WSDOT Multimodal Level of Service Interim Guidance

In response to HB 1181 (B):

"Multimodal level of service standards for all locally owned arterials, locally and regionally operated transit routes that serve urban growth areas, state-owned or operated transit routes that serve urban areas if the department of transportation has prepared such standards, and active transportation facilities to serve as a gauge to judge performance of the system and success in helping to achieve the goals of this chapter consistent with environmental justice."

WSDOT is preparing guidance for local agencies updating comprehensive plans for the periodic update cycle, which can be expected by Spring 2024.

For examples of multimodal level of service standards, please see:

- City of Bellingham
- City of Bellevue
- City of Seattle
- CalTrans
- Ft. Collins, CO
- Hillsborough, FL

Once guidance is finalized and available, WSDOT region planners will email local agencies a link to the guidance at: https://wsdot.wa.gov/engineering-standards/planning-guidance/land-use-transportation-planning

WSDOT is also considering how to adopt a MMLOS for state facilities. A discussion of efforts to date are available in Appendix D of the draft Highway System Plan, which is available at: https://wsdot.wa.gov/construction-planning/statewide-plans/highway-system-plan

In general terms, the approach currently being developed and considered involves different levels of service by mode that incorporate the land use context of locations.

Context sensitivity is already addressed at WSDOT in the Design Manual in Chapter 1102, Context Determination: https://wsdot.wa.gov/engineering-standards/all-manuals-and-standards/manuals/design-manual

WSDOT is exploring replicating the identification of land use typology statewide based on methodology used in Oregon in their Place Types Tool. See: https://www.oregon.gov/lcd/cl/pages/place-types.aspx

The approach being considered at WSDOT will combine statewide mapping, context sensitivity, and different levels of service for each mode. More information will be provided as it is developed.

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