



## Memorandum

**To:** Whatcom MPO/RTPO Transportation Policy Board (WTPB)  
**Date:** January 12, 2026  
**From:** Lethal Coe, Principal Planner  
**Subject:** Review and consideration to approve WCOG 2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment

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Formal TIP Amendments require review and resolution from the Policy Board to amend the current TIP and make federal funding accessible. **Amendment #1 (26-01)** of the WCOG 2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) includes the following:

1. Add new Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) project – *I-5, SR 9, SR 539 & SR 543 Cascade Gateway Advanced Border Information Systems* – to provide traveler information and support traffic management services at four points of entry. The total project cost of \$6,965,388 is funded through Federal Discretionary and State Motor Vehicle Account. Preliminary engineering is scheduled to begin in 2026 and construction in 2027.
2. Add Whatcom Transportation Authority (WTA) project *Operating Assistance for services in Whatcom PTBA – 2024* to utilize Federal 5307 funds to support transit operating services.
3. Add WTA project *Operating Assistance for services in Whatcom PTBA – 2025* to utilize Federal 5307 funds to support transit operating services.
4. Add WTA project *Replace Fixed Route Buses - 2027 & 2028* to replace fixed route buses with approximately 14 hybrid buses. The bus replacement program is funded through Federal 5339 funds and will cost an estimated \$20,500,000.
5. Add Whatcom County project *Bay to Baker Trail – Kendall to Glacier* that received state Sandy Williams Connecting Communities Program funding award for preliminary engineering to construct a non-motorized multimodal trail connecting communities in eastern Whatcom County. Funding of \$515,060 for preliminary engineering is scheduled to begin in 2026.

### Suggested Policy Board Action

<p>“Approve Amendment #1 of the Whatcom Council of Governments 2025 Transportation Improvement Program.”</p>
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**WCOG TIP Amendment #1 (26-01) Table**

#	Agency	Project Title	TIP Action	Added Funds	Total Cost	Source(s)
1	WSDOT	<i>I-5, SR 9, SR 539 &amp; SR 543 Cascade Gateway Advanced Border Information Systems</i>	Add new project.	\$6,965,388	\$6,965,388	Disc., MVA
2	WTA	<i>Operating Assistance for services in Whatcom PTBA - 2024</i>	Add new project.	23,301,298	23,301,298	5307
3	WTA	<i>Operating Assistance for services in Whatcom PTBA - 2025</i>	Add new project.	20,278,830	20,278,830	5307
4	WTA	<i>Replace Fixed Route Buses - 2027 &amp; 2028</i>	Add new project.	20,500,000	20,500,000	5339
5	Whatcom	<i>Bay to Baker Trail – Kendall to Glacier</i>	Add new project.	515,060	17,515,060	CCP

**Recent or Upcoming Administrative Modifications** - Administrative modifications are less substantial project changes and are administered by WCOG staff. No Policy Board Actions are required.

Agency	Project	Modification Administered	Total Costs	Source
Whatcom	<i>Goshen Rd/Anderson Creek Bridge No 248 Replacement</i>	Adjust CN funding	\$5,110,000	BR