



Memorandum

To: Whatcom Transportation Policy Board
Date: May 6, 2026
From: Lethal Coe, Principal Planner
Subject: Review and consideration to approve WCOG 2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment

Formal TIP Amendments require review and resolution from the Policy Board to amend the current TIP and make federal funding accessible. **Amendment #3 (26-05)** of the WCOG 2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) includes the following:

1. Add new Whatcom Transportation Authority project – *Replace fixed Route Buses – 2028* – to purchase two hybrid buses funded through the Federal Transit Administration’s Community Project Funding (CPF) program. The buses are anticipated to be received in 2028.
2. Add new Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) project – *I-5/Slater Road Interchange - Roundabouts & Improvements* – to develop roundabouts to include multimodal path. The project is funded through state Connecting Washington Account and construction is planned to begin in 2026.
3. Add new Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) project – *I-5 NB Slater Rd & Pacific Hwy - Interchange and Fish Passage Improvements* – to construct intersection improvements at the interchange of I-5 and Slater Rd, and with Pacific Highway. The project is funded through state Connecting Washington Account and construction is planned to begin in 2027.
4. Add new Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) project - *I-5 Rural Ave & Wynn Rd - Intersection Improvements* – to construct roundabout at Rural Ave and Wynn Rd, and new roadway connection to Kope Rd. The project is funded through state Connecting Washington Account and construction is planned to begin in 2029.
5. Add new Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) project – *I-5 Slater Rd & Northwest Drive - Intersection Improvements* – to construct roundabout improvements at the intersection of Northwest Dr and Slater Rd. The project is funded through state Connecting Washington Account and construction is planned to begin in 2030.
6. Remove Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) project – *SR 546/Benson Road - Intersection Improvements* – that obligated construction funding in September 2025. The project is currently in progress.
7. [Pending policy board action] Amend City of Bellingham’s *Pine Street Crossing Improvements Project* to add regional Carbon Reduction Program funds and reduce the total costs to \$2.68 mil.

WCOG TIP Amendment #3 Table

#	Agency	Project Title	TIP Action	Added Funds	Total Cost	Source(s)
1	WTA	<i>Replace fixed Route Buses - 2028</i>	Add new project	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	FTA
2	WSDOT	<i>I-5/Slater Road Interchange - Roundabouts & Improvements</i>	Add new project	10,352,971	10,352,971	CWA
3	WSDOT	<i>I-5 NB Slater Rd & Pacific Hwy - Interchange and Fish Passage Improvements</i>	Add new project	15,634,407	15,634,407	CWA
4	WSDOT	<i>I-5 Rural Ave & Wynn Rd - Intersection Improvements</i>	Add new project	7,494,381	7,494,381	CWA
5	WSDOT	<i>I-5 Slater Rd & Northwest Drive - Intersection Improvements</i>	Add new project	4,387,542	4,387,542	CWA
6	WSDOT	<i>SR 546/Benson Road - Intersection Improvements</i>	Remove project	-985,089	-985,089	HSIP
7	Bellingham	<i>Pine Street Crossing Improvements Project</i>	Add CRP and reduce funds	-1,649,000	2,681,000	HSIP, CRP

Suggested Motion

“Approve Amendment #3 of the Whatcom Council of Governments 2026 Transportation Improvement Program.”

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
WCOG	<i>UPWP - SFY 2027</i>	Increase funding	366,154	STBG(UM)