## **CLARK COUNTY TRANSPORTATION ALLIANCE** 2026 Policy Statement













































































































Portland Metro Chamber

Ridgefield School District



















### **Supporting Organizations**

Amalgamated Transit Union 757 **Association of Washington Business Battle Ground Public Schools Building Industry Association of Clark County** Building Owners & Managers Assn of Oregon Camas School District

Career Connect Southwest City of Battle Ground

City of Camas

City of La Center City of Ridgefield

City of Vancouver City of Washougal

Clark College

Clark County

Clark County Association of Realtors Columbia Corridor Association Columbia Pacific Building Trades Council Columbia River Econ Dev Council

Columbia River Steamship Operators' Assn Cowlitz Economic Development Council C-TRAN

**Downtown Camas Association** East Vancouver Business Association

**Evergreen Public Schools** 

Fourth Plain Forward Greater Portland, Inc.

Greater Vancouver Chamber

Hazel Dell/Salmon Creek Business Association

Hockinson School District

IBEW Local 48 **Identity Clark County** 

Legacy Health

LIUNA Local 335 National Assn of Minority Contractors Oregon

**NW Utility Contractors Association** 

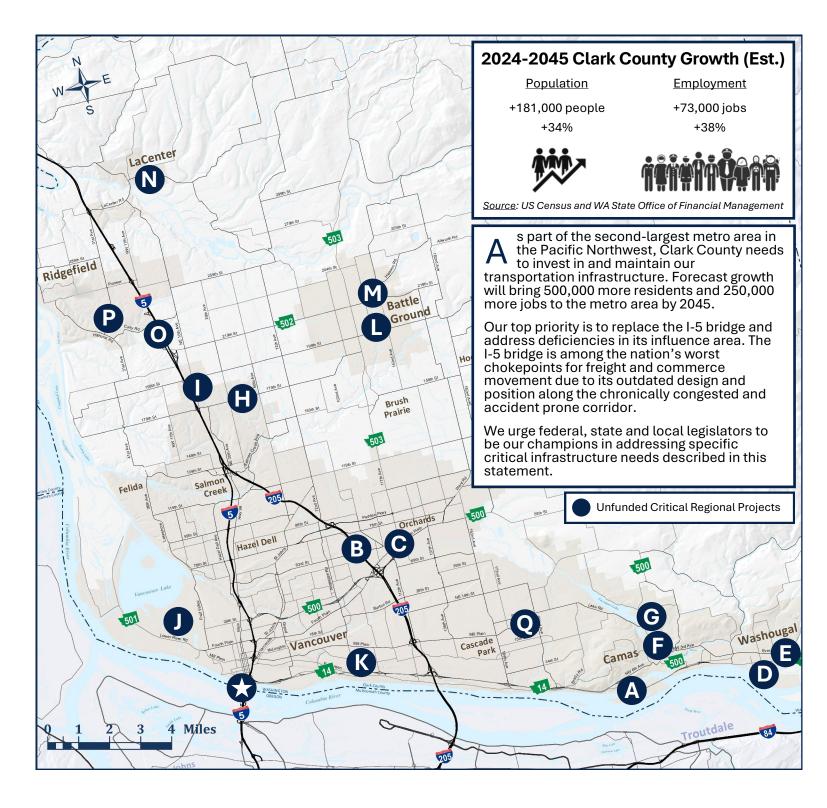
Partners in Careers

Port of Portland

Pacific Northwest Waterways Association PeaceHealth Columbia Network Port of Camas-Washougal Port of Ridgefield Port of Vancouver USA Port of Woodland

SW WA Central Labor Council SW WA Contractors Assn SW WA High Technology Council SW WA Freight & Commerce Task Force SW WA Regional Transportation Council The Historic Trust Vancouver Clinic Vancouver Housing Authority Vancouver Public Schools Vancouver's Downtown Association Visit Vancouver Washington Washington Public Ports Association Washington State University Vancouver Washington Trucking Associations Washougal School District Workforce Southwest Washington **Working Waterfront Coalition** 

# **CLARK COUNTY** TRANSPORTATION ALLIANCE 2026 Policy Statement



## A CALL TO FURTHER ACTION

#### I-5 Bridge Replacement and Influence Area **Improvements**

<u>Challenge</u>: The I-5 bridge spans are functionally obsolete, seismically vulnerable and require outsized maintenance investments to remain operational. A bi-state approach focused on practical solutions to improve mobility through the I-5 corridor will deliver needed multi-modal infrastructure congruent with the I-5 Corridor Strategic Plan (2002).

Action #1 Support Timely I-5 Bridge Replacement: We fully support replacement of the I-5 bridges and related corridor improvements:

- Supplemental EIS: support timely completion of studies, reports and permit applications.
- Bi-state legislative consensus: drive toward regional consensus for a long-term multi-modal
- Funding commitments: deliver balanced project funding by providing additional federal grants, commitments from both states and local contributions.



109-year-old I-5 Bridge

#### **Freight and Commerce Challenge**

Washington and Oregon are among the top freightdependent states in the US. Yet we are hampered by two of the nation's worst freight and commerce chokepoints just six miles apart (ATRI, 2025) requiring bi-state coordination: I-5 Bridge across the Columbia River (#31) and I-5 at I-84 Rose Quarter (#27). These are the two worst chokepoints in the Pacific Northwest.

#### **Regional Preservation & Operations Needs**

Challenge: Within Clark County, deferred preservation due to persistent underfunding threatens the state highway system. Nearly 50% of state highways are overdue for major work, including Clark County's rough road section of I-5 south. To begin to catch up statewide: \$500-\$600M is needed next biennium and \$2 -\$3B over the next 10 years. (WSDOT, 2024)

#### Action #2

#### **Pursue Consistent Funding to Advance State of**

Good Repair: Make significant investments to reduce the funding gap for preserving existing bridge and pavement assets. Consider new, stable funding models (e.g. road-usage charge) and updates to local options and authorities. And work with competitive grant program administrators to align policies with funding needs and cost structures.

Fund Operations: Dedicate additional maintenance, planning and traffic operations funds for critical urban areas (SR-14, SR-500, I-5 and I-205) to optimize safety and mobility on our existing system.

#### **Target Zero and Safety Program Enhancements**

<u>Challenge</u>: Inaction annually costs Washingtonians \$18.1B inclusive of medical care, emergency services, market productivity and related expenses. (WSDOT, 2024)

#### Action #3

We fully support high impact investment of state and federal resources to stem the tide of fatal and serious injury crashes on state and local roadways.

- Prioritize grant and program enhancements for:Safe Routes to Schools, Complete Streets and Active Transportation programs.
- Public awareness programs deployed by local agencies and the Washington Traffic Safety Commission.
- Expand resources and tools/technologies to achieve state Target Zero goals.
- Leverage federal Safe Streets & Roads For All planning and implementation grants.

#### **Facilitating Transportation Mobility. Economic Growth and Equity**

We urge legislators to embrace the following priorities where possible:

- Support Lower Columbia River deepwater shipping channel for the next 20-years, through the USACE's channel maintenance plan, including funding for confined aquatic structures in the first 10 years of the program.
- Fund regionally significant freight mobility improvements for river, road and rail for Ports, as well as track improvements for the county-owned Chelatchie Prairie Railroad.
- Stabilize statewide programs including the Public Works Trust Fund, CERB, FMSIB, TIB and FRAP, and protect Tax Increment Financing (TIF).
- Support broadband infrastructure to disperse economic opportunity.
- Actively embrace smart technologies to support conversion of public and private fleets to alternative fuels where practical.
- Support evaluation of transportation investments to help ensure equity and climate goals.
- Place high priority on long-range land-use and strategic transportation corridor planning to serve steadily rising population and commerce forecasts, including a third corridor across the Columbia River once a Record of Decision is issued for the I-5 bridge replacement program.



Chronically-congested SR-500/Fourth Plain/SR-503 intersection

## CATALYTIC REGIONAL PROJECTS AND NEEDS

Challenge: To support community development, population and economic growth, and urban vibrancy, our communities have a growing list of transportation and infrastructure priorities totaling \$740M.

#### Action #4

Fund Regionally Catalytic Projects to Address Immediate Needs: Secure funding for priorities that reduce congestion hotspots, improve safety and deliver multi-modal investments. Each project has been vetted through the regional planning process.



60-year-old West Camas Slough Bridge

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	~ COST	LEAD AGENCY
SR-14 – WEST CAMAS SLOUGH BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS	Add multimodal capacity and increase earthquake resilience; cost estimate updated considering site and risk details, market increases and inflation.	\$130M	WSDOT
I-205/SR-500 TO PADDEN PKWY	Add auxiliary lanes to address congestion hotspot (Note: scoping study underway to update cost estimate).	\$70M	WSDOT
SR-500/FOURTH PLAIN/ SR-503	Initial intersection improvement to address congestion hot spot.	\$25M	WSDOT
Washougal 32nd St Rail Underpass	A total of \$71.6M is committed or pending, including local match dollars, to eliminate at-grade rail-crossing, improving safety, community connectivity and economic opportunity.	\$97.5M	City of Washouga
WASHOUGAL RIVER RD SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS	Install dual roundabouts on Washougal River Road at 18th/O St and Shepherd Rd to improve safety and accommodate future growth.	\$6M	City of Washouga
SR-500/EVERETT ST — LACAMAS LAKE BRIDGE	Install new Lacamas Lake Bridge and landings above the floodplain with multimodal capacity.	\$16M	City of Camas
SR-500/EVERETT ST — NE 35TH AVE TO NE 43RD AVE	Improve SR-500 to multi-modal urban arterial standards supporting new economic development opportunities.	\$17M	City of Camas
179TH ST FROM NE 15TH AVE TO NE 50TH AVE	Improve roadway to multi-modal arterial standards supporting expanded capacity and economic development opportunities.	\$76.6M	Clark County
NE 15TH AVE FROM 179TH ST TO NE 10TH AVE	Add arterial connection to increase capacity in conjunction with 179th/l-5 interchange upgrade.	\$21.8M	Clark County
FRUIT VALLEY FREIGHT ACCESS AND SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS	Planning, engineering, environmental review and construction for new north-south freight arterial.	\$130M	City of Vancouver
MACARTHUR BETWEEN N BLANDFORD AND S LIESER	Corridor improvements including multi-modal paths, roundabouts at key intersections and traffic safety enhancements.	\$50M	City of Vancouver
EATON BLVD FROM SW 20TH AVE TO SR-503	Improve roadway to urban arterial standards and improve traffic safety.	\$11M	City of Battle Ground
DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION AND CIRCULATION PROJECT	Construction for the downtown circulation and revitalization project plan including focus on alternative transportation options.	\$19.5M	City of Battle Ground
PACIFIC HWY SHARED USE PATH	Complete pathway connection between downtown and northeast communities.	\$1.05M	City of La Center
RIDGEFIELD/I-5 S CONNECTOR/I-5 TO HILLHURST RD	Add western ramp access at I-5 and arterial street extension to Hillhurst Rd.	\$40M	City of Ridgefield
ROYLE ROAD — SOUTH PHASE; S 19TH ST TO HILLHURST RD	Improve roadway, multimodal improvements, remove fish barrier, resiliency for water and sewer extensions.	\$20M	City of Ridgefield
PUBLIC TRANSIT	Help fund construction of C-TRAN's 9-mile extension of the Fourth Plain Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line enhancing multimodal connections across Vancouver.	\$10M	C-TRAN