

## Whatcom regional transportation system goals

To plan for our region’s transportation future, we need to first know what our goals are – what we as a region want to accomplish with our chosen strategies and investments.

To identify the *region’s* transportation goals, *Whatcom Mobility 2040* relies on the transportation goals listed by the MPO and RTPO’s member jurisdictions in their current plans. Local jurisdictions all include an explicit list of goals in the transportation chapters of their comprehensive plans – the outcomes they are seeking through strategies and investments. A review of all jurisdictions’ goals generated a list of regionally shared goals sorted by frequency of adoption (table xx below).

There are many themes and approaches that individual jurisdictions discuss in the full text of their plans and this summary of regionally-shared goals should not be taken to mean that individual jurisdictions currently ignore issues not listed here. But for the purpose of giving direction to Whatcom Mobility 2040, these are the goals that are most frequently adopted and documented by the region’s jurisdictions through locally based, continuous planning processes.

**Table x.x: Whatcom Regional transportation goals selected from local transportation plans**

No.	No. of jurisdictions that identified the goal	Goal
1	10	Safety
2	8	A multimodal transportation system
3	8	Efficiency, effectiveness, & system sustainability
4	8	Environmental quality
5	7	Access & convenience
6	6	Maintenance & preservation
7	6	Freight transportation

### Less frequently listed jurisdiction goals not included as regional goals

Frequency	Goal
5	Regionally coordinated system
4	Foster economic growth
3	Personal travel
3	Meet whole community’s public transportation needs.
3	Concurrency (LOS)
2 or 1	18 other goals.

The above [seven](#) regional goals largely overlap with the more numerous planning factors that federal and state law require MPO and RTPO transportation plans to discuss. (see section [xxxxxx](#)). But it is important that distinct, regional goals are based on community input facilitated by local jurisdictions. This provides essential attributes to the Whatcom Mobility 2040 plan including:

- Clarification of which goals are most commonly adopted – helpful when regional prioritization of investments and strategies is needed.
- A documented source of focus for regional decision makers.

- A manageable number of goals for using to develop performance measures and targets (see section [xx](#)).