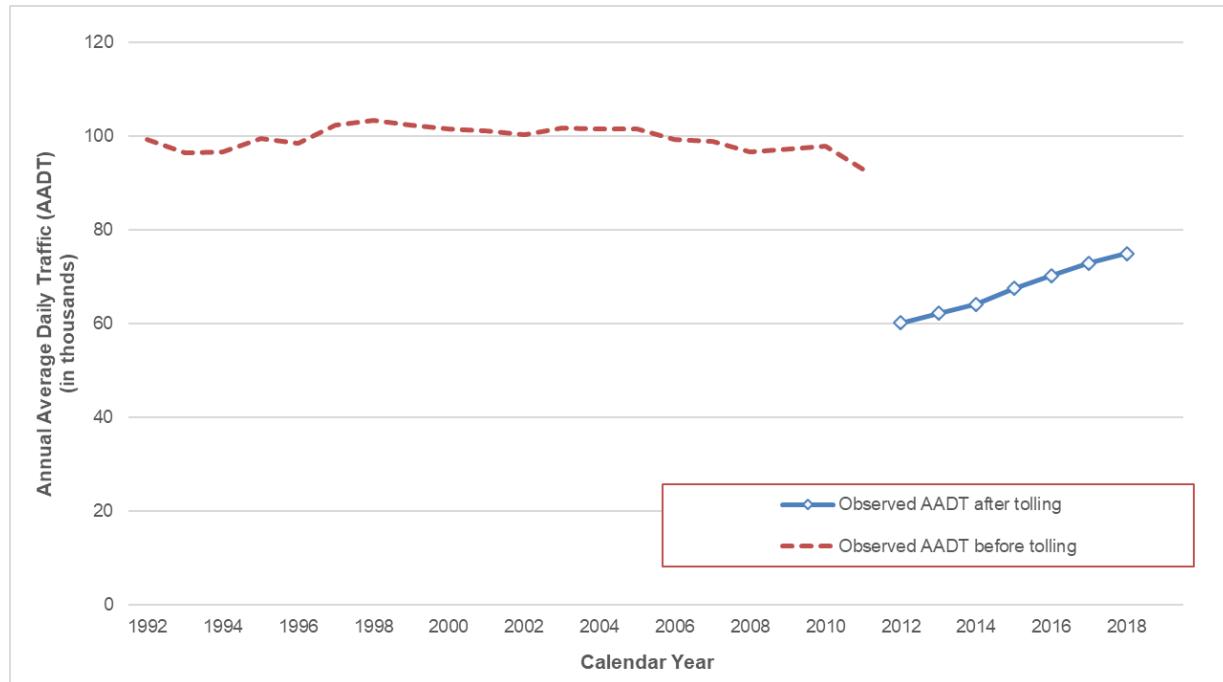
### 2.3.2 Traffic and Revenue History

Figure 2-6 shows the historical two-way AADT, by calendar year, on the SR 520 bridge. AADT is the Average Annual Daily Traffic and is equivalent to the total annual traffic (tolled and non-tolled) divided by the number of days in a given year. As shown, before tolling commenced, traffic was generally flat on SR 520; capacity constraints prevented traffic growth even though the region was growing in population and employment. Traffic did show a slight decrease in the late 2000's during the recession and the subsequent prolonged economic recovery. As shown, traffic decreased by about 36 percent when tolling commenced in December 2011; this number represents an estimate of the percent traffic diversion due to the implementation of tolling.

## SR 520 BRIDGE TRAFFIC AND REVENUE STUDY 2019 REPORT

### Project Description and Historical Performance

**Figure 2-6: SR 520 Bridge Two-way Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT), CY 1992 to 2018**



Source: WSDOT's annual traffic reports

Table 2.5 and Figure 2-7 show the annual fiscal year toll transactions on SR 520, beginning when tolls commenced on December 29, 2011. Annual toll transactions have increased from 20.2 million transactions in FY 2013, the first full year of toll operations, to 26.5 million transactions in FY 2019, a total increase of 6.3 million or about 31.2 percent. Between FY 2017 and FY 2018, annual transactions increased by 7.6 percent, partially due to the start of overnight tolling at the start of FY 2018. Prior to overnight tolling, trips between the hours of 11PM and 5AM were not included in the toll transaction count. Between FY 2018 and FY 2019, annual toll transactions increased 2.9 percent.

**Table 2.5: Historical Annual Toll Transactions and Gross Toll Revenues, FY2012 to 2019**

Fiscal Year	Total Toll Transactions (millions)	Gross Toll Revenue (millions)
2012	9.6	\$28.1
2013	20.2	\$61.3
2014	21.0	\$64.6
2015	22.0	\$69.4
2016	23.2	\$75.0
2017	24.0	\$81.9
2018*	25.8	\$90.3
2019	26.5	\$92.2

Note: Tolling started in December 29, 2011, half-way through FY2012.

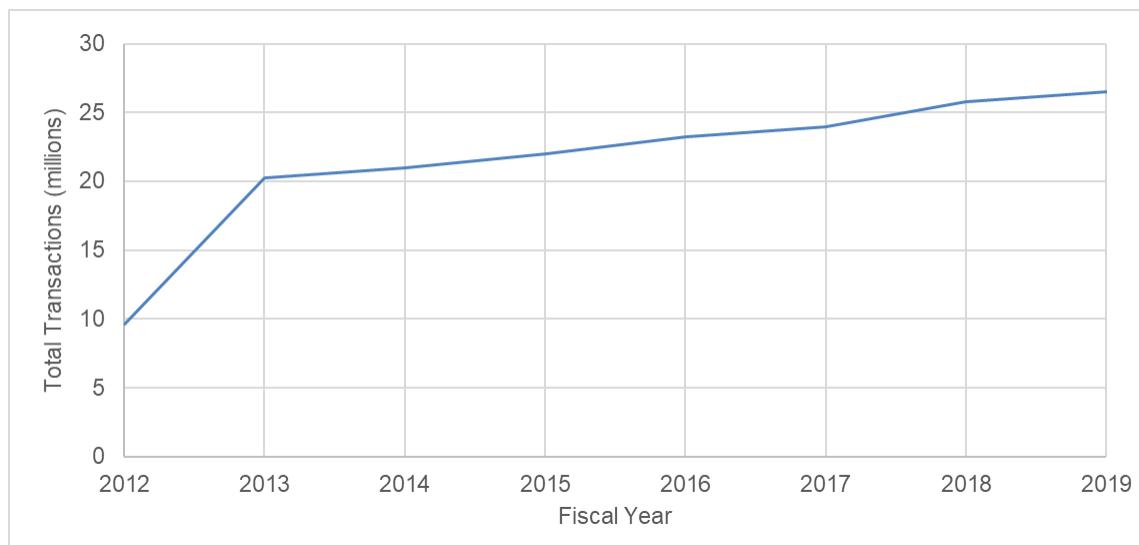
\*Prior to FY 2018, untolled trips between 11PM and 5AM were not included in the transaction total.

Source: Annual Toll Traffic & Revenue (T&R) Reports (<https://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Tolling/520/Finance.htm>)

## SR 520 BRIDGE TRAFFIC AND REVENUE STUDY 2019 REPORT

### Project Description and Historical Performance

**Figure 2-7: Historical SR 520 Bridge Two-way Toll Transactions, FY 2012 to 2019**



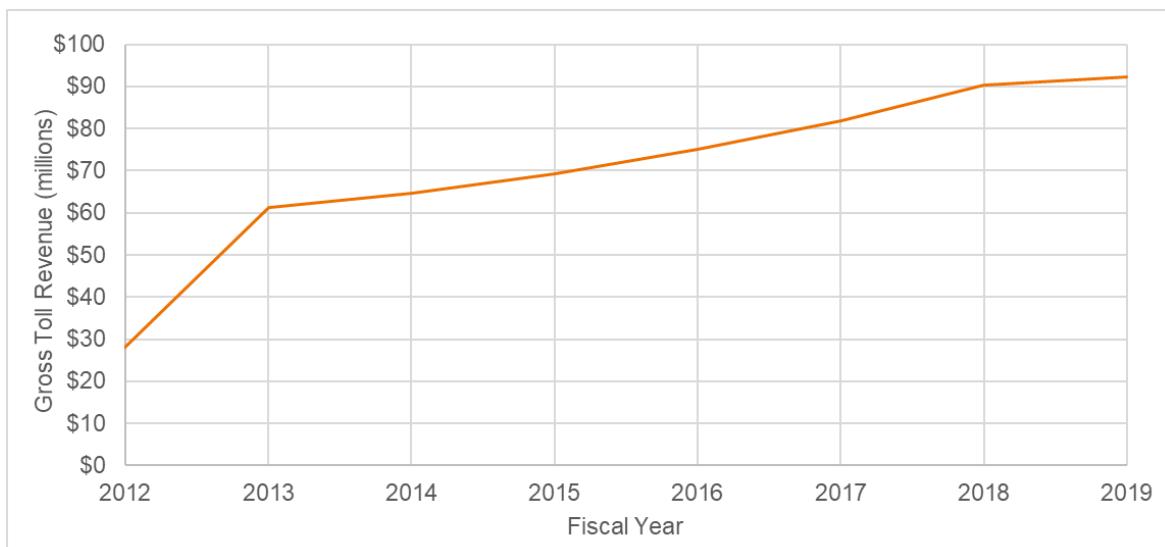
Notes: Tolling started in December 29, 2011, half-way through FY2012.

Prior to FY 2018, untolled trips between 11PM and 5AM were not included in the transaction total

Source: Annual T&R reports (<https://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Tolling/520/Finance.htm>)

Table 2.5 and Figure 2-8 show the annual gross toll revenues on SR 520, beginning when tolls commenced on December 29, 2011. Annual toll revenues have increased from \$61.3 million in the first full year of tolling, FY 2013, to \$92.2 million in FY 2019, a total increase of \$30.9 million or about 50.4 percent. Between FY 2018 and FY 2019, annual gross toll revenue increased by 2.0 percent.

**Figure 2-8: Historical SR 520 Bridge Two-way Reported Gross Toll Revenues, FY 2012 to 2019**



Notes: Tolling started in December 29, 2011, half-way through FY2012.

Prior to FY 2018, untolled trips between 11PM and 5AM were not included in the transaction total

Source: Annual T&R reports (<https://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Tolling/520/Finance.htm>)

## 3.0 HISTORICAL SR 520 TRAFFIC

In this chapter, the historical traffic on SR 520 is presented, detailed to hour, day of week, month, and annual. In addition, data were summarized from the Toll Customer Service Center (CSC) records for fiscal year FY 2019. These data were used to verify the count data from the permanent count locations and were used in both the calibration and the evaluation of recent trends on the facility. Furthermore, detailed transaction data from FY 2016 were used to determine the historical payment type splits on the SR 520 bridge. Payment splits by day of the week for FY 2019 were estimated based on a combination of overall FY 2019 payment type splits and the FY 2016 more detailed payment type splits.

### 3.1 SR 520 BRIDGE TRAFFIC VOLUMES

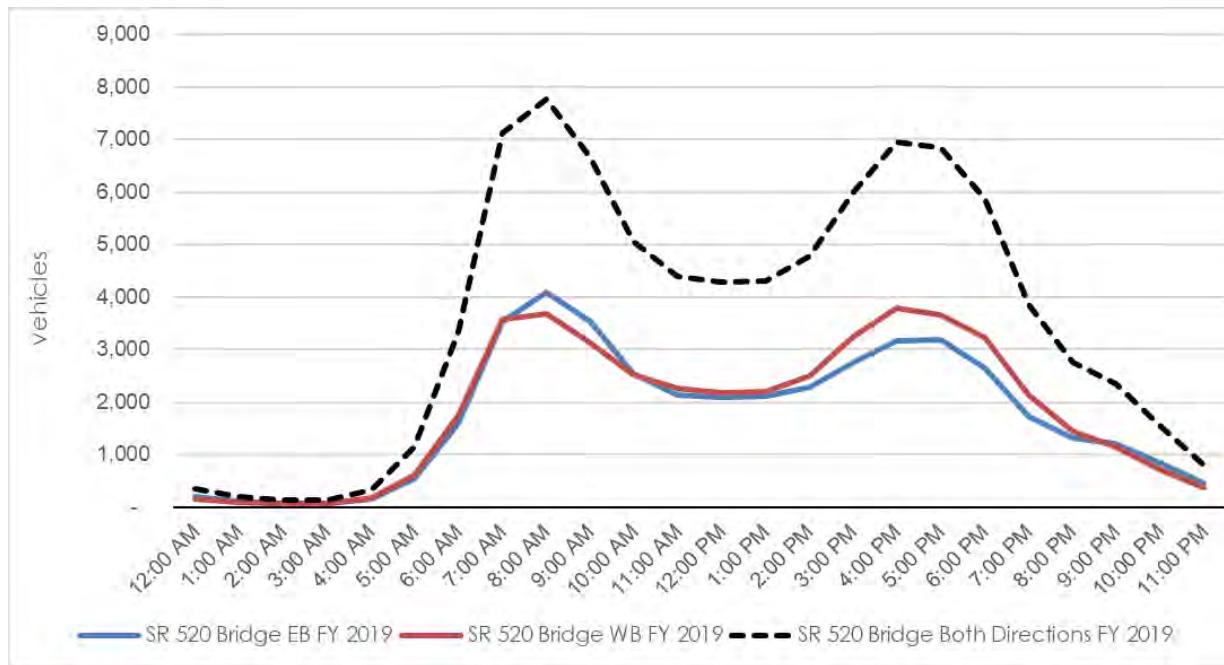
#### 3.1.1 Hourly Traffic Volumes on a Typical Weekday

The typical hourly traffic over the SR 520 bridge was calculated by averaging the hourly traffic for available weekdays for the full 2019 fiscal year. Data from WSDOT's permanent count location network were downloaded from the CDR site. Figure 3-1 shows the traffic that travels over the SR 520 bridge on an average weekday (Tuesday through Thursday) during the full FY 2019. The morning traffic peaks around 8:00 AM in the eastbound direction with about 4,100 vehicles per hour. In the westbound direction, morning traffic also peaks around 8:00 AM, with roughly 3,700 vehicles per hour. In the afternoon, eastbound traffic peaks during the 4:00 PM and 5:00 PM hours, each with about 3,200 vehicles. Westbound traffic also peaks around 4:00 PM, with roughly 3,800 vehicles per hour. AM and PM peak period volumes do not differ drastically by direction. In the westbound direction, the PM peak is slightly higher than the AM peak hour volume, while in the eastbound direction, the AM peak is somewhat higher than the PM peak hour volume. The bridge carries an average of 87,000 vehicles per average weekday, with approximately 43,500 vehicles in each direction.

## SR 520 BRIDGE TRAFFIC AND REVENUE STUDY 2019 REPORT

Historical SR 520 Traffic

**Figure 3-1: Typical Tuesday to Thursday (Weekday) SR 520 Bridge Traffic, by Direction, FY 2019**



Source: Tuesday-Thursday CDR data, Fiscal Year 2019 (July 2018-June 2019)

### 3.1.2 Toll Transaction Volumes by Day of the Week

Table 3.1 shows the summarized annual CSC toll transaction data by day of the week for FY 2018 and FY 2019. These summaries represent unadjusted data and do not include any adjustments for construction or weather-related impacts. Since overnight volumes tend to be very low and the number of days affected by construction are also low when considering all the days of the year, these data do serve to approximate the distribution of traffic volumes crossing the SR 520 bridge by day. As shown, traffic crossing the bridge is much lower over the weekend than on a weekday. Sunday is the least traveled day, while Wednesday and Thursday are the most traveled days of the week. Monday is the least traveled weekday.

**Table 3.1: SR 520 Bridge Annual Toll Transactions by Day of the Week, FY 2018 and 2019**

Day of Week	FY 2018 Transactions		FY 2019 Transactions	
	Day Total	Percent of Annual	Day Total	Percent of Annual
Mon	3,732,475	14.2%	3,844,768	14.2%
Tue	4,188,587	16.0%	4,255,108	15.7%
Wed	4,315,592	16.5%	4,391,438	16.2%
Thu	4,333,789	16.5%	4,469,339	16.5%
Fri	4,263,261	16.3%	4,356,611	16.1%
Sat	2,989,326	11.4%	3,109,085	11.5%
Sun	2,380,340	9.1%	2,602,384	9.6%
Total	<b>26,203,370</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>27,028,733</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Unadjusted CSC Vendor (ETCC) TCS AVI Lane Count Reconciliation Report.

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#### 3.1.3 Toll Transactions by Month

Table 3.2 shows the historical toll transactions by month since the bridge began tolling in December 2011 as reported for the monthly reviews and as used for the basis of the forecast. The amount of toll transactions each month is affected by factors including construction closures, weather events, traffic events, and the number of weekdays and weekend days each month. In addition, toll transactions prior to FY 2018 do not include overnight transactions, as overnight toll collection was not in effect prior to FY 2018. In February 2019 (FY 2019) there were lower than normal traffic volumes due to record-breaking snow in Seattle, and in July (overnight only) and August 2018 (FY 2019) there were higher than normal volumes due to I-90 closures related to the Seafair Air Show. In fiscal year 2020, the Seafair Air Show did not cause any I-90 closures. August 2019 (FY 2020) traffic was 1.2 percent lower than August 2018 (FY 2019) on SR 520.

These summaries also are not adjusted for the times when the bridge was impacted by construction and it is assumed that these data also serve to approximate the distribution of traffic volumes crossing the SR 520 bridge by month. As shown by the percentages, traffic crossing the bridge tends to be generally lower in the winter months than the summer months.

**Table 3.2: SR 520 Bridge Total Toll Transactions in Both Directions by Month, FY 2012 to FY 2019**

Month	FY 2012	FY 2013		FY 2014		FY 2015		FY 2016		FY 2017		FY 2018		FY 2019	
	Monthly Transactions	Monthly Transactions	Percent of Annual												
Jul		1,634,862	8.1%	1,714,340	8.2%	1,845,510	8.4%	2,047,488	8.8%	2,058,224	8.6%	2,092,864	8.1%	2,291,708	8.6%
Aug		1,748,279	8.6%	1,843,593	8.8%	1,785,013	8.1%	1,931,941	8.3%	2,129,472	8.9%	2,106,767	8.2%	2,421,851	9.1%
Sep		1,605,673	7.9%	1,672,627	8.0%	1,796,980	8.2%	1,901,386	8.2%	2,013,952	8.4%	2,181,021	8.5%	2,143,861	8.1%
Oct		1,780,703	8.8%	1,891,073	9.0%	1,853,706	8.4%	2,053,773	8.8%	1,920,209	8.0%	2,193,259	8.5%	2,370,068	8.9%
Nov		1,595,208	7.9%	1,698,416	8.1%	1,632,066	7.4%	1,749,637	7.5%	1,937,514	8.1%	2,063,777	8.0%	2,115,105	8.0%
Dec	101,620	1,627,330	8.0%	1,692,471	8.1%	1,804,291	8.2%	1,853,500	8.0%	1,758,571	7.3%	2,009,346	7.8%	2,035,203	7.7%
Jan	1,275,306	1,697,451	8.4%	1,782,226	8.5%	1,804,665	8.2%	1,901,672	8.2%	1,860,068	7.8%	2,116,081	8.2%	2,172,041	8.2%
Feb	1,505,263	1,537,817	7.6%	1,555,759	7.4%	1,714,604	7.8%	1,849,759	8.0%	1,780,747	7.4%	1,929,376	7.5%	1,656,213	6.2%
Mar	1,667,299	1,794,438	8.9%	1,871,405	8.9%	1,949,255	8.9%	2,046,140	8.8%	2,172,872	9.1%	2,275,483	8.8%	2,320,693	8.7%
Apr	1,579,205	1,651,778	8.2%	1,848,497	8.8%	1,940,953	8.8%	1,667,332	7.2%	1,941,236	8.1%	2,122,191	8.2%	2,241,599	8.5%
May	1,800,544	1,843,724	9.1%	1,816,370	8.7%	2,021,484	9.2%	2,075,349	8.9%	2,216,001	9.2%	2,355,439	9.1%	2,400,633	9.1%
Jun	1,679,936	1,703,339	8.4%	1,572,796	7.5%	1,871,243	8.5%	2,139,023	9.2%	2,185,913	9.1%	2,339,752	9.1%	2,354,100	8.9%
Annual	9,609,173	20,220,602	100%	20,959,573	100%	22,019,770	100%	23,217,000	100%	23,974,779	100%	25,785,356	100%	26,523,075	100%

Note: As reported for the monthly reviews and as used for the basis of the forecast.

FY 2012 is a partial year as tolling began in December 2011.

Overnight tolling began FY 2018.

In February 2019 there were lower than normal traffic volumes due to record-breaking snow in Seattle

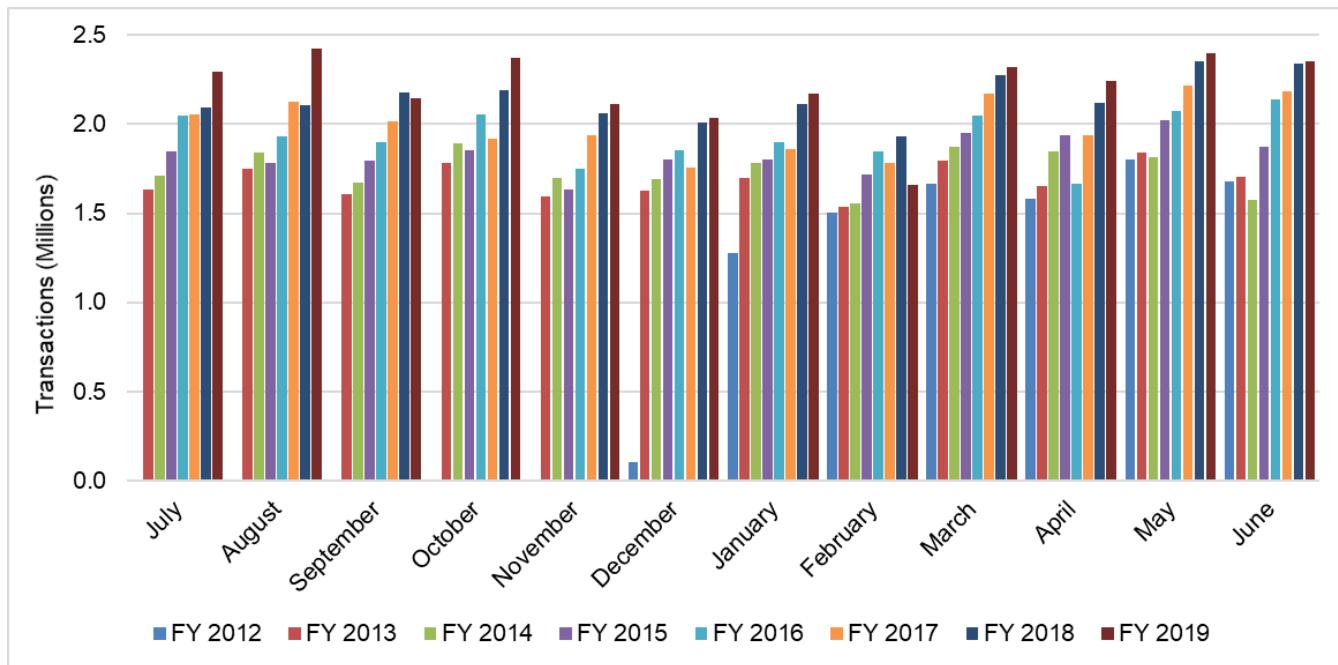
In July and August 2018 (FY 2019) there were higher than normal volumes due to I-90 closures related to the Seafair Air Show.

Figure 3-2 shows graphically the monthly trends in toll transactions since opening. As shown, the trend is generally increasing each year for each month. Note that transaction volumes prior to FY 2018 do not include overnight transactions; overnight tolling began at the start of FY 2018.

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**Figure 3-2: SR 520 Bridge Total Toll Transactions in Both Directions by Month, FY 2012 to FY 2019**



Notes: Tolling began in December 29, 2011 (FY 2012). Overnight tolling began FY 2018. In February 2019 there were lower than normal traffic volumes due to record-breaking snow in Seattle, and in July and August 2018 (FY 2019) there were higher than normal volumes due to I-90 closures related to the Seafair Air Show.

## 3.2 TOLL TRANSACTIONS BY PAYMENT TYPE

Table 3.3 shows the toll transactions by payment type for FY 2014 through FY 2019. The majority of transactions are paid using a *Good to Go!* account. Slowly increasing over time, roughly 86 percent of transactions were paid using *Good to Go!* Accounts in FY 2019. The share of trips using a *Good to Go!* pass versus pay by plate has been decreasing over time. Some 80 percent of *Good to Go!* transactions were made using a *Good to Go!* pass in FY 2014; by FY 2019 this share had decreased to 73 percent. Unbillable transactions are defined as those that cannot be billed for reasons such as blurry or unusable camera images of the vehicle license plate or an invalid customer address, while unresolved transactions are those that are still pending billing or payment and have not yet been categorized as paid or unbillable. Note that the non-revenue transactions represent about two percent of the total transactions that are processed by the CSC each year.

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**Table 3.3: Toll Transactions by Payment Type, FY 2014 to 2019**

Year	<i>Good To Go!</i>		<i>Pay By Mail</i>	Unbillable and Unresolved	Total
	Pass	Pay By Plate	Paid		
<b>Reported Transactions</b>					
FY 2014	14,212,029	3,519,316	2,242,196	986,032	20,959,573
FY 2015	14,285,240	4,285,568	2,412,995	1,035,967	22,019,770
FY 2016	14,593,233	5,037,697	2,400,262	1,185,808	23,217,000
FY 2017	15,009,101	5,294,598	2,215,593	1,455,487	23,974,779
FY 2018	16,203,223	5,832,010	2,279,973	1,470,150	25,785,356
FY 2019	16,545,521	6,164,753	1,927,126	1,885,675	26,523,075
<b>Payment Share of Tolled Transactions</b>					
FY 2014	67.8%	16.8%	10.7%	4.7%	
FY 2015	64.9%	19.5%	11.0%	4.7%	
FY 2016	62.9%	21.7%	10.3%	5.1%	
FY 2017	62.6%	22.1%	9.2%	6.1%	
FY 2018	62.8%	22.6%	8.8%	5.7%	
FY 2019	62.4%	23.2%	7.3%	7.1%	

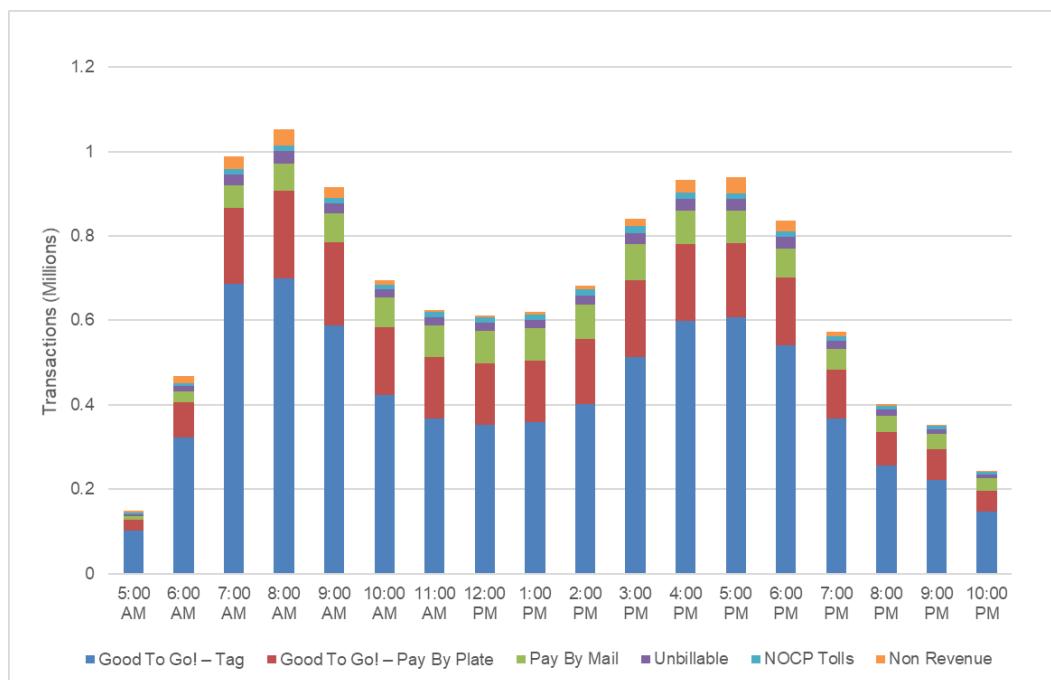
Source: WSDOT Disposition Summary, July 2019 and monthly reporting

Figure 3-3 shows the weekday toll transactions by time of day for FY 2016, the most recent data available at this level of detail. As shown, toll transactions are the highest during the peak periods and are about 25 percent lower than the peaks in the midday period. The number of transactions increase rapidly before the AM Peak and decrease rapidly after the PM Peak. This figure also shows the distribution of the FY 2016 transactions by each payment type. As expected, *Good to Go!* payments are most frequent in the AM and PM Peak periods, when the most frequent customers, commuters, are on the facility. Pay By Mail is not as prevalent in the AM peak but more so in the midday and early PM peak; these are the times of the day when less frequent customers who are less likely to have a pass or account would be using the facility.

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**Figure 3-3: FY 2016\* Weekday Annual Toll Transaction Payment Type by Hour**



\*Most recent data available.

Table 3.4 shows the revenue distribution by payment type by class for FY 2016, the most recent data set available with this level of detail. As shown, most of the traffic is 2-axle vehicles. It is worth noting that the 3-axle vehicle category includes transit buses.

**Table 3.4: FY 2016\* Annual Toll Transactions by Payment Type and Vehicle Class**

Vehicle Class	Good To Go!			Unbillable	Unresolved	Non Revenue	Total Transactions	Share of Revenue Transactions
	Pass	Pay By Plate	Paid					
2	14,506,000	4,915,200	2,403,600	760,700	437,000	305,100	23,327,600	99.3%
3	46,500	19,900	12,700	10,000	1,900	173,100	264,100	0.4%
4	13,900	6,700	3,900	2,200	400	150	27,250	0.1%
5	8,600	5,900	4,100	2,700	400	50	21,750	0.1%
6	18,100	5,100	1,700	1,900	100	10	26,910	0.1%

\*Most recent data available.

## **4.0 SOCIOECONOMIC VARIABLES AND LAND USE**

Note that this 2019 study is predicated on the land use and socioeconomic forecasts made by BERK for the 2018 Study. Stantec made cursory analyses in order to determine any relative differences between the BERK forecasts and the 2019 actuals of the key socio-economic factors such as land use, population and employment. We did so at a macroscopic level (looking at the 'big-picture' of large developments and overall population and employment, for example) to determine if last year's BERK data were still relevant. We determined that there were no material differences between the BERK forecasts and the actuals and, as such, continue to use BERK's forecasts. All tables and figures in this chapter remain unchanged from the 2018 Report.

A key factor in the development of the traffic and revenue forecast is the forecast of households, population, and employment. Stantec had retained BERK Consulting for the 2018 study to provide an independent review of available regional and subarea land use forecasts for the Central Puget Sound region. The purpose of this independent review was to inform the preparation of a new land use forecast to be used in the development of SR 520 traffic and revenue forecasts. BERK then prepared an adjusted land use forecast, reviewing the latest available regional macroeconomic forecast and selected regional targets for population, household and employment, and then determining the likely distribution of regional growth by county by reviewing historic county growth trends. To determine the allocation of growth to cities and transportation analysis zones (TAZ), BERK analyzed permitted and pipeline development, historic growth patterns, major investments such as light rail station openings, capacity for growth, and planning for growth at the jurisdictional scale. This chapter describes the key findings of their review, and the methodology used to develop their 2018 baseline estimates and the socioeconomic forecasts for the years 2025 and 2045.

### **4.1 DATA REVIEWED**

To evaluate the reasonableness of the existing socioeconomic forecasts, BERK had reviewed several sources of demographic, land use, and planned development data including:

- the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) Macroeconomic Forecast (released in 2018),
- the PSRC Land Use Vision (LUV) version 2.0 (released in 2017, developed based on a previous 2015 version of the PRSC Macroeconomic Forecast),
- the Washington State Employment Security Department (ED) Employment Projections,
- the Office of Financial Management (OFM) Growth Management Act County Projections,
- PSRC Total Employment by Census Tract (2017),
- Census LEHD Origin-Destination Employment Statistics (LODES) (2015),
- PSRC Pipeline and Master Planned Development Inventory,
- Permitted Development in Seattle, Bellevue, Kirkland and Redmond,
- PSRC Land Capacity,
- City of Seattle 2018 and Proposed Land Capacity,
- The Washington State OFM Small Area Estimates, and
- the Comprehensive Plans of local jurisdictions.

## **4.2 2018 BASELINE**

As our regional model was calibrated to 2018, BERK established a 2018 baseline socioeconomic dataset. BERK created a 2018 households and population baseline using 2017 OFM estimates and a combination of sources for employment.

### **4.2.1 2018 Households and Population**

BERK obtained OFM small area estimates by census block group for the year 2017 and used GIS analysis to reaggregate housing unit estimates by TAZ. Results were then compared to PSRC's 2015 housing and population estimates by TAZ and adjusted the 2017 totals upwards to reflect OFM 2018 housing estimates for counties. OFM small area assumptions about housing occupancy rates and average household size were then used to derive household and household population estimates. A similar process was used to allocate population estimates from OFM to TAZ and adjust upward to reflect 2018 estimates by county. To determine the breakdown of households by income level, BERK applied assumed percentage splits in the PSRC LUV forecast, interpolating for the year 2018. Finally, the results of this analysis at the county scale were compared to OFM estimates for consistency.

### **4.2.2 2018 Employment**

The starting point for baseline employment was PSRC's total employment estimates for 2017. The first step was to develop estimates for suppressed data values at the tract scale. To do this, BERK utilized LODES data for the year 2015 to estimate percentage shares of employment to place in suppressed job sector categories. These preliminary proportional shares were refined to address known limitations in the LODES data with regards to K-12 Education jobs.<sup>1</sup> BERK mapped school locations in Snohomish, King, and Pierce Counties and used this information to help inform estimates of K-12 Education jobs in cases of suppressed values. BERK's model controlled for PSRC's 2017 county level total employment by sector. Finally, BERK reaggregated the estimated employment to TAZ using GIS analysis of LODES data to determine the relative shares of employment by TAZ part.

To modify the 2017 employment estimates to 2018, BERK began by using the PSRC Macroeconomic Forecast for a regional control total. Next, ESD's short-term employment forecasts were analyzed by county/region and sector to determine the relative rates of growth among the four counties. Then employment was grown at the TAZ scale based on historic growth patterns up to the 2018 county control totals. Finally, minor sectoral adjustments were necessary at the TAZ scale to match PSRC's forecasted sector breakdowns.

## **4.3 2025 AND 2045 FORECASTS**

BERK reviewed and accepted the total population and employment forecasts for 2025 and 2045 available in the 2018 PSRC Macroeconomic Forecast. PSRC's LUV forecast is based on a previous (2015) release of the PSRC Macroeconomic Forecast. It should be noted that the 2018 forecast shows a significantly higher rate of population growth and a faster rate of employment growth through 2025 than previously forecasted, remaining steady through 2045.

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<sup>1</sup> LODES data commonly places educational workers at school district headquarters rather than school locations.

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BERK conducted additional analyses to determine the likely allocation of regional population and employment growth at the county, city and TAZ scale. To do this, they considered county and jurisdiction level data.

#### 4.3.1 County Population Forecasts

Table 4.1 shows a comparison of compound annual growth rates (CAGR) of population for each county in the PSRC region. Since 2010, King County has grown most rapidly among the four counties. Looking forward to 2025, the LUV forecast shows a significant slowdown in rate of growth for King County, as well as a slower rate for King County when compared to the other counties. After 2025, LUV shows an even more significant slowing of growth in King County relative to the other counties.

To evaluate PSRC's county-scale forecast, BERK reviewed planned transportation projects and other investments that have potential to shape real estate market dynamics and the shares of future household and employment growth that may be expected by each of the counties in the Puget Sound region. The most significant change expected before 2025 is the opening of Sound Transit's Link light rail extensions to Northgate and Bellevue/Overlake in King County. These extensions are expected to create significant demand for housing and employment near both current and future light rail stations as well as neighboring communities that are accessible to the light rail stations.

BERK identified no other demographic or real estate trends that indicate King County's growth rate will slow compared to neighboring counties during the 2018 to 2025 forecast period. As mentioned previously, this study assumes the total rate of regional growth from 2015-2025 will increase compared to the PSRC LUV forecast, while decreasing compared to trends during the past three years. BERK's 2018 to 2025 rates of growth by county shows a significant increase in rate of growth for King County, more moderate increases in rate of growth for Pierce and Snohomish Counties and a lower rate of growth for Kitsap County.

For the later 2025 to 2045 period, BERK's rate of growth for the four-county region is slightly higher than assumed in the PSRC LUV forecast (0.96 percent vs. 0.83 percent). During this period relative rates of growth between counties more closely conform to PSRC's LUV forecast. BERK's forecast shows both King and Snohomish County growing somewhat faster than predicted in LUV 2.0, due in part to the expected introduction of new light rail service following 2025.

**Table 4.1: Comparison of Historic and Forecasted Population by CAGR, 2010 to 2045**

	Historic Growth		PSRC LUV Forecast		BERK Adjusted Forecast		
	2010 2015	2015 2018	2015 2025	2025 2040	2015 2025	2018 2025	2025 2045
King	1.23%	2.18%	0.95%	0.55%	1.81%	1.65%	0.71%
Kitsap	0.56%	1.14%	1.64%	1.44%	0.98%	0.91%	1.42%
Pierce	0.86%	1.66%	1.27%	0.94%	1.39%	1.28%	0.96%
Snohomish	1.21%	2.05%	1.48%	1.17%	1.92%	1.86%	1.42%
Total	1.10%	1.98%	1.17%	0.83%	1.69%	1.57%	0.96%

Source: OFM, 2018; PSRC, 2017; BERK, 2018.

Table 4.2 compares total population by county in each forecast. BERK forecasts that regionwide population will be 5.3 percent higher than the PSRC LUV forecast for 2025. Much of that difference is due to a higher population forecast for King County and to a lesser extent Snohomish County than was included in the dataset behind the PSRC

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LUV forecast. Additionally, BERK compared adjusted forecast results to OFM population forecasts to confirm consistency. All county forecasts fall within the middle of OFM's forecast range for 2025 and 2045.

**Table 4.2: Comparison of County Population Forecasts, 2025 and 2045**

	PSRC LUV Forecast		BERK Adjusted Forecast		Percent Difference
	2025	2040	2025	2045	2025
King	2,255,388	2,449,065	2,456,418	2,832,326	8.90%
Kitsap	303,749	376,362	284,571	377,498	-6.30%
Pierce	941,915	1,083,980	953,260	1,153,089	1.20%
Snohomish	877,328	1,044,543	916,200	1,214,892	4.40%
Total	4,378,380	4,953,950	4,610,449	5,577,805	5.30%

Source: PSRC, 2017; BERK, 2018.

### 4.3.2 County Employment Forecasts

Employment has grown rapidly since 2010, but that growth has been unevenly distributed across the region. As shown in Table 4.3, between 2010 and 2017 King County has grown at a 3 percent compound annual rate, while Snohomish County has been growing at 2.3 percent. Kitsap and Pierce Counties have been growing at somewhat slower rates. PSRC's LUV Forecast shows a significant slowdown in growth rates across the region as well as much less variation in rates of growth. ESD's total employment forecast, on the other hand, indicates that King County will continue to grow at a significantly faster rate than the other counties.

BERK's adjusted 2025 total employment forecast reflects the regionwide rate of growth expected in the PSRC Macroeconomic Forecast which is slightly lower than ESD's forecast. The forecast also reflects the relative differences in growth rates observed in recent historic trends and the ESD forecast. As noted previously, the most significant infrastructure change during this period that could impact the distribution of employment growth will be the introduction of new light rail stations in Seattle, Mercer Island, and Bellevue.

The newest PSRC Macroeconomic Forecast predicts a somewhat slower rate of growth from 2025 to 2045 than was assumed in the previous forecast on which PSRC's LUV is based. However, total employment in 2045 is expected to be slightly higher than assumed in the previous forecast. BERK's adjusted forecast also reflects these new assumptions. With regards to the distribution of growth by county, BERK assumes the same relative rates as the LUV 2025 to 2040 forecast, adjusted downward to reflect expected macroeconomic conditions.

**Table 4.3: Comparison of Historic and Forecasted Employment by CAGR, 2010 to 2045**

	Historic Growth		PSRC LUV Forecast		ESD Forecast*		BERK Adjusted Forecast	
	2010	2017	2015 2025	2025 2040	2018 2026	2018 2025	2025 2045	
King	3.03%		0.98%	1.30%	1.75%	1.52%	1.20%	
Kitsap	0.99%		1.10%	1.29%	1.28%*	1.08%	1.15%	
Pierce	1.70%		0.98%	1.18%	1.12%	1.09%	1.07%	
Snohomish	2.33%		1.12%	1.75%	1.13%	1.36%	1.65%	
Total	2.61%		1.01%	1.35%	1.56%	1.41%	1.24%	

\* ESD does not provide a forecast for Kitsap County. This table shows the Olympic Region forecasted rate of growth, which includes Kitsap County.

Source: PSRC, 2017; PSRC, 2018; ESD, 2018; BERK, 2018.

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Table 4.4 compares the LUV and BERK Adjusted county employment forecasts.

**Table 4.4: Comparison of County Employment Forecasts, 2025, 2040 and 2045**

	PSRC LUV Forecast		BERK Adjusted Forecast		Percent Difference 2025
	2025	2040	2025	2045	
King	1,544,032	1,875,067	1,653,571	2,097,259	7.1%
Kitsap	115,369	149,408	114,565	144,137	-0.7%
Pierce	386,148	498,086	393,647	487,155	1.9%
Snohomish	347,770	458,937	353,164	490,154	1.6%
Total	2,393,319	2,981,498	2,514,947	3,218,706	5.1%

Source: PSRC, 2017; BERK, 2018.

## 4.4 JURISDICTION FORECAST REVIEW AND ADJUSTMENTS

### 4.4.1 Population

BERK's review of PSRC's jurisdiction-level population forecasts focused primarily on cities located within ten miles of the SR 520 corridor. To evaluate these growth forecasts for the 2018 to 2025 period, BERK compared them to actual growth trends between the years 2010 and 2018.<sup>2</sup> Where LUV projections were consistent or close to historic trends, BERK assumes a future rate of growth consistent with the historic trend. Where discrepancies occurred, BERK used supporting information from discussions with local planners, local comprehensive plans,<sup>3</sup> and subsequent city planning efforts that may impact the capacity and rate of growth within a city. BERK's underlying default assumption is that as long as there is capacity for new growth, the factors driving population growth are unlikely to change before 2025.

There are a few exceptions to these default assumptions. First, BERK considered local factors that resulted in an uncommonly high growth rate for the 2010 to 2018 period, such as a large master planned development. Second, some jurisdictions are actively planning for increased growth in the future based on anticipated improvement in transit accessibility. The introduction of light rail, and to a much lesser extent transit-oriented development planned around bus rapid transit, represent a major change in factors supporting growth. Communities that are planning now for these changes will likely see higher rates of growth over the next ten years than the historic trend. In these cases, a higher rate consistent with PSRC forecasted growth is assumed. A summary of the growth rates for King County and the four major cities (Bellevue, Kirkland, Redmond and Seattle) is provided in Table 4.7. Details about BERK's research and outreach to individual cities is available in the final section of this report.

<sup>2</sup> Population growth estimates for cities were obtained from Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM). To measure actual population growth rather than growth due to annexation, BERK calculated growth rates for cities based on consistent geographic boundaries using OFM's small area estimates at the census block group scale.

<sup>3</sup> Jurisdictional population growth targets are set by counties in consultation with cities as part of the process of setting countywide planning policies. Cities then adopt projections consistent with their growth targets in their Comprehensive Plans.

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BERK's adjustments also consider known development pipeline projects summarized by jurisdiction as well as limitations to buildable land capacity for new growth.<sup>4</sup> As discussed previously, BERK obtained and analyzed all active building permits in Seattle, Bellevue, Kirkland, and Redmond as of August 2018 to support this analysis.

A similar process was used to review and adjust growth during the 2025 to 2045 forecast period. However, during this period more deference was given to rates of growth expected in PSRC's LUV forecast, after accounting for BERK's adjustment to countywide rates of growth. Total growth by jurisdiction was then compared to available land capacity. In situations where anticipated growth exceeds PSRC's estimated capacity, BERK reviewed comprehensive plans and reached out to selected city planning officials to further review land capacity estimations. Following any relevant land capacity adjustments, BERK reallocated growth exceeding capacity to jurisdictions with excess capacity in proportion to expected shares of forecasted county growth. Finally, BERK compared the results to LUV, historic trends, and adjusted rates of growth during the 2015 to 2025 period for reasonableness.

Table 4.5 presents a comparison of historic, PSRC forecasted, and BERK's adjusted population growth rates by Jurisdiction.

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<sup>4</sup> Total population growth allocations were limited by available capacity minus a standard 25% market factor deduction. This deduction is common in land capacity studies and reflects the fact that not every available parcel in a jurisdiction with additional zoned capacity is expected to become available for development or redevelopment within the forecast period. In BERK's forecast calculations, any growth in excess of capacity was reallocated to other jurisdictions with excess capacity, proportional to their total forecasted growth.

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### Socioeconomic Variables and Land Use

**Table 4.5: Comparison of PSRC and BERK Population Growth CAGR, select King County Jurisdictions\***

Jurisdiction	2010	2018	LUV		BERK		LUV		BERK	
			2015	2025	2018	2025	2025	2040	2025	2045
Auburn		1.49%		1.13%		1.23%		0.77%		0.74%
Bellevue		1.34%		1.12%		2.50%		0.69%		1.13%
Bothell		1.75%		1.12%		1.44%		0.50%		0.69%
Burien		1.09%		0.96%		0.90%		0.49%		0.51%
Clyde Hill		0.25%		0.07%		0.21%		0.18%		0.15%
Hunts Point		0.80%		0.39%		0.66%		0.17%		0.29%
Issaquah		2.51%		0.75%		0.48%		0.76%		0.49%
Kenmore		1.43%		1.41%		1.11%		1.01%		0.81%
Kent		1.13%		0.64%		0.94%		0.31%		0.45%
Kirkland		1.05%		0.73%		1.20%		0.37%		0.56%
Lake Forest Park		0.48%		0.56%		0.39%		0.35%		0.28%
Medina		1.12%		0.49%		0.92%		0.14%		0.37%
Mercer Island		0.84%		0.65%		0.97%		0.43%		0.51%
Newcastle		2.26%		0.79%		1.87%		0.25%		0.73%
Normandy Park		0.50%		0.42%		0.41%		0.28%		0.26%
Redmond		2.04%		1.38%		2.13%		0.96%		1.12%
Renton		1.59%		1.21%		1.31%		0.59%		0.69%
Sammamish		1.28%		0.43%		0.55%		0.32%		0.32%
SeaTac		1.00%		1.56%		0.82%		1.42%		0.89%
Seattle		2.31%		1.01%		1.91%		0.57%		0.88%
Shoreline		0.63%		0.76%		1.42%		0.52%		0.70%
Tukwila		0.45%		1.68%		1.22%		1.56%		1.08%
Woodinville		0.98%		1.97%		0.81%		1.67%		1.00%
Yarrow Point		0.78%		0.45%		0.64%		0.21%		0.30%
Unincorporated Urban Growth Areas		1.53%**		0.55%		1.63%		0.29%		0.67%

\* All rates based on growth in constant geography to avoid influence of annexations.

\*\* Historic CAGR based on 2010-2015 period for unincorporated UGAs only.

Source: OFM, 2018; PSRC, 2017; BERK, 2018.

#### 4.4.2 Employment

BERK applied a similar method for reviewing and adjusting the PSRC LUV forecasted employment growth rates by jurisdiction. Table 4.6 compares historic, PSRC forecasted, and BERK's adjusted employment growth rates by selected jurisdiction in King County. The review of historic trends revealed that, in many communities, some of the employment growth from 2010 to 2017 reflects recovery from the economic recession rather than new development. Details about BERK's research and outreach to individual cities are available in the final section of this chapter.

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**Table 4.6: Comparison of PSRC and BERK Employment Growth CAGR, select King County Jurisdictions\***

Jurisdiction	2010 2017**	LUV		BERK		LUV		BERK	
		2015	2025	2018	2025	2025	2040	2025	2045
Auburn	2.92%	1.49%		1.36%		1.71%		1.51%	
Bellevue	2.05%	0.98%		1.86%		1.49%		1.39%	
Bothell	4.17%	0.66%		1.60%		1.24%		1.09%	
Burien	2.38%	1.88%		0.95%		1.47%		1.29%	
Clyde Hill	1.95%	1.88%		0.22%		-0.09%		0.04%	
Covington	1.03%	0.44%		0.52%		0.90%		0.79%	
Issaquah	4.11%	2.24%		1.72%		2.59%		2.29%	
Kenmore	0.49%	3.96%		1.90%		2.49%		2.19%	
Kent	3.05%	0.58%		1.11%		0.76%		0.67%	
Kirkland	6.03%	1.24%		2.05%		1.72%		1.52%	
Lake Forest Park	-0.90%	0.26%		1.78%		0.61%		0.53%	
Medina	1.40%	0.16%		0.00%		-0.09%		-0.08%	
Mercer Island	0.50%	0.76%		0.60%		0.80%		0.70%	
Newcastle	4.98%	0.19%		0.75%		1.27%		1.11%	
Normandy Park	3.75%	0.95%		2.51%		0.64%		-0.03%	
Redmond	3.03%	1.02%		1.41%		1.08%		1.56%	
Renton	1.96%	1.26%		1.03%		1.73%		1.52%	
Sammamish	5.65%	0.66%		1.65%		0.94%		0.83%	
SeaTac	4.16%	2.93%		1.99%		2.58%		2.27%	
Seattle	3.32%	0.63%		1.54%		1.07%		0.98%	
Shoreline	0.10%	1.16%		0.88%		1.17%		1.02%	
Tukwila	1.42%	0.93%		4.36%		1.30%		1.14%	
Woodinville	2.81%	2.46%		1.09%		1.70%		1.49%	
Unincorporated Urban Growth Areas	6.71%	1.96%		3.65%		0.72%		0.63%	

\* All rates based on growth in constant geography to avoid influence of annexations.

\*\* Historic CAGR based on PSRC covered employment estimates by City. UGA estimated based on Census LEHD employment estimates, 2010-2014.

Source: PSRC, 2017 & 2018; Census LEHD, 2017; BERK, 2018.

Table 4.7 presents a summary of BERK's Population and Employment Forecasts by CAGR for King county and the four main cities.

**Table 4.7: Summary of BERK Population and Employment Forecasts by CAGR, 2018 to 2045**

Jurisdiction	Population		Employment	
	CAGR 2018-25	CAGR 2025-45	CAGR 2018-25	CAGR 2025-45
King County	1.7%	0.7%	1.5%	1.2%
Four Main Cities	Seattle	1.9%	0.9%	1.5%
	Bellevue	2.5%	1.1%	1.9%
	Kirkland	1.2%	0.6%	2.1%
	Redmond	2.1%	1.1%	1.4%

\* All rates based on growth in constant geography to avoid influence of annexations.

Source: OFM, 2018; PSRC, 2017; BERK, 2018.

## 4.5 ALLOCATION OF JURISDICTION GROWTH TO TAZ

### 4.5.1 Housing and Employment Growth Capacity

BERK used data about future land use assumptions from PSRC to calculate housing unit and total employment capacity on vacant and re-developable parcels by TAZ. Within the City of Seattle, BERK used updated parcel-based land capacity calculations based on newly passed and proposed zoning changes. This analysis assumes 25 percent of total aggregate capacity in vacant and underutilized parcels will remain unavailable for development. In cases where the known development pipeline exceeds calculated capacity, the capacity estimates were modified to accommodate all planned growth.

### 4.5.2 Population and Household Allocation

Beginning with the 2025 forecast period, BERK allocated the adjusted population forecasts for each jurisdiction to households within TAZ. First, population forecasted in LUV at the jurisdictional scale was subtracted from BERK's adjusted population forecasts and assigned to TAZ consistently with the LUV forecast. Next, BERK allocated population growth to housing units in development pipeline projects expected to build out before 2025. Remaining population growth was then allocated to households in TAZ proportionally to the amount of growth each TAZ was expected to receive in the LUV forecast.<sup>5</sup> If a TAZ is limited by housing capacity, then overflow growth is allocated to other TAZ in the same jurisdiction proportional to their remaining capacity. Within each separate county, unincorporated UGAs and rural areas were each treated as a distinct jurisdiction using this same method.

### 4.5.3 Employment

The process for allocating total employment growth/loss to TAZ was similar to the approach used for population and households. However, additional work was required to address significant data suppression in the PSRC census tract

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<sup>5</sup> BERK's review of LUV found that PSRC's forecasted rate of reduction in average household sizes by TAZ are faster than demographic trends and PSRC's regional macroeconomic forecast. Therefore, BERK's forecast includes adjusted assumptions about the rate of reduction in average household size by TAZ. In all cases, allocated population to households by TAZ reflect average household size reflect TAZ level conditions and trends.

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forecast. In most cases the suppression was limited to the two or more sector totals, while in other cases total employment was also suppressed. Key steps in this process are described below.

#### **4.5.3.1 Estimating Suppressed Values in LUV TAZ Forecast**

To address data suppression in the 2025 LUV forecast, BERK's model first inserted the estimated 2018 values then made adjustments to accommodate all county-level growth or loss of employment by sector to match PSRC's LUV county level sector totals. Adjustments were controlled for total forecasted employment by TAZ and employment capacity in TAZ with suppressed totals. An identical process was used to estimate suppressed values for the 2040 LUV forecast products. Finally, BERK reaggregated census tract data by TAZ based on total employment capacity.

#### **4.5.3.2 Review and Adjustment to LUV TAZ Forecast**

Next, BERK's unsuppressed LUV forecast by TAZ was used as a key input for developing and reviewing the adjusted forecast product. To allocate BERK's adjusted jurisdictional total employment growth to TAZ, BERK began by placing development pipeline projects expected to build out before 2025. Remaining employment growth was then allocated to TAZ proportional to the amount of growth each TAZ was expected to receive in the unsuppressed LUV forecast, limited by BERK's calculated capacity. Growth exceeding capacity was then reallocated to other TAZ in the same jurisdiction proportional to their remaining capacity. For each TAZ, preliminary breakdowns by employment sector were based on proportions in the unsuppressed LUV forecast, controlling for consistency with building types in the development pipeline as well as BERK's countywide control totals by employment sector.

## **4.6 REVIEW AND ADJUSTMENT NOTES BY JURISDICTION**

This section describes adjustments made to the LUV forecast for individual jurisdictions that diverge from the general assumptions and methodology described previously, with a focus on King County jurisdictions. Cases where the general assumptions for jurisdictional review and adjustment were confirmed by further research are not discussed here.

### **4.6.1 Bellevue**

Bellevue worked closely with PSRC to explain and refine their growth projections and land capacity exceptions during the development of Land Use Vision. Light rail will be operative in 2023 and Bellevue has done extensive planning work to create transit-oriented development around future stations and to create a secondary urban center in the Bel-Red area. The city expects that with light rail coming online there will be more growth in the period before 2025 than in the following ten years. Master planned development of the Spring District is significant and already in the pipeline, likely to peak by 2025. The city also has two growth areas that are still waiting on land use planning and zoning changes that will increase capacity – the Eastgate Corridor, which is primarily employment capacity with some mixed use, and the Wilburton subarea which is likely to increase both employment and population capacity. Those are also expected to occur before 2025.

For both the 2025 and 2045 forecasts, BERK's growth rate adjustments reflect this large pipeline of expected development activity.

#### **4.6.2 Issaquah**

During recent years, Issaquah has experienced significant growth. Much of this growth was related to large master planned developments that are expected to reach capacity by 2025. Future growth is mainly expected to occur in the commercial core, as guided by the Central Issaquah Plan. However, in 2016 Issaquah enacted a moratorium on development in the commercial core, with the intent to rework portions of the plan in response to community concerns about land use intensity. The moratorium concluded in 2018 after council adopted several new development regulations, including an inclusionary zoning requirement. BERK expects that the impacts of the moratorium period and changes to regulations will slow future growth in Issaquah compared to historic trends and the LUV forecast.

#### **4.6.3 Redmond**

BERK's analysis of city permit data revealed an excess of 4,000 residential units in the short-term pipeline that were not reflected in PSRC's development pipeline database. BERK's forecast assumptions reflect this additional expected growth before 2025, resulting in a rate of residential growth higher than LUV and historic trends.

#### **4.6.4 Seattle**

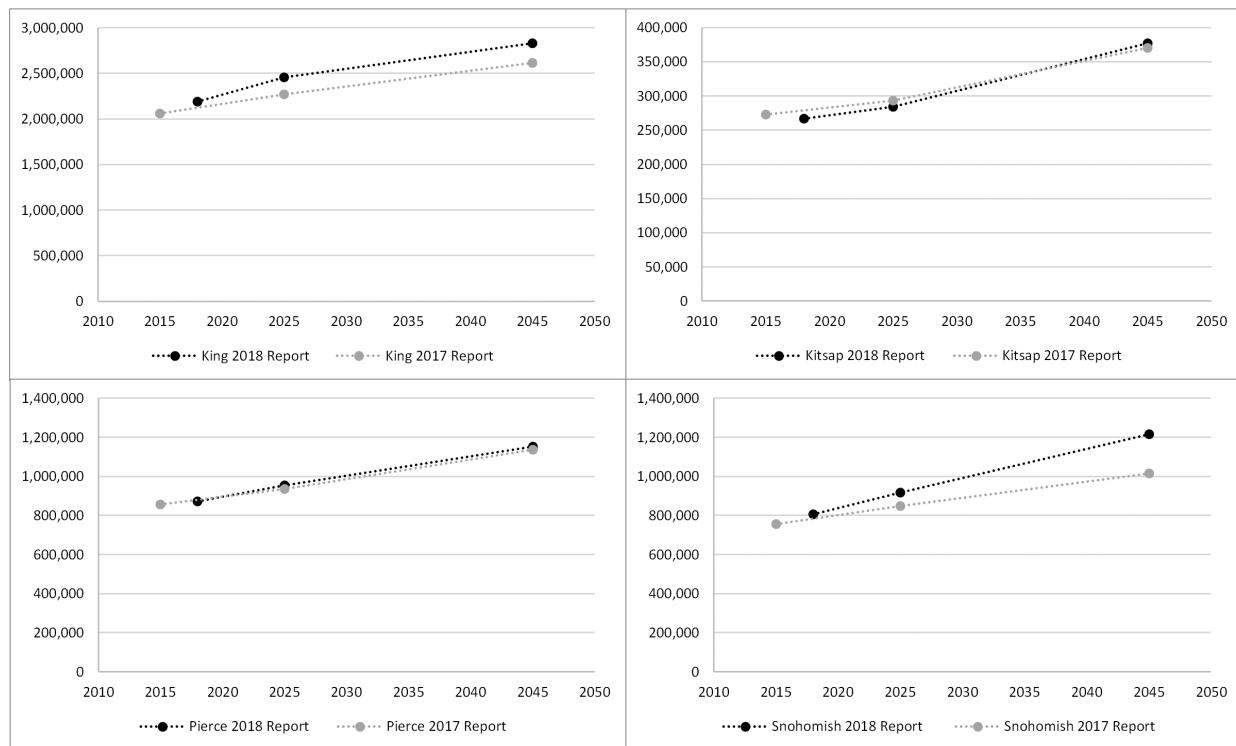
BERK's analysis of city permit data revealed a large amount of new residential and employment pipeline development in both the short and long term which are not reflected in LUV. This includes commercial and industrial development with capacity over 38,000 jobs by 2025, as well as over 21,000 housing units. The availability of this permit data provides more certainty around the expected pattern of growth in Seattle, particularly in the 2025 forecast period.

Based on this known pipeline, as well as the high rate of growth in recent years, BERK forecasts show continued strong growth in Seattle compared to many other King County jurisdictions, and higher than the LUV forecast. However, the rate of employment growth is expected to slow somewhat from the very rapid recent trends due in part to Amazon's decision to locate a second headquarters outside of Seattle.

## 4.7 COMPARISON TO PREVIOUS BERK FORECASTS

In general, BERK forecasts of population and employment used for Stantec's current and 2018 forecasts are slightly higher than the forecasts used in preparing Stantec's 2017 forecasts of traffic and revenue. Figure 4-1 presents a comparison of BERK's current forecast of total population by county versus the previous forecast. Please note that the left axis on the following series of comparison graphs is not consistent, to allow for clearer visual differentiation between the forecasts. King County and Snohomish County are forecasted to have higher population for all years of the forecast, while Kitsap County is forecasted to see slightly lower population than previously forecasted in the near term but matching previously forecasted levels by 2045. Population forecasts for Pierce County have remained roughly the same.

**Figure 4-1: Comparison of BERK Forecasts for Total Population, by County**

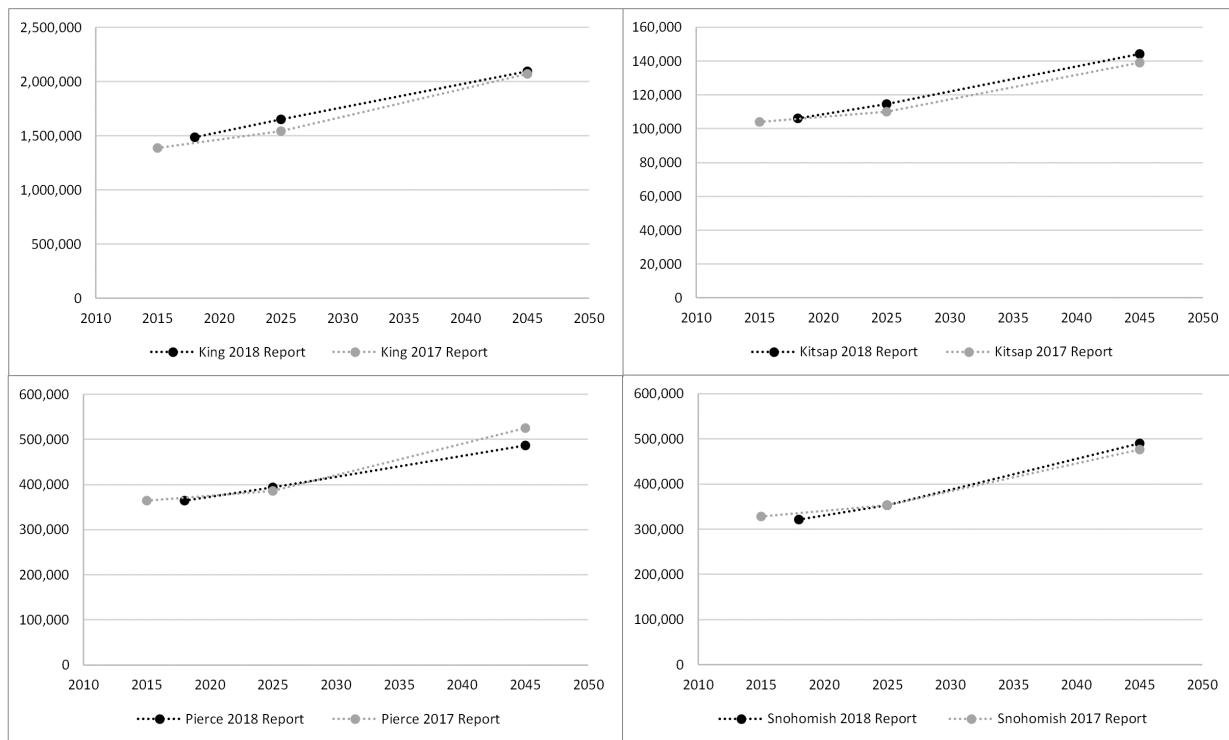


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Figure 4-2 presents a comparison of BERK's current forecast of total employment by county versus the previous forecast. Forecasts for King County and Kitsap County employment have increased slightly over previous forecasts, and although BERK estimates that Snohomish County employment for the year 2018 is currently below 2015 levels, it is projected to return to previously forecasted levels in 2025 and 2045. Employment forecasts for Pierce County are matching well with the previous forecast for 2025 but are estimated to be somewhat lower than previously forecasted in 2045.

**Figure 4-2: Comparison of BERK Forecasts for Total Employment, by County**

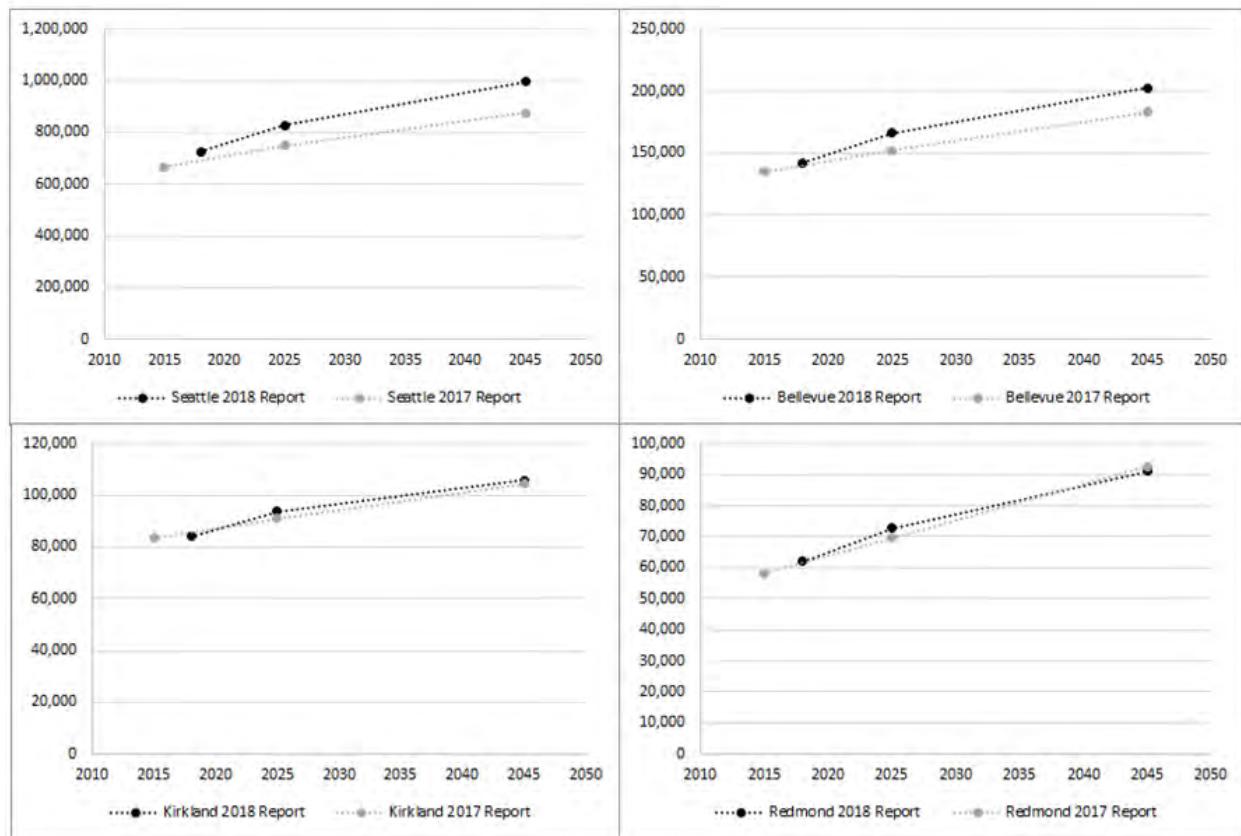


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Figure 4-3 presents a comparison of BERK's current forecast of total population for each of King County's four main cities (Seattle, Bellevue, Kirkland and Redmond) versus the previous forecast. Similar to the King County forecast, the 2018 population forecasts for Seattle and Bellevue are generally higher than previous forecasts, while updated population forecasts for Kirkland and Redmond are in line with previous forecasts.

**Figure 4-3: Comparison of BERK Forecasts for Total Population, Four Main Cities in King County**

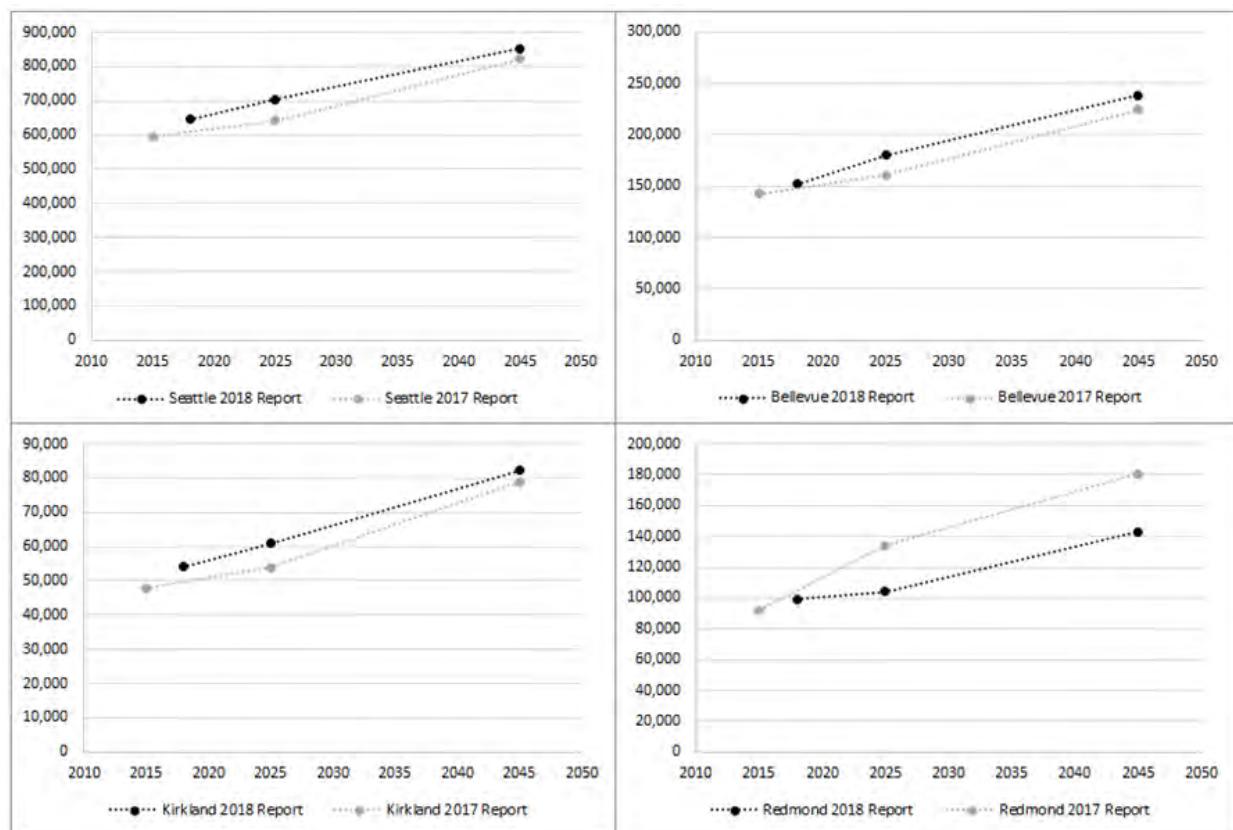


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Figure 4-4 presents a comparison of BERK's current forecast of total employment for each of King County's four main cities (Seattle, Bellevue, Kirkland and Redmond) versus the previous forecast. While the employment forecast for King County as a whole was generally slightly higher than previous forecasts, it should be noted that employment for the city of Redmond is forecasted to be significantly lower than previous estimates. Redmond comprises only about a tenth of the four major city combined employment, and employment forecasts have increased for Seattle, Bellevue and Kirkland.

**Figure 4-4: Comparison of BERK Forecasts for Total Employment, Four Main Cities in King County**



## 5.0 MODEL DEVELOPMENT AND CALIBRATION

This chapter provides an overview of the modeling methodology, 2018 calibration dataset, model development, and calibration of the model used to produce the SR 520 bridge traffic and gross toll revenue potential forecasts. The 2019 Study builds upon the regional travel demand model calibration efforts conducted as part of the 2018 Study. Since the calibration effort of the regional travel demand model from the previous study was retained, the following sections are consistent with the 2018 Study documentation. All tables and figures in this chapter are consistent with the 2018 Report.

### 5.1 METHODOLOGY OVERVIEW

A two-tiered travel demand modelling process was used to perform the traffic and revenue forecast. First, Stantec utilized the Puget Sound Regional Commission (PSRC) regional model encompassing Seattle and much of the surrounding area. Stantec then used a customized Toll Diversion Model (TDM) to analyze the SR 520 bridge patronage. For this second step, network and vehicle demand coverage were retained at the regional model level; however, the trips were subdivided into twelve time periods to reflect the variation in toll cost and traffic demand throughout the day. The toll diversion model results serve as the basis for the traffic and revenue forecast. The base model calibration reflects 2018 traffic conditions, using traffic volume and travel time data compiled for this effort as detailed in Chapter 3 of this report. The methodology has not changed from that which was outlined in the report accompanying the November 2017 Forecast. The roadway network, traffic data and socioeconomic assumptions have been updated where possible, but the calibration and modeling methodologies have remained constant.

### 5.2 2018 CALIBRATION DATASETS

The base model year for the analysis is 2018. As such, existing 2018 traffic data on SR 520 were used to calibrate corridor-specific volumes and speeds to the regional transportation model as part of the 2018 Study. Most of the data collection was focused on SR 520; however, screenline traffic counts along the main feeder and collector routes were summarized to support the travel demand model calibration in detailing the travel movements throughout the study area. This chapter details the existing traffic volumes and speeds along with the current payment shares on SR 520. These data are mostly 2018 data, as this is the base year of the travel demand model. Additional 2019 data were collected and presented earlier in this report to verify that the most recent growth and travel patterns are consistent with model results.

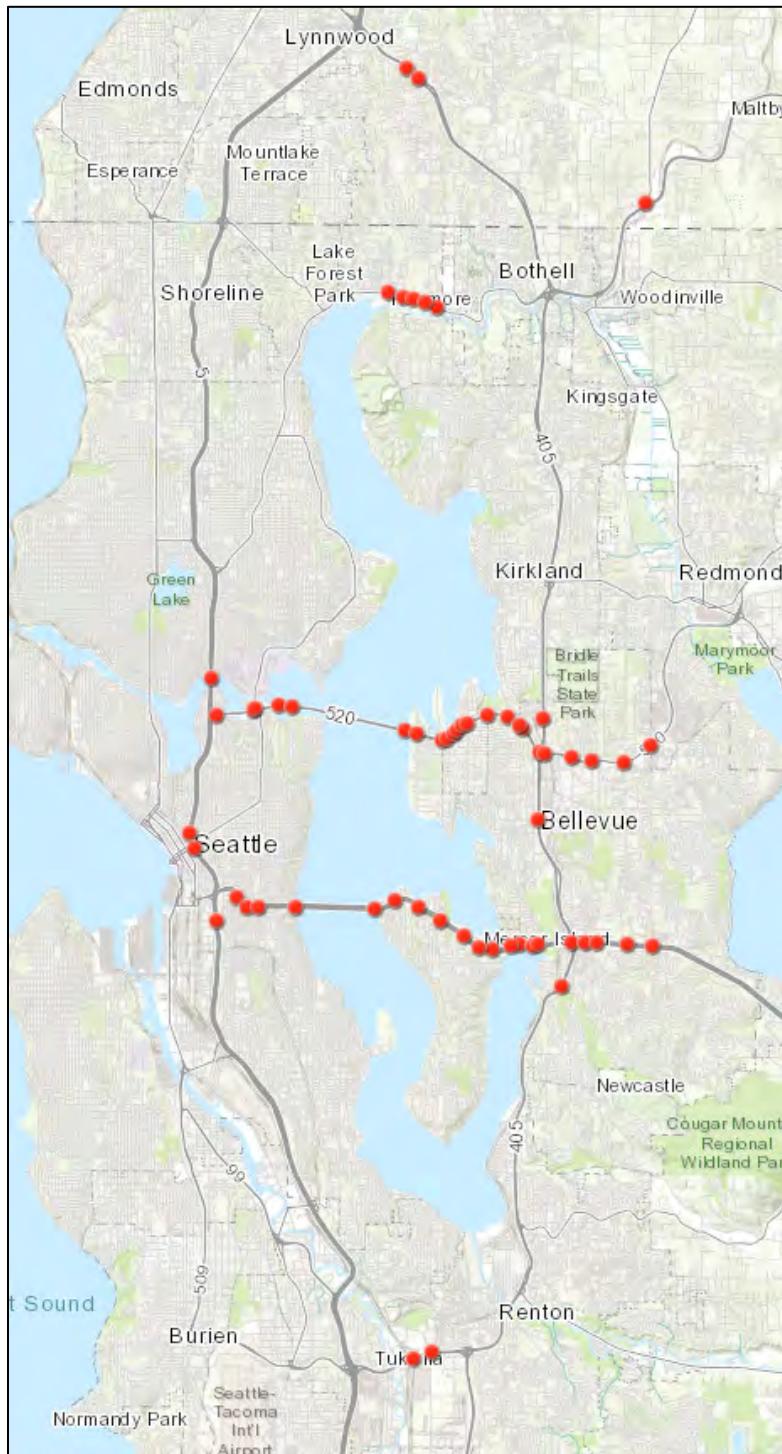
The focus of the traffic data summaries was to reflect typical weekday traffic on the SR 520 bridge, as well as critical parallel and feeder routes. The primary source for these data was the WSDOT network of permanent pavement loops that collect traffic and speed data on the major routes throughout the region. Stantec used the WSDOT data retrieval software, the Compact Disk Data Retrieval software (CDR), to access the data. The CDR software is used to download and analyze a designated subset of the data based on specific days, locations, and analysis options. Average weekday (Tuesday through Thursday) hourly SR 520 traffic patterns as well as screenline volumes were summarized using the CDR software. Historic speeds were also summarized from the CDR software and were supplemented with publicly available data from the SigAlert website. SigAlert collects cell phone data to estimate real-

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time speeds along major traffic corridors throughout the United States and makes the data available online. Figure 5-1 shows the permanent count locations that were reviewed for the 2018 calibration effort.

**Figure 5-1: SR 520 Study Area Permanent Count Locations**



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#### 5.2.1 Heavy Vehicle Classification

In order to calibrate the travel demand model to 2018 conditions, vehicle classification data from the permanent count recorders were also summarized for Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from February to April 2018. The recorders classify the vehicles into four categories based on the vehicle length. For calibration purposes, Stantec used this to represent the distribution of vehicles across the bridge. Table 5.1 shows the vehicle length distribution by direction and time period. Vehicles categorized into the 42.1'-72.0' and 72.1'-115.0' bins were considered heavy vehicles. As shown, heavy vehicles represent a small portion of the traffic on SR 520. The highest percentages of heavy vehicles occur during the overnight period (11 PM through 5 AM) in both the eastbound and the westbound direction, with 3.1 percent and 3.6 percent respectively.

**Table 5.1: SR 520 Bridge Average Tuesday to Thursday Weekday Shares of Heavy Vehicle Longer than 42 feet<sup>1</sup>**

Direction	AM (5-9am)	MD (9am-3pm)	PM (3-6pm)	EV (6-11pm)	ON (11pm 5am)	Daily
<b>EB</b>	2.6%	2.4%	2.4%	2.3%	3.1%	2.5%
<b>WB</b>	3.3%	2.2%	2.8%	1.5%	3.6%	2.5%

<sup>1</sup>Vehicles that are more than 42 feet long are considered heavy vehicles.

Source: Tuesday-Thursday CDR data, February – April 2018

SR 520 tolls are categorized by the number of axles. As shown in Table 5.2, summarized Tuesday through Thursday toll transaction data from the Customer Service Center for full FY 2018 showed that heavy vehicles with more than 2-axles represented 1.9 to 3.6 percent of the total vehicles crossing the bridge in both directions. While the two data sources classified heavy vehicles using different parameters, both indicated that the heavy vehicle usage percentage was less than three percent of total daily traffic. CSC data for full FY 2018 average Tuesday through Thursday suggests its closer to 2 percent of daily traffic.

**Table 5.2: FY 2018 SR 520 Bridge Average Tuesday to Thursday Weekday Shares of Heavy Vehicle with More Than 2 Axles<sup>1</sup>**

Direction	AM (5-9am)	MD (9am-3pm)	PM (3-6pm)	EV (6-11pm)	ON (11pm 5am)	Daily
<b>Both Directions</b>	2.4%	2.2%	1.9%	1.4%	3.6%	2.0%

<sup>1</sup>Vehicles with more than 2 axles are considered heavy vehicles.

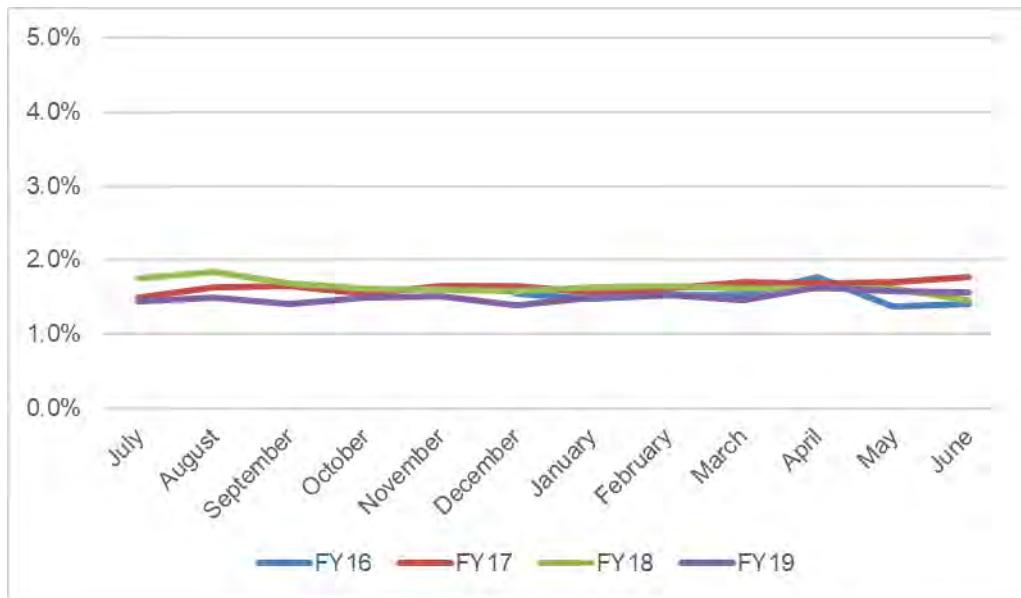
Source: Total eastbound and westbound directions; CSC data, FY 2018

Historical heavy vehicles as a percent of overall toll traffic on SR 520 are presented in Figure 5-2. This graph was developed from monthly TCS count data by axle and shows that there is relatively little monthly or annual fluctuation in heavy vehicle share; it has ranged between 1.4 to 1.8 percent of traffic for each month. The percentages shown in this figure are slightly lower than the percentages presented in Table 5.1 and Table 5.2 because these include all days of the week, not just Tuesday through Thursday.

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**Figure 5-2: SR 520 Bridge Heavy Vehicle Share<sup>1</sup>**



<sup>1</sup>Vehicles with more than 2 axles are considered heavy vehicles.

Source: Total eastbound and westbound directions; TCS monthly data

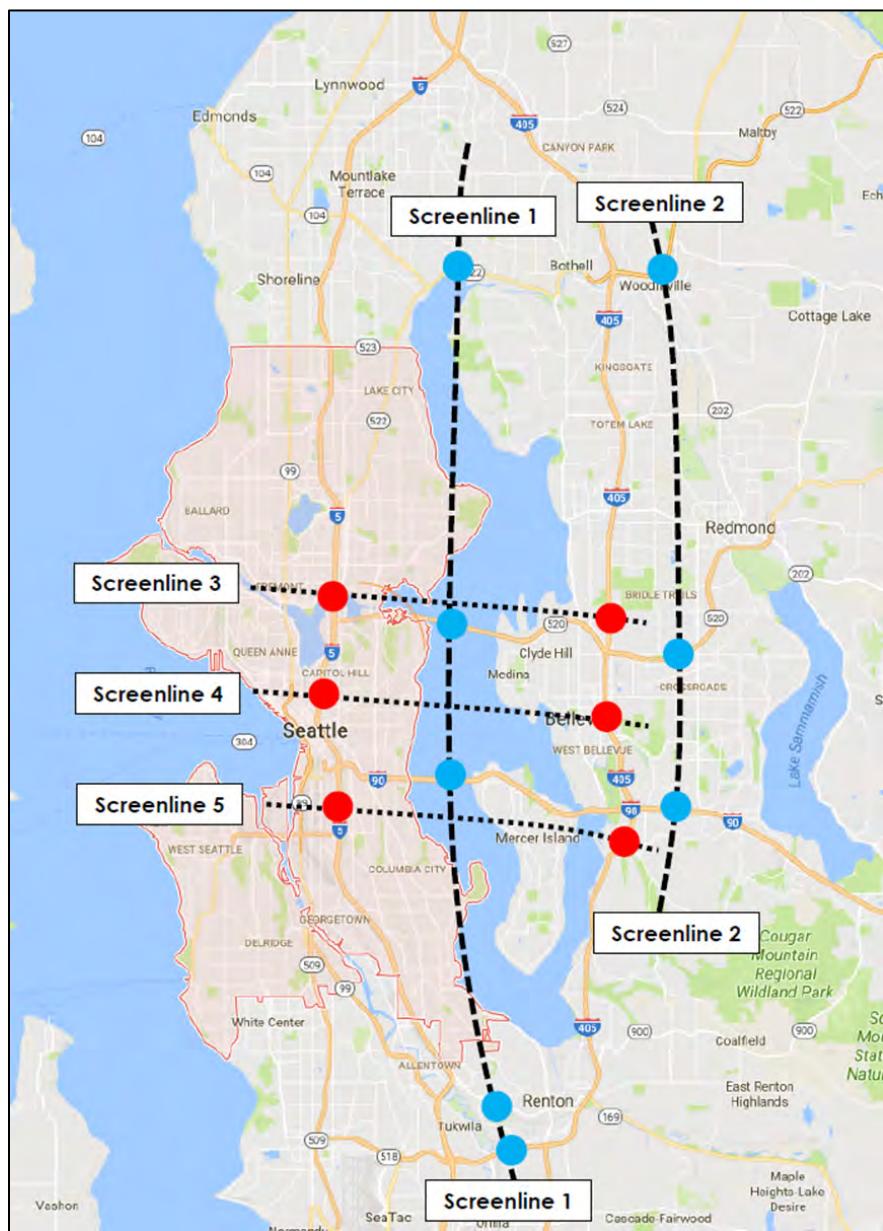
## 5.3 SCREENLINE TRAFFIC VOLUMES

For purposes of calibrating the 2018 regional toll diversion model, discussed in Section 5.6.2, traffic volume data were summarized along five screenlines, as shown in Figure 5-3. The most important screenline in terms of understanding the travel behavior on the SR 520 bridge is Screenline 1, which accounts for traffic crossing the Lake Washington screenline. Table 5.3 summarizes the daily volumes at each of the screenline locations by direction. As shown, I-90 carries about 33 percent of the daily traffic across the Lake Washington screenline while SR 520 carries about 17 percent of this traffic for both eastbound and westbound direction. Data for these summaries was derived from the CDR data site and the WSDOT online geoportal count data site. Volumes were summarized for Tuesdays through Thursdays from February to April 2018, estimated to represent an average weekday for 2018.

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Figure 5-3: Screenline Location Map



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**Table 5.3: Average Tuesday to Thursday (Weekday) Daily Traffic Volumes by Direction by Screenline, February to April 2018**

Screenline	Facility	Daily Traffic Volume			
		Northbound/Eastbound		Southbound/Westbound	
		Obs	%Share	Obs	%Share
1: Lake Washington	SR 522 at 68th Ave NE	17,442	7%	22,879	9%
	SR 520/Evergreen Point Floating Bridge	40,711	17%	42,045	17%
	I-90/Murrow Memorial Bridge	81,154	33%	83,773	33%
	SR 900 East of I-5	15,000	6%	15,000	6%
	I-405 East of SR 181	88,609	36%	88,919	35%
<b>Total</b>		<b>242,916</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>252,617</b>	<b>100%</b>
2: East of I-405	SR 522	26,357	15%	28,505	17%
	SR 520	63,772	37%	60,264	36%
	I-90	82,078	48%	77,484	47%
	<b>Total</b>		<b>172,208</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>166,253</b>
3: North of SR-520	I-5	102,126	51%	102,148	50%
	I-405	98,535	49%	100,148	50%
	<b>Total</b>		<b>200,661</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>202,296</b>
4: Between SR-520 and I-90	I-5	102,323	54%	122,795	61%
	I-405	87,092	46%	79,423	39%
	<b>Total</b>		<b>189,415</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>202,218</b>
5: South of I-90	I-5	105,778	57%	131,520	65%
	I-405	80,603	43%	72,127	35%
	<b>Total</b>		<b>186,381</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>203,648</b>

Source: Tuesday-Thursday CDR data, Feb – April 2018

Table 5.4 summarizes the Screenline 1 traffic volumes by time period and by direction. The SR 520 share in the eastbound direction is greatest (compared to itself in other time periods of the day) in the AM period (21 percent), the I-90 share is also greatest in the eastbound direction during the AM period (37 percent). The SR 520 share in the westbound direction is greatest in the PM period (21 percent) while the I-90 share in the westbound direction is greatest during the AM period (36 percent).

**Table 5.4: Average Tuesday to Thursday (Weekday) Daily Traffic Volumes by Direction by Time Period, Screenline 1, February to April 2018**

Facility	Northbound/Eastbound											
	AM (6:00 to 9:00)		MD (9:00 to 3:00)		PM (3:00 to 6:00)		EV (6:00 to 10:00)		NI (10:00 to 6:00)		DAILY	
	Obs	% Share	Obs	% Share	Obs	% Share	Obs	% Share	Obs	% Share	Obs	% Share
SR 522 at 68th Ave NE	3,444	8%	5,840	7%	4,182	8%	2,500	7%	1,476	5%	17,442	7%
SR 520/Evergreen Point Floating Bridge	8,962	21%	13,917	18%	8,860	17%	5,502	15%	3,471	11%	40,711	17%
I-90/Murrow Memorial Bridge	15,682	37%	26,031	33%	18,930	36%	11,958	33%	8,554	26%	81,154	33%
SR 900 East of I-5	2,962	7%	5,023	6%	3,596	7%	2,150	6%	1,269	4%	15,000	6%
I-405 East of SR 181	11,505	27%	27,988	36%	16,695	32%	14,638	40%	17,784	55%	88,609	36%
<b>Total</b>	<b>42,554</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>78,799</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>52,263</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>36,747</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>32,553</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>242,916</b>	<b>100%</b>

Facility	Southbound/Westbound											
	AM (6:00 to 9:00)		MD (9:00 to 3:00)		PM (3:00 to 6:00)		EV (6:00 to 10:00)		NI (10:00 to 6:00)		DAILY	
	Obs	% Share	Obs	% Share	Obs	% Share	Obs	% Share	Obs	% Share	Obs	% Share
SR 522 at 68th Ave NE	4,565	9%	7,826	9%	4,931	10%	3,250	9%	2,307	7%	22,879	9%
SR 520/Evergreen Point Floating Bridge	8,705	17%	13,644	16%	10,265	21%	6,369	18%	3,062	9%	42,045	17%
I-90/Murrow Memorial Bridge	18,277	36%	27,563	33%	17,440	35%	11,760	33%	8,733	27%	83,773	33%
SR 900 East of I-5	2,993	6%	5,131	6%	3,233	7%	2,130	6%	1,512	5%	15,000	6%
I-405 East of SR 181	16,587	32%	29,390	35%	13,809	28%	11,860	34%	17,273	53%	88,919	35%
<b>Total</b>	<b>51,127</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>83,555</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>49,679</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>35,369</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>32,887</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>252,617</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Tuesday-Thursday CDR data, Feb – April 2018

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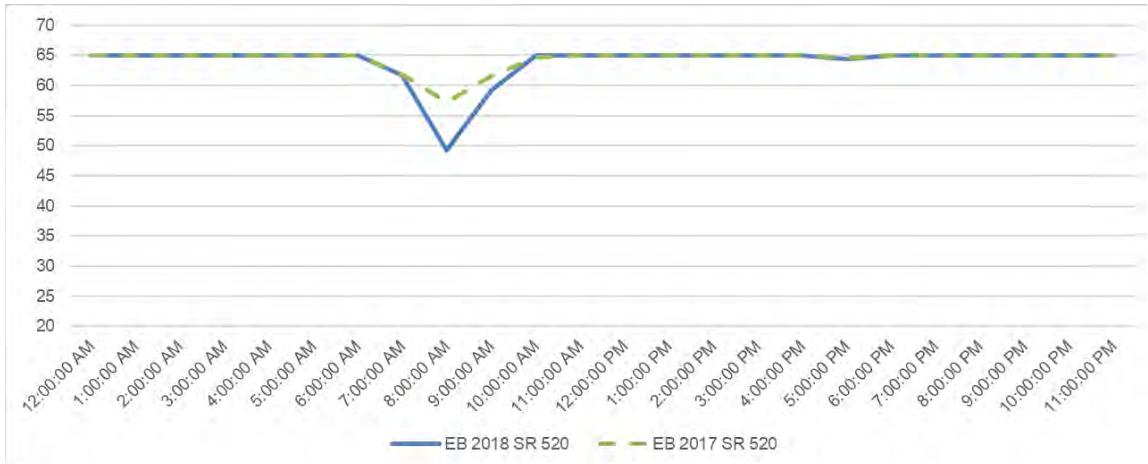
### Model Development and Calibration

## 5.4 TRAVEL SPEEDS

### 5.4.1 SR 520 Bridge Travel Speeds

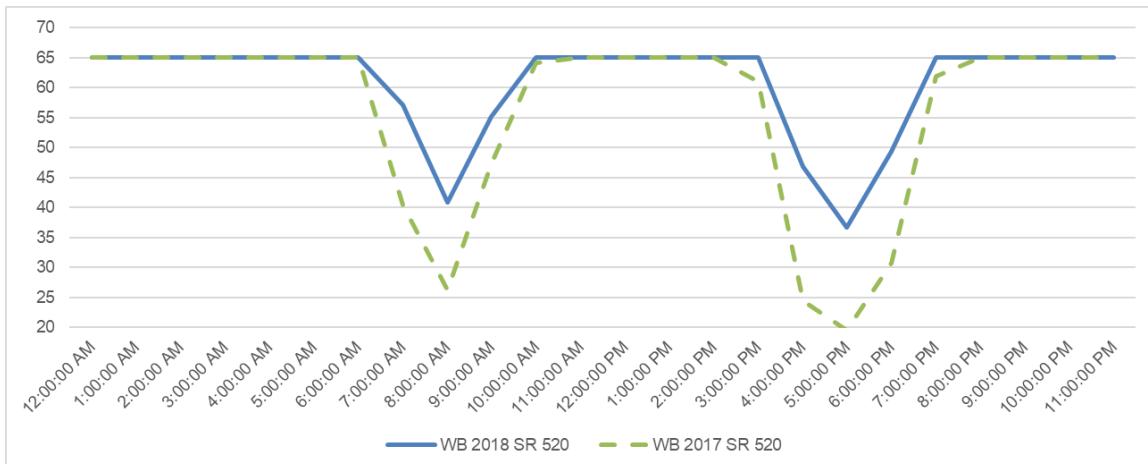
Figure 5-4 and Figure 5-5 show the hourly travel speed profile by direction of travel for a typical Tuesday to Thursday weekday for vehicles traveling across the SR 520 bridge. The speed profile is the summarized speed measure from the CDR site for the Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from February to April 2017 and 2018. Westbound traffic generally experiences lower speeds than the eastbound traffic during peak periods. In the westbound direction, average AM peak period speeds slow to about 40 mph in the AM period and to about 35 mph in the PM peak period. In the eastbound direction, average AM peak period speeds slow to about 50 mph in the AM period, down from 55 to 60 mph in 2017. This change in average speed could be due to increased peak hour traffic demand consistent with the toll transaction growth discussed in Section 2.3.2. Eastbound PM Peak period slows only slightly, and similar to average midday and overnight periods in both directions, speeds hover between 60 and 65 mph.

**Figure 5-4: Eastbound SR 520 Bridge Average Tuesday to Thursday (Weekday) Hourly Travel Speeds, by Direction, February to April 2017 and 2018**



Source: Tuesday-Thursday CDR data, February – April 2018 and February – April 2017

**Figure 5-5: Westbound SR 520 Bridge Average Tuesday to Thursday (Weekday) Hourly Travel Speeds, by Direction, February to April 2017 and 2018**



Source: Tuesday-Thursday CDR data, February – April 2018 and February – April 2017

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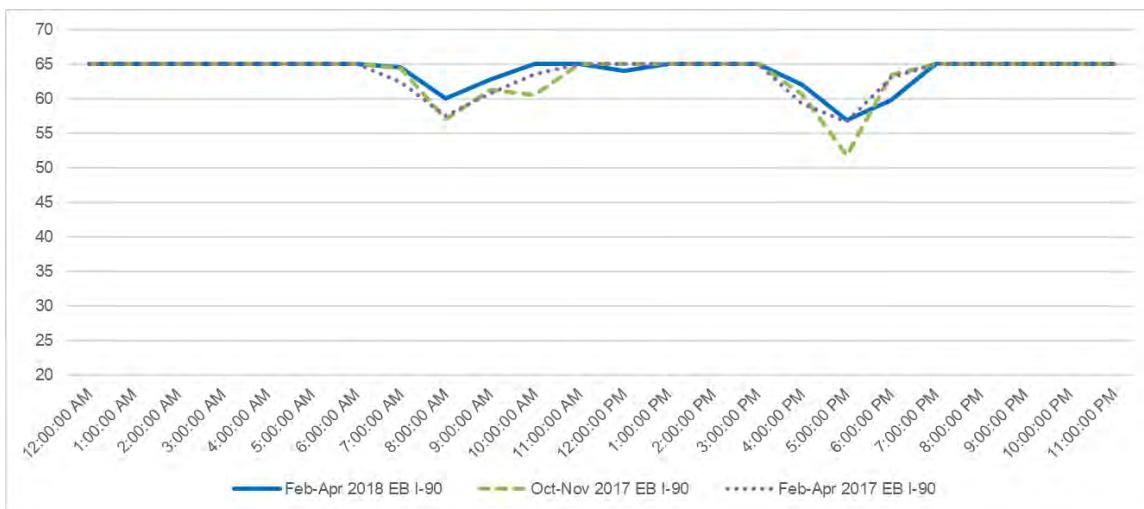
### Model Development and Calibration

#### 5.4.2 I-90 Bridge Travel Speeds

Figure 5-6 and Figure 5-7 show the February through April 2018 hourly travel speed profile by travel direction for a typical Tuesday to Thursday weekday for vehicles traveling across the I-90 bridge. The speed summaries are the raw speed measure from the CDR site for the Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. A significant majority of westbound speed data for the period February through April 2017 from the CDR site was unavailable, so westbound data for the months of October and November 2017 (used in the preparation of the November 2017 Forecast) was substituted as a comparison against the February through April 2018 data.

Figure 5-6 presents a comparison of eastbound 2018 speed data versus both February through April 2017 as well as October and November 2017. Eastbound AM speeds for 2018 are shown to be very similar in both 2017 data sets, while the average PM speeds are slightly lower in the October through November 2017 data set. Westbound speed data, illustrated by Figure 5-7, shows that traffic generally experiences lower speeds than the eastbound traffic during peak periods, partly due to increased discretionary trips in the westbound direction towards downtown Seattle. In the westbound direction, traffic slows to between 30 and 35 mph in the AM period and to about 40 mph in the PM peak period. In the eastbound direction AM peak traffic slows slightly to around 60 mph and PM peak period speeds slow to between 55 and 60 mph. Average midday speeds and overnight speeds hover between 60 and 65 mph. It should be noted that construction between Mercer Island and Seattle as part of the I-90 Two-Way Transit and HOV Operations project was completed in June 2017.

**Figure 5-6: Eastbound I-90 Bridge Average Tuesday to Thursday (Weekday) Hourly Travel Speeds, by Direction, February to April 2017 and 2018**

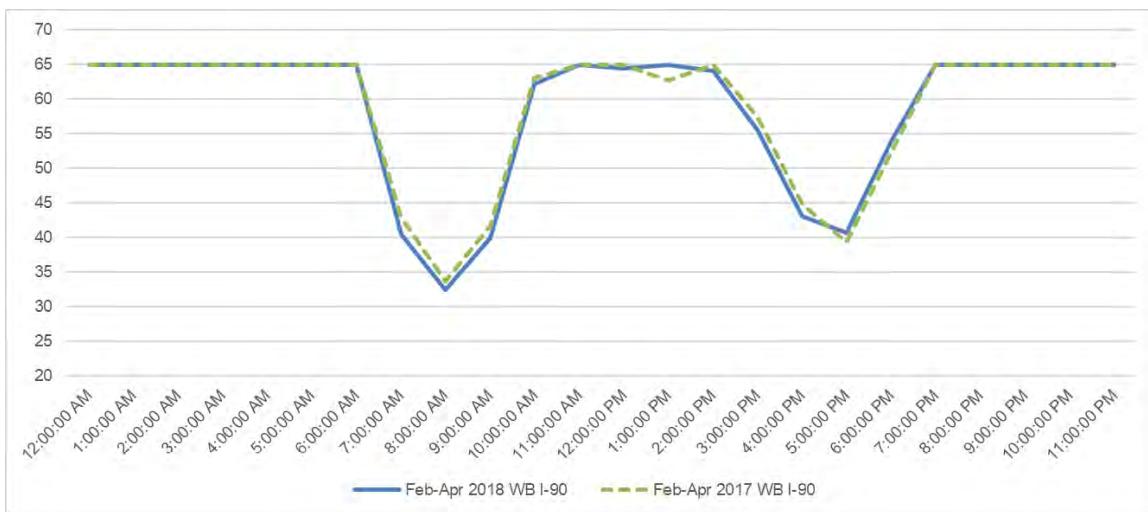


Source: Tuesday-Thursday CDR data, February – April 2018, February – April 2017 and October – November 2017

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**Figure 5-7: Westbound I-90 Bridge Average Tuesday to Thursday (Weekday) Hourly Travel Speeds, by Direction, February to April 2018**



Source: Tuesday-Thursday CDR data, February – April 2018 and October – November 2017

## 5.5 REGIONAL TRAVEL DEMAND MODEL

Stantec employed the Trip-Based Travel Model 4K Version 4.03 (2015) that is developed and maintained by PSRC as the regional modeling platform. Stantec's primary objective was to estimate the vehicular travel demand for the trans-Lake Washington corridor, to facilitate downstream toll diversion modeling for the early-2018 base year (model calibration), and the 2025 and 2045 horizon years.

The PSRC 4K model is a full-featured, 4-step travel demand model that encompasses the Central Puget Sound region, including the counties of King, Pierce, Snohomish, and Kitsap. The model consists of 3,700 internal TAZs, 18 external stations, and an additional 150 zones representing Park-and-Ride facility locations within the region. Figure 5-8 shows the PSRC regional highway network coverage.

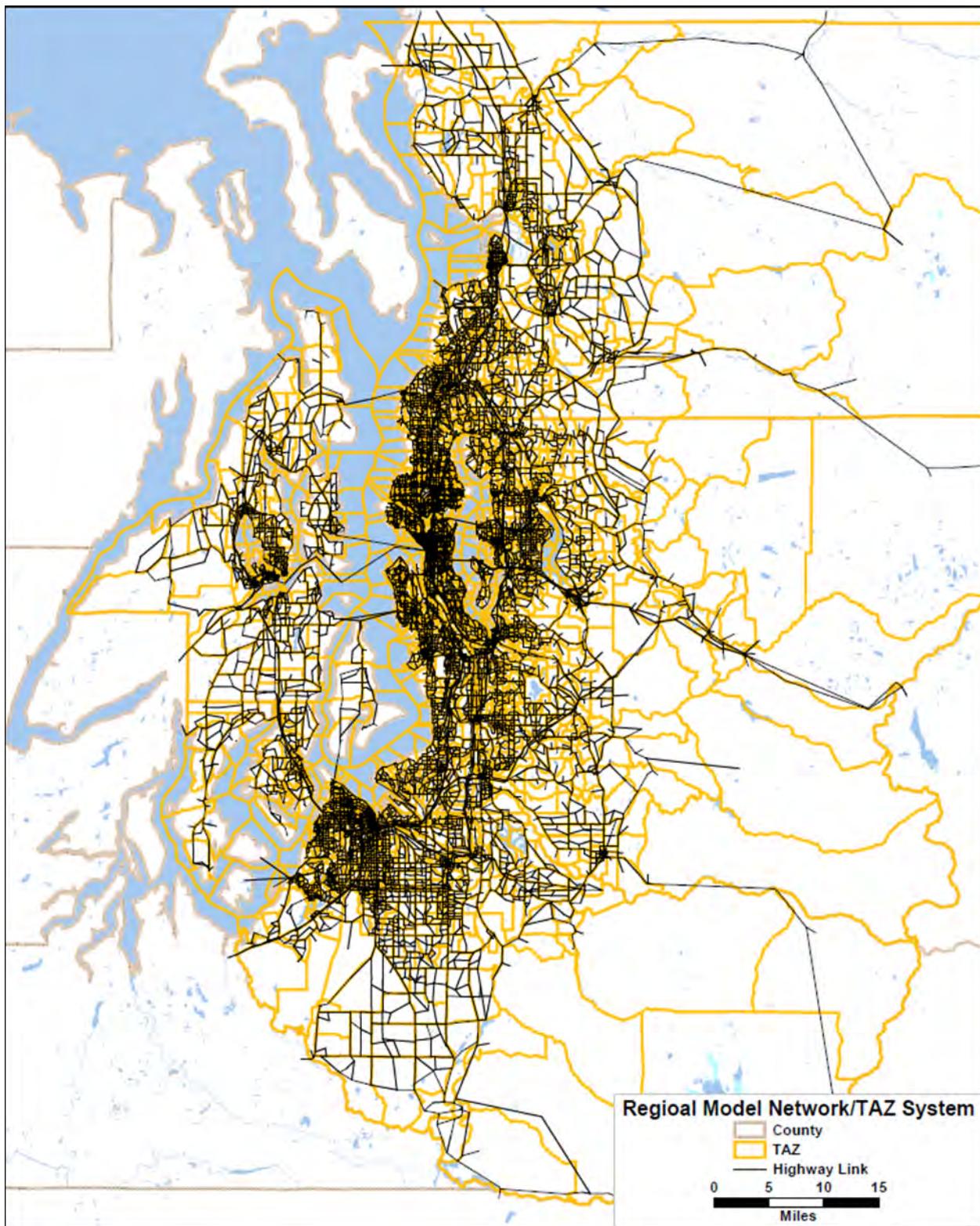
### 5.5.1 Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZs) System

The model coverage consists of the four-county Puget Sound region, including King, Snohomish, Kitsap, and Pierce counties, centering on the City of Seattle. The model has a total of 3,700 internal and 18 external TAZs, in addition to 150 Park-and-Ride (PNR) zones, with corresponding highway and transit network details to support the zonal system.

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**Figure 5-8: PSRC Regional Highway Network Coverage**



## 5.5.2 Roadway Network Assumptions

The base model calibration year transportation network is reflective of average weekday 2018 traffic conditions, featuring the SR 520 bridge under the existing configuration with the HOV lane implemented. For the 2025 and 2045 forecast years, interim-build and final build networks were created that include major highway capacity/connectivity improvement projects with relevance to this T&R effort, specifically along competitive and feeder roadways, including I-5, I-90 and I-405, as well as major state highways such as SR 167, SR 522, and SR 509. In addition, significant transit improvements as identified in the Sound Transit 3 Plan were also incorporated.

## 5.5.3 Corridor Calibration Summary at Regional Level

The goal of the regional calibration process is to ensure that the model can be relied upon to predict future traffic volumes. As such, the process was focused on replicating observed vehicular traffic flows consistent with 2018 base year travel conditions across the Trans-Lake Washington corridor. In Table 5.5, the combined GP and Express/HOV lane traffic estimated by the regional model was compared to observed data at various roadway segments along a screenline crossing Lake Washington. At an aggregate level, the estimated traffic flows resulting from the model are closely approximating the observed 2018 daily traffic, showing that the model overpredicts traffic by between two and four percent. Note that this regional-level calibration is an initial step in the broader calibration process and the differences for individual links in modelled versus observed traffic are corrected in the toll diversion model calibration.

**Table 5.5: 2018 Estimated Average Daily Traffic, Observed v. Modeled,- Screenline 1, by Direction**

Facility	Daily Volume					
	Eastbound			Westbound		
	Obs	Est	% Diff (Est-Obs)	Obs	Est	% Diff (Est-Obs)
SR 522 at 68th Ave NE	17,442	18,631	7%	22,879	25,652	12%
SR 520/Evergreen Point Floating Bridge	40,711	39,497	-3%	42,045	38,785	-8%
I-90/Murrow Memorial Bridge	81,154	86,317	6%	83,773	86,365	3%
SR 900 East of I-5	15,000	15,734	5%	15,000	14,178	-5%
I-405 East of SR 181	88,609	90,184	2%	88,919	92,087	4%
Total	242,916	250,363	3%	252,617	257,067	2%

## 5.5.4 Regional Level Forecast Summaries

In the PSRC trip-based demand modeling process, daily person trips are estimated from the SED variables (including the number of households and jobs by employment type) pertinent to the internal TAZs within the Puget Sound region, based on a set of pre-defined trip production and attraction relationships, in addition to the trips specified for the 18 external stations in the model. A total of 7 trip purposes are maintained in the modeling process, from trip generation to mode choice with further stratification by four Income levels, where applicable:

- Home-Based Work (HBW)
- Home-Based College (COL)
- Home-Based School (SCH)
- Home-Based Shopping (HBS)
- Home-Based Other (HBO)
- Non-Home-Based Work (WBO)
- Non-Home-Based Other (OBO)

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In addition to household resident trips, commercial vehicles (or trucks), are also considered in the PSRC model, respectively for light, medium, and heavy truck classes. Truck trips are generated for individual TAZ and specified for each external station from SED attributes (primarily zonal employment).

The mode choice modeling process apportions each person trip matrix by purpose to the available travel modes at a daily level after the trip distribution step. The available mode choice options are specified as below:

- Drive alone (SOV)—Single-occupancy auto trips
- Shared ride 2 (HOV2)—Auto trips with two occupants
- Shared ride 3+ (HOV3+)—Auto trips with three or more occupants
- Transit – Walk access
- Transit - Drive access
- Walk
- Bicycle

A time-of-day choice modeling process then respectively stratifies the household resident and commercial vehicle trips using pre-defined survey-based factors or, where applicable, probabilistic functions which consider the time period-specific congested highway travel time to stratify daily trips into different time periods. A total of five time periods are maintained in the PSRC trip-based model, including AM (6am to 9am), MD (9am to 3pm), PM (3pm to 6pm), EV (6pm to 1pm), and NI (10pm to 6am). A subsequent modeling step will then prepare the corresponding input trip matrices for traffic assignment purposes. For auto/highway vehicle assignment, person trips are converted to vehicles with appropriate occupancy factors for HOV2 and HOV3+ trips. The highway assignment considers a total of 11 vehicle classes as listed below:

- SOV (HBW Income 1)
- SOV (HBW Income 2)
- SOV (HBW Income 3)
- SOV (HBW Income 4)
- SOV (all other purposes)
- HOV2 (all purposes)
- HOV3+ (all purposes)
- Vanpool Vehicles
- Light Truck
- Medium Truck
- Heavy Truck

Travel demand in the Central Puget Sound region is forecasted to grow between 2018 and 2045, resulting in more travel delay, and decreasing network-wide travel speeds, as summarized in Table 5.6. While daily person-trips increase over the forecast period, it is important to note that the mode by which trips are made is shifting. The share of people walking and biking increases slightly, and conversely, the share of HOV2+ and SOV trips decreases slightly. While total HOV2+ and SOV trips increase, their share of trips decreases. The transit share stays relatively stable around 4.0 percent. While the overall share of transit trips remains relatively constant, the growth in daily transit trips outpaces the growth in daily vehicle trips.

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**Table 5.6: Travel Demand by Daily Person-trip, Mode Shares, VMT and VHT, 2018 Actual and Forecasted 2025 and 2045**

	Model Results		
	2018	2025	2045
Daily Person Trip	16,341,400	19,254,600	24,379,600
Mode Shares	SOV	42.9%	42.4%
	HOV2+	42.3%	41.4%
	Transit	3.9%	3.9%
	Walk & Bike	10.9%	12.4%
Daily Vehicle Trips	10,382,000	12,026,300	15,082,800
Vehicle-Mile Traveled	81,399,200	89,550,100	110,282,600
Vehicle-Hour Traveled	2,789,900	3,289,900	4,024,500
Speed	29.2	27.2	27.4

Source: PSRC Trip-Based Travel Model 4K Version 4.03

The projected growth in vehicular travel demand in the region as estimated by model is summarized in Table 5.7. The enhanced roadway capacity is likely to attract/absorb additional traffic in the near-term future, as reflected by the compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of 2.1 percent for the 2018 to 2025 period. With limited increases in roadway capacity in the region and growing congestion, a more modest compounded annual traffic growth rate of 1.1 is expected in the outer twenty forecast years, 2025 to 2045.

**Table 5.7: Forecasted Vehicular Demand for the Corridor Subarea by Weekday Time Period, 2018, 2025 and 2045**

Time Period	Model Results			CAGR	
	2018	2025	2045	2018-25	2025-45
AM (6:00-9:00)	1,777,200	2,010,100	2,515,800	1.8%	1.1%
MD (9:00-3:00)	3,938,800	4,619,100	5,771,200	2.3%	1.1%
PM (3:00-6:00)	2,220,400	2,522,700	3,157,900	1.8%	1.1%
EV (6:00-10:00)	1,853,000	2,154,800	2,706,000	2.2%	1.1%
NI (10:00-6:00)	592,600	719,600	931,900	2.8%	1.3%
<b>Daily</b>	<b>10,382,000</b>	<b>12,026,300</b>	<b>15,082,800</b>	<b>2.1%</b>	<b>1.1%</b>

Source: PSRC Trip-Based Travel Model 4K Version 4.03

## 5.6 TOLL DIVERSION MODEL (TDM) AND CALIBRATION

The second element of the modeling process involved a toll diversion model (TDM) incorporated into EMME software environment. The input trip tables were adopted from the regional level model and the highway network was adopted from the regional level highway network with enhanced coding to enable toll diversion modeling. The TDM is a logit-based route choice model embedded within an equilibrium assignment routine. The calibration of the base year 2018 model focused on both matching the observed corridor volumes as well as calibrating the model to adequately predict the SR 520 floating bridge usage.

In the TDM, the five time periods from the regional model are further broken down into 10 sub-periods, reflective of the 12 toll periods implemented by WSDOT on the SR 520 bridge under the existing and future year schemes. The regional model and the TDM time periods are listed in Table 5.8.

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### Model Development and Calibration

**Table 5.8: Travel Demand Model (TDM) Weekday Time Periods Analyzed**

Regional Model Period	Toll Diversion Model Period	Toll Periods
NI (10:00 PM - 6:00 AM)	NI2	12:00-5:00
	AM1	5:00-6:00
AM (6:00 AM - 9:00 AM)	AM2	6:00-7:00
	AM3	7:00-9:00
MD (9:00 AM - 3:00 PM)	MD1	9:00-10:00
	MD2	10:00-2:00
	MD1	2:00-3:00
PM (3:00 PM - 6:00 PM)	PM1	3:00-6:00
EV (6:00 PM - 10:00 PM)	EV1	6:00-7:00
	EV2	7:00-9:00
	NI1	9:00-11:00
NI (10:00 PM - 6:00 AM)	NI2	11:00-12:00

### 5.6.1 Toll Diversion Modeling (TDM) Parameters

The toll diversion model adopted for this project is based on a process that Stantec initially developed in 2001. This model has successfully predicted traffic and revenue for several toll facilities and, as noted within this report, was recently calibrated to replicate current conditions for the SR 520 bridge. The diversion model is a logit-based route choice model embedded within a highway assignment routine to allocate traffic into appropriate toll-use type. The structure of the toll diversion model is defined as follows:

$$\text{Toll Share} = (1 / (1 + e^U))$$

Where:

Toll Share = Probability of selecting a toll road

e = Natural Logarithm

U = "Utility" of Toll Route:  $a * (\text{TimeTR}-\text{TimeFR}) + b * \text{Cost} + \text{CTR} + \text{CETC}$

TimeTR = Toll road travel time in minutes

TimeFR = Nontoll road travel time in minutes

Cost = Toll in dollars

CTR = Constant for toll road bias

CETC = Constant for ETC bias

a,b = Coefficients

The value of time used in the modelling effort varies by trip purpose and vehicle occupancy as shown in Table 5.9. Of the three trip purposes listed (Home Based Work (HBW), Home Based Other (HBO) and Non-Home Based (NHB)), HBW trips have the highest value of time. The value of time for vehicles with two and more occupants is higher than the value of time for single occupant vehicles because there is more than one individual in the vehicle who experiences time savings. For this study, the values of time were derived from 2015 Household Income supplied by The American Community Survey. The prior study used values of time derived from 2014 Household Income data from the same source.

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**Table 5.9: Travel Demand Model (TDM) Value of Time by Trip Purpose and Vehicle Occupancy (2015\$)**

Trip Purpose		Occupany/ Vehicle Type	Value of Time
HBW	Income 1	SOV	\$9.40
	Income 2	SOV	\$17.41
	Income 3	SOV	\$24.12
	Income 4	SOV	\$34.42
	All-Income	SOV	\$20.33
		HOV2	\$23.36
		HOV3+	\$29.20
	HBO	SOV	\$16.37
		HOV2	\$18.83
		HOV3+	\$23.52
NHB	NHB	SOV	\$16.90
		HOV2	\$19.44
		HOV3+	\$24.29
Trucks	Light	\$16.90	
	Medium	\$26.54	
	Heavy	\$59.18	

Source: Stantec derived from American Community Survey Data

### 5.6.2 Toll Diversion Model (TDM) Calibration Results

The TDM calibration efforts included segment-specific capacity and speed adjustments to match observed volumes. The objective of the calibration effort is to replicate the overall traffic level at the various screenlines (as illustrated previously in Figure 5-3 with the emphasis on traffic across Lake Washington (part of Screenline 1), and, ultimately, the patronage of SR 520 and its major competitive roadway, I-90. The results at individual time periods and the daily level for corresponding facilities across various screenlines, listed in Table 5.10, show that the model-estimated traffic by screenline is within 5 percent of the daily observed volumes, except for Screenline 2 located east of I-405. The differential on this screenline can be attributed to the lower highway network coverage (e.g. not all roadways are included) of arterial roadways in the model for the corresponding area.

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**Table 5.10: TDM Calibration Results by Screenline and by Time Period**

Screenline	Facility	Total Two Way Volume											
		AM1 (5:00-6:00)			AM2 (6:00-7:00)			AM3 (7:00-9:00)			MD1 (9:00-10:00/2:00-3:00)		
		GP + HOV		GP + HOV		GP + HOV		GP + HOV		GP + HOV		GP + HOV	
1: Lake Washington	SR 522 at 68th Ave NE	1,108	918	-17%	2,518	2,137	-15%	5,490	5,752	5%	5,010	4,996	0%
	SR 520/Evergreen Point Floating Bridge	1,097	1,448	32%	3,226	3,744	16%	14,440	13,702	-5%	10,630	9,678	-9%
	I-90/Murrow Memorial Bridge	3,830	3,934	3%	9,651	9,683	0%	24,308	27,188	12%	20,030	22,804	14%
	SR 900 East of I-5	803	393	-51%	1,837	1,306	-29%	4,118	4,525	10%	3,727	3,567	-4%
	I-405 East of SR 181	8,010	5,399	-33%	9,237	9,153	-1%	18,856	22,690	20%	19,284	21,746	13%
	Total	14,850	12,093	-19%	26,470	26,022	-2%	67,211	73,857	10%	58,681	62,791	7%
2: East of I-405	SR 522	2,683	1,709	-36%	3,650	3,455	-5%	7,135	9,197	29%	6,489	9,015	39%
	SR 520	3,188	3,771	18%	5,767	7,070	23%	18,100	17,885	-1%	15,717	16,055	2%
	I-90	4,097	4,029	-2%	8,720	8,944	3%	22,252	24,179	9%	19,584	21,548	10%
	Total	9,968	9,509	-5%	18,138	19,469	7%	47,487	51,261	8%	41,790	46,618	12%
3: North of SR-520	I-5	6,357	6,374	0%	10,322	11,256	9%	24,791	29,942	21%	23,340	24,378	4%
	I-405	6,771	4,363	-36%	11,118	8,241	-26%	25,113	24,233	-4%	25,103	22,557	-10%
	Total	13,129	10,736	-18%	21,440	19,497	-9%	49,904	54,175	9%	48,443	46,935	-3%
4: Between SR-520 and I-90	I-5	7,994	7,156	-10%	11,801	12,326	4%	26,317	30,267	15%	25,141	26,500	5%
	I-405	6,727	4,645	-31%	10,280	8,700	-15%	21,904	22,511	3%	20,692	19,809	-4%
	Total	14,722	11,801	-20%	22,080	21,025	-5%	48,221	52,778	9%	45,832	46,308	1%
5: South of I-90	I-5	10,312	7,452	-28%	12,842	13,249	3%	25,320	32,002	26%	25,485	30,178	18%
	I-405	7,027	4,299	-39%	9,068	7,148	-21%	18,613	18,780	1%	17,316	16,062	-7%
	Total	17,339	11,751	-32%	21,910	20,398	-7%	43,933	50,782	16%	42,801	46,240	8%

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Screenline	Facility	Total Two Way Volume											
		MD2 (10:00-2:00)			PM1 (3:00-6:00)			EV1 (6:00-7:00)			EV2 (7:00-9:00)		
		GP + HOV			GP + HOV			GP + HOV			GP + HOV		
		Obs	Est	% Diff (Est-Obs)	Obs	Est	% Diff (Est-Obs)	Obs	Est	% Diff (Est-Obs)	Obs	Est	% Diff (Est-Obs)
1: Lake Washington	SR 522 at 68th Ave NE	8,656	9,308	8%	9,113	8,009	-12%	2,598	2,645	2%	3,151	3,181	1%
	SR 520/Evergreen Point Floating Bridge	16,932	15,682	-7%	19,125	18,448	-4%	5,612	5,503	-2%	6,259	5,987	-4%
	I-90/Murrow Memorial Bridge	33,564	41,581	24%	36,370	39,255	8%	10,865	12,240	13%	12,853	14,127	10%
	SR 900 East of I-5	6,427	7,659	19%	6,829	5,738	-16%	1,948	1,610	-17%	2,333	1,656	-29%
	I-405 East of SR 181	38,093	45,715	20%	30,504	35,919	18%	9,866	12,071	22%	16,632	15,519	-7%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>103,672</b>	<b>119,945</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>101,941</b>	<b>107,370</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>30,889</b>	<b>34,069</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>41,228</b>	<b>40,469</b>	<b>-2%</b>
2: East of I-405	SR 522	11,684	17,334	48%	12,262	13,182	7%	3,244	4,977	53%	3,871	6,042	56%
	SR 520	26,930	31,035	15%	24,820	27,457	11%	7,755	8,703	12%	10,796	11,131	3%
	I-90	34,659	42,396	22%	34,212	36,730	7%	9,852	11,274	14%	12,903	13,474	4%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>73,273</b>	<b>90,765</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>71,294</b>	<b>77,369</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>20,852</b>	<b>24,954</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>27,570</b>	<b>30,648</b>	<b>11%</b>
3: North of SR-520	I-5	46,640	49,411	6%	31,925	45,254	42%	11,271	13,361	19%	19,439	16,309	-16%
	I-405	45,741	47,024	3%	39,138	40,134	3%	11,012	12,999	18%	16,346	15,607	-5%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>92,381</b>	<b>96,435</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>71,062</b>	<b>85,387</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>22,283</b>	<b>26,360</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>35,785</b>	<b>31,916</b>	<b>-11%</b>
4: Between SR-520 and I-90	I-5	49,220	52,326	6%	39,765	46,574	17%	12,699	14,267	12%	20,456	18,019	-12%
	I-405	37,518	38,762	3%	29,735	34,656	17%	8,574	11,432	33%	13,406	14,062	5%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>86,738</b>	<b>91,088</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>69,500</b>	<b>81,230</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>21,274</b>	<b>25,699</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>33,862</b>	<b>32,081</b>	<b>-5%</b>
5: South of I-90	I-5	50,830	59,107	16%	41,410	47,413	14%	13,234	16,949	28%	22,242	21,890	-2%
	I-405	33,840	33,176	-2%	25,759	27,420	6%	7,919	9,537	20%	13,222	11,970	-9%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>84,670</b>	<b>92,283</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>67,169</b>	<b>74,833</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>21,153</b>	<b>26,486</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>35,465</b>	<b>33,860</b>	<b>-5%</b>

## SR 520 BRIDGE TRAFFIC AND REVENUE STUDY 2019 REPORT

### Model Development and Calibration

Screenline	Facility	Total Two Way Volume									
		NT1 (9:00-11:00)			NT2 (11:00-5:00)			Daily			
		Obs	Est	% Diff (Est-Obs)	Obs	Est	% Diff (Est-Obs)	Obs	Est	% Diff (Est-Obs)	
1: Lake Washington	SR 522 at 68th Ave NE	1,743	2,160	24%	931	1,396	50%	40,321	40,502	0%	
	SR 520/Evergreen Point Floating Bridge	3,604	3,535	-2%	1,831	2,231	22%	82,757	79,958	-3%	
	I-90/Murrow Memorial Bridge	8,129	9,309	15%	5,327	5,530	4%	164,927	185,649	13%	
	SR 900 East of I-5	1,291	946	-27%	687	562	-18%	30,000	27,963	-7%	
	I-405 East of SR 181	12,265	12,814	4%	14,781	7,545	-49%	177,528	188,569	6%	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>27,033</b>	<b>28,764</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>23,558</b>	<b>17,263</b>	<b>-27%</b>	<b>495,533</b>	<b>522,642</b>	<b>5%</b>	
2: East of I-405	SR 522	1,800	4,013	123%	2,043	2,487	22%	54,862	71,411	30%	
	SR 520	6,017	8,854	47%	4,947	5,479	11%	124,037	137,441	11%	
	I-90	7,746	9,583	24%	5,536	5,806	5%	159,562	177,964	12%	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>15,563</b>	<b>22,450</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>12,526</b>	<b>13,772</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>338,461</b>	<b>386,815</b>	<b>14%</b>	
3: North of SR-520	I-5	14,913	11,972	-20%	15,278	7,672	-50%	204,274	215,929	6%	
	I-405	9,721	10,403	7%	8,620	6,228	-28%	198,683	191,789	-3%	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>24,634</b>	<b>22,375</b>	<b>-9%</b>	<b>23,897</b>	<b>13,900</b>	<b>-42%</b>	<b>402,957</b>	<b>407,718</b>	<b>1%</b>	
4: Between SR-520 and I-90	I-5	15,220	14,954	-2%	16,505	10,162	-38%	225,118	232,551	3%	
	I-405	8,638	10,885	26%	9,041	6,589	-27%	166,515	172,051	3%	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>23,858</b>	<b>25,839</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>25,546</b>	<b>16,751</b>	<b>-34%</b>	<b>391,633</b>	<b>404,602</b>	<b>3%</b>	
5: South of I-90	I-5	16,835	17,429	4%	18,788	10,707	-43%	237,298	256,375	8%	
	I-405	9,362	10,138	8%	10,605	6,192	-42%	152,730	144,723	-5%	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>26,197</b>	<b>27,567</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>29,393</b>	<b>16,899</b>	<b>-43%</b>	<b>390,029</b>	<b>401,099</b>	<b>3%</b>	

## **SR 520 BRIDGE TRAFFIC AND REVENUE STUDY 2019 REPORT**

### Model Development and Calibration

Compared to the regional model results (listed previously in Table 5.5), the daily volumes across Lake Washington (part of Screenline 1) estimated by the TDM are acceptably matching the observed volumes at a difference of 5 percent. Similarly, the estimated volumes for the individual facilities in Screenline 1 also match the daily observed volumes.

In addition, the model-estimated versus observed SR 520 bridge volumes for the individual time periods during the morning peak, between-peak, and afternoon peak periods (11 hours in total from 7:00 am to 6:00 pm) are well within 10 percent. Overall, the TDM replicates the observed peaking patterns across Lake Washington reasonably well.

#### **5.6.3 Post-Processing Adjustment Factors**

Results from the TDM by travel direction, vehicle class, and time period were compared with FY 2019 transaction data from the Customer Service Center. Adjustment factors were developed from this relationship to post-process the TDM traffic estimates into a more finely tuned representation of FY 2019 toll transaction patterns for the purpose of revenue validation. These post-processing factors were applied universally to all model year results generated by the TDM, by travel direction, vehicle class and time period

## 6.0 TRAFFIC AND GROSS TOLL REVENUE POTENTIAL FORECAST

The traffic and revenue forecasts for the SR 520 bridge have been prepared using the actual data collected and analyzed (Chapter 3), the socio-economic and land use data (Chapter 4), and the modeling processes (Chapter 5). Using all of these data and the model, average weekday forecasts were prepared for 2025 and 2045. This chapter documents the future year modeling assumptions and the procedures that were used to convert the daily weekday traffic and revenue model results to an annual forecast for fiscal years 2020 through 2056.

### 6.1 ASSUMPTIONS FOR FUTURE YEARS

#### 6.1.1 Toll Policy Assumptions

The future forecasts presented herein assume the current toll schedule on the SR 520 bridge (FY 2018, or as of July 1, 2017) will remain in effect over the entire forecast period. No future changes in toll rates were assumed, nor were any future changes assumed to the available payment options or fees. Because the future toll rates do not increase over time, the real toll cost to the customer decreases over time in comparison to inflationary increases in wages and the prices of other goods and services, thus making the toll route more attractive. Table 6.1 shows the toll rates assumed in our forecasts for all future years.

**Table 6.1: Assumed Directional 2-axle Vehicle Toll Rates by Time Period and by Payment Type, FY 2018 Onwards**

Time Period	FY 2018 and After			
	Good to Go! <sup>1</sup>		Pay By Mail <sup>2</sup>	
	weekday	weekend	weekday	weekend
12-5 AM	\$1.25	\$1.25	\$3.25	\$3.25
5-6 AM	\$2.00	\$1.40	\$4.00	\$3.40
6-7 AM	\$3.40	\$1.40	\$5.40	\$3.40
7-8 AM	\$4.30	\$1.40	\$6.30	\$3.40
8-9 AM	\$4.30	\$2.05	\$6.30	\$4.05
9-10 AM	\$3.40	\$2.05	\$5.40	\$4.05
10AM - 11AM	\$2.70	\$2.05	\$4.70	\$4.05
11AM - 2PM	\$2.70	\$2.65	\$4.70	\$4.65
2-3 PM	\$3.40	\$2.65	\$5.40	\$4.65
3-6 PM	\$4.30	\$2.65	\$6.30	\$4.65
6-7 PM	\$3.40	\$2.05	\$5.40	\$4.05
7-9 PM	\$2.70	\$2.05	\$4.70	\$4.05
9-11 PM	\$2.00	\$1.40	\$4.00	\$3.40
11PM - 12AM	\$1.25	\$1.25	\$3.25	\$3.25

<sup>1</sup> Good to Go! rates are shown for payment via tag. Good to Go! Pay By Plate rates are equal to the Good to Go! pass rate plus a 25-cent increment per transaction.

<sup>2</sup> Pay By Mail rates are equal to the Good to Go! toll rate plus a \$2.00 increment.

## **SR 520 BRIDGE TRAFFIC AND REVENUE STUDY 2019 REPORT**

### Traffic and Gross Toll Revenue Potential Forecast

#### **6.1.2 Roadway Network Assumptions**

##### **6.1.2.1 SR 520 Improvements**

As described in Chapter 2, the SR 520 bridge is part of the SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program. The future year construction schedule which shows the geometric assumptions by year is shown in Figure 2-3 on page 2-3.

##### **6.1.2.2 Other Study Area Improvements**

The forecasts assume that the highway network improvements in the regional model would be implemented as assumed by the Puget Sound Regional Council in their current regional plan and their regional model. The forecasts also assume that no new competing highway facilities or transportation projects or additional improvements to competing projects will be made during the forecast period.

#### **6.1.3 Socioeconomic Assumptions**

The future year socioeconomic assumptions are documented in Chapter 4 of this report.

#### **6.1.4 Commercial Vehicle Assumptions**

The forecast assumes that the heavy truck percentages using SR 520 remain low and fairly constant into the future. Table 6.2 summarizes the assumptions used within the TDM model for our forecasts.

**Table 6.2: Assumed Weekday Heavy Vehicle Share by Time Period, FY 2025 and 2045**

Year	5-6 AM	6-7 AM	7-9 AM	9-10 AM	10AM	2PM	2-3PM	3-6PM	6-7PM	7-9PM	9-11PM	11PM	5 AM	Daily
2025	0.7%	1.4%	1.6%	2.4%	3.1%	2.4%	1.3%	0.9%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	1.7%	
2045	0.8%	1.4%	1.4%	2.5%	3.2%	2.5%	1.3%	0.9%	0.9%	0.9%	0.8%	0.8%	1.8%	

#### **6.1.5 Payment Type Assumptions**

Recent trends show that although the *Good to Go!* market share continues to increase year over year, the percent of *Good to Go!* customers choosing to Pay-By-Plate has been increasing within the percentage share of total *Good to Go!* transactions. It was assumed that these trends would continue into the future. In addition, as a function of a new back office process, there was a re-allocation of some trips from Pay by Mail to Pay-By-Plate. The modeling took these new allocations into account for the forecast period.

#### **6.1.6 Other Assumptions**

Other assumptions integral to the forecast include:

- The SR 520 Project will continue to be maintained and efficiently operated.
- The tolls on other toll projects in the Central Puget Sound region shall be comparable to the rates currently envisioned during the forecast period through FY 2056.

## **SR 520 BRIDGE TRAFFIC AND REVENUE STUDY 2019 REPORT**

### Traffic and Gross Toll Revenue Potential Forecast

- The average cost of owning and operating a personal vehicle will not increase at a rate greater than the general rate of inflation. Motor fuel will continue to be in plentiful supply at prices in line with the general rate of inflation.
- Economic conditions in the country and the Central Puget Sound region will be relatively stable and no major economic recession will occur during the forecast period through FY 2056.
- No material natural disaster or local, state, or national emergency will occur that would alter travel patterns and divert traffic from SR 520.

As for the long-term projections themselves, while they are stated year by year, they are intended to show the long-term trends that may be reasonably anticipated during the forecast period.

## **6.2 ANNUALIZATION**

To convert the average weekday traffic and revenue results into an annual forecast, factors were developed from actual CSC data. Using FY 2019 data, the resulting factor to convert weekday traffic to annual traffic is 319 and the resulting factor to convert weekday revenue to annual revenue is 295. The annual revenue factor is lower than the annual traffic factor because the toll rates vary by weekday and weekend; weekend rates are lower than weekday rates. Also, toll rates vary by time of day, which also reduces the revenue factor, since overnight tolls are much lower than peak hour tolls.

### **6.2.1 Construction Closures**

As part of the SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program, road closures due to construction are expected. WSDOT provided a schedule of these closures, as shown in Table 6.3. Traffic and revenue forecasts were adjusted to account for both the planned weekday and weekend day closures. Based on FY 2019 actual Monthly Trips Report (MTR) data, it was estimated that one weekend day represents around 0.20 percent of annual transactions and 0.14 percent of annual revenue, and that one weekday night represents less than 0.01 percent of both annual transactions and annual revenue.

The closure assumptions for the 2019 report (Table 6.3) show fewer total closures than the 2018 report (Table 6.4), but the construction duration has been extended to 2029. The SR 520 Project Office worked with the construction contractor to reduce the number of construction closures by combining construction activities. Years where total closures have decreased compared to the 2018 assumptions will see increases in T&R whereas years with increased closures will see decreases in T&R.

**SR 520 BRIDGE TRAFFIC AND REVENUE STUDY 2019 REPORT**

Traffic and Gross Toll Revenue Potential Forecast

**Table 6.3 : SR 520 Closure Assumptions, Weekday Night and Weekend Days, Amounts per Fiscal Year**

FY	SR 520 Main Span		Portage Bay Bridge		Total	
	Weekday Night	Weekend	Weekday Night	Weekend	Weekday Night	Weekend
2019		1.4				1.4
2020	1.5	7.0			1.5	7.0
2021	7.5	12.0			7.5	12.0
2022	12.0	21.0			12.0	21.0
2023	8.0	12.5	6.0	3.5	14.0	16.0
2024			13.1	7.5	13.1	7.5
2025			13.1	7.5	13.1	7.5
2026			11.3	3.8	11.3	3.8
2027			10.0	3.0	10.0	3.0
2028			10.0	3.0	10.0	3.0
2029			12.0	7.0	12.0	7.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>29.0</b>	<b>53.9</b>	<b>75.5</b>	<b>35.5</b>	<b>104.5</b>	<b>89.1</b>

Source: WSDOT

**Table 6.4 : 2018 Report SR 520 Closure Assumptions, Weekday Night and Weekend Days, Amounts per Fiscal Year**

FY	SR 520 Main Span		Portage Bay Bridge		Total	
	Weekday Night	Weekend	Weekday Night	Weekend	Weekday Night	Weekend
2019	2.0	4.0			2.0	4.0
2020		10.0			0.0	10.0
2021	29.5	17.0	6.0	3.5	35.5	20.5
2022	29.0	16.0	8.8	5.0	37.8	21.0
2023	29.5	17.0	8.8	5.0	38.3	22.0
2024	23.0	13.0	7.5	2.5	30.5	15.5
2025			10.0	3.0	10.0	3.0
2026			10.0	3.0	10.0	3.0
2027			12.0	7.0	12.0	7.0
2028						
2029						
<b>Total</b>	<b>113.0</b>	<b>77.0</b>	<b>63.1</b>	<b>29.0</b>	<b>176.1</b>	<b>106.0</b>

## **SR 520 BRIDGE TRAFFIC AND REVENUE STUDY 2019 REPORT**

Traffic and Gross Toll Revenue Potential Forecast

### **6.2.2 Roadway Configuration / Construction Staging**

To account for the geometric changes on SR 520 due to the construction staging, 2025 was modeled using three different configurations: the FY 2019 configuration, the FY 2024-2028 configuration, and the FY 2029-2056 configuration. The results indicated that the changes in configuration would have impacts in the annual traffic and revenue, and the traffic and revenue streams were adjusted to reflect construction phasing.

## **6.3 ANNUAL TRAFFIC AND GROSS TOLL REVENUE POTENTIAL FORECASTS**

The annual actual and forecasted toll transactions and gross toll revenue potential is shown in Table 6.5, along with the average revenue per toll transaction and The *Good to Go!* transaction share. Toll transactions are expected to increase from 26.5 million transactions in FY 2019 to 43.2 million transactions in FY 2056, an average annual increase of 1.3 percent per year. Gross toll revenue potential is expected to increase from \$92.2 million in FY 2019 to \$147.3 million in FY 2056, an average annual increase of 1.3 percent per year. The average toll rate is expected to decrease slightly over time, from \$3.48 to \$3.41 as the *Good to Go!* share increases from 86.7 percent in FY 2019 to 90.4 percent by FY 2056. While the total *Good to Go!* share is higher than the 2018 forecast, a larger share of these transactions are projected to be Pay by Plate. The annual toll transaction and gross toll revenue potential forecast is shown in Table 6.5 and in Figure 6-1. Figure 6-1 also shows a comparison of the current 2019 forecast to the prior forecast presented in late 2018.

## SR 520 BRIDGE TRAFFIC AND REVENUE STUDY 2019 REPORT

### Traffic and Gross Toll Revenue Potential Forecast

**Table 6.5: Annual Actual and Forecasted Traffic and Gross Toll Revenue Potential, FY 2012 to 2056**

Fiscal Year	Annual Toll Transactions	Annual Gross Potential Revenue	Avg. Revenue per Transaction	Good to Go! Percentage Share
2012*( <sup>1)</sup>	9,600,000	\$28,100,000	\$2.93	
2013*	20,200,000	\$61,300,000	\$3.03	83.6%
2014*	20,959,573	\$64,589,148	\$3.08	84.4%
2015*	22,019,770	\$69,383,209	\$3.15	84.3%
2016*	23,217,000	\$74,974,236	\$3.23	84.5%
2017*	23,974,779	\$81,913,285	\$3.42	84.7%
2018*( <sup>2)</sup>	25,785,356	\$90,349,101	\$3.50	85.3%
2019*	26,523,000	\$92,188,000	\$3.48	86.7%
2020	27,495,000	\$95,742,000	\$3.48	86.8%
2021	27,956,000	\$97,558,000	\$3.49	87.0%
2022	28,111,000	\$98,576,000	\$3.51	87.1%
2023	29,253,000	\$102,204,000	\$3.49	87.3%
2024	30,629,000	\$106,246,000	\$3.47	87.4%
2025	31,390,000	\$108,951,000	\$3.47	87.6%
2026	32,330,000	\$111,890,000	\$3.46	87.7%
2027	33,077,000	\$114,349,000	\$3.46	87.9%
2028	33,876,000	\$117,062,000	\$3.46	88.0%
2029	34,304,000	\$118,625,000	\$3.46	88.2%
2030	35,403,000	\$121,804,000	\$3.44	88.2%
2031	36,141,000	\$124,364,000	\$3.44	88.4%
2032	36,955,000	\$127,113,000	\$3.44	88.6%
2033	37,195,000	\$127,826,000	\$3.44	88.7%
2034	37,548,000	\$128,954,000	\$3.43	88.9%
2035	37,861,000	\$129,843,000	\$3.43	89.0%
2036	38,330,000	\$131,399,000	\$3.43	89.1%
2037	38,607,000	\$132,333,000	\$3.43	89.3%
2038	38,960,000	\$133,457,000	\$3.43	89.4%
2039	39,313,000	\$134,579,000	\$3.42	89.6%
2040	39,746,000	\$135,897,000	\$3.42	89.7%
2041	39,978,000	\$136,568,000	\$3.42	89.9%
2042	40,373,000	\$137,938,000	\$3.42	90.0%
2043	40,726,000	\$139,056,000	\$3.41	90.1%
2044	41,205,000	\$140,633,000	\$3.41	90.3%
2045	41,451,000	\$141,346,000	\$3.41	90.4%
2046	41,684,000	\$142,031,000	\$3.41	90.4%
2047	41,893,000	\$142,745,000	\$3.41	90.4%
2048	42,223,000	\$144,020,000	\$3.41	90.4%
2049	42,213,000	\$143,954,000	\$3.41	90.4%
2050	42,332,000	\$144,361,000	\$3.41	90.4%
2051	42,451,000	\$144,769,000	\$3.41	90.4%
2052	42,612,000	\$145,123,000	\$3.41	90.4%
2053	42,691,000	\$145,590,000	\$3.41	90.4%
2054	42,811,000	\$146,002,000	\$3.41	90.4%
2055	42,931,000	\$146,415,000	\$3.41	90.4%
2056	43,184,000	\$147,313,000	\$3.41	90.4%

\* Annual toll transactions and estimated actual potential gross toll revenue

(<sup>1)</sup> Tolling started in December 29, 2011, half-way through FY 2012

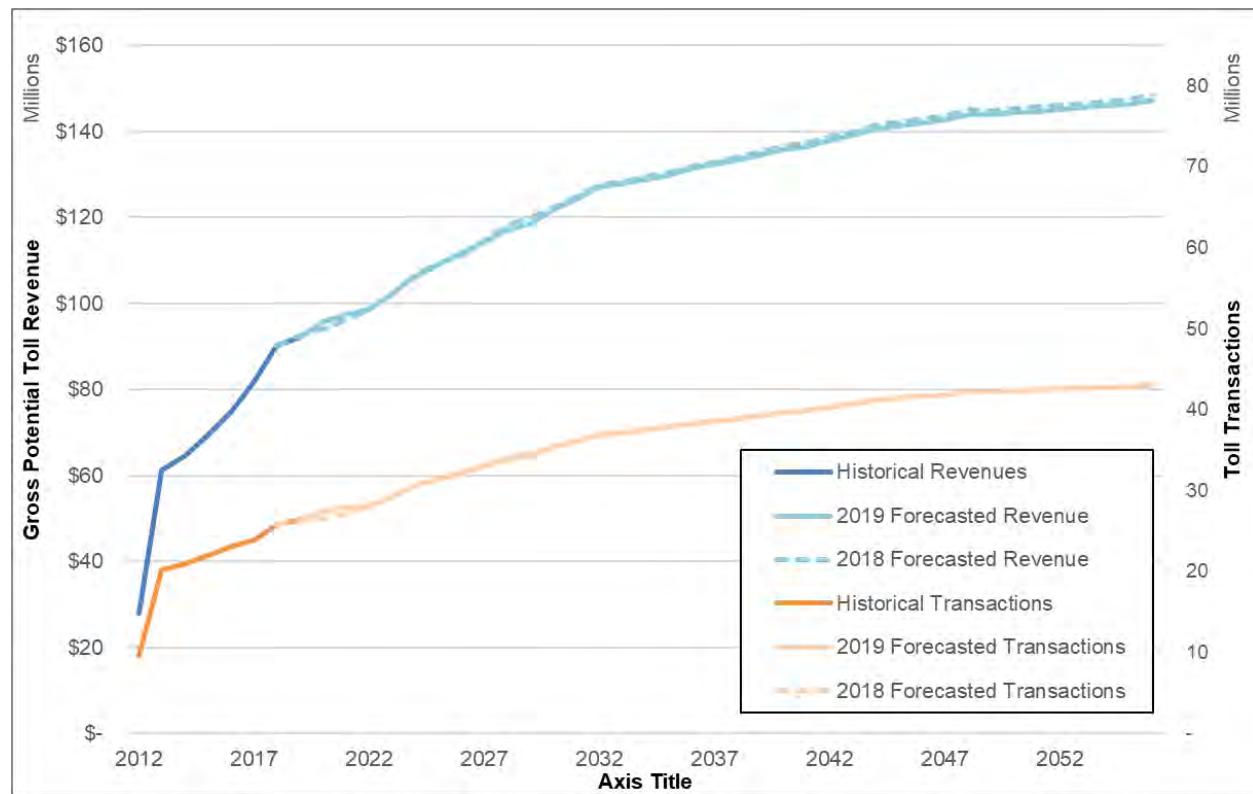
(<sup>2)</sup> Overnight tolling between the hours of 12am-5am began in July FY 2018

Source: Stantec's 2019 Forecast

## SR 520 BRIDGE TRAFFIC AND REVENUE STUDY 2019 REPORT

### Traffic and Gross Toll Revenue Potential Forecast

**Figure 6-1: Annual Actual and Forecasted Traffic and Gross Toll Revenue Potential, 2019 vs. 2018 Forecasts, FY 2012 to 2056**



Notes: Tolling started in December 29, 2011, half-way through FY 2012.

Prior to FY 2018, untolled trips between 11PM and 5AM were not included in the transaction total

Table 6.6 presents a side by side comparison of the current forecast versus the November 2018 Forecast. As noted by the first line of data, the volume of transactions in FY 2019 was 0.6 percent higher than forecast. The revenue was 0.4 percent lower due to a greater-than-anticipated shift to *Good to Go!* which is charged a lower toll than Pay By Mail trips. Over the next several years, the current forecast is slightly higher than the prior forecast, due to the higher than expected growth that occurred in FY 2019, when taking out the effects for unusual winter storms that negatively impacted traffic in February 2019. Other differences in growth are due to the changed timing of construction phasing for the SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program, and a revised schedule of construction closures. In the later years of the forecast, because the land use assumptions remain the same as those used in the November 2018 forecasts, the toll transaction forecast is virtually unchanged. The revenue numbers in the current forecast are slightly lower than the previous forecast because recent data shows higher *Good to Go!* market share than previously expected, which are charged a lower toll rate than Pay-By-Mail transactions.

**SR 520 BRIDGE TRAFFIC AND REVENUE STUDY 2019 REPORT**

Traffic and Gross Toll Revenue Potential Forecast

**Table 6.6: Annual Actual and Forecasted Traffic and Gross Toll Revenue Potential, 2019 vs. 2018 Forecasts, FY 2012 to 2056**

Fiscal Year	Transactions (millions)			Revenue (millions)		
	November 2018	November 2019	Difference	November 2018	November 2019	Difference
2019*	26.4	26.5	0.6%	\$92.6	\$92.2	-0.4%
2020	26.6	27.5	3.4%	\$94.1	\$95.7	1.8%
2021	27.2	28.0	2.6%	\$96.3	\$97.6	1.4%
2022	27.9	28.1	0.6%	\$98.7	\$98.6	-0.1%
2023	29.1	29.3	0.5%	\$102.2	\$102.2	0.0%
2024	30.8	30.6	-0.4%	\$106.8	\$106.2	-0.5%
2025	31.5	31.4	-0.5%	\$109.5	\$109.0	-0.5%
2026	32.0	32.3	1.2%	\$111.2	\$111.9	0.6%
2027	33.1	33.1	-0.2%	\$114.7	\$114.3	-0.3%
2028	34.2	33.9	-0.9%	\$118.3	\$117.1	-1.1%
2029	34.8	34.3	-1.3%	\$120.0	\$118.6	-1.2%
2030	35.5	35.4	-0.1%	\$122.4	\$121.8	-0.5%
2031	36.2	36.1	-0.1%	\$124.9	\$124.4	-0.4%
2032	37.0	37.0	-0.1%	\$127.7	\$127.1	-0.4%
2033	37.2	37.2	-0.1%	\$128.4	\$127.8	-0.4%
2034	37.6	37.5	-0.1%	\$129.6	\$129.0	-0.5%
2035	37.9	37.9	-0.1%	\$130.5	\$129.8	-0.5%
2036	38.4	38.3	-0.1%	\$132.1	\$131.4	-0.5%
2037	38.6	38.6	-0.1%	\$133.0	\$132.3	-0.5%
2038	39.0	39.0	-0.1%	\$134.2	\$133.5	-0.6%
2039	39.3	39.3	0.0%	\$135.4	\$134.6	-0.6%
2040	39.8	39.7	-0.1%	\$136.7	\$135.9	-0.6%
2041	40.0	40.0	0.0%	\$137.4	\$136.6	-0.6%
2042	40.4	40.4	0.0%	\$138.8	\$137.9	-0.6%
2043	40.7	40.7	0.0%	\$140.0	\$139.1	-0.7%
2044	41.2	41.2	0.0%	\$141.6	\$140.6	-0.7%
2045	41.4	41.5	0.0%	\$142.3	\$141.3	-0.7%
2046	41.7	41.7	0.0%	\$143.0	\$142.0	-0.7%
2047	41.9	41.9	0.0%	\$143.8	\$142.7	-0.7%
2048	42.2	42.2	0.0%	\$145.1	\$144.0	-0.7%
2049	42.2	42.2	0.0%	\$145.0	\$144.0	-0.7%
2050	42.3	42.3	0.0%	\$145.4	\$144.4	-0.7%
2051	42.4	42.5	0.0%	\$145.8	\$144.8	-0.7%
2052	42.6	42.6	0.0%	\$146.2	\$145.1	-0.7%
2053	42.7	42.7	0.0%	\$146.7	\$145.6	-0.7%
2054	42.8	42.8	0.0%	\$147.1	\$146.0	-0.8%
2055	42.9	42.9	0.0%	\$147.5	\$146.4	-0.8%
2056	43.2	43.2	0.0%	\$148.5	\$147.3	-0.8%

\* November 2019 forecasts show actual FY 2019 toll transactions and estimated actual potential gross toll revenue, Transportation Revenue Forecast Council, Transportation Economic and Revenue Forecasts

Disclaimer

## **7.0 DISCLAIMER**

It is Stantec's opinion that the revenue projections are reasonable and have been prepared in accordance with accepted practice for traffic and revenue studies. However, given the uncertainties within the current international and economic climate, Stantec considers it is necessary to state that the traffic and revenue projections are based on the following caveats:

- Due to the current dynamic and fluid situation related to COVID-19 including the associated abnormal restrictions on travel, Stantec is currently unable to make any forecasts of the actual outcomes and impacts on WSDOT facilities based on this National Emergency.
- This report presents the results of Stantec's consideration of the information available to us as of the date hereof and the application of Stantec's experience and professional judgment to that information. It is not a guarantee of any future events or trends.
- The traffic and revenue forecasts will be subject to future economic and social conditions and demographic developments that cannot be predicted with certainty.
- The projections contained in this report, while presented with numerical specificity, are based on a number of estimates and assumptions which, though considered reasonable to us, are inherently subject to significant economic and competitive uncertainties and contingencies, many of which will be beyond Stantec's control and that of WSDOT. In many instances, a broad range of alternative assumptions could be considered reasonable. Changes in the assumptions used could result in material differences in projected outcomes.
- If, for any reason, any of these conditions should change due to changes in the economy or competitive environment, or other factors, Stantec's opinions or estimates may require amendment or further adjustments.
- Stantec's toll revenue projections only represent its best judgment and Stantec does not warrant or represent that actual toll revenues will not vary from its projections, estimates and forecasts.

Many statements contained in this report that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements, which are based on Stantec's opinions, as well as assumptions made by, and information currently available to, the management and staff of Stantec. Because the statements are based on expectations about future events and economic performance and are not statements of fact, actual results may differ materially from those projected. The words "anticipate", "assume", "estimate", "expect", "objective", "projection", "plan", "forecast", "goal", "budget", or similar words are intended to identify forward-looking statements. The words or phrases "to date", "now", "currently", and the like are intended to mean as of the date of this report.

Stantec is not, and has not been, a municipal advisor as defined in Federal law (the Dodd Frank Bill) to WSDOT and does not owe a fiduciary duty pursuant to Section 15B of the Exchange Act to WSDOT with respect to the information and material contained in this report. Stantec is not recommending and has not recommended any action to WSDOT. WSDOT should discuss the information and material contained in this report with any and all internal and external advisors that it deems appropriate before acting on this information.

## **APPENDIX A: LAND USE FORECAST**

**Central Puget Sound Region Independent Land Use Forecast  
Review and Adjustments**

**November 13, 2018**

**BERK Consulting**

# Central Puget Sound Region Independent Land Use Forecast Review and Adjustments

Draft: November 13, 2018

Prepared by BERK Consulting



# Study Overview and Approach

BERK Consulting (BERK) conducted an independent review of available population and employment forecast products for the Central Puget Sound Region of Washington State, which includes King, Kitsap, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties. The purpose of this review was to inform the preparation of a new land use forecast product to be used in a SR 520 toll revenue forecasting study. The forecast years for this product are 2018, 2025 and 2045.

BERK used a top-down process to prepare an adjusted land use forecast product. We first reviewed the latest available regional macroeconomic forecast and selected regional targets for population, households, and employment. We then reviewed historic growth trends by county as well as available forecast products to determine the likely distribution of regional growth by county. To determine the allocation of growth to cities and transportation analysis zones (TAZ), we analyzed permitted and pipeline development, historic growth patterns, major investments such as light rail station openings, capacity for growth, and planning for growth at the jurisdictional scale. This report provides an overview of that analysis and its findings.

## Data Products Obtained and Reviewed for this Study

### FORECAST DATA PRODUCTS

#### PSRC Macroeconomic Forecast

The Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) publishes a macroeconomic forecast for the Central Puget Sound region, including King, Kitsap, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties. The latest forecast, released in 2018, provides annual regional totals of households, total population, household population, group quarter population, and jobs broken down into nine employment categories through the year 2050.<sup>1</sup> A previous release of this forecast (from 2015) was used as a key input for PSRC's land use forecast, Land Use Vision.

#### PSRC Land Use Vision (LUV)

PSRC's latest land use forecast product, LUV version 2.0 was last updated in April 2017.<sup>2</sup> This product forecasts population, households, and employment sector breakdowns for 2010, 2015, 2025, 2030, 2035, and 2040. It summarizes these forecasts by county, city, and census tract. To support this project, PSRC also provided BERK with LUV household and population forecast summaries for 2015, 2025, and 2040 by TAZ. The smallest available geography for employment forecasts is census tract, and the forecast provided includes significant data suppression at the sectoral level as well as, in some cases, total employment.

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<sup>1</sup> See <https://www.psrc.org/regional-macroeconomic-forecast>

<sup>2</sup> See <https://www.psrc.org/projections-cities-and-other-places> for details on PSRC's land use forecasting program. Generic references to LUV in this report refer to the LUV version 2.0.

## Washington State Employment Security Department (ESD) Employment Projections

ESD releases annual short-term (2-year), medium-term (5-year), and long-term (10-year) employment projections by sector for counties and regions across Washington State. BERK reviewed forecasts for King County, Snohomish County, Pierce County, and the Olympic Region which combines Kitsap, Clallam, and Jefferson Counties.

## Office of Financial Management (OFM) Growth Management Act County Projections

In 2017, the Washington State OFM released low, medium, and high population projections for each of the four counties in the Central Puget Sound Region. These projections are prepared by state demographers as directed by state statute. County officials are required to select 20-year comprehensive plan targets from within the range of growth projected by OFM, as directed by the Growth Management Act.

## BASELINE EMPLOYMENT

### PSRC Total Employment Estimates by Census Tract, 2017

BERK obtained total employment estimates by census tract and county for the year 2017. These estimates reflect PSRC's analysis of Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) data along with more detailed surveys of Boeing, Office of Washington Superintendent of Education of Public Instruction (OSPI) and governmental units throughout the Puget Sound Region, including uniformed military employment. Additionally, PSRC estimates self-employed individuals not covered in QCEW estimates. This dataset reflects some data suppression at the sector level as well as, in some cases, tract totals.

### Census LEHD Origin-Destination Employment Statistics (LODES)

BERK obtained estimated employment counts by census block for 2015 broken down by NAICS sector from the U.S. Census Longitudinal Employment Household Dynamics (LEHD) program. These data are developed from the same primary source as PSRC employment estimates. These data have not undergone the same level of review and refinement as PSRC employment estimates, and there are known reliability issues associated with LODES data regarding some workplace locations. However, unlike PSRC employment estimates, there is no suppression of employment counts in LODES data.

## DEVELOPMENT PIPELINE

### PSRC Pipeline and Master Planned Development Inventory

PSRC surveys counties and cities regarding master planned development (MPD) and other pipeline development expected to be built during the next 10-15 years, following a baseline year of 2014. Raw data was provided to BERK for review and analysis.

### Permitted Development in Seattle, Bellevue, Kirkland, and Redmond

BERK obtained development permit data from the Cities of Seattle, Bellevue, Kirkland, and Redmond. We then conducted additional analysis to isolate and summarize nonredundant pipeline residential and nonresidential development by land use category. We worked with local planning and permitting officials to interpret the status of all active building permits and differentiate development in the permitting pipeline based on its relative level of certainty of occurring. Approved projects with high

certainty permitted for completion after April 1, 2018 are assumed to be constructed by 2025. Permits that are not as far along in the pipeline are assumed to result in some development during the 2025 to 2045 forecast period.

## LAND CAPACITY

### PSRC Land Capacity

PSRC estimates residential and nonresidential growth capacity for all parcels throughout the four-county region. These capacity estimates are used in the PSRC land use forecasting model as one input to help determine the location and amount of future growth to allocate at the parcel scale during the preparation of LUV. Capacity is determined based on PSRC's future land use assumptions, including allowed uses, allowed development density, and expected residential/nonresidential split for mixed-use areas. PSRC staff responsible for land use forecasting indicated that, in most cases, local jurisdictions were consulted during the development of these assumptions and many jurisdictions provided direct input.

PSRC provided raw land capacity data to BERK for review and analysis. Additionally, PSRC provided assumed employment density per square foot by building type and TAZ. BERK conducted additional analysis to estimate buildable land capacity for housing and employment by TAZ for a 2018 baseline.

### City of Seattle 2018 and Proposed Land Capacity

Following the development of PSRC's land capacity estimates, the City of Seattle passed new legislation to expand zoning in several neighborhoods in the greater downtown area as well as the University District. Furthermore, the City is currently proposing to increase zoned capacity in many more areas of the city, including all urban villages and centers, as well as many additional areas zoned for commercial development. BERK obtained parcel level data about newly zoned or proposed zoned capacity and summarized capacity on vacant and redevelopable parcels by TAZ as of 2018. This analysis superseded the capacity estimates provided by PSRC in BERK's TAZ level forecast data preparation.

## OTHER DATA SETS

### Washington State OFM Small Area Estimates

OFM provides annual estimates of population and housing units for the years 2000 through 2018 by county and jurisdiction, as well as estimates through 2017 for small area geographies down to the census block group scale. These estimates are based upon an analysis of best available data for the county in question, including residential building permits, assessor records, postal delivery statistics, and federal census data.<sup>3</sup> BERK reviewed these data for baseline population and housing counts as well as historic growth trends.

### Local Jurisdictions' Comprehensive Plans

BERK leveraged reviews of local jurisdiction comprehensive plans conducted previously for the I-405 and Puget Sound Gateway projects. These reviews included all jurisdictions within approximately eight miles of the I-405, SR-167, and the Puget Sound Gateway Program Area and focused on adopted population

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<sup>3</sup> For more information, see <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/pop/april1/> and <http://ofm.wa.gov/pop/smallarea/default.asp>.

and employment growth targets as well as the kinds of land use activity being planned for. Local growth targets are set by counties in consultation with cities as part of the process of setting countywide planning policies. Cities then adopt projections consistent with their growth targets in their Comprehensive Plans. BERK reviewed these growth targets for consistency with historic growth trends and PSRC growth forecasts, as discussed in more detail below.

## Methodology

### 2018 BASELINE PREPARATION

#### Population and Households

BERK obtained OFM small area estimates by census block group for the year 2017 and used GIS analysis to reaggregate housing unit estimates by TAZ.<sup>4</sup> We then compared the results to PSRC's 2015 housing and population estimates by TAZ and adjusted the 2017 totals upwards to reflect OFM 2018 housing estimates for counties. OFM small area assumptions about housing occupancy rates and average household size were then used to derive household and household population estimates. We used a similar process to allocate group quarter population estimates from OFM to TAZ and adjust upward to reflect 2018 estimates by county. To determine the breakdown of households by income level, BERK applied assumed percentage splits in the PSRC LUV forecast, interpolating for the year 2018. Finally, we compared the results of this analysis at the county scale to OFM estimates for consistency.

#### Employment

Our starting point for baseline employment is PSRC's total employment estimates for 2017. The first step was to develop estimates for suppressed data values at the tract scale. To do this we utilized LODES data for the year 2015 to estimate percentage shares of employment to place in suppressed job sector categories. These preliminary proportional shares were refined to address known limitations in the LODES data with regards to K-12 Education jobs.<sup>5</sup> BERK mapped school locations in Snohomish, King, and Pierce Counties and used this information to help inform estimates of K-12 Education jobs in cases of suppressed values. Our model controlled for PSRC's 2017 county level total employment by sector. Finally, we reaggregated the estimated employment to TAZ using GIS analysis of LODES data to determine the relative shares of employment by TAZ part.

To increase the 2017 employment estimates to 2018, we began by using the PSRC Macroeconomic Forecast for a regional control total. Next, we analyzed ESD's short-term employment forecasts by county/region and sector to determine the relative rates of growth among the four counties. Then we grew employment at the TAZ scale based on historic growth patterns up to the 2018 county control totals. Finally, minor sectoral adjustments were necessary at the TAZ scale to match PSRC's forecasted sector breakdowns.

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<sup>4</sup> This reaggregation process eliminated parks, protected areas, and water areas where housing is unlikely to be located.

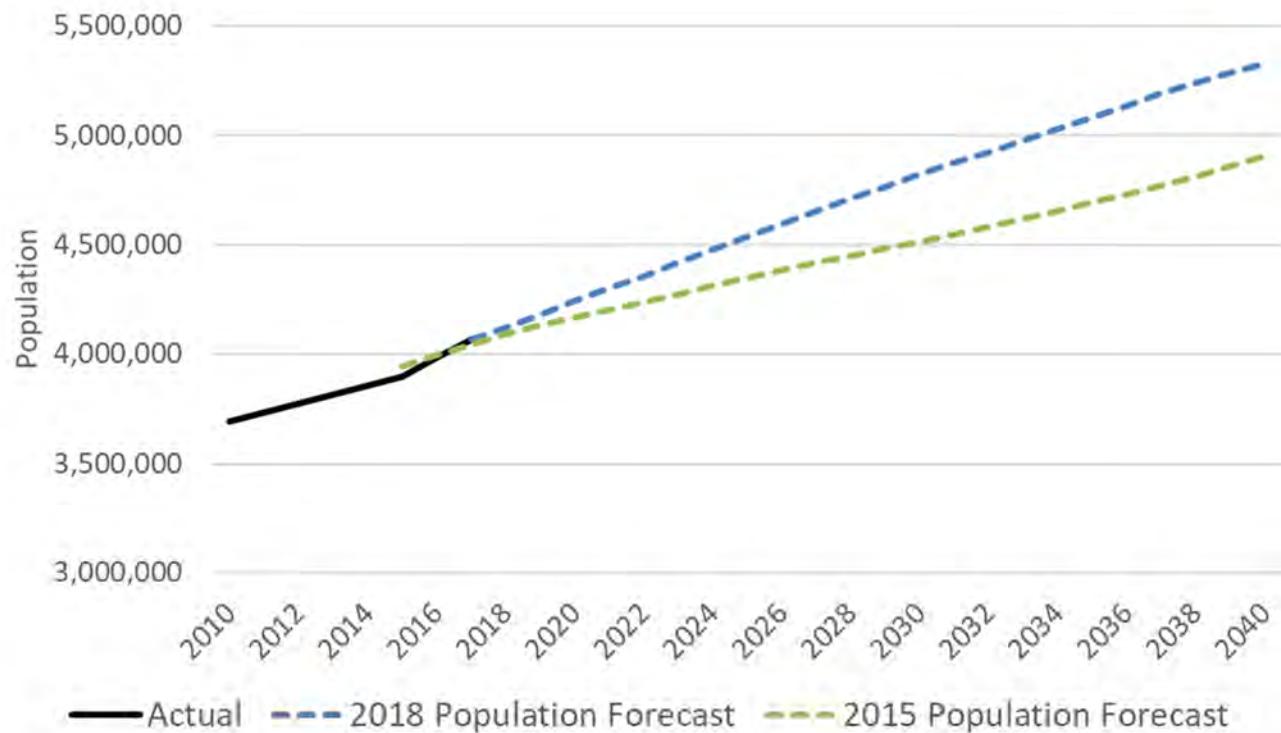
<sup>5</sup> LODES data commonly places educational workers at school district headquarters rather than school locations.

## LAND USE FORECAST PREPARATION

We started by reviewing and accepting the total population and employment forecasts for 2025 and 2045 available in the 2018 PSRC Macroeconomic Forecast. PSRC's LUV forecast is based on a previous (2015) release of the PSRC Macroeconomic Forecast. The 2018 forecast shows a significantly higher rate of population growth, as shown in Exhibit 1. It also includes a faster rate of employment growth through 2025, as shown in

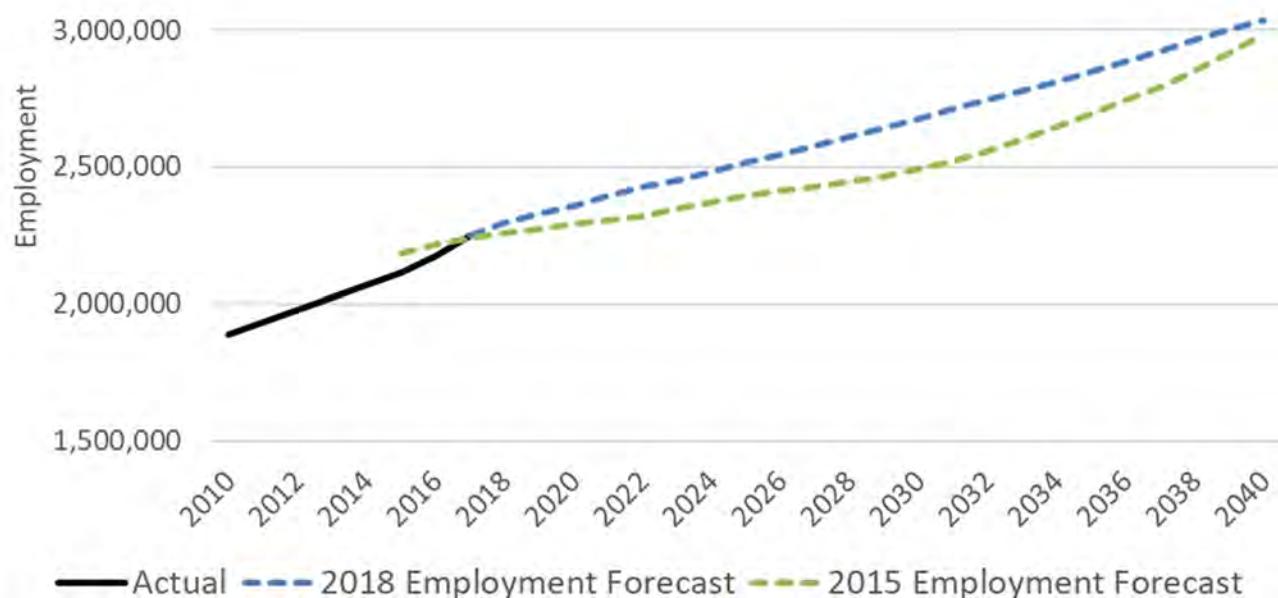
Exhibit 2, and that rate remains steady through 2045.

**Exhibit 1. PSRC Macroeconomic Forecast Comparison: Population (2018 release vs. 2015 release)**



Source: PSRC 2015 and 2018; BERK 2018.

## Exhibit 2. PSRC Macroeconomic Forecast Comparison: Employment (2018 release vs. 2015 release)



Source: PSRC 2015 and 2018; BERK 2018.

Next, we conducted additional analysis to determine the likely allocation of regional population and employment growth at the county, city, and TAZ scale. This work is described in the sections that follow.

### County Population Forecasts

Exhibit 3 shows a comparison of population growth rates for each county in the PSRC region. Since 2010, King County has grown most rapidly among the four counties. Looking forward to 2025, the LUV forecast shows a significant slowdown in rate of growth for King County, as well as a slower rate for King County when compared to the other counties. After 2025, LUV shows an even more significant slowing of growth in King County relative to the other counties.

To evaluate PSRC's county-scale forecast, BERK reviewed planned transportation projects and other investments that have potential to shape real estate market dynamics and the shares of future household and employment growth that may be expected by each of the counties in the Puget Sound region. The most significant change expected before 2025 is the opening of Sound Transit's Link light rail extensions to Northgate and Bellevue/Overlake in King County. These extensions are expected to create significant demand for housing and employment near both current and future light rail stations as well as neighboring communities that are accessible to the light rail stations.

BERK identified no other demographic or real estate trends that indicate King County's growth rate will slow compared to neighboring counties during the 2018-2025 forecast period. As mentioned above, this study assumes the total rate of regional growth from 2015-2025 will increase compared to the PSRC LUV forecast, while decreasing compared to trends during the past three years. BERK's 2018-2025 rates of growth by county shows a significant increase in rate of growth for King County, more moderate increases in rate of growth for Pierce and Snohomish Counties and a lower rate of growth for Kitsap County.

For the later 2025-2045 period, BERK's rate of growth for the four-county region is slightly higher than assumed in the PSRC LUV forecast (0.96% vs. 0.83%). During this period relative rates of growth between counties more closely conform to PSRC's LUV forecast. BERK's forecast shows both King and Snohomish County growing somewhat faster than predicted in LUV 2.0, due in part to the expected introduction of new light rail service following 2025.

#### **Exhibit 3. Comparison of Historic and Forecasted Population, Compound Annual Rates of Growth (CAGR)**

	<b>Historic Growth</b>		<b>PSRC LUV Forecast</b>		<b>BERK Adjusted Forecast</b>		
	<b>2010-2015</b>	<b>2015-2018</b>	<b>2015-2025</b>	<b>2025-2040</b>	<b>2015-2025</b>	<b>2018-2025</b>	<b>2025-2045</b>
King	1.23%	2.18%	0.95%	0.55%	1.81%	1.65%	0.71%
Kitsap	0.56%	1.14%	1.64%	1.44%	0.98%	0.91%	1.42%
Pierce	0.86%	1.66%	1.27%	0.94%	1.39%	1.28%	0.96%
Snohomish	1.21%	2.05%	1.48%	1.17%	1.92%	1.86%	1.42%
Total	1.10%	1.98%	1.17%	0.83%	1.69%	1.57%	0.96%

Source: OFM, 2018; PSRC, 2017; BERK, 2018.

Exhibit 4 compares total population by county in each forecast. BERK forecasts that regionwide population will be 5.3% higher in 2025. Much of that difference is due to a higher population forecast for King County and to a lesser extent Snohomish County.

#### **Exhibit 4. Comparison of County Population Forecasts**

	<b>PSRC LUV Forecast</b>		<b>BERK Adjusted Forecast</b>		<b>Percent Difference</b>
	<b>2025</b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2045</b>	<b>2025</b>
King	2,255,388	2,449,065	2,456,418	2,832,326	8.9%
Kitsap	303,749	376,362	284,571	377,498	-6.3%
Pierce	941,915	1,083,980	953,260	1,153,089	1.2%
Snohomish	877,328	1,044,543	916,200	1,214,892	4.4%
Total	4,378,380	4,953,950	4,610,449	5,577,805	5.3%

Source: PSRC, 2017; BERK, 2018.

Finally, we also compared adjusted forecast results to OFM population forecasts to confirm consistency. All county forecasts fall within the middle of OFM's forecast range for 2025 and 2045.

### **County Employment Forecasts**

Employment has grown rapidly since 2010. But that growth has been unevenly distributed across the region. As shown in Exhibit 5, between 2010 and 2017 King County has grown at a 3% compound annual rate, while Snohomish County has been growing at 2.3%. Kitsap and Pierce Counties have been growing at somewhat slower rates. PSRC's LUV Forecast shows a significant slowdown in growth rates across the region as well as much less variation in rates of growth. ESD's total employment forecast, on the other hand, indicates that King County will continue to grow at a significantly faster rate than the other counties.

Our adjusted 2025 total employment forecast reflects the regionwide rate of growth expected in the PSRC Macroeconomic Forecast which is slightly lower than ESD's forecast. Our forecast also reflects the

relative differences in growth rates observed in recent historic trends and the ESD forecast. As noted above, the most significant infrastructure change during this period which would could impact the distribution of employment growth will be the introduction of new light rail stations in Seattle, Mercer Island, and Bellevue.

As shown above in

Exhibit 2, the newest PSRC Macroeconomic Forecast predicts a somewhat slower rate of growth from 2025 to 2045 than was assumed in the previous forecast on which PSRC's LUV is based. However total employment in 2045 is expected to be slightly higher than assumed in the previous forecast. BERK's adjusted forecast products also reflect these new assumptions. With regards to the distribution of growth by county, BERK assumes the same relative rates as the LUV 2025-2040 forecast, adjusted downward to reflect expected macroeconomic conditions.

#### **Exhibit 5. Comparison of Historic and Forecasted Employment CAGR**

	<b>HISTORIC GROWTH</b>	<b>PSRC LUV FORECAST</b>		<b>ESD FORECAST*</b>	<b>BERK ADJUSTED FORECAST</b>	
		<b>2010-2017</b>	<b>2015-2025</b>	<b>2025-2040</b>	<b>2018-2026</b>	<b>2018-2025</b>
King	3.03%	0.98%	1.30%	1.75%	1.52%	1.20%
Kitsap	0.99%	1.10%	1.29%	1.28%*	1.08%	1.15%
Pierce	1.70%	0.98%	1.18%	1.12%	1.09%	1.07%
Snohomish	2.33%	1.12%	1.75%	1.13%	1.36%	1.65%
Total	2.61%	1.01%	1.35%	1.56%	1.41%	1.24%

\* ESD does not provide a forecast for Kitsap County. This table shows the Olympic Region forecasted rate of growth, which includes Kitsap County.

Source: PSRC, 2017; PSRC, 2018; ESD, 2018; BERK, 2018.

Exhibit 6 compares the LUV and BERK Adjusted county employment forecasts.

#### **Exhibit 6. Comparison of County Employment Forecasts**

	<b>PSRC LUV FORECAST</b>		<b>BERK ADJUSTED FORECAST</b>		<b>PERCENT DIFFERENCE</b>
	<b>2025</b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2045</b>	
King	1,544,032	1,875,067	1,653,571	2,097,259	7.1%
Kitsap	115,369	149,408	114,565	144,137	-0.7%
Pierce	386,148	498,086	393,647	487,155	1.9%
Snohomish	347,770	458,937	353,164	490,154	1.6%
Total	2,393,319	2,981,498	2,514,947	3,218,706	5.1%

Source: PSRC, 2017; BERK, 2018.

## **JURISDICTION FORECAST REVIEW AND ADJUSTMENTS**

### **Population**

BERK's review of PSRC's jurisdiction-level population forecasts focused primarily on cities located within 10 miles of the SR 520 corridor. To evaluate these growth forecasts for the 2018 to 2025 period, BERK compared them to actual growth trends between the years 2010 and 2018<sup>6</sup>. Where LUV projections

<sup>6</sup> Population growth estimates for cities were obtained from Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM). To measure actual population growth rather than growth due to annexation, BERK calculated growth rates for cities based on consistent geographic boundaries using OFM's small area estimates at the census block group scale.

were consistent or close to historic trends, BERK assumes a future rate of growth consistent with the historic trend. Where discrepancies occurred, BERK used supporting information from discussions with local planners, local comprehensive plans<sup>7</sup>, and subsequent city planning efforts that may impact the capacity and rate of growth within a city. Our underlying default assumption is that as long as there is capacity for new growth, the factors driving population growth are unlikely to change before 2025.

There are a few exceptions to these default assumptions. First, BERK considered local factors that resulted in an uncommonly high growth rate for the 2010-2018 period, such as a large master planned development. Secondly, some jurisdictions are actively planning for increased growth in the future based on anticipated improvement in transit accessibility. The introduction of light rail, and to a much lesser extent transit-oriented development planned around bus rapid transit, represent a major change in factors supporting growth. Communities that are planning now for these changes will likely see higher rates of growth over the next 10 years than the historic trend. In these cases, a higher rate consistent with PSRC forecasted growth is assumed. The results of this analysis for cities and urban growth areas in King County is summarized in Exhibit 7.<sup>8</sup> Details about BERK's research and outreach to individual cities is available in the final section of this report.

BERK's adjustments also consider known development pipeline projects summarized by jurisdiction as well as limitations to buildable land capacity for new growth<sup>9</sup>. As discussed above, BERK obtained and analyzed all active building permits in Seattle, Bellevue, Kirkland, and Redmond as of August 2018 to support this analysis.

A similar process was used to review and adjust growth during the 2025 to 2045 forecast period. However, during this period more deference was given to rates of growth expected in PSRC's LUV forecast, after accounting for BERK's adjustment to countywide rates of growth. Total growth by jurisdiction was then compared to available land capacity. In situations where anticipated growth exceeds PSRC's estimated capacity, BERK reviewed comprehensive plans and reached out to selected city planning officials to further review land capacity estimations. Following any relevant land capacity adjustments, BERK reallocated growth exceeding capacity to jurisdictions with excess capacity in proportion to expected shares of forecasted county growth. Finally, we compared the results to LUV, historic trends, and adjusted rates of growth during the 2015 to 2025 period for reasonableness.

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<sup>7</sup> Jurisdictional population growth targets are set by counties in consultation with cities as part of the process of setting countywide planning policies. Cities then adopt projections consistent with their growth targets in their Comprehensive Plans.

<sup>8</sup> PSRC forecasts household and population growth by city and unincorporated urban growth areas (one forecast zone for each county) based on 2014 geographic boundaries. It maintains these geographic boundaries in future years for the purpose of consistency in forecasting. BERK used the same assumptions in adjusted forecasts. BERK's calculated historic growth rates (2010 – 2018) account for annexations to avoid counting annexed population as actual population growth.

<sup>9</sup> Total population growth allocations were limited by available capacity minus a standard 25% market factor deduction. This deduction is common in land capacity studies and reflects the fact that not every available parcel in a jurisdiction with additional zoned capacity is expected to become available for development or redevelopment within the forecast period. In BERK's forecast calculations, any growth in excess of capacity was reallocated to other jurisdictions with excess capacity, proportional to their total forecasted growth.

## Employment

BERK applied a similar method for reviewing and adjusting the PSRC LUV forecasted employment growth rates by jurisdiction. Exhibit 8 compares historic, PSRC forecasted, and BERK's adjusted employment growth rates by selected jurisdiction in King County. The review of historic trends revealed that, in many communities, some of the employment growth from 2010-2017 reflects recovery from the economic recession rather than new development. Details about BERK's research and outreach to individual cities are available in the final section of this report.

**Exhibit 7. Comparison of PSRC and BERK Population Growth CAGR, select King County Jurisdictions\***

JURISDICTION	2010 – 2018	LUV 2015 - 2025	BERK 2018 - 2025	LUV 2025 - 2040	BERK 2025 - 2045
Auburn	1.49%	1.13%	1.23%	0.77%	0.74%
Bellevue	1.34%	1.12%	2.50%	0.69%	1.13%
Bothell	1.75%	1.12%	1.44%	0.50%	0.69%
Burien	1.09%	0.96%	0.90%	0.49%	0.51%
Clyde Hill	0.25%	0.07%	0.21%	0.18%	0.15%
Hunts Point	0.80%	0.39%	0.66%	0.17%	0.29%
Issaquah	2.51%	0.75%	0.48%	0.76%	0.49%
Kenmore	1.43%	1.41%	1.11%	1.01%	0.81%
Kent	1.13%	0.64%	0.94%	0.31%	0.45%
Kirkland	1.05%	0.73%	1.20%	0.37%	0.56%
Lake Forest Park	0.48%	0.56%	0.39%	0.35%	0.28%
Medina	1.12%	0.49%	0.92%	0.14%	0.37%
Mercer Island	0.84%	0.65%	0.97%	0.43%	0.51%
Newcastle	2.26%	0.79%	1.87%	0.25%	0.73%
Normandy Park	0.50%	0.42%	0.41%	0.28%	0.26%
Redmond	2.04%	1.38%	2.13%	0.96%	1.12%
Renton	1.59%	1.21%	1.31%	0.59%	0.69%
Sammamish	1.28%	0.43%	0.55%	0.32%	0.32%
SeaTac	1.00%	1.56%	0.82%	1.42%	0.89%
Seattle	2.31%	1.01%	1.91%	0.57%	0.88%
Shoreline	0.63%	0.76%	1.42%	0.52%	0.70%
Tukwila	0.45%	1.68%	1.22%	1.56%	1.08%
Woodinville	0.98%	1.97%	0.81%	1.67%	1.00%
Yarrow Point	0.78%	0.45%	0.64%	0.21%	0.30%
Unincorporated Urban Growth Areas	1.53%**	0.55%	1.63%	0.29%	0.67%

\* All rates based on growth in constant geography to avoid influence of annexations.

\*\* Historic CAGR based on 2010-2015 period for unincorporated UGAs only.

Source: OFM, 2018; PSRC, 2017; BERK, 2018.

**Exhibit 8. Comparison of PSRC and BERK Employment Growth CAGR, select King County Jurisdictions\***

JURISDICTION	2010 – 2017**	LUV 2015 - 2025	BERK 2018 - 2025	LUV 2025 - 2040	BERK 2025 - 2045
Auburn	2.92%	1.49%	1.36%	1.71%	1.51%
Bellevue	2.05%	0.98%	1.86%	1.49%	1.39%
Bothell	4.17%	0.66%	1.60%	1.24%	1.09%
Burien	2.38%	1.88%	0.95%	1.47%	1.29%
Clyde Hill	1.95%	1.88%	0.22%	-0.09%	0.04%
Covington	1.03%	0.44%	0.52%	0.90%	0.79%
Issaquah	4.11%	2.24%	1.72%	2.59%	2.29%
Kenmore	0.49%	3.96%	1.90%	2.49%	2.19%
Kent	3.05%	0.58%	1.11%	0.76%	0.67%
Kirkland	6.03%	1.24%	2.05%	1.72%	1.52%
Lake Forest Park	-0.90%	0.26%	1.78%	0.61%	0.53%
Medina	1.40%	0.16%	0.00%	-0.09%	-0.08%
Mercer Island	0.50%	0.76%	0.60%	0.80%	0.70%
Newcastle	4.98%	0.19%	0.75%	1.27%	1.11%
Normandy Park	3.75%	0.95%	2.51%	0.64%	-0.03%
Redmond	3.03%	1.02%	1.41%	1.08%	1.56%
Renton	1.96%	1.26%	1.03%	1.73%	1.52%
Sammamish	5.65%	0.66%	1.65%	0.94%	0.83%
SeaTac	4.16%	2.93%	1.99%	2.58%	2.27%
Seattle	3.32%	0.63%	1.54%	1.07%	0.98%
Shoreline	0.10%	1.16%	0.88%	1.17%	1.02%
Tukwila	1.42%	0.93%	4.36%	1.30%	1.14%
Woodinville	2.81%	2.46%	1.09%	1.70%	1.49%
Unincorporated Urban Growth Areas	6.71%	1.96%	3.65%	0.72%	0.63%

\* All rates based on growth in constant geography to avoid influence of annexations.

\*\* Historic CAGR based on PSRC covered employment estimates by City. UGA estimated based on Census LEHD employment estimates, 2010-2014.

Source: PSRC, 2017 & 2018; Census LEHD, 2017; BERK, 2018.

## ALLOCATION OF JURISDICTION GROWTH TO TAZ

### Housing and Employment Growth Capacity

BERK used data about future land use assumptions from PSRC to calculate housing unit and total employment capacity on vacant and redevelopable parcels by TAZ. Within the City of Seattle, BERK used updated parcel-based land capacity calculations based on newly passed and proposed zoning changes. This analysis assumes 25 percent of total aggregate capacity in vacant and underutilized parcels will remain unavailable for development. In cases where the known development pipeline exceeds calculated capacity, the capacity estimates were modified to accommodate all planned growth.

### Population and Household Allocation

Beginning with the 2025 forecast period, BERK allocated the adjusted population forecasts for each jurisdiction to households within TAZ. First, group quarter population forecasted in LUV at the jurisdictional scale was subtracted from BERK's adjusted population forecasts and assigned to TAZ consistently with the LUV forecast. Next, BERK allocated population growth to housing units in development pipeline projects expected to build out before 2025. Remaining population growth was then allocated to households<sup>10</sup> in TAZ proportionally to the amount of growth each TAZ was expected to receive in the LUV forecast. If a TAZ is limited by housing capacity, then overflow growth is allocated to other TAZ in the same jurisdiction proportional to their remaining capacity. Within each separate county, unincorporated UGAs and rural areas were each treated as a distinct jurisdiction using this same method.

### Employment

The process for allocating total employment growth/loss to TAZ was similar to the approach used for population and households. However, additional work was required to address significant data suppression in the PSRC census tract forecast. In most cases the suppression was limited to the two or more sector totals, while in other cases total employment was also suppressed. Key steps in this process are described below.

#### *Estimating Suppressed Values in LUV TAZ Forecast*

To address data suppression in the 2025 LUV forecast, BERK's model first inserted the estimated 2018 values then made adjustments to accommodate all county-level growth or loss of employment by sector to match PSRC's LUV county level sector totals. Adjustments were controlled for total forecasted employment by TAZ and employment capacity in TAZ with suppressed totals. An identical process was used to estimate suppressed values for the 2040 LUV forecast products. Finally, BERK reaggregated census tract data by TAZ based on total employment capacity.

#### *Review and Adjustment to LUV TAZ Forecast*

Next, BERK's unsuppressed LUV forecast by TAZ was used as a key input for developing and reviewing

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<sup>10</sup> BERK's review of LUV found that PSRC's forecasted rate of reduction in average household sizes by TAZ are faster than demographic trends and PSRC's regional macroeconomic forecast. Therefore, BERK's forecast includes adjusted assumptions about the rate of reduction in average household size by TAZ. In all cases, allocated population to households by TAZ reflect average household size reflect TAZ level conditions and trends.

the adjusted forecast product. To allocate BERK's adjusted jurisdictional total employment growth to TAZ, BERK began by placing development pipeline projects expected to build out before 2025. Remaining employment growth was then allocated to TAZ proportional to the amount of growth each TAZ was expected to receive in the unsuppressed LUV forecast, limited by BERK's calculated capacity. Growth exceeding capacity was then reallocated to other TAZ in the same jurisdiction proportional to their remaining capacity. For each TAZ, preliminary breakdowns by employment sector were based on proportions in the unsuppressed LUV forecast, controlling for consistency with building types in the development pipeline as well as BERK's countywide control totals by employment sector.

## REVIEW AND ADJUSTMENT NOTES BY JURISDICTION

This section describes adjustments made to the LUV forecast for individual jurisdictions that diverge from the general assumptions and methodology described above, with a focus on King County jurisdictions. Cases where the general assumptions for jurisdictional review and adjustment were confirmed by further research are not discussed here.

### Bellevue

Bellevue worked closely with PSRC to explain and refine their growth projections and land capacity exceptions during the development of Land Use Vision. Light rail will be operative in 2023 and Bellevue has done extensive planning work to create transit-oriented development around future stations and to create a secondary urban center in the Bel-Red area. The city expects that with light rail coming online there will be more growth in the period before 2025 than in the following 10 years. Master planned development of the Spring District is significant and already in the pipeline, likely to peak by 2025. The city also has two growth areas that are still waiting on land use planning and zoning changes that will increase capacity – the Eastgate Corridor, which is primarily employment capacity with some mixed use, and the Wilburton subarea which is likely to increase both employment and population capacity. Those are also expected to occur before 2025.

For both the 2025 and 2045 forecasts, BERK's growth rate adjustments reflect this large pipeline of expected development activity.

### Issaquah

During recent years, Issaquah has experienced significant growth. Much of this growth was related to large master planned developments that are expected to reach capacity by 2025. Future growth is mainly expected to occur in the commercial core, as guided by the Central Issaquah Plan. However, in 2016 Issaquah enacted a moratorium on development in the commercial core, with the intent to rework portions of the plan in response to community concerns about land use intensity. The moratorium concluded in 2018 after council adopted several new development regulations, including an inclusionary zoning requirement. BERK expects that the impacts of the moratorium period and changes to regulations will slow future growth in Issaquah compared to historic trends and the LUV forecast.

### Redmond

BERK's analysis of city permit data revealed an excess of 4,000 residential units in the short-term pipeline that were not reflected in PSRC's development pipeline database. BERK's forecast assumptions reflect this additional expected growth before 2025, resulting in a rate of residential growth higher than LUV and historic trends.

## Seattle

BERK's analysis of city permit data revealed a large amount of new residential and employment pipeline development in both the short and long term which are not reflected in LUV. This includes commercial and industrial development with capacity over 38,000 jobs by 2025, as well as over 21,000 housing units. The availability of this permit data provides more certainty around the expected pattern of growth in Seattle, particularly in the 2025 forecast period.

Based on this known pipeline, as well as the high rate of growth in recent years, BERK forecasts show continued strong growth in Seattle compared to many other King County jurisdictions, and higher than the LUV forecast. However, the rate of employment growth is expected to slow somewhat from the very rapid recent trends due in part to Amazon's decision to locate a second headquarters outside of Seattle.